April

Lifting communities. Through a newly awarded $65.9 million research grant to address the opioid epidemic, Ohio State will lead a consortium of academic, state and community partners that aims to reduce overdose deaths by 40% over three years. The Ohio initiative, part of the federal HEALing Communities Study, will use real-time research to focus prevention, treatment and recovery programs.

Academic excellence. This year, 674 Ohio State student-athletes have been recognized for achieving GPAs of 3.0 or higher. Ohio State also has 10 finalists for the Big Ten Medal of Honor. The award, established in 1915, recognizes excellence on and off the field in the course of a college career and is the highest honor a student competing in conference athletics can achieve in the Big Ten.

Still-growing partnership. Building on 50 years of partnership with Ohio State's College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, the Nationwide Foundation is contributing $7 million to support the college's vision of a modern land-grant institution. The gift advances initiatives in translating research, strategic collaboration, workforce development and new facilities.

Innovation in action. As part of the Digital Flagship collaboration with Apple, Ohio State has launched a mobile design lab to help students and faculty boost their digital skills with the support of on-site coding education, app development experts and state-of-the-art technology. Students also traveled to Apple headquarters to work on the development of an app designed to support mental health.

Banding together. Buckeyes everywhere have raised more than $8.6 million for marching band student scholarships in the 100% TBDBITL campaign. The campaign was launched in 2017 to recognize the hard work and determination of band students, who commit 20 to 30 hours each week on top of classes and homework. Its goal is to provide all band members with some level of scholarship support.