A Message From



Gary Scarpello

Upper Dublin Township Ward 3 Commissioner





Issue 21

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Spring 2021

Spring is Here! It looks like we made it through the worst of the

pandemic and things are coming back to normal. Yahoo! The Bridge Program

Thanks to Chief Wheatley and the Upper Dublin Police Department, a new mental health service is available to UD residents that will deliver quick and appropriate emergency mental health support. I strongly supported Chief Wheatley and the UDPD working with the Mobile Crisis Unit of Montgomery County to create **The Bridge Program**. Chief Wheatley and his department did a commendable job in fleshing out The Bridge and have provided a workable structure that will ensure coordination of services. The Bridge should benefit our community and look forward to seeing it in action. Upper Dublin Police Community Resources Unit (CRU) provides two crisis services for residents of Upper Dublin: **The Bridge** and **The HUB.** These two programs are described in the link below or read descriptions on the back page of this newsletter.

https://commissionergaryscarpello.net/styled-3/

Traffic Calming

I've received emails from residents about traffic problems in their neighborhoods. To have your traffic issues addressed by the UD Police Community Resources Unit (CRU), please fill out the Traffic Calming Report form here: https://www.upperdublin.net/wp-

content/uploads/2020/09/Form-TrafficConcernReporting-

Fillable-v2.pdf Download the form, fill it out and email it to Sergeant Sanborn at: andrew.sanborn@udpd.us. It is then added to the Traffic Calming Log to be addressed. Traffic Calming Program description:

https://www.upperdublin.net/departments/police/trafficcalming/

2021 UD MEDAL WINNERS!

Citizen: Venessa Noble Good, posthumously

Educator: Danielle DiPasquale

Non-Profit: Monto SAAC Meals on Wheels Peyton Kullmann & Aiden Pullian Students: http://www.udefoundation.org/events/virtual-upper-dublin-medals-program.php

Update Capital Projects

- 1. Aidenn Lair Tennis Courts to be resurfaced beginning mid May to mid August
- Sidewalk construction from the Dreshertown Plaza to JES is ready to go once the 4 remaining properties give the township easement rights to allow the township to enter their properties to put in the sidewalk.
- 3. Zip Ramp from PA turnpike tolls looping into Trumark & Lifetime - inbound traffic only - is funded and in the works. The traffic signal in front of the Best Western is part of this project - construction in 2022
- 4. Twining Valley Park Improvements
 - a. Trail from the Park to Willow Manor Neighborhood via Sunny Willow Swim Club
 - b. Multi-Purpose paved 2.5 miles of trails: Start-Sept.
 - UDT awarded \$200,000 grant for Phase 2. Other grants on the way.
 - d. Opening Dog Park: Summer (Hopefully) Stay Tuned!

New Resident Welcome Pack

Visit the Township building: 801 Loch Alsh Avenue, Fort Washington, PA 19034 (215) 643-1600 to pick up a Residential Welcome Packet containing "Know Your Township" booklet, Public Services Guide, Parks & Recreation Leisure Guide, Community Directory & Map, Library guide, voter registration form, link to UD School District and other useful Township information.

https://www.upperdublin.net/information/residential-welcome-packet/

Willow Manor **Drainage Improvements Project**

On February 24th, UDT Public Works held a Town Hall for Willow Manor Residents. This virtual meeting discussed plans to fix erosion of the storm sewer swale below Maple Ave and survey and study of the entire drainage system from Maple Ave. to North Hills Ave. To read the report: https://www.upperdublin.net/departments/publicworks/will ow-manor-drainage-improvements/

UDT Open Space Plan Update Advisory Group

Upper Dublin Parks & Recreation has created the 2021 UDT Open Space Plan Update Advisory Group (OSAG) made up of residents & resident business owners. The OSAG will assist in the update of UDT Open Space & Environmental Resource Protection Plan. Last updated in 2005, the Plan creates a roadmap for future property acquisition and the prioritization of open space, active & passive parks, riparian corridors and community connectivity (trails, sidewalks & pathways) projects. Follow the progress of the OSAG at the UD Parks & Rec. Department on the UD Township website and their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/UpperDublinParksandRecreation

UD is 2nd Largest Park System in County

UDT has the 2nd largest park system (parks & open space) by acres in Montgomery County, 616 acres. Lower Salford Township is #1 at 734 acres. Lower Salford is about ½ the population of UDT and more rural. UDT is 2nd in number of sites, 38 behind Lower Merion at 39 sites.

The closest comparable community is Horsham Township (569 acres, 26,000 residents). Horsham has 18 sites, while UDT has 38 sites. Horsham has 5.14% of its land as park system while UDT has 7.26% of its land as park system.

The Bridge Program

The Bridge is a community policing based model in which a police department representative consults on a weekly basis with Montgomery Co. Mobile Crisis to address situations involving individuals with mental health needs. This program differs from the HUB (Discussed below), in that cases involving mental health are fast-tracked for quicker response. By working together we are better able to provide needed services in a timely and efficient manner to residents of our community. Any officer may refer a case for inclusion in the Bridge Program. Criteria are: a. Mobile Crisis already responded to the scene. OR b. The officer contacted an individual who might benefit from Mobile Crisis' services, but Mobile Crisis was not yet called to the scene. This includes instances when services were offered but refused. Referrals to the Bridge are made by sending the case information to the CRU supervisors via email. Every case referred to the Bridge must have an Investigative report completed prior to referral, which includes any known hazards expected when contacting the subject. Mobile Crisis conducts their own threat and safety analysis before contacting individuals, and the hazard information in our reports is of vital importance to their operations. The departmental representative will discuss referred cases with Mobile Crisis on a weekly basis and receive feedback on the handling of those cases.

The HUB Program

The **HUB** is a community policing based model in which social service providers from across Montgomery County meet with police to address situations involving at-risk individuals and offer multi-agency intervention and support. Discussions that take place at these meetings involve but are not limited to cases involving domestic abuse, substance abuse and at risk youth. By working together UDPD is better able to provide needed services in a timely and more efficient manner to residents of our community. Cases that should be referred to the CRU for **HUB** assessment are those where the police department is dispatched to the same location or deals with the same person on a frequent basis, but the individual needs more than the services that the police department can provide. If you are aware of such a case, please submit it to the CRU supervisors by email for evaluation. Examples of the resources available are: Montgomery Co. Children and Youth Services, Montgomery Co. Aging and Adult Service, Montgomery Co. Women's Center Laurel House, Montgomery Co. Mobile Crisis, Montgomery Co. Emergency Services.

The **HUB Program** connects at-risk residents quickly with the services that they need, reducing the number of response calls for service. County service agencies use the police department as their eyes and ears, connecting clients who otherwise would be missed.

P.O. Box 1182 Ft Washington, PA 19034

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

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UPPER DUBLIN TOWNSHIP Ward 3 News

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

- ✓ Spring Is Here!
- **✓** The Bridge Program
- **✓** Traffic Calming
- ✓ 2021 UD Medal Winners!
- **✓** Update Capital Projects
- **✓** New Resident Welcome Pack
- **✓** Willow Manor Drainage Project
- **✓** UDT Open Space Advisory Group
- **✓** UDT 2nd Largest Park System in Co.
- **✓** The Bridge Explained
- **✓** The HUB Explained



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Please Join our Email List

There is a lot of news that happens between these Newsletters. To get fast breaking news join my email list by going to:

https://commissionergaryscarpello.net/contact-form/



Paid for by Gary Scarpello