

Upton Association Update

Upton Association
380 Mahoning Avenue
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Warren, Ohio 44482
Phone: 330-395-1840

Mission Statement

To preserve the memory of Harriet Taylor Upton

To provide educational services to the community

To collect and preserve significant materials related to Harriet, the Suffrage movement,
And women who have made an impact on Ohio History.



Thanksgiving is a Federal Holiday in the United States celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. The origins were tied to a 1621 Harvest feast shared by the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag people. Today it is a secular holiday for family gatherings, giving thanks for things like family, health, freedom and reflecting on the year's blessings. Traditional foods included roasted turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie.

President Abraham Lincoln declared it a national holiday in 1863. Thomas Jefferson refused to celebrate the holiday because he believed in "separation between Church and State". The tradition of the presidential turkey pardon began with George H.W. Bush. The first national celebration was declared by George Washington in 1789.

Other Thanksgiving activities include Parades and watching football games.



Halloween at Harriet's Open House

2025

Young man enjoying the
Open House and Displays

From the President by *Susan Stoddart*

We had about 135 people come through the Upton when it was decorated for Halloween. Many had never been there before so we told them about the house and why we saved it from the wrecking ball. It took 4 van loads to get the items to the Upton and that was about 2/3 of my actual decorations. Many of the Board members came to unpack and put the various ghosts, black cats, and witches throughout the parlor, library, dining room and kitchen. When it came time to take it down, we had one day because there was a tour coming the next day. We didn't pack it neatly so I am still trying to match boxes to ornaments and so on and it is Veteran's Day. My husband said, "Please don't do this again!" Next year we will go back to Christmas Open House.

The Approaching Holidays by *Kathy Lepro*

With Thanksgiving and Christmas around the corner, most folks begin to think about celebrating with loved ones. If you can't gather in your own home or in the home of a family member or a friend, there's no better place than Harriet Taylor Upton House with all its beauty and charm!

One family who know this well met there in early November the second year in a row to enjoy an early holiday get-together. They had such a great time last year and decided to plan a date before things get too hectic. Another family is going to be there for Thanksgiving Dinner on November 27th. I trust they'll have turkey and all the trimmings, and more importantly, I hope they'll experience the true happiness of being with each other.

In the first week of December, a young man who owns a small business in the area will host a Christmas party for his employees, some family members and a few close friends. I told him his guests will not be disappointed when they see all the amazing decorations in each room. Two different families who rented the Upton House at Christmas time in 2024 were convinced that it was the perfect place, so they each booked it again for this year. One of those families made their payment a week after last year's party. Now that's planning ahead! In addition to the five holiday gatherings mentioned above, there were, or will be a few showers and birthday celebrations in November and December.

Whatever you plan to do these last two months of 2025, I hope your days and weeks are filled with much joy and many blessings. Happy New Year.



VOLUNTEER REPORT

By Joyce Fleischer

We are deeply grateful to the incredible volunteers who make this place more than a landmark—you make it a living legacy. Come lend your hands and hearts at the Upton House.



Tucked inside a lovingly preserved historic home, our gift shop offers hand-picked vintage gifts each with a story to tell. Don't forget to pop into our shop during your visit. *By Joyce Fleischer*

For those loved ones we lost in 2025

A life well lived is a precious gift, of hope and strength who has made our world a brighter, better place.

It's filled with moments, sweet and sad, with smiles and sometimes tears, with friendships formed and good times shared, and laughter through the years.

A life well lived is a legacy, of joy and pride and pleasure, a living lasting memory our grateful hearts will treasure.



BRICKS

By Diane Williams

What a lovely Christmas gift for someone you love for a brick to be placed at the Women's Park. It would be a lovely tribute.

The cost of a 4x8 brick is \$50.00. The cost of an 8x8 brick is \$100.00.

There are many spaces available for the 4x4 and 8x8. However, there are only 8 spaces left for the 12x12 bricks. Please consider purchasing a brick. The forms are available in this newsletter, in the mailbox at the Park and at the Upton House.

A special thank you to our dedicated installer, Ken Conklin.



Property Report *by Ken Conklin*

The pew pictured below has been donated to the Upton House by the congregation of the First United Church of Christ. After many years, the Church as closed because of declining membership. The pew was used by the ushers on Sunday mornings and it is a wonderful addition to the front hallway of the Upton House. We thank them for this generous donation.

The Upton gardens are going to sleep for the winter and I thank all of those who have worked in the garden this summer to keep Harriet's property in beautiful condition.

The holly bushes in the front of the house (pictured below) are loaded with berries and will be enjoyed by visitors to the House.



Our next newsletter will be sent in January.

On behalf of all our members, we wish you Happy Holidays—enjoy family and loved ones and we will begin 2026 wishing you good health and a wonderful holiday season.



FIRST WEDNESDAY SPEAKERS FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

Janet Weir Creighton presented her program entitled “Dining with the Presidents”, a behind the scenes peek at how state dinners are staged in the White House. Our speaker brought china from different presidents and related stories about their legacies. She worked in the White House for President George W. Bush and attended a State Dinner. The 10:00 program was preceded by refreshments at 9:30. Pictured is Upton’s treasurer Judith Sheridan and speaker Janet Creighton



Alexandra Lausin, pictured left from the International Women’s Air & Space Museum was our November speaker.

During World War II, 102 American women flew as part of the WASP. Women played important, and oftentimes understated roles during the Second World War. This program attendees will enhance their understanding of the vital roles women played during the global conflict. From manufacturing to nursing, to research and other facets of aviation, this shines a light on not only American women’s experiences during the war and aviation, but international connections.

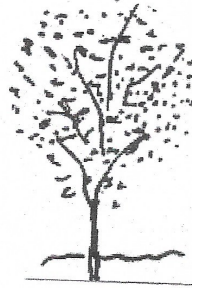
Women’s Park Report *by Marti Flint*

On October 15 the volunteers met to close the Park for the season. At that time the annuals were removed from the beds, flower pots and urn and all the beds were prepared for winter. The biggest job was covering the pond with the net to prevent leaves from filling the pond. This requires many hands to extend the net from one side of the pond to the other without the net falling into the pond. Everything went well and the Park is at rest. Our thanks to all who support and enjoy visiting the Women’s Park throughout the year. We will be decorating for the holidays in late November.

FINAL CHRISTMAS SALE WILL BE NOVEMBER 13, FROM 2 TO 5; 14TH, 9 TO 12 AND 15TH FROM 9 TO NOON. PROCEEDS HELP THE WINTER UTILITY COSTS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

A Lasting Legacy...Purchase A Brick in The Women's Park

Help pave the courtyards and path in The Women's Park with bricks inscribed with the name of women important to you.



Purchaser's Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone and Email: _____

Payment: \$_____. Check payable to Women's Park Fund

Payment for your brick is tax deductible. Any profit from the sale of the brick goes toward the support and maintenance of the park. All bricks are the property of the Upton Association.

GUIDELINES: PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. Only one character is allowed for each block INCLUDING PUNCTUATION AND SPACES. You could describe her with a phrase such as: Extraordinary teacher; Music was her life; Founder of our village; Cherished friend, humorous or sentimental. IF YOU WISH US TO NOTIFY THE HONOREE, LIST NAME AND ADDRESS: _____

4" x 8", 3 lines 14 characters per line; \$50

8" x 8", 6 lines 14 characters per line \$100

12"x 12", 9 lines 17 characters per line \$250

QUESTIONS: PLEASE CALL 330 394 6683 – 330 240 7067

MAIL CHECK AND FORM TO: THE UPTON ASSOCIATION PO BOX 847 WARREN, OHIO 44482