

# O-TOWN NEWS!

KEEPING GREATER O-TOWN CONNECTED



"Uptown" by Julia Ruscio

## MAY 2024



### Highlights in this issue:

Older Americans Month.....	2
Community Book Discussion.....	3
Local Events.....	3-6
Helpful Resources.....	7

### New News!!

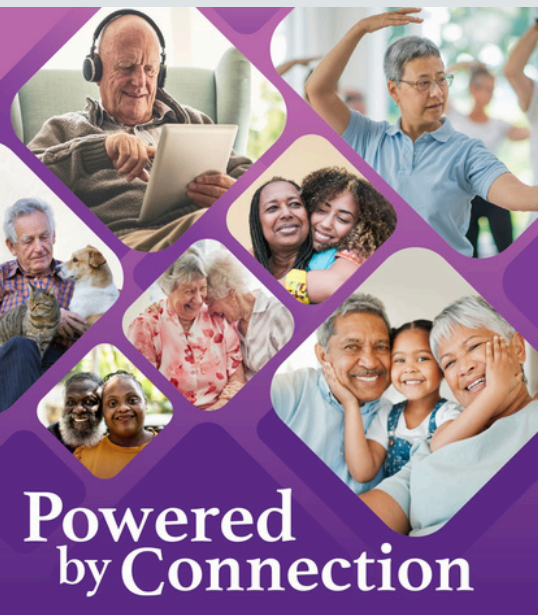
Last summer, Age-Friendly Oxford was awarded a generous grant from the Oxford Community Foundation to produce one year of monthly issues of the O-Town News. That grant ends next month and the June issue of O-Town News will be our last issue.

The O-Town News team has been honored to serve the Oxford area and we are thrilled that the **Oxford Free Press** is starting up this summer to keep the greater Oxford area connected and will be available in both print and digital format. There will be more details about this new publication in our June issue.

ShareFest is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to the collection and redistribution of items donated by Miami University students and the Oxford community at the end of the academic year. This local collaboration between the City of Oxford, Miami University, local volunteers and area social service agencies aims to redirect tons of materials from the landfill.

**ShareFest will take place May 16 - 21 in the Chestnut Fields parking lot.**

Volunteers are needed to help divert still-useful food, clothing, furniture, personal care items, home decor, and cleaning supplies to area agencies, where they will be redistributed to people in need, recycled, or sold. Tasks will include picking up materials from the residence halls and from curbs throughout Oxford. To learn more or to volunteer, visit the [sharefestoxford.com](http://sharefestoxford.com) website.



Powered by Connection

ACL.gov/OAM  
#OlderAmericansMonth



## Older Americans Month

Established in 1963, Older Americans Month is celebrated every May. Led by the Administration for Community Living, Older Americans Month is a time for us to acknowledge the contributions and achievements of older Americans, highlight important trends, and strengthen our commitment to honoring our older citizens. The 2024 theme is **Powered by Connection**, which recognizes the profound impact that meaningful relationships and social connections have on our health and well-being. Here's a few ways that you can participate:

- Share facts about the health benefits of social connection
- Promote resources that help older adults engage
- Connect older adults with local services that can help them overcome obstacles to achieving meaningful relationships
- Reach out to older community members

### Navigating Independence: OOD's Independent Living Older Blind Program

The Independent Living Older Blind (ILOB) program at Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) provides training in independent living skills and orientation and mobility training to assist adults age 55 and older residing in Ohio with severe visual impairments to remain independent. Other services include:

- Training in Braille and other types of communication
- Communication and vision aids
- Family and individual counseling and rehabilitation services

**Learn more at [OODWorks.com](https://www.oodworks.com)  
or call OOD at 800-282-4536**

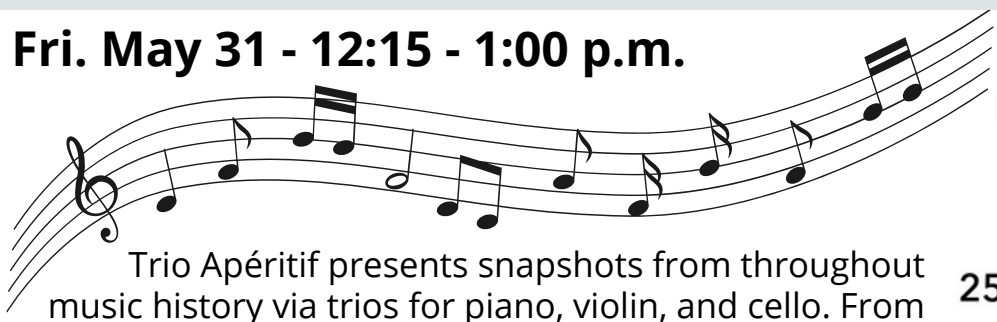
## Blue Shirt Bunch

The **Blue Shirt Bunch** is a group of community volunteers committed to helping folks make connections and have a friendly person to sit and/or talk 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](mailto:info@agefriendlyoxford.org) or call (513) 529-2914 and ask for Jennifer Heston-Mullins.

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

- Wed. May 1** - Dine in or pick up at United Methodist Church, 14 N Poplar St.
- Wed. May 8** - Dine in or pick up at Faith Lutheran Church, 420 S. Campus Ave.
- Mon. May 13** - Dine in or pick up at Oxford Seniors, 922 Tollgate Dr.
- Wed. May 15** - Dine in or pick up at St. Mary Church, 15 S. Poplar St.
- Wed. May 22** - Dine in or pick up at Holy Trinity Church, 25 E. Walnut St.
- Wed. May 29** - Dine in or Pick up at Presbyterian Church, 101 N. Main St.

**Fri. May 31 - 12:15 - 1:00 p.m.**



## RED DOOR COMMUNITY CONCERTS

at HOLY TRINITY  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
25 East Walnut, Oxford OH



Trio Apéritif presents snapshots from throughout music history via trios for piano, violin, and cello. From early music to contemporary to bluegrass and funk, they play it all, with a lens toward diversity in the composers they program. Wherever an organ is present, they're sure to incorporate that into their set as well. As gifted arrangers and composers, it is not uncommon for the music they play to feature their own original works, transcriptions, and figured-bass realizations. Members include: Annette Misener (violin), Michael Ronstadt (cello), and Phillip Roberts (piano/organ). Plan to attend this last concert of the year!

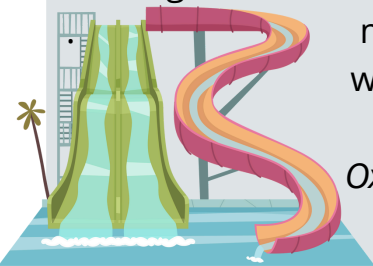


## Oxford Aquatic Center Opening Day

**Mon. May 27 - 12:00 p.m.**

Take a visit to the Oxford Aquatic Center and you'll be treated to fun for all ages! With several slides of different sizes, water basketball, a lazy river with inner tubes, lounging areas with giant umbrellas, plenty of green space for picnics and running around, a concession stand, and more, it's the perfect way to spend a warm summer day.

*Oxford Community Park,  
701 Kay Rench Dr.*



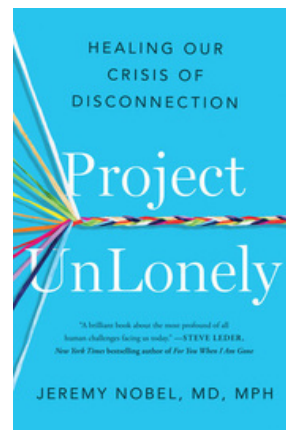
## Community Book Discussion

**Mon. May 6 - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**



Join Oxford Seniors and Age-Friendly Oxford for a discussion of the book,

**Project UnLonely: Healing Our Crisis of Disconnection**, led by Jennifer Heston-Mullins of the Scripps Gerontology Center. This book gives insight into our current epidemic of loneliness and offers solace, hope, and solutions! This discussion will take place at *Oxford Seniors*, 922 Tollgate Dr. and is open to all!



**To participate, all you have to do is read the book and show up for the discussion.**

## Hueston Woods



**Sat. May 4, 11, 18, 25 - Wildlife Invasion - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** *Hueston Woods*. Meet at the Lodge for a close look at Ohio's wildlife.

**Sat. May 4 - Hooked on Fishing - 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.** *Hueston Woods*. Meet at the Nature Center and join a naturalist to try your luck at casting a line. Bait and tackle are provided, but limited.

**Sun. May 5, 12, 19, 26 - Archery - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** *Hueston Woods*. Meet at the Archery Range to learn the art of the bow.

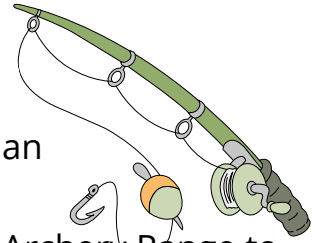
# MAY 2024

**Sun. May 19 - Give a Hoot: Don't Pollute - 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.** *Hueston Woods.* Meet at the Nature Center to join a litter pick up and then see an owl up-close and learn why a clean environment is important for the species.

**Fri. May 24, 31 - Hooked on Fishing - 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.** *Hueston Woods.*

**Mon. May 27 - Exploring for Ectotherms - 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.** *Hueston Woods.* Meet at the Nature Center to join a naturalist in search of amphibian or reptilian creatures that live within the park.

**Thur. May 30 - Archery - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** *Hueston Woods.* Meet at the Archery Range to learn the art of the bow.



## Take a Hike!

(Through Hueston Woods)

**Big Woods Hike - Meet at the Nature Center**

- Sat. May 11 - 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Fri. May 24 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Fri. May 31 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Night Hike - Meet at the Indian Mound**

- Fri. May 24 - 9:30 - 10:00 p.m.
- Fri. May 31 - 9:30 - 10:00 p.m.

**Afternoon Hike - Meet at the Nature Center**

- Sat. May 25 - 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

**Birding Hike - Meet at the Nature Center and bring your vehicle**

- Mon. May 27 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Morning Hike - Meet at the Nature Center**

- Wed. May 29 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## On the Water

(At Acton Lake)

**Canoe Excursion - Meet at the Nature Center**

- Sat. May 18 - 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Sat. May 25 - 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Thur. May 30 - 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**Kayak Excursion - Meet at the Nature Center**

- Sun. May 19 - 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Sat. May 25 - 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
- Thur. May 30 - 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

**SUP (stand up paddleboarding) Excursion - Meet at the Nature Center**

- Fri. May 24 - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Mon. May 26 - 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- Fri. May 31 - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

## About Town



**Thur. May 2 - The Des Fleurs Garden Club Annual May Plant Sale - 8:00 a.m.**

*Oxford Community Arts Center, 10 S. College Ave.* This event offers community members access to a diverse selection of plants, including perennials, herbs, trees, shrubs, and native blooming plants. Expert guidance from Garden Club members ensures finding the perfect additions for SW Ohio gardens. All proceeds contribute to enhancing the community's beauty. Public Quick Sale: 8:00 - 10:00 a.m., Silent Auction: 8:00 a.m. for 20 minutes after the close of the live auction, Live Auction: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. For more information visit [www.desfleurs.org](http://www.desfleurs.org)

**Thur. May 2 - Once Upon a Crime - 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** *Oxford Lane Library.* Share theories, clues and information with other true crime sleuths. This club focuses on different crimes using books, podcasts, documentaries and more. To register, visit the Oxford Lane Library website or call (513) 523-7531.

**Fri. May 3 - Come on Barbie, Let's Go Party - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.** *Oxford Lane Library.* Pull the pink out of your closets because we're having a grown-up-costume Barbie watch party! There will be snacks, crafts and silly games while we screen the 2023 blockbuster "Barbie". Dress like your favorite Barbie (or just Ken) for a chance to win the Barbie trophy and other prizes. To register, visit the Oxford Lane Library website or call (513) 523-7531.



**Sat. May 4 - Electric Root Festival 2024 - 1:30 - 6:00 p.m.** *Uptown Parks, 2 E. High St.* The award-winning Electric Root Festival returns to the Oxford Uptown Parks for its third year! Join the community for a celebration of Black joy and radical hospitality in this festival of arts and culture for all.

**Sat. May 4 - Talawanda Craft Fair - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** *Talawanda High School, 5301 University Park Blvd.* The Talawanda Volleyball Team is hosting a craft show to help raise money to cover expenses for next season. Come hungry as there will be a concession stand open during the event. Admission is \$2 per person.

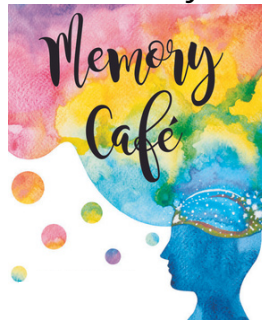


**Tue. May 7 - Spring Flower Sale - 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** *McCullough Hyde Hospital, 110 N. Poplar St.* Located on the front Lawn, corner of Church and Poplar Streets. All proceeds benefit the hospital.

**Sat. May 18 - Intro to Canine Nose Work - 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.** *Oxford Lane Library.* Explore nose work, known for stimulating dogs' minds and strengthening the human-canine bond, with Cheryl Hedge, a Certified Nose Work Instructor. Discover this engaging activity designed to provide dogs with a sense of accomplishment. (Please note: dogs should stay at home!) To register, visit the Oxford Lane Library website or call (513) 523-7531. Ages 13 and older.

**Sun. May 19 - Chess in the Library - 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.** *Oxford Lane Library.* Bring your board, your curiosity and your tactics for a friendly game of chess. Mr. Heilman, a local chess teacher who teaches introductory chess concepts to kids, will be available for coaching and questions. Refreshments provided.

**Sun. May 19 - Salute to the Pioneers - 2:30 p.m.** *Indian Creek Pioneer Church, 3000 Indian Creek Road.* This annual event features music by Judy and Warren Waldron, refreshments and a bit of local history. This year's speaker, Andrew Sawyer, of Miami University's Myaamia Center, will talk about the history of the Miami Tribe who populated southwest Ohio long before settlers arrived and the tribe's forced removal from their ancestral lands in 1846. Transportation up the hill to the church will be provided.



**Fri. May 24 - Memory Café - 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.** *Oxford Lane Library.* This is a space for people living with Alzheimer's and other memory loss to enjoy music, games, and conversation in a supportive environment. A care partner or family member is required to accompany participants. To register, visit the Oxford Lane Library website or call (513) 523-7531.

## On Campus

**May 1, 2, 3, 4 (7:30 p.m.) & May 5 (2:00 p.m.) - Puffs, or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic** - Center For Performing Arts: Gates-Abegglen Theatre, 420 S. Patterson Ave. In this alternative perspective on the classic tale of a boy wizard's journey through a Wizard School, "Puffs" follows three potential heroes from a different house. Alongside a loyal group of misfits, they navigate the challenges of growing up in a magical school while redefining the notion of heroism. Please note that "Puffs" is an unauthorized adaptation and is not affiliated with J.K. Rowling, Warner Bros., or any entity associated with the Harry Potter series.

**Fri. May 3 - Minohsayaki 'Painted Robes' Exhibit - 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.** *Richard and Carole Cocks Art Museum, 801 S. Patterson Ave.* Explore the Minohsayaki 'Painted Robes': A Peewaalia and Myaamia Story of Reclamation exhibit. This exhibition presents the special collaboration between the Peewaaliaki and Myaamiaki, along with non-Native scholars, that began in 2020.



**Fri. May 3 - iihkisaminki maayaahkweeta miicioni: Myaamia Maple Syrup Lunch - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** *Maplestreet Dining Commons, 571 Maple St.* Presented by Miami Dining in partnership with The Myaamia Center, this special event celebrates the end of the maple sap harvesting season. Enjoy a delicious menu featuring Maple Roasted Carrots, Maple Glazed Pork Loin with Apple Chutney, and more!

**Sat. May 4 - 2024 Myaamiaki Conference - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** *John Dolibois Room, Shriver Center, 701 E. Spring St.* All are welcome to the 10th biennial Myaamiaki Conference where the Myaamia Center will present their ongoing activities that support the revitalization of Myaamia language and culture. Registration preferred but not required. For more information, email [myaamiakiconference@miamioh.edu](mailto:myaamiakiconference@miamioh.edu)



**Sat. May 4 - Men's Glee Club: The 117th Annual Home Concert - 7:30 p.m.** *Hall Auditorium, 101 S. Campus Ave.* Come enjoy a great evening of music as the Men's Glee Club fill Hall Auditorium with song! Adults: \$12, Seniors/Students/Youth \$7. For more information, contact director Jeremy D. Jones at [jonesj5@miamioh.edu](mailto:jonesj5@miamioh.edu)

**Sun. May 5, 12 - Wildflower Walks - 1:00 p.m.** *Peffer Park, 900 S. Patterson Ave.* Led by Miami University's professional botanists, Wildflower Walks occur at the Silvoor Biological Sanctuary, boasting over 60 species of wildflowers across its five-acre expanse. Prepare for steep trails by wearing comfortable and sturdy walking shoes, along with sunscreen and bug repellent. Don't forget your camera to capture the stunning flowers along the trail!

**Mon. May 6 - English Language Cafe - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.** *MacMillian 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 will be English language and U.S. culture activities for all levels and ages. Contact [international@miamioh.edu](mailto:international@miamioh.edu) or call (513) 529-8600 with questions.

**Tues. May 7 - Symphony Band - 7:30 p.m.** *Hall Auditorium, 101 S. Campus Ave.* Led by conductor Ryan M. Yahl, the program includes contemporary pieces such as AYO (Rhapsody for Band) by Katahji Copley, To the Fullest by Kevin Charoensri in remembrance of a friend, and Magnolia Star by Steve Daneyew, inspired by a train. Additionally, dance music by Dmitri Shostakovich and Malcom Arnold will be featured.

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

**Sat. May. 18 - Drop-in Tours at the Art Museum - 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.** *Richard and Carole Cocks Art Museum, 801 S. Patterson Ave.* Enjoy and learn about the artworks on exhibit on the third Saturday of each month for Docent-Led Drop-in Gallery Tours from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.