



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



Vol. 10-8; August 2018 edition



July 4th Sizzles In Upland



The kids knew how to beat the heat at this year's Annual July Fourth Family Picnic, where the free food and fun were provided by the Community Affairs Committee.



Among our youth, swimwear was preferred to make temperatures in the low 90s more bearable.



...While an ample supply of frosty snowcones and ice cold beverages certainly helped cool things off.



The Crawford sisters (left to right: Diana, Shannon, Moira, and Denise) were among the volunteers who worked hard in the pavilion to make the Family Picnic a success.

Noise Ordinance To Be Amended To Cover Fireworks

Recent changes to the state law regarding the purchase and use of fireworks has led to an uptick in sales, and as a result, an increase in the number of occasions when fireworks are a public nuisance. Upland Borough Council members described the proliferation of fireworks around the July Fourth holiday as turning Upland into “a war zone,” where late night explosions sent frightened pets running for cover and kept entire neighborhoods awake past midnight.

“This has to be done safely and at a reasonable time,” Council President Christine Peterson said of setting off hand-held fireworks.

In an effort to thwart future instances of late night fireworks abuse, Council is planning to amend the noise ordinance in the borough code to include fireworks-related disturbances. The proposed amendment will likely be voted on at Council’s Aug. 28 session.

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Boro Transfers Funds

At Borough Council’s July 10 session, the transfer of \$215,000 was authorized from the PLGIT special revenue account to the General Fund, to cover the cost of a series of recent upgrades and public improvement projects.

Included in the improvements are benches and landscaping at the Kerlin Street/Upland Avenue intersection; demolition of three buildings on the corner of Eighth & Hill Streets; creation of new public parking lots on Eighth Street and Sixth Street; and the recent “painting” of the new wall section along Main Street.

Enhancement of the new stone wall with coloring stain cost \$8,600. Council was so pleased with the results that re-pointing and “painting” the remainder of the Main Street wall is now being considered.

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Sewer Lateral Blockage Becomes Cautionary Tale

Borough Engineer Dan Archdeacon’s report on recent Catania Engineering activities at the July 10 Borough Council meeting included a plumbing incident that could happen in any family home.

When a sewer lateral blockage was reported at a Ninth Street address, Catania Engineering oversaw the inspection and removal of the blockage, which turned out to be an entire container of sanitary wipes that had been flushed down the toilet, presumably by a child.

Archdeacon suggested that the emergency removal of the accidental blockage was a costly reminder of the value of keeping easily-flushable items away from children in the bathroom.

Attention

All Property Owners:

Code Enforcement Crack Down Is Pending

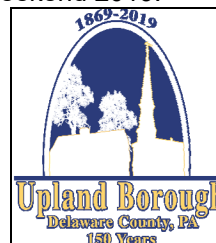
Borough Council is hereby giving all property owners fair notice that stricter enforcement of property maintenance laws will be coming to Upland Borough this summer and fall.

An increase in the number of properties where tall grass and/or trash and debris can be plainly seen from the street was recently discussed by Council. The agreed solution will be the issuance of more citations and fewer warnings from the code enforcement officer, with unpaid citations leading to the filing of municipal liens against noncompliant property owners.

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Sesquicentennial Merchandise On Sale Now

Baseball caps and t-shirts bearing the special logo for Upland Borough’s 150th birthday celebration are now available at the borough office during regular business hours. The sesquicentennial logo items will also be sold (for \$10 each) at upcoming public events and during the many planned festivities on Memorial Day weekend 2019.



It's time to get your Upland Borough gear on!

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Historical Commission Dissolved

The memberless Upland Historical Commission (UHC) was officially dissolved by Borough Council at its July 10 meeting.

The now defunct advisory board was established in July 2014 to assess the impact of tearing down potentially-historic buildings on the Crozer Hospital campus. After reviewing this one case, the UHC has since been dormant.

Last year, Borough Council terminated the terms of all five UHC charter members, effective as of Dec. 31, 2017.

Council President Christine Peterson noted that the Delaware County Heritage Commission would be able to provide Upland Borough with the same kind of guidance and advice, should the issue of historic demolition arise again.

This edition of *The Uplander* is edition #100 – The borough newsletter began as a quarterly in August 2009, and became a monthly publication in December 2011.

**Free tours of the historic
1683 Caleb Pusey House on Race Street
are available every Saturday,
from 1 to 4pm, through October.**

UPD Adds Three P.T. Officers

Upland Police Department vacancies were filled when three part-time officers were sworn in by Mayor Bill Dennon on July 10.

Officer Stephen Mengini, age 28, grew up in Woodlyn and graduated from Ridley High School in 2008, then from the Delco Police Academy in 2010. Mengini has since worked a year as a Lincoln University campus police officer and six years with the Philadelphia sheriff's office, as well as a previous two-year stint as a part-time Upland cop.

Officer Lawrence Porter, 50, is originally from Detroit, MI. He attended Schoolcraft College, where he earned an associate's degree in criminal justice. Porter served the community of Southfield, MI for 24 years, with the last 10 being as a police sergeant.

Officer Bryan Reeser, 40, hales from Brooklyn, NY. He attended Kingsboro College for two years, and graduated from the Temple University Police Academy in 2018.

Prior to becoming a police officer, Reeser worked as a U.S. park ranger for three years and as a federal officer with the Department of Defense for four years. His most recent position was serving as a police officer for the Chester Housing Authority.

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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 June 2018, Upland officers issued 144 citations, all but 15 of which were traffic citations. The year-to-date total for citations issued is 948.

Thirty-nine parking tickets were also written in June, bringing the 2018 total up to 231.

Eight motor vehicle accidents were reported on borough roadways in June.

A total of 69 vehicles have been towed in 2018.

The UPD answered a total of 513 calls in June, in addition to making 50 assists to other local agencies. As of the end of June, the total call volume for this year is 2,928 calls.

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

Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday **Aug. 28**, Sept. 11, and Oct. 9
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

(Please note: Aug. meeting on fourth Tuesday)

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UBC Summer Lunch Program

Six weeks of activities and free lunch
for any child (18 and under)

Activities from 11:00 to 11:45am;

Lunch from 11:45 to 12:15pm

Monday thru Thursday, thru Aug. 2
at Upland Baptist Church

Monday – Bible stories and activities

Tuesday – Craft Day

Wednesday – Board Game Day

Thursday – Library Day with guest reader

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UPD National Night Out

Open House

6:30 to 9:00pm on Tuesday, Aug. 7

(DATE CORRECTED!)

at Bristol Lord Field

Police demonstrations & equipment on display

Free food & information

Helicopter landing; Mickey Mouse & Cookie Monster

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Annual Youth Magic Show

3 to 5pm on Saturday, Aug. 18

at MacQueen Hall

With pizza party & make-your-own ice cream sundaes

Attendees must show proof of residency

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Annual Labor Day Weekend

Fireworks Display

Starts at dusk (about 8:45) on Sunday, Sept. 2

at Bristol Lord Field

Food and refreshments available at pavilion

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2nd Annual Classic Car Show

on Saturday, Sept. 8 (rain date: Sept. 22)

Registration starts at 10:00am

at Upland Baptist Church parking lot

DJ; 50/50 raffle; Food & beverages available

This is a fundraiser for the Upland Fire Company

Donations of non-perishable items will be accepted
for UBC Food Bank

Call Paul at 484-485-1297 for more info

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Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Sept. 15

at MacQueen Hall

Adults: \$10; Seniors: \$8; Children \$6

Proceeds benefit Community Affairs Committee

Little Free Library Opens

An idea that was hatched by Upland Police Corporal Michael Curran recently came to fruition with the installation of a Little Free Library book exchange box on Castle Avenue. The box itself was made by master carpenter Parker Ferguson, who also serves as the borough's building inspector.

Officer Curran is promoting the benefits of summer reading and the expansion of young minds. The Little Free Library is an extension of a reading program launched by Upland Police Chief Mike Irey, wherein Upland officers visit Main Street Elementary and the Chester Charter School to read to students every week during the school year.

"With the Little Library, residents will be able to share books and avoid the cost of purchasing one," said Curran. "I sincerely hope the community will utilize this Little Library, not only for the sharing of books, but also to meet new people with similar interests and to form friendships," he added.



It didn't take long for a collection of paperback and hardback books to become available in the Little Free Library box, located at the entrance to the MacQueen Hall parking lot.



These signs (provided by the state at no cost to the borough) will soon be posted in Upland's parks and playgrounds, in an effort to spare our children from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke. Borough Council recently passed an ordinance that prohibits smoking in public areas, and provides up to a \$500 fine for violations.

New Officers Sworn In



Mayor Bill Dennon swore in new part-time Officer Stephen Mengini on July 10, while his son, Mason, held the Bible and his girlfriend, Jessica Kelso, looked on.



Veteran Officer Lawrence 'Larry' Porter was sworn, while his wife, Shelley, held the Bible.



...And experienced Officer Bryan Reeser was also sworn in.

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Upland Police Chief Mike Irey (far left) and Mayor Dennon were among the first to congratulate the UPD's newest hires. (See story on page 3)

Carnival Comes To Town



The outdoor carnival's annual visit to Bristol Lord Field in early June appealed to fun-seeking families, and generated \$3,800 in borough revenue, which will be applied to future events sponsored by the Community Affairs Committee.

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Some carnival rides promoted togetherness...



...While other rides attracted the thrill-seekers among us.



The wide variety of tasty food that was available at the carnival kept hungry attendees happy.

Vet Flag Project Earns Kudos

The recent hanging of red, white & blue memorial flags to honor Upland's Hometown Hero military veterans has drawn praise and recognition for Upland Borough.

A recent Daily Times Sound Off column expressed the feelings of many who have seen the flags on display, stating: ***"I'd like to compliment Upland Borough on the use of veterans' pictures on flags on the utility poles. That's an outstanding gesture, and as a veteran, I appreciate it very much."***

If you see that a Hometown Heroes flag is damaged in any way, or needs to be rehung from a utility pole, please call the borough office at **610-874-7317**.

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Council Approves Police Purchases

The purchase of two new police vehicles and a monogrammed event tent were recently authorized by Borough Council.

At the May 22 session, Council approved the expenditure of \$43,995 for a new Chevy Tahoe, contingent on receiving a CoStars grant, which would lessen the cost. The 2018 Tahoe will replace a 2012 Tahoe with 50,000+ miles on the odometer, which could then be used by the borough's code enforcement officer.

At Council's June 26 meeting, the purchase of a 2017 Ford Interceptor sedan was authorized, to take advantage of CoStars' low price of \$23,891. This squad car will bring the UPD fleet back up to six operational marked vehicles.

The purchase of a 10 x 15-foot sideless tent for use at special events was also approved by Council. The tent will be personalized for the Upland Police Department and will cost \$1,495.

Police Officers Promoted



Mayor Bill Dennon swore in two promoted UPD members on June 26, with Officer Andrew Nicholl (above) being assigned as the department's new detective and Officer Carl White (below) moving from part-time to full-time status. During the swearing, the ceremonial Bible was held by Nicholl's girlfriend, Trisha Frassetto, and by Mrs. Theresa White.



After the oath was administered, the newly promoted officers relaxed, smiled, and posed for this photo along with Mayor Dennon (far left), Upland Police Chief Mike Irey (behind officers), and Officer White's two daughters.

Reese Center Study Approved

Borough Council has authorized the expenditure of \$8,100 for an MEP assessment study of the borough-owned facilities at the Reese Center on W. 24th Street. The study will analyze the condition of all mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems at the 5-acre former Defense Department site.

Boro Seeks Bids For 2018 Paving

Upland Borough is now advertising for bidders vying for the 2018 road program contract. The only borough roadway slated for repaving this year is about 700 linear feet of Woodside Avenue, from Tenth Street to the terminus, or in other words, the remaining portion of Woodside that was not recently repaved.

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Boro Needs Plumbing Inspector

Upland Borough is advertising for a new plumbing/mechanical inspector. Qualified persons should send a resume and introductory letter to the attention of **Borough Manager Mike Ciach, 224 Castle Avenue, Upland, PA 19015.**

In the short-run, Catania Engineering will be performing the borough's plumbing and mechanical inspection duties, as needed.

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Upland Applies For Pothole Relief

Borough Engineer Dan Archdeacon recently submitted Upland's application to the county for \$1,522 in additional funding to fix potholes. Delco Council is making extra money available through the Liquid Fuels Fund, in recognition of a heavy-plowing winter season that created more than the usual number of potholes across Delaware County. The amount that Upland will receive for pothole repairs will be determined by the number of municipal applicants.

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Kerlin St. Benches Installed

The first phase of planned enhancements to the Kerlin St./Upland Ave. intersection was recently completed with the installation of two park benches and landscaping on the northeast corner of the bustling crossroads.

As of June 26, a punchlist of items that still needed attention on the improved corner included two sections of fencing and the replacement of one new planting that had died.

Security cameras and additional lighting are also pending for the site.

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.

More Street Lighting Requested To Curb Vehicle Break-ins

Upland residents, along with neighboring communities, have recently been the victims of a series of overnight vehicle break-ins. **Residents are urged to take care to close car/truck windows and lock all doors at night**, as these thieves are generally looking for the easy pickings provided by unlocked vehicles.

Two Church Street residents came before Council on June 26 to report frequent vehicle break-ins in their neighborhood, with most occurring between the wee hours of 2 to 4am. They noted that one neighbor has already been hit by thieves "three or four times."

"Whoever is doing this, they keep coming back over and over and over again," lamented one resident.

Although there are security cameras in the area, the captured images are too dark to discern faces, the residents said. The situation led the concerned residents to ask Council for more street lights and more early morning police patrols to improve security on Church Street.

Council VP Moira Crawford vowed to look into the possibility of adding more street lighting, but noted that such an improvement could be costly and would require extensive coordination and cooperation with PECO.

In the meantime, the best defense against vehicle break-ins is for every resident to use common sense and be vigilant.

"If you see anything out of the ordinary, call the police immediately," Councilman Dick McClintock advised residents.

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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.

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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.

Upland Celebrates Memorial Day



(Above) Memorial Day festivities kicked off with a wreath-laying ceremony at Rev. David & Dorothy MacQueen's gravesite in the cemetery of Upland Baptist Church. (Below) Gun salutes were given by an honor guard made up of members of the Marine Corps League Delco Detachment 288 at three memorial services.



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But nothing draws a crowd like the free food served up at the 15th Annual Memorial Day Picnic, co-sponsored by Upland Baptist and Resurrection Life Churches. Reverend Brenda Shaw and Pastor Bryan McGrouty (above) were pleased with the turnout.

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Upland Has 'Quiet Time' Law

In response to a resident's recent inquiry, Borough Council reminds all residents that Upland Borough has a noise ordinance that calls for "quiet time" between the hours of 10:00pm and 7:30am. Your neighbors thank you for faithfully observing this law.

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Logo Contest Winner Named

In connection with plans that are now being made to celebrate Upland Borough's 150th Anniversary in May 2019, Borough Council held a contest to create a special Upland Borough logo. A cash prize of \$250 was offered for the winning logo design. This special borough logo will be applied to several giveaway items at the 150th Anniversary celebration, to be held over the 2019 Memorial Day weekend.

A total of four unique design ideas were submitted. Borough Council declared the winning entry to be that of Vinnie Caroselli, a lifelong Upland resident who is currently majoring in graphic design as a sophomore at Juniata College. Caroselli's logo design features the silhouette of the Upland Baptist Church steeple and the Caleb Pusey House, representing two of Upland Borough's most recognizable historic structures (see below).



Scholarship Fund Established

To honor the March 2017 passing of Upland native David Oronzio, his father George has established a scholarship fund for students pursuing careers in fire, police, or EMS work. The Dave Oronzio First Responders Foundation is aiming to hand out a \$500 scholarship to a deserving student each year.

The first scholarship award will go to a volunteer member of Middletown Fire Company Station 50, with whom Dave Oronzio ran for 15 years.

To learn more, visit www.daveoronzio.com.



The Upland Police Department held its annual awards dinner on May 17, with Officer Glenn Greenwalt (center) receiving the Captain Robert C. Love Officer of the Year Award. Greenwalt was congratulated by former Upland police head Love (left) and current Upland Police Chief Michael Irely.

Council Mulls Permit Discount For Senior Citizens

A borough resident recently asked Borough Council to consider waiving permit fees for disabled veterans, but since Upland only has a handful of disabled veterans, Council is discussing going a step further and offering a permit fee discount to all senior citizens.

The possibility of waiving permit fees was discussed at length at Council's May 8 caucus session, but since borough inspectors get paid for their work through those fees, waiving the fee altogether was not seen as practical. A percentage discount on certain types of permit fees, however, was generally viewed as something the borough could offer to help out seniors on fixed incomes.

The exact details of a permit fee discount program will be worked out soon and announced at a future Council meeting. Once a proposal is formalized, the borough will then be able to budget accordingly for fiscal 2019, when the proposed discounts would go into effect, noted Council VP Moira Crawford.

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Recycling Costs Skyrocket

Upland Borough's trash hauler, B & L Disposal, recently notified all of its customers that "the recycling market has crashed," ever since China stopped accepting shiploads of recyclables from the US. After losing the top buyer for their recycling collections, American trash haulers are saying that their recycling processing costs will now jump, and those cost increases must be passed along to their municipal clients.

As of May 1, according to B & L's notice, the cost to process recyclables has increased from \$1.72 per ton to \$65 per ton – that's a stunning 3,779% hike! Exactly how each municipality handles the cost increase remains to be seen. While large townships are required under state law to have recycling programs, small boroughs like Upland are not.

Other options for Upland Borough Council include negotiating a new contract with B & L or another trash hauler, and/or raising the \$135 per household trash collection fee, which has not been changed since it was first levied in 2008.

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Demolition Contract Awarded

A contract for the demolition of #2, #4, and #6 Hill Street has been awarded to low-bidder BRB Contractors, in the amount of \$49,000. Razing these three corner lots is a precursor to the creation of a new public park that will spruce up the Kerlin St./Upland Ave. intersection.

Demolition is slated to begin this summer on or about July 23.

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