



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 Christmas Party



Twas the season to be a bit silly, at the Annual Upland Senior Citizens Club's Christmas Party on Dec. 12.



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At the catered luncheon, Council President Christine Peterson presented Councilman/USCC President Lee Hunter with an envelope containing an Upland Borough Council donation of \$300 to support future USCC activities.



(Above) When Santa Claus visited Upland for the holiday tree lighting ceremony on Nov. 25, he was greeted by a throng of fans and supporters; (Below) Inside MacQueen Hall, The Jolly One's knees were spared when the Hansell family mercifully decided to all stand for this photo.



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Most importantly, the Annual Youth Christmas Party gave all Upland families another chance to spend quality time together.

2017 Budget Keeps No-Tax-Hike Streak Intact

The preliminary budget figures were maintained at final budget adoption in December, hence Upland Borough taxpayers will enjoy a **30th consecutive year of the property tax millage holding steady at 2.0 mills** in 2017.

"This is a great achievement for the borough, and we will try to continue to do this each year," Council President Christine Peterson said of the three-decade-long run – currently, the longest no-tax-hike streak in Delaware County.

Furthermore, the annual trash collection fee, which was set at \$135 per household in 2008, will remain the same for the ninth straight year.

The final 2017 general budget total is balanced at \$3,142,995. After barely cresting the \$3 million mark for the first time in 2014, the budget held steady just below the high-water mark for the last two fiscal years. The 2017 general budget total is a new all-time high for borough expenditures, while the \$175,186 rise in spending over this year is a 5.9% increase.

The final 2017 budget for the borough-owned Auburn Village housing complex totals \$811,560, which is an exact match of the 2016 budget total for Auburn Village.

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Police Working For You

According to the police activity summary read at Borough Council's Dec. 13 meeting, Upland police officers have been busy keeping the borough's roadways safe for residents.

During the month of November, 153 citations were issued, 143 of which were traffic citations. As of the end of November, Upland officers had written a total of 1,600 citations in 2016.

There were six reported motor vehicle accidents on borough roads during November, while 168 parking tickets were issued that month. A total of 527 parking tickets were written through the first 11 months of 2016.

The Upland PD had towed a total of 153 vehicles in 2016, as of the end of November.

The police department answered 422 calls and made 44 assists in November, bringing the total call volume for 2016 up to 4,864 calls and counting.

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Home Decorating Winners TBA

This holiday season's Home Decorating Contest winners will be announced at Borough Council's Jan. 10 meeting. This year, the judging will be done by first-year Councilwoman Judy Bush.

The first-place winner gets \$100, while second place nets \$50, and third brings home \$25, all in exchange for the extraordinary lighting displays that brighten everyone's holiday season.

Officer Police Pension Contributions Amended

At Council's second monthly meeting on Dec. 27, the 2017 final budget was officially adopted and an amendment to pension contributions for future police full-timers was formally added to the borough code.

At the Dec. 13 meeting, a unanimous Council vote exonerated all current full-time police officers of any contribution to their pension plans during 2017, carrying on what had become an annual Council resolution in recent years.

Starting in 2017, however, new full-time Upland PD officers will have to contribute 5% of the dollars needed to fund their own pension plans, once each new hire is earning his/her full base pay.

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Upland Seniors Party Hardy; Then Take Winter Break

At their Annual Holiday Party on Dec. 10, about 30 members of the Upland Senior Citizens Club enjoyed a delicious luncheon served by Dean's Catering, and some attendees went home with door prizes to boot. USCC President Lee Hunter thanked Borough Council President Christine Peterson for Council's ongoing support, not only at the party, but also at Council's Dec. 13 public meeting.

Hunter noted that the USCC will be on winter hiatus until March 6, 2017, when weekly Monday meetings for games and socialization will resume.

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Council Makes Reappointments

A laundry list of annual appointments (actually all reappointments) were made at Borough Council's Dec. 13 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, Fire Marshall David Favinger, Zoning Solicitor John J. Wills, Esq., and Civil Service Solicitor & Special Legal Counsel Michael L. Maddren, Esq. The membership of the borough's three advisory boards includes:

Zoning Hearing Board: Dorreda Shaw, Joanne Peden, Edward Klepacki, Harris Bloom, and Ronald Reynolds

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

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

Food Bank Needs Strong Arms

The Upland Baptist Church Food Bank desperately needs dependable male volunteers who can lift up to 30 lbs. The Community Food Bank operates on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, starting at 8am.

If you can help fill this critical need with a couple of hours of donated time per week, please call the church office at **610-874-7474**.

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Council Applies For CDBG \$

Upland Borough recently submitted an application to Delaware County Council to be considered for a 2017 Community Development Block Grant. CDBG awards are usually announced in April.

Upland Borough Council's first choice for county funding is the Kerlin Street/Upland Avenue Streetscape Improvement Project, while a second choice would be an economic development study for the borough.

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Corner Enhancement Project Ready For Restart

When Paul McCartney sang of the Long and Winding Road, he must have foreseen the path that would ultimately lead to the completion of the grant-funded wall extension and landscaping at the southwest corner of the Sixth & Main intersection.

Extending the Main Street wall and landscaping the corner was supposed to be a 2014 Community Development Block Grant improvement, but a combination of unexpected delays and technical hurdles have kept the project in Limbo for two years. In October, Council rejuvenated the stalled project by approving low re-bidder Moore Outdoor Rejuvenation, of Glen Mills, whose bid of \$28,240 beat out three other bidders.

At Council's Dec. 13 meeting, the borough engineer reported that formal contracts had been issued and were awaiting signatures as the final precursor to construction work getting started.

This long-planned public improvement will finally move forward over this coming winter, as weather conditions permit.

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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 lots of photo galleries of recent community events.

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

mcrawford@uplandboro.org

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday Jan. 10, Feb. 14, and March 14
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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Monday Night VBS

6 to 7pm every Monday evening
at Upland Baptist Church

Open to children pre-K to 5th grade

Includes activity/craft, Bible lesson, and dinner

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Annual Soup-n-Salad Fundraiser

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Feb. 18
at MacQueen Hall

All-u-can-eat at MacQueen Hall; Takeout available

Tickets now available at boro office

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Annual St. Patty's Day Ham & Cabbage Luncheon for Seniors

starts at noon on Monday, March 13
at MacQueen Hall

Free to all Upland senior citizens

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Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

9am at Bristol Lord Field;
9:30 to 11:30am at MacQueen Hall
on Saturday, April 15

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NYC Mothers' Day Cruise

Episcopal Place at Park Row is inviting all interested parties to join staff and residents on a day cruise on the *Spirit of New York* on Mothers' Day, Sunday, May 14, 2017. The cruise ship is handicap-accessible and features indoor & outdoor observation decks, a lounge and bar, lighted dance floors, and full-service bars on every deck.

The cost of this day trip is \$120 per person, payable in three \$40 installments (due by Jan. 1, Feb. 1, and March 1). All payments are non-refundable.

For more information, call Theresa Bey or Jean Sales at **610-872-0100**.

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Another Shred-It Day Slated For Spring

Based on the first event's overwhelming response, another Community Shred-It Day has been scheduled for May 2017 (Saturday date TBD). Utilizing a mobile shredding truck, Shred-It Day offers residents a safe and secure (and FREE!) opportunity to dispose of old, outdated papers/files. Stay tuned for more information on this event.



Officer Luke McCann (center) is the newest member of the Upland PD, flanked here by Acting Police Chief Michael Irely (left) and Mayor Michael Ciach (right).

Upland Hires Part-Time Officer

Officer Luke McCann joined the Upland Police Department as a part-time officer on Nov. 15, being sworn in by Mayor Michael Ciach, while his father (Chris McCann) held the Bible. McCann, age 20, grew up in Darby; graduated from Pennwood High School in 2015; and graduated from the Delaware County Police Academy this past June. His Upland posting is McCann's first law enforcement position.

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 product that is environmentally safe and pet-friendly.

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 spacesaving objects, as this illegal practice amounts to obstructing a public thoroughfare.

Council OKs 2017 Holidays

Borough Council has approved the following 2017 dates as holidays for borough employees. Upland Borough's office will be closed on these dates:

Monday, Jan. 2 - New Year

Monday, Jan. 16 - MLK Day

Monday, Feb. 20 - Presidents Day

Friday, April 14 - Good Friday

Tuesday, May 16 - Primary Election Day

Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day

Tuesday, July 4 - Independence Day

Monday, Sept. 4 - Labor Day

Monday, Oct. 9 - Columbus Day

Tuesday, Nov. 7 - General Election Day

Friday, Nov. 10 - Veterans Day

Thursday/Friday, Nov. 23/24 - Thanksgiving

Monday/Tuesday, Dec. 25/26 - Christmas

You Know You're Getting Old When:

- You no longer stay up late on New Year's Eve to ring in yet another damn year.
- You've got to go, and you've REALLY GOT TO GO!
- The President of the United States is younger than you are.
- You now spend more time at rest than in motion.
- You've long since surrendered to the inevitable and stopped plucking out the silver hairs.
- You ask for a leftover container when the waitress first brings your meal to the table.
- The highlight of your day is the Fast Money round of Family Feud.
- The number of pets you've had in your lifetime is now in double digits.
- You wear a wristwatch strictly as decorative jewelry.
- You've actually started to like the taste of your daily fiber supplement.
- You still use a folded map, when going somewhere you've never been to before.
- You see someone that you haven't seen in a long time, and you're always surprised at how much they have aged.

Please Celebrate the New Year Responsibly



Hangovers can be **BRUTAL!**



...And no one wants to be this guy.



Santa Visits Upland



Santa Claus made his annual stop in Upland for the tree-lighting ceremony on Nov. 25, then posed for photos with children at MacQueen Hall.



With assistance from the Community Affairs Committee and Elf Helpers Meghan Bush (left) and La-Brea Young, Santa handed out gifts to all the good girls and boys of Upland.

Trash Contract Awarded

After receiving three bids for the next trash and recycling collections contract, which will cover the years 2017 through 2022, Borough Council has awarded the contract to B & L Disposal Services – the low bidder and the borough's current collector. Under the approved contract, the borough will pay \$97,035 for the first year of the contract, then a sliding scale will incrementally bring the annual charge up to \$109,165 for the fifth year. The new contract includes the collection of regular trash (every Monday and Thursday, excepting holidays), recycling (on the first and third Friday of each month), and bulk trash pick-ups (on the last Wednesday of each month).

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.

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.

Thanksgiving Dinner Gobbled Up



About 80 residents enjoyed the Annual Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner at MacQueen Hall on Nov. 12, with the free family-style meal being prepared and presented by the Community Affairs Committee.



Led by Council VP Moira Crawford and Councilwoman Judy Bush (back row, center), this group of volunteers from the community worked hard in 'Sandy's Kitchen' (some for two days) to cook 20 turkey breasts (donated by Upland AC) and create a delicious holiday dinner with all the trimmings.

Council OKs New FOP Contract

At its Aug. 23 meeting, Borough Council unanimously approved a new five-year collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police. The pact is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2016 and will be in effect until Dec. 31, 2020.

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CWA Starting Two-Year Project

Representatives of Chester Water Authority spoke with Borough Council on Nov. 15, giving Upland advance notice of the two-year Water Main Rehab Project, which will commence this fall and run through 2018. The goal of the project is to upgrade three water mains located on Upland's northeast side. A 30-inch-diameter main laid in 1910 will be "sliplined", while a 20-inch main and a 24-inch main, both laid in 1888, will be replaced.

Much of this work will be done along the Edgmont Avenue and Upland Avenue corridors, with the first preparatory work being the drilling of a series of small locator holes in streets, before construction starts in the spring.

Upland residents may see the locator work being done through the winter months on residential streets, including Upland Avenue, W. 24th Street and from Edgmont Avenue down to 11th Street. Most of the work will be done between the hours of 9am and 3pm, and roads will remain open to traffic. Work at major intersections, like Edgmont & Upland Avenues, will be done at night to reduce the impact.

Halloween Party Scares Up Fun



On Oct. 29, a crowd of about 30 dressed-up Uplanders attended the Annual Youth Halloween Party at MacQueen Hall, where the wide variety of costumes was matched only by the buckets of candy and goodies that were handed out.

Prize-Winning Halloweeners

This year's Annual Youth Halloween Party produced an impressive collection of costumed children, but a few stood out above the rest, earning a gift certificate for the three best costumes in each of three age groups:

Ages up to 4:

- 1st place – Jordana Long (Wonder Woman)
- 2nd place – Erik Lathem (Superman)
- 3rd place – Molly Rey (Strawberry)

Ages 5 to 9:

- 1st place – Aunjae Freeman (Princess)
- 2nd place – Jayland Zinszer (Zombie Bride)
- 3rd place – Kyle Hansell (Drago Malfoy)

Ages 10 to 13:

- 1st place – Chanel Magaw (Angel)
- 2nd place – Sara Mason (Wednesday Addams)
- 3rd place – ZeriaH Hinson (Cleopatra)



Unlike girls, guys don't care if they find that someone else has worn the same outfit to the party.

Welcome Day Celebrates Pusey & Penn's Arrival



The Friends of the Caleb Pusey House hosted Welcome Day at Landingford Plantation on Oct. 29. Visitors enjoyed free tours of the three historic buildings on site and learned about colonial life by conversing with re-enactors like Bob Bardsley, portraying a fur trapper, and Noah Lewis, who portrayed real-life Continental soldier Ned Hector and demonstrated the firing of a musket.



Public Works Supervisor Named

Borough Council recently voted unanimously to upgrade the job title of Chuck Boyd to Facilities & Grounds Supervisor, effective immediately. Boyd has worked in the borough's Highway Department for the last 20+ years. Congratulations, Chuck!



Korean War veteran Corporal William Hilton was recently recognized by Upland Borough Council as the first vet to park in the dedicated parking spaces in front of Sam & Sam's Meats in the Upland Shopping Center. The two adjoining purple parking spaces were created in early October through the cooperation of Sam & Sam's and Council, represented here by (l to r) Vice President Moira Crawford, Mayor Michael Ciach, President Christine Peterson, and Councilman Bill Dennon (far right), who was the driving force behind the honorary parking space project.

Veterans Honored With Special Parking Spot

With the cooperation of the owners of Sam & Sam's Meats in the Upland Shopping Center, two veterans-only parking spaces have been created near the front entrance to the grocery store.

The restricted parking spaces are painted purple, similar to the way that parking spaces reserved for the handicapped are painted blue. Two signs have been posted on a light pole to identify the special parking spaces, in the hopes that non-veterans will park elsewhere and respect the honor that is intended as a thank you to our dedicated servicemen and women.

A public dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, Oct. 8 at Sam & Sam's Meats, with a small crowd of locals in attendance. The event was part of the celebration of the 8-year anniversary of Sam & Sam's being at this location. Those who gathered for the dedication included five Upland Borough Council members, five veterans, two Upland police officers, and Sam & Sam's General Manager Bob Garrity.

Upland Mayor Michael Ciach gave a short speech, thanking all veterans for their service. Councilman Bill Dennon, who picked up the donated paint at a Sherwin Williams store and helped paint the spaces, expressed his hope that this method of honoring veterans (the first in Pennsylvania) will be replicated in other communities.



The turnout for the dedication included several veterans – the people the reserved parking space is meant to honor.

Fire Chief Earns Certifications

Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith recently completed the course work required to earn two federal fire safety certifications, including Technical Search Specialist (utilizing sonar devices to locate persons trapped inside a collapsed building) and Structural Collapse Technician.

Smith received the special training and FEMA certifications as a member of the Delaware County Tactical Rescue Team.

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Alleyway Ownership Key To Dead Tree Problem

A resident recently came before Borough Council to inquire as to the ownership of the Oak Lane alleyway, where three dead trees routinely drop debris on nearby properties and represent a safety hazard. While Council sympathized with the homeowner's plight, the rotting trees are located on the boundary between Upland and Brookhaven Boroughs, leaving ownership in question.

Even though past attempts to address this ownership issue have reportedly failed, Council President Christine Peterson insisted that Upland reach out amicably to its neighbor, to see if Brookhaven's cooperation might be enlisted to reach a resolution to the benefit of all parties.

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Council Discussing Fire Pits

One of the topics discussed at Borough Council's Oct. 11 caucus session was whether or not to allow fire pits on residential properties. Under the existing borough ordinance, fire pits are distinguished from barbeque grills and are not permitted.

Council President Christine Peterson raised the subject, noting that backyard fire pits are often enjoyed in autumn. Although a fire pit can be utilized for grilling purposes, they are more commonly used like a campfire, where people gather around to chat and relax, and often roast marshmallows or hotdogs.

Peterson said that allowing fire pits would require a property inspection by a fire chief or fire marshal, then a borough permit (\$ amount TBD) would need to be obtained. A minimum setback of 25 feet from all structures would be necessary for safety, so not all properties in Upland would qualify, including the Delaware County housing complex and Auburn Village rental units, where open space is limited.

To make future use of fire pits legal, Council would need to amend the public safety ordinance in the borough code.

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Sergeant Albany Remembered

On Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016, a special wreath-laying service was held at Sergeant Morris J. Albany Jr.'s grave in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Cemetery (1701 Market St., Chichester), where Albany's sacrifice will be honored by the Philadelphia Fallen Heroes Wreath Program every year henceforth. Albany is the only Upland police officer ever killed in the line of duty.

At Borough Council's Oct. 11 meeting, Councilman Dick McClintock dedicated a moment of silence to the memory of Sgt. Albany, recognizing the week as the 40th anniversary of his death.

Around 9:50pm on Oct. 13, 1976, Sgt. Albany was off duty, when he tried to thwart a robbery at John's Bar in Chester. The policeman wrestled with one of the two armed suspects, until Albany was shot in the chest and died shortly thereafter at the scene. The sergeant managed to get off a gunshot of his own, hitting the perp in the spine and paralyzing him from the waist down. Both robbery suspects were arrested and ultimately sentenced to life in prison.

Albany was married and the father of twin daughters at the time of his death.

An estimated 1,400 uniformed and non-uniformed police officers from seven different states attended the heroic sergeant's funeral.

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The Upland Police Department is currently in the midst of changing its colors, moving to a traditional black and white combo for its vehicles. The 2011 Dodge Charger in the Upland PD fleet (left) was recently repainted and decaled to match two 2017 Ford Interceptors purchased this year.

Council OKs 2017 Meeting Dates

Borough Council has approved a list of 2017 public meeting dates (subject to change), with all meetings continuing to be held on Tuesday evenings. Each meeting starts with an informal caucus session at 6pm (which the public can attend), while the formal voting session starts at 7pm. Two Council meetings are slated for each month, although the second meeting is only held if deemed necessary.

Council's 2017 meeting schedule is as follows:

Jan. 10 & 24	Feb. 14 & 28	March 14 & 28
April 11 & 25	May 9 & 23	June 13 & 27
July 11 & 25	Aug. 8 & 22	Sept. 12 & 26
Oct. 10 & 24	Nov. 14 & 28	Dec. 12 & 19

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Newsletter Renewed For 2017

Council recently voted unanimously to extend the contract to continue to produce a monthly newsletter through December 2017. *The Uplander* was initially launched as a quarterly in August 2009, then became a monthly publication in January 2012.

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Auburn Village Vacancies Down

Borough officials are pleased to announce that the spate of vacancies that hit the borough-owned Auburn Village complex over the summer months has been significantly reduced. This summer saw a high of 15 vacancies in the 156-unit complex, but as of early October, all but four rental units had been occupied again.

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