

O-TOWN NEWS!

KEEPING GREATER O-TOWN CONNECTED



JULY 2023

THANK YOU!

Highlights in this issue:

- Family Resource Center.....2
- TOPSS..... 3
- Local Events.....4-7
- Helpful Resources..... 8

If you have information to be shared in O-Town News, you can submit online at <http://bit.ly/O-Town-News-Content> or call (513) 529-2914 for assistance with completing the online submission form. Submission deadline is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue.

Age-Friendly Oxford is thrilled to announce that we have received a grant from the City of Oxford Community Assistance Fund of the Greater Oxford Community Foundation which will allow us to produce monthly issues of O-Town News for the next year! We are deeply grateful for this generous support to help keep the Greater Oxford area connected.



OHIO'S VOTING LAWS HAVE CHANGED!

The League of Women Voters of Ohio have provided an online quick guide for the new changes in voter registration, early voting, voting by mail, election day voting, BMV issued licenses and ID cards, and other changes. To learn more, visit their website at www.lwvohio.org or call (614) 469-1505.

Spotlight: Family Resource Center

Founded in 1956, the Family Resource Center (FRC) seeks to eliminate poverty in our community with a mission to “create a safe and healthy community by advocating for those in need and connecting them to resources and services.”



FAMILY
RESOURCE CENTER

The FRC offers a variety of services and provides assistance, resources, and advocacy to help families achieve self-sustainability. These services include, direct financial assistance for rent and utilities to help families stay in their homes and prevent homelessness. The FRC staff also work alongside clients to ensure that they are connected to support and resources that

FRC client hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments can be made outside of client hours if needed.

will ensure their sustainability. These include food, clothing, shelter, education, applying for public benefits, such as SNAP, Medicaid, energy assistance programs, and other related services such as mental health and substance abuse.

The FRC has multiple agency partners that help them achieve their mission: Community Church Coalition, TOPSS, Butler County United Way, Oxford Community Foundation, The City of Oxford, SELF, Oxford Senior Center, Talawanda School District, Kiwanis Club of Oxford, Lions Club of Oxford, Thread Up, Oxford and agencies and housing programs in Butler and Warren County. However, their efforts are also supported through community member's donations and some volunteer opportunities!

In the year 2022, FRC served over 350 unique clients. A total of about \$30,000 was spent on direct rent and utility assistance for families. This year (2023) FRC has spent about \$15,000 so far in direct rent and utility assistance. As demands outweigh resources and rents increase across the community and the country, the need for monetary donations to support FRC preventative programs is of utmost need and importance. FRC truly appreciates your support of our community.



If you are interested in donating to the FRC, please mail your donation to:
Family Resource Center, P.O. Box 108, Oxford, OH 45056.

Please make checks payable to:
Family Resource Center or Oxford/Talawanda Community Services, INC.

Spotlight: Talawanda Oxford Pantry & Social Services



Talawanda Oxford Pantry & Social Services (TOPSS) serves families in need located in the Talawanda School District, with the mission to “alleviate hunger and support the nutrition-related wellbeing of those in need.”

They offer grocery and necessity shopping options including: curbside shopping, in-person shopping, home delivery, and a mobile pantry. Customers are able to shop in person once a week, and are able to choose their own items according to their household size and personal preferences. TOPSS also provides nutritional information and foods that meet certain dietary restrictions when possible.

Pantry office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 10am - 6pm, and Saturday 12pm - 3pm. During these hours, they receive donations of food in Building #1 and offer pre-packaged boxes of food during these hours. In-person shopping hours are available by appointment on Saturdays from 12pm - 3pm.

Through the support of their dedicated staff, volunteers, and donors, TOPSS was able to serve 598 different households, make over 1,600 home deliveries, and save over 56,616 pounds of food from going to the landfill in 2022 alone!

If you are interested in donating to TOPSS you can donate money directly on their website, mail a check to **P.O. Box 391 Oxford, OH 45056**, or shop for the items on their “most needed” items list and drop them off at TOPSS during donation acceptance hours.

There are also a variety of no-cost ways you can support the pantry including: donating plastic and reusable grocery bags, connecting your Kroger community rewards to TOPSS, cleaning out your cupboards and donating unneeded or unwanted supplies, and volunteering.

Current "Most Needed" Items:

Pasta
Rice
Cereal
Canned Fruit
Deodorant
Menstrual Products



Curbside Choice Shopping:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Delivery to Home (by appointment):

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Mobile Pantry:

Wednesday 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Thank you, Steve!



After serving as the Executive Director of Oxford Seniors since April 2017, Steve Schnabl retired on June 30th.

A HUGE thank you to Steve for his work and accomplishments at Oxford Seniors, his role in Age-Friendly Oxford,

and his 47 years of dedicated work to the field of non-profit social services. Moving forward, Steve hopes that the greater Oxford community will continue to support the work of Oxford Seniors, and leaves a reminder that he will not lose touch with the many friends he made during his time at the Center.

Welcome Emily!

A very warm welcome to Emily Liechty, who began her role as the new Executive Director of Oxford Seniors on June 19th! Emily is a long time Oxford resident and a licensed social worker, earning her Master of Social Work from our very own Miami University.



Previously, Emily was lead secretary at Talawanda High School for three years. She is also an active volunteer at Talawanda-Oxford Pantry and Social Services (TOPSS).



Oxford Freedom Festival 2023

Sat. July 1 - Oxford Freedom Festival Parade - 6:30 p.m.

- Parade starts on the corner of College and High Street and progresses east on High Street to Poplar Street.
- Decorate your group or float with lots of red, white, and blue!
- Cash prizes for the best floats!
 - 1st place - \$100; 2nd place - \$75; 3rd place - \$50
- Pet owners can dress up their pets for the Pet Parade!



Mon. July 3 - Freedom Festival & Fireworks Extravaganza - 5:00 p.m to 10:30 p.m.

- **Location:** Oxford Community Park - *Fireworks begin at 10:00 p.m.*
- **Parking:** \$5 charge per vehicle
- **Activities:** Axe throwing, large inflatables, games, gaga pit, carriage rides, face painting, and more!
- **Community Booths:** Including local vendors, wildlife, and sports leagues
- **Entertainment:** Live music and free door prizes
- **Food:** LaRosa's, pretzels, hot dogs, sno-cones, ice cream truck, and more!



* No alcohol, grills, or drones permitted.

* **Rain date for July 3rd events and fireworks is July 4th, same place and time.**

About Town

Sat. July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Oxford Farmers Market - 9:00 a.m. until noon. *Uptown.* Fresh, Local, Seasonal foods & goods from friends, neighbors, and local businesses.

Sat. July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Yoga in the Park - 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. *Uptown Park.* Come enjoy some relaxing yoga.

Fri. July 7 - Friday Night Lights: The Lego Batman Movie - 8:00 p.m. *Oxford Community Arts Center Pavilion.* Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets, and snacks.

Fri. July 14 - Read Brick Friday: Neon Nights - 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. *Uptown Oxford - High Street.* Come enjoy a DJ, a variety of light-up games, activities, and food trucks.

Thur. July 20 - Global Friendship BBQ Cook Out - 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. *Peffer Park.* Connect with Miamians from across the world. Food and drinks provided. Register to attend online at https://MiamiOH.formstack.com/forms/global_friendship_bbq_2023 or call (513) 529-8600.

Sat. July 29 - Chamber of Commerce Dog Days 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. *Uptown Parks.* Doggy Parade starting at 10:00 a.m. in front of "You're Fired"
Oxford Farmer's Market Flip Competition at 11:30 a.m. on the Uptown Park main stage
Uptown Sidewalk Sales: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Uptown Music Concert Series



All concerts are FREE and held in Uptown Park from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Sat. July 1 - Michelle Robinson Band

Sponsored by Lions Club of Oxford, Kiwanis Club of Oxford, Oxford Veterinary Hospital, and MUCFCU

Thur. July 6 - Mark Joshua

Sponsored by Graeter's

Thur. July 13 - John Kogge and the Lonesome Strangers

Sponsored by Miami Alumni Association and Oxford Seniors

Thur. July 20 - DAT Band

Sponsored by LaRosa's and ReMax

Thur. July 27 - Lisa Biales

Sponsored by Greater Oxford Community Foundation, Oxford Chamber of Commerce, Coldwell Banker, Brown-Dawson-Flick Funeral Home, and New York Life

Hueston Woods

All events take place from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Hueston Woods Pioneer Farm and House.

Sat. July 1 & Sun. July 2 - Frozen Frontiers Ice Cream Day.

Make and eat fresh churned ice cream!



Sat. July 8 & Sun. July 9 - Pioneer Crafts by Oxford Museum Association.

Candle dipping and pocket doll crafting. Supplies provided

Sat. July 22 & Sun. July 23 - Oxford Museum Association Parlor Games.

Board games, card games, and word games from the late 19th and early 20th century.

Sat. July 29 & Sun. July 30 - Hand Fan Painting by Oxford Museum Association.

Color, paint, and decorate a hand fan you get to bring home.



On Campus

Hefner Museum of Natural History - Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 100 Upham Hall, First Floor

The Hefner Museum of Natural History uses exhibits, collections and specimens, and interactive programs to teach visitors of all ages about animal biodiversity, conservation, and ecology.

Admission is free.



Arts & Leisure

Sat. July 8 & Sun. July 9 - Artist's Makerspace - 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Oxford Lane Library.

Explore the makerspace on the 2nd floor where you will find various art supplies and tools for self-guided crafting

Fri. July 14 - 2nd Friday Celebration - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Oxford Community Arts Center.

Celebrate a new month of fine and performing arts. Complimentary wine bar, free refreshments, and a free performance! Sponsored by The Elms Hotel and Jack & Sally Southard.

Tues. July 18 - The Book Crew - 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Location information will be emailed to registrants.

Enjoy food, drink, and conversation as you discuss the book of the month: *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. Register for the event on Oxford Lane Library's website or call (513) 523-7531.

Thur. July 20 - Third Thursday Book Club - 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Oxford Lane Library.

Come and discuss this month's book: *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano.

Tues. July 25 - Get to Know the Artist's Makerspace - 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Oxford Lane Library.

All of the makerspace tools will be available to use and explore with staff in attendance to answer questions and provide guidance.

Helpful Resources

Family Resource Center

*5445 College Corner Pike, Building 2 , Oxford, OH 45056
(513)-523-5859, Email: director@frcoxford.org*

Family Resource Center (FRC) assists individuals and families with the necessary resources, advocacy, and assistance to achieve their own self-sustainability: securing housing, assisting those with economic hardships, ensuring basic needs (food, clothing, shelter, transportation), obtaining and retaining employment, access to financial, education, and work supports.

Oxford Lane Library

*441 S Locust St #2126, Oxford, OH, 45056
(513)-523-7531, Website: <https://www.lanepi.org/>*

Lane library provides materials, services, access to computers and electronic resources, and a variety of events for adults and children. Most services and events are free.

Oxford Free Clinic

*110 North Poplar Street Oxford OH, 45056
(513)-524-5426, Website: <https://oxfordfreeclinic.org/>*

Oxford Free Clinic provides basic medical care and access to medications prescribed for treatments. The gynecology free clinic operates on the second Wednesdays of every month to provide free women-specific care.

Oxford Seniors

*922 Tollgate Dr. Oxford, OH, 45056
(513)-523-8100, Website: <https://www.oxfordsenior.org/>*

Oxford Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m to 4:30 p.m. for members to use the facilities and participate in many forms of recreation. Oxford Seniors also provides Adult Day Care Services, Meals on Wheels, Transportation, and other supportive services.

Talawanda Oxford Pantry & Social Services

*5445 College Corner Pike, Oxford, OH, 45056
(513)-523-3851, Email: director@topss.org*

Talawanda Oxford Pantry & Social Services (TOPSS) serves families living in the Talawanda school district. Customers are able to shop once per week and choose their items according to their household size and preferences. Nutritional information and foods to meet specific dietary restrictions are available. "Emergency food" boxes are available on a limited basis to those in need who live outside of the Talawanda School District.

Thread Up Oxford

*5156 College Corner Pike, Oxford, OH, 45056
(513)-273-1701, Email: threadupoxford@gmail.com*

Thread Up is committed to changing the community's relationship with textile more responsibly and creatively. Thread Up accepts donations of textile goods and provides free and low-cost gently used clothing at their location.