



# The Common Times

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## Electronic Events Display

Here's some really fresh news! On March 13<sup>th</sup>, upon returning from two weeks away from home, I noticed a beautiful computer monitor hanging on the wall near Alisande's office. Of course, I rushed over to find out what the new "toy" was all about. (By now, Brad Bates and Alisande must have answered a slew of similar questions). Connected to a computer, the screen displays notices about events at UC and will be brought up to date often.

Here's what Brad wrote: "Thanks to many for our new events display: to Geoff Baker and Brad Bates for a financial contribution toward the display, Al Feuerwerker for the computer that runs it, Mark Henderson for getting it wired and mounted, Tony Morris for a pro-forma\* display format and Michael Nolte and Brad Bates for many hours of work to get it all together and running."

Brad also noted: "Thanks also to Ron Bishop for donating the computer for use by the Wellness Team and Brad Bates for the time to get it updated and running."

Thank you, Brad, for telling us who made the display possible.

We are truly lucky to have so many people willing and able to contribute time and money to make our lives that much more pleasant here at University Commons.

*\*(Your editor notes: and now, if I only knew what a "pro-forma" display was, I'd feel so much smarter.)*

## The Library Continues to Grow!

By the end of March, there will be many more new items in the library. Previous speakers have presented us with books: from Nick Delbanco (former chair of Creative Writing), many fiction titles (find them under "literary fiction"); from Francis Blouin (Bentley Historical Collections), books about the University of Michigan (find them on the UM shelf, non-fiction section); from our own Chuck Kelly, a memoir about JFK, which Chuck published.

In addition, I have brought home many 'retired' books from my collections at the Plymouth District Library. Check out recent reference books shelved with the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Also, watch for recent hardcover fiction and more non-fiction.

Easy browsing: "NEW" stickers on spines will help you spot books new to UC Library.

**SPECIAL REQUEST:** In the interest of space, when donating magazines, *please* only leave the most recent copy.

*Ellen Stross*

## Spring Concerts Bonanza

In March and April, we will have the equivalent of a springtime music festival going on here. Alisande Cutler writes, "Because of our special relationship with the UM School of Music, we will once again enjoy an embarrassment of riches in the form of student recitals starting in March and running through April..... We never know quite what to expect with the students, but many of them have been very good." The list of recitals includes voice and several instruments, most with piano accompaniment. Please see our electronic display and the old-fashioned signs for details.

## An Update From the Program Committee

We continue our efforts to tap the rich resources of our

distinguished residents and have received tentative agreements from Ed Smith (psychology), Tony Morris (psychology, the Coast Guard or genealogy), Brad Perkins (American history), Diane Kirkpatrick (art history), Chuck Kelly (book-collecting, 19<sup>th</sup>- century literature, Shakespeare), and Yitzi Feuerwerker (Chinese literature).

We have already enjoyed an “extended family” occasion, when Charlotte Fogel’s daughter, Jessica Fogel of the UM dance faculty, presented her students in a preview of a Power Center performance. **We welcome both suggestions and volunteers. Let’s enjoy our home resources!**

You are by now aware of the crowded concert calendar in March and April, resulting from the University calendar. We are presently planning to discuss the calendar with the UM School of Music, to request that non-degree recitals and non-School of Music performers be scheduled in later months. While we welcome these opportunities to enjoy music in our home, we realize that the most ardent music-lovers may not want to attend multiple concerts in close proximity and that the crowded schedule may pose a burden to staff and volunteer hosts. If YOU can help with the hosting during this period, we would be most appreciative.

*Elizabeth Dexter*

## People in the News

A new column called *People in the News* will begin appearing in the next issue of The Common Times. It will be edited by Frieda Morgenstern and will include items of interest about Commons residents and their families. Frieda would like to have you submit information to her, such as a book just published by a family member, an honor bestowed, or an award received.

*Frieda Morgenstern*

## Asa Gray Lecture on April 28

As previously announced, UC will celebrate Professor Asa Gray’s scientific achievements with a lecture delivered by a prominent member of the University of Michigan faculty, Dr. James R. Baker. He is the Ruth Dow Doan Professor and Director of the Center for Biologic Nanotechnology. Dr. Baker’s talk will be followed by an elegant reception.

## What’s in a Name?

Thank you to all residents who responded to my request for comments on the name of this newsletter. Most of you wrote or called to say they want *The Common Times* to remain its name. Fewer folks preferred The Commons Times. So there you have it!



## Local Flora

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There are no rules for March. March is spring, sort of, usually. March means maybe, but don't count on it. It's time to look for skunk cabbage in wet places, new color in the willow trees, crocus and winter aconites in the sheltered places, grass trying to green up, snow drops abloom in some gardens, cornus mas blooming at the entrance to the Arboretum. The vernal equinox on March 20 means winter is over and spring is here. YES!

*Betty Graham*

## Art Committee

This spring, we hope to have an organized trip to the Detroit Institute of Art to see an exhibit of works by Whistler and artists influenced by him. Let us know if you have a suggestion for an additional art outing!

*Leonore Gerstein*