



THE UPLANDER

THE UPLANDS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION, EST. 1902

President's Comments

Hello everyone! September is finally here, the unofficial end of summer. It's hard to believe that autumn is right around the corner. This month is our neighborhood picnic. If you are new to the neighborhood, this event is a great way to meet your neighbors and a lot of fun for the kids.

The picnic will be held at 5pm on Saturday September 12th in upper Bradley Park located on North Parkside Drive between the Columbus Statue and Main Street. However, before the picnic there will be a bicycle parade for the kids. This unique event will start at 4:30pm just prior to the picnic at the corner of Columbia Terrace and Parkside Drive in front of the Columbus statue. The kids need to show with their bikes, tricycles, rollerblades, etc. (some kids decorate their bikes with streamers, ribbons, wear costumes, etc.) The parade route will include West Parkside Dr. east to Glenwood, right on Glenwood to Columbia Terrace, right on CT to the starting point. The parade route will be barricaded off from traffic for the kids' safety.

After the parade, it's off to the picnic where there will be a fire truck from nearby firehouse number 3. The kids will get to meet and greet firefighters and tour a firetruck first hand. Pretty cool, ah! The picnic area will have picnic tables provided, a porta-a-potty and is conveniently located near the playground equipment. Hamburgers, hotdogs, lemonade and condiments will be provided. Just bring a dish to pass around. Sounds like fun doesn't it? Hope everyone can make it.

I would like to inform you of an upcoming event. RC Race Management and Running Central are scheduled to host the third annual River City Marathon to benefit to Benefit St. Jude's Run. This marathon is scheduled to take place on Sunday October 18th. What does this event have to do with the Uplands? Well, the marathon route will be passing through our neighborhood. The

race will start downtown, and then meander through other neighborhoods throughout the city, then passing through West Peoria. From West Peoria, the route will continue on Western Ave. to North Parkside-north-to West Parkside-all the way to Elmwood. Elmwood to Columbia Ter., then left on Columbia Ter (exiting the Uplands). If you have early to mid-morning plans on this day (such as going to church) you may want to leave the neighborhood very early in the morning and perhaps not return until after 12 noon. This marathon is so large that many surrounding streets will be blocked off. If you don't have plans on this particular day, why not walk up to one of the above streets, bring a lawn chair and cheer on the runners? Sit back, relax, bring some coffee, ice tea, a Bloody Mary, etc. and cheer on the runners.

If you would like to participate in this race, be a volunteer, or need race info for adults or kids, just go to the Running Central web-site or you may call Running Central at 676-6531 for more information. www.runrivercity.com

Sincerely,
Burgit Smith

REMINDER:
The Uplands Neighborhood Association will not be having a scheduled meeting this month (September) due to our annual picnic. The next scheduled URA meeting will be October 8th 2015 at Bradley Epworth Church 7 pm.



Join the Uplands Yahoo group by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uplands/>



The URA is on Facebook. Like us for current news on the neighborhood!

Uplands Residential Association Officers:

President: Burgit Smith

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Secretary: Pete Magsig

1320 N Institute Pl., 734-546-2988,
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Dues

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. Your URA dues can now be paid online! We have set up a Paypal account for your convenience. To do so, please visit www.Paypal.com, click Send, enter the URA email address of TheUplandsPeoria@gmail.com and the amount, then click Continue and follow additional prompts. Your dues will be deposited directly into the URA's Checking Account.

In 2014 your dues helped pay for the printing of the monthly newsletter, the annual Easter Egg hunt, the annual Picnic and the renewal of the URA post office box. We continue to plan for the future of The Uplands to make this the best neighborhood it can be and your dues help make this possible!

THE UPLANDS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION 2015 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____
Email _____

Would you be willing to volunteer with

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

Send completed form and check payable to URA Treasurer Dustin Draggist, P.O. Box 6532, Peoria, IL 61601-6532. Dues are \$20 and allow the neighborhood to do many good things. Please consider a donation to the Neighborhood Beautification Committee.

_____ YES! I/WE will pay our \$20 association dues, and contribute an additional \$ _____ for beautification.

WORLDWIDE DAY OF PLAY

Saturday, September 12, 2015 • 11 am-3 pm
Glen Oak Park, Peoria IL

FREE! ENTERTAINMENT

11:00 a.m. Mike Anderson
12:00 p.m. Peoria Pops Dixieland
1:00 p.m. WERQ
2:00 p.m. Julie K Performance

FREE! FUN ACTIVITIES

Gaga Pit
PlayHouse Marble Run
March Madness 2 Ball
Obstacle course
Bounce House
Bags Tournament
Pickleball

Early Childhood Forum Resource Fair
Luthy Botanical Garden
9 Square
Kids Fitness

FREE! KIDS FUN RUN! sponsored by

FREE! TOUCH A TRUCK

Where children get up close and personal with trucks and rub elbows with community heroes.

Reduced PlayHouse Admission!

Admission to the Peoria PlayHouse will be \$6 per person (\$2 discount) with the donation of a gently used children's book.

Everyone's a kid today!
Everyone pays children's admission at the Peoria Zoo all day!

www.peoriaparks.org

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Uplands Residential Association Meeting 8-13-2015

Meeting started at 7:00 pm.

Treasure: Membership dues \$60 / Paypal fees of \$0.88 / \$3,406.34 (overall fund), \$1,346.23 (beautification fund) / 56 paid members

The Park District recently billed us for Uplanders and other printed materials. West Bluff council did not meet last month.

C.J. sent a letter to the park district about bathroom facilities in Upper Laura Bradley Park. The next Park District meeting is August 26th @ 6pm. We don't know if this will be brought up at the meeting.

Pete proposed an Uplands Reporting Team for kids 12 and under, writing small articles about the Uplands for the Uplander. He will be coordinating it.

The Night Out Against Crime was discussed, but no one seemed interested in driving that as an Uplands event. We already invite the Police and Firefighters to our picnic, so we don't feel the need for this as much.

Several people complimented the new Uplands Directory.

- The main topic of discussion was the Picnic.
- Desiree is doing most of the coordination. Contact her if you want to help or if you have specific questions. Please bring games if you want.
- We were unable to get donated hamburgers this year.
- There will be PortaSans.
- The picnic is an excellent opportunity to pay your Uplands dues if you haven't already done so this year. Vanessa volunteered to handle Uplands Dues at the picnic.
- There will be nametags at the Uplands Dues Collection table.
- The next time Block Party Permit signatures will be required for the picnic is 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56pm.

The Facts About Chimney Fires

“Chimneys really decorate the roofline of a home... and they’re maintenance-free, besides. Right?” Your chimney—and the flue that lines it—adds architectural interest to your home, but its’ real function is to carry dangerous flue gases from your fireplace, wood stove or furnace safely out of your home. A chimney helps your household air stay breathable...just as your windows and your bathroom, attic and kitchen vents do. Unlike those other exhaust points in your home, however, fireplace and wood stove chimneys need a special kind of care.

As you snuggle in front of a cozy fire or bask in the warmth of your wood stove, you are taking part in a ritual of comfort and enjoyment handed down through the centuries. The last thing you are likely to be thinking about is the condition of your chimney. However, if you don’t give some thought to it before you light those winter fires; your enjoyment may be very short-lived. Why? Dirty chimneys can cause chimney fires, which damage structures, destroy homes and injure or kill people.

No One Welcomes a Chimney Fire

A chimney fire in action can be impressive. Indications of a chimney fire have been described as creating:

- loud cracking and popping noise
- a lot of dense smoke, and
- an intense, hot smell

Chimney fires can burn explosively – noisy and dramatic enough to be detected by neighbors or people passing by. Flames or dense smoke may shoot from the top of the chimney. Homeowners report being startled by a low rumbling sound that reminds them of a freight train or a low flying airplane. However, those are only the chimney fires you know about. Slow-burning chimney fires don’t get enough air or have fuel to be dramatic or visible. But, the temperatures they reach are very high and can cause as much damage to the chimney structure – and nearby combustible parts of the house – as their more spectacular cousins. With proper chimney system care, chimney fires are entirely preventable.

Creosote & Chimney Fires: What You Must Know

Fireplaces and wood stoves are designed to safely contain wood-fuel fires, while providing heat for a home. The chimneys that serve them have the job of expelling the by-products of combustion – the substances produced when wood burns. These include smoke, water vapor, gases, unburned wood particles, hydrocarbon, tar fog and assorted minerals. As these substances exit the fireplace or wood stove, and flow up into the relatively cooler chimney, condensation occurs. The resulting residue that sticks to the inner walls of the chimney is called creosote.

Creosote is black or brown in appearance. It can be crusty and flaky...tar-like, drippy and sticky...or shiny and hardened. Often, all forms will occur in one chimney system. Whatever form it takes, creosote is highly combustible. If it builds up in sufficient quantities – and the internal flue temperature is high enough – the result could be a chimney fire. Certain conditions encourage the buildup of creosote. Restricted air supply, unseasoned wood and, cooler than normal chimney temperatures are all factors that can accelerate the buildup of creosote on chimney flue walls. Air supply may be restricted by closing the glass doors, by failing to open the damper wide enough, and the lack of sufficient make-up air to move heated smoke up the chimney rapidly (the longer the smoke’s “residence time” in the flue, the more likely is it that creosote will form). A wood stove’s air supply can be limited by closing down the stove

damper or air inlets too soon or too much. Burning unseasoned wood – because so much energy is used initially just to drive off the water trapped in the cells of the logs– keeps the resulting smoke cooler, than if seasoned wood is used. In the case of wood stoves, overloading the firebox with wood in an attempt to get a longer burn time also contributes to creosote buildup.

How Chimney Fires Hurt Chimneys

Masonry Chimneys

When a chimney fire occur in masonry chimney – whether the flue is an older, unlined type or tile lined to meet current safety codes – the high temperatures at which they burn (around 2000°F) can “melt mortar, crack tiles, cause liners to collapse and damage the outer masonry material”. Most often, thermal shock occurs and tiles crack and mortar is displaced, which provides a pathway for flames to reach the combustible wood frame of the house. This event is extremely dangerous, call 911 immediately.

Special Effects on Wood Stoves

Wood stoves are made to contain hot fires. The connector pipes that run from the stove to the chimney are another matter. They cannot withstand the high temperatures produced during a chimney fire and can warp, buckle and even separate from the vibrations created by air turbulence during a fire. If damaged by a chimney fire, they must be replaced.

Nine Signs that You’ve Had a Chimney Fire

Since a chimney, damaged by a chimney fire, can endanger a home and its’ occupants and a chimney fire can occur without anyone being aware of them it’s important to have your chimney regularly inspected by a CSIA Certified Chimney Sweep. Here are the signs that a professional chimney sweep looks for:

- “Puffy” or “honey combed” creosote
- Warped metal of the damper, metal smoke chamber connector pipe or factory-built metal chimney
- Cracked or collapsed flue tiles, or tiles with large chunks missing
- Discolored and/or distorted rain cap
- Heat-damaged TV antenna attached to the chimney
- Creosote flakes and pieces found on the roof or ground
- Roofing material damaged from hot creosote
- Cracks in exterior masonry
- Evidence of smoke escaping through mortar joints of masonry or tile liners

If you think a chimney fire has occurred, call a CSIA Certified Chimney Sweep® for a professional evaluation. If your suspicions are confirmed, a certified sweep will be able to make recommendations about how to bring the system back into compliance with safety standards. Depending on the situation, you might need a few flue tiles replaced, a new liner system installed or an entire chimney rebuilt. Each situation is unique and will dictate its own solution.

Proper Maintenance

Clean chimneys don’t catch fire. Make sure a CSIA Certified Chimney Sweep inspects your solid fuel venting system annually, and cleans and repairs it whenever needed. Your sweep may have other maintenance recommendations depending on how you use your fireplace or stove. CSIA recommends that you call on CSIA Certified Chimney Sweeps, since they are regularly tested on their understanding of the complexities of chimney and venting system. - See more at: www.csia.org/homeowner-resources/the_facts_about_chimney_fires.aspx#sthash.3RZ2JZt6.dpuf

Unruly Houses

Now that school (Bradley) is in session and some of our rental houses become occupied, there may be an occurrence(s) of “unruly” renters. The Uplands has approximately 100 rental houses. Keep in mind, most rental houses in our neighborhood have tenants who are good neighbors and are “well behaved.” Unfortunately, there are some college rentals that have house parties and can be quite loud causing a menace to the neighborhood. Here are some tips if you are bothered my loud college house parties:

1. When you call in, get the specific house address number. This is very important for nuisance calls in the future.
2. You should store the non-emergency police number for Bradley Police in your phone 677-2000. Using this number connects you directly to the police dispatch on campus. Doing this will expedite the procedure more so than dialing 911.
3. If you fear retaliation from a “problem” house, by all means, you may remain anonymous. Just inform the dispatcher not to send a patrol car over to your house. If the officers need to talk to you in person, just plan to meet with them at another location. Perhaps you can drive to the campus police station to discuss your incident.
4. If you have an issue with a “problem” house and don’t want to deal with the Bradley Police, you may then dial 911 for City of Peoria Police. In fact, the Bradley Police and the City Police are partnered and both use the 911 system.

If you have any other specific questions, please call the non-emergency number 677-2000. There is a dispatcher on duty 24 hours a day

YOU’RE INVITED TO A BLOCK PARTY 2nd Annual W PSD Fall Fest

The residents on West Parkside Drive are hosting a block party for all the neighbors who reside in the Uplands. Folks, let’s face it, you deserve this. Let’s put down our electronic devices and relax with your neighbors.

Date: Saturday September 26th, 2015

Where: Intersection of W. Parkside at Institute Pl.

Time: 4pm to 10 pm

We will have W Parkside closed from Glenwood to Elmwood.

Feel free to bring your lawn chairs, games (such as bags), bicycles, tricycles, soccer balls etc.

Food? There will no grills; however, you may want to bring sandwiches, snacks, etc.

Beverages? You may want to bring you own water or favorite beverage, although there will be a keg of cold beer provided. Washroom facilities will be provided. No rain date.

Questions? Contact Burgit Smith burgitpaul@yahoo.com or Dave Bartolo" davebartolo@gmail.com

Annual Picnic

The Uplands Annual Picnic will be held on Saturday, September 12th.

The kids bike parade will be held at 4:30 PM leaving from the corner of Columbia Terrace and Parkside and the picnic will begin at 5 PM in upper Bradley Park.

Bring your favorite sides and/or desserts, we will provide the main course and lots of fun!

We still need volunteers to help with planning, and of course help during the picnic.

If you would like to donate funds to help make this year great please send or drop off money to Treasurer Dustin Draggist, or Picnic Chairperson Desiree Kane.

If you would like to sign up to help on the day of the picnic please contact Desiree Kane at dez.kane@gmail.com.

Some jobs we need filled:

- Burger/dog flippers
- Game assistance
 - bocce balls
 - sack races
 - badminton
- Clean-up crew for the park

It's always fun to get together and see all our neighbors again-don't miss it!

Visit our website:

www.TheUplandsPeoria.com

Email us at:

TheUplandsPeoria@gmail.com

If you have information for *The Uplander*, please contact Brenda O’Russa at 673-2776 or bkorussa@comcast.net

The Uplander is printed by The Print Shop at Peoria Park District.