



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



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Seniors Enjoy Turkey Dinner



Upland senior citizens filled their plates with all the trimmings of a home-cooked Thanksgiving meal at the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for Seniors, held at MacQueen Hall on Nov. 4



This dedicated crew of volunteers, led by Councilwomen Moira Crawford and Judy Bush, prepared and served the family-style turkey dinner to about 100 grateful seniors.

Santa Visits Upland



Kids of all ages gave Santa Claus a warm welcome and lots of hugs at MacQueen Hall during the Annual Youth Christmas Party on Nov. 24.



Preliminary 2018 Budget Continues No-Tax-Hike Streak

If the preliminary budget figures are maintained at final budget adoption on Dec. 12, Upland Borough taxpayers will enjoy a **31th consecutive year of the property tax millage holding steady at 2.0 mills** in 2018. Furthermore, the annual trash collection fee, which was set at \$135 per household in 2008, is projected to remain the same for the 10th straight year.

The preliminary 2018 general fund budget is balanced at \$3,508,053. The projected 2018 general budget total would be a new all-time high for borough expenditures, while the \$365,058 rise in spending over this year would be a 11.6% increase. Council Vice President & Finance Committee Chairperson Moira Crawford noted that the increased expenditures were primarily related to the planned addition of two more full-time police officers, potential borough property purchases, a new HVAC system for MacQueen Hall, and the creation of a new parking lot on 8th Street. The preliminary 2018 budget for the borough-owned Auburn Village housing complex totals \$811,560, which is an exact match of the 2016 and 2017 budget totals for Auburn Village.

*** GOP Clean Sweep At Polls**

There were no surprises in the Nov. 7 General Election, when four unopposed Republican incumbents retained their seats on Borough Council; Mayor Bill Dennon was elected to retain his post; and former Republican Councilwoman Linda Kirby was unopposed in her quest to be the borough's next tax collector.

Kirby filed under both the Republican and Democratic sides of the ticket to win her first four-year term as tax collector, while leading all Upland candidates with a total of 369 votes received.

Also running unopposed, Mayor Dennon garnered a total of 235 votes to retain the job he was appointed to do in May 2017, when he took the mayoral reins from Michael Ciach, who retired to fill the vacant post of borough manager. Dennon's first elected term as mayor is for four years.

Councilwoman Sandra Deldeo claimed bragging rights amongst her fellow Council electees, pulling in a total of 242 votes to secure a two-year term. Deldeo was appointed to fill Mayor Dennon's vacated Council seat in June 2017.

Council Vice President Moira Crawford (232 votes), Councilwoman Judith Bush (224), and Councilman Richard McClintock (225) were all unopposed in winning four-year terms on Borough Council.

**Cash Prizes!...Bragging rights!
Get ready for Upland Borough's Annual
Holiday Home Decorating Contest**

Council Announces Upland Logo Contest

In connection with plans that are now being made to celebrate Upland Borough's 150th anniversary in May 2019, Borough Council is holding a contest to create a special Upland Borough logo. The current official logo prominently features the historic 1683 Caleb Pusey House, but the sesquicentennial logo design should reflect and promote Upland's storied history since its formal founding in 1869.

A cash prize of \$250 is being offered for the winning logo design, with Borough Council and the appointed members of the Sesquicentennial Committee determining which design is the best. The logo contest will run from January to March 2018. Significant lead time is needed, since this special borough logo will be applied to several giveaway items at the 150th anniversary celebration.

***** There are no restrictions on who *****

***** can submit a logo design entry. *****

Starting in January, all submissions should be sent to the borough office at 224 Castle Avenue, Upland, PA 19015, c/o the Sesquicentennial Committee.

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More Shred-It Days Planned

Previously held free paper-shredding events have been so popular with residents, Borough Council is planning to hold two more next year.

Although the exact dates are yet to be determined, Council has authorized scheduling a Community Shred-It Day in May 2018 and another in November 2018. Stay tuned for further details.

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AV Roofs To Be Replaced

Recent building inspections at the borough-owned Auburn Village housing complex have identified the need to replace two roofs ASAP, while a third roof "should also be considered," according to Borough Manager Mike Ciach.

The borough engineer has been authorized to bid out the roof replacement project, giving Borough Council the option of doing just two or all three roofs, depending on the comparative prices.

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Council Submits CDBG Wishlist

In January 2018, Upland Borough Council will be submitting a wishlist of public improvement projects that could be funded through a Community Development Block Grant. Delaware County Council will then sort through all the municipal applications for CDBG funding and make grant awards in April.

Upland Borough's 2018 CDBG application includes ballfield and playground improvements to address Bristol Lord Field stormwater runoff issues, and/or a possible upgrade to rubber mulch in the playground.

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 October 2017, Upland officers issued 101 citations (all but 11 of which were traffic citations), bringing the year-to-date total up to 1,660. Forty-one parking tickets were also written in October, bumping that year-to-date total up to 569. A total of 13 motor vehicle accidents were reported on borough roadways in October. As of the end of October, Upland officers had towed a total of 108 vehicles in 2017. The UPD answered a total of 296 calls in October. These calls brought the year-to-date count to 2,920 calls.

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Main Street To Be Repaved This Month

According to Borough Engineer Dan Archdeacon, PennDOT has amended its plans to repave state-owned roadways through Upland Borough, including patch-riddled Main Street, from Sixth Street all the way out to Edgmont Avenue, and now including the length of 8th Street, from Main Street to Kerlin Street. This work had been broadly scheduled to be done sometime over this coming winter or spring, but PennDOT is now indicating that, weather permitting, an attempt will be made to complete the repaving during the month of December 2017. Upland Borough Council had sent a letter to PennDOT earlier this year, requesting the immediate repaving of heavily-traveled Main Street.

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Curbside Leaf Collections

Weather permitting, the last curbside leaf collections for this year will be made on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, **Dec. 5, 6 & 7**. Please rake piles of leaves to curb, not into street.

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8th St. Demolition Completed

The demolition of the vacant building at 227 8th Street was completed in early November, clearing the way for a new public parking lot. The lot where the demolished building once stood has been seeded to prevent erosion in the shortrun, but that open lot will ultimately be paved to create off-street parking for a handful of residents, with those parking spaces being available on a first come, first serve basis. Council President Christine Peterson insisted that final payment of the \$49,000 that is owed to the contractor be withheld, until a borough-owned fence that was damaged during the demolition is repaired.

Boro Accepts Pension MMO

At Borough Council's Nov. 14 meeting, the borough accepted the fiscal responsibility of funding the pension plans of both uniformed and non-uniformed borough employees. The Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) to fund each pension plan has been included in Upland's 2018 general budget. The MMO to fund the police pension plan next year, based on an estimated annual payroll of \$368,298, is \$68,440. Based on an estimated annual payroll of \$402,556, the MMO to fund the non-uniformed employees pension plan for 2018 is \$37,894.

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Council Extends Healthcare Contract

Borough Council has authorized the borough manager to enter into a three-year contract extension with DCIU Health Care Trust, who provides the medical insurance and healthcare plans for all borough employees. Under the extended contract, there will be no increase in Upland Borough's healthcare premiums for 2018.

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

Tuesday Dec. 12, Jan. 2(reorg), Jan. 9, and Feb. 13
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

Please note: Jan. 2 Reorganization Meeting starts at 7pm

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Annual Upland Senior Citizens Club Holiday Party

Doors open at 9am; Lunch served at noon
on Monday, Dec. 11
at MacQueen Hall

Open to USCC members only

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UBC Night of Music

Starts at 6:30pm on Monday, Dec. 18
at Upland Baptist Church

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Santa Tours Borough

Starting at 10am, then again in early evening
on Saturday Dec. 23 (rain date: Sunday, Dec. 24)
Santa hands out candy canes, while riding in a firetruck

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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

7pm on Sunday, Dec. 24
at Upland Baptist Church

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Website Provides Valuable Info

Visit **www.uplandboro.org** to find an expanded version of the borough's monthly newsletter.

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

mcrawford@uplandboro.org



Last Call For Hometown Heroes

Upland Borough Council's plan to launch a streetscape project to honor hometown military veterans has cleared a major hurdle, by recently reaching the minimum-order benchmark of 40 Hometown Heroes flags ordered.

The Borough plans to hang the Hometown Heroes flags 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 flags will be hung in May 2018, then left up until the holiday season. Once the flags come down from public display, each ordering family will get their flag(s) 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. The Borough will cover half the cost of each flag, which would require an estimated \$75 donation per flag from each ordering family, but the actual cost cannot be determined until the order is placed early in 2018. **A total of 41 flags have been ordered so far, so the production order will be placed soon, making NOW the time to add your order to the final count.**

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 at **610-874-7317** to order a Hometown Heroes flag for your favorite veteran.



The congregation of Resurrection Life Church held their 14th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 18, serving up 325 free turkey dinners to local residents.



These clever and eye-catching costumes were among the winners at this year's Youth Halloween Party.



Halloween Costume Winners

Upland Borough's Annual Youth Halloween Party on Oct. 28 drew a crowd of costumed attendees that made picking the best costumes a tough job for the judges. First place winners received \$15 in cash; second place took home \$10; and third place was good for \$5.

After careful deliberation, the following were named as the winners in each of three age groups:

Ages 0 to 4:

- 1st - Nathaniel Whitt (Thomas the Tank Engine)
- 2nd - Molly Thompson (Cruella deVil)
- 3rd - Rowan Hewes (Mummy)

Ages 5 to 8:

- 1st - Lila Hansell ('IT' Clown)
- 2nd - Olivia Jones (Broken doll)
- 3rd - Matthew Shaw (Jellyfish)

Ages 9 to 13:

- 1st - Za'Niyah Lewis (Gypsy)
- 2nd - Harlem Magraw (Assassin)
- 3rd - Amorie Davis (Monster)

Youth Halloween Party Provides Frightful Fun



Ghoulish clowns were among the popular costumes at this year's Youth Halloween Party on Oct. 28.



While other costumes spanned the spectrum from clever and cute to downright adorable.



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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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.

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Fire Pit Burning Regs Clarified

The owner of the borough's first approved fire pit recently came before Council to clarify the rules and regulations that restrict the use of his pit, including a prohibition on burning lumber, treated wood, and any type of building or construction materials.

The fire pit owner was assured that he is allowed to burn any type of natural wood, regardless of where it once grew.



At the request of the Upland AC, a Bristol Lord Field bench was dedicated to Joseph 'Parker' Ferguson on Oct. 22. Surrounded by his extended family and friends, Ferguson recounted his 28 years of service as Upland Borough's building inspector, and called the dedication "the greatest moment of my life." "I hope heaven is like Upland, or I don't want to go," Ferguson said of his hometown.

(Below) The placard that is imbedded in concrete at the foot of Parker Ferguson's bench.



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.

Children Playing In Streets + Speeding Cars = Bad Mix

When a concerned parent recently came before Borough Council, seeking relief from traffic speeding through her residential Front Street neighborhood, the ensuing discussion shed light on a combination of issues that have created a dangerous situation.

The Front Street resident stated that cars routinely traverse the posted 15MPH zone at 25MPH or better. She said that the required stopping distance at 25MPH is 38 feet, and noted that even a low-speed impact was capable of injuring a child.

Upland Police Chief Michael Irey did not dispute that some vehicles do speed on Front Street, but he did say that writing tickets for each offense would be practically impossible. For starters, traffic citations are only handed out for violations in excess of 5MPH over the posted limit. Secondly, the stretch of Front Street where the speeding generally occurs is not long enough for enforcement of low-level violations, since a 500-foot leeway is given where two different speed limits meet, and Front Street is bracketed by 25MPH zones.

When the resident suggested that greater police presence was needed on Front Street, Irey noted that the UPD has no record of any Front Street speeding complaints over the past two years.

"If you don't call, I don't know, and if I don't know, I can't help you," Irey told the resident.

During the discussion, it was also revealed that small children playing in the street (specifically, a child riding an electric toy car) are part of the safety problem on Front Street. Keeping unsupervised pre-schoolers off the streets is obviously not a borough or police matter, but a parental responsibility.

Irey agreed to follow up on the speeding complaint, and volunteered to talk directly to neighborhood children about street safety.

At the end of the exchange, Council President Christine Peterson made it clear that if residents want borough or police assistance, all they have to do is ask for it.

"When someone calls me, the chief, any Council member, the borough manager, or the mayor, we are very responsive to anyone who asks us for help," Peterson stated for the record.

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UPD Increases Training Pay

Borough Council has unanimously agreed to revise the compensation schedule for new Upland police officers during their six-week field training period. Field officer training requires 240 hours on duty. A few years ago, new officers were only paid for 40 hours of this time, but recently have received pay for 80 hours of training. Now, pending revisions to the compensation policy will see freshmen officers getting paid for 120 hours (the last three weeks) of the mandatory field training program.

Upland Ave. Park Contract Awarded

Borough Council has awarded a contract in the amount of \$42,610 to low-bidder J & J Concrete & Paving, of Havertown, for construction related to the creation of a new public park at the intersection of Upland Avenue and Kerlin Street. Five construction companies participated in the bidding process, submitting bids that ranged as high as \$60,345.

The Upland Avenue Park will sit on the northeast corner, diagonally across the intersection from the new park on the corner of 8th & Hill Streets.



Demo Bids Sought For Corner Lots

Council has authorized the borough engineer to seek bids for the demolition of three contiguous properties - #2, #4, and #6 Hill Street, located on the corner of 8th and Hill Streets. The removal of the adjoining vacant buildings is a precursor to the creation of a new public park on the corner.



A refurbished outdoor pavilion was recently re-dedicated to honor local Marines at the Sixth Street headquarters of Delco Detachment 288 of the Marine Corps League.

Marines Honor Their Own

Marine Corps League, Delco Detachment 288 members gathered on Sept. 7 to re-dedicate a refurbished outdoor pavilion to three deceased comrades: USMC Gunnery Sergeant Edward 'Mac' McGrainer, Gunnery Sergeant Paul Simpson, and Corporal Richard 'Leonard' McClintock.

McGrainer served in Viet Nam and died in 1987. Simpson served with the Marines in World War II and later as the Delco Detachment 288 chaplain. McClintock served stateside, joining the Marine Corps in 1973 and just missing service in Viet Nam. He died earlier this year at age 61.



Photos courtesy of George Patterson



An Upland fundraiser that generated \$348 for the borough's Community Affairs Committee and First Responders was held at Reactors Comedy Club on Sept. 30, with about 30 Upland supporters in attendance. The evening of entertainment featured sets by three different comedians, headlined by the 6-ft. 6-in. Larry XL (Below).



Mayor Raises \$, Just For Laughs

Upland's Community Affairs Committee and the borough's first responders (Upland Fire Company No. 1 and the Upland Police Department) laughed all the way to the bank on Sept. 30, when Mayor Bill Dennon organized a successful fundraiser at the Reactors Comedy Club at the Wyndham Hotel in Glen Mills. There were plenty of laughs to go around, as three stand-up comics entertained the crowd of Upland residents and supporters.

In addition to the 50/50 split that Reactors Comedy Club offers non-profit organizations on tickets sold, the fundraiser also included a 50/50 raffle and raffling off three gift baskets and special American flag art that was donated. According to Dennon, the total amount raised was \$348.

Dennon thanked Linda DiGiandomenico and Janet & Joe Coneen for their help in organizing the fundraiser; Josh & Summer Boyd for the donated flag canvasses; and Upland Baptist Church for the donated gift baskets.

Committee Set Up For 150th Anniversary

The 150th anniversary of the official establishment of Upland Borough will be celebrated on May 24, 2019. To recognize this milestone occasion, Borough Council has created a special committee to serve the community as event planners. Stay tuned for more details on Upland's pending birthday party.

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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.

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.



A night of Designer Bag Bingo was held at MacQueen Hall on Oct. 21, to raise funds to support the Annual Police Unity Tour. A packed house enjoyed games of Bingo and donated thousands of dollars for dozens of raffle items to help support next year's Philadelphia to Washington DC law enforcement memorial bike ride.



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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Fireworks Light Up Labor Day Weekend



Upland Borough's Annual Labor Day Weekend Fireworks Show drew hundreds of Uplanders to Bristol Lord Field on Sept. 3, to see a spectacular pyrotechnics display.



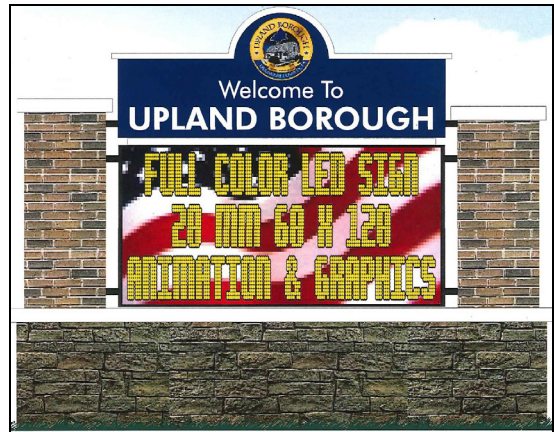
Before the show, friends and families gathered together on the field and staked out their prime viewing spots.

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."



This is a sample of the digital electric sign that will soon be installed on the southwest corner of Sixth & Main Streets. The Council-approved design was chosen from a list of three options, so as to differ from a similar sign in Brookhaven.

Borough Updates Fee Schedule

At the Oct. 10 meeting, Borough Council adopted a handful of changes to the borough's fee schedule, which covers a wide range of permits and special usage fees.

Some of the approved changes are fee reductions, including a drop in the permit fee for demolition of commercial properties and a reduced fee for Use & Occupancy re-inspections. The per-copy charge for black & white copies is another fee reduction, being halved from 50 cents down to a quarter.

A new section was also added to the fee schedule to allow the borough to recover all costs associated with filing municipal liens. Effective immediately, a \$500 fee will be attached to all municipal nuisance liens to cover attorney fees and court costs, and all property maintenance costs incurred by the borough will also be added to the lien.

Additional information and specific details on all borough fee schedule changes are available at the borough office.

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Ciach Tabbed For Pension Oversight

Upland Borough Council has named Borough Manager Mike Ciach to serve as the Chief Administrative Officer for the borough's uniformed and non-uniformed employee pension funds. The state mandates that a borough official be responsible for preparing and providing updated pension fund reports on a regular basis.

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