



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



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Egg Hunt Draws Crowd



Upland's Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on the morning of April 15, with scores of children in three different age groups participating. The Egg Hunt and the breakfast at MacQueen Hall that followed, were co-sponsored by Borough Council, Upland Fire Company No. 1, the Upland Athletic Club, and the Marine Corps League Delco Detachment 288.



...As Does Easter Bunny



The Easter Bunny greeted children after the Egg Hunt, then posed for family photos at MacQueen Hall.





The Easter Bunny also paid a visit to Scott Avenue, where neighbors have held their own egg hunt for the past 11 years. This event is organized by Steve and Jen Cunrod and Linda DiGiandomenico, the wife of Councilman Bill Dennon.

Kids In the Street

Challenge Drivers, Anger Residents

The parade of residents complaining about the aggressive behavior of children on public streets recently continued at Council meetings, with three residents expressing their concerns on April 11. The gathering of a crowd of 15-20 kids on Church Street, described as “a mob” and “a posse” by residents, spurred the latest Council discussion.

The reported incidents include teenagers riding on bikes, scooters, and skateboards while “*playing chicken*” with motorists. One resident claimed that his car has been damaged by kids intentionally scraping the handle bars of their bicycles along car doors as they ride by. Council was asked if these bikes can be confiscated by the police.

“It is completely out of control...Something has to be done,” one of the complainants stated. *“When you’re in the street, you should abide by the rules of the road.”*

Another resident reported that some teens were even willing to lay down in the street, after dark no less, just “*daring cars to run over them.*”

“This is disrupting our neighborhood,” a frustrated homeowner told Council. *“You guys have got to do something about it. Somebody is going to get hurt!”*

Council President Christine Peterson urged residents to keep calling police when confronted by these trouble-seeking teenagers. Even though the kids often disperse before the cops can arrive, it is still the best protection for residents, who should not try to take matters into their own hands.

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Borough Bills Available For Public Inspection

A question that has repeatedly popped up at Borough Council meetings is: When are residents allowed to review the list of bills that the borough pays every month?

The simple answer is: Immediately after Council has approved the payment of said bills at a Council meeting, but not before payment of those bills is authorized.

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Seniors Planning Wildwood Trip

Upland seniors will be joining other local senior citizens on an activity-packed five-day trip to Wildwood, NJ, **from September 17-21, 2017**. All interested parties are invited to join the fun-filled outing, which includes lodging at the Windward Motel, three meals each day, and activities, such as a sightseeing/whale-watching cruise and a sidetrip to an Atlantic City casino, et al.

The cost is \$399 per person for double occupancy. To learn more about this low-cost off-season vacation opportunity, call Gwen Taylor at **267-379-6948**.

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 March 2017, Upland officers issued 222 citations (most of which were traffic citations), bringing the year-to-date total up to 774. Eighty parking tickets were also written in March, bumping that year-to-date total up to 315.

A total of six motor vehicle accidents were reported on borough roadways in March.

As of the end of March, Upland officers had towed a total of 42 vehicles in 2017.

The UPD answered a total of 354 calls in March, while also making 43 assists to other agencies. These calls brought the year-to-date count up to 1,033 calls.

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Council Resumes Fire Co. Donation

One month after Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith reported the disappointing results of the 2016 Fund Drive for Upland Fire Company No. 1, Borough Council rode to the rescue like the cavalry coming over the hill, resuming a monthly donation to help defray operating costs and cover utility bills for the all-volunteer fire company.

At its April 11 meeting, Council unanimously approved a total donation of \$17,100 for this year, to be apportioned in payments of \$1,900 each month, from April through December 2017.

In the past, the borough had given the fire company an annual donation of \$7,500, split up into monthly payments, but that fiscal support had been withdrawn in recent years.

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Park Neighbor’s Privacy Concerns Will Be Addressed

A Hill Street homeowner recently came before Council to get assurances that her backyard privacy will be maintained, despite being adjacent to the planned new public park at the corner of 8th & Hill Sts. The resident expressed concern that the 4-foot-high fence that encloses her backyard will not be sufficient to block the view from the park.

The homeowner’s concerns were understood and appreciated by Council, and assurances were given that privacy will be protected. According to Borough Engineer Dan Archdeacon, the current sketch plan for the pending park will be revised to include a vegetation buffer along the shared property line.

Creation of the new park will be done in three phases, Archdeacon said, with Phase 1 including the purchase and installation of playground equipment and construction of two parking spaces. Phase 2 will include the installation of benches, tree planting, and the creation of a memorial garden.

Fire Co. Slates Tag Days

Upland Fire Company No. 1 will be holding two pairs of Tag Day fundraisers this year, on **Friday and Saturday, May 12 and 13**, and again on Sept. 8 and 9.

In the event of rain, a cancelled Tag Day will be rescheduled to the following week.

On these dates, fire company volunteers will be stationed at the intersection of Upland Avenue and Kerlin Street to collect motorists' donations.

Please support this important fundraising effort to help keep our community safe.

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Take Advantage of Shred-It Day

An encore presentation of Community Shred-It Day will be held on **Saturday, May 13, 2017**. Upland residents can drop off boxes (up to 6 boxes per household) of old paper documents, bills, and records for disposal from **9am to 12 noon** in the parking lot at MacQueen Hall.

Utilizing a mobile shredding truck, Shred-It Day offers residents a safe and secure (**and FREE!**) opportunity to dispose of outdated files. There is no need to remove paper clips and staples, but papers must be removed from binders.

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Pusey House To Host Spring Plant Sale Encore

The Friends of the Caleb Pusey House will once again be hosting a Spring Plant & Herb Sale at their historic location on Race Street on **Saturday, May 13, from 11am to 3pm**.

This fundraiser will offer potted herbs, vegetable plants, landscaping annuals, and an assortment of flowering baskets - all below-retail prices, just in time for Mothers' Day. Let the FCPH take care of your gardening and gift-giving needs, while you support historic preservation in Upland.

Tour guides will be on hand to present the rich history of Landingford Plantation, so consider adding 15 minutes to your visit to take a tour of the 1683 Caleb Pusey House - the oldest English cottage in America and the only building still standing in America that can document multiple visits by William Penn.

***To learn more about this National Historic Register site, visit the FCPH's newly reconstructed website at www.calebpushouse.com.

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Free tours of the historic 1683 Caleb Pusey House are available from 1 to 4 pm every Saturday, from May thru October.

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

Tuesday May 2, June 13, and July 11

on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

(please note: May meeting moved up one week to avoid conflict with the PSAB Conference, May 7-10)

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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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Free Community Shred-It Day

9am to 12 noon on Saturday, May 13

at MacQueen Hall parking lot

Free disposal of up to 6 boxes per household

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FCPH Spring Plant & Herb Sale

11am to 3pm on Saturday, May 13

at historic Caleb Pusey House on Race Street

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Memorial Day Festivities



on Monday, May 29



Memorial Day Parade starts at 9am;

Service at war memorial (Sixth & Church Sts.)

starts about 10am;

Church-sponsored picnic (Bristol Lord Field)

from 11am to 2pm

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Outdoor Carnival Fundraiser

Wednesday thru Saturday evenings, June 7-10

at Bristol Lord Field

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Annual Fourth of July Family Picnic

11am to 2pm on Tuesday, July 4

at Bristol Lord Field

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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.

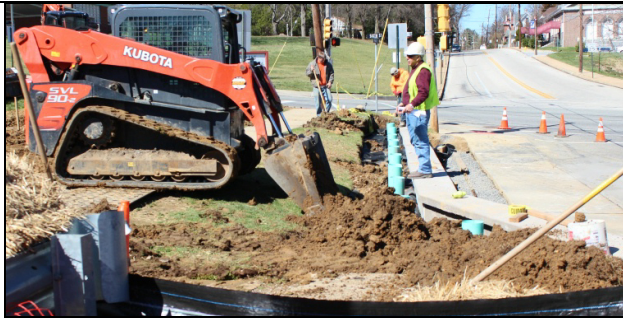
To share digital photos or information on the borough's website, send email to mcrawford@uplandboro.org

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Construction of a wall extension on the southwest corner of the Sixth & Main Streets intersection was finally completed in early April, closing out a three-year odyssey that featured more unexpected ups and downs than a rollercoaster ride.

(Photos courtesy of George Patterson)



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(Below) The beautiful finished product.



Main Street Elementary Names Students of the Month

The following Main Street students were recognized as **Students of the Month** in April:

Adam Roberts (room 8) Amanda Zavala (room 14)
Anthony Payton (room 14) Arisbeth Sanchez (room 2)
Cameron Bryant (room 22) Destiney Willis (room 10)
Fouzaan Pettiford (room 15) Hailey Johnson (room 5)
Jared McGinnes (room 21) Jasmyne Meredith (room 20)
Kioni Morgan (room 19) Mason Dixon (room 3)
Michel Badou (room 17) Najla Ahmad (room 9)
Nasir King (room 18) Natalie Mason (room 14)
Tashyah Bradshaw (room 16) Trinity Burch (room 2)
Varlee Bility (room 7) Yusuf Ahmad (room 21)

Congratulations to all!

Your teachers, parents, and community are very proud of you. Keep up the good work!

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Vols Clean Up Boro



In recognition of Earth Day, this group of volunteers bent their backs for several hours on April 23, picking up miscellaneous debris and sprucing up Upland Borough. The environmentally-friendly effort was led by Councilman Bill Dennon (kneeling, with sunglasses), collecting dozens of trash bags of litter, while Sam & Sam's Meats provided hoagies to the work crew for lunch.

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The Easter Bunny loved the wardrobe choices made by this young lady.



Dog Licenses Readily Available

Having your dog(s) licensed gives them the best chance of returning home, should they ever be lost. In Pennsylvania, all dogs over three months of age must have licenses renewed every year by Jan. 1. Getting a 2017 dog license is very easy. Dog licenses can be purchased at the Upland Borough office in MacQueen Hall or at the Delco Courthouse in Media. The cost of annual license renewal is \$8.50 per non-neutered/non-spayed dog (lifetime: \$51.50) and \$6.50 for neutered/spayed dogs (lifetime: \$31.50). Senior citizens (65 and older) and persons with certified disabilities get a \$2 discount on all licenses.

Upland Seniors 'Do Lunch' To Celebrate St. Pat's Day



Borough Council VP Moira Crawford shares a laugh with Councilman Lee Hunter (left) and retired Judge Ken Miller on March 13. Crawford and Councilwoman Judy Bush helped cook the meal the night before, then led a small crew of dedicated Community Affairs Committee volunteers to serve up the annual St. Patty's Day Ham & Cabbage Luncheon For Seniors at MacQueen Hall.



Council Calls For Resignation

Councilman Edward Mitchell has not attended a Borough Council meeting since he was arrested last December on charges of violating the public trust. Mitchell's trial for 41 felony counts and an alleged kickback scheme that reportedly netted him \$133,000 is pending, but in the meantime, he is still a duly-elected member of Upland Borough Council. At Council's March 28 meeting, however, a unanimous vote supported a motion requesting Mitchell's immediate resignation from Council. Councilman Dick McClintock made the motion, after he read a prepared statement from Council President Christine Peterson, as follows:

"We are appalled and strongly condemn the alleged activities and behavior of Councilman Ed Mitchell," Peterson stated. "For the good of the borough and local residents, we call upon Mr. Mitchell to do the right thing and immediately resign his position on Borough Council."

"Serving the community as an elected official is a privilege that I and the other board members take very seriously," Peterson continued. "It is a responsibility that we are proud to do with honesty and integrity, and each of us are disgusted by the alleged malfeasance of Mr. Mitchell."

"While we all understand that the law presumes that Mr. Mitchell is 'innocent until proven guilty,' in light of the severity of the pending charges, together with the duty to always uphold the public trust, we all call for the immediate and unconditional resignation of Mr. Mitchell from his position as councilman in the Borough of Upland. We believe that by retaining that office, Mr. Mitchell brings disrepute upon the borough," Peterson concluded.

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Council Weighs

Flood Plain Post Replacement

Former Borough Councilman Harold 'Ray' Peden recently resigned from the position of Flood Plain Administrator – a post he had held for several years, at no charge to the borough. Peden's exit creates a vacancy that will likely need a professional to fill.

This post, which requires ongoing education and state certification, is important in a town that has frequently seen the flooding of Chester Creek, since the Flood Plain Administrator serves as Upland's point person, for both federal (FEMA) and state (PEMA) relief efforts in the event of a flood.

Upland Borough has two qualified replacement options in Plumbing Inspector Tom Kennedy and Catania Engineering, but exactly how much each professional option would charge for as-needed services was unknown at Council's March 28 meeting. After a brief discussion, the topic was tabled to allow time to determine the relative costs.

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Fire Co. Fund Drives See Declining Support

Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith delivered a sad and shocking report to Borough Council on March 28, detailing the lack of financial support that the all-volunteer Upland Fire Company No. 1 receives from borough residents and businesses. The fire company depends heavily on its annual fund drive to generate operating funds for the entire year, but recent fund drives are showing a steady decline.

Smith noted that the 2016 Fund Drive produced \$7,800 in donations, most of which came from individual residents. In contrast, the 2015 Fund Drive generated \$9,415, while the 2014 Fund Drive brought in about \$11,000, according to Smith.

Of the donations that were received last year, 184 came from Upland's 1,150 residences; 10 came from the borough's 111 businesses; and only one of Upland's 61 apartment units (not including Auburn Village) contributed.

The contribution numbers add up to less than 15% of the community supporting Upland's lone fire company.

"We're going to have to figure out some way to convince the residents that this fund drive helps us with our finances," Smith lamented.

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Upland Submits C2P2 Application

C2P2 sounds as if it might be the robotic child of Star Wars' C3PO and R2D2, but it is shorthand for a Community Conservation Partnership Program Grant, like the one that Upland Borough has applied for through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

Upland will be vying with other small municipalities hoping to secure a base grant of \$20,000, with another \$40,000 available on a 50/50 match basis.

Borough Council would use a C2P2 award to help finance the creation of a new public park at the intersection of 8th & Hill Streets. The grant would cover the installation of trash cans, benches, a tot slide and swing set, and construction of two handicapped-accessible parking spaces.

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Council Awards Demolition Contract

The pending demolition of the vacant home at 227 8th Street will pave the way for the creation of a small public parking lot and a second access drive to Upland police headquarters.

Council has awarded the demolition contract to A.J. Jurich, of Aston (the lone bidder) in the base amount of \$49,000, which includes asbestos removal, with a \$8,800 unit price for additional work, if more asbestos than anticipated is found.

No specific timetable has been set for the demolition work to begin.

Fundraiser Tastes Souper



The Annual All-U-Can-Eat Soup & Salad Dinner Fundraiser was held at MacQueen Hall on Feb. 18.



And while the salad bar was popular, it was the homemade soups and chili that kept them coming back for more.

Souper Fundraiser Made Money

The annual Soup-n-Salad Dinner fundraiser that was held at MacQueen Hall on Feb. 18 was not only tasty, but a fiscal success as well, raising about \$300 that will help fund other community events later this year.

Council Vice President and Community Affairs Committee stalwart Moira Crawford noted that the revenue generated by a "light turnout" of about 50 diners (along with 20 takeout orders) "was better than last year."

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Tax Collector Exonerated Of Delinquent Taxes

At its March 28 meeting, Borough Council formally exonerated Borough Tax Collector Linda Mitchell of the collection of all unpaid 2016 taxes.

A total of \$12,583 in delinquent real estate taxes will now be turned over to the Delaware County Tax Bureau for collection, while a total of \$14,850 in unpaid trash service fees will now be collected by Credit-Tec.

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Veteran Firefighter Steps Up To Fill Needs

When Upland Borough and its lone fire company have been in need, the White Knight recently riding to the rescue has been Paul Michalkiewicz (above, center).

Upland Borough did not have a fire police officer, until Council's Feb. 14 meeting, when Michalkiewicz was sworn in to perform the duties of the volunteer post. A fire police officer's main job is to assist firefighters and police officers by controlling the traffic at accident and fire scenes. A less dangerous part of the fire police job is being available for parade duties.

Michalkiewicz has been an active firefighter for the past 33 years, running the last 13 years with Upland Fire Company. The Ivy Lane resident is currently a member of the UFC Board of Directors and has served as the company's safety officer. He has also been an integral part of recent efforts to organize a series of successful fire company fundraisers.

Michalkiewicz also provided a unique service to the borough at large, when he, um, shall we say, made sure that Santa Claus arrived safely for his annual visit to MacQueen Hall in November.

Thank you, Paul. Upland Borough is blessed to have civic-minded residents like you.

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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.

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.



Borough Has Big Plans For Vacant Corner

At its Feb. 14 meeting, Borough Council condemned the vacant building (formerly a laundromat) at #2 Hill Street. The adjacent residences at #4 and #6 Hill Street were recently purchased by the borough.

Now that all three adjoining structures are under borough control, the corner of 8th and Hill Streets will be razed as a precursor to the creation of a new public park.

The park will extend west on 8th Street, utilizing land that was cleared a few years ago, when a small vacant house (aka "the chicken coop") was condemned by Council and then razed.

As outlined on the sketch plan above, the goal in creating Upland Park will be to improve three prominent corners (8th & Hill Sts.; Hill St. & Upland Ave.; and Upland Ave. & Kerlin St.) that together constitute one of the main entrances to the borough.

The sketch plan (which is available for public review at MacQueen Hall) was drafted by Catania Engineering, and delineates the proposed major features in the park's three sections, including walkways, benches, a fountain, and a clock tower.

The park project will not cost borough taxpayers a dime, since Council has used funds garnered from the commercial parking tax to purchase the properties, and will be pursuing grant funding through a variety of local sources, as well.

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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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This long-vacant Orb Industries building, located on the south side of Race Street, has been targeted for rehabilitation and a new life as Race Street Range.

Firing Range Aims For 2017 Opening

The owners of Race Street Range have had their eye on the vacated Orb Industries building on Race Street for several months, and are now ready to start rehabbing the property for future use as a firing range.

This past fall, after flood plain concerns were addressed, the borough's Zoning Hearing Board approved the new use for the former Orb warehouse/office building, allowing the new owners to move forward with building permits. According to info@racestreetrange.com, construction will begin soon, with a target date of August/September 2017 for a grand opening.

Noise mitigation will be part of the rehab project, so that neighbors will not hear the sound of gunfire.

Race Street Range will offer membership packages for a fee (\$300-350 annually), while members will be expected to bring their own firearms, ammo, targets, and gear. Loaner eye and ear protection will be available.

The firing range will initially only be open in the evenings and on weekends, but will expand hours and ultimately host training classes and matches.

All shooters must pass a handgun competency test to use the facility.

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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:

April 11 & 25	May 2 & 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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Upland Fire Co. Had Active 2016

According to their December 2016 report to Borough Council, Upland Fire Company No. 1 had a very busy 2016 and made an enormous contribution to the health, safety and welfare of the community.

Last year, the all-volunteer members of Upland Fire Company were called to action on 367 occasions, including 12 fire incidents, 123 non-fire incidents, 204 mutual aid assists, and 28 drills.

The fire incidents included three vehicle fires, two single family dwellings, two industrial sites, two vegetation/grass fires, and one trash/refuse fire.

Total property losses for 2016 include \$68,000 in structural damage, \$15,000 in lost contents, and \$5,000 in vehicle damage.

In 2016, the fire company also responded to the scene of 15 motor vehicle accidents, two fuel leak/spills, five gas/vapor leaks, four electrical lines down, and four carbon monoxide in structure calls.

Unfortunately, there were 71 false alarm responses last year, as well.

Fortunately, there were no firefighter or civilian injuries 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.

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New AV Roof Completed

The return of moderate weather allowed the new roof on the Fern Lane building in the Auburn Village complex to be completed in late March. The roof installation was done by low-bidder Ronald Menna Roofing, of Norwood, at a cost of \$16,500.

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Boro Moves Escrow Account

Aiming to cut costs, Borough Council has decided to move Upland Borough's escrow account to another bank. The escrow account had been at Wells Fargo Bank, where the borough was charged \$350 each month to maintain the account, but it will soon be transferred to TD Bank, where there is no monthly maintenance fee.

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Council Approves 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:

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

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