

**Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**

**2017**

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

▶ Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990EZ](http://www.irs.gov/Form990EZ) for instructions and the latest information.

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**A** For the 2017 calendar year, or tax year beginning , 2017, and ending , 20

<b>B</b> Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Final return/terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	<b>C</b> Name of organization Upper Fell's Point Improvement Association		<b>D</b> Employer identification number 52-1945861
	Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite PO Box 38315		<b>E</b> Telephone number 410-276-5154
	City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code Baltimore MD 21231-8315		<b>F</b> Group Exemption Number ▶

**G** Accounting Method:  Cash  Accrual Other (specify) ▶

**I** Website: ▶ [www.upperfellspoint.org](http://www.upperfellspoint.org)

**J** Tax-exempt status (check only one) -  501(c)(3)  501(c) ( ) ◀ (insert no.)  4947(a)(1) or  527

**K** Form of organization:  Corporation  Trust  Association  Other

**L** Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . . ▶ \$ 17130

**Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances** (see the instructions for Part I)  
 Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I . . . . .

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>1</b> Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received . . . . .	<b>1</b>	12,825
	<b>2</b> Program service revenue including government fees and contracts . . . . .	<b>2</b>	3,680
	<b>3</b> Membership dues and assessments . . . . .	<b>3</b>	0
	<b>4</b> Investment income . . . . .	<b>4</b>	0
	<b>5a</b> Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory . . . . .	<b>5a</b>	0
	<b>b</b> Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses . . . . .	<b>5b</b>	0
	<b>c</b> Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a) . . . . .	<b>5c</b>	0
	<b>6</b> Gaming and fundraising events		
	<b>a</b> Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000) . . . . .	<b>6a</b>	625
<b>b</b> Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 0 of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000) . . . . .	<b>6b</b>	0	
<b>c</b> Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events . . . . .	<b>6c</b>	313	
<b>d</b> Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c) . . . . .	<b>6d</b>	312	
<b>7a</b> Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . .	<b>7a</b>	0	
<b>b</b> Less: cost of goods sold . . . . .	<b>7b</b>	0	
<b>c</b> Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a) . . . . .	<b>7c</b>	0	
<b>8</b> Other revenue (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .	<b>8</b>	0	
<b>9 Total revenue.</b> Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8 . . . . . ▶	<b>9</b>	16,817	
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>10</b> Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O) . . . . .	<b>10</b>	4,434
	<b>11</b> Benefits paid to or for members . . . . .	<b>11</b>	0
	<b>12</b> Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits . . . . .	<b>12</b>	0
	<b>13</b> Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors . . . . .	<b>13</b>	0
	<b>14</b> Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance . . . . .	<b>14</b>	0
	<b>15</b> Printing, publications, postage, and shipping . . . . .	<b>15</b>	3,945
	<b>16</b> Other expenses (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .	<b>16</b>	4,165
	<b>17 Total expenses.</b> Add lines 10 through 16 . . . . . ▶	<b>17</b>	12,544
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>18</b> Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9) . . . . .	<b>18</b>	4,273
	<b>19</b> Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return) . . . . .	<b>19</b>	3,884
	<b>20</b> Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O) . . . . .	<b>20</b>	0
	<b>21</b> Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20 . . . . . ▶	<b>21</b>	8,157



Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions) . . . . .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
35a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)? . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	If "Yes" to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O . . . . .		
35c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions ▶ <b>37a</b> _____		
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year? . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return? . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved . . . . . <b>38b</b> _____		
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 . . . . . <b>39a</b> _____		
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities . . . . . <b>39b</b> _____		
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 ▶ _____ 0 ; section 4912 ▶ _____ 0 ; section 4955 ▶ _____ 0		
b	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 . . . . . ▶ _____ 0		
d	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization . . . . . ▶ _____ 0		
e	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ▶ Maryland		
42a	The organization's books are in care of ▶ Gary Schroder Telephone no. ▶ 410-276-5154 Located at ▶ PO Box 38315, Baltimore MD ZIP + 4 ▶ 21231-8315		
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the United States? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041—Check here . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year . . . . . ▶ <b>43</b> _____		
44a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year? . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d	If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O . . . . .		
45a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions) . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I . . . . . 

	Yes	No
46		✓

**Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only**

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI . . . . .

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II . . . . . 

	Yes	No
47		✓

48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E . . . . . 

48		✓
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49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? . . . . . 

49a		✓
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b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? . . . . . 

49b		
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50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees, and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
None				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

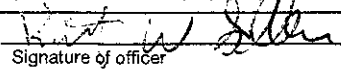
(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
None		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note:** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A . . . . .  Yes  No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

**Sign Here**

	2/17/18
Signature of officer	Date

  
 ▶ Kurt Schiller, President  
 Type or print name and title

**Paid Preparer Use Only**

Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN
Firm's name ▶	Firm's EIN ▶			
Firm's address ▶	Phone no.			

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions . . . . . ▶  Yes  No

**SCHEDULE A**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

**Public Charity Status and Public Support**

OMB No. 1545-0047

**2017**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

▶ Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990](http://www.irs.gov/Form990) for instructions and the latest information.

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization Upper Fell's Point Improvement Association	Employer identification number 52-1945861
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**Part I Reason for Public Charity Status** (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 12, check only one box.)

- 1  A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).**
- 2  A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).** (Attach Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ).)
- 3  A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).**
- 4  A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).** Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5  An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).** (Complete Part II.)
- 6  A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).**
- 7  An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).** (Complete Part II.)
- 8  A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).** (Complete Part II.)
- 9  An agricultural research organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ix)** operated in conjunction with a land-grant college or university or a non-land-grant college of agriculture (see instructions). Enter the name, city, and state of the college or university: \_\_\_\_\_
- 10  An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2).** (Complete Part III.)
- 11  An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4).**
- 12  An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2).** See **section 509(a)(3).** Check the box in lines 12a through 12d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 12e, 12f, and 12g.
  - a  **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
  - b  **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
  - c  **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
  - d  **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
  - e  Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
  - f Enter the number of supported organizations . . . . .
  - g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1–10 above (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
(A)						
(B)						
(C)						
(D)						
(E)						
<b>Total</b>						

**Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**  
 (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2013	(b) 2014	(c) 2015	(d) 2016	(e) 2017	(f) Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") . . . . .	4818	7847	9014	9439	12825	43943
<b>2</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>3</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>4 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 3 . . . . .	4818	7847	9014	9439	12825	43943
<b>5</b> The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) . . . . .						13484
<b>6 Public support.</b> Subtract line 5 from line 4						30459

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2013	(b) 2014	(c) 2015	(d) 2016	(e) 2017	(f) Total
<b>7</b> Amounts from line 4 . . . . .	4818	7847	9014	9439	12825	43943
<b>8</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties, and income from similar sources . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>9</b> Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>10</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.) . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>11 Total support.</b> Add lines 7 through 10						43943
<b>12</b> Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) . . . . .					12	18807
<b>13 First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and <b>stop here</b> . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>						

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>14</b> Public support percentage for 2017 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) . . . . .	<b>14</b>	69.31 %
<b>15</b> Public support percentage from 2016 Schedule A, Part II, line 14 . . . . .	<b>15</b>	89.11 %
<b>16a 33 1/3% support test—2017.</b> If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ▶ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b 33 1/3% support test—2016.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2017.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2016.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>18 Private foundation.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		

**SCHEDULE O**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on  
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No. 1545-0047

**2017**

**Open to Public  
Inspection**

Name of the Organization

Upper Fell's Point Improvement Association

Employer identification number

52-1945861

**Expense Summary:**

- 98 % Program Services Expenses ( line 32 ), \$ 12293.
- 2 % Management Expenses ( line 13, line 15-Management printing & postal, line 16-Management general ), \$ 251.
- 0 % Fundraising Expenses ( line 16-Fundraising ), \$ -0-.

**Part I, Line 15 – Printing, publications, postage, and shipping:** Program Service, 3694; Management, 251.

**Part I, Line 16 – Other expenses:** Program Service, 4165; Management, -0-; Fundraising, -0-.

**Part V, Line 34 – Significant changes to organizing or governing documents:**

Our organizing document ( charter ) was not changed. Our governing document ( bylaws ) was reorganized and included the following changes: added a clause to dissolve in case of a subservient merger, changed any requirement for a two-thirds majority vote to a simple majority, and returned responsibility of the membership record to the Parliamentarian. Other than these changes, existing details of operation were moved from our governing document ( bylaws ) to two operating documents ( policies ), "Meeting & Voting" and "Financial & Disclosure", which were combined from six existing policies. Our current regulations are available on our website [www.upperfellspoint.org](http://www.upperfellspoint.org) on the "Rules & Financials" page.

**Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**

**Part III, Line 28 – Newsletter:** Our newsletter is delivered to each residence and place of business as possible in the entire neighborhood, regardless of membership, to communicate information regarding the Association, neighborhood issues, the neighborhood public school, neighborhood businesses and social activities, citywide interests and social activities, voter registration and elections, and government taxes, regulations, and resources. We provide contact information for all five UFPIA officers, ten UFPIA committees, our city council members and council president, mayor's liaison, and state assembly members. A contact for spanish language translation by phone and email is provided. Detailed trash and recycling information, including items allowed, containers and storage, and pickup or drop-off times and locations, is included in every issue. In 2017, a benefit concert A Night At The Opera at our neighborhood's Fell's Point Corner Theatre on March 25 featuring Peruvian baritone Jose Sacin for our neighborhood's Julie Community Center that has assisted families, youth, and seniors for 40 years was promoted in the newsletter. Information was provided about Christmas tree collection and mulching in January and reminded neighbors of responsibility for sidewalks, alleys, and gutters regarding trash and snow. We promoted local business discounts, demonstrations and workshops, giveaways, and other neighborhood events, and featured those that help fund our newsletter. Over 92% of our newsletter printing costs were funded by local business ads in 2017. The Fell's Point farmers' market, the Baltimore farmers' market under the Jones Falls Expressway, and the Butcher's Hill flea market in Patterson Park on September 16 were promoted in the newsletter. We promoted area and city activities such as the New Year's Day Resolution Run benefit for Earl's Place for homeless men held in Patterson Park; Baltimore Restaurant Week in January; the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade in downtown Baltimore; spanish language classes at the Esperanza Center; Black History month events in February; Light City Baltimore week from March 31 to April 8 with over 50 attractions of entertainment and light-related art in downtown Baltimore; Bike To Work day on May 19; Delegate Lierman's public picnic on June 4 in Patterson Park; the Fell's Point Corner Theatre 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration fundraiser on July 15; Fell's Point Fun Festival in October; Blue Water Baltimore's annual Blue Water Bash on October 14; Doors Open Baltimore free tours of over 50 historic buildings on October 28 and 29; Baltimore Running Festival (marathon) with tens of thousands participants on October 21; Christmas on Broadway on December 2; Julie Community Center Christmas Concert on December 7 at Saint Patrick's church with the Mando Kids and Wolfe Street Academy Strings; Merry Tuba Christmas Concert at the inner harbor on December 16; and affordable fresh produce at Commodore John Rogers School. In addition to the newsletter, our Association's website, [www.upperfellspoint.org](http://www.upperfellspoint.org), enhances communications with our neighbors and fully discloses our regulations and financials. A blog section is provided for notices, committees have pages, a photo gallery has images from our many events, a Google calendar is included, and current and past newsletters can be viewed. Also, an e-newsletter is provided bi-monthly, or when needed, when important items need to be communicated, @UFPIAnews on Facebook provides information and important notices to area residents, and a dedicated Upper Fell's Point NextDoor site was created in 2017. Our PayPal account, [paypal.me/ufpia](http://paypal.me/ufpia), can accept payments online for membership dues, donations and events, as well as payments for newsletter ads and garden fees. An average of 1200 four-page newsletters, with inserts as needed, were composed by two members and distributed monthly from January through November by an average of 19 volunteers, requiring a total of over 600 volunteer hours in 2017, and printed by a business in the neighborhood. Another four Association members contributed over an additional 250 volunteer hours to electronic media efforts in 2017.

Name of the Organization Upper Fell's Point Improvement Association	Employer identification number 52-1945861
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**Part III, Line 29 – Education & Youth:** Each year, the Association promotes the Patterson Park public swimming pool in the newsletter. This year, we promoted the Baltimore Curriculum Project's Are You Smarter Than A Fifth-Grader contest and participated with Enoch Pratt Free Library in a library outreach on January 24 at our local public elementary school in conjunction with the bi-lingual Parent-Teacher Conference Night. Promotional items such as bags, pens, bookmarks, and stickers were distributed and nearly 100 library cards were issued. The Association has maintained a voluntary partnership with Wolfe Street Academy since 2002. This neighborhood public charter K-5 elementary school has nearly 250 students and has been at its location since 1852. One of the missions of the Association's Education and Youth Committee is for neighbors who do not have children attending the school to be more invested in our neighborhood school and its students. We meet monthly during the school year with the School Family Council to address issues and set goals. In 2017, Association members supported and participated with the school's library by holding volunteer work days throughout the year. Volunteers conduct a weekly Book Train with a cart, engineer's hats, and a train whistle to deliver books to the classrooms for students to borrow and take home. The library was created and stocked by the Association and an annual grant of \$750 to the Baltimore Curriculum Project to fund the library was approved by the Association members. We prepared for the annual Wolfest street festival on May 13 that typically includes an Association table at the festival of arts and crafts tables, music, student performances, food, and Pie the Principal. Unfortunately, this year's Wolfest was rained out. This year's theme was, ironically, "water" and reusable water bottles were purchased by the Association to give out. We maintained our Some Day I Will erasable outdoor message board on the Gough Street wall for spontaneous expressions of hope. Association members participated with many local groups in a fundraising bake sale on February 2 to raise a goal of \$90,000 to provide after-school buses for Baltimore's public school students after funding was cut by the State. The Association also participated in a rally to protest consequent cuts due to a \$130 million funding shortfall for city schools. Members voted to send a letter to the Mayor protesting these cuts at the April Association meeting. A protest at a city Council hearing on June 7 was attended by Association members, teachers, students, and parents to restore \$2.4 million in funding for afterschool programs and Community Schools. The funding was restored for the 2017-2018 school year but was cut from the 2018-2019 budget. Members approved a \$1000 grant to our neighborhood elementary school at our October Association meeting to help continue these programs. Our 15<sup>th</sup> annual Teacher Wish List public drive was conducted where 51 neighbors donated, directly to the neighborhood public school, about \$3100 in educational materials requested by the teachers. Over 50 donors and teachers attended a reception hosted at an Association member's home on December 2 for all donors and teachers to deliver the gifts. Seven Association members contributed a total of about 500 volunteer hours to this effort in 2017.

**Part III, Line 30 – General Program Service:** Altogether, our nearly 150 Association members contributed about 5000 volunteer hours in 2017, in addition to many other volunteers and their contributions of time. All activities of the Association are open to and benefit the public, and are publicly funded. In 2017, our team of 31 participants ran in the Resolution Run benefit for Earl's Place for homeless men held in Patterson Park on New Year's Day, hosted an Association information table at our neighboring Butcher's Hill Community Association's flea market in Patterson Park on September 16, and promoted the Julie Community Center in our neighborhood that has assisted families, youth, and seniors for over 40 years. Association members approved a \$1500 donation to the Fell's Point Corner Theatre in the neighborhood to help fund needed renovations – the donation was matched by an anonymous donor. An ad-hoc committee was formed in August to review and propose reorganization/simplification of the Association's regulations. Members approved the recommended changes at the November Association meeting. Members also approved possible audio podcasts of Association meetings. We are recognized as an essential link between neighborhood residents and the city by our councilmembers. Our group is an active voting member of the Southeastern District Police Community Relations Council and the Fell's Point Task Force. In addition to the city government, we work with, support, and cooperate with our neighboring community groups, including Butcher's Hill, Douglass Place, Fell's Crossing, Fell's Point, Fell's Prospect, Fell's North, Patterson Park, Perkins Homes, and Washington Hill. We also support and work with other local groups including, Baltimore American Indian Center 113 South Broadway, Fell's Point Corner Theatre 251 South Ann Street, Fell's Point Main Street, Friends of Patterson Park 27 South Patterson Park Avenue and the Patterson Park Planning Committee, Julie Community Center 100 South Washington Street, and Wolfe Street Academy 245 South Wolfe Street. Everyone is welcome to meet with us at our Association meetings at 7 pm on the third Tuesday of every month except December in the Wolfe Street Academy at Wolfe and Gough Streets. An average of about 50 neighbors were there each month in 2017 plus our city councilmembers or their representatives. We conducted an annual neighbor forum at the January Association meeting for direction of the year's agenda. Speakers during the year, in addition to many other presentations made during new business, included: Julio Cervantes, representative Hispanic Community Liaison; Shannon Sneed, city councilmember; Brooke Lierman and Luke Clippinger, Maryland house delegates; Developers 1926-1928 East Pratt Street; Carl Simon, representative Blue Water Baltimore; Ryan Dorsey, city councilmember for Complete Streets; Aladrian Wetzel, representative Fell's Point Corner Theatre; Peggy Webster, representative Housing Authority; Yazmin Hoffman, UFPIA member and hispanic activist; Kipling Jones, representative Reading Partner; Vic Cheswick, developer 2001-2009 Eastern Avenue; Val Twanmoh and Giuliana Valencia-Banks, representatives Esperanza Center; Hope Burke, representative Thread organization; and, especially, our neighbors who told us what they think! **join us – see what's going on and let us know**



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**Part III, Line 31 – Beautification:** Expenses 1522 ( Grants -0- ). In 2017, the Association participated in the citywide Annual Spring Cleanup on April 29 with volunteers fanning out in the neighborhood to pick up litter, pull weeds, and plant flowers. Trash bags and supplies were provided by the Association. Umuganda ( day of service ) cleanups were conducted five times during 2017 where residents from all over the neighborhood focused on cleaning up the public spaces around their homes and also get to know their neighbors. The Association's Beautification Committee also started a weekly Green Team where three adult community members, one parent-teacher, and a group of nine students from our local public elementary school cleaned sidewalks and gutters in the neighborhood, planted flowers in tree pits, and weeded sidewalks. We provided T-shirts, shovels, gloves, brooms, dustpans, topsoil, mulch, plants, and other supplies. Our newsletter and website provided information promoting the city single-stream curbside recycling, trash code enforcement, and hazardous waste disposal drop-off dates and locations. The Association began an alternative trash can program where the Association purchases and provides smaller "non-city" trash cans to neighbors who cannot fit the city trash carts through their doors and gates. The cans are free of charge but the neighbor must agree to not store them on the sidewalk, which is against city code and unsightly. Recycling bins are also available. Our newsletter also promoted the Herring Run Nursery, a nonprofit operated by Blue Water Baltimore, that focuses on plants native to the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The members voted to support a city council proposal to ban polystyrene. The Association arranged with the city's Department of Public Works to place a dumpster in the neighborhood four times during 2017 to allow all neighbors to discard larger items not regularly collected in the hopes of reducing illegal dumping. Volunteers collected dumped items from neighborhood streets and metal items collected were recycled. Free massages were provided by a local business at one of the events. The Association encouraged and provided information on neighbors getting street trees, and assisted the Parks&People Foundation with a project to reduce storm water runoff and increase the tree canopy in the neighborhood by creating or expanding 50 tree pits and planting 50 trees along the south side of Lombard Street and both sides of Ann Street in our neighborhood. Sidewalk openings are being enlarged to 4x8 feet since the traditional 4x4 size is not adequate for the aeration of a tree. A list of 48 tree pit expansions, 28 new tree pits, and stump removal was compiled for 2018. We provided free landscaping timber, pavers, decorative fencing, plants, and supplies to the public for National Plant A Flower Day on March 12 at street trees and empty tree pits around the neighborhood. Several more tree pit landscaping days were conducted where volunteers build landscaping surrounds for neighbors who requested one. We provided information on care for existing street trees, tree pit surrounds, dog walking, and care for newly planted trees in our newsletter and on our website. Volunteers became certified TreeBaltimore TreeKeepers and pruned over 100 trees in our neighborhood throughout the year. Pruned branches were collected and hauled by the Association to Camp Small, the city wood waste collection yard, to be mulched. New replacement planters and plants for the Billie Holiday block, the 200 block of South Durham Street, were purchased by the Association in 2017 and a \$5000 grant application was submitted to the Environmental Trust for a Register Street Renaissance beautification project with an expected March 2018 result. Five shrubs, two trees, and other greenery were also salvaged from a soon-to-be demolished property and are being temporarily stored for the anticipated Register greening project. The Friends of Patterson Park and the Audubon Center at the park have the Association's support and their numerous events and activities were featured in our newsletter including the Kinetic Sculpture Race on May 13, a public school Field Day on June 1, the Friends of Patterson Park Concert Series of seven free summer concerts in the park, Fluid Movement's Annual Water Ballet SHARKspeare in August, Creative Alliance's Great Halloween Lantern Parade and Festival on October 28, and the Pagoda Lighting on December 3. The Patterson Park Audubon Center was promoted and included in our spanish language neighbor outreach for children. Eight Association members and over 20 volunteers contributed over 400 volunteer hours to this effort in 2017.

**Community Garden:** Expenses 1338 ( Grants 200 ). The Association began maintaining three vacant lots at 1825-27-29 East Pratt Street totaling 4600 square feet as a community garden in 1987. Our garden has 19 plots for 23 gardeners with a city water line and a green space used for community events. Free compost is provided for the gardeners. The garden property is protected as a permanent green space by the Baltimore Green Space land trust and was purchased from the city with funds provided by our Association. Our Association is the Baltimore Green Space Partner Organization and our Community Garden Committee co-chair is the Baltimore Green Space Site Manager for this property. In addition to maintaining their individual garden plots, three of our gardeners clear the public sidewalk in front of the garden of any snow or ice during the winter months and all of our gardeners spend a total of 30 hours per month from April through November to maintain the overall garden space by watering and weeding plants, cutting the grass, taking out the trash, and other maintenance. This year, our community garden was a stop on the 10-mile Charm city Farm and Garden Bicycle Tour on July 29. In 2017, the gardeners attended the Baltimore Green Space annual potluck celebration on April 23 for all gardeners protected under them and also attended the city of Baltimore Master Gardeners Supper on August 13, sponsored by the University of Maryland Extension. Our garden won first place for the best vegetable and ornamental garden and a gardener won the prize for the most perfect flower. Over 50 neighbors and gardeners attended a Honey Happy Hour at our neighborhood garden on National Honey Bee Day on August 19. Light fare, beverages, and giveaways were provided by the Association and eight local businesses, along with a presentation by a local beekeeper and samples of natural unprocessed honey. Children found worms and made "bee" crafts. In our newsletter, the Association featured a Honey Bee Quiz and an article about

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**Part III, Line 31 ( continued ) – Community Garden ( continued ):** pollinators and appropriate plants and their care to make our neighborhood pollinator-friendly and free of agricultural chemicals. Information was provided by Bee Informed Baltimore, Sierra Club, and Baltimore Bee-Friendly Apiary. The Association's Community Garden Committee held a Pumpkin Festival in our neighborhood garden on October 14. Pumpkins, cider, and treats were provided by the Association. About 20 children decorated pumpkins in the morning session and adults enjoyed a cocktail party in the afternoon. The theme was Linus and The Great Pumpkin and all attendees were encouraged to wear costumes. A raffle was held and raised funds for replacement of a masonry wall at the rear of the garden. Leftover Halloween pumpkins and cardboard egg cartons were collected and mulched at our garden on November 4. 23 Association members contributed a total of nearly 1500 volunteer hours to this effort in 2017.

**Spanish Language Outreach:** Expenses 1021 ( Grants 521 ). Our spanish language community liaison helps our neighbors with translation, understand city regulations and resources, and participate in the community. In 2017, the Association conducted a Welcome Window Sign project where 150 posters were purchased and sold for a donation. The signs had a welcoming message in english, spanish, and arabic languages and were printed by a local business. The proceeds were donated to the Esperanza Center, a Catholic Charities comprehensive resource center in our neighborhood for spanish language immigrants. A "welcoming resolution", directed at every neighbor, was also approved by the members at the September Association meeting and is posted on our website. A focus group was formed in July by member activists to engage spanish language neighbors. The goal is to facilitate translation, attendance, and participation at Association meetings. Several outreach meetings were conducted by an Association volunteer, the Association's Spanish Language Outreach Committee chair, and our councilmember's Latino Outreach Liaison and was well attended by our spanish language neighbors – 25 attended the October meeting. Speakers included detective agent Emmanuelli and officer Rodriguez from the Baltimore police department, Madeline Welsh from the Esperanza Center, and a representative from the Patterson Park Audubon Center who provided a connection to the center for children. Dinner was provided for the September and October meetings by the Association and the attendees responded with strong participation in our neighborhood cleanup on October 28. Safety was a concern identified by the attendees. Our councilmember and the Southeast Community Development Corporation are planning to meet with the Association's Spanish Language Outreach Committee in January 2018 to investigate further resources. Three Association member contributed a total of over 100 volunteer hours to this effort in 2017.

**Social:** Expenses 625 ( Grants -0- ). In 2017, the Association held five Happy Hours with neighboring community groups at neighborhood establishments: two with Washington Hill Community Association at Canela's; and with Fell's Prospect community association at Angie's Seafood, Fell's Point Residents' Association at Papi's Tacos, and on October 4 a benefit for the Wolfe Street Academy library at Ryder's. The Association's Fundraising Committee conducted our annual Progressive Dinner on November 4, consisting of two courses and desserts served at 8 different donating hosts' homes in the neighborhood, and was enjoyed by over 60 neighbors and friends who also donated over \$1700 to our efforts. This year's theme was Appetizers Around The World. The Fell's Point Corner Theatre, on the 200 block of South Ann Street, has our support and their productions are advertised in our newsletter. Six area dinner outings were organized at Darbar, Bertha's, 8 Ball Meatball, Restaurante El Salvador, Henninger's Tavern, and Todd Conner's followed by attending a performance at the Fell's Point Corner Theatre. Five Association members contributed a total of over 150 volunteer hours to this effort in 2017.

**Neighborhood Safety:** Expenses 501 ( Grants -0- ). We work closely and discreetly with the police and State's Attorney to prevent criminal activity in our neighborhood, participate in the Southeastern District Police Community Relations Council, and conduct monthly neighborhood walks where members visit the blocks of our neighborhood, note problems, talk to neighbors, and provide a presence on the street. In 2017, the Association's Neighborhood Safety Committee chair, at own expense, attended a workshop on problem liquor establishments conducted by the Community Law Center. We conducted our annual National Night Out festival for crime and drug abuse prevention on August 1 for the public. This year, gatherings at four locations on the streets of our neighborhood were organized where over 100 neighbors met at volunteers' front steps with music, refreshments, and giveaways. Baltimore city police, our city councilmember, and state delegates also attended. The Baltimore city fire department participated with Engine 5 and Truck 3. Six local business contributed, along with the Association. A proposal to fund six similar street gatherings at volunteers' front steps during 2018 was approved by the members at the November Association meeting. Our Association improves neighborhood physical safety conditions through gating of ancient public alleyways and adequate lighting. The Association encouraged neighbors to leave their porch lights on at night to illuminate our sidewalks, especially when our tree canopy shades them from the street lights. Dusk-to-dawn adaptors for porch lights purchased by the Association were distributed free of charge to neighbors regardless of membership. A Twitter account, UFPcrime, is maintained by the Association's Neighborhood Safety Committee and a private email address, safety@upperfellspoint.org, is available for neighbors to anonymously relay information through our Association to the Commander of the Southeastern Police District. Public safety and crime deterrence information is communicated through our newsletter, website, and at meetings. We informed neighbors of the children's safety curfew during the summer months in the city. Neighbors were provided with information on alternative package delivery options with local businesses, an Amazon locker, or the local post office to deter loose packages on the street that invite theft. Neighbors

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**Part III, Line 31 (continued) – Neighborhood Safety (continued):** were advised to record their bicycle serial numbers in case of theft. Seven Association members contributed a total of over 300 volunteer hours to this effort in 2017.

**Other Program Service Accomplishments:** Expenses -0- (Grants -0-)

**Land Use:** Zoning requests and appeals are closely watched. An initiative was begun to engage volunteers to identify and research vacant properties in the neighborhood. In 2017, neighbors were notified of approved liquor license transfers, previously discussed, for Angie's Seafood at 1727 East Pratt Street, and Pratt Street Liquors at 1816-1818 East Pratt Street, and the designation of 1904 Bank Street as a vacant property. Members voted at the July Association meeting to retain the Community Law Center if necessary to deal with a nuisance vacant property at 1900 Eastern Avenue. The owner later gained authorization to proceed with development from the city. A request for a transfer of a liquor license with live entertainment to 500 South Wolfe Street was discussed and the members voted to abstain from comment at the July Association meeting. Although the property is across the street from Association boundaries, there is impact of potential noise and parking. The neighboring community association supported the request. Continuing liquor violations of Honey's Lounge at 1722 Gough Street were discussed. The Association sent a letter to the liquor board asking that the bar follow the requirements of its license. The owners went before the liquor board on September 7 and received a 10 day suspension and \$3000 fine. A Memorandum Of Understanding was prepared November 27 by the Association's Land Use Committee and Honey's with an intent to stop sales of "singles", dollar vodka, and serving inebriated patrons. Also discussed was a request to rezone 1745-1747 East Lombard Street to allow a 3-unit bed and breakfast except they would have kitchenettes and food would only be available across the street at a restaurant. The Association voted to ask for a delay in the zoning hearing and to do nothing in the meantime. Association members supported several issues. The developers of the Saint Michael complex on the 1900 block of Lombard Street spoke at the June Association meeting. The members approved their request for zoning approval with a Memorandum Of Understanding coordinated with the Washington Hill Community Association to operate a brew pub and restaurant in the church building, residential units in the hall, and parking in the lot on Orleans Street. A request for a change in zoning for 2001-2009 Eastern Avenue was approved by members at the October Association meeting. The change was to return the zoning status to the previous status before the Transform Baltimore zoning changes and was supported by neighboring community associations. An update on the city plan to redevelop Perkins Homes was presented at the August Association meeting. It includes 629 mixed-income housing with the same capacity of low-income units but on a bigger footprint in three areas from Eastern Avenue to Monument Street and Bethel Street to Central Avenue. The city has applied for a grant from HUD to fund the expanded project. The members voted to support the plan at the November Association meeting. The Association discussed the demolition and redevelopment of 1926-1928 East Pratt Street into a 4-floor 16-unit apartment with 11 parking spaces. The developers made a presentation at the May Association meeting and neighbors were notified of the zoning hearing date in our newsletter. The city zoning board approved the proposal with conditions negotiated by the Association's Land Use Committee that plans be pre-approved, street walls be brick, there will be no new curb cut, and rooftop deck canopies be set back out of view from the street. The developers then added 1924 East Pratt Street to the plan and a meeting between the Association's Land Use Committee, the Butcher's Hill Community Association land use committee, and the developers was held on December 11 to discuss the changes. An Association member contributed a total of over 50 volunteer hours to this effort in 2017.

**Traffic & Parking:** In 2017, we had a speaker at the June Association meeting to discuss Baltimore's Complete Streets program that includes pedestrian, public, and alternative transportation in the design and control of public streets. The members approved the Complete Streets program at the August Association meeting. We promoted public and green transportation by providing bicycling information and participated in the 2016 launch of a city-wide bicycle program of BikeShare, Bikemore, and the Department of Transportation where public bicycles will be available at 51 stations throughout the city and integrated with the public transportation CharmCard. At the June Association meeting, members voted to oppose a proposal for a BikeShare installation on Gough Street across from our public elementary school until further options were discussed. It would have Ryder's Tavern supply the electricity but include the loss of three parking spaces. After negotiation between the Association's Traffic and Parking Committee and the city, the footprint was reduced to one and a half parking spaces. The members approved the proposal at the July Association meeting. We also promoted national Bike To Work Day on May 19 and partnered with ZIP Car with member discounts. Pedestrian and bicyclist safety is continuously improved in the neighborhood by our Association. In 2017, we continued a years-long effort to get a traffic signal on Wolfe Street at Bank Street due to high-speed accidents and dangerous pedestrian conditions at the intersection. Another spectacular crash that heavily damaged neighbors' buildings was featured with Association members on Baltimore television stations. Finally, the city installed no-parking pylons to allow better line-of-sight at the corner and traffic signals were actually installed. The Association has requested Accessible Pedestrian Signals for the visually handicapped at neighborhood traffic signals. In 2017, the Association created a dedicated Upper Fell's Point NextDoor site that will be useful for contemporaneous reporting of accidents and other traffic hazards, and initiated collection of data via our website regarding traffic accidents and dangerous conditions in our neighborhood. This information will be used to inform our city councilmembers and the Department of Transportation. An Association member contributed a total of over 175 volunteer hours to this effort in 2017.