



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough
(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



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Residents Enjoy Fourth of July Family Picnic



Over 200 residents turned out, including some first-timers, to take advantage of the free food and fun at the borough-sponsored Annual Fourth of July Family Picnic.



The edibles handed out at the pavilion were incredible, including 40 lbs. of hot dogs served on 30 dozen rolls, 200 soft pretzels, and over 300 of Big Var's refreshing water ices...



...But many attendees just wanted to get wet and cool off.



Upland PD Honors Its Own

Borough officials held a special event on June 15 to pay tribute to Upland's finest, both past and present. The police recognition dinner at MacQueen Hall featured a number of highlights, including the dedication of a memorial plaque for Sergeant Morris J. Albany Jr., who was mortally wounded in 1976, when the off-duty officer intervened in a Chester robbery. Albany remains the only Upland police officer ever killed in the line of duty.

Meritorious service commendations were presented to part-time Officers Mark Mackrell, Carl White, and Daniel Lemmon for their outstanding police work.

Police Chief Michael Irey also unveiled a new annual award that honors the past community service of former Upland Police Captain Robert Love. The retired Love was on hand to help present the Captain Robert C. Love Officer of the Year Award to part-time Officer Joshua Van Horn, who is now starting his third year on the Upland force. Van Horn, 25, is a Brookhaven native and a volunteer firefighter in his hometown.

Love was among four former Upland police officers who were recognized for their past service with the presentation of retiree badges. Councilman Dick McClintock was also among those so honored.

A special award was bestowed on Michael Ciach, who has served Upland 12 years as a councilman, 12 years as mayor, and now as borough manager. Ciach expressed his appreciation in a statement for *The Uplander*:

"I was honored and humbled by this unexpected recognition," Ciach said. "My commitment to and love for this borough are without end.

"My 12 years on Council taught me to work well with others, and my 12 years as mayor taught me to lead by example, especially when things are not what they seem. I would do anything for the good of Upland, because there is a lot of good here: good people, good families, and good friends.

"Thank you to Chief Irey, Chris (Peterson), and all the officers who have served this department with pride. It's been an honor working with you as mayor, and I look forward to working even more closely with you all on the business side of the department."

Mayor Bill Dennon was also a proud participant in the award ceremonies, and thanked the organizers.

"I want to praise everyone involved, from Chief Irey, President Christine Peterson, and Council members down to the caterers and volunteers for making our first of many awards dinners a huge success," Dennon stated.

"I am proud to work alongside such deserving individuals. The awards of merit for Officers Mackrell, Lemmon, and White are well-deserved, as is the Officer of the Year Award for Officer Van Horn for his neverending energy to be consistently over-achieving for our borough," the mayor added.

Council Delays Amending Sewer Lateral Ordinance

Borough Council has announced its plans to amend the sewer lateral inspection ordinance, in response to persistent complaints from residents. The ordinance, which requires video inspection of sewer laterals prior to the sale of any Upland property, was initially slated to be modified at the July 11 Council session, but adoption of the amendments has been postponed until the Aug. 22 meeting to further address specific language changes.

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Summer Interns Approved

Borough Council has authorized the creation of two part-time summer intern positions to help out in the borough's Highway & Maintenance Departments. The interns will be local youth, and each will earn \$10 per hour for their work in July and August.

In the recent past, Council had hired one full-time summer intern, but chose to broaden the earning opportunity by hiring two part-timers this year.

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New Keyscan Cards Purchased

As part of an ongoing effort to revamp the security systems in borough-owned buildings, the purchase of four keyscan network interface cards from Global Security Systems, Inc. was recently authorized by Council at a cost of \$2,495. The four new keyscan cards will link and control access to the Reese Center, the Reese Center barn, the pavilion at Bristol Lord Field, and the Highway Department's storage facility on Kent Lane.

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Boro Officials To Attend Conference

A host of Upland Borough officials will be attending the 2017 Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Fall Leadership Conference, including Borough Council members, Mayor Bill Dennon, Borough Manager Michael Ciach, and Police Chief Michael Irey. This year's PSAB Fall Conference will be held at a hotel in the Pocono Mountains from Oct. 12-15, offering all Pennsylvania borough officials a chance to share their experiences and management strategies, while learning about new programs and opportunities that might benefit their own hometowns.

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Council OKs New Police Vehicles

The purchase of two new police vehicles through the state's COSTARS Program was approved by Borough Council at its July 11 session. The new vehicles include a 2017 sport utility police interceptor (costing \$33,891) and a 2017 sedan utility police interceptor (for \$32,914).

One new interceptor will replace the police vehicle that was recently totaled, while the other is a budgeted purchase to replace the oldest vehicle in the Upland PD fleet.

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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Upland Supports CWA Decision

At Borough Council's July 11 meeting, a resolution was approved supporting the recent unanimous decision of the Board of Directors of the Chester Water Authority (CWA) to reject the Aqua America proposal to purchase CWA's assets and customers. The unanimously adopted resolution stated: "Upland Borough Council stands behind the Chester Water Authority Board to act in the best interest of the good residents and businesses of our borough, and to continue to reject any and all offers tendered by a for-profit company that could further subject the residents and businesses of Upland to substantial rate increases and additional costs for water service."

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Community Vols Appreciated, Needed

Community Affairs Committee Chairperson Moira Crawford recently thanked all the volunteers who have helped the CAC at 2017 borough events. She noted that the popular events that the borough sponsors throughout the year could not be held without the assistance of caring volunteers from the community, as well as the preparatory work put in behind the scenes by borough employees. If you would be willing to offer a few hours of time as a volunteer at an upcoming community event, please call the borough office at **610-874-7317**. **Help will be needed at the Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 16, Crawford noted.**

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Upland Police On Duty

The Upland Police Department continues to maintain its vigilance to keep the borough's streets safe for all residents, pedestrians, and motorists. During the month of June 2017, Upland officers issued 199 citations (all but 10 of which were traffic citations), bringing the year-to-date total up to 1,349. Seventy-seven parking tickets were also written in June, bumping that year-to-date total up to 498. As of the end of June, Upland officers had towed a total of 78 vehicles in 2017. The UPD answered a total of 359 calls in June, while also making 33 assists to other agencies. These calls brought the year-to-date count to 2,046 calls.

RLC Neighborhood Block Party 3 to 6pm on Saturday, Aug. 12 at Resurrection Life Church (8th & Church Sts.)

Everyone Welcome!

Food, games, prizes & clothing give-aways

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Annual Youth Magic Show

3 to 5pm on Saturday, Aug. 19
at MacQueen Hall

Includes pizza party and make-your-own
ice cream sundaes

Free to all children with boro ID

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday Aug. 22, Sept. 12, and Oct. 10
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

Please note: August meeting to be held
on 4th Tuesday of month

(previously advertised as Aug. 29)

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Classic Car Show

10am to 2pm on Saturday, Sept. 2
in UBC parking lot at 4th & Main Sts.

Co-sponsored by Upland Fire Company
and Upland Baptist Church

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Labor Day Fireworks Display

starts at dusk (8:30pm) on Sunday, Sept. 3
at Bristol Lord Field

Roads will be blocked to traffic around 7pm

Fire Co. volunteers will be selling refreshments
in the pavilion prior to fireworks

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Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Sept. 16
at MacQueen Hall

Tickets available now at boro office

Adult - \$10; Seniors - \$8; Children under 10 - \$6

Proceeds help fund other community events

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Annual Youth Halloween Party

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Oct. 28
at MacQueen Hall

For Upland children up to age 13

Must have boro ID for admittance

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Seniors Planning Wildwood Trip

Upland seniors will be joining other local senior citizens on an activity-packed five-day trip to Wildwood, NJ, **from September 17-21, 2017**. All interested parties are invited to join the fun-filled outing, which includes lodging at the Windward Motel, three meals each day, and activities. The cost is \$399 per person for double occupancy. To learn more about this low-cost off-season vacation offer, call Gwen Taylor at **267-319-6948**.



Do You Want To Honor Hometown Heroes?

Upland Borough Council hopes to launch a streetscape project to honor hometown military veterans, but the amount of time, energy and money that will be invested in this project will depend entirely on the response of Upland residents.

The above photo is a sample of the Hometown Heroes flags that the borough wants to hang on utility poles, to honor the service of Upland residents and their families. The flags are made of heavy vinylized-canvas, so they will be durable enough for outdoor display over an extended period.

The borough is planning to hang however many flags are ordered by Upland families, starting in May 2018, then leaving them up until the holiday season. Once the flags come down from public display, each ordering family will get the flag as a keepsake.

The exact cost for a family to order a Hometown Heroes flag will be determined by the total number of flags ordered. Simply put: the more flags ordered, the cheaper each one becomes. Council is considering splitting the cost of each flag, which would require a \$75 donation from each ordering family, but the actual cost cannot be determined until the order is placed in Spring 2018. **A minimum of 40 flags is required for an order to be placed.**

Each flag ordered will need a photograph of the serviceman/woman; branch of military service; and dates of service and/or theater of operation.

Call the borough office now at **610-874-7317** to order a Hometown Heroes flag.

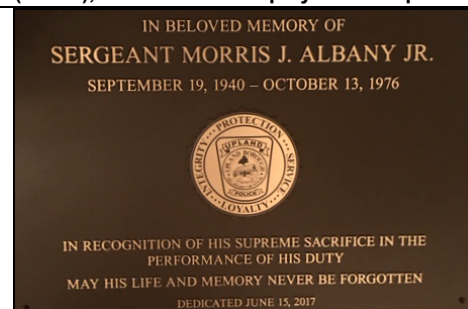
Please Scoop Dog Poop

Borough officials wish to remind residents who walk their dogs along public streets that Upland has a poop-scooper law that provides for a \$100 fine for pet owners who do not pick up their dogs' waste.

Helpful Hint: old bread bags are excellent pet waste collection tools – insert hand; grab poop; turn bag inside-out; tie knot at end; discard in trash can.

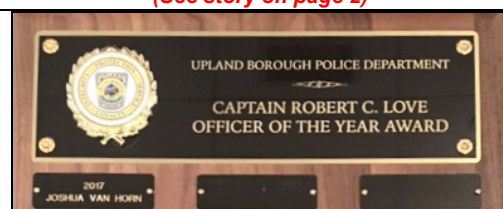


At a special police recognition dinner on June 15, Upland Police Chief Michael Irely presented the Sgt. Albany Memorial plaque (below), which will be displayed in the police station.



Upland Officer Joshua Van Horn is the first recipient of the Captain Robert C. Love Officer of the Year Award, which will now be awarded to an outstanding Upland officer each year.

(See story on page 2)



Carnival Comes To Town



The outdoor carnival visited Upland from June 7-10, drawing a crowd each and every night. The fundraising event generated \$7,245 in borough revenue, which will be utilized to pay for upcoming free community events.



The carnival rides and games offered tons of family fun...



...While the food and beverage offerings were plentiful.

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.

Deldeo Appointed To Fill Council Vacancy

Mulberry Street resident Sandra Deldeo was sworn in as the newest member of Borough Council on June 13, filling the seat vacated when Councilman Bill Dennon moved into the vacated position of Upland mayor last month. Deldeo's interim term on Council will expire on Dec. 31, 2017.

Deldeo, age 76, has lived in Upland Borough for nearly 50 years. The Republican councilwoman has served as a judge of elections for six years; on the Upland Historical Commission for three years; and as chairperson of the borough's Vacancy Committee for the past year.

"It's interesting!" Deldeo said, after her first Council session. "I'm willing to do whatever I can to help."



While her husband Louis held the Bible, Sandra Deldeo was sworn in by Mayor William Dennon on June 13 as an interim Borough Council appointee.

Mayor Ciach 'Retires' To Fill Vacant Manager's Post

After serving the last 12+ years as Upland Borough's mayor, Michael J. Ciach has retired from his elected post and filled the borough manager vacancy created by the departure of Greg Grillone in late March.

Prior to serving as mayor, Ciach also spent a dozen years serving as a borough councilman, so he is familiar with borough business from multiple points of view. During the interview process, which saw four prospective candidates reviewed for the manager's position, Ciach stood out as the "best qualified with municipal experience," according to Council VP Moira Crawford.

Throughout the one month that the borough was without a manager, Ciach helped the borough office staff keep up with routine business matters, donating the hours he worked as a temporary fill-in. Ciach's hiring as borough manager was approved by a unanimous Council vote. He will be paid an annual salary of \$75,000, while serving a two-year term, which will expire in May 2019.

Ciach's official job title is now Upland Borough Manager/Treasurer/Secretary.

Upland Celebrates Memorial Day



Residents lined the streets to watch Upland Borough's Annual Memorial Day Parade on May 29. The procession featured four marching string bands, two fife and drum corps, fire trucks from a dozen Delco companies, and hundreds of participants on foot.



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Before and after the parade, wreath-laying services were held in the Upland Baptist Church cemetery and at the war memorial at the corner of Church & Sixth Streets.

Residential Fire Pit Approved

At Council's May 2 session, formal approval was given for the use of a backyard fire pit at #1115 Church Street, registering the first officially-permitted fire pit in the borough.

The Church Street resident had previously asked Council about the matter, and then had followed every step in the approval process, including filling out an application; getting verbal approval from his next door neighbors; obtaining permission from Borough Council; and passing a safety inspection by the borough's fire marshal.

Those same procedural steps will be required for each residential fire pit applicant.

Churches Host Holiday Picnic



Despite some light rain, the 14th Annual Memorial Day Picnic was once again a big hit with Upland residents. The free event is sponsored by the congregations of Upland Baptist Church and Resurrection Life Church.

Mayor and Police Chief Sworn In

Upland Borough Councilman Bill Dennon officially became Upland Borough Mayor Bill Dennon at Council's May 23 session. His life partner Linda DiGiandomenico held the Bible, while President Judge of the Delco Court of Common Pleas Chad Kenney administered the oath.

Dennon, age 50, is originally from Folsom, but has lived the last 13 years on Scott Avenue in Upland. He spent the past two years serving as an appointed borough councilman.

The St. James High School grad is currently employed as a facilities technician at Philadelphia Contributionship, the oldest insurance company in the U.S.

A prepared statement was read into the record prior to Dennon's swearing in, as follows:

"Thank you for the opportunity to serve the public as councilman, and I look forward to serving the residents of Upland in my new role as mayor," Dennon stated.

The same packed-house Council meeting saw the swearing in of Police Chief Michael Irey.

Judge Kenney administered the oath, while Irey's wife Tara held the Bible, with the couple's son Michael and daughter MacKenzie by her side.

Irey, 45, has served the public as a police officer for the past 23 years, working for a number of communities prior to Upland, including Colwyn, Prospect Park, and Nether Providence. He has been a member of the Upland PD since 2014, and has served as Acting Chief since February 2016.

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Council Approves MCL Donation

Borough Council has unanimously approved a \$2,000 donation to Delco Detachment 288 of the Marine Corps League, which is headquartered in Upland on the former Netherleigh mansion property on 6th Street. The veterans organization provides the borough with honor guards for special occasions and on Memorial Day.



In a moment that represented the changing of the guard, newly-minted Mayor Dennon swore in former-Mayor Michael Ciach to his new role as borough manager. The May 23 swearing was Dennon's first official act as Upland's mayor.

Parking In Yard Is Illegal

In response to a resident's question, Council recently confirmed that parking a vehicle in a yard on a continual basis is illegal in Upland, as is jumping the curb to get the vehicle into the yard. The only off-street parking that is permitted in Upland is on a paved/hardened driveway. Council noted that the police department can be called for instances of illegal parking in front of a driveway entrance, but the issue of illegal yard-parking must be handled by the borough's code enforcement officer.

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Road Program Contract Awarded

The contract for Upland Borough's 2017 Road Paving Program has been awarded to A. F. Damon, Inc., of Upland.

The hometown contractor was once again the low-bidder, offering to do this year's repaving work for \$85,115. Two other local contractors also submitted bids, ranging as high as \$100,250.

The borough roadways projected for a fresh coat of asphalt this year are:

- The intersection of Sixth and Church Streets
- Woodside Avenue, from #1032 Woodside to 10th Street
- West 24th Street, from the park to Upland Avenue
- The entire length of Willow Way

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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.

Non-Compliant Property Owners Put On Notice

According to Fire Marshal Dave Favinger's May report, he performed fire safety inspections at 34 residential rental properties and two business properties during the month.

Favinger noted that two non-compliant landlords, who have not yet paid fines that Favinger issued in 2016, will be taken to court to force payment.

Code Enforcement Officer Bill Kirby reported that he issued 75 notices for property maintenance deficiencies in May.

Kirby also filed three municipal liens on non-compliant property owners in May, representing the first liens that Upland Borough has filed in 2017.



Borough Has Big Plans For Vacant Corner

At its Feb. 14 meeting, Borough Council condemned the vacant building (formerly a laundromat) at #2 Hill Street. The adjacent residences at #4 and #6 Hill Street were recently purchased by the borough.

Now that all three adjoining structures are under borough control, the corner of 8th and Hill Streets will be razed as a precursor to the creation of a new public park.

The park will extend west on 8th Street, utilizing land that was cleared a few years ago, when a small vacant house (aka "the chicken coop") was condemned by Council and then razed.

As outlined on the sketch plan above, the goal in creating Upland Park will be to improve three prominent corners (8th & Hill Sts.; Hill St. & Upland Ave.; and Upland Ave. & Kerlin St.) that together constitute one of the main entrances to the borough. The sketch plan (which is available for public review at MacQueen Hall) was drafted by Catania Engineering, and delineates the proposed major features in the park's three sections, including walkways, benches, a fountain, and a clock tower.

The park project will not cost borough taxpayers a dime, since Council has used funds garnered from the commercial parking tax to purchase the properties, and will be pursuing grant funding through a variety of local sources, as well.

Egg Hunt Draws Crowd



Upland's Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on the morning of April 15, with scores of children in three different age groups participating. The Egg Hunt and the breakfast at MacQueen Hall that followed, were co-sponsored by Borough Council, Upland Fire Company No. 1, the Upland Athletic Club, and the Marine Corps League Delco Detachment 288.

...As Does Easter Bunny



The Easter Bunny greeted children after the Egg Hunt, then posed for family photos at MacQueen Hall.

Historical Commission Terms Trimmed

At Borough Council's June 13 meeting, a unanimous vote adopted an amendment to the 2009 ordinance that created the Upland Historical Commission, establishing two-year terms for each of the advisory body's five members. Under the approved amendment, those terms were halved to one year, and the five current appointees will see their terms expire on Aug. 1, 2017.

The Upland Historical Commission meets on an as-needed basis to advise Council on matters that might impact the borough's historical resources.

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Borough Bills Available For Public Inspection

A question that has repeatedly popped up at Borough Council meetings is: When are residents allowed to review the list of bills that the borough pays every month?

The simple answer is: Immediately after Council has approved the payment of said bills at a Council meeting, but not before payment of those bills is authorized.

Residents Request Main Street Repairs

Two Upland residents have recently come before Council asking the same question: When is the roughly patched stretch of Main Street near the charter school going to be fixed?

The narrow roadway was repaired with a collection of uneven asphalt patches this spring, after the Chester Water Authority had drilled several locator holes, as part of an ongoing water main upgrade.

The asphalt patchwork has resulted in a very bumpy ride for vehicles passing by the school. The combination of recessed stormwater inlets along the curbline and the uneven patches have reportedly led many motorists to veer out of their lane to avoid the dips and bumps – a dangerous practice on such a narrow street.

While Council has sympathized with residents' complaints, there is little that the borough can do to remedy the situation, since Main Street is a state-owned and state-maintained highway. Upland Borough has formally requested that the patched road be resurfaced, but that decision rests solely in PennDOT's hands.

Unfortunately, Council President Chris Peterson could not assure the concerned residents that the rough section of Main Street would be repaired soon, despite the volume of traffic that the road sees during the school year and year-round as a SEPTA bus route. Peterson noted that the borough is trying to gain PennDOT's cooperation through the borough engineer's contacts, but that process may take time.

"We can't spend taxpayers' money to fix that road, because it's a state road," Peterson explained. "We've sent PennDOT a letter, so they've been apprised, and hopefully they'll do something."

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Shredding/Drug Collection Day Deemed Success

The Shred-It Day and Prescription Drug Collection Day that the borough held on June 3 was a resounding success by any measure. According to borough officials, the opportunity for free document shredding in the MacQueen Hall parking lot was utilized by many residents, filling eight large containers with shredded paper, while the collection of outdated prescription drugs at Upland Police headquarters safely disposed of 6 lbs. of unwanted drugs.

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