

# UA<sup>i</sup>NSIGHT

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2024



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



## What's New at the Bob Crane Community Center?

With the building exterior mostly complete, passersby no longer see the changes that are rapidly taking place at the Bob Crane Community Center construction site. Dry wall is in, paint is going on the walls, flooring is being installed, and each week our collective vision for our community's primary gathering spot is physically taking shape.

And we are pleased to report that this major project remains on schedule for a Spring 2025 opening.

Planning for opening day continues to be a top priority for the UA Parks & Rec team, and we have a few updates to share with you.

### Parking Deck

A critical component for this exciting project is the construction of the new parking deck at the north end of the Giant Eagle parking lot. Plans are on track to complete this project and open the deck to the public in mid-November, in plenty of time for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Once complete, the 310 parking spaces within this structure will bring the total number of spaces at the Kingsdale redevelopment site to more than 900. We hope you enjoy this additional amenity, and we extend our sincere gratitude to the Kingsdale businesses and patrons for their patience as this project was undertaken.

### Event Center - Now Taking Reservations for Events Starting in May 2025

**Take advantage of our pre-opening special: book the full space by December 31, 2024, and receive a 25% discount.**

Don't miss your opportunity to rent our stunning new Event Center for weddings, wedding receptions, conferences, graduation parties and more. Located on the Fifth Floor, the Event Center includes one large event space that can accommodate up to 250 guests banquet style, or can be split into

three smaller spaces. Other amenities include the Skyline Balcony - a south facing outdoor patio with incredible views, a catering kitchen, a green room/dressing room, and an art gallery, which can extend the overall event space.

For additional details on the Event Center and other Community Center rental opportunities, contact our Rental Coordinator, at [rentals@uaoh.net](mailto:rentals@uaoh.net), or 614-583-5330.

### Community Center Holiday Gift Cards

Get a head start on your holiday shopping! While membership sales start in the New Year, UA Parks & Rec will offer gift cards for memberships beginning in November. You can purchase any amount with these cards. Look for more information on the Community Center website, at [uacommunitycenter.com](http://uacommunitycenter.com), or contact [parks@uaoh.net](mailto:parks@uaoh.net).



# Envision Henderson Corridor Planning Nears Completion



The Envision Henderson corridor planning process is set to wrap up in 2024 after collecting input from more than 800 residents and stakeholders. The process concluded its latest round of engagement in early October. The Community Choices discussions and online survey tested key priorities and ideas for the plan.

Concepts like the Henderson “Boulevard,” the Northern Gateway, Live + Work Neighborhood redevelopment opportunities, and new sidewalk and trail connections scored highly among participants. Comments focused on the need to address safety concerns for drivers and pedestrians, while also improving landscaping and aesthetics. Participants in the second round of discussions made it clear that any redevelopment should reinforce the community’s character. One commenter noted, “Ensure that new buildings are unique to Upper Arlington, not just any town in the USA.”

Feedback from this second round will help shape the final direction and priorities of the corridor plan. Led by MKSK, the planning team will combine these insights with over 700 comments received during initial community meetings to develop a draft plan. The

plan will be reviewed by City Staff and presented to the community and City Council for consideration before the end of 2024.

## Checking in on the Right-of-Way Transition

One unique issue running in parallel with the corridor planning process is a change in ownership of the road itself. In 2024, the cities of Columbus and Upper Arlington began discussions to transfer the deed and management of the stretch of Henderson Road from the Reed Road intersection to Stonehaven Drive.

In most cases, roads are maintained by a public entity like a city. While these entities must work within state and federal guidelines, they typically have authority to pursue capital improvement projects. Transferring the Henderson Road deed to the City of Upper Arlington is a critical first step for implementing the Envision Henderson corridor plan.

## Moving into Implementation

The Envision Henderson plan will outline a priority action agenda to improve the safety, aesthetics, and functionality of the corridor. The plan identifies three key areas of action:

- 1. City-Controlled Priorities:** With the right-of-way transfer from Columbus, Upper Arlington will have full authority over the roadway. City staff can then create a capital investment schedule reflective of the priorities outlined in the Envision Henderson plan
- 2. City-Influenced Changes:** The plan also identifies recommendations for areas where the City has influence but does not directly control the timing of changes. This includes potential redevelopment at the Northern Gateway and the Live + Work Neighborhood. These recommendations align community priorities with market and site realities, establishing a vision for what could be possible within the framework of the City’s zoning code.
- 3. Regional Trends and Initiatives:** Lastly, Envision Henderson will define UA’s position within broader regional trends. In this area, the City can advocate for important projects and policies but has limited control over outcomes. This includes major policy changes from the City of Columbus, such as the Zone In project, adopted in August 2024, which reclassifies commercial zoning districts and increases density along the north side of Henderson. Similarly, the LinkUS project will impact the corridor. It will be critical for Upper Arlington to stay engaged and informed as these developments unfold.

The Envision Henderson planning process will conclude in 2024, with the City aiming to begin implementation in 2025. For additional details, scan the QR code provided here.



## Community Center Updates Continued

### Employment Opportunities Register for Employment

Updates at <https://airtable.com/appX2ejfep7kCVKOl/pagpKPPqm1N9ygPuW/form>

UA Parks & Rec will have many part-time positions available at the Bob Crane Community Center. If you are interested in this opportunity to join our team, it's possible to register with us now, so that you will start to receive employment updates as the hiring process gets underway.

Opportunities will also exist for contract instructors and personal trainers. For more on this, please send an email to [parks@uaoh.net](mailto:parks@uaoh.net).

### Bob Crane Community Center Information Sessions

A series of Information Sessions have been scheduled in the month of November, so that interested residents and prospective employees can get updates on construction progress, learn more about the Event Center and other rental opportunities, speak with



The Gallery and Skyline Balcony.

team members about the part-time employment and contract opportunities, and to purchase holiday gift cards.

The schedule for these sessions is as follows:

- **Noon-1 pm, Friday, November 8** – Virtual Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89172337874>  
**Meeting ID:** 891 7233 7874  
**Passcode:** 066030
- **5-7 pm, Wednesday, November 13** – Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road

- **9-11 am, Saturday, November 16** – Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road

We hope you can join us!

Scan our QR code for more on the Bob Crane Community Center. If you have any questions, please contact the department, at [parks@uaoh.net](mailto:parks@uaoh.net).



## UA Honors Its Veterans

As Veterans Day approaches, the UA community has a series of activities planned to honor the members of our community who have served or are serving in the armed forces:

- **Oral History: Veterans Voices** – check out the Veterans Voices section of the UA Historical Society's website, at [www.uahistory.org](http://www.uahistory.org), to listen to first-hand accounts of Veterans' service experiences.
- **Veterans Display at Tremont Library, November 1-30** – The Upper Arlington Historical Society has curated an exhibit of WWI and WWII artifacts, courtesy of the Knell family.
- **Jones Middle School Veterans Celebration, Friday, November 8** – students invite local Veterans to a light breakfast to meet with them

and learn about their experiences.

- **Veterans Ceremony, 10:45 am, Friday, November 8, Veterans Plaza at the Mallway** – immediately following the Jones Middle School celebration, City and community officials will mark Veterans Day with the community's first annual Veterans Ceremony,
- **Wickliffe Elementary School Veterans Celebration, Monday, November 11** – Veterans are invited to a morning Town Hall to share their stories with the students
- **Hastings Middle School Veterans Celebration, Monday, November 11** – another service learning opportunity for students, as they invite and meet with local Veterans.

## CityINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

### Production:

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



### City of Upper Arlington

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



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



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

### 2025-2026 Budget

The fall of each even numbered year marks a busy time for the City as departments develop their proposed budgets for the next two years. The results of that effort come before Council starting in November, with a series of public hearings that look at the different budget components.

The City's financial position remains strong, thanks to several interrelated factors that include:

- The leadership of past and present City Councils that have guided reviews, updates and adherence to strong fiscal policies and financial accountability practices;
- The cumulative effect of a proactive economic development program, which is diversifying and strengthening the business community.

The proposed 2025-2026 budget is reflective of conservative revenue projections that align with the current economic climate, while positioning the City to be able to continue providing a high level of services and reinvestment in the 10-Year Capital Improvement Program, relative to streets, sidewalks,



### 2024-25 UPPER ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

FROM LEFT: Todd Walter, Kathy Adams, Brian Close (Vice President), Ukeme Awakessien Jeter (President), Jim Lynch, Heidi Munc, John Kulewicz

waterlines, sewers, parks and other public infrastructure.

Dates for the budget hearings are as follows:

- **Monday, November 4** - Budget Summary Presentation
- **Monday, November 18** - first budget discussion (Capital Improvement Program)
- **Monday, December 2** - second budget discussion (Operating, Capital Equipment, Schedule of Fees)

- **Monday, December 9** - third budget discussion (open items), First Reading Budget Amendments
- **Monday, December 16** - Second Reading, Council Vote

Meetings begin at 7 pm, at the Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road. For additional budget process details, contact our Finance Director, Brent Lewis, at 614-583-5288 or [blewis@uaoh.net](mailto:blewis@uaoh.net).

## Holiday Fire Safety Reminders

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

- Use battery operated candles, if possible.
- Keep decorations away from open flames and other heat sources.
- Keep lighters, matches and candles away from small children and pets.
- Blow out candles when leaving the

room or going to bed.

- If a candle must burn continuously, make sure it is in a glass container and placed on a metal tray or in a deep basin filled with water.
- Remain in the kitchen when cooking on the stove top.
- Make sure holiday lights are used per the manufacturer's directions.
- Keep Christmas trees well-watered, away from heat sources and turn off lights when going to bed.
- **Close before you doze:** close bedroom doors when sleeping (see a video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSP03BE74WA>).
- **ABOVE ALL:** Ensure all smoke

detectors are in place and working properly.

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





## 2025 Community Relations Innovation Small Grant Program

Applications Accepted: November 1-December 14, 2024

The City will begin accepting applications for the 2025 grant cycle for the Community Relations Innovation Small Grant Program on November 1. This program is designed to create opportunity spaces for new initiatives, and enhancements to existing community programs and events that advance the welcoming and inclusion goals of the Community Relations Committee.

Grants of \$1,000-\$5,000 are awarded to organizations seeking funding for projects that will achieve one or more of the following goals:

- Increase knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of diversity within UA and throughout Central Ohio.
- Increase the number, type, and quality of positive interactions by non-residents with the UA community.

- Increase the sense of belonging and inclusion of all UA citizens with special focus on non-majority residents and those without pre-existing connections to UA.

Past year recipients have included the Culture & Artisans Fair at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Equal UA's Porch Parties, the UA Civic Association's Neighbors Night Out event, and the UA Historical Society's History Speaks series.

Applications will be accepted through Friday, December 13, 2024. Successful applicants will be announced at the January 23, 2025 Community Relations Committee Meeting.

Learn more and apply at [uacommunityrelations.com](http://uacommunityrelations.com).

## Columbia Gas Projects Slated for UA

Some major infrastructure upgrades by Columbia Gas are anticipated for UA, starting in 2025. This work will include the replacement of old gas lines with new, federally mandated 20-inch diameter steel pipes with safety features. These pipes are designed to service a large geographic area that extends beyond Upper Arlington's borders.

As part of a first phase of work, Columbia Gas plans to construct a new utility station on Ridgeview Road, replacing an existing single-family home located at 1336 Ridgeview Road. A public meeting for nearby neighbors was held mid-October. The building must adhere to City zoning requirements, so that the design, operation and maintenance blends with the surrounding neighborhood. To that end, the proposed structure must be reviewed and approved by the Board of Zoning and Planning (dates to be determined), a process that includes opportunities for public comment.

As Columbia Gas finalizes its plans, a series of public meetings will be scheduled for each phase of work.

If you have questions, please contact Columbia Gas, at [NCHP@nisource.com](mailto:NCHP@nisource.com) or 1-800-242-6227.



**Nomination Deadline: Friday, January 17, 2025**

Each year, we seek nominations of individuals and groups that have helped make our community better in some way, through our annual Community Awards Program. Now is the time to submit your nominations for the following categories:

- **Business** - recognizes a business that is actively involved in the community or brings other significant benefits through its presence in UA. This could be by utilizing environmentally friendly business practices, through support and participation in community service projects, by providing financial or in-kind support for various causes, or as a leader in workplace diversity.
- **Community Enrichment** - presented to an individual or group that has spearheaded or is involved in a project that supports quality of life through the arts, education, recreation, cultural diversity or enhancement of the natural environment.
- **Community Relations** - presented to an individual or group actively involved in programming that increases a sense of belonging for community members, enhances knowledge, understanding and appreciation of diversity within UA, raises awareness of or improves the overall health and safety of the community, or for a significant one-time act to help others in the community.
- **Senior** - awarded to an individual who is actively involved in their community through volunteer service.
- **Youth** - presented to a youth individual or group actively involved in volunteer service, or the participation in and development of programs to benefit others.

Visit [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov) for more and to submit your nominations.



## CITY MANAGER UPDATE Steve Schoeny

### Where Do We Go From Here - a Five Year Look Back and a Look Forward

"Where do we go from here? I don't know. Ok. So, these are not the most inspirational words from your new City Manager." This was my first message to the community in October 2019. You have been bearing with me for five years, so I want to take a look back at where we have been and give you a preview of how we are charting the map for the next 25 years.

The last five years have been a period of unprecedented redevelopment:

- Arlington Gateway, Westmont at the Lane, OhioHealth Neurology, TownPlace Suites and several other projects are all new on Lane Avenue.
- At Kingsdale, the old Macy's building has been replaced by more than \$200 million in new investment, including the Bob Crane Community Center.
- The former CompuServe Headquarters is home to a successful and growing corporate group led by GOSH Enterprises, with more than \$8 million in improvements.
- In total, Upper Arlington has seen \$1.21 billion in investment over the last five years.

At the same time, we have been investing in our infrastructure.

- McCoy, most of Northwest and Fishing west of Five Points all have completely rebuilt roads and new underground infrastructure.
- We have new playgrounds at Miller, Oxford, Reed Road and Thompson parks.

- We have rebuilt the infrastructure that runs Devon Pool and made major repairs to the pool itself.
- We are rebuilding Northam Park, regrading the fields, installing irrigation, rebuilding the tennis courts, adding pickleball, and upgrading the park service building.

We have invested in our safety forces, adding positions and upgrading equipment.

We have built new partnerships with community organizations to foster a sense of belonging. Neighbor's Night Out, the Culture & Artisans Fair, the hUmAn Connections Festival, History Speaks and UA Pride were all supported by grants through our Community Relations Committee. We have created new events like Arts on Arlington.

I could go on about what we have accomplished, but I want to turn our attention to the future.

In 2025, the City will start the process of building a new master plan - the City's comprehensive long-range planning document. The City last did a major overhaul of its Master Plan from 2011-2013, building on the 2001 update.

The world has changed significantly, more change is coming, and Upper Arlington needs to be ready. We hope to design a master plan process that brings the community together around what Upper Arlington should be in 25-30 years.

The plan will focus on land use, but not as heavily as a typical master plan. We will already have strong, up-to-date

plans for Lane Avenue, Henderson Road and the River Ridge neighborhood. I anticipate that the land use portion of the plan will focus on what we want if there are redevelopment proposals for streets like Northwest Blvd and Fishing Rd., where you have a mix of residential and commercial properties. Within neighborhoods, we will consider the balance between property owner rights and neighborhood expectations. We will need to talk about things like carriage houses, mother-in-law suites and other accessory structures.

The master plan will also have a major emphasis on our parks. The Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan was created in 2018, and is ready for an update. Our plan is to fold this into the master plan process.

Perhaps most importantly, it will give us a chance to think strategically about our community values. Part of this process is making it clear how we - as a community and as a government institution - make decisions. Many plans are out of date before they are published, but they provide clear visions and values to guide decision making as the world changes. For governments, being clear about how you make decisions is critical because we rely on trust and, as the Declaration of Independence says, "the consent of the governed," for the very foundation of our existence.

One of the best ways to build that trust is participation. The master planning process will include many ways for you to participate. If the future of UA matters to you, start thinking about how you might want to be involved. We will bring the structure and some ideas to the table, but this plan has to be the community's plan.

While we are still about a year from beginning this process, I want to start preparing the community so that everyone is ready when the real work begins. Thank you for allowing me to serve this amazing community over the last five years. I look forward to working with you to help chart the path that will guide us for the next 25.

# NewsBITES

CITY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

## Public Holidays

City offices are closed in observance of the following holidays:

- **Monday, November 11**  
– Veterans Day. Solid Waste service is not affected.
- **Thursday, November 28** –  
Thanksgiving Day. Thursday's Solid Waste collection zone will receive service on Friday.
- **Wednesday, December 25** – Christmas Day. Wednesday & Thursday solid waste collection zones will be on a one-day delay.
- **Wednesday, January 1** – New Year's Day. Wednesday & Thursday solid waste collection zones will be on a one-day delay.

## Public Meetings

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

The City has an online portal for all public meetings, where you can also register for meeting agenda notices. A full list of public meetings can also be found on our *Community Events* calendar.

## City e-News

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS | 614-583-5040**

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

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

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

## Won't You Be Our Neighbor Podcast

You never know who might show up on our podcast. City Manager Steve Schoeny and City Attorney Darren Shulman discuss City happenings and introduce you to various members of our

community. Get started today, at <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/cityofua>.

## CityofUA YouTube Channel

[youtube.com/@](https://www.youtube.com/@CityofUpperArlingtonOhio/videos)

[CityofUpperArlingtonOhio/videos](https://www.youtube.com/@CityofUpperArlingtonOhio/videos)

Subscribe to the City's YouTube channel for convenient access to our latest service videos, highlights of community events and more.

## Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery\* Sunday, November 3

As Daylight Savings Time comes to a close, clocks "fall back" one hour at 2 am on Sunday morning. This is also a good day to change the batteries in your home's smoke alarms. This should be done at least once a year, but changing them while changing your clocks serves as a great reminder. Alarms should also be tested once a month and if an alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the battery right away.

## Sunday Swim at UAHS

Sunday Swim lap swimming will be available at the UA High School Natatorium from 1-3 pm most Sundays through Spring 2025. For details and to register, visit [parks.uaoh.net](http://parks.uaoh.net).

## 2025 Community Calendar

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

As a service to the community, the City provides an online Community Calendar of special events on its website. These event listings are oftentimes promoted by the City via other means, as space permits. Now is the time to send us details of qualifying community events for 2025. Visit our *Events* section, at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov), where you will find submission details.

## 2025 Observances Calendar

[uacommunityrelations.com](http://uacommunityrelations.com)

Each year the Upper Arlington Community Relations Committee provides an observances calendar on its website that details notable national and religious holidays and observances, as a useful reference tool for the community when planning special events or public meetings. Just look for the calendar under the *Resources* section.

## 2025 Wall of Honor Nominations

**Nomination Deadline: January 10, 2025**

[www.uahistory.org](http://www.uahistory.org)

Each May, a new bronze plaque is added to the limestone wall of the Municipal Services Center Plaza to honor a deceased UA resident who had a positive impact on the community and beyond through their professional, philanthropic, volunteer or public service. Nominations are being accepted for the 2025 Wall of Honor, a partnership of the UA Historical Society and the City's Parks & Recreation Department. Nomination forms are available at [www.uahistory.org](http://www.uahistory.org).

## Firefighters for Kids Toy Drive

**Station 71, Arlington Avenue  
Station 72, Reed Road**

Help the UA Fire Division make the Christmas holidays memorable for Central Ohio kids in need, by dropping off new toys at either firehouse in the month of November and into early December. Watch for details of the annual Drive-Thru event mid-December.

## CALEA Police Feedback Portal POLICE | 614-583-5150

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) now provides an online feedback portal for the public to provide comments about UA Police, as part of their national accreditation compliance program. The feedback goes directly to CALEA, who will send a copy to the Chief of



Police. Any comments received will be reviewed by CALEA Assessors as part of the next on-site assessment. The portal can be accessed at <https://cimrs2.calea.org/419>.

### Spotted Lanternfly PARKS & REC | 614-583-530

The invasive Spotted Lanternfly, also known as SLF, has been found in 12 Ohio counties, including Franklin County. This non-native pest is currently in its adult stage and will remain active until winter. It feeds in large numbers on the sap of grapevines, trees, and other plants, causing damage like wilting, die back, and sooty mold. If you see a Spotted Lanternfly outside a quarantined area, take a photo and report it to the Ohio Department of Agriculture using the Ohio Plant Pest Reporter. Findings in or near known infestations don't need to be reported. Visit <https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/plant-health/invasive-pests/invasive-insects/slf> for more.

### Friends of UA Parks

Saturdays, 9 am-Noon

[friendsofuaparks.com](http://friendsofuaparks.com)

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

- Saturday, November 9 - Northwest Kiwanis Park
- Saturday, December 7 - Fancyburg Park (meet on south side of park)

### Community Special Event Application

Community event organizers must submit an application with the City for events that require the use of City property and/or logistical support. For 2025 events, the deadlines are as follows:

- For events held April 1-June 30: January 17
- For events held July 1-September 30: April 18
- For events held October 1-December 31: July 18

- For events held January 1-March 31, 2026: October 17

The online application can be accessed at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov), under the **Events** section.

### Tri-Village Packers Thanksgiving Program

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

The Tri-Village Packers are back for a second year of providing healthy snacks and meals for children experiencing food insecurity over the Thanksgiving and Spring Break holidays, and they are seeking financial donations to help make this possible. Each donation of \$80 will provide breakfast and lunch items, and healthy snacks for one child enrolled in the program.

Any funds raised beyond the group's needs for this year's program will be housed in the Tri-Village Packers Fund with the Upper Arlington Community Foundation to support future projects focused on food insecurity in our community.

Another way to support the Packers program is to help with picking up food items, preparing and distributing the food packages. As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, the Packers will open an online sign-up for the various volunteer opportunities. The best way to let us know that you're interested in helping is to send an email in advance to [trivillagepackers@gmail.com](mailto:trivillagepackers@gmail.com) and you will be notified when the registration portal has opened.

### 2025 Leadership UA Program Applications Being Accepted

[www.leadershipua.org](http://www.leadershipua.org)

It's time for aspiring community leaders to get their applications in for the 2025 Leadership UA Program. With more than 500 alums, Leadership Upper Arlington, a program of the Upper Arlington Community Foundation, engages and inspires current and emerging leaders to take an active, effective role in their community. Leadership UA creates connections, motivates change, and fosters philanthropy to strengthen our

community. Participants gain impactful insights to build their personal and professional leadership skills, build confidence and growth through networking and education, increase their civic community involvement, and become difference makers to the City of Upper Arlington.

### Recycle Your Political Signs November 3-15

3600 Tremont Road

Beginning Monday, November 3, the City will have collection containers for used political signs available at the Municipal Services Center, by the Police Bay at the south end of the building. Please separate the signs from their metal stands and place items in their appropriate containers.

### SWACO Political Sign Mobile Collection Recycling Event

8 am-Noon, Saturday, November 9  
4990 Olentangy River Road

SWACO also offers a mobile recycling event on Saturday, November 9 at the above address.

### Mosquito Study Program

[healthyhomehabitatosu@gmail.com](mailto:healthyhomehabitatosu@gmail.com)

The Ohio State University and Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) will be conducting a mosquito study in 2025 and 2026 to enhance efforts to effectively control mosquito populations while protecting our beneficial insects. The study is funded through USDA's Agriculture Food Research Initiative.

The call is out for volunteer households in UA to participate in the study. They need two types of participants: residents that are okay with the sprayed pesticide treatments conducted by FCPH, and residents who opt out. If you are interested in learning more, contact the study team using the above email. And watch for some additional info and links in the *City Insight eNewsletter* in November.



# Schools<sup>★</sup>INSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2024



## Your Voice Matters!

## Facilities Master Planning Phase Two

Nearly 10 years after the Upper Arlington community embarked on a facilities master planning process for Upper Arlington Schools that resulted in a new high school and all new or renovated elementary schools, it's time to come together again – to determine the best path forward for the district's aging middle schools and Burbank Early Childhood School.

"This is an exciting time in our community as we begin to work together again to determine the future of our schools," said Superintendent Robert Hunt, Ph.D. "Facilities master planning is a key part of our district's 2025-2030 strategic plan, which is in the process of being finalized, but it is critical that we begin this work now for these aging buildings."

The first phase of facilities master planning was an unprecedented community effort – with thousands of residents becoming involved and more than 8,000 touchpoints over the 2½ year process for all nine buildings. That

process began nearly a decade ago with physical assessments for each of the district's nine school buildings that helped to fully understand the needs of each building in the district.

"At the time, due to a bond issue in the 1990s that funded maintenance and repairs to Hastings and Jones, there were more urgent physical needs at the high school and elementary schools. As a result, the decision was made to delay any needed work on the middle schools and Burbank, because their most significant needs were approximately 10 years out," said Treasurer/CFO Andrew Geistfeld. "That brings us to today and the need to engage our community again to determine a fiscally responsible, long-term plan for these aging schools."

Just like the first phase of the master planning process, phase two will be driven by community engagement and feedback – unfolding over 1½ years and involving multiple opportunities for residents to get involved by joining a building team, attending a community

engagement session, taking an online survey and more.

"Our goal is to create a transparent process where all voices are heard," Dr. Hunt said. "We will work together to revisit the work that was done 10 years ago, explore all possible options and together determine the best path forward for these schools."

Upper Arlington Schools will kick off phase two this fall with the first round of community engagement sessions – on October 29 from 6:30-8 pm, at Jones Middle School, 2100 Arlington Avenue, and October 30 from 9-10:30 am, at the Graf Center, 2020 Builders Place.

"With the physical needs of these buildings, there is no zero-cost option or solution for our community," Dr. Hunt said. "Your voice truly matters in this process. Your feedback will be vital in identifying a fiscally responsible and forward-thinking plan that meets the needs of both our students and our community."





## SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Robert Hunt, Ph.D.

### Focus On Students Is Threaded Through Key Initiatives For 2024-2025 School Year

*Robert Hunt, Ph.D., is the superintendent of Upper Arlington Schools. You can email him at [superintendent@uaschools.org](mailto:superintendent@uaschools.org) and follow him on X (formerly Twitter) at [@Hunt\\_EdLeader](https://twitter.com/Hunt_EdLeader).*

As we move through the 2024-2025 school year, Upper Arlington Schools continues to build on its commitment to providing a high-quality education and fostering a supportive environment for all students. Whether it's through academic achievement, community engagement, or long-term planning, we are focused on creating opportunities that help our students thrive.

#### Strategic Planning Update

One of our key priorities this year is finalizing a new, comprehensive strategic plan that will guide Upper Arlington Schools through 2030.

After several months of work, the 70-plus volunteers involved in the process finalized strategy recommendations for three strategic priority areas – Engaged Learning, Culture and Climate, and Connections – each strengthened by a focus on continuous improvement through Excellence and Innovation. Their work was informed by more than 8,500 touchpoints – from the Listen Learn Lead events in the spring of 2023, the UAdventure tour and the equity audit conducted last fall, and finally the strategic planning feedback session in May.

This fall, our entire staff has been involved in the process to develop a cohesive and comprehensive implementation plan – or the specific action steps for each strategy and the data that will be analyzed to measure success. We have also been meeting with students for additional feedback to ensure that we are responsive to their needs in the development of this plan.

We will provide an update to the community on this work at our annual

town hall meeting on November 19 at 6 pm, in Upper Arlington High School's Amelita Mirolo Black Box Theater, 1625 Zollinger Road. I encourage you to join us to learn more.

#### Coffee & Conversation Series

This fall, we launched an expanded Coffee & Conversation series for the 2024-2025 school year. We have had a wonderful turnout from our community for the three coffee chats we have hosted so far this year, and we look forward to continuing the conversation as the school year progresses.

Please mark your calendars for our next opportunity on Thursday, November 14 from 9-10 am, in the upper level meeting room at Kingsdale Market District, 3061 Kingsdale Center. This session will include an update from Treasurer/CFO Andrew Geistfeld on district finances. To view the full Coffee & Conversation schedule, visit [www.uaschools.org/coffee&conversation](http://www.uaschools.org/coffee&conversation).

#### 2023-2024 State Report Cards

In September, we received great news regarding our district's performance on the 2023-2024 state report cards. Upper Arlington Schools earned the highest possible overall rating of five stars, placing us among the top 18 districts in Ohio.

Even more impressively, we are one of just six districts in the entire state to have earned five stars in every category – achievement, progress, gap closing, graduation, and early literacy – for the third year in a row.

While we are pleased with these results, we understand that report cards represent only one measure of our success. Our focus remains on supporting the whole child, and we will continue to analyze data from multiple sources to ensure we are meeting the needs of our students. Look for more details in our **2025 Quality Profile**, which will provide a broader look at student growth, achievement and well-being when it is released early next year.



## Treasurer's Notes

Andrew L. Geistfeld

This fall, Upper Arlington Schools is launching phase two of facilities master planning, focused on the aging middle schools and Burbank Early Childhood School. This is an important time for our community as we begin to come together again to plan for the future of our schools, just as we did nearly a decade ago.

As we launch this community-driven process for these three schools, it is also important to recognize our commitment to responsibly plan for future maintenance needs for the high



school and five elementary schools that were part of phase one.

More than two years ago, the Board of Education established a capital project reserve fund to proactively plan for future maintenance needs for these six new and renovated buildings. This idea had been discussed during the facilities master planning process.

Since the 2022-2023 school year, the district has set aside \$750,000 in permanent improvement funding annually in this reserve fund to assist with the costs of eventual maintenance needs such as new HVAC systems or the replacement of a turf field once it has reached its expected lifespan.

This is an important example of our commitment to responsibly planning for future financial needs and being a good

steward of our community's investment in our schools.

### Five Year Forecast

In November, I will present the latest update to the five year forecast to the Board of Education at their regular meeting. This legally required document is an important check-in point for us as a district and for our community, as it offers a clear picture on the current state of district finances and our outlook over the next five years.

The November update to the five year forecast will reflect the continued enrollment growth we are experiencing in our schools, as well as the increasing needs for students to access specific educational programs in our district.

I will share more about the five year forecast in my next column, and following the Board meeting in November, you will also be able to take a closer look at the five year forecast on our website, [www.uaschools.org/treasurer](http://www.uaschools.org/treasurer).

If you have additional questions about our district's finances, you can contact me at [treasurer@uaschools.org](mailto:treasurer@uaschools.org).

## 2024 UPPER ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM LEFT:  
Liz George Stump,  
Lori Trent, Vice President  
Lou Sauter, President  
Jenny McKenna and  
Nidhi Satiani



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

### Upcoming Board of Education Meetings:

- Tuesday, November 12, 6 pm – Council Chamber
- Tuesday, December 10, 6 pm – Council Chamber

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

## SchoolsINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

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# BITES From the Apple

SCHOOLS NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS



## 7 Seniors Recognized as National Merit Semifinalists

Seven Upper Arlington High School students have qualified as Semifinalists in the 70th annual National Merit Scholarship Program, giving them the opportunity to compete for 6,870 scholarships worth nearly \$26 million.

The Upper Arlington students named National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists are:

- Rohan Baste-Bania
- Bennett Dial
- Emerson Houser
- Rae Liu
- Maxwell Long
- Logan Magliery
- Corinne Stevens

These academically talented members of the UAHS Class of 2025 are among more than 16,000 high school seniors nationwide to qualify as Semifinalists based on their scores on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). The Semifinalists represent the highest scores on the PSAT/NMSQT and approximately one percent of high school seniors nationwide.

Beginning in February, the National Merit Scholarship program expects to

notify about 15,000 Semifinalists that they have advanced to Finalist status after fulfilling several requirements, including having a record of a high academic achievement in grades nine through 12 and earning a high score on the SAT or ACT. Approximately half of the Finalists will be awarded National Merit Scholarships and the Merit Scholar title.



## 18 Named to All-State, All-Region Ensembles

Four Upper Arlington High School students have been selected among the best of the best in the performing arts in the state of Ohio for the Ohio All-State Ensembles for 2025.

- All-State Choir: junior **Griffin Crowe**, senior **Marley Nemeth** and junior **Jimmy Zolkowski**
- All-State Orchestra: junior **Mani Vutha** (clarinet)

The student selected for All-State Orchestra will also be performing with 14 additional Upper Arlington High School students for the Ohio Music Education Association's South-Central All-Region Orchestra. Joining them from UAHS will be: senior **Vivian Bennett**, junior **Bob Cai**, junior **Cindy Ju**, senior **Ava Kang**, junior **Emily Lin**, freshman **Elyse Motoyama**, freshman **Joonyoung Park**, senior **Alexandra Reaves**, sophomore **Nathan Reaves**, junior **Masao Tamiya**, senior



Abram Thompson, sophomore Angela Wei, sophomore Jintao Wu and senior Macie Zhong.

### UAHS Teacher Honored with National Award

Upper Arlington High School's Diane Kahle, Ph.D., has been named a recipient of the Computer Science Teaching Association's Teaching Excellence Award for 2023-2024. She is among only 10 national winners of this award, which honors K-12 computer science educators who have made significant contributions in their roles to support the development of computer-science education and technology.

"Dr. Kahle is incredibly deserving of this award," said Upper Arlington High School Principal Andrew Theado. "Through authentic, real-world learning opportunities, she lights a spark for her students to explore the possibilities of a future in computer science."

A teacher for more than 30 years,

Dr. Kahle is passionate about creating computer science opportunities for Upper Arlington students from kindergarten through high school. Along with her students in the Computer Science Club, she brings Hour of Code activities to all elementary and middle schools. She leads volunteer opportunities for her students in computer science education through robotics and coding workshops for Girl Scouts. She also organizes a daylong

Hackathon each year for interested Upper Arlington High School students in partnership with Nationwide, connecting students with professionals in the computer science industry.

"A day for them to play with computer science and learn more in an authentic setting is just – I can't replace this with any other activity I do all year because it's so valuable for the kids," she said of the 2024 Hackathon in the spring.



## Pleasant Litchford Memorial Garden Update

The Upper Arlington Board of Zoning and Planning has approved a conditional use application allowing Upper Arlington Schools to rebury the cremated remains of one individual in the Pleasant Litchford Memorial Garden at Upper Arlington High School. This small landscaped area in the south parking lot near the softball and baseball fields was formerly the site of the Litchford Family Cemetery.

The remains are of a young girl whose grave was missed when the cemetery was appropriated by the district in the 1950s. At that time, dozens of bodies were exhumed from the Litchford Family Cemetery and moved to other locations. However, in 2020 archeologists discovered that the grave of the young girl had been missed, leaving her buried at the high school site for nearly 60 years after the rest of the cemetery had been relocated.

Since that time, the school district



has been working with Litchford family descendants, the City of Upper Arlington and the Upper Arlington Historical Society to learn more about the young girl and to honor the life and legacy of Pleasant Litchford, who became one of the largest landowners in the area after being enslaved in Virginia in the 1800s (to learn more about Pleasant Litchford, please visit [www.uaschools.org/litchford](http://www.uaschools.org/litchford)).

Because the young girl is unidentified, the school district and the descendant family felt it would be most respectful to return her remains to the site selected as her final resting place by her loved ones at the time of her death.

The district will work with the Litchford family descendants to identify a timeline for the reburial and additional ways to honor the history of the site.

## SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



*In honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month during the month of September, Burbank Early Childhood School went gold in support of one of their own and raised money for pediatric cancer research.*



*Thanks to the support of Upper Arlington Education Foundation and the UAHS PTO, the UA Rise coffee shop at Upper Arlington High School has a new eco-friendly Blender Bike that students can take for a spin as they whip up their own frozen drinks.*



### Start With Heart by Starting With Hello

All K-12 school buildings in the Upper Arlington Schools celebrated Start With Hello Week in September, with activities that supported well-being and helped students make new connections and strengthen their sense of belonging in our schools. Students and staff lived out the district value of starting with heart by starting with hello throughout the week. They engaged in conversations with new peers, practiced gratitude for the people and things that make them happy, shared positive messages and gave compliments or writing notes to uplift others. Through activities like these, students were able to make new social connections and celebrate the things that make them feel connected to their school and community.





# SERVE LEAD SUCCEED... SERVE LEAD SUCCEED



Upper Arlington High School celebrated homecoming in September. Pictured are the members of the Homecoming Court on pajama day during spirit week.



Upper Arlington High School is proud to have nearly 70 students from the classes of 2025 and 2026 who are on track to complete the International Baccalaureate coursework required to earn an IB Diploma or an IB Career Related Diploma.



Wickliffe Progressive Elementary School students returned to school this fall with a new playground, thanks to the fundraising efforts of the Wickliffe Woods parents and volunteers.



Thanks to the Upper Arlington Education Foundation and the school PTOs, Hastings and Jones middle schools welcomed Dr. Buddy Berry to inspire students to make a difference in the world.



With the support of teachers and high school student counselors, students from both Hastings and Jones middle schools made memories at their annual 6th grade camps.



Young patrons at the Upper Arlington Labor Day Arts Festival helped color Start With Heart artwork designed by senior Josie Petersen.



## UA Hub, New Educational Pathways Open To Students



This fall, Upper Arlington Schools celebrated the grand opening of the UA Hub, home to new and innovative programs designed to enhance student learning. Located in the old district office at 1950 North Mallway Drive, the Hub was converted into a collaborative learning space through a \$500,000 state grant, which funded physical updates to the building as well as equipment purchases and teacher professional development for the programs.

"The UA Hub is a space where our students can thrive, whether they are looking for advanced coursework, seeking alternative pathways, or needing extra support to reach their full potential," said Superintendent Robert Hunt, Ph.D.

This school year, the UA Hub is home to three new or expanded programs – College Jumpstart, UA Online Academy and UA Bridge.

- College Jumpstart, offered in partnership with Columbus State Community College, offers a dual enrollment opportunity for Upper Arlington High School students that

allows them to earn up to 25 hours of college credit.

- The UA Online Academy offers a flexible, virtual learning option for students, now with a space where students can regularly collaborate with their peers and Upper Arlington teachers.
- The Upper Arlington Bridge is an alternative to the traditional school setting for students who would benefit from individualized support to achieve their academic and personal goals.

In addition to these programs, Upper Arlington Schools also launched three additional programs this school year for students seeking alternate educational pathways and/or a college-level experience while in high school – the University of Cincinnati Early IT Program, powered by the PAST Foundation, a Semiconductor Program offered in partnership with Columbus State, and a Teaching Professions Pathway, led by an Upper Arlington High School educator. To learn more about the UA Hub, please visit [www.uaschools.org/UAHub](http://www.uaschools.org/UAHub).



## 2024-2025 SCHOOL DATES

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

**Tuesday, November 5**

**No School for Students; Staff Report Per Schedule**

**Wednesday, November 27**

**Thanksgiving Break**

**Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29**

**End of 2nd Quarter and 1st Semester**

**Friday, December 20**

**Winter Break**

**Monday, December 23–Friday, January 3**

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

**Monday, January 6**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day: No School for Students and Staff**

**Monday, January 20**

**Early Dismissal (K-12)**

**Wednesday, January 22**

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

**Presidents' Day: No School for Students and Staff**

**Monday, February 12**

**End of 3rd Quarter**

**Friday, March 14**

**Spring Break**

**Monday, March 17 - Friday, March 21**

For the full 2024-2025 school year calendar, visit [www.uaschools.org/calendars](http://www.uaschools.org/calendars). To view a calendar of community events in our schools, please visit [www.uaschools.org/communitycalendar](http://www.uaschools.org/communitycalendar).

# Library NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2024 iNSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



## Holiday Events at the Library

The UAPL is a great place to spend time during the holiday season. Our programs will get you in the spirit!

Our annual Winter Wonderland event returns on Saturday, December 7 from 10 am-2 pm at the Tremont Road Branch. Look for life-size Candyland, Elsa and Anna from Frozen, a model train display from Central Ohio Model Railroad Club, face painters, caricature artists, balloon twisters, a giant snow globe, and children's crafts. Other activities are still being planned, so be sure to join us on this big day!

Santa won't be at Winter Wonderland, but you can visit with him at the Tremont Road Branch on Sunday, November 24. We'll have a sensory-friendly experience in the morning, and a traditional experience in the afternoon. Registration opens November 10. Santa will also be at the Miller Park Branch during Home for the Holidays on Thursday, December 5 from 4-6 p.m. Register for your Santa time slot beginning November 23. Visit our program calendar at [ualibrary.org/events](http://ualibrary.org/events) to register.

A new – and undoubtedly hilarious – addition this year is an Ugly Sweater Swap on Friday, December 5 from 3-5 pm at the Tremont Road Branch. Drop off your item in the Youth



Department beginning December 1, then come back on December 5 to indulge your questionable taste by finding a new-to-you garment. Open to all ages.

Our winter *Library Link* program guide will be available in mid-November, so be sure to check it out to see all the great programs heading your way this season.

## New Date: Lane Road Branch Closing on November 11

In the September/October issue of *UA Insight*, we shared plans for improving our Lane Road Branch. As planning continued over the past several weeks, we realized that a little more time is needed to prepare for the renovations. Therefore, the last day of operation at the branch will be Sunday, November 10. We anticipate that it will be closed from November 11, 2024 until May 2025.

Patrons who chose Lane Road as the pickup location for their held items should instead go to the Tremont Road Branch. Lane Road staff will work out of our other branches during the closure.

When the branch reopens next spring, visitors will be greeted with new meeting and study rooms, lighting, shelving, furniture, fixtures, power



outlets, and sound baffling. Back-of-house improvements like a new HVAC system will also be completed.

In the meantime, be sure to visit our Tremont Road or Miller Park Branches to browse materials, pick up holds, and get librarian assistance.





## A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Beth Hatch

As we enter the holiday season, it's the perfect time to reflect on the importance of community and giving back. One of the best ways to make a meaningful impact is by supporting your local public library. Libraries do more than lend books. We offer educational resources, programs and events that promote education and literacy, and safe spaces for people of all ages. This holiday season, consider how you can give back

to this vital community hub through volunteering, donating, or raising awareness.

When you support your local library, you're not just helping a building filled with books; you're strengthening a community resource that enriches lives. Whether through access to free knowledge, providing a space for children to learn and play, or offering job seekers essential resources, libraries give back in countless ways. By volunteering, donating, or advocating for your library, you ensure that these services continue for future generations.

We're reaching out to ask for your support in helping us improve Lane Road Library. With your generosity, we aim to create a more engaging and

comfortable space for our community, especially for our younger visitors. We are raising additional funds to replace outdated youth shelving, which will enhance accessibility and organization for children's books. Additionally, we plan to add cozy reading nooks where children and adults alike can enjoy their favorite books in a relaxing environment. We also hope to upgrade the meeting room with new, versatile furniture to better accommodate group activities, workshops, and community events. Your contribution at <http://uapl.me/GiveForLane50> will make a lasting impact on the library experience for everyone who walks through our doors. Thank you!

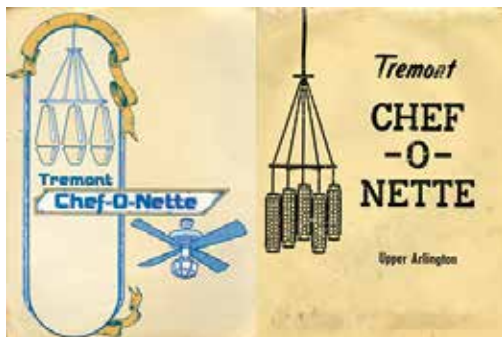
## UA Archives is Growing

Our Research Department has been busy adding new content to the UA Archives.

Visit [www.uaarchives.org](http://www.uaarchives.org), and you'll find an amazing collection of

Chef-O-Nette memorabilia, a 1973 deed from local resident Benn Blinn to the City of UA stipulating the name Fancyburg Park for his land sale, a 1959 thesis from former UAHS Band Director Robert Ginther with photos and histories of all Upper Arlington schools at that time, and some gorgeous booklets from 1914-1923 advertising the brand-new Upper Arlington subdivision.

This is all in addition to the community's *Norwester* newsmagazine (1917-1922) and Upper Arlington High School's *Norwester* yearbooks (1923-2005). We will add the next batch of yearbooks in 2025. Through the UA Archives, the UA Library is pleased to partner with the UA Historical Society, UA Schools, the City of UA, and individuals to digitally preserve our community's archives and make them searchable online.



## Catalog Unavailable November 15-18

In mid-November, Westerville Public Library will join our catalog-sharing consortium, bringing the total number of member libraries to 18. The Upper Arlington Public Library will be open for business as usual, but we will have some limited functionality from November 15-18.



You may check out items, but **please bring your library card** as we will not be able to look up your account. You'll also be able to use library computers, access our website, and use digital services such as databases, Hoopla and Digital Downloads. However, you will not be able to use self-checkout stations, or place holds or renew items. Also, the status of items in the catalog may not be correct; a book may appear as "in" but has actually been checked out. We also cannot create new or replacement library cards during this time.

No items will be due during this period, so we encourage you to keep any checked-out items until November 19.

We appreciate your patience as the Central Library Consortium prepares to give you access to even more materials.



# NewsBITES

## LIBRARY NEWS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

### Program Survey

Did you attend and check in at one of our programs this summer or fall? Look for a survey in your email in mid-November, and let us know what you thought about it and our other program offerings.

### Friends of the Library Book Sale

The Friends of the UA Library will hold a book sale from November 3-17 in the atrium of the Tremont Road Branch. The sale will feature a big selection of fiction and nonfiction books for all ages, plus DVDs, CDs, vinyl, magazines and more. A members-only presale will take place November 3 from 11 am-1 pm. The sale opens to the public at 1 pm that day, and will close each day 15 minutes before the library closes. The final day of the sale will feature a fill-a-bag sale. Friends members can shop from 11 am-1 pm and fill a paper grocery bag

with books for just \$5. The bag sale opens to all at 1 pm, when nonmembers can fill a bag for \$10.

### Avenue of Trees

We're looking for five local nonprofit organizations to participate in our Avenue of Trees holiday display at our Tremont Road Branch. Spread holiday cheer and awareness of your organization by decorating one of our trees for the season. Read and submit the application at <http://bit.ly/AvenueofTrees> to be considered for this year's display. Deadline for forms is Monday, November 11. Five organizations will be selected and notified on November 12, with trees ready for decorating on November 25. Contact Christine Minx at [cminx@ualibrary.org](mailto:cminx@ualibrary.org) with questions.

### Toy Drive for Holiday Wish

Bring joy to a child by donating to our

toy drive to benefit Franklin County Children's Services' Holiday Wish program. Stop by our Tremont Road or Miller Park Branch November 25-December 8 for a gift tag, purchase the item and bring it to us unwrapped by 7:30 pm Monday, December 9. You can also make monetary donations for gifts for older children at the FCCS Holiday Wish website.

### Holiday Closings

We will close at 5 pm Wednesday, November 27 and remain closed on Thanksgiving Day, November 28. We'll be closed December 24-25 for Christmas. Finally, we'll close at 3 pm on Tuesday, December 31 and remain closed Wednesday, January 1 for New Year's.

### Last Chance for 50 Book Challenge Mugs

Are you participating in our 50 Book Challenge this year? Be sure to stop by a UAPL branch when you've read 50 books to get your prize of a free mug.

### Red Cross Blood Drives

The Red Cross will hold blood drives at the Tremont Road Branch on Friday, November 29 from 11 am-4 pm, and Monday, December 23 from 11 am-4 pm. Make an appointment at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) using code UAPL.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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

#### Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- No meeting in November
- Tuesday, December 3

#### 2024 Board of Trustees

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

## LibraryINSIGHT

BI-MONTHLY NEWS FROM UPPER ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

#### Production:

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



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



# MAKING MEMORIES...building connections



The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium brought several furry, feathered and scaly friends to Miller Park.

Lane Road Branch held a Junior Homecoming with a woodland fairy theme.

Animal visits from Bring the Farm to You are always popular with young patrons.





## OUR STAFF RECOMMENDS

### The Ministry of Time

By Kaliane Bradley

Kaliane Bradley's debut novel delves into a near-future where the British government has stumbled upon time travel. This results in historical figures like Commander Graham Gore being taken from Franklin's Northwest Passage Expedition and brought into the present. The "Expats" undergo a 'Bridge' program to test how they adapt to modern technology, language, and social dynamics. Just as the Expats become acclimated to their new lives, they face a threat from the future creators of time travel who want to destroy the machine and its travelers. Bradley blends science fiction, historical fiction, romance, and action into an entertaining read for anyone seeking a unique story!

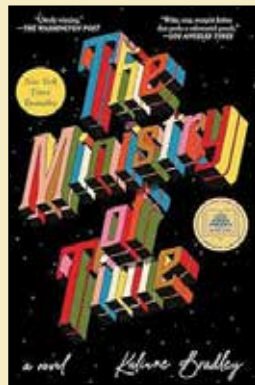
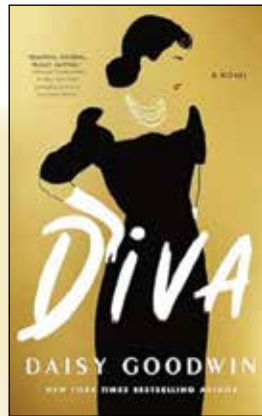
— Maklayne V., Miller Park Branch

### Diva: A Novel

By Daisy Goodwin

*Diva: A Novel* is a written account of renowned American-born Greek soprano Maria Callas, who was one of the most celebrated opera singers of the 20th Century. Don't worry if you aren't an opera buff as this book isn't big on the musical aspect of her noteworthy career. The author has set the story up as a three-act drama centered around Callas' very public nine-year affair with Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis. Ultimately, Onassis betrayed Callas when he married Jackie Kennedy in 1968, which resulted in a very public humiliation for Maria that begins and ends in the novel. *Diva* emphasizes how Callas' artistry may have been sabotaged by her desperate need for love.

— Sharon A., Research Department



### Somewhere Beyond the Sea

By T. J. Klune

The inhabitants of Marsyas Island continue their fight to bring recognition for all beings into the greater world. In the sequel to *The House in the Cerulean Sea*, Arthur Parnassus accepts an invitation to speak to the government about his traumatic past while trying to secure the future of his chosen family. It won't be easy, but with love and the support of his extraordinary children, acceptance might triumph over fear.

— Laura G., Technical Services

### Husbands and Lovers

By Beatriz Williams

Told in a dual timeline that spans continents, this story about love and family explores what it means to find identity and belonging. Hannah, a former Hungarian refugee from WWII marries for security rather than passion to escape the traumatic experiences of losing her family to the Soviets, and she

longs for a child. In 21st Century America single mother, Mallory, anxiously awaits a kidney donor match for her 13-year-old son, Sam. After accidentally running into Sam's father, who had no knowledge of Sam's existence, Mallory and Monk are forced to reexamine their relationship with each other and their son. Exploring their family genealogy in search of a match leads to some unexpected surprises that tie these two storylines together.

— Raechel M., Adult Department

### Long Time Gone

By Charlie Donlea

Sloan Hastings receives a research assignment in forensic genealogy. She learns about autopsies, DNA, genealogy, and more. Her adoptive parents (both dentists) wanted her to also be a dentist, but her desires were elsewhere. This story is about a missing mom, dad, and a two-month-old baby girl named Charlotte. Spring forward 30 years to the current time, and live the exciting life and near death with Sloan.

— Bonnie M., Lane Road Branch

### Haunted Ever After

By Jen DeLuca

DeLuca's fifth novel takes us to the paranormal tourist town of Boneyard Key. Ghosts staying around since the Founding Fifteen make for bossy roommates and great stories for the weekly ghost tour. The main character Cassie moves in to become a local helping to piece the story together of her residential ghost commonly known as Mean Mrs. H, but not everything is what it seems. Although considered a romance novel, we are left feeling the importance of found family, an understanding that life changes are different for everyone, and that it's OK to no longer fit the older mold of yourself.

— Anastasia P., Miller Park Branch







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



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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

## Concourse Gallery

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

**Nature's Rhythm, Artist: Michelle Renée Garrison**  
Thru November 15

**Between the Mountains, Exploring the Great Plains of North America, Artist: Thomas Croce**

November 20-January 31, 2025

Reception: 2 pm, Sunday, November 24

## Beggars Night

### & Pumpkin Patrol

6-8 pm, Thursday, October 31

Throughout UA neighborhoods

UA Police & Pumpkin Patrol ensure children are safe while passing out candy.

**History Speaks: The Firefighting Heritage of Upper Arlington**

3 pm, Sunday, November 3

Bryce Eck Activity Center, 3880 Reed Road  
UA Historical Society | [uahistory.org](http://uahistory.org)

Retired UA firefighter and volunteer historian, Dan Kochensparger, shares insight on the storied history of the UA Fire Division. A tour of Station 72 follows the presentation.

## Santa's Mailbox

November 15-December 13

Municipal Services Center Kenny Road parking lot, 3600 Tremont Road

Boys and girls who place a letter in Santa's special mailbox receive a letter from Santa. To guarantee delivery, include child's full name, address and an un-affixed postage stamp. One child's letter per envelope please!

## Chase Columbus Turkey Trot

9 am, Thursday, November 28

Begins at Shops on Lane Avenue

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

This annual event brings together thousands of runners and walkers for a 2.6 mile or five mile course, and all for a good cause. Registration open through November 27.

## UACA Holiday House Decorating Contest

[www.uaca.org](http://www.uaca.org)

Decorate your home for the holidays and enter this fun annual contest. Judging categories include "Clark Griswold," "Best Front Door Display," "Neat as a Pin," "Inside Out," "Best Overall" and "Anything Goes." Judging takes place mid-December, with winners receiving yard signs soon after. Check the UACA website for registration details.

## Winter Festival

6-8:30 pm, Friday, December 6

Mallway Business District

UA Parks & Recreation

Activities include carriage rides, visits with Santa, live reindeer, ice carving and the traditional tree lighting ceremony.

## Breakfast & Brunch With Santa

Saturday, December 7

Amelita Mirolo Barn, Sunny 95 Park

Registration Opens 6 am November 6

UA Parks & Recreation | [parks.uaoh.net](http://parks.uaoh.net)

Children can visit with Santa for pictures and to share their holiday wishes, as well as enjoy a delicious breakfast/brunch buffet. Various times available, register at [parks.uaoh.net](http://parks.uaoh.net) beginning November 6.

## UACA Christmas in the Park

Noon-9 pm, Sunday, December 8

6-9 pm, Monday-Thursday,

December 9-12

Thompson Park

Registration opens 6 am, November 7

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

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