



# THE UPLANDER

THE UPLANDS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION, EST. 1902

## President's Comments

Hello neighbors!

As you can see the construction process at Main and University has started. This process will last (according to the city's plans) for another 2 ½ months. Meanwhile, we will need to prepare ourselves for some inconveniences. Be prepared to leave to go to work a little early and to arrive home later than usual during the construction process. We are probably going to see an unusual number of cars cutting through our streets and alleyways. Don't be surprised seeing large construction vehicles and trucks passing through and even parked within the neighborhood. There will be the loud sounds of jack hammers, bull dozers, and dust flying ever where. Be prepared to sit and wait (and wait) in traffic just to leave or enter the Uplands. The reconstruction of Main/ University and Columbia Terrace/University will be a very large undertaking by the city. Traffic will be disrupted all over this portion of the west bluff. Annoyances stated above are normal for a construction project of this size. Much like this long winter we are having, we need to persevere and deal with this. Just think, by mid-May, things will be totally different at these intersections and will improve this neighborhood in the long run.

This May is election time for the Uplands. Every year the neighborhood elects new members for the following positions:

- President
- Vice-president
- Second vice-president
- Treasurer
- Secretary

All Upland residents are eligible to run for these positions. If you are a true believer a properly run neighborhood promotes good "community concept" and protects community property values, than perhaps you should think about running for one of these positions. If interested, please notify any of the neighborhood officers at the April meeting.

Sincerely,

*BURGIT SMITH*

### Bylaws Updating

During the February meeting, the officers thought to create a committee to update our neighborhood bylaws. The bylaws have not been updated since 2004. If you would like to partake in this committee to critique and update our bylaws, please contact any of the neighborhood officers.

### Important dates in our Neighborhood

- March 13: Neighborhood Meeting
- March 12-15, 17: St. Mark's Art Fair  
(see advertisement in this newsletter)
- March 29: St. Mark's Auction
- April 19: Annual "Dumpster Day" in the Uplands  
(more on this in April Newsletter)
- May 3: Annual Neighborhood "Garage Sale"  
Rain Date May 10th
- May 18: Second Annual River City Marathon  
(more on this in April Newsletter)

### Uplands Residential Association Meeting

**Thursday, March 13, 2014 • 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



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

Visit our website:  
[www.TheUplandsPeoria.com](http://www.TheUplandsPeoria.com)

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

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



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## The Uplands Directory

It is hard to believe, but it has been two years already since we published our neighborhood directory and the plan at that time was to update every two years. The Board feels this will be an easier task this time around as we have updated information for most residents now so we don't plan to go door to door to obtain this as we did last time.

We are looking for someone who has experience with design/layout though who would be willing to help with this. We would like to change the design of the directory. We will also be soliciting advertisers so if you are interested in placing an ad or know someone who might be, please let me know. More details about ad options will be published in the April Uplander.

If interested in helping, please contact Melissa Stevenson at 256-0649 or melissarstevenson@sbcglobal.net



**Looking to kick up some fun this spring and summer?** Join the Uplands Neighborhood Adult Co-rec Kickball team!

The season starts 4/20; games will be held between 3:00-9:00pm at Peoria Stadium. Please contact Lindsey Clayton at if you are interested in joining at [mrs.lindseyclayton@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.lindseyclayton@gmail.com)

## Dues

It is that time again! If you haven't already done so for 2014, please pay your annual dues of \$10.00. Thank you to those who have already paid. An envelope is attached to this Uplander for your convenience. Please make checks payable to The Uplands Residential Association. If you are interested in donating extra money to our beautification fund please indicate this on the registration form below. You may include the additional amount on the same check as your dues.

In 2013 your dues helped pay for the printing of the monthly newsletter, the annual picnic, and the re-building of our account after 2012 expenses. We continue to plan for the future of The Uplands to make this the best neighborhood it can be and your dues help to make this possible! Please fill out the form below and send with your check.

### 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:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain    | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parking          | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety              | <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long-Range Plans | <input type="checkbox"/> 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.

## URA Meeting minutes 2/13/14

### Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Approval of January meeting minutes with the following additions:

Traffic Discussion:

Support expressed for:

1. all-way cross-walk at University and Main
2. a proposed sign for southbound traffic on University located north of the I-74 ramps that states that east bound destination is not only Bloomington, but also downtown Peoria
3. a proposed raised platform at University and Columbia Terrace

### Treasurer's report:

22 paid members for 2014

Deposits: Membership dues x 19	\$190.00
Beautification fund	\$245.00
Debits: Burgit Smith (reimbursement for gift cards for Brenda O'Russa & Steven Marx)	\$100.00
Rapid Print (directory inserts & extra copies)	\$142.00
Available balance	\$1171.61
Beautification fund balance	\$607.16

### West Bluff Council:

WBC education committee to meet with 150 Board President has been set up to discuss k-8 schools.

Journal Star informed of boundaries of West Bluff and its neighborhoods, please report errors.

Main Street Business Group- New group of business owners looking to take over and attend WBC meetings.

WBC is working the Peoria Neighborhood Alliance and City of Peoria to create a map of neighborhoods in Peoria.

Grayeb informed there should be addition of 18 officers by summer. Working on code enforcement to address properties/owners with multiple offenses. There will be an ordinance change granting liquor licenses to an operator versus a site.

Grayeb expressed he doesn't think there is a need for landlord licensing ordinance if current ordinances are enforced.

Mothball ordinance passed 11-0.

839 W Moss has some attention from potential buyers.

Next Weds (2/19) 6:30-8:30pm Westlake Hall Room 116, meeting to will lay out strategy and timeline for Main and University and traffic calming.

### No Peoria Alliance report.

### No Bradley Planning report.

### Greenway:

Discussing options for former gas station at Western and Main-URA reps may be interested in the water fountain option.

Long range planning ongoing, looking to raise money/obtain resources with park board participation.

Martha Willi (Maplewood) approved to replace Bernie Goitein as one of the URA reps to Greenway board, Dan A continues.

Note from your outgoing rep: if we (URA) ever want Greenway to extend to Uplands. URA can formally ask the Greenway for help.

### Discussion of traffic calming measures:

The draft proposal for platforms on Columbia Terrace included four for the Uplands (none at University and Columbia Terrace) On Columbia Terrace, one was proposed for Columbia Terrace and Institute, another at Columbia Terrace and Maplewood. City officials were informed of a problem with the proposed platform at Columbia Terrace and Maplewood as it would sacrifice on-street parking for the Columbia Terrace homes at the

north side of the intersection.

The platform proposed for Columbia Terrace and Institute, where parking is not at risk, is fine.

Council rep Grayeb has advised pertinent City officials of the problem with the suggestion of locating a platform at Columbia Terrace and Maplewood.

**Block captains:** Discussion of recruiting block captains and their potential roles- some duties discussed include: ad hoc representative of neighbors on their block for neighborhood meetings, welcome new neighbors, host street/block party, and Uplander delivery. Support expressed for reaching out to identify black captains for the neighborhood.

Discussion of bylaws, identified need to review and amend bylaws and to set up expectation for timely reviews of bylaws. It would be ideal to get a neighborhood lawyer to volunteer to help with this. Current members of the neighborhood association need to reach out to neighbors who have expressed interest in volunteering.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.**

## SCHOOL CORNER



**St. Mark School** is now accepting applications for students for the 2014-15 school year in March. Please contact the school at 676-7131 for more information.

St. Mark's School Kindergarten Round-Up March 14, 8-9 am. If your child is turning 5 on or before Sept. 1, they are eligible to enter kindergarten. The round-Up is a great chance to meet the kindergarten teacher, visit in the classroom, and register for the 2014-'15 school year. Coffee, juice, and donuts will be served. Contact the school office to make your reservation today!

Spring is just around the corner and so is the St. Mark's Fine Arts Event! This art exhibition by St. Mark's students will be held at the Prairie Center of the Arts, 1506 SW Washington, from March 12-17. Please mark your calendars now for the opening reception, which will be Fri. March 14 from 6-8 pm. Besides the beautiful 2D and 3D artwork from our talented artists, students from the choir and the school musical, Everything's Groovy, will be performing. Snack sculptures and other fun surprises will be on hand, too. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Whittier Holds Benefit Dinner for David

On Tuesday, February 25, Whittier held a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to benefit David Shockley's family.

The fundraiser was a huge success with many heartfelt moments.

There was a great turn out with many people that came to support a great cause. There was great food

from La Gondola, awesome music from the Corn Wolves, a bunch of raffle prizes from businesses all over the West Bluff. The Shockley family was very touched by all the generosity and support shown by all that came.

The highlight of the night was when David's father announced that, although David would continue to undergo chemotherapy for at least two more years, David is cancer-free!



**\*\*\*\*\*Election Coming Soon\*\*\*\*\***

**Uplands Residential Association Officer Election  
Thursday May 8th, 7PM  
Bradley Epworth Methodist Church  
(basement level, enter doors off Elmwood)**

Would you like to contribute more to your neighborhood? Are you the type of person who has the initiative to get things done? Would you like to get civically involved within the neighborhood? This message is just a reminder that in the month of May is "election month" here in the Uplands. An URS officer position holds their position for a 1 year term, from May-to-May. Keep in mind, anyone who is a resident and has paid their annual dues, can run for office (see requirements from Article IV from the bylaws below). On Thursday May 9th we will be electing our Uplands Residential Association Officer(s). The following are the positions you may run for are:

President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary

The following positions are currently held by the following officers:

President	Burgit Smith
1st Vice President	Dan Armich
2nd Vice President	Desiree Kane
Treasurer	Melissa Stevenson
Secretary	Lindsay Clayton

*From the Uplands Bylaws:*

Article IV-Membership

**Section 1:** Eligibility: All residents and non-residents owners of property in The Uplands, of age 18 or older are eligible for membership in the Association upon payment of dues. (FYI: Dues may be paid the day of election)

**Section 2:** Voting Rights and membership Dues:

- A. The annual dues for residents are \$10.00 per address per calendar year, with a maximum of 2 votes per address.
  - B. The annual dues for non-resident owner are \$10.00 per calendar year, with no more than 1 vote per non-resident owner regardless of the number of structures owned in the uplands
- For those of you who are interested in running for an officer position, here are the duties of each position:

**Duties of President:**

The duties of the President shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. presiding at all regular and special meetings of the Association,
2. overseeing the selection of and announcing in the written notice for the June meeting the planned schedule of the Association's regular meetings for the upcoming year,
3. serving as ex-officio non-voting member of all committees of the Association,
4. enforcing the by-laws of the Association,
5. notifying all other officers of any zoning or other notice received pertaining to the stated purposes of the Association
6. representing the Association to external bodies,
7. discharging any other duties which ordinarily pertain to the office and such other duties as may be prescribed by these bylaws and as the Association membership may from time to time direct

At the President's discretion, an executive meeting of the officers, (which may include the past president and committee chairs) may be called to discuss any upcoming issues and short notice issues.

**Section 3: Duties of the First Vice-President:**

The duties of the First Vice-President shall include, but not be limited to:

1. serving as President in the President's absence,
2. serving as ex-officio, non-voting member of all committees of the Association, and
3. chairing a standing committee.

**Section 4: Duties of the Second Vice-President:**

The duties of the Second Vice-President shall include, but not be limited to:

1. chairing the Block Captains Committee and Neighborhood Safety Committee
2. recruiting Block Captains
3. maintaining a current list of Block Captains, to be presented at the June meeting of the Association.

**Section 5: Duties of Secretary:**

The duties of the secretary shall include, but not limited to, the following be

1. taking minutes at all meetings of the Association and maintaining the written reports received at the membership meetings,
2. issuing calls for meetings at the direction of the President,
3. maintaining the by-laws of the Association,
4. serving as acting President in the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents,
5. maintaining a database of dues-paying members as provided by the Treasurer,

**Section 6: Duties of the Treasurer:**

The duties of the Treasurer shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. maintaining account in a local bank in which to deposit Association funds
2. keeping an account of all receipts and disbursements
3. paying the bill of the Association
4. having the responsibility, along with the Block Captains, for collection of the annual dues from the eligible member of the Association
5. providing a current list of dues-paying members to the Secretary on a monthly basis
6. making a financial report to the membership at each regular meeting of the Association, including the most recent copy of the bank statement
7. verifying the eligibility of the voters and assisting the Secretary in tallying the vote at the membership meeting, and
8. provide the financial report to the Audit Committee and supporting documents at the end of each term.

If you have any questions regarding the roles of the positions, please contact the current officer. There is also the opportunity to hold a subcommittee chair position, including: Audit Committee, Code Violation, Long Range Planning, Neighborhood Beautification, Neighborhood Safety, Parking Committee, Traffic, Zoning and Land Use, Picnic, Garage Sale, and Welcome Committee. Contact Burgit Smith for more information about these opportunities.