

# UPTON ASSOCIATION *Update*

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## Women's Rights Walkway Event

By Marti Flint

Harriet Taylor Upton was honored at Lake Erie College, Painesville, Ohio, on August 25 with an interpretive sign on the Women's Rights Walkway. The Women's Rights Walkway runs in front of the College Hall to Mentor Avenue. The path is lined with interpretive signs that honor notable LEC alumna and others who paved the way for women today. The other names on the Walkway are Susan B. Anthony, Betsey Mix Cowles, Florence Ellinwood Allen, and Ellen Spencer Mussey.

This started as a project for the Centennial Suffrage Celebration and the first dedication was in 2021. The Upton appreciates the honor received and thanks Judge Mary Jane Trapp who brought this project to us, Lake Erie College, and the organizations and individuals who raised the funds to make this happen.



*Pictured above from left are Marti Flint, Esther Gartland, Sue Smith, and Sandy Mahaffey.*

## FROM THE PRESIDENT: Upton Continues to Flourish

By Marti Flint

So many great things have happened since the last newsletter. Our spring open house talks were a great success with many guests in attendance at each one. The summer open house programs were well received and many enjoyed tours of the house as well as the wonderful displays. June saw the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Women's Park with many friends of the Park attending and Mayor Doug Franklin presenting the Upton with a proclamation. The house and gardens were enjoyed by many as they attended

showers, weddings, and parties. On August 25, Harriet was honored at Lake Erie College. Many proud members of the Upton were in attendance to participate in the ceremony. Equality Day was another special event as the community celebrated the 103 years of the passage of the 19th Amendment. This truly is a wonderful organization in which to be involved. I look forward to the fall "on the road" programs and seeing many of you.



# Rental Report: *Formal & Fun Events at Upton!*

*By Kathy Lepro*

In keeping with the norm, most of the rental events at the Upton House since the last newsletter have been showers. One, in particular, honored a beautiful bride-to-be on a warm summer evening under a tent with a catered meal, colorful fresh flowers, and white linen table coverings. The guest of honor received many lovely gifts at this truly elegant and delightful gathering.

The summer also featured two unique birthday parties. The first one celebrated a young man who turned 18. When I showed the Upton House to him along with some of his family and asked why this site was chosen, the response was, “Nicholas has always loved history and older things.” When Nicholas’s special day arrived and he came for the key, I opened the door to find him dressed in a top hat and tails. At the conclusion of the party when the key was returned, he said that everyone had a great time and many of his friends were also in formal outfits, though not quite as elaborate as his.

A few weeks later, a lovely young lady rented Harriet’s beautiful home for her sweet 16 birthday.

Like Nicholas, Skylar loves history and older things. She and her Guests wore vintage apparel, aligned somewhat to the décor of her chosen venue. Both young adults’ celebrations were certainly different from the usual teen parties, and yet both were lots of fun.

Toward the end of the summer, a professional woman’s group from Ultium Cell Battery Plant in Lordstown met for an afternoon tea and comradery to recognize executive women in the workplace. While theirs was not a lavish banquet, it certainly had a touch of class. A couples’ group decided to do something different for their annual holiday party this time. They will gather in mid-December at the beautifully decorated House at 380 Mahoning Avenue for a Victorian-themed Christmas party, and they’ll all be dressed in appropriate attire. The ladies will tell their husbands, “Formal can be fun.”

North Mar Church’s 5th grade girls’ tea is already confirmed for April of 2024. This yearly spring event always emphasizes good manners and proper etiquette. Also, for 2024, there are reserved dates for one bridal shower and two weddings. I wonder what those will be like. Time will tell.

Whether very formal, extremely casual, or somewhere in between, all events at the Upton House are memorable. I’d be more than happy to initiate the plans for you.



*Top left: Skylar’s 16th Birthday Celebration*



*Top right: Emily’s Bridal Shower*

*At right: Nicholas’ 18th Birthday Celebration*



# House Report

*By Ken Conklin*

Harriet's home continues to keep us busy and out of trouble. The furnace that heats and cools the Library, Parlor, and Dining Room decided to quit working. Parts are no longer available for the furnaces. Phillips Heating was contacted and a new furnace and air conditioning unit has been installed at a cost of \$11,500. The house has four units and the unit that serves the back portion of the downstairs will not make it through the winter. This too will have to be replaced probably sometime in October/November.

The front porch pillar bases were badly rotted. Three out of four bases have been replaced and by Spring of next year, the last one will be replaced.

A portion of the decorative fence by the lower terrace was damaged and the panel needs to be replaced. Hopefully, this can be accomplished this Fall after the poison ivy dies. Spraying has begun to kill the ivy along with other unneeded growth on the fence.

Harriet is very nice but demands that her home be kept in good shape!

# UPTON PROGRAMS REACH NEW AUDIENCES

*By Judi Sheridan*

The 3 Spring First Wednesday programs drew large audiences. Especially popular was Liz Clark's talk on Martha Custis Washington, the first First Lady. The May luncheon speaker Anita Benedetti gave us new insights into the life of Lucretia Garfield. James was not the person we thought he was! The Sunday Summer Open Houses were also popular and the artisan Sunday that hosted lacemakers, weaving, rug braiding, and quilting was popular with many visitors.

The Sunday music program was followed by a light supper and fellowship. On September 6, the Upton House hit the road and toured the home of Chris and Diana Klingemier, whose vast collection of American antiques and local clocks impressed us all. The October 4 program will be a tour of the Barnhisel House in Girard. It is the home of the Girard Historical Society. The November 1 road trip will be to the Charles Brown Gothic Cottage in North Bloomfield. It is one of the most unusual residences still in original condition in Trumbull County from the 1840 period. Come and see it and learn about its history from Roger Peterson Jr., its owner. Look for details in an email closer to the program.

## Membership Report

*By Sandy Mahaffey*

Unfortunately, our membership drive did not reach 100% this year. The Board wishes to thank all who joined and rejoined our Association. Your membership enables us to keep Harriet's home alive and well. Our budget for the year includes maintenance and high utilities. We have applied for grants to help purchase new furnaces that are needed. Up to now, we have had no response to those grants. Please encourage your friends to join. Every member counts. Thank you for your participation and I know Harriet thanks you also.

## Visit the Upton Gift Shop

*By Joyce Fleischer*

Visit the gift shop the next time you're at the Upton. We have books by Harriet Taylor Upton, Postcards, coasters and other items as well. The bricks that will be inscribed and installed at the Women's Park make a timeless gift that celebrates life. The form to purchase a brick can be found on the Upton House website and in this issue of the newsletter for your convenience.

## Volunteers Needed

*By Joyce Fleischer*

I firmly believe that volunteering is good for our society and brings communities together. It is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in your local community, to meet new people and to gain a sense of pride and achievement. Give a little time and make a big impact! You can contact me at 330-974-2114 or speak to any Board member about volunteering.

*Visit our website for the latest updates:*  
**[www.uptonhouse.org](http://www.uptonhouse.org)**



# Fall 2023 Garden Report: Change is Coming

*By Marti Flint*

Harriet's Garden has been a focal point on Mahoning Avenue for many years. The variety of plants, both perennials and annuals, have intrigued visitors and made the garden a delight to see. Our volunteers have maintained each section by planting, trimming and weeding many hours each week to make the entire garden a show place in Warren. During the year many of the guests marvel at the tranquil and relaxing feeling they get as they enjoy this space. The garden had tree damage during the summer storms and then had to have a few trees leaning over the neighbor's property removed. We always hate to remove trees but it will be better for the garden in the future. The front of the house has a new look, a lovely Victorian urn has been donated by Ken and Elaine Conklin to honor their grandchildren. This is a new look that is drawing much attention as you walk by the house.



## WOMEN'S PARK UPDATE

*By Marti Flint*

The Women's Park is again in the spotlight celebrating 20 years since ground was broken in March 2003 and dedicated in June 2003. The idea for the Women's Park came from the Upton Board of Directors led by Curator Lana Eisenbraun. The Park was intended to honor women from past and present as a gift to the city of Warren and Trumbull County in celebration of Ohio's Bicentennial.

Through fund-raising efforts headed by Kay Fisher, money was donated from area businesses, organizations, and individuals. Sue Herman implemented the plans for the Park and oversaw its development and expansion for several years. In 2008, the statue to represent all women was installed.

Although the Park is city property, the Upton Association finances the Park through fund-raisers and wonderful community support. Park Chairman, Marti Flint organizes the dedicated volunteers who plant, weed, and water the flowers, maintain the lily pond and care for the fish.

In 2022, the beautiful water feature was upgraded. Ken Conklin replaced hundreds of newly engraved bricks through the past several years.

The Park was honored on June 25 as Mayor Franklin and about forty other friends met to celebrate and enjoy the surroundings. Mayor Franklin said, "This Park is truly one of the city's best gifts. It is a park that celebrates women."

*It's the Perfect  
Time of Year to  
Purchase a Brick!*

*By Ken Conklin*

Bricks continue to be installed in the Women's Park. Turn around time for new bricks is two weeks for installation. The bricks are purchased in memory/honor of women who have been very important to people in their lives. The woman does not have to be from Trumbull County.

All women can be honored with a brick: 12 x 12 bricks are \$250; 8 x 8 bricks are \$100; 4 x 8 bricks are \$50. It is very enjoyable to walk through the Park and come across a name that is familiar and brings back fond memories.

*Please consider purchasing  
a brick to honor a woman  
in your life.*

# Women's Equality Day Focuses on Education

By Marti Flint

We had beautiful weather for our 103rd celebration of the signing of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote. Our topic this year was education. Our speaker was Velina J. Taylor, Superintendent of Lakeview Schools and she stressed the importance of education for our young men and women who are our future. Music was provided by Bonnie Hood and Martha Yoder. Martha sang a solo and also asked the audience to join in our National Anthem.



*Pictured from left are Sandy Mahaffey, Sue Smith, Esther Gartland, Marti Flint, Peggy Boyd*

Our special recognition this year was our Mayor, Doug Franklin. Doug has been so supportive of all of the Women's Organizations in Trumbull County. It was an honor to present him this award. Refreshments were served at the Upton House after the event.

This yearly event is sponsored by the following 5 organizations: League of Women Voters of Trumbull County, Harriet Taylor Upton Association, Warren Civic League, GFWC Ohio Warren Junior Women's League and GFWC Warren City Federation of Women's Clubs.



*At left are Marti Flint, President Upton Association; Doug Franklin, Mayor of Warren; and Sandy Mahaffey, Past President of the Upton Association*

## Summer Garage Sale Recap; Holiday Sale Up Next!

By Judi Sheridan

As usual we had a wonderful sale in July making \$1,045 with one \$50 bike and most everything else \$5 or less. We had great volunteer helpers all week from set up to take down. There were 2 no-shows but a lot of other folks showed up to help without being signed up.

Looking ahead to the Christmas/Holiday Sale, the plan is to move and unpack boxes on Monday, November 13, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and then arrange items on Tuesday, November 14, from 12-3 p.m. We will take Wednesday off since it is Town Hall. The Thursday preview has been successful so we will open from 3-6 p.m. on November 16. Friday hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Workers who come on sale days need to come a half hour before the sale starts. That would be 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, 8:30 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. We need to get organized and have someone from Upton in every room before we let the buyers in. Thanks to all who donated items or their time to any of our sales.





## ‘BARBIE’: INSPIRING WOMEN #4

**ELEANOR ROOSEVELT**  
(1884-1962)  
**FIRST LADY & ACTIVIST**

*By Sandra Sarsany*

Anna Eleanor Roosevelt was the longest serving first lady of the United States, a United Nations (UN) spokeswoman and an activist who worked tirelessly in advancing human rights. She wrote her own daily news column on equality for women in journalism. She held press conferences for women reporters only. She served on the board of the NAACP and the Congress of Racial Equality. She went on to be appointed to the UN General Assembly where she worked to draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which was ratified in 1945.

## Upton Dues to Increase

*By Judi Sheridan*

The Board of Directors voted at the September 2023 meeting to increase the basic membership dues to \$30. This will go into effect in January 2024. This is the first increase since the beginning of the Association. All other categories will remain the same.

## America at 250!

*By Judi Sheridan*

The United States will be celebrating the 250th anniversary of its founding in 2026. Ohio has already created a commission that is headquartered in Columbus. This group will offer support for statewide programs and keep a calendar of events. The celebration will be held during 2025 with the finale on July 4th, 2026. The Upton Association is already beginning to consider ideas to make this time special. Do you remember the Bicentennial in 1976?



*This antique iron urn was purchased by Ken and Elaine Conklin in honor of the four grandchildren: Jacob, Carter, Cassidy and Tanner. The urn has been placed in front of the Upton House. It is bolted to a very heavy stone base and is adorned with Victorian figures on all sides.*

# 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 names of women important to you...and leave a lasting legacy in their honor.*

*She was an early settler, a pioneer, an immigrant.  
She was grandmother, teacher, mentor.  
She is mother, sister, daughter, partner, friend.  
Whether she lived her whole life here or never visited,  
If she was important in your life,  
You can honor and celebrate her life and all the lives of the women you love.*



Purchaser's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: (         ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment: Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 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. The Upton Association wishes to thank you for your participation.*

Guidelines: PLEASE PRINT! 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 to all. Humorous or sentimental, use this opportunity to celebrate her life. 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? Contact Linda Davis at (330) 240-4668 or [kewpish1@yahoo.com](mailto:kewpish1@yahoo.com).**

**Please mail completed form with payment to:**

**Harriet Taylor Upton Association, PO Box 847, Warren, OH 44482-0847**



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WARREN, OHIO 44483

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