

# The Uplander



The Caleb Pusey House

MacQueen Hall

# The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)

99909

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MEMORIAL DAY

Upland Seniors Enjoy Ham & Cabbage Luncheon



On March 11, senior citizens were treated to a traditional meal of ham & cabbage to celebrate St. Patty's Day, courtesy of the Community Affairs Committee.





Councilman Lee Hunter, who also serves as president of the Upland Senior Citizens Club, was dressed for the occasion.



Although the turnout for this year's annual event was somewhat lighter than in previous years, a few dozen seniors enjoyed the free lunch and the opportunity to commune and converse with friends.





Special thanks goes out to volunteers extraordinaire Councilwoman Judy Bush (Co-chair of the CAC) and her daughter Meghan, who were once again among the handful of community-minded residents who spent many hours preparing and then serving up the Irish feast.

## Council Rethinks Parking Lot Permits

At Borough Council's February meeting, the fees to be charged for permits to allow parking in public lots were tentatively established as \$30 (monthly), \$50 (quarterly), and \$100 (annually). But at Council's March 12 meeting, pending plans to charge residents for parking permits were put on hold.

Council members spent nearly half an hour during caucus debating the merits of different approaches to permitted parking. Early in the discussion, Council President Christine Peterson outlined three viable options for consideration, including charging for permits in ALL borough-owned parking lots; NOT charging for permits for ANY borough-owned lots; or Charging for permits in the newly-created lots, while allowing free parking in only the Sixth Street lot. The rationale to exclude the Sixth Street lot from permitting was that those 20 spaces were created back in 1980 and have been used by residents at no charge since then, while new lots, like the 8-space lot on Eighth Street (and proposed lots on Second, Seventh, and Tenth Streets) require the expenditure of tens of thousands of tax dollars to cover building demolition and paving/striping costs.

Councilman Dick McClintock raised concerns about charging for some parking lots, while one lot would be free. He also suggested that the borough might be responsible for any damages to vehicles parked in a lot that the borough charges a fee to use.

Other Council members suggested that permits should be issued for all public lots, whether or not a permit fee was charged. In this scenario, parking permits would be specific to one lot only, in an effort to prevent any one family from taking more than their fair share of spaces.

All Council members agreed that the shortage of parking spaces in Upland is a serious problem, which has developed over the years as families now tend to own multiple vehicles, as opposed to just one. The borough's responsibility to provide offstreet parking for guests, visitors, and non-residents was a different issue, however, further complicating the search for a consensus on parking permits.

Once it was clear that no agreement could be reached on permitted parking, Peterson called for a motion to forego permits altogether, making lot parking available on a first come, first serve basis. Council voted unanimously "to do nothing at this time," but did not rule out revisiting the issue in the future

McClintock asked when Council might reconsider the topic, but no time frame was specified.

"We'll see how it goes," Peterson stated. "If it becomes a problem, we'll act on it. If it doesn't become a problem, we will never act on it."

# Council Approves New Processing System For UPD

Borough Council has authorized the expenditure of \$47,750 to purchase a Live Scan System to expedite the processing of prisoners for the Upland Police Department. The cost of the state-of-the-art computer system breaks down to \$37,750 for the system, \$3,500 to install a new phone line, and \$6,500 for the first year of maintenance.

The purchase was spurred by Upland officers often spending hours in Chester, waiting in line for prisoners to be processed.

Council President Christine Peterson noted that Upland will be able to charge other local police departments that wish to take advantage of this new system's streamlined prisoner processing.

#### Stream Clean-up Planned; Volunteers Needed

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Stream/Community Clean-up event in Upland will be held on **Saturday, April 13**, in cooperation with the CRC Watersheds Association, with volunteers meeting in the MacQueen Hall parking lot **at 8:30am**, before dispersing to targeted clean-up sites around the borough. Environmental-minded individuals (bring a friend!) or groups of volunteers are needed to help make this effort a success.

Please contact Mayor Bill Dennon through the borough office to express your interest in joining a clean-up crew.

#### Free E-Waste Collections & Shredding

Borough Council is providing residents with another opportunity to get rid of discarded electronic equipment. This free E-Waste event will be held in the MacQueen Hall parking lot from **9:00am to 1:00pm on Saturday, April 13**. Please call the borough office at **610-874-7317** to find out which electronic items will <u>not</u> be accepted.

The Borough is also holding two more Community Shred-It Days in 2019, with one slated for **May 11** and another for **November 16**. Both of these Saturday events are free to Upland residents, and will run from **9:00am to 12 noon** in the MacQueen Hall parking lot.

Shred-It Days allow for the easy, safe and secure disposal of unwanted and outdated papers and files.

### Fire Co. Selling Easter Flowers

Upland Fire Company No. 1 will be holding its Annual Easter Flower Sales on Easter weekend, April 19 thru 21, starting at 10:00am each day.

A variety of potted spring bulbs and plants will be displayed in the firehouse parking lot or inside the firehouse, in the event of inclement weather.

#### **Fundraisers Generate Revenue**

Community Affairs Committee Co-Chair Moira Crawford recently announced that the two borough fundraisers held in February were both successful ventures.

The annual Soup-n-Salad Dinner, held on Feb. 16, raised about \$400, while the Designer Handbag BINGO event on Feb. 23 pulled in about \$5,000. These monies will be utilized by the CAC to help fund several free borough-sponsored events later this year.

A sincere thank you goes out to all of the attending Upland residents and their families, who collectively helped make these fundraisers a resounding success.

# Tax Collector Exonerated For Delinquent Taxes

At Borough Council's March 12 meeting, Borough Tax Collector Linda Kirby was formally exonerated from the collection of delinquent 2018 real estate taxes and trash collection fees.

A total of \$24,588.10 in unpaid real estate taxes will now be forwarded to the Delaware County Tax Bureau for collection, while a total of \$14,701.50 in outstanding trash fees will now be turned over to Credit-Tec for collection.

The stated totals for unpaid taxes include the penalties that are assessed to tax scofflaws.

# Fines Raised For Illegally Parked Vehicles

Borough Council has addressed the illegal parking of commercial vehicles on public streets by increasing the fines that can be issued to violators. At Council's March 12 session, a motion was unanimously approved to raise the maximum fine for illegal street parking up to as high as \$600, plus court costs. In default of payment of said fine, a violator will be subject to no more than 30 days in jail. Each day of failure to comply with the borough's parking laws will constitute a separate violation.

The previous fine for parking a commercial vehicle in the street overnight was a flat \$25. The new fine limits were effective immediately upon adoption.

#### **Upland Scores Bunting**

Borough Council has approved the purchase of red, white and blue bunting to be displayed for this year's and future holiday events.

A total expenditure of not more than \$2,500 was recently authorized to buy patriotic bunting swags that will be hung on MacQueen Hall, the Upland Police Station, and the Upland Fire Company No. 1 firehouse. The decorative bunting will be on display on holidays such as Memorial Day and the Fourth of July.

**DID YOU KNOW?:** APRIL comes from the latin word 'aperio,' which means to open or blossom, as this is the month that plants set buds and start new growth.

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# **VBS Nights**

6 to 7pm on Mondays, April 1, 8 & 29 at Upland Baptist Church

Dinner at 6:00pm, followed by Bible lesson and creative activity from 6:30-7pm

# **Borough Council Meetings**

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session Tuesdays April 9, May 14 and June 25 on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

Please note: June meeting on fourth Tuesday of month

# **Annual Stream/Community Clean-up**

8:30am on Saturday, April 13 Volunteers gather at MacQueen Hall

### **Electronic Waste Collection**

9:00am to 1:00pm on Saturday, April 13 at MacQueen Hall parking lot

### Maundy Thursday Worship Service

7:30pm on Thursday, April 18 at Upland Baptist Church

# **Good Friday Worship Service**

7:30pm on Friday, April 19 at Upland Baptist Church

# 🎾 Annual Easter Egg Hunt 💖

9:00am on Saturday, April 20 at Bristol Lord Field

# Annual Breakfast w / Easter Bunny

9:30 to 11:30am on Saturday, April 20 at MacQueen Hall

# **Easter Sunday Sunrise Service**

6:30am on Sunday, April 21 at Upland Baptist Church

# **Community Shred-It Day**

9:00am to 12 noon on Saturday, May 11 at MacQueen Hall parking lot

# Upland Sesquicentennial Celebration

Friday, May 24 thru Monday, May 27 (See page 4 for details)

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# **Sesquicentennial Events**

Friday: Sesquicentennial Dinner with guest speaker Neumann University professor Andrew Miller Cocktails & hors d'oeuvres start at 5:30pm in borough hall council chambers.

Break at 6:00pm for Time Capsule Dedication at flag pole (corner of Castle Ave. & Main St.) - Residents who wish to actively participate in the burial ceremony should contact boro office. Time capsule will contain items from various borough organizations.

Buffet dinner provided by Lia's Catering starts at 7:00pm with open bar - Limited tickets available thru borough office at \$50 per person.

Saturday: Sesquicentennial Passport runs from 10:00am to 4:00pm - passport booklets available at borough office for \$4 each.

Passport program unites nine (9) historic locations in Upland Borough. Participants are encouraged to explore and build on connections between each location. Passport sites may have light refreshments and/or handouts for visitors.

Participants who visit all 9 locations listed in passport booklet receive stamps from each site, then qualify for grand prize drawing for 65-inch flat screen TV (donated by Upland AC). Drawing to be held at 6:00pm, prior to 'Movie in the Park.'

Free Movie In the Park, featuring "Ralph Breaks the Internet," starts at 7:00pm in Bristol Lord Field. Bring a blanket or chairs - All are welcome!

Refreshments will be sold in pavilion by Upland Police Department, with all proceeds benefitting UPD's National Night Out in August.

Sunday: Joint Church Services by Upland Baptist Church's Rev. Brenda Shaw and Resurrection Life Church's Pastor Bryan McGrouty held from 10:00am to 11:30am at Bristol Lord Field - Bring a blanket or chairs...All are welcome!

Bag Lunches for sale for \$5 each at pavilion (prior sign-up required) from 11:30am to 1:00pm.

Corn Hole Tournament (similar to bean bag toss) starts at 1:00pm in Bristol Lord Field.

During Corn Hole Tournament, several Free Activities For Families will be available until 6:00pm, including music, carnival games, clowns, face painting, balloons, stilt walker & photos - All are welcome!

Fireworks Display starts in Bristol Lord Field at dusk (about 8:30pm), with surrounding roads closed to vehicular traffic at 7:00pm.

Prior to fireworks, refreshments will be sold in pavilion by members of Upland Fire Company No. 1.

Monday: Annual Memorial Day Parade starts at 9:00am at Upland Baptist church, then proceeding to war memorial on Sixth St.

Annual Memorial Day Services held at war memorial, starting around 10:00am, with guest speaker veteran US Army Chaplain Rev. Wylie W. Johnson. Bugler Rick Swallow will dedicate his services to the memory of his parents.

Annual Memorial Day Picnic co-sponsored by Upland Baptist Church and Resurrection Life Church congregations; held from 11:00am to 2:00pm at Bristol Lord Field pavilion. Free hotdogs & hamburgers, along with homemade side dishes and desserts, plus face painting.

You can also find Sesquicentennial event information on the borough's Facebook page: uplandborough150th

#### **Special Permit Discounts To Be Offered**

Following through on a plan to offer building permit discounts to seniors and veterans, Council VP Moira Crawford recently outlined the parameters of the borough's pending offer.

A 50% discount (up to \$250) will soon be available to senior citizens (age 62 or older) and certified military veterans who have been honorably discharged. This discount can only be utilized once per year, and only for residential building permits where the applicant occupies the residence.

The permit discount will be available soon, once the borough's comprehensive fee schedule is amended.

#### **Residential Safety Inspections Underway**

According to Upland Fire Marshal Dan Smith, the mandatory annual fire safety inspections for residential rental properties began in March and will continue through the spring, until completed.

# Upland Turns Down PHL Search & Rescue Offer

A proposal from a N. Philadelphia-based search and rescue company was unanimously rejected by Borough Council at their March 11 caucus session. The search and rescue firm uses trained dogs and agents to track down missing persons on land, and employs boats to conduct water search/rescues. Looking to expand their operations into Delaware County, the company had hoped to secure storage areas for boats and equipment in Upland, either at the Reese Center or the borough's Lane K property. According to Mayor Bill Dennon, the inquiring firm was offering little or no compensation for Upland Borough, other than being the home base of a search and rescue operation.

Fire Chief Dan Smith noted that Delco has its own search and rescue team, which could create a conflict for Upland, so the proposal was dismissed.

#### **Website Provides Valuable Info**

Visit www.uplandboro.org to find an expanded version of the borough's monthly newsletter, a current events calendar, historical narratives, public health notices, borough ordinances, and photo galleries of recent community events.

To share digital photos or information on the borough's website, send email to

mcrawford@uplandboro.org

### Sesquicentennial Merchandise On Sale Now

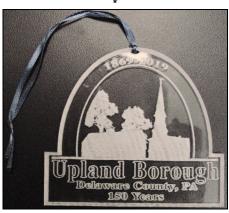
Baseball caps (screen print-\$10; embroidered-\$20), car magnets(\$5), t-shirts(\$10; 3XL-\$15), and acrylic Christmas tree ornaments(\$10), all bearing the special logo for Upland Borough's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration are now available at the borough office during regular business hours. These special sesquicentennial logo items will also be sold at upcoming public events and during the many planned festivities on Memorial Day weekend.

### Now is the time to get your Upland gear on!









#### **Claim Your Veteran Banners Now**

The canvas banners that boasted Upland's military veterans last year were taken down to make room for holiday decorations. If the families who ordered vet banners to honor their favorite veterans want their flags to be displayed again this year, please advise the borough office immediately. Ordering families that would like to claim their banners for personal use can now pick up their vet flag(s) at the borough office during regular business hours.

### Contracts Awarded To Move Projects Forward

Borough Council recently awarded contracts to the low bidders for three grant-funded public improvement projects.

The purchase and installation of an electronic message board/Welcome sign will be handled by K.C. Sign Company, of Aston. The lone bid received for this project was in the amount of \$37,991, well within the 2014 Community Development Block Grant award of \$40,000.

Erection of this digital sign on the southwest corner of the Sixth & Main Streets intersection has been plagued by a series of delays for years – all of which were beyond the borough's control. It is now hoped that this long-awaited sign can be installed prior to the borough's sesquicentennial celebration in May.

Four bids were received for the installation of new playground equipment at the Bristol Lord Field tot lot, with Lechmanik, Inc., of West Chester, being the low bidder in the amount of \$103,807.

The borough recently purchased several pieces of new tot lot playground equipment for Upland Park.

The new tot lot equipment was ordered through the state's CoStars program, which offers exceptionally low prices to PA municipalities. New items include three spring-riders, a climber, and a swing set, with a swing for handicapped children.

A refurbished child-safety surface of wood chips is also planned for the tot lot. The additional expense of the safety surface pushed the total project cost slightly above the 2018 Community Development Block Grant award, which will lead the borough to request an additional \$10,784 in funding from the county to complete this project.

Installation of the new tot lot will be completed this spring, according to the borough engineer.

Five bids were received for improvements to Hill Street Park. The low bidder was once again Lechmanik Inc., submitting a bid of \$35,115. This project was estimated to cost \$40,000, and will be funded through a Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant from the state.

These park upgrades will include new playground equipment and other miscellaneous improvements.

### **Fundraisers Are Souper**



A pair of successful Community Affairs Committee fundraisers were held at MacQueen Hall in February, starting with the Annual Soup-n-Salad Dinner on Feb. 16.



Above, Councilwoman Julie Kerns (right) serves up a heapin' helpin' of homemade chicken and dumplings (made by Councilwoman Judy Bush), while below, Councilman Dick McClintock and his wife, Betty, visit the salad bar.



# Holiday Home Decorating Winners Named

The following residents were congratulated at Council's Feb. 12 meeting as the winners of the 2018 Holiday Home Decorating Contest:

1st place- Jess Damon of 21 Upland Avenue
 2nd place- Joann & Vince Long of 301 Birch Lane
 3rd place- Laurie & Ed Vandergrift of 411 Fourth Street
 Cash prizes of \$100, \$50, and \$25 were given to the respective winners.

Thank you to all the residents who participated in this contest and made the holiday season a little brighter for everyone.

# Council Amends Comprehensive Fee Schedule

Borough Council has updated the Comprehensive Fee Schedule in the borough code, effective immediately.

The most common permit fees are for building, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing permits, all of which still cost \$50 per \$1,000 worth of work performed.

Additional inspections or any required re-inspection by any one of the borough's professional inspectors will now cost the homeowner \$80. In cases where any work (for which a permit is required) is started prior to obtaining a permit, all fees shall be doubled. Rental fees for the use of MacQueen Hall remain at \$400 per event, with a \$200 security deposit, while Bristol Lord Field softball permits are still set at \$200 per team, per season.

The fees set for residential rental licenses (required for all landlords) and commercial rental licenses are now \$100 and \$300, respectively.

All contractors working within the borough are required to obtain a business license for a flat fee of \$100 per calendar year.

Similarly, use and occupancy (U & O) inspections for residential and commercial properties are set at \$100 each.

The requirements for obtaining certificates of occupancy have also been amended to reflect the following language:

"No person, firm, partnership or corporation shall occupy, rent, lease, let out, permit, sell, convey or otherwise transfer or permit to be occupied or rented any apartment or dwelling unit, premises or structure used for a residential, commercial or industrial purpose...without first securing a certificate of occupancy from the Borough of Upland.

Furthermore, "a certificate of occupancy shall be required upon the change of occupancy or change in use of any apartment, dwelling unit, commercial, business or industrial unit."

A discount for military veterans on some borough fees was suggested by an Upland resident last year. Council has agreed to offering a veterans discount in principle, but the matter will be handled in a separate resolution at a future date. Since borough inspectors get paid through borough fees, the maximum discount possible would be 50%, which is the borough's portion of permit fees.

For specific information regarding any particular borough fee, please contact the borough office at **610-874-7317**.

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#### **BINGO Is a Hit**



On Feb. 23, Designer Handbag BINGO returned to MacQueen Hall for an evening of BYO fun, with Upland Police Officer Carl White calling out the numbers.





...And the lucky winners were happy to show off their prizes.



## Auburn Village Maintenance Emergency?

Auburn Village residents faced with a maintenance emergency should call the borough office at **610-874-7317** during regular business hours, but if the emergency occurs during off-hours (after 4:15pm & before 8:00am), residents should call the answering service at **610-359-8334** to report their situation. Maintenance emergencies include no heat, broken water pipes, no electric, hot water tank leaks, broken windows or doors, stove or oven problems, and issues related to the aftermath of a fire.

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### Sewer Lateral Inspections 'In-House' Once Again

On Feb. 12, Borough Council approved an amendment to the borough code, which returns the responsibility for conducting sewer lateral inspections to the borough-appointed plumbing inspector. Catania Engineering had been handling these inspections for most of 2018, after the exit of former Plumbing Inspector Tom Kennedy.

Newly appointed Borough Plumbing Inspector Harry Kent is a fully-certified master plumber and will oversee all sewer lateral inspections in Upland, in accordance with the changes to the borough code. The amended sanitary sewer ordinance "brings these inspections back in-house," noted Council

these inspections back in-house," noted Council President Christine Peterson. "This will be cheaper for our residents in the long run," she added.

### **Council Makes Annual Appointments**

A laundry list of annual appointments (most being reappointments) were made at Borough Council's Jan. 8 meeting, as follows:

Catania Engineering, Inc. will continue to provide civil engineering services to the borough, and Borough Solicitor Robert E. O'Connor, Esq. will continue to serve as Upland's legal eagle.

Health Inspector & Code Enforcement Officer William Kirby will remain at his two posts.

Other one-year appointments include Building Inspector & Zoning Code Officer Joseph Ferguson, Plumbing Inspector Harry Kent, Electrical Inspector James Skulski, Health Officer Dr. Robert Crowell, MD, and Zoning Solicitor & Civil Service Solicitor John J. Wills, Esq.

Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith will serve his second year as the borough's fire marshal in 2019.

The membership of the borough's three advisory boards now includes:

Zoning Hearing Board: Dorreda Shaw, Jennifer Hostetler, Edward Klepacki, Harris Bloom, and Richard Berridge

Planning Commission: Kenneth Miller, Dana Dudek, George Oronzio, Terri Crowley, and Joseph Stephano

**Civil Service Commission:** Richard McClintock, Denise Crawford, and Dorothy Patrick

Thank you to all of the appointees above for their valuable guidance and public service!

#### **New Phone System Will Cut Costs**

Borough Council has approved a new phone system from KDI (including both Internet and phone service) for borough offices and the police station. The new phone system will cost the borough \$1,266 per month, which will be a savings of \$1,157 per month over the old system, or approximately half the cost.

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#### Fire Co. Sees Active 2018

The volunteer members of Upland Fire Company No. 1 were kept busy last year, responding to four fire incidents (one vehicle, one dumpster, and two grass/vegetation fires), 146 non-fire incidents, and 34 drills, while giving mutual aid to other fire companies on 48 occasions in 2018.

Last year, Upland firefighters responded to the scene of 26 motor vehicle accidents, provided 11 ambulance assists and six police assists, and made seven elevator rescues. They also covered four instances of liquid fuel spill/leaks, six gas/vapor leaks, and seven electrical lines down in 2018.

Fortunately, there were no property losses suffered for the entire year, and no firefighters or residents were injured in 2018.

### **Public Works Garage Looking Good**

The borough's Highway Department has recently put considerable effort into cleaning up the area outside the Kent Lane public works garage, while organizing the equipment and tools kept inside as well.

Piles of concrete and debris had been piling up outside the garage for years, but the clean-up has taken care of that.

"Now we're working on a solution to keep it clean," Council President Christine Peterson noted in January.

### Fees Amended For Tax Certifications and Duplicates

At Borough Council's Jan. 8 meeting, Council authorized Elected Tax Collector Linda Kirby to be the municipal officer who provides tax certifications and tax duplications to the public, on request.

The fees charged for these services were also amended. Now, a service fee of \$20 will be charged, collected, and retained by the tax collector as compensation for each requested tax certification, and a \$15 fee will be charged for each duplicate.

#### **UBC Food Bank Accepting Donations**

Local residents can go to Upland Baptist Church any Wednesday morning, from 9 to 10am, to pick up groceries to help feed their families. The UBC Community Food Bank recently added locally-grown fresh fruits and vegetables to its list of available food items – all free for the asking.

The UBC Food Bank is continually in need of canned and dry goods to keep a well-rounded selection of nutritional foods on hand. Please donate to support this community outreach mission. To make a donation to the UBC Food Bank, or for more information, call Louise at **610-876-1857**.

#### **Council Submits CDBG Wishlist**

In January, Upland Borough filed its application for a 2019 Community Development Block Grant from the county, listing two public improvement projects that could be funded through a grant.

The borough's primary choice for a CDBG-funded project is construction of permanent restroom facilities at Bristol Lord Field, while an alternative project would be the creation of a new public parking lot on Seventh Street.

Concerns about vandalism in a public restroom were raised by one council member, who recalled the chronic problems that ultimately led to the removal of restroom facilities on Race Street, once intended to be a convenience to visitors of the historic Caleb Pusey House.

To avoid vandalism and repeated repairs to the plumbing fixtures, restrooms in Upland Park could be kept locked, except during special public events, but their proximity to the police station should also lend some degree of protection, Council President Christine Peterson suggested.

Delaware County Council's 2019 CDBG awards will be announced in April.

#### **Upland Applies For Road Program Aid**

Upland Borough has submitted an application to Delaware County for an allocation from the County Liquid Fuels Tax Fund in the amount of \$40,050, to cover the cost of the borough's 2019 road program. The estimated cost to repave Upland's roughest roadways this year is \$40,000.

# Residents Should Sign Up For Emergency Phone Service

To enjoy the full benefits of the borough's information phone service, residents with unlisted phone numbers should call the borough office at 610-874-7317 to register. The automated service was instituted in 2009 to keep borough residents informed of upcoming community events, but is also utilized in the event of a borough-wide emergency.



This is a conceptual sketch of what a digital electronic sign will look like, once it is installed on the southwest corner of the Sixth & Main Streets intersection this spring.

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# Council Hopes Bell Property Will Not Be Developed

A resident recently came before Borough Council to ask if the borough could control the future development of the 13-acre W. 24<sup>th</sup> Street estate of the late Senator Clarence Bell, which is reportedly up for sale with an asking price of \$1.6 million.

Bell passed away in 2002, and a few years later, Widener University bought his estate for a reported \$2 million. Widener's tentative plans to develop the site as youth soccer fields were presented to Upland Council in 2011, but never materialized.

Unfortunately, Upland Borough cannot afford to purchase the Bell estate outright, but Council President Christine Peterson made it clear that the borough would like to see it remain as open space, if possible. A few private parties have expressed interest in the tract, but any plans to develop the site would have to be approved by Upland officials, after a series of public hearings were held.

#### **Newsletter Contract Extended**

At their Dec. 11 meeting, Borough Council voted unanimously to add one more year to the contract for former newspaper reporter Ken Stark, who will continue to serve as editor of <u>The Uplander</u>, and will continue taking photographs at all borough-sponsored events through 2019.

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Big Changes Coming to Recycling

China is poised to stop accepting recycled items soon. This will leave few options for our haulers, and unfortunately, it also means that the cost to dispose of recycling will skyrocket. Currently, the cost to dispose of recycling is just short of \$4 per ton, but the projected cost in 2019 could be as much as \$150 (or higher) per ton (a 3750% increase). There are rumored changes in the recycling industry that could possibly minimize this increase, however, these changes are out of our control. This notice is simply bringing this imminent change to light, and the borough will be getting back to residents after the beginning of the year to let you know of further changes that we may need to address in this area.

#### **Left Turns Restricted**

In an effort to improve safety at two busy intersections, Borough Council recently restricted two left turns, effective immediately.

To relieve congestion around the Chester Charter School, left turns from 11<sup>th</sup> Street (eastbound) onto Main Street will now be prohibited on weekdays from 7:30am to 8:30am and from 2:30pm to 3:30pm. Left turns are also prohibited from the bottom of Hill Street (eastbound) onto Upland Avenue. This dangerous left turn is now prohibited all hours of every day.

# Rental Licenses & Safety Inspections Required

Upland Fire Marshal/Fire Chief Dan Smith recently had a wide-ranging discussion with Council regarding several issues surrounding annual safety inspections of rental properties in Upland. Smith has been serving as the borough's fire marshal since January 2018, and during his first year at the post, he has found a number of procedural problems that are interfering with his inspection duties.

According to Smith, one prevalent issue is property owners' lack of a rental license, which is a requirement for being a landlord, as outlined in Chapter 69 of the borough code. Smith estimates that as many as 180 rental properties in Upland do not have rental licenses, which represents an annual loss of an estimated \$15,000 in potential borough income, Smith noted.

Not only must all landlords have a rental license, but their rental properties must pass a fire safety inspection every year by May 31 to be considered safe for renting. Since one (or both) of these requirements have been overlooked in the past, some rental properties in Upland Borough have not been inspected in over a decade, Smith noted.

Landlords and/or renters are encouraged to call the borough office at **610-874-7317** with any questions regarding these safety regulations, which were adopted to protect the lives of Upland renters.

**Important Notice For Auburn Villagers** 

In the event that an Auburn Village resident is locked out of their home after normal business hours, the quickest way to get back into your home is to CALL 9-1-1 and wait for the police to arrive. The Upland Police Department now has master keys for every Auburn Village unit.

# Requirements Outlined For Police Lieutenant

The requirements to be a full-time lieutenant in the Upland Police Department were adopted at Council's Jan. 8 session.

A lieutenant in the UPD will not have any misdemeanor or felony convictions on his record, and he/she will have a valid PA driver's license. In addition to being physically, medically, and psychologically fit for duty, a UPD lieutenant will have logged at least seven years of full-time service on the Upland force, with a minimum of one full year of service as a sergeant or corporal.

An Upland police lieutenant will assist the chief of police in a number of fields, including policy-making, personnel administration, budget preparation, and purchasing UPD equipment and supplies.

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