



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



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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.



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The winners of this holiday season's Home Decorating Contest will be announced at Upland Borough Council's Jan. 9 public meeting.

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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 is balanced 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.

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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.

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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.

Council Announces 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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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.

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Upland Police On Duty

The Upland Police Department continues to maintain its vigilance to keep the borough's streets safe for all residents, pedestrians, and motorists.

During the month of November 2017, Upland officers issued 116 citations (all but 10 of which were traffic citations), bringing the year-to-date total up to 1,716.

Forty-one parking tickets were also written in November, bumping that year-to-date total up to 610.

A total of 11 motor vehicle accidents were reported on borough roadways in November.

As of the end of November, Upland officers had towed a total of 159 vehicles in 2017.

The UPD answered a total of 376 calls in November, in addition to making 50 assists to other local agencies. These calls brought the year-to-date count to 5,240 calls.

Council Submits CDBG Application

At its Dec. 12 meeting, Upland Borough Council held a public hearing 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 request for funding to create a new public park, including green space, on an empty lot on Front Street, 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.

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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.

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Did You Know?: John P. Crozer was arguably the greatest benefactor Upland Borough has ever had. Not only did he build the Upland Baptist Church and two public schoolhouses, so that his employees' families would have a place to worship and learn, he actually named the borough when it was officially incorporated in 1869, borrowing Oplandt, the original name of Chester, when it was still a Swedish settlement (prior to 1682). Crozer made a fortune during the Civil War, when his textile mills produced the blue wool used for Union soldiers' uniforms.

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

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

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

Please note: Jan. 2 Reorganization Meeting starts at 6pm

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VBS Night at UBC

6 to 7pm on Mondays, Jan. 8, 22 and 29
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!

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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

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Annual St. Patty's Day

Ham & Cabbage Luncheon for Seniors

starts at noon on Monday, March 12
at MacQueen Hall

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Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

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



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.

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.

I Often Wonder Why...

- We leave our vehicles, worth tens of thousands of dollars, outside in the driveway, while we fill our garages with junk
- Hot dogs come 10 per package, but hot dog rolls come in packages of six or eight
- The sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin
- Women can't put on eye make-up with their mouths closed
- You never see the headline: *Psychic Wins Lottery*
- Even the most experienced doctors will tell you that they are still 'practicing' medicine
- A person who advises you on how to invest your money would call themselves a 'broker'
- Apartments are actually quite close together
- Rush Hour is when the traffic moves the slowest
- 'Abbreviated' is such a long word



There was certainly no shortage of delicious foods to choose from at the USCC Christmas Party.



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

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.



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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.



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.

Main Street To Be Repaved

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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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.



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 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)

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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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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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.

More recently, the owner of the approved fire pit 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.

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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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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."

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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.

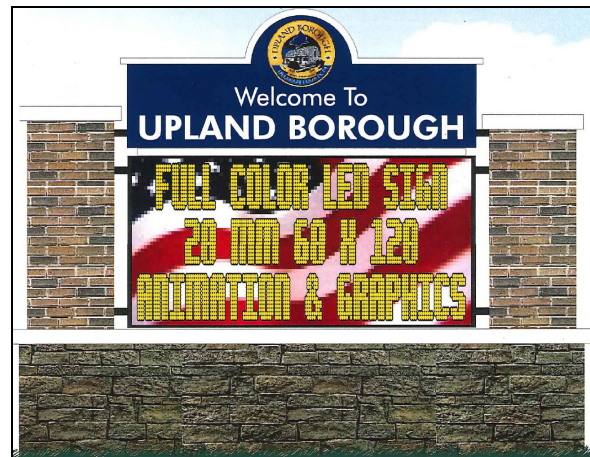
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Committee Set Up For 150th Anniversary

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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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.

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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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.



Upland Supports CWA Decision

At Borough Council's July 11 meeting, a resolution was approved supporting the recent unanimous decision of the Board of Directors of the Chester Water Authority (CWA) to reject the Aqua America proposal to purchase CWA's assets and customers. The unanimously adopted resolution stated:

"Upland Borough Council stands behind the Chester Water Authority Board to act in the best interest of the good residents and businesses of our borough, and to continue to reject any and all offers tendered by a for-profit company that could further subject the residents and businesses of Upland to substantial rate increases and additional costs for water service."

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