



O-Town News - June, 2021

People of all ages throughout the Oxford area (along with the cicadas!) are emerging into the full swing of summer. It is uplifting to experience live music, see friends gathering uptown, and hear happy sounds of water play at the Aquatics Center in the Community Park. After such a challenging year, some are still cautious about resuming that “normal” pace of life while and others are taking the approach of “making up for lost time.” Wherever your summer plans take you, Age-Friendly Oxford hopes you find yourself healthy and with loved ones! O-Town News will be on summer vacation in July. We plan to be back with an August Issue. Stay tuned and send news to info@agefriendlyoxford.org.

Congratulations to the Butler County Health District!

Congratulation to the Butler County Health District, all its employees and Commissioner Jennifer Bailer who were recently honored by receiving the Miami University President’s Medal for their extraordinary service throughout the global COVID-19 pandemic. Miami’s President Crawford visited the Health District offices in Hamilton in person to present the department with the well-deserved award, a proclamation and replicas of the Miami University seal.

Thank you Commissioner Bailer, and all BCHD staff, for your heroic efforts to plan, manage, coordinate, inform, track, respond and navigate your way, and our way, through a public health emergency not known before in your work experience or in our lifetime.

COVID-19 Recommendations Have Changed for Summer 2021

Many COVID-19 safety protocols are changing for those who are vaccinated, in places of business, and for gatherings. Folks are trying to figure out their own safety and comfort level and what to expect as they go out in public and/or travel for the summer. We know people are tired of COVID-19; however, based on the discussions and questions we hear around the community, we are devoting space

in this issue to recent information from the Center for Disease Control and the Ohio Department of Health.

Press Release from Ohio Department of Health, May 17, 2021:

The Ohio Department of Health amended its remaining health order to conform to the new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, which allows those who have been vaccinated to stop wearing masks. Under the CDC's new guidance, those who have not been vaccinated should still wear a mask and socially distance.

Ohio's order reflects the CDC's recommendation that everyone wear masks when in a healthcare setting, when traveling on public transportation (including airplanes), and when at a business or employer that chooses to require masks. The CDC recommendations make clear that businesses will be able to choose for themselves whether they continue to require masks in their premises. If a business chooses to require masking for employees and customers, that is permitted under the CDC guidance and Ohio's order. If a business chooses not to require masks and leave that choice to customers and employees, that is also permitted in the CDC guidance and Ohio's order.

As advised by the CDC, Ohio's order continues to require masking in congregate settings, such as nursing homes and assisted living facilities, and in settings with large numbers of unvaccinated individuals, such as schools and daycare centers.

From the Center for Disease Control: What You Can Start to Do



If you've been fully vaccinated:

- You can resume activities that you did prior to the pandemic.
- You can resume activities without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.
- If you [travel in the United States](#), you do not need to get tested before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.

- You need to pay close attention to [the situation at your international destination](#) before traveling outside the United States.
 - You do NOT need to get tested **before** leaving the United States unless your destination requires it.
 - You still need to [show a negative test result](#) or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 **before** boarding an international flight to the United States.
 - You should still get tested 3-5 days **after** international travel.
 - You do NOT need to self-quarantine **after** arriving in the United States.
- If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.
 - However, if you live or work in a correctional or detention facility or a homeless shelter and are around someone who has COVID-19, you should still get tested, even if you don't have symptoms.

From the Center for Disease Control: What You Should Keep Doing



For now, if you've been fully vaccinated:

- You will still need to follow guidance at your workplace and local businesses.
- If you [travel](#), you should still take steps to [protect yourself and others](#). You will still be [required to wear a mask](#) on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States, and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations. Fully vaccinated [international travelers](#) arriving in the United States are still [required to get tested](#) 3 days before travel by air into the United States (or show documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months) and should still get tested 3-5 days after their trip.
- You should still watch out for [symptoms of COVID-19](#), especially if you've been around someone who is sick. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should get [tested](#) and [stay home](#) and away from others.
- People who have a condition or are taking medications that weaken the immune system, should talk to their healthcare provider to discuss their activities. They may need to keep taking all [precautions](#) to prevent COVID-19.

McCullough-Hyde/TriHealth Hospital Offers Mobile Vaccine Van and Saturday Morning Vaccine Clinics in Oxford

On Saturday June 19, from 9:00 a.m.-Noon McCulloughHyde/TriHealth Hospital will be holding a mobile vaccine clinic at Bethel AME Church on South Beech Street in Oxford. The public is welcome on a walk-in basis and there is no charge for the vaccine. The hospital also offers walk-in vaccine clinics on Saturday mornings (not July 3) from 9- Noon. All clinics are open to the public, walk-ins are welcome and there is no charge for the vaccine. Those wanting appointments should sign up on the website at www.trihealth.com (click "vaccinations"). If you do not have internet access you may call Sharon Klein at 513-524-5421.

City of Oxford News and Updates

News from the Oxford City Council and City Administrative Staff - The Oxford City Council returned to in-person meetings on Tuesday, June 1, 2021. Staff members are researching technologies that may allow for virtual public participation in the future. Before investing in such technology, we await guidance on public meeting formats from the State of Ohio. Then City Council will decide how they would like to allow public comment. For now, you have two options to provide public comment:

- You may attend the meeting in person and speak at the podium.
- You may submit written comments to the City office by 5:00 pm the day of the meeting. Your comments will be emailed to City Council members and included in the minutes.

Farmer's Market is now Uptown on Tuesdays & Saturdays! The Saturday Farmer's Market operates year-round from 9:00 am-Noon in the parking lot north of Memorial Park in the center of Uptown Oxford. As of June 1, the Tuesday Farmer's Market (formerly in TJ Maxx parking lot) has moved Uptown as well. The Tuesday market operates from May through October from 3:00-8:00 pm. If you have questions about the farmers market, email info@oxfordfarmersmarket.com or call market manager, Larry Slocum at 513-505-5238.

Oxford's DORA returns for the summer. Oxford's Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) is in effect May 20th, 2021- August 15th, 2021 daily from 11 AM - 11 PM. DORA is a specific area where patrons can purchase alcoholic beverages from participating businesses and then take those drinks outside to enjoy. In Oxford, the DORA boundaries are from the East side of Beech Street from Church Street to Walnut Street, the Northside of Walnut Street from Beech St. to Campus Ave., the West side of Campus Avenue from Walnut Street to Church St., and the south side of Church St. from Beech St. to Campus Ave.

When participating in DORA, bars and restaurants will give you a special DORA cup. You are only allowed to drink alcohol purchased from a business if it is labeled in a DORA cup. Specially made (compostable) DORA cups will have the logo printed on the cup. For hot beverages, the cup will be labeled with a DORA sticker. The purpose of the DORA is to give you an opportunity to enjoy your drink outside and to help support local bars and restaurants. If you have questions or comments about this program, contact the City Manager's office at 513-524-5201.

Oxford Freedom Festival and Fireworks at the Community Park!

When: Saturday, July 3rd, 2021 at 10:00 PM - 10:30 PM

Where: The Oxford Community Park (6801 Fairfield Rd)

Please note: No alcohol, grills, or drones permitted in the park.

Fireworks at Hueston Woods

When: Monday, July 5th, 2021 at 9:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Where: Hueston Woods Lodge (5201 Lodge Road, College Corner)

Fireworks begin at dusk and are launched over Acton Lake. You should be able to see them from the lodge and all of the shore areas surrounding the lake.

City of Oxford Launches Comprehensive Plan Update

The City of Oxford has launched a public engagement process for updating the Oxford Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan. The purpose of the comprehensive plan is to provide a master plan for growth and development for the future along with a roadmap to guide the community towards achieving its goals. A steering committee has been formed consisting of representatives from the City's established Boards and Commissions, as well as other community partners, including Miami University, Talawanda School district, Enjoy Oxford, and others. The process of updating the plan will take about 2 years to complete, and will focus on elements such as:

- Economic Development
- Energy and Climate
- Health and Equity
- Housing
- Land Use
- * Parks and Recreations
- * Public Facilities
- * Transportation
- * Utilities

Currently the City and Steering Committee are gathering information for the creation of a community wide survey to share with the public for their input in the Fall. The effort is being led in-house by City of Oxford staff, including Assistant City Manager Jessica Greene, Community Development Director Sam Perry, and

Planner Zachary Moore. For more information, visit the City's Comprehensive Plan webpage at cityofoxford.org/comprehensive-plan-steering-committee.

A preliminary Information Booklet, which will serve as a foundation for developing the Plan, has been released and is available electronically on the webpage. Printed versions of the Booklet are available at the City offices for those without internet access.

For more information on the Comprehensive Plan process, contact Assistant City Manager Jessica Greene at 513-524-5210.

Age-Friendly Oxford Housing Series - Lunch and Learn Webinar “Designing and Building Age-Friendly Homes for Your Clients”

If you are a contractor, carpenter, developer, designer, property manager or marketer of housing for residents in the Oxford Ohio area (or anywhere!) please save the date of **Tuesday, July 15 from 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m.** You are invited to join Age-Friendly Oxford, AARP and the RL MACE Universal Design Institute for a Lunch and Learn Webinar to learn more about important technicalities when creating adaptable and accessible housing. These housing design features provide healthy, safe and convenient enhancements for people of all ages and abilities. You may also be interested in this webinar if you are looking for such housing for your own household

Richard Duncan, Architect, Planner and Accessibility Expert, will present this webinar – the 2nd in a series of educational programs offered this year by AFO to increase housing options for renters and buyers in the Oxford area. Richard has written courses and programs for certifications offered by the National Association of Home Builders. AFO has applied to the National Homebuilders Association for a continuing education credit to be associated with this webinar. Contact info@agefriendlyoxford.org or call/leave a message at 513-520-7742 to receive the registration link.

Thank you to AARP for funding this technical assistance grant for housing in the Oxford area, and to AFO's co-hosts, Oxford Seniors, Inc and Miami University Scripps Gerontology Center.

What Makes Oxford a Livable Community for You?

This is a timely question as the Oxford Community begins work to update its Comprehensive Plan. The term means different things to different people. According to AARP “A livable community is one that is safe and secure. It offers

choices in where to live and how to get around. And it equitably serves residents of all ages, ability levels, incomes, races, ethnicities, and other backgrounds.”

In a livable community, people of all ages can ...



Go for a walk



Cross the streets



Ride a bike



Get around without a car



Live safely and comfortably



Work or volunteer



Enjoy public places



Socialize



Spend time outdoors



Be entertained



Go shopping



Buy healthy food



Find the services they need

AARP.org/Livable



... and make their city, town or neighborhood a lifelong home.

AARP[®]
Real Possibilities



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Please send your thoughts about Oxford's livability to info@agefriendlyoxford.org

Community Adult Day Service

The Community Adult Day Service is now fully reopened from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in its former location at 420 South Campus Avenue in the lower level of Faith Lutheran Church. This is welcome news to families with adult loved ones who require care and support during the day. It is the only service in Butler County that offers programmatic support to older individuals who experience memory loss or physical limitation that isolate them from the community. The goals of Community Adult Day Service are to facilitate independence for clients, provide respite and support for family caregivers, and enable clients to remain living at home with their families for as long as possible. Community Adult Day Service is a Council on Aging contracted service provider and offers adult day care, adult day care transportation, meals, recreation therapy and social activities. It is managed by Oxford Seniors, Inc. and is also funded and supported by United Way, Oxford Community Foundation and Oxford Seniors and Butler County Elderly Services. Also, welcome to Kathy Davidson, the new Director of the Community Adult Day Service. For more information contact Kathy at 513-523-0464.