Age-Friendly Oxford
Creating Livability for ALL!

O-Town News
Announcements and Resources for the Oxford Area
January 19, 2021

Greetings and welcome to the first issue of O-Town News for 2021. Even though we think of January as a "quiet month" here in Oxford, there is still so much happening. This issue contains news and updates on:

Ohio and Butler County General Health District Vaccines
City of Oxford Council Administrative Departments
Community Organizations and Services and Activities
Feature Article on College@ELM

A big thank you goes to Oxford Seniors, Inc. for sponsoring this month's printing and postage for O-Town News. This support will allow our community news to not only go out electronically but to also reach friends and neighbors who do not have electronic access to information. ***Thank you Oxford Seniors, Inc.!***

COVID-19 UPDATES
Every individual has differing health considerations. If you have questions about the vaccine, check with your primary care physician or call the Ohio Department of Health at 1-833-4-ASK ODH.

Ohio's Vaccination Program*
* information is subject to change
(Source: Governor DeWine's Press Conference - Tuesday, January 19, 2021)

Starting January 19, 2021 Vaccine Phase 1-B – 80+ Years of Age or Older
* Jan. 19 - Those that are 80 years of age or older will begin receiving dose 1. These are people in the general population and account for approximately 420,000 to 450,000 Ohioans.

Ohio's COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule
- Jan. 25: 75 years of age or older can begin getting vaccinated
- Week of Jan. 25: Vaccinations will be available to those with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset medical disorders. Ohio Board of Developmental Disability Board will coordinate scheduling for eligible individuals within this population.

- Feb. 1: 70 years of age and older can begin getting vaccinated
- Week of Feb. 1: School employee vaccinations will begin. School Districts will work with their County Education Service Center to conduct this process.
- Feb. 8: 65 years of age and older can begin getting vaccinated.

Ohio's Vaccine Providers and Locations
- Over 751 vaccine provider locations have been identified in Ohio including local health departments, hospitals, federally-qualified health centers, in-home health service providers, as well as some retail pharmacies.
- Each vaccine site will manage its own sign-up and scheduling.

Looking for a COVID-19 vaccine provider near you?
Visit https://vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov to search for providers in the current phase (Ohioans 80 and older) by county and ZIP code.
Oxford Area Vaccine Providers:
- Oxford Kroger Pharmacy 1-866-211-5320
- Oxford McCullough-Hyde/Tri/Health Hospital (513) 862-6843

Ohio Vaccine Safety Hotline   1-877-603-0170

If you have concerns or need advice about side effects or believe you are having an adverse reaction, please call the Vaccine Safety Hotline at 1-877-603-0170. It is available 24/7 to answer your questions and provide advice.

Butler County General Health District

Butler County General Health District (BCGHD) is moving COVID vaccine out to the community just as fast as it is coming in. They are following the guidelines established by Governor DeWine and Ohio Department of Health. BCGHD has received a limited number of doses so far. The Ohio Department of Health determines what Butler County receives based on what is allocated to them from the federal level -- and that depends on manufacturers.

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS
(from 1/4/2021 and 1/19/2021 City of Oxford Newsletters)

Happy New Year Oxford! We are looking forward to a healthy, productive, and rewarding 2021! We are happy to report that McCullough Hyde Hospital has started vaccinating its staff and we've been able to start vaccinating our first responders. We'll work with the Board of Health to inform all of you as the access to vaccine is made available in our county. Until then - patience and keep up preventative practices!

City Manager's Office (513) 524-5201
- The City has begun a project to update our current website with a more vibrant/user-friendly alternative. Look for the new website spring of 2021.
- The City Wi-Fi project is moving into the next phase. Free Wi-Fi access is coming to all City of Oxford Parks. Installation to begin this spring.

Community Development (513) 524-5204
- After a long hiatus, Dairy Queen is coming to 5046 College Corner Pike (formerly Chef Lin's and KFC).
- Four non-student residential developments are in the planning stages within the City of Oxford, one approved and three in the review stage. These developments will bring nearly 100 new housing units for permanent residents to Oxford.

Finance (513-524-5202) **& Utilities Departments** (513-524-5221)
- The City of Oxford 2021 Budget has been finalized and is being prepared for publishing. A completed budget will be made public on our website.

Fire & Emergency Medical Services (513) 523-6324
- Inspections for sprinkler/fire alarms for new construction are underway.
- Job Opportunities: Volunteer and part-time EMT, Firefighter/EMT/ Paramedic

Parks & Recreation (513) 523-6314
- The Oxford Community Park Baseball Field 4 renovation continues which will convert one large baseball field into three youth fields. Backstops have already been installed.
- New touchless water bottle filling stations have been delivered and will be installed when weather permits.

Police & Parking Department (513) 524-5240
- Please lock your doors and watch your packages. Oxford Police Officers have been dealing with several break-ins this season.

Service & Engineering (513) 524-5206
- A project is underway to remove underground fuel tanks at 110 E High Streets.
- Community wastewater is being analyzed for COVID Genetic Material. The City will work with the OEPA and Ohio Dept. of Health to analyze samples for COVID genetic material (RNA) to assist in gauging the community's spread of the virus.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICES

Thank you to Oxford Community Foundation, Betsy Hope and Stephanie Wagers for holding a Community Needs Awareness meeting on 1/6/2021 and providing the following updates.

Age Friendly Oxford (AFO)
- AFO's Initiatives support aging-in-place at home and/or in the Oxford area.
- Goals for 2021 are to continue working on gathering information on home healthcare formal and non-formal options (companion, home-making, home health aides, and home nurses); provide workshops on Universal Design, and continue to explore affordable rental housing for older adults.
- Electronic distribution of O-Town News WILL continue; AFO is seeking funding for printing and postage costs related to distribution being for those without digital access. AFO thanks all 142 paper and 59 digital participants in the survey last month. Results will be shared when tabulated.

Butler County Educational Service Center (513) 887-3710
- Funds one Head Start in the Talawanda District at Marshall School.
- Offers One Stop help center for families with needs; 513-785-6850.
- Currently running a monthly diaper distribution with pickup and delivery available.
- Offers help with COVID-19 related needs.

City of Oxford (513) 524-5200
- Cares Act funding covered the initial start-up cost of Wi-Fi in the parks, Parkview Arms and Oxford Mobile Home Park. the City hopes to have everything in place and available by spring.
- A public meeting on January 12 reviewed the next phase of Oxford Area Trails**.**

Coalition for a Healthy Community/Talawanda School District Wellness:
- Butler County Mental Health Board has received a grant for a drug program to help with prevention, treatment and recovery.
- If anyone is interested in PAC Tools, free kits are available. It is a 90-minute program for parents, guardian, youth workers, and anyone who interacts with kids outside of school. For more information call Amy Macechko at (513) 273-3300.

Family Resource Center (513) 523-5859
- FRC continues to have housing/utility assistance available for qualifying families.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (513) 523-7550
- Has a new Outreach Committee and is asking community organizations and members, "How can we help?".
- Hosts a community meal on the third Wednesday of each month (Jan. 20).
- Is seeking solutions to help those who cannot pick up meals.

Oxford Community Arts Center (513) 524-8506
- Welcome to new Executive Director of OCAC, Heidi Schiller!
- OCAC continues to work on virtual programs.
- Reminder - the OCAC building IS open to all community members and is an entertainment venue for everyone's use (masks and social distancing required).

Oxford Community Foundation (OCF) (513) 523-0623
- Recently hosted a Community Needs Awareness meeting which provided the updates in this section
- Will soon release their Winter Newsletter to arrive in the mail
- Announced that their next grant deadline is April 15, 2021

Oxford Kiwanis
- Reminder **-** Community groups can apply for grants through Oxford Kiwanis.
- Bell ringing raised $10,300 for the Family Resource Center.

Oxford Parks and Recreation (513) 523-6314
- Youth basketball league is in full swing.
- Thank you to the schools for allowing the use of the school gyms for basketball.
- Aquatic Center will be open this summer. Due to some uncertainty about what the season will look like, no season passes will be sold.
- Hopes to offer Summer Camp this year especially since last year was cancelled.
- Uptown lights and igloos will be in place until January 19.
- New outdoor facility in under consideration, pending funding on the Tri grounds for new tennis courts, bike/skate park and pickle ball courts. City, community and private financial support will be needed.

Oxford Police Department (513-524-5240 Administration and Information)
- Cops with Kids was held over two days. The event was not able to provide dinner but kids enjoyed it even though the event was not as big as usual.
- Social worker comes in every week to follow-up on individual cases and is creating a specific list about social services offered.

Oxford Presbyterian Church (513) 523-6364
- Has formed an Eradicating Systemic Poverty Team (ESP)
- Primary focus is currently to assist with Cold Shelter Program to provide clothing, furniture, etc.
- Nutrition education, how to prepare healthy snacks, and food preparation provided through TOPSS.
- About $10,000 has been donated to a COVID-19 Relief Fund for families who need assistance related to COVID-19
- Participating in Community Meals Program on Wednesdays.

Oxford Seniors, Inc. (513) 523-8100
- The Senior center is scheduled to re-open on March 1, 2021.
- Meals on Wheels are providing home delivered meals.
- Transportation services are continuing to be provided.
- New website will be up and running shortly.
- AARP will not hold in-person tax preparation. Other options are being sought.
- Medicare open enrollment helped senior save over $60,000 this year!
- Two jobs are currently open – Adult Daycare Director and parttime Bookkeeper.
- Miami Capstone students are leading an exercise program.
- Six iPads were purchased with Cares Act funds.
- Miami graduate students are helping Oxford Seniors review policies, funding sources and proposals.

Parent and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)
- Is hosting virtual community meeting book groups
- Is participating in Inspiration Studios and Inside Out Studios to provide art space for adults with disabilities who sell their art projects to help support themselves with 50% to the individual and 50% to the materials fund.
- Community members are encouraged to purchase art projects.
- Public Art Space in Oxford could be a possibility for the future.

People United for Self Help (PUSH) (513) 523-5859
- Helped eight families with $32,000 in repairs and has four families currently awaiting materials for home improvements.
- PUSH is working more with frame houses than mobile homes.

Primary Health Solutions (physical/mental health care in Oxford for all ages)
(513) 454-1111
- Provides COVID-19 testing
- Urges residents to attend to regular healthcare during the pandemic.
- Is Working on getting kids caught up on regular vaccinations and healthcare.
- Uses a sliding scale for payments
- Is a WIC grantee for children up to age five.
- Works in partnership with the schools.

Supports to Encourage Low Income Families (SELF) (513) 868-9300
- Provides emergency help through a variety of services.
- Has distributed half a million dollars distributed to Butler County residents.
- Offers short term assistance to help folks get through emergencies.

Talawanda Oxford Pantry and Social Services (TOPSS) (513) 523-3851
- Curbside and delivery available during regular service hours weekly.
- Cares Act funds were used to purchase a new van with refrigeration that will be a

mobile pantry and shared with the Oxford Farmers Market.
- Working on coordinating food programs with others who provide this service
- Backpacks are being distributed every Thursday to each elementary schools.
A knock and drop program also available).

Talawanda School District Social Workers (513-273-3100 District Office)
- Elementary schools are in-person with Middle and High Schools returning to in-person January 19. A remote learning option is available.
- TSD has an emergency food program in place to make sure all kids have food. Any child age 1-18 is eligible for free food. Food pickup is held each Monday from 2:15-2:45 at each of the Elementary Schools. Drop off is provided at Parkview Arms, Miami Mobile Home Park and Island Lake Mobile Home Park. Delivery is a possibility to homes.
- A Little Free Pantry is at each school in-part with a grant from Kiwanis. Each pantry is stocked with hygiene items and nonperishable food
- Elementary kids are doing great about wearing masks.
- Holiday Assistance was provided to 270 families and 500 individual with meals provided by Gaslight Brewery. Thank you Gaslight Brewery!
- Support is offered to remote learning students to help connect them to school, including gift bags and providing supplies where needed.

YWCA (513) 856-9800
- Goodman Place in Hamilton is for single women who are homeless and may have a mental illness. They can stay as long as needed and do not have to have income. YMCA needs help getting the word out about Goodman Place and that there are apartments available
- Dove House, a domestic violence shelter, is at capacity and has had double and triple the amount of calls since the pandemic began.
- Youth programs, Fierce Girls (grades three through six) and Men of Honor (ages 13-18), are up and running in area schools.

FEATURE ARTICLE:
THE COLLEGE@ELM BUSINESS AND INNOVATION CENTER
(Source: Dayton Business Journal, Dec. 30, 2020 by Jacob Fischer)

The City of Oxford and Miami University are working together to transform a three-block underdeveloped area in the heart of town into a high-tech innovation district. The Miami University building at 20 S. Elm Street, across from the grounds of the Oxford Community Arts Center, will be the anchor of the district. The building will be renovated into a mix of office and manufacturing space and will also provide space for business start-ups, entrepreneur training, and new product development.

The primary tenants will be The Fischer Group and Miami University. The Fischer Group, which has partnered with Miami University's "Work Plus" program for years, is a consumer goods company which will set up manufacturing and operating space and create 50 new jobs. Miami University will operate and manage the center which will support 24 high-tech jobs. In total, College@Elm is expected to generate about $3 million in annual payroll and be a direct benefit to Miami students, regional business startups AND the Oxford economy.

The project is pending financing from several outside regional and State project funders both private and public. Should the project secure enough outside funding, the university hopes to begin renovations in August 2021, with anticipated completion and first tenant move-in by February 2023.

Thank you for reading. We'll be back next month.
If you have news to share for the good of the community please contact us and we will do our best to include it, as appropriate, in our next newsletter.

Age-Friendly Oxford – P.O. Box 206 – Oxford, Ohio 45056
info@agefriendlyoxford.org