

# THE LONG HAUL

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Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The Democratic Party in Upper Darby is on the move! Recently, I was honored to be selected as Chairman of the Upper Darby Democratic Committee. I am pleased to report that I will have the privilege of chairing an organization that has grown in numbers, strength and effectiveness over the last several years.

The strength of our party in Upper Darby, however, has very little to do with leaders or officers. It has everything to do with the people of Upper Darby who are working every day to make our community a better place to live.

Through the grassroots efforts of members of our committee, the Democratic Party is proud to have brought single stream recycling to Upper Darby. Further, members of our committee worked to preserve open space in the Township by taking on the all Republican Council in their effort to re-zone two of the last parcels of undeveloped land in Upper Darby

Unfortunately, with the current one party, Republican government managing our Township, taxes have continued to rise while services have continued to deteriorate. The Democratic Party looks forward to waging vigorous campaigns for local and county offices in our effort to return the values of true democracy and transparent government to our home town.

It's time to put an end to one party politics in Upper Darby! It's time to put an end to the abuses of government such as patronage and pay-to-play politics. It's time to stand up and make our voices heard in local government.

If you would like to get involved with us in the important work ahead, please contact us at [info@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:info@upperdarbydems.com). Everyone is welcomed, and we look forward to meeting with you and working with you as we go forward.

Very truly yours,  
Ed Bradley, Chairman

## CONTACT US

Upper Darby Democrats  
[info@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:info@upperdarbydems.com)  
610-716-5196

*The UDDC elected new district leaders who will work to energize their neighborhood residents. UD Township is divided into 7 districts with about 11,000+ residents in each. District Leaders form the backbone of our organization. If you would like to work with the Committee on local issues, volunteer on 2010 campaigns, or are unsure of what precinct you live in, please contact us at:  
[info@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:info@upperdarbydems.com)*

### District 1

Bob Cassidy, 610-931-7967  
[district1@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:district1@upperdarbydems.com)

### District 2

Matt Silva, 610-662-9244  
[district2@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:district2@upperdarbydems.com)

### District 3

Dave Schwartz, 484-431-0902  
[district3@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:district3@upperdarbydems.com)

### District 4

Lana Riley-Brown  
610-938-2227  
[district4@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:district4@upperdarbydems.com)

### District 5

Bob Gwin, 610-352-9358  
[district5@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:district5@upperdarbydems.com)

### District 6

Cynthia Jackson,  
610-626-4176  
[district6@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:district6@upperdarbydems.com)

### District 7

Mary Battle, 610-259-5761  
[district7@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:district7@upperdarbydems.com)

We meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30pm at Watkins Senior Center in Upper Darby. All are welcome!

## REPUBLICAN MACHINE PLAYING POLITICAL GAMES IN THE 164TH DISTRICT

Despite calls to honor his campaign promise and resign from his State Representative seat after being sworn into his new position on County Council, Republican Mario Civera, now working on his third taxpayer-funded pension, waited until April 30 to step down, negating the chances of an election for that seat in on Primary Day in May. The 164<sup>th</sup> District, comprised of sections of Upper Darby, Drexel Hill, Millbourne and East Lansdowne, has had no voice in Harrisburg since the end of April and will have none until mid-January 2011.

Citing his desire for "a level playing field" (Delco Times, 4/19/10), he cynically

waited until past the 60-day deadline to prevent an election to fill out his last term. A "level playing field" here in Upper Darby is one where Township and County employees have the day off to vote and to work the polls. Taxpayers fund these election holidays twice a year while receiving no trash or recycling pick-ups among other services. Delaware County is the only county government in the five-county area which closes its courthouse on election days.

It seems that the top priority for the controlling Republicans is to maintain their power as they see fit rather than to allow the residents of the 164<sup>th</sup> a voice for ten months.

## Help Wanted in Upper Darby? *DEMOCRATS Need Not Apply*

### IT'S THE "FRIENDS AND FAMILY PLAN" HERE

This from a recent budget hearing for the School District:  
"Regarding the hiring practice [of a Council member to a security guard position] Gordon (School Board President) countered that one party runs the township and the district.... "We hire our own"."

-*News of Delaware County, 6/9/10*

## VOTE DEMOCRATIC IN NOVEMBER

### US Senate:

Joe Sestak, [www.joesestak.com](http://www.joesestak.com), 610-891-8956

### US Representative, 7<sup>th</sup> District:

Bryan Lentz, [www.votelentz.com](http://www.votelentz.com), 610-328-0070

### State Senate, 26<sup>th</sup> District:

Mike Farrell, [www.farrellforsenate.com](http://www.farrellforsenate.com), 610-931-5100

### State Representative, 163<sup>rd</sup> District:

Shannon Meehan, [www.shannonmeehan.com](http://www.shannonmeehan.com),  
215-817-3312

### State Representative, 164<sup>th</sup> District:

Margo Davidson, [www.votemargo.com](http://www.votemargo.com), 610-348-1363

### DID YOU KNOW?

None of our current School Board Directors and only three out of eleven Council Members has offered email addresses so Township residents can contact them. What's the likelihood they actually want to hear from us?

## Sweep Crime Away in the 7th District

by: Dana Luter, 7th District Resident

We are seeking the support and assistance of all residents, homeowners, businesses, and township officials in cleaning and enhancing our shared community.

'Broken Windows', a theory introduced in 1982 by Harvard political scientist James W. Wilson and criminologist George L. Kelling, suggests that "a disorderly environment sends a message that no one is in charge, thus increasing fear, weakening community controls, and inviting criminal behavior" (Johnson, 2009).

More specifically, the 7th district of our township possesses a high number of residential properties, commercial properties, and traffic volume which places it in desperate need of consistent attention and proper maintenance. Recently, a 7th district committee member has been actively working in conjunction with township officials to address this important concern. Our township currently has two street- sweeping trucks. **However, there is no official schedule available for distribution yet.** Therefore, the goal is to educate the business owners and residents when the sweepers are scheduled for each 7th district block until an official schedule is released. This may appear to be just a small step towards public safety, but in addition to increasing the appeal of properties for owners and community members, the implications of these actions can improve our community's overall well-being.

### Reference:

Johnson, C.Y. (2009). *Breakthrough on 'broken windows'*. *Boston Globe*.

### ANSWER TO LAST ISSUE'S POP QUIZ

*When was the last time the Republican-controlled Township Council DID NOT raise your taxes?*

Taxpayers Organized for Better Government, a community group active through much of the nineties, raised such a clamor at Council meetings that in **1996 taxes held firm**. The rate was held at 173.76 mills. The \$800,000 increase in the budget that year was mostly covered by the reserve fund (*Philadelphia Inquirer, 10/6/1995*).

*NEW Question:* In what year was the last non-Republican voted onto Township Council? E-mail your guess to [info@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:info@upperdarbydems.com) for a chance to win!

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

**School Board**, 7:30pm at Upper Darby High School  
-August 10, September 14, October 12

**Township Council**, 7:30pm at the Municipal Building,  
100 Garrett Road.  
-July 21, August 4 & 18, September 1 & 15, October 6, 13 & 20. To speak at the public forum sign in by 7:25pm.

**Zoning Hearing Board**, 7:00 at the Municipal Building  
-August 26, September 23, October 28

The Long Haul is printed in-house and distributed by volunteers. If you would like to help with distribution please contact us at [info@upperdarbydems.com](mailto:info@upperdarbydems.com) or 610-716-5196. Donations payable to "Upper Darby Democratic Committee" may be mailed to: Upper Darby Democrats; P.O.Box 2586; Upper Darby, PA 19082.