



The Caleb Pusey House

# The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



Vol. 9-11; November 2017 edition



## 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.



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

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

IN APPRECIATION FOR YOUR  
TALENT & LOYAL SERVICE  
JOSEPH "PARKER" FERGUSON

\*\*\*\*\*

## Curbside Leaf Collections

Highway Department crews will be collecting raked leaves at the curblane for one month, weather permitting. Collections will be made on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays on the following dates:  
**Nov. 7, 8 & 9 ... Nov. 14, 15 & 16 ... Nov. 21 & 22 ... Nov. 28, 29 & 30 ... and Dec. 5, 6 & 7.**

Please rake piles of leaves to the curb, but not into the street.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

## **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 seriously injuring a child.

Upland Police Chief Michael Irely 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, Irely noted that the UPD has no record of any Front Street speeding complaints being logged 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,"* Irely 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.

Irely 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.

\*

## **Demo Bids Sought For Corner Lots**

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

## **Mayor Raises \$, Just For Laughs**

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

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

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

\*

## **Council Weighs CDBG Choices**

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

Under consideration for Upland Borough's 2018 CDBG wishlist are the potential installation of ballfield and/or playground improvements, including a possible upgrade to rubber mulch.

\*

## **Upland Ave. Park Contract Awarded**

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

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





### Repaving Slated For Uneven Main Street

Praise PennDOT! Shock-absorber relief is coming. According to Borough Engineer Dan Archdeacon, PennDOT has announced plans to repave three state-owned roadways through Upland Borough, including the patch-riddled mogul course that a stretch of Main Street has been since the spring. Upland Avenue and Sixth Street are also on PennDOT's repaving list, with the work scheduled to be done between this December and Spring 2018. Upland Borough Council had sent a letter to PennDOT earlier this year, requesting the immediate repaving of heavily-traveled Main Street, but how long a response would take was unknown. *"This was actually pretty quick for them,"* Council President Christine Peterson said of PennDOT's relatively prompt response.

\*

### Borough Updates Fee Schedule

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

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

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

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

\*

### 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 September 2017, Upland officers issued 163 citations (all but 10 of which were traffic citations), bringing the year-to-date total up to 1,559. Thirty-four parking tickets were also written in September, bumping that year-to-date total up to 528.

A total of 12 motor vehicle accidents were reported on borough roadways in September.

As of the end of September, Upland officers had towed a total of 101 vehicles in 2017.

The UPD answered a total of 299 calls in September, while also making 28 assists to other agencies. These calls brought the year-to-date count to 2,624 calls.

### Ciach Tabbed For Pension Oversight

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

\*\*\*\*\*



## Annual Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner

6 to 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 4  
at MacQueen Hall

A family-style sit-down dinner for all Upland seniors  
Attendees must be 55+ and sign up in advance

\*

### Daylight Savings Time Ends

2am on Sunday, Nov. 5

Turn clocks back one hour

\*

### Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session  
Tuesday Nov. 14, Dec. 12, and Jan. 9  
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

\*

## Resurrection Life Church Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Nov. 18

Free turkey dinner for all comers

\*

## Thanksgiving Holiday Borough Office Closed

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 and 24

\*

## Annual Holiday Tree Lighting



## & Santa Visit



6pm on Friday, Nov. 24  
at MacQueen Hall

Residents must register children age 13 and under  
in advance to receive a gift from Santa

\*\*\*\*\*

## Website Provides Valuable Info

Visit [www.uplandboro.org](http://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](mailto:mcrawford@uplandboro.org)



\*\*\*Photos courtesy of George Patterson\*\*\*

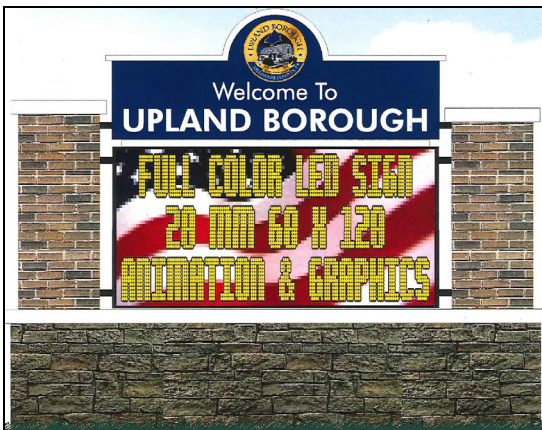


An Upland fundraiser that generated \$348 for the borough's Community Affairs Committee and First Responders was held at Reactors Comedy Club on Sept. 30, with about 30 Upland supporters in attendance. The evening of entertainment featured sets by three different comedians, headlined by the 6-ft. 6-in.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

(See story on page 2)



\*\*\*



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.



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.



## Calling All Hometown Heroes

Upland Borough Council hopes to launch a streetscape project to honor hometown military veterans, but the amount of time, energy and money that will be invested in this project will depend entirely on the response of Upland residents.

The borough wants to hang 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 borough is planning to hang the flags in May 2018, then leave them up until the holiday season. Once the flags come down from public display, each ordering family will get the flag 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. Simply put: the more flags ordered, the cheaper each one becomes. Council is considering splitting the cost of each flag, which would require a \$75 donation from each ordering family, but the actual cost cannot be determined until the order is placed in Spring 2018. **A minimum of 40 flags is required for an order to be placed, and only 27 have been ordered so far.**

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 **NOW** at **610-874-7317** to order a Hometown Heroes flag.





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

### Marines Honor Their Own

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

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

"I was really humbled and very pleased with it. It was really a nice occasion," Borough Councilman Dick McClintock said of his son being one of the posthumous honorees.

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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.

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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.

\*

## Fireworks Put Some Pop In Labor Day Weekend



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



Above) Before the show, this dedicated team of Upland Fire Co. volunteers seized the opportunity to sell a variety of foods & beverages and glow stix & bracelets to the crowd as a fire company fundraiser.

Below) Meanwhile, friends and families gathered together on the field and staked out their prime viewing spots.



\*\*\*

### 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.

\*



In cooperation with the Upland Baptist Church, the Upland Fire Co. also held a Classic Car Show on Sept. 2. Unfortunately, a rainy forecast scared off most of the registered car owners, but the handful of classics that did turn out left a lasting impression.



\*\*\*

### Council Amends Sewer Lateral Ordinance

In response to persistent complaints from residents, Borough Council voted unanimously on Sept. 12 to amend the sewer lateral inspection ordinance. The ordinance requires video inspection of sewer laterals prior to the sale of any Upland property.

Key changes to the ordinance include:

- Allowing property owners to use any NASSCO-certified (National Association of Sewer System Companies) plumber to perform and evaluate the video inspection. Standards established by the Pipeline Assessment Certification Program (PACP) will be used to determine if a lateral passes or fails the inspection. If a property owner does not prefer a particular NASSCO-certified plumber, the borough's engineering firm (Catania Engineering, Inc.) will perform and evaluate the video inspection.

All certified plumbers must register with the borough office prior to starting work.

- A two-way lateral cleanout will be required prior to the video inspection, to ensure accurate test results.
- The cost of the cleanout, inspection, and any corrective measures can be borne by the property seller or buyer. This determination would be part of the sale negotiation.

*"We changed as much as we possibly could to make it fair for everyone,"* Council President Christine Peterson stated.

### Council Approves Procurement Cards

In an effort to further tighten controls on borough-authorized spending, Council has approved the issuance of individual procurement cards to replace the use of credit cards. In addition to greater control over borough expenditures, the borough will now get cash back on all purchases of goods, services and supplies.

Finance Committee Chairwoman/Council VP Moira Crawford noted that the procurement cards will not be used as a substitute for the public bidding process for major improvement projects. Each card will have established spending limits; will have specific purchasing parameters; and will require receipts for all purchases made on the card.

Two procurement cards will initially be issued – one for Council President Christine Peterson and one for Borough Manager Michael Ciach.

\*

### 8<sup>th</sup> Street Demolition On Deck

Longstanding plans to demolish the vacant residence at 227 8<sup>th</sup> Street and create a new public parking lot for neighboring residents and a second access to Upland police headquarters are coming to fruition, with contractors poised to begin the building demolition by mid-October. Once completed, the new parking lot will offer off-street parking on a first-come-first-serve basis.

\*\*\*

### UPD Hosts NNO Event



On Aug. 1, the Upland Police Department held an Open House to participate in the National Night Out Program, with hundreds of residents in attendance. The free event offered Uplanders a chance to meet and chat with their police officers, as well as tasty grilled hot dogs and hamburgers.



Attendees enjoyed a police K-9 demonstration, a taser demo, and handouts from the Upland Fire Co., and were also able to check out police vehicles up close and personal.



### Tag Day Request Put On Hold

Council's response to a request from the Chester Cheetahs football team to hold a Tag Day fundraiser at the intersection of Kerlin Street and Upland Avenue has been held back, until the youth organization can produce proof of insurance and agrees to only adults standing roadside to collect donations. A serious injury to a veteran Upland firefighter during a Tag Day at this location in June has led Borough Council to approach Tag Day requests with an abundance of caution.

\*\*\*



The Community Affairs Committee hosted the Annual Youth Magic Show on Aug. 19. Constantine the Magician amazed and entertained the audience...



...But the highlight of the event may have been the free pizza and the make-your-own ice cream sundaes.

\*\*\*

### Committee Set Up For 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The 150<sup>th</sup> 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.

\*

### 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.



Upland Officer Joshua Van Horn is the first recipient of the Captain Robert C. Love Officer of the Year Award, which will now be awarded to an outstanding Upland officer each year.

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Deldeo Appointed To Fill Council Vacancy

Mulberry Street resident Sandra Deldeo was sworn in as the newest member of Borough Council on June 13, filling the seat vacated when Councilman Bill Dennon moved into the vacated position of Upland mayor last month. Deldeo's interim term on Council will expire on Dec. 31, 2017.

Deldeo, age 76, has lived in Upland Borough for nearly 50 years. The Republican councilwoman has served as a judge of elections for six years; on the Upland Historical Commission for three years; and as chairperson of the borough's Vacancy Committee for the past year.

*"It's interesting!"* Deldeo said, after her first Council session. *"I'm willing to do whatever I can to help."*



While her husband Louis held the Bible, Sandra Deldeo was sworn in by Mayor William Dennon on June 13 as an interim Borough Council appointee.

### Road Program Contract Awarded

The contract for Upland Borough's 2017 Road Paving Program has been awarded to A. F. Damon, Inc., of Upland.

The hometown contractor was once again the low-bidder, offering to do this year's repaving work for \$85,115. Two other local contractors also submitted bids, ranging as high as \$100,250.

**The borough roadways projected for a fresh coat of asphalt this year are:**

- The intersection of Sixth and Church Streets
- Woodside Avenue, from #1032 Woodside to 10<sup>th</sup> Street
- West 24<sup>th</sup> Street, from the park to Upland Avenue
- The entire length of Willow Way

\*

### 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.

\*

### Fire Pit Burning Regs Clarified

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

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

\*

### Council OKs New Police Vehicles

The purchase of two new police vehicles through the state's COSTARS Program was approved by Borough Council at its July 11 session. The new vehicles include a 2017 sport utility police interceptor (costing \$33,891) and a 2017 sedan utility police interceptor (for \$32,914).

One new interceptor will replace the police vehicle that was recently totaled, while the other is a budgeted purchase to replace the oldest vehicle in the Upland PD fleet.



Mayor William Dennon swore in part-time police Officer Sean Mullen on Sept. 12, while his father Patrick held the Bible.

Mullen, age 23, is an Oxford, PA native. He recently completed four years at Alvernia University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in sports management. Mullen's Upland PD position is his first law enforcement post.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Police Chief Irely recently announced that the Upland Police Department has been named to receive a \$1,000 grant from the Vest-A-Cop Program to use for the purchase of another bullet-proof vest to help protect another Upland police officer in the line of fire. Meanwhile, a \$5,000 grant will be utilized to purchase two forensic software licenses for the UPD.*

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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."

\*\*\*

\*\*

\*