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# Uplake Update

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## Board Bulletin

We are enjoying a special summer with lots of sun. Will we pay for it in a wet, cold winter? We hope not.

While we love the new stoplight, we have had some issues to fix before we can replant the garden at the 60<sup>th</sup> street entrance. Thanks to **Don Beaty** and his helpers for redoing our watering system there. Watch for new landscaping this fall. Don has put in many hours of work on both entrances keeping our aging systems operational.

Homes listed for sale in Uplake have sold quickly, proving again that we are an attractive neighborhood for newcomers. Be sure to welcome the new owners.

Your UNA board is taking August off with no board meeting scheduled, but join us in September for our monthly meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Aqua Club.

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## New Residents

Welcome to three new families who have purchased homes in Uplake. **Flavius and Aurica Cuc** bought a home on NE 180<sup>th</sup>. They moved here from Lynnwood and have two pre school children. Already the Cucs have put a new roof on the home and are busy making other renovations.

**Shammara and Alfredo Estrada** bought a home on 60<sup>th</sup> PI NE. They moved here from their previous home in the Northgate area and are anxious to become involved in the neighborhood. They also have two pre school children.

**Vicky Miecznikowski and Chad Su** have purchased a home on 60<sup>th</sup> NE. They are doing some remodeling and updating. Vicky lived in Mill Creek before moving to Uplake, but she was raised in upstate New York. Chad moved here from Bellevue, via Vancouver BC, Singapore, and China. Vicki's parents, who now live in New Mexico, plan to join them in the home.

## Kenmore's Fireworks

We have the best seat in the house for the annual Kenmore fireworks show. The word is out that you can come to Uplake and see the beautiful show put on by the City of Kenmore. Cars were parked all over the area and the hill on 57<sup>th</sup> NE was filled with blankets and lawn chairs. The show was better than ever this year.

Thank you, Kenmore. It sure beats fighting the traffic into and out of Seattle.



## Entrances

Do to hard work on the part of **Don Beaty, Craig Hopkins and Dave Utela** we have been able to repair the watering system at the NE 61<sup>st</sup> St. entrance. It has been decided that since it is so warm this summer that planting will be delayed until the fall when the rains can help new shrubs get a good start. Our hope is to have the entrance be as colorful as the plantings on the south side of the street.

The lighting at main entrance on NE 60<sup>th</sup> St. is in the process of being repaired. The 50 year old wiring is being replaced with a low voltage system. **Steve Knapp**, with help from **Lincoln Wilkes**, are working on this project.

## Uplake's Honey do List

This would be a good time to inspect the outside of your house, and also check around your yard to make sure everything looks normal and does not need repair. For example, how are your fence gates working? How is the paint on your house? Any blisters or cracks exposing the wood or siding underneath? You don't want winter rains getting past the paint into your siding where it can cause mold and rot. A little caulking and paint now can save you hundreds of dollars later. Do your gutters look solid and clean?

Is there any evidence of water leaking from your supply line, which runs from your water meter by the street up to your house? There should not be any standing water in your yard this time of year. Another way to test for leaks is to turn off all your water inside the house, (you can do this by turning off your main water valve in the house). Then go check your water meter and see if any water is flowing through your meter. If it is, then you may have a leak in the line between your meter and your house. If so, time to call a plumber! Many of the houses in Uplake still have their original water lines which were installed 50 plus years ago and may be in need of attention. We have heard of more than one underground water line in Uplake rupturing from rust and age. It's obviously better to find and repair a small leak than wait until a major flood erupts under your lawn, in the middle of winter.

This would also be a good time to clean the filter and vent hoses for your clothes dryer. A significant number of house fires are caused by dirty dryer filters and venting hoses filling up with lint, which is highly flammable. If you haven't cleaned yours for a while, you or your favorite handyperson should take care of that. It shouldn't take too long and it will make your home safer. It will probably also make your clothes dry a little quicker, too, by increasing the air flow out of your dryer. Make sure your dryer vents to the outside, too, and not just into a wall or into an inside room where it can cause all kinds of problems, including mold.

## Doing a Rain Dance Any Time Soon?

Our yards are brown. So much for living in the green northwest. In fact, you do need to water your shrubs or they will die. Lawns do recover after several good rains in the fall, but stressed out shrubs will never fully recover and will not be around next spring.

## Hot Dogs and Cats

Make sure your pets have plenty of fresh drinking water available. During summer, when it's usually dry and our pets are often outside more, they need plenty of water to keep from getting dehydrated (just like we do!)

## Man Going Door to Door

There was a situation in June, which has occurred before, of a person going through the neighborhood asking for money, trying to borrow money, asking for work, or to borrow tools. Some neighbors have told us that if they gave him money, he would come back for more money, even several times a day. Neighbors who have hired him have reported that he frequently fails to finish the work or to return tools. We understand that he is a man in his 50's who claims to be married to someone in the neighborhood.

As with anyone you don't know personally, who comes to your door, be cautious and use your common sense and good judgment before giving out money, tools or anything else. Asking for, and checking references is always a good idea before engaging in any business dealings with a person you don't know.

## The Stoplight and Walkway

Is your head still on a swivel? As you stop at the intersection of 61<sup>st</sup> NE and NE 181<sup>st</sup>, it is hard to get over the habit of looking each way about 3-4 times before you cross the street. Kenmore has now added "No Parking" signs on the south side of NE 181<sup>st</sup>. There is now a safe place to walk and it also protects the fence from cars hitting it as they parked.

The north side of NE 181<sup>st</sup> has a four hour parking limit. Cars are being parked there longer than four hours. Drivers have been observed turning right off 61<sup>st</sup> NE, parking there, and then going to the bus stop on Bothell Way. If you know of anyone who is using this area as a park and ride, warn them that the City of Kenmore may ticket the cars.

## Smoke Gets in our Eyes and Nose!

A few neighbors have reported that there is a noxious smell like burning garbage on some evenings. It always happens late in the evening. This has been occurring off and on even over a period of years. It is not anything coming from the plant down on the lake. It definitely smells like someone is burning trash in their fireplace or a burn barrel, which is illegal. With windows open on warm evenings it is more apparent in the summer. It does make sleeping on warm nights unpleasant. Do others smell this? Does it depend on which way the wind is blowing? Does anyone know who is burning? Is it from Uplake or someone in Lake Forest Park? Help us solve this mystery!

Also remember your neighbors when you have an outdoor bonfire on these warm evenings. Try to douse the fire before bedtime for neighbors.

## Good News in the Neighborhood

**Matt and Michelle Clasen** welcomed a baby girl, Quinn, in April. Quinn joins an older sibling.

**Jason and Christy Terpsma** welcomed baby Alex who was born in March.

**Joel Gunderson** is now with a company selling security and alarm systems.

**Meaghan McCloskey**, daughter of Mike and Laurie McCloskey, graduated from the University of Idaho in May (Business Marketing) and is working for the Spokane Indians Baseball Club. She swam all four years for the Vandals and was team captain her senior year.

**Claire McCloskey**, also daughter of Mike and Laurie, graduated from Archbishop Murphy High School in June and will be attending St. Martin's University in Olympia this fall. She is currently an assistant coach at Aqua Club and enjoying her 14th season as a swimmer for the club.

## Pretty Yards and Houses and Those Not So Pretty

Thank you to those neighbors who tried to keep some color in their yards this summer. The **Robinson** home has its beautiful annual display of hydrangeas. The **Kabouls** have worked hard to keep their yard attractive. **Bernice and Warren Quinn** seem to be always working in their yard. **Alberdas** have a colorful display in their front yard and the **Clasen's** yard always looks so neat and tidy. **Sanford's** and **Gross's** yards also have lots of summer color.

The **Ryan** home and **Walls/Coburn** home sport new paint. Several families have now installed solar panels on their roofs.

There are a few homes whose yards have become overgrown and unkept. If you are an owner who is renting out your home, make sure the yard remains looking good in your absence. If you live near someone whose yard could use some tender loving care and you are aware that they are having trouble keeping up with the work, let the board know. Tall dry grass and dead shrubs are fire hazards. Perhaps help can be arranged to give those in need a hand. Don't let the blackberries win!

## Aqua Club's Successful Season

Aqua Club had another very successful season. With 269 swimmers on the team, they won all of their dual meets again for the 11<sup>th</sup> year. The team also won the Northern Division beating the 2<sup>nd</sup> place team by 121 points. The Seattle Summer Swim League championship meet was very exciting this year as Aqua Club was edged out of first place by 8 points. Many neighborhood children swim for the team coached by area resident, Matt Edwards, and assisted by many other coaches including Uplake resident, Jayme Swalin.

## Wild Animals in our Neighborhood

The deer are back after a two-year absence. A five-point buck and a doe have been seen in yards all over the lower part of Uplake. Others have seen our resident quail. The raccoons never left and the crows are around all the time!

Raccoons are pests. They dig holes in lawns looking for grubs and carry rabies. Don't encourage them by feeding them even though many think they look cute eating with their little paws.

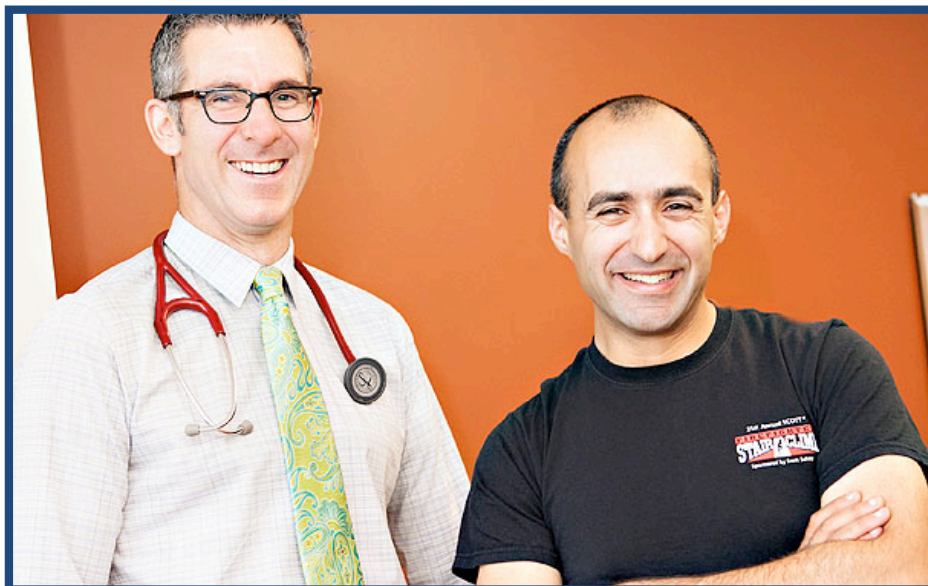
Unfortunately rats are an ever present problem in every neighborhood. Pick up after your pets and don't leave pet food outside. Trapping is the most effective. If you are using rat poison make sure other animals don't get into it. Unfortunately if you do use poison the rats go off to die in someone else's yard.

## A "Happy Ending" Story

Have you ever had a cold that just didn't go away? Well **Ray Sayah**, son of **Ray and Nawal Sayah** of Uplake, had that experience a year ago. Ray, who grew up in the neighborhood, had a Northshore Citizen paper route, went to Bishop Blanchet High School and UW, is a Monroe firefighter and EMT.

Ray was in fantastic physical condition, but could not shake the cold and began to be a shadow of his former self with no energy and a horrible cough. Finally, he sought medical attention and was diagnosed with pericarditis which had constricted his heart. After immediate surgery at UW Medical Center to remove a small rectangle of the tissue around his heart, his heart was able to beat freely and he is back climbing mountains again.

After his recovery he was featured in an article in the Northwest Hospital newsletter. While this is a rare condition, it is caused by the same viruses that cause the common cold. Take your health seriously!



## New Dues Payers

We listed 90 residents who had paid their 2013-2014 dues in the last newsletter. Here are 41 more who have paid since then.

Adams, Ahern, P. Allen, Ballard, Carroll, Clasen, Collins, Conrad, Coombs, Daniels, Donahue, Eiford, Fledheger, Fu, Garrett, Glavin, Grivas, Hagen, Hansen, Hunter, Jensen, Kaboul, Kralik, Lai, R and C Madayag, S and O Madayag, Matthews, McCloskey, Montgomery, Newman, Raiford, Richards, Russell, Sayah, Schomaker, Vermillion, Wang, Wedlund, D and P Williams, Wolf, Yushan

## Dues are Payable

**This year's dues are \$60, an increase of \$10.** Dues have not been raised for about 12 years and expenses have increased. Our postage and water, electricity, landscaping and maintenance for the entrance have increased. We have also added social events like the Wine Tasting and Easter Egg Hunt. In addition our electrical system at the 60<sup>th</sup> St entrance needs major repairs as it is decades old. If even more residents pay their dues we won't have to consider increasing them for another 12 years!

If you have questions call treasurer Evie Williams at 425-486-7113.

Mail your \$60 check to UNA, P.O Box 82644, Kenmore, WA 98028.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_