



# THE UPLANDER

THE UPLANDS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION, EST. 1902

## *President's Comments*

Our November neighborhood meeting included Councilman Chuck Grayeb and Mike Rogers, Director of Public Works for the City of Peoria. As most of you know, the main topic of discussion was repairing the water main under the intersection of Main St. and University. Earlier this summer a water main broke at the Main and University intersection causing major damage from the water leak (also causing colossal cut-through and colossal traffic jams in our neighborhood). Illinois American Water put a temporary patch on this leak. A permanent fix is in store and would include closing this intersection and doing a complete overhaul of this intersection. Both the city and Illinois American water want this project done very soon. Remember, there is only a temporary patch on this water main. The city's plans are to have all the design and construction finished by mid-May, 2014.

The good news here is that this construction process is an opportunity to "modernize" the city's busiest intersection. A re-design will include providing more efficient vehicle and pedestrian traffic, wider sidewalks, ADA compliant, etc. "I think we have a great opportunity to do something aesthetically pleasing, plus be a lot safer for pedestrians and bicyclist," states Rogers. This is where YOU! An Uplands Resident can help. The city's engineers are open for suggestions from the residents living adjacent to this intersection. What would you like to see done at this intersection? How would you design this area? Perhaps you have lived in other parts of the country where you observed intersections that moved a lot of vehicle and pedestrians efficiently. Your suggestions are encouraged. Public Works Director Mike Rogers states, "We want to get as much information as we can about the desires of the stakeholders in the area."

The bad news here is the amount of cut through traffic throughout the Uplands that this construction project will generate. Remember, the Main St./University intersection is the busiest in the entire city. During the construction process, this large amount of traffic has to be rerouted and has to go somewhere. At the neighborhood meeting, Mr. Rogers informed us that the city will try to "educate" the general public to take alternate routes prior to the start of the construction. Local media outlets along with signage will help with this process. The engineers estimate a total shut-down of the intersection for about 2-3 weeks. Prior to this shut-down, the intersection will be open, however with reduced lanes. Despite

trying to educate (or re-educate) the general public on taking alternate routes, one should be prepared for cut-through traffic starting in the early spring.

There should be another public meeting on this topic sometime in the month of January or February. I'll keep everyone informed. If you have any thoughts, ideas or suggestions concerning the re-design of the Main/University intersection, please contact:

**Mike Rogers, Director of Public Works, City of Peoria  
Peoria, Illinois 61604-1210, (309) 494-8800**

Note: I don't have Mr. Roger e-mail at this time. If you would like to send him an e-mail, log on to the City of Peoria website. Thanks.

### **SPECIAL GUEST**

Our monthly meeting will be held at the Bradley Epworth Church (Elmwood at Columba Terrace) at 7pm, on January 9th, lower level, enter through the side door. This month's special guest will be Dr. Noreen Dillon, Principal of St. Mark Grade School. If you would like to know more about St. Mark School or have any questions, this would be an ideal time to do so.

Sincerely,

*BURGIT SMITH*

### **Uplands Residential Association Meeting**

**Thursday, January 9th, 2013 • 7:00 p.m.**

Bradley Epworth United Methodist Church  
1316 W. Columbia Terrace

7:00 p.m. Call Meeting to Order

- Welcome and Introductions - President Burgit Smith
- Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings - Secretary Lindsey Clayton
- Treasurer's Report—Treasurer Melissa Stevenson

Committee Reports

URA Representatives to Outside Organizations

- Bradley Institutional Planning
- West Bluff Council
- Peoria Alliance
- Greenway

New Business

Adjournment

# Meeting Minutes 11/14/13

Called to order at 7:03

Councilman Chuck Grayeb gave an overview of what we can expect from the improvements to the intersection at Main and University. At this point we know that the city will need to close the intersection for some period of time to redo the intersection. They are exploring ideas to keep the traffic going through our neighborhood controlled, and are asking for more input as to what we are interested in having them do to help us with this situation.

Director Mike Rogers, of the Peoria Public Works arrived and began speaking about the options available for the intersection work. First, he wanted to emphasize that they will do what is needed, within reason, to assure no damage or harm to the neighborhoods during construction.

-Many different ideas were considered for the intersection, however, the most likely at this point is a raised intersection with ADA compliance and an all stop pedestrian crossing. It should also include storm water management and new greenery/trees to the area.

-We as a neighborhood need to keep involved as far as alternate routes and traffic calming methods, the process is fluid and it's essential that we keep an open mind.

-It is possible that University between Columbia Terrace and Main will be reduced to 3 lanes with more sidewalk space and on street parking, to create a more walkable neighborhood.

-A key part of the traffic calming will be to advertise that the intersection will be closed, and to try alternate freeway routes. For example taking the Sterling exit to Farmington to get to

Bradley, or routing traffic that is heading downtown to the appropriate exits. Other routes are being planned to help reduce cut through traffic as much as possible.

-Director Rogers expressed an interest in meeting again in January to firm up plans.

-It is expected the work will be done prior to May.

**Treasurer's report-** Deposits \$50, Beautification Fund \$30  
Debits: Burgit Smith (Picnic grill rental&charcoal) \$121  
Available Balance: \$1,009.61 Beautification fund: \$327.16  
Total Paid Members:85

## No West Bluff report, No Bradley report, No Peoria Alliance report

**Greenway report:** The master gardeners need volunteers, if you are interested in helping the greenway gardens and green spaces, contact or Dan Armich.

**New Business:** Need to put up wreaths for the holidays, Burgit has contacted the Peoria Fire Department for their help already. Need to let those neighbors who have wreaths stored that they need to get them up before Thanksgiving.

Motion was made to give gift cards to our Webmaster and Newsletter Editor for their efforts this year: Passed. Burgit will purchase them.

## Next meeting will be held January 9th at Bradley Epworth Church (enter through the Elmwood side door)

Meeting adjourned at 9:00

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## Dues

If you haven't already done so, please pay your annual dues of \$10.00! Thank you to the neighbors who have paid their 2013 dues. Thank you also to those who have donated extra money to our beautification fund. Hopefully you saw the boulevards take shape this year with flowers and plants, and these contributions help make this possible. If you have not paid your dues yet and/or would like to donate to the beautification fund, it's not too late! Please fill out the form below and send with your check.

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### THE UPLANDS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION 2014 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ (This is for Association use only. It will not be divulged to anyone.)

Would you be willing to volunteer with:

- Block Captain
- Newsletter Delivery
- Traffic
- Parking
- Safety
- Beautification
- Long-Range Plans
- Zoning/Land Use

Send completed form and check payable to Uplands Residential Association Treasurer Melissa Stevenson, P.O. Box 6532 Peoria, IL 61601-6532. **Dues are \$10** and allow the neighborhood to do many good things. Please consider a donation to the Neighborhood Beautification Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_ YES! I/WE will pay our \$10 association dues, and contribute an additional \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for beautification.

## Welcome New Neighbors!

Temiope Akinlua & Nikolina Basic  
1118 N Elmwood Avenue

Amy & Christopher Herman  
1209 N Institute Place

Rebecca & Nathaniel Herz  
1318 N Institute Place

Stephen Lawrence  
1204 N Institute Place

Victoria & Martin Mitchell  
1317 W Columbia Terrace

Pete Magsig & Erin Genovese  
1320 N Institute Place

Alicia & Gregory Lynn  
1025 N Institute Place

Gillian & Alan Porter  
1119 N Glenwood Ave

Joshua Smith & Brigette Lobacz  
1022 N Glenwood Avenue

We are looking for a new chairperson and volunteers for the neighborhood welcome committee. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Melissa Stevenson at 256-0649.

### Uplands Residential Association Officers:

**President: Burgit Smith**

1500 W. Parkside Dr., 674-0567,  
burgitpaul@yahoo.com

**1st Vice President: Daniel Armich**

1104 N Glenwood Ave.,  
danielarmich@yahoo.com

**2nd Vice President: Desiree Kane**

1313 W. Columbia Terr.,  
dez.kane@gmail.com

**Treasurer: Melissa Stevenson**

1517 W. Columbia Terr., 256-0649,  
melissarstevenson@sbcglobal.net

**Secretary: Lindsey Clayton**

1414 W. Columbia Terr.,  
mrs.lindseyclayton@gmail.com



The Uplands Residential Association is on Facebook.  
Like us for current news on the neighborhood!

Join the Uplands Yahoo Group! It's easy - just go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uplands/>

**Updated Website:** Our website has been updated and now includes houses for sale in the neighborhood. Visit [www.TheUplandsPeoria.com](http://www.TheUplandsPeoria.com) to check it out!

If you have information for *The Uplander*, please contact Brenda O'Russa at 673-2776 or [bkorusa@comcast.net](mailto:bkorusa@comcast.net)

### Tax Exemptions

There are several tax exemptions available to homeowners in the City of Peoria, some automatic, some you need to apply for, and some for age 65 and older. For more information, see the Tax Exemption Brochure on the City Assessor's website or contact the Assessor's office at 494-8180.

- Owner occupied homes receive an automatic reduction of \$5,000 in the assessed valuation. Check your property tax bill to make sure you see "owner occupied exemption - 6,000." If your home was previously a rental, you may need to contact the assessor's office to alert them of the change.
- If you make an improvement to your home that requires a building permit, the assessed value of your home will not increase for four years. This is an automatic deferral, upon issue of the building permit. To see what improvements require a building permit, see the City Inspections web page.
- If you are 65 or older, live in your home, and have an income of \$45,000 or less, you may apply for a tax freeze. You must apply each year.
- If you are 65 or older, you may apply for a \$4,000 reduction of your home's assessed value (no income requirement).

### SCHOOL CORNER

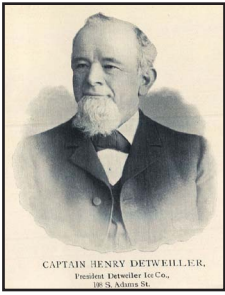
**St. Mark School** will begin accepting applications for students for the 2014-15 school year in March. Please contact the school at 676-7131 for more information. Join us for:



**SOUPER TRIVIA:** Mark your calendars for January 17th! This adults-only event is a fun competition where St. Mark's parents, parishioners, neighbors and friends look to match wits against each other as they enjoy delicious soup and adult beverages and play a fun game of trivia. \$12 per person, \$80 for a table of 8. Doors at 5:30pm. Reservations requested...reserved tables will receive an additional bonus table gift. RSVP to Brenda O'Russa at [bkorusa@comcast.net](mailto:bkorusa@comcast.net)

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK** Open House on Sunday, January 26th from 10-11am. Don't miss this opportunity to tour the school, meet the principal and staff, and learn about the wonderful programs St. Mark School has to offer your children. [www.saint-mark.net](http://www.saint-mark.net)

## Did You Know?



CAPTAIN HENRY DETWEILLER  
(continued from November Uplander)

From 1850 to 1860, the river business between the North and South was immense. During these years, Mr. Detweiller acted in the different capacities of Pilot and Captain, on a number of boats upon the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. In 1856, he became part owner of the Steamer "Movastar," and in 1857, became the sole owner of the Steamer "Minnesota." During his last years upon the river, he frequently had Abraham Lincoln as a passenger, and came to know him well.

In 1862, he offered his services to the Government, and was sworn into the service, at St. Louis, and assigned to the command of the United States Steamer "Jenny Lind," and was ordered to Cairo, to await the arrival of the fleet with General Pope's troops aboard from Island No. 10. The "Jenny Lind" was detailed as dispatch boat to the flag-ship accompanying the fleet up the Tennessee River to Pittsburg landing. Later on he was with the fleet at Memphis. In 1863, Captain Detweiller was transferred to the U. S. Steamer Yankee, of which he had charge until the close of the war and was attached to the fleet at the fall of Vicksburg.

While managing the Government transports, he performed a very important and often hazardous service. So great was the danger to which his boat was exposed during these perilous years, that Captain Detweiller was compelled to adopt various schemes to evade the enemy. His boat was sometimes disguised as a gun-boat. The Yankee was never seriously injured, although often fired upon. The last important service of his boat was to take a cargo of horses, mules and stores valued at \$250,000 from St. Louis to New Orleans. The boat was fired upon, but the cargo was at length safely delivered in New Orleans.

After the war, Captain Detweiller was in charge of the Steamer "Beaver" until he abandoned the river, in 1874, to give his attention exclusively to the ice business, in which he had engaged, establishing it, in 1870, in partnership with N. L. Woodruff. In December, 1876, he severed his connection with Mr. Woodruff, and has conducted the business, either in his own name or under the name of the Detweiller Ice Company ever since.

He married Magdalena Bachman on November 5, 1848, at the home of his sister, in Woodford County, Illinois. Mrs. Detweiller was also a native of France. Seven children were born to them, three of whom are still living: Thomas H., Amelia M. and Matilda E. Detweiller. Mrs. Detweiller died December 10, 1888. Her death was a severe blow to

her husband, as she had been in all respects. a helpmate. She was in her home, not only a devoted wife and mother, but a useful member of society, kindly, charitable and helpful to all who were in trouble or want. She was active in charitable work; connected with the Women's Christian Home Mission and with the Women's Relief Corps, and did her part in society and in the community.

Captain Detweiller's life has been a laborious one and beset with quite as many of the ordinary trials of life as fall to the lot of most men; yet through it all he has borne himself honorably and with characteristic geniality; never has allowed himself to be despondent, gloomy or hopeless, but in adversity, as well as prosperity, has maintained the same genial, pleasant, kindly character, endearing him to all with whom he has come in contact. As an evidence of the confidence of his fellow-citizens in his integrity, he was elected six times to the office of City Treasurer, without his seeking, and really against his personal desire.

He is a member of the Odd Fellows, and a charter member of Bryner Post 67, G. A. R., and was, for thirteen years, President of the Old Settlers' Association of Peoria.

He cast his first vote for General Taylor for President in 1848, and, since the organization of the Republican party, has been an ardent, earnest worker in that party, believing thoroughly in its principles.

During his residence of sixty-five years, he has seen the village of Peoria develop into a beautiful city of over 65,000 inhabitants, and he has, during all these years, contributed his full part to the growth of the city. It may be said of him, as of very few men, that he is not known to have an enemy in the city of Peoria or anyone who entertains aught but the kindest sentiments towards him. This has resulted from his genial, kindly disposition, and his efforts to help rather than mar the fortunes of any man or woman. If there were more like him, it would be better for the community, for the city, for the State.

He is a man of decided character, strong convictions, tout willing that other men shall enjoy the same right and freedom of thought and act which he claims for himself. The thought of entertaining malice never has entered his mind. He has never known what jealousy is over the prosperity of others, and it is as much his delight to see his friends, neighbors and acquaintances prosper as it is to prosper himself. Such evenly balanced characters are rare; and when we see them, we cannot refrain from expressing our appreciation of them and our commendation of the men or women who bear them.

[http://www.peoriacountyillinois.info/bios/1902bios\\_d.html](http://www.peoriacountyillinois.info/bios/1902bios_d.html)  
Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Peoria County,  
1902, pages 500-502