



O-Town News - Issue #7

December 9, 2020

Season's Greetings! There is so much to keep up with right now, our merry heads are spinning – more outdoor holiday activities, early news about a vaccine distribution, sacred and secular celebrations, deadlines for shipping those extra packages, and of course the continued generous efforts of so many in our community to look out for one another. We especially honor active military and their families who are separated during these holidays, and all workers who provide health care, keep services running, and provide food, warmth and shelter to those who are struggling to get by with just the basics. Read on . . .

COVID-19 UPDATES

Butler County Current Case Data – posted 12/8/2020

BUTLER COUNTY COVID-19 CASES		
19,580	432	20,012
Confirmed Cases	Probable Cases	Total Cases

Phase 1 Vaccination Distribution Plan

(COLUMBUS, Ohio) 12/4/2020 — Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced on 12/4/2020 details for Ohio's first phase of vaccine distribution that is expected to begin on or around December 15. During Phase 1, vaccine supply will be limited, and Ohio will focus on vaccinating those who wish to be vaccinated in the critical Phase 1A groups. The federal government has advised that the Ohio Department of Health will not know the exact number of vaccines that will be shipped to Ohio until closer to each shipment date. The current shipment figures, which are subject to change, are as follows:

- On or around December 15, a shipment from Pfizer will include 9,750 vaccines for Ohio's 10 prepositioned hospital sites. An additional 88,725 vaccines will go to Walgreens and CVS for congregate care settings.
- On or around December 22, a shipment of 201,000 vaccines is expected from Moderna. These vaccines will go to 98 hospitals for vaccination of those who are exposed to COVID patients and to 108 health departments to vaccinate other frontline workers such as those working in emergency medical services.
- On or around December 22, another shipment is also expected from Pfizer. The tentative number of vaccines in this shipment is 123,000. These vaccines will go to Walgreens and CVS for vaccination of those in congregate care settings.
- A few days later, Ohio expects another 148,000 vaccines from Pfizer and 89,000 vaccines from Moderna.

These vaccines will be the first dose for those in the identified critical groups. A second dose will be delivered and administered in the future. It has not been determined when members of the general public will have the option to receive vaccines. As information becomes available about the next phases of vaccine distribution, it will be made public.

CITY OF OXFORD UPDATES

Service - Leaf Pick Up Program to Conclude for the Season

The leaf pick up service from the street gutters will conclude on Friday, December 11, 2020. Any additional leaves must be bagged in approved yard waste bags and placed at the curb on yard waste pick up days.

Service- Christmas Tree Recycling

Beginning December 21, 2020 Oxford residents may place live Christmas trees at the curbside for disposal on regularly scheduled refuse collection days. Trees will be picked up and recycled by the City of Oxford Streets and Maintenance Division. No yard waste tags are required for this service. Residents are asked to remove ALL decorations from the tree prior to setting the tree at the curbside. This holiday service does not include wreaths or garland. Questions? Call the Streets and Maintenance Division at 523-8412. This seasonal service will conclude by January 29, 2021.

From the City of Oxford FAQs website:

(Q) I locked myself out of my vehicle. Will the Oxford Police help?

(A) Yes, the Oxford Police Department provides this free service to its community members. Please call the OPD non-emergency number at 523-4321 and an officer will be dispatched as soon as one is available.

(Q) My vehicle has a dead battery. Is the police department able to help me?

(A) The police department has portable battery packs that can be brought to your location. Please call OPD non-emergency number at 523-4321 and someone will be dispatched to assist you.

(Q) My mailbox was damaged by a snowplow. Who should I call?

(A) You can call the Streets and Maintenance Department at 523-8412 or the Service Department at 524-5206.

(Q) Who do I call to report a pothole in the street?

(A) You can call the Streets and Maintenance Department at 523-8412 or the Service Department at 524-5206.

(Q) How do I report a stray animal?

(A) Please call the OPD non-emergency number 524-4321.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

(listed in order of the event's date)

Hanukkah to Begins on Thursday, December 10th at Sundown

The Community Menorah in the uptown Memorial Park West will be lighted from Thursday, December 10 through Friday, December 18 to honor the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah. The Eight Day Festival of Lights commemorates the rededication of the second Jewish Temple in 166 B.C. Due to restrictions on group gatherings, there will not be a public ceremony this year. Time-honored Hanukkah traditions include special candle lightings, prayers, foods and gifts.

Oxford Seniors, Inc. Continues to “Share The Love” and “Stuff The Subaru”

Oxford Seniors is continuing its collection of non-perishable items to distribute to Meals on Wheels clients. The “Stuff The Trunk” event is part of the agency's participation in the annual Share the Love promotion between Subaru and Meals

on Wheels of America. The Subaru will be parked in the carport of the senior center building at 922 Tollgate Drive for the next two Fridays between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Community members can drive through to drop-off donations to volunteers.

On Friday, December 11 Stuff The Trunk will collect warm blankets and throws.

On Friday, December 18 Stuff The Trunk will collect pet food and supplies.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hosting Take-Out Christmas Dinner

The Outreach Committee at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church will host a carry out Christmas dinner on **Wednesday, December 16 at 5 p.m.** The Outreach Committee hopes to bring back the Community Dinner Program after the first of the year. Participants may pick up their dinner from the side entrance to the church on Poplar Street. No reservations are needed. Please share this information with those who have normally been directed to the monthly sit-down meals or others in need.

Community Shredding Day

A shredding truck will be in the parking lot of Oxford Seniors, Inc. at 922 Tollgate on **Thursday, December 17 from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.** Community members may drop off materials to be shredded. Please limit amounts to no more than eight trash bags of materials.

Greater Oxford Community Foundation Giving Tree Why a Sock Drive?

Did you know...socks are the most requested but least donated item for those in need? Why? Because charities cannot accept used socks for sanitary purposes and donors tend to not think about socks as a needed or desirable donation item. Clean socks keep feet dry, free from bacteria and disease, and warm. Socks of all sizes are needed and appreciated with a special need for ADULT socks. Donated **new socks** may be dropped off Monday through Friday during business hours through December 18. Foundation office hours are typically 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. You are welcome to call first to make sure someone is in the office (523-0623). Greater Oxford Community Foundation, 22 East High Street (use side entrance by Uptown Parks). Donations will benefit those in need throughout the greater Oxford area and will be distributed through the Family Resource Center and Talawanda Schools.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

You Are Invited to "Tune" In!

OCAC's Holiday Concert (COVID style)

Join Oxford Community Arts Center on **Friday, December 11 at 7:30 p.m.** for the annual 2020 Holiday Concert and "shimmering sounds for your ears." Sing along as performers stream live from the North Parlor. John Kogge (guitar and vocals), Doug Hamilton (violin and vocals), and Laurie Traveline Neyer (accordion, ukulele and vocals) will share the songs of this bright and beautiful season together. The Oxford Community Arts Center is grateful to Jack & Sally Southard and The Elms Hotel for sponsoring our Second Friday concerts. Any donations from the Holiday Concert will go to support music programs at the OCAC. Although the event is virtual OCAC hopes to explore future non-virtual access for such concerts. YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rgl068CvDw4&feature=youtu.be>.

Don't Miss This Live Nativity!

Faith Lutheran Church Invites Community to Live Nativity and Nativity Mural

Members, friends and Sunday school classes of Faith Lutheran Church invite residents of the greater Oxford area to drive by their church grounds to see a live presentation of The Nativity **on Sunday, December 13 at 4 p.m.** An emcee will tell the story of the birth of Jesus Christ and scrolls will highlight passages of God's words from scripture. Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus will be in the stable and Angels, Wise Men, Shepherds and live sheep will bring the story of the nativity alive anew. Car radios can be tuned to a posted station broadcasting Christmas music. Faith Lutheran Church is located at 420 South Campus Avenue, across from Miami University Student Health Center. Visitors are encouraged to travel south on South Campus Avenue from High Street or Spring Street.

The Nativity Mural, created by Robert Mullenix and expressed from multiple households of Faith, will also be on display outdoors at Faith Lutheran Church. This Nativity Mural will eventually go to three different health care centers in the community, offering an expression of God's love and that of Faith Lutheran Church congregants to all those who make their homes at Woodland Manor, the Knolls of Oxford, and Oxford Health Care Center. To view the mural turn from Campus Avenue onto Bern Street, just south of the church.

Enchanted Winter is New Each Week!

Oxford Community Arts Center Invites You to “Come Make Winter Sparkle!”

Oxford Community Arts Center is participating in Oxford Night Lights with its outdoor Enchanted Winter exhibit and activities. You are invited to come stroll the beautiful gardens. Enjoy the lights from dusk to 11 p.m. from now through the winter months. You can also enjoy the lights by driving around the block. Keep visiting as new visual and interactive installations are being added every week.

Feeling a bit crafty? Help make our Enchanted Winter even more enchanting!

Make a postcard: In the daytime, you are encouraged to search for the four mailboxes around the gardens. At the first mailbox, pick up a blank card and use the stamp on your card. Then find the other three mailboxes and use the stamp in those mailboxes to create a holiday masterpiece postcard to send to a friend or family member.

Create a tree sweater: If you knit or crochet, OCAC is still accepting homemade scarves to wrap our trees in colorful garb. Need yarn? Let OCAC know if you need yarn and they will get it to you.

Write a poem: Submit a poem or poems on the theme of winter, any aspect or angle. Send your poem via email to info@oxarts or mail it to 10 S. College Ave. between now and January 15, 2021.

OCAC says “We'll get through this winter together, safely, with activities you can share at home and do on our grounds.” OCAC thanks the City of Oxford and CARES Act funding for supporting Oxford Community Arts Center’s Enchanted Winter.

SHOP LOCAL, SHOP SMALL

Shop Healthy at MOON Co-op Natural Grocery and Cafe

Oxford Moon Co-op will remind you of a “Mom-and-Pop” store from the past. “We want to take you back to a kinder, gentler time in American business, before all the hustle and bustle.” says Store Manager Tom Swing. Don’t be surprised if the cashier remembers your name and greets you personally when you walk in. The store has a full line of groceries, beautiful produce, bulk foods, frozen, wine, locally made bread and bakery items, dairy, and meat. Priority is given to products that are grown, raised, or made locally, so shopping at MOON helps support Oxford-area growers and producers. MOON Co-op also offers gift certificates.

During the COVID-19 emergency, the number of shoppers in the store is limited to 10. The staff sanitizes surfaces frequently, and sanitizing supplies are available for customers at the door. Given the unique character of the Co-op store, shoppers are very respectful and caring for one another. The small size and efficient layout of the store helps shoppers find what they need and checkout quickly.

The store is cooperatively owned by over 800 Oxford-area households, though everyone is welcome to shop there. It is located at 512 S. Locust Street (the landscaped courtyard of Tollgate Mall), between Little Caesars and Armstrong Cleaners. The store's phone is 280-5020 and it is open Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Knife Sharpening Service at MOON Co-op

A knife sharpening service is now available at MOON Co-op from an experienced local sharpener. Drop off knives before 5:00 p.m. on the first or third Monday each month. Pick up the next day after 12:00 noon. The cost is \$2.00 per knife. Please bring knives in a container or box with your name clearly marked on it. No serrated knives, please. The next drop off date for knives to be sharpened at MOON Co-op is Monday, December 21, 2020.

Long Time Local Business, Capitol Varsity Sports, Thanks Patrons

Capitol Varsity Sports, Inc. is one of the oldest businesses in the Oxford area that is still in operation. Capitol Varsity specializes the refurbishment of sports equipment for college and professional sports teams and is also a sportswear retailer. Originally owned by long time Oxford residents the late Frank Dodd and the late Bill Hoover, Capitol Varsity opened in 1954. The business has been owned by Bob and Kathy Fawley since 1998. Bob worked for the original owners since 1984. Bob and Kathy are also long time Oxford residents, avid supporters of youth sports and many Oxford area programs. They also own Clarks Sporting Goods in Hamilton.

Bob and Kathy and Capitol Varsity Sports, Inc. wish to thank their patrons and make COVID shopping easy this year. They are offering a Customer Appreciation Sale until December 23 on all in-stock items. The business provides personal shopping, shopping by phone, curbside pick-up and drop-off, and gift certificates. All shoppers and employees must wear masks and socially distance. If you have any questions, call 523-4126.

United States Postal Service 2020 Holiday Shipping Deadlines

Will my package get there in time? If you're shipping holiday cards and gifts for Hanukkah (Dec. 10–18), Christmas (Dec. 25), Kwanzaa (Dec. 26–Jan. 1) or other holiday traditions, find the USPS® recommended domestic deadlines in these tables.

For Contiguous U.S. (Lower 48 States):

USPS Retail Ground® Service	Dec. 15
First-Class Mail® Service	Dec. 18
Priority Mail® Service	Dec. 19
Priority Mail Express® Service ²	Dec. 23

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