



"Uptown" by Julia Ruscio

MARCH 2024

Highlights in this issue:

- Community Engagement.....2
- Total Eclipse of the Parks.....3
- Community Connections & Events.....4-6
- Helpful Resources.....7

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.

If you would like to receive O-Town News either by postal mail or email, contact info@agefriendlyoxford.org or call (513) 529-2914.

LUCKY AND CARING

There's a lot of talk about "luck" in March and we are certainly lucky to live in such a caring community! One example of this caring is the new Little Free Pantry located outside the Oxford Lane Library building.

The pantry was built by community members using materials they donated or repurposed. The startup costs were supported in part by a donation from the Oxford Empty Bowls. The pantry is accessible 24 hours a day and community members should feel free to take what they need.

If you have non-perishable foods and hygiene items to give, please stock the pantry at your convenience. Your generosity is appreciated!

SPRING BREAK

Talawanda School District and Miami University are both on Spring Break from March 25 - 31.



Blue Shirt Bunch

Have you ever wanted to attend a community event but were hesitant because you didn't have anyone to go with and weren't sure who you would talk to when you got there? The **Blue Shirt Bunch** is a group of community volunteers committed to helping folks make connections and have a friendly person to interact with at local events. If you see the blue shirt symbol next to an event, it means that a member of the Blue Shirt Bunch will be there and would be happy to have you join them.

If you are interested in becoming a Blue Shirt Bunch member, contact Age-Friendly Oxford at info@agefriendlyoxford.org or call (513) 529-2914 and ask for Jennifer Heston-Mullins.

Bluebird Coffee Klatch

Come enjoy a cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate and baked goods while conversing with friends. Hosted by Reily Township Good Neighbors in collaboration with Oxford Area Coalition for a Healthy Community

Tuesdays, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Reily Township Community Center
6093 Reily Millville Rd



Greater Oxford Area Communication Survey



This issue includes a survey to understand the needs and preferences of people living and working in the greater Oxford area related to communication about local news and happenings.

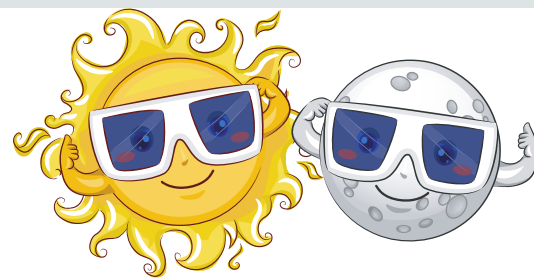
The survey is open to anyone 18 years of age or older who lives or works in the City of Oxford or the townships that make up the Talawanda School District (Hanover, Milford, Oxford, & Reily.)

The survey can be completed on paper or online. Instructions for completing the survey online and where to submit completed paper surveys are included on the survey form.

Please take time to fill out the survey by **March 31** and make your voice heard. Your input is important as we strive to keep greater O-Town connected and "in the know."

TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE PARKS

It will be a **Total Eclipse of the Parks** in Oxford the first weekend of April 2024 for a celestial celebration event we haven't seen in over two hundred years and won't see again until 2099.



What is a solar eclipse?

On April 8th, 2024, a total solar eclipse will cross North America - this happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun. The sky will become completely dark, as if it were dawn or dusk.

What does it mean to be in the path of totality?

When you hear "the path of totality" it is referring to any location where observers will see the Moon completely cover the Sun.

Where can you view the solar eclipse?

Only 15 lucky U.S. states will be in the path of totality, including Ohio. Butler County is the best spot to view the eclipse and experience totality in the Cincinnati region!

How long will the eclipse last in Oxford?

The eclipse will enter Ohio at approximately 1:53 p.m. on Monday, April 8th, 2024. Totality in Oxford will start at 3:08:23 p.m. and will last 2 minutes and 51 seconds.



Total Eclipse of the Parks is sponsored by several community partners including the Oxford Community Arts Center, Miami University, Enjoy Oxford Visitors Bureau, the Oxford Chamber of Commerce, Oxford Lane Public Library, and the City of Oxford. There will be an entire long weekend of solar-themed fun April 5-8, but the fun starts this month with special Eclipse lectures at the Oxford Lane Library. The events listed below are open to all ages, but there are other events specifically for kids and teens. For more information, see the Oxford Lane Library website or call (513) 523-7531.

Sun. Mar. 3 - 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Advance Telescope and Eclipse Showcase: A Partnership of THS and Miami University



Students from THS and Miami are conducting research involving the Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024. The students were awarded a grant providing a high-tech telescope and computer that can collect large amounts of images and data. Students will share their research projects, information on Eclipses, ways to safely view the Eclipse, and other Astronomy Information. Younger children must be accompanied by an adult.

Mon. Mar. 18 - 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Eclipse Chasing with Dean Regas: Heavenly Excuses to Travel



Join astronomer Dean Regas to hear about his adventures traveling in search of solar eclipse, lunar eclipse, transit, and other astronomical events. He will also share tips to safely observe and photograph a solar eclipse. Book sale and signing to follow the presentation.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS IN OXFORD ALL MEALS 5:30 - 6:30 P.M.

Wed. Mar. 6 - Dine in or pick up at United Methodist Church, 14 N. Poplar St.

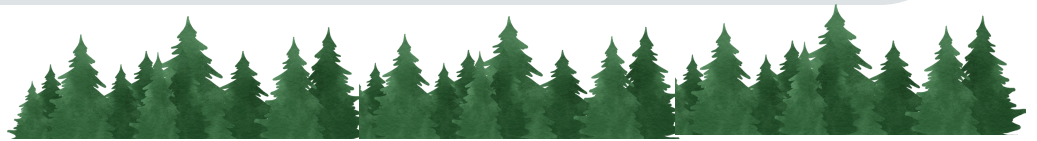
Mon. Mar. 11 - Dine in or pick up at Oxford Seniors, 922 Tollgate Dr.

Wed. Mar. 13 - Dine in or pick up at Faith Lutheran Church, 420 S. Campus Ave.

Wed. Mar. 20 - Dine in or pick up at St. Mary Church, 15 S. Poplar St.

Wed. Mar. 27 - Dine in or pick up at Holy Trinity Church, 25 E. Walnut St.

Hueston Woods



Sat & Sun. Mar. 2, 3, 9, 10 - 57th Maple Syrup Festival - 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. *Hueston Woods.*

Enjoy a weekend immersed in nature and learning about maple syrup production. Explore the "Big Woods" State Nature Preserve while discovering the cultural and natural history of the area. Maple syrup tours run from noon to 4:00 p.m., beginning with a hayride from the beach parking lot. Visit the Nature Center from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to explore indoor and outdoor exhibits of wildlife.

About Town



Thurs. Mar. 7 - Friends Speed Connecting - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. *Oxford Lane Library.* It can be a struggle for young adults who are not undergrads to find friends in a smaller university town. We'll start with coffee and snacks in a casual atmosphere, then chat through several rounds of 2-minute conversations with a variety of people. Ages 20ish - 40ish. Registration required. To register visit the Oxford Lane Library website or call (513) 523-7531.

Fri. Mar. 8 - Butler County Aspire Program - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. *Oxford Lane Library.* Butler County Aspire Coordinator Julie Ridge will share educational and training opportunities offered through the Aspire program, including High School Equivalency and ESOL classes.

Mon. Mar. 11 - Coexisting with Coyotes - 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. *Oxford Lane Library.* Did you know that coyotes have been living in Ohio for over a century? Join Abby Thiemkey from the Ohio Coyote Research Project at The Ohio State University as she teaches us about these wild dogs and how to safely and smartly live alongside them. Registration required. To register visit the Oxford Lane Library website or call (513) 523-7531.



Thurs. Mar. 14 - JT Townsend, True Crime Historian - 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. *Oxford Lane Library.* JT Townsend will take us into the dark world of Jack the Ripper. He sifts the evidence, stalks the suspects and unmask the shocking killer. This presentation is an introduction to our Once Upon a Crime club. Registration required. To register visit the Oxford Lane Library website or call (513) 523-7531.

Sun. Mar. 17 - Chess in the Library - 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. *Oxford Lane Library.* Bring your board, curiosity, and chess strategies for a friendly game. Local chess teacher Mr. Heilman offers coaching and answers to questions, with refreshments provided.

MARCH 2024

Tues. Mar. 19 - Author Spotlight with Terrance Moore on Red Brick Magic - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. *Oxford Lane Library.* Terrance Moore will discuss his new book Red Brick Magic and the legacy of Miami University's cradle of coaches. Discussion led by Richard Campbell, Professor Emeritus Department of Media, Journalism and Film. Book sale and signing to follow.

Sat. Mar. 23 - 10SoCo Concerts: Sarah Hagen "Perk Up, Pianist" - 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. *Oxford Community Arts Center.* "Sit- down Comedy". Tickets: \$15 - \$18. For inquiries, call (513) 524-8506. To purchase tickets, go to: <https://oxarts.org/events/performances/10soco/>

Wed. Mar. 27 - How to Let Your Cat Train You - 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. *Oxford Lane Library.* Dr. Reagh from Oxford Veterinary Hospital incorporates Fear Free methodologies to teach the best strategies for avoiding unnecessary cat-astrophes and making purrfect little feline friends the happiest they can be. Refreshments provided. (Please leave Whiskers at home!) Registration required. To register visit the Oxford Lane Library website or call (513) 523-7531.



On Campus



Fri. Mar. 1 - Guest Recital: Joo Won Park - 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. *Center for Performing Arts: Souers Recital Hall, 420 S Patterson Ave.* Joo Won Park (joowonpark.net) makes music with electronics, toys, and other sources that he can record or synthesize.

Fri. Mar. 1 - Celtic Angels, Ireland - 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. *Hall Auditorium, 101 S. Campus Ave.* Lose yourself in the alluring Angels' magical melodies. Experience the enchanting melodies of Celtic Angels Ireland, where award-winning singers, dancers, and musicians captivate audiences of all ages. Tickets: \$24 Adults, \$23 Seniors, \$12 Students. Purchase on the Miami Performing Arts Series website or call 513-529-6333.

Mon. Mar 4, 11, 18, 25 - English Language Cafe - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. *International Student Center, MacMillan Hall Rm. 017, 531 E. Spring St.* All members of the Miami community and nearby communities, including family members of Miami students, faculty, and staff, who are looking to develop their English language skills are welcome. This is a supportive and safe space to practice English! There are English language and U.S. culture activities for all levels and ages. Questions? Contact: international@MiamiOH.edu or call (513) 529-8600.

Tue. Mar. 5 - Rachel Carson and Environmental Justice: Her Legacy for Today - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. *Shriver Center, 701 E. Spring St.* Dr. Robert K. Musil, President and CEO of the Rachel Carson Council, will discuss the organization's advocacy for sustainability and justice, inspired by Rachel Carson's environmental ethic. Discover how you can contribute to critical environmental advocacy efforts.

Thu. Mar 7 - International Women's Day - Stories at the Crossroads - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. *Shriver Center, 701 E. Spring St.* International Women's Day is an opportunity to recognize the remarkable contributions and achievements of women globally and to inspire positive change for gender equality. This event is open to all who would like to attend and support/celebrate women's achievement and gender equality.

Sat. Mar. 9 - Symphony Orchestra - 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. *Hall Auditorium, 101 S. Campus Ave.* The Miami University Symphony Orchestra presents a joint concert with the Butler Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.

MARCH 2024

Tue. Mar. 12 - All Choirs Concert: Remembering Freedom Summer '64 - 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. *Hall Auditorium, 101 S. Campus Ave.* Performance by the Winton Woods High School Varsity Ensemble.

Wed. Mar. 13 - Art Museum Open Late 2nd Wednesdays - 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. *Richard and Carole Cocks Art Museum, 801 S. Patterson Ave.* Join us at the Art Museum for extended evening hours on Wednesdays.

Thu. Mar. 14 - Guest Recital: Yevgeny Yontov, piano - 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. *Center for Performing Arts: Souers Recital Hall, 420 S. Patterson Ave.* Yevgeny Yontov has established himself as one of the leading Israeli pianists of his generation. As finalist in the 2017 Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition, he received the Prize for Best Performance of Chamber Music, and the Prize for the Best Israeli Pianist.

Sat. Mar. 16 - Music & Tours at the Art Museum - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. *Richard and Carole Cocks Art Museum, 801 S. Patterson Ave.* Join student musicians on the third Saturday of each month for an informal afternoon of music in the galleries and learn about the artworks on exhibit. Special music from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. and Docent-led drop-in tours 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Tue. Mar. 19 - Climate Justice as Freedom - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. *Shriver Center, 701 E. Spring St.* Julie Sze is a Professor of American Studies at the University of California at Davis. She is also the founding director of the Environmental Justice Project for UC Davis' John Muir Institute for the Environment. Sze's research investigates environmental justice and environmental inequality; culture and environment; race, gender and power; and urban/community health and activism.

Oxford Parks & Recreation (OPRD) Egg Scrambles



Thu. Mar. 28

7:00 p.m. - Adult Egg Hunt (Age 18+) - *Oxford Community Park, 6801 Fairfield Road*

9:30 p.m. - Kids Egg Scramble, grades 4th-8th - *TRI Community Center, 6025 Fairfield Road*

Sat. Mar. 30

11:00 a.m. Kids Egg Scramble, grades 0-3rd - *Oxford Community Park, 6801 Fairfield Road*

For more information, visit the OPRD website or call (513) 523-6314.

Public Skating at the Goggin Ice Center



Enjoy public skating, suitable for all ages and skill levels. Figure or hockey skates are available for rent in sizes infant 6 to adult 14, with skate aids for children under 9. Free Wi-Fi included.

Fri. Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Noon Skate - 12:10 - 1:10 p.m. \$5 Admission.

Fri. Mar. 1, 15 - Friday Public Skating - 7:15 - 8:30 p.m.

Sat. Mar 2, 9 - Public Skate - 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Sat. Mar. 2, 9 - Country Night Moonlight Skate - 9:30 - 11:00 p.m. \$3.50 rentals.

Sun. Mar. 3, 10, 17 - Public Skate - 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Sat. Mar. 9 - Shamrock Skate - 3:15 - 5:00 p.m. \$7.50 Admission.

Sat. Mar. 9 - Tropical Moonlight Skate - 9:30 - 11:00 p.m. Skate rental \$3.50.



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, and accessing 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 Uptown Threads

5156 College Corner Pike, Oxford, OH, 45056
127 W Church St. , 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 at both the Church St. and College Corner Pike locations and provides free and low-cost gently used clothing at the Uptown Threads location on Church St.