



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



Vol. 10-2; February 2018 edition



Whole Lotta Swearin' Goin' On



Newly-promoted Upland Police Corporals William Meyer (above, with wife Theresa) and Michael Curran (below, with fiancé Kimberly Leonard) had their new badges pinned on, after the veteran police officers were sworn in as corporals by Mayor Dennon on Jan. 9.



The winners of this holiday season's
Home Decorating Contest will be
announced at Upland Borough
Council's Feb. 13 public meeting.



At Borough Council's Jan. 2 reorganization meeting, Mayor William Dennon (above) and three elected Council members (below, left to right: Sandra Deldeo, Moira Crawford, and Judith Bush) were sworn in by the Honorable Judge Linda A. Cartisano. Re-elected Councilman Richard McClintock was absent, due to illness, and was sworn in a separate ceremony.



*



...While the group effort to swear in elected Tax Collector Linda Kirby was a family affair.

Council Holding 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 winning designer will surrender all control and royalty rights with acceptance of the prize money, to give the borough a free hand in the variety of ways that the logo can be presented and reproduced.

The logo contest will run from January through March 2018. Significant lead time is needed, since 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.

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

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

All submissions should be sent to the borough office at **224 Castle Avenue, Upland, PA 19015, c/o the Sesquicentennial Committee.**

*

Upland Fire Co. Completes Busy Year

The all-volunteer members of Upland Fire Company No. 1 provided our community with another year of outstanding service during 2017, as indicated by the year-end summary presented by Fire Chief Dan Smith at Borough Council's Jan. 9 meeting.

Last year, UFC vols were called to action on 318 occasions, including nine fire incidents, 150 non-fire incidents, 124 mutual aid assists, and 35 drills.

The fire incidents included three vehicle fires, three single family dwellings, two vegetation/grass fires, and one dumpster fire.

Total property losses for 2017 include \$150,000 in structural damage, \$30,000 in lost contents, and \$7,000 in vehicle damage.

In 2017, the fire company also responded to the scene of 14 motor vehicle accidents, two fuel leak/spills, six gas/vapor leaks, and three electrical lines down.

Unfortunately, there were 89 false alarm responses last year, as well.

Fortunately, there were no carbon monoxide-in-structure calls, and no firefighters or civilians were injured at fire scenes last year.

Our most sincere gratitude is extended to the volunteers of Upland Fire Company No. 1 for their selfless dedication to the safety of our community.

Council Leadership Gets Unanimous Support

Choosing Borough Council's leaders for 2018 was quickly dispatched at the Jan. 2 reorganization meeting, where Council President Christine Peterson and Vice President Moira Crawford both received the unanimous support of their fellow Council members in being elected to continue as Council's leadership tandem for a third consecutive year.

Not only were Peterson and Crawford both unanimously approved, they were also the lone nominees for their respective positions.

*

Kudos Given To Road Crews

Two borough residents publicly thanked members of the Upland Borough Highway Department at the Jan. 9 Council meeting, on the heels of a string of early-winter snowfalls that required street plowing and salting.

"I'd like to say what a great job our guys did with the snow and the ice," Councilwoman/Streets & Equipment Committee Chair Judy Bush stated during her report. *"We appreciate how clean our streets are, and so does everyone else who drives through,"* she added.

"I'd like to commend the Streets Department for the outstanding job that they did, tirelessly, because I saw them going up and down the streets 24 hours a day," said George Oronzio of Woodside Avenue.

*

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 December 2017, Upland officers issued 61 citations (all but eight of which were traffic citations), bringing the year's total up to 1,777.

Fifty-seven parking tickets were also written in December, bumping that year-long total up to 667.

A total of nine motor vehicle accidents were reported on borough roadways in December.

Upland officers towed a total of 166 vehicles in 2017.

The UPD answered a total of 411 calls in December, in addition to making 38 assists to other local agencies. These calls brought the 2017 count up to a total of 5,651 calls received.

*

Demolition Bidders Sought

The borough is currently seeking bids for the demolition of #2, #4, and #6 Hill Street, located on the corner of 8th & Hill Sts. Razing the three adjacent buildings on the corner is a precursor to the creation of a new public park on the site.

Annual Appointments Made

A laundry list of annual appointments (mostly reappointments) were made at Borough Council's Jan. 2 reorganization session, as follows:

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

Health Inspector & Code Enforcement Officer William Kirby will remain at his posts, while other one-year re-appointments include Building Inspector & Zoning Code Officer Joseph Ferguson, Plumbing Inspector Thomas Kennedy (doing business as Tri-County Comfort Systems), Electrical Inspector James Skulski, Health Officer Dr. Robert Crowell, MD, Zoning Solicitor John J. Wills, Esq., and Civil Service Solicitor & Special Legal Counsel Michael L. Maddren, Esq.

The only annual appointment that represented a change was naming Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith to also serve as the borough's fire marshal. In addition to investigating the specific cause of fire incidents, the fire marshal conducts fire safety inspections on all commercial and rental properties within the borough every year. The position is paid an \$800 annual retainer, plus \$50 per inspection, which is half of the borough's fire safety inspection fee.

After two vacancies were filled, the membership of the borough's three advisory boards now includes:

Zoning Hearing Board: Dorreda Shaw, Jennifer Hostetler, Edward Klepacki, Harris Bloom, and Ronald Reynolds

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

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

*

AV Roof Bids Received; Rent Delinquents Listed

Upland Borough recently held a bid opening, with five bidders vying for a contract to install new roofs on two of the borough-owned Auburn Village buildings. Although the low bidder was clear, with Ram Siding Co., Inc. of Douglasville, PA coming in at \$33,700, the low bid was so low in comparison to the other bids that quality concerns were raised. With Ram Siding offering to do the job for 40% less than the average bid (\$56,337) of their competitors, Council tabled the contract award until the low-bidding contractor is further investigated.

*

In other Auburn Village matters, a list of AV residents who are delinquent on payment of their rent has been compiled by the borough office and will soon be presented to Borough Council for consideration and/or action.

New Street Name Signs Under Consideration

Borough Manager Mike Ciach recently polled Borough Council members as to a preference on a variety of styles of street-name signs, leading up to a planned signage upgrade. Ciach noted that the new signs would be ordered and installed in phases over the upcoming months, starting with the numbered streets off Main Street, but the ultimate goal is to have all new street-name signage in place for Upland Borough's 150th Anniversary celebration in May 2019.

* * * * *

Did You Know?: *The upper floor of Old Main (located on the Crozer Hospital campus) served as a prison for Confederate soldiers during the Civil War. Although their hand carvings into the woodwork have been painted over, you can still read the messages that the prisoners left behind during their stay in Upland.*

* * * * *

VBS Night at UBC

6 to 7pm on Mondays, Feb. 5, 12 and 26
at Upland Baptist Church

Includes dinner at 6pm, followed by Bible lesson
and creative activity from 6:30 to 7pm

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

*

Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday Feb. 13, March 13, and April 10
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

*

Soup & Salad Dinner Fundraiser

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Feb. 17
at MacQueen Hall

Salad bar, plus homemade chili & soups

All-u-can-eat at MacQueen Hall

Admission: \$10 Adults, \$7 Seniors,
and \$5 for Children under 12

Tickets on sale now at boro office and at door

*



Annual St. Patty's Day



Ham & Cabbage Luncheon for Seniors

starts at noon on Monday, March 12
at MacQueen Hall

Free to all Upland senior citizens

*



Annual Easter Egg Hunt



& Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

starts at 9am on Saturday, March 31
at Bristol Lord Field and MacQueen Hall

* * * * *



Deadline Set For Hometown Heroes Flag Orders

Upland Borough Council's plan to launch a streetscape project to honor hometown military veterans is coming down the home stretch, with a total of 53 Hometown Heroes flags ordered so far.

The deadline for ordering flags and for delivering photos and information to the borough office is Thursday, March 1.

The Borough will 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 cost for a family to order a Hometown Heroes flag can now be estimated, based on the number of flags to be ordered. A \$50 donation per flag will be required from each ordering family, while the Borough will cover the rest of the cost.

Before the end of February, the borough office will need a close-up photograph (b & w or color) of the serviceman/woman for each flag ordered. Digital photos or previously-scanned prints can be sent via email to ssstrigle@uplandboro.org. For the convenience of ordering families, print photos can be scanned and digitized at the borough office during regular business hours.

The borough office will also need to know the branch of military service and the dates of service and/or theater of operation for each veteran's flag.

Call the borough office at **610-874-7317** and ask for Shannon Strigle to get more information or assistance on the Hometown Heroes Flag Project.



Detective Corporal Anthony Deluise was sworn in on Jan. 9, while his wife, Brooke, and son, Anthony, held the Bible.



Mayor Dennon and Police Chief Michael Irej join all the promoted officers, including Officers Andrew Nicholl and Joshua Van Horn (far right), who moved from part-time to full-time status, and newly-minted Fire Marshal Daniel Smith (far left), who recently met all the certification requirements, after serving as Upland Fire Chief for the past 11 years.



At the Jan. 9 Borough Council meeting, three of Upland Borough's police chiefs were present, including (left to right) Chief John Easton, Chief Mike Irej, and Captain Chuck Love.

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, council meeting minutes, live surveillance video feeds, and photo galleries of recent community events.

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

mcrawford@uplandboro.org

Upland Seniors Party Hardy



The Upland Senior Citizens Club held its Annual Christmas Party at MacQueen Hall on Dec. 11, getting a head start on the season of good cheer.



Before the party started, there was time to indulge in everybody's favorite pastime - playing card games.



This year, for the first time, the USCC party featured a performance by a live band, as the Legends Band of Delaware County from Senior Community Services delighted the audience with a catalog of classic tunes.

UBC Night of Music Lifts Up Holiday Spirit



Upland Baptist Church treated attendees to their favorite Christmas carols during A Night of Music on Dec. 18. Under the direction of John Shaw, the Joyful Noise Bell Choir performed many Christmas classics.

Council Approves 2018 Holidays

Borough Council has approved a list of holidays that borough employees will enjoy as days off from work. The borough office in MacQueen Hall will be closed on the following days this year:

Jan. 1 – Monday – New Years Day

Jan. 15 – Monday – Martin Luther King Day

Feb. 19 – Monday – Presidents Day

March 30 – Friday – Good Friday

May 15 – Tuesday – Primary Election Day

May 28 – Monday – Memorial Day

July 4 – Wednesday – Fourth of July

Sept. 3 – Monday – Labor Day

Oct. 8 – Monday – Columbus Day

Nov. 6 – Tuesday – General Election Day

Nov. 12 – Monday – Veterans Day

Nov. 22 – Thursday – Thanksgiving Day

Nov. 23 – Friday – Day after Thanksgiving

Dec. 24 – Monday – Christmas Eve

Dec. 25 – Tuesday – Christmas Day

Dec. 26 – Wednesday – Day after Christmas

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.



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.

*

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.



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.



Procurement Cards Amended

The purchasing cards that were recently approved for use by Borough Council President Christine Peterson and Borough Manager Michael Ciach have arrived, but with the wrong bank listed on the credit cards. At Council's Dec. 12 meeting, the reissuance of "P-cards" listing the Bank of Montreal as the proper creditor was authorized.

The use of a limited number of procurement cards for official borough purchasing has the dual benefit of keeping tight controls on authorized spending (receipts are required for all expenditures), while also getting cash back on all purchases.

GOP Clean Sweep At Polls

There were no surprises in the Nov. 7 Election, when four unopposed Republican incumbents retained their seats on Borough Council; Mayor Bill Dennon retained 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. 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.

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



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.

2018 Budget Continues No-Tax-Hike Streak

At final budget adoption at Borough Council's Dec. 12 session, it was confirmed that Upland Borough taxpayers will enjoy a **31st 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, will remain the same for the 10th straight year. The 2018 general fund budget balances at \$3,508,053. The 2018 general budget total is a new all-time high for borough expenditures, while the \$365,058 rise in spending over last year is a 11.6% increase.

Council Vice President & Finance Committee Chairperson Moira Crawford noted that the increased expenditures are 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 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.

*

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 short run, 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.

* * * * *

Snow Dos and Don'ts

Please observe the following public safety measures during any snow emergency:

Do: Remove snow from sidewalks within 48 hours of the end of a snowfall. By clearing snow immediately, you will use less de-icing material.

Do: Consider using a de-icing/anti-skid product that is environmentally safe and pet-friendly, such as sawdust or sand.

Don't: Shovel snow back into a plowed street, as this creates a public safety hazard.

Don't: Attempt to save or block off a cleared parking space with any type of furniture, grills, or traffic cones. The borough will remove any space-saving objects, as this illegal practice amounts to obstructing a public thoroughfare.

* * * * *

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.



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 de Vil)

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)

UFC Adds Drivers

In his monthly report to Borough Council, Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith noted that Upland's all-volunteer fire company has recently added a number of certified drivers to perform the critical job of safely getting the firetrucks to the fire scene.

According to Smith, three Upland Fire Company #1 members recently passed the rigorous testing required to drive the tactical unit (aka the 'Tac'), which is the smallest truck in the fleet. The addition of these three new drivers gives the UFC a total of about nine Tac drivers overall.

Longtime UFC member Steve Kalichak also recently passed the test to drive a fire engine, giving the company about six men who can skillfully operate these oversized vehicles.

The UFC also has one member currently in training to drive the squad/rescue truck, which is the largest vehicle in the fleet. Currently, there are only four active UFC responders who are certified to handle the squad/rescue truck.

*

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.



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.

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.

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.

Council Submits CDBG Application

At recent meetings, Upland Borough Council has held public hearings and ultimately settled on a wishlist of public improvement projects that could potentially be funded through a 2018 Community Development Block Grant. Delaware County Council will ultimately sort through all the municipal applications for CDBG funding and make grant awards in April.

Upland Borough's 2018 CDBG application includes a funding request for municipal park improvements, and as a second choice, the creation of a master plan for the development of current and future public parks within the borough.

*

On another grant-related front, Borough Council is pleased to announce that Upland Borough has received a grant in the amount of \$39,100 from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, in connection with the Community Conservation Partnerships Program. This grant has been earmarked for improvements and upgrades to Hill Street Park.

**

*