



Creating Livability for ALL!

O-Town News – Issue #8

December 16, 2020

Happy Holidays O-Town News Readers!

We hope this newsletter has been a valuable resource for you. As volunteers for Age-Friendly Oxford, we applied for and received a CARES Act Grant from the City which allowed us to pay for printing and postage of O-Town News for the past eight weeks. Our funding is coming to an end and next week will be our last newsletter. Next week’s issue will include an important survey to determine if we should seek other means of supporting this FREE newsletter. Thank you, in advance, for giving your anonymous feedback either by mail or, if you are on one of our email listservs, by filling out the survey using the live link.

COVID-19 UPDATES

Butler County Health District COVID-19 Data Epidemiology Report as of posting on 12/15/2020

BUTLER COUNTY COVID-19 CASES		
21,731	632	22,363
Confirmed Cases	Probable Cases	Total Cases

Butler County Health District – Vaccine Update

At this time, we are not taking reservations, nor making lists of individuals who want to be vaccinated. We are receiving a high volume of calls and questions about the COVID-19 vaccine. Information is changing quickly and we will continue to learn more with each hour of each day. The speed at which Ohio will move through the phases is largely dependent upon the number of vaccines available. Supplies are currently limited for specific critical populations.

(Butler County Health District website, 12/15/2020)

Ohio Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccination Program – 12/12/2020

Ohio is preparing to distribute safe, effective COVID-19 vaccines statewide to those who **choose** to be vaccinated. As COVID-19 vaccines are granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the state will begin to strategically distribute the vaccines to Ohioans at the greatest risk in conjunction with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM).

During Phase 1A vaccine supply will be limited. Vaccine administration will be focused on reaching critical groups.

- Health care workers and personnel who are routinely involved in the care of COVID-19 patients
- Residents and staff at nursing homes
- Residents and staff at assisted living homes
- Patients and staff at State psychiatric hospitals
- People with intellectual disabilities and those with mental illness, who live in group homes or centers and staff at those locations
- Residents and staff at our Ohio Veterans homes
- EMS responders

For more information, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov or call 1-833-427-5634.

Holiday Hours for Local COVID-19 Testing Sites

CVS Pharmacy is NOT offering COVID-19 testing at this time.

Oxford Priority Care, McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital/TriHealth Urgent Care- 5151 Morning Sun Road, Oxford. 513-524-5522. Testing offered by appointment or walk-in. Regular hours are 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. Mon.- Sun.

Holiday Hours: December 24 – closes at 2 p.m. December 31 – closes at 2 p.m.
December 25 – closed all day January 1 – closed all day

The Little Clinic at Kroger – 300 S. Locust St. Oxford. 513-273-2115. Testing is offered by appointment or walk-in. Regular hours are Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m. -5 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Holiday Hours: December 24 – closes at 4 p.m. December 31 - closes at 5 p.m.
December 25 – closes at 5 p.m. January 1 – 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

CITY and COMMUNITY UPDATES

Christmas Lights Recycling available until January 31, 2021

Drop off old Christmas lights to be recycled at the Municipal Building (15 S.College Ave) by the back loading dock. All kinds of string lights are accepted, including traditional and LED-style bulbs. Remember to “Leave Lights Loose” so please be sure to remove any box or bag you use to transport the lights.

Parks and Recreation Department

The Parks and Rec department reports the Holiday Fest Drive-Thru (12/5/2020) was a success with over 200 vehicles and over 400 children participating in the event. For more information about upcoming programs and events for December and January, please see the Winter Program Guide. It’s available on-line or you can pick one up at the TRI Community Center, 6025 Fairfield Rd. The TRI is open M-F 7 A.M. – 7 P.M. and Sat. 9 A.M. – 1 P.M. Closed on Sunday.

Service and Engineering Department

A project is planned for the removal of underground storage tanks at 110 E. High St. Work is set to begin 12/28/2020. The sidewalk in this area will be closed for this project.

ENJOY OXFORD: Lights, Lights Everywhere!

Oxford Night Lights have brought a number of sparkling and unique attractions to Uptown including murals painted by local artists ranging from hobbyists to young residents. These community-made murals look one way during the day and then transform at night once they're glowing under the magic of blacklights. Make sure to also visit during the day to see what the murals look like in the sunlight!

Safety first: We ask that you enjoy Oxford Night Lights with the same safety precautions we've all come to know and practice regularly. Wear a face mask (it's required in high traffic areas such as our Uptown streets) and practice physical distancing. We recommend you only go out with people in your household, and to carry hand sanitizer to use when you're not able to thoroughly wash your hands.

Talawanda School District Holiday Calendar

Talawanda will be on Holiday Break from December 19, 2020- January 3, 2021. Second semester begins on January 4, 2021 for all students. Elementary students return to in-person learning on January 4th. Remote learning for elementary students also resumes Jan. 4th. ALL THS & TMS students will return to remote learning until January 18, 2021. Students who have opted for in-person learning at the secondary level will attend school in person beginning January 19, 2021.

Your Health: The Importance of Taking Medications as Prescribed

Seniors are the fastest growing segment of our society, and the largest consumers of health care resources and medications. Yet, over 55% of us do not take our medications as prescribed. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates not taking medications properly causes 30% of hospital readmissions, roughly 125,000 unnecessary deaths a year, and costs the health care system hundreds of billions of dollars in unnecessary treatment costs.

Sticking to our medication routine means taking the right dose, at the right time, in the right way. Simply put, not taking our medicine as prescribed is dangerous to our health. This is true for all ages, but especially for older adults. Occasionally forgetting to take medicine is inevitable, *If you find you are not 100% on track with taking your medications, try these simple tips to help you remember:*

1. Create a daily routine and keep your schedule visible.
2. Set an alarm or post a reminder note.
3. Use a pillbox.
4. Carry extra doses. Record each dose.
5. For those with a mobile device use a Mobile Medication Reminder.

Note: Always check with your doctor/pharmacist before varying your dose.

Coalition for A Healthy Community-Oxford Provides FREE Pill Boxes

Using a pillbox is one of the most simple yet effective ways to remember if you've taken your medication. Use one printed with the days of the week and load it up once a week with all your medications so you'll always be able to know if you've taken your dose. *FREE pill boxes are available to residents of the Talawanda School District thanks to the Coalition for a Health Community-Oxford Area.* With funding from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Coalition is distributing pill boxes to help local residents with proper prescription medication use. Pick yours up at the door of Oxford Seniors, 922 Tollgate Dr. (523-8100) or contact Amy Macechko, Health & Wellness Coordinator for Talawanda Schools at 273-3390.

Local Business Spotlight

Walker's Footwear & Apparel, 1 W. High St. Uptown

Walker's is the go-to place for all your footwear needs, whether you need shoes (and super thick socks) for the snowy winter months or warm house slippers. They also have sweaters and jackets, as well as beanies to keep your head toasty. Walker's offers curbside delivery for residents of Oxford! Give them a call at (513) 280-6320.

Age-Friendly Oxford wishes you a safe, hunkered down, cozy kind of Christmas and New Year Holiday week!!!

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