## A Message From



# Gary Scarpello

## **Upper Dublin Township Ward 3 Commissioner**





Join my email list! email: GScarpelloUD3@comcast.net On Facebook: Commissioner Gary Scarpello Website: GSUD3.com Phone: 215-542-9267

Winter 2018 Issue 11

#### \$800,000 Grant for FWOP

Upper Dublin received an \$800,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF). This follows a \$400,000 grant in 2016 for the Ft. Washington Cross County Trail & Road Diet - Mid Section.

This section of the Road Diet & Trail starts on Delaware Dr. at Commerce Dr, then follows Virginia Dr. to the Rapp Run Culvert which was just replaced. This section is the last of four sections to complete the 2.5-mile regional Cross County Trail through the Ft. Washington Office Park that will be maintained by Montgomery County as one of The Circuit trails. Funding for the other three sections has been secured and construction of the first section has begun along Virginia Dr.

## **UDPD Receives \$27K Underage Drinking** Grant

The Upper Dublin Police Department recently received a \$27,472 PLCB Underage and Dangerous Drinking grant that runs from now through June 2019.

The grant will be used to provide educational awareness on the risks associated with underage and dangerous drinking, purchase two police bicycles, and conduct 38 enforcement details. In addition, the department is contributing \$6,906 in matching funds to conduct an additional 10 enforcement details.

## JES School Zone Lights On at 7:45AM

For all the parents who drop their children off at JES early, I was successful in having the school zone lights come on at 7:45AM instead of 8AM. This should help with drop off and traffic problems

## **Upper Dublin Township Addresses Pensions**

Many municipalities are facing problems fully funding their pension obligations. Upper Dublin Board of Commissioners (BOC) addressed this issue head on by putting \$3,478,654 into the pension fund instead of the Mandatory Minimum Obligation of \$1.48M. This was accomplished through cuts in expenditures and a 2% increase in township taxes to be solely used to pay down our pension obligation. That's a \$22 increase on assessed value of \$195,000.

These actions will lower the expected spike in our pension obligation for 2019. How much it will lower the obligation for 2019 will be determined in 2018 when the pension obligations are re-evaluated.

Our pensions are 70% funded. Our goal is to have our pensions at 90% funded.

No increase in taxes is needed to fund 2018 township expenditures including the purchase and renovation of the new Library building on Virginia Drive. There will be no new hiring of personnel in 2018.

Significant expenditures for 2018:

- 1. FWOP Road Diet/Trail which will be completed in 2018
- 2. Replacement of Turf fields at SPARK. Costs shared 3ways: UDT, UDSD, Youth Sports organizations.

BOC is moving toward defined contribution pension (401K) instead of current defined benefit plan for new hires. We are also looking into changing our pension fund managers.



## **Committee for 520 Virginia Dr. (New Library)**

UD BOC is seeking Township resident volunteers to serve on a Steering Committee that will meet 4-6 times on Thursday evenings to contribute to a master plan for Township assets and facilities. They will make recommendations for the future use of the building at 520 Virginia Dr. (new library) and 801/805 Loch Alsh Ave. (township building). If you are interested in joining the committee please check http://www.upperdublin.net/wpcontent/uploads/2017/12/SteeringCommitteeVolunteerInte restForm-Fillable.pdf

## **Christmas Tree Pickup**

Place trees at curbside. Do not place trees in plastic bags. All decorations and stands must be removed.

Trees will be collected North of Susquehanna Road on January 10, 2018.

Any remaining trees will be collected on Wednesday, January 31, 2018.

\*All Christmas trees are taken to the township compost site.

### Garden Waste Pickup to Begin

Garden waste pickup begins the week of March 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Automatic Vehicle Locations**

Upper Dublin Township was involved in a pilot study for using AVL (automatic vehicle locations) to send the nearest available emergency unit to a priority 1 call. That pilot has resulted in the entire County committing to the same dispatch protocol. This approach will reduce response time by about 2 minutes from the average.

## SNOW & SNOW EMERGENCIES Snow And Ice Removal

Sidewalks must be cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours of the end of a winter storm to allow for safe pedestrian passage and will be enforced by the Upper Dublin Township Police Department.

It is illegal to shovel, plow or blow snow on to a street. To reduce the possibility of damage to your mailbox by the snowplow, check with the Public Works Department to be sure that your mailbox is installed at the proper height and setback from the street.

Remember to shovel snow to the right side of your driveway, facing the road. This will help to reduce the amount of snow pushed back into your driveway during plowing. Questions? Call the Public Works Department at (215) 643-1600 ext. 3233

## **Snow Emergencies Off Street Parking**

The Upper Dublin Police Department requests that during snow emergencies all residents use off-street parking for vehicles.

Residents without off-street parking should follow this schedule:

#### **Even-Numbered Days:**

Parking is permitted on the side of the street with evennumbered houses.

### **Odd-Numbered Days:**

Parking is permitted on the side of the street with oddnumbered houses.

This will be strictly enforced by the Upper Dublin Township Police Department.

#### **Discount Tickets!**

The best kept secret is the Parks and Recs discount tickets to local and national attractions. Drop by to see what destinations are available. Seniors get further discounts.

#### **Senior Discounts!**

Senior residents age 62 and over can pick up their "Seasoned Cardinal Guest Pass" at the township building which will give you discounts to UD activities and discount tickets mentioned above

Join my email list: GScarpelloUD3@comcast.net

Stay in Touch - Your Voice is Important Join in the Discussions. Come to Meetings.

P.O. Box 1182 Ft Washington, PA 19034 Gary Scarpello
Your
Township Commissioner
for Ward 3

### **UPPER DUBLIN**

## Township Ward 3 News

Upper Dublin is a vibrant community because the citizens care about the quality of life here.

- **✓** \$800,000 Grant for FWOP
- **✓** UDPD Receives \$27K Underage Drinking Grant
- ✓ JES School Zone Lights On at 7:45AM
- **✓** Upper Dublin Township Addresses Pensions
- ✓ Committee for 520 Virginia Dr.
- **✓** Christmas Tree Pickup
- ✓ Garden Waste Pickup to Begin March 5th
- **✓** Automatic Vehicle Locations

## Gary Scarpello Ward 3 Commissioner

For more info contact me at: Commissioner Gary Scarpello Upper Dublin Township 801 Loch Alsh Avenue Fort Washington, PA 19034

**Phone**: 215-542-9267



Paid for by Gary Scarpello

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
FT WASHINGTON , PA
PERMIT NO. 526