



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



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Halloween In Upland Is Spooktacular



The Community Affairs Committee hosted the Annual Youth Halloween Party at MacQueen Hall on Oct. 26, drawing a frightful variety of cute, clever, and creepy costumes.



The winning costumes in each of four age groups were absolutely awesome. A complete list of all the winners will appear in the next edition of *The Uplander*.



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The food and entertainment were great, but everyone's favorite time was when the iced cupcakes and bags full of candy were handed out.



Order Your Memorial Bricks Now

Building a Memorial Wall and Walkway on the upper end of the recently renovated Hill Street playground is officially underway. Councilwoman Julie Kerns noted that this public improvement project is not a fundraiser, but a cooperative community effort to create a memorial garden.

The Memorial Wall will be made of red bricks donated 'In Memory Of' lost loved ones, including veterans, family members or friends, and will stand between two pillars. The adjacent walkway will be built with engraved bricks donated 'In Honor Of' a special person. The wall/walkway will be enhanced with benches and landscaping, flowers and shrubs.

Engraved bricks for this project are now being sold to raise funds for construction. The labor to build the wall and walkway next year will be donated by Greg Zyla (owner of Zyla's Landscaping), so construction materials and upkeep will be the only expenses.

The engraved pavers come in two sizes. A standard 4 x 8-in. brick costs \$60, and can accommodate up to four lines of print, with each line having up to 21 spaces (a space can be a letter, number or blank). Large 8 x 8-in. bricks cost \$90 each, offering up to six lines of print, with 21 spaces per line.

Symbols, including pet paws, a peace dove, and military branch insignias, et al, can be added to any brick for an additional \$5 charge.

The exact message that you want engraved on your brick(s) is part of the order form. You may want to practice spelling out your message, to be sure that everything will fit in the available space when you stop by the borough office during business hours.

Visit our Facebook page at: [Uplandbuyabrick](#)

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Council Weighs Animal Control Contract

Upland Borough Council is considering a contract with Brandywine Valley SPCA, based in West Chester, PA, to improve animal control services related to stray dogs and cats. Council plans to vote on the matter at its Nov. 12 public meeting.

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Splash Park Decision Coming Soon

Upland Baptist Church officials will likely be making a decision by the end of this year, regarding the possibility of building a public 'splash park' on the western end of the UBC parking lot, according to Councilwoman Judy Bush, who is taking the lead in talks between the church and Borough Council.

The notion of creating a splash park in Upland was floated this past summer, but there are no borough-owned properties large enough to hold the fountains and sprayers (no pool) that comprise such a park.

Constructing a splash park on a portion of the UBC parking lot, which could be either leased or sold to the borough, is one possibility, but all parties understand that a mutually beneficial arrangement must be reached for this project to move forward.

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Zoners Grant Variance For Medical Marijuana Dispensary

By a unanimous (3-0) vote on Oct. 16, the Upland Zoning Hearing Board approved a conditional usage variance that will allow an application to operate a medical marijuana dispensary in the Upland Shopping Center to move forward.

Pennsylvania is one of 32 states that have now legalized medical marijuana use. Patients who suffer from any one of 14 approved conditions, including cancer, PTSD, arthritis, seizures, glaucoma, epilepsy, neuropathy, and/or chronic pain, et al. can get a medical marijuana certification card through their doctors and a state-controlled application process.

PharmaCann LLC was established in 2014, and is now operating in six states. PharmaCann (DBA Myralife) recently opened its first dispensary in Pennsylvania, when a medical marijuana store opened in Philadelphia on Oct. 4, and the company is now looking to branch out into other PA locations. PharmaCann's Upland application was initially denied, as a "pharmacy" would be permitted in the General Commercial-zoned center, but a medical marijuana dispensary (felt to be a "medical clinic") would only be permitted in the Medical District.

PharmaCann reps came before the Upland Zoning Hearing Board on Sept. 17, seeking either a reversal of the earlier usage denial or a usage variance.

The usage variance that was granted on Oct. 16 is subject to the following conditions:

1. The proposed renovation and operation of the dispensary shall be in strict compliance with the plans, testimony, and exhibits presented to the Zoning Hearing Board.
2. The operation of the facility shall be in strict compliance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, all Pennsylvania Department of Health regulations, and the ordinances of the Borough of Upland.
3. The applicant shall obtain all the building, plumbing, electrical, and any fire marshal permits that shall be required prior to the renovation and operation of the facility.

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Spaghetti Dinner Raises \$\$\$

The Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser held at MacQueen Hall on Sept. 14 was a record-breaker, not only in the number of residents who turned out to support the event, but also in the total dollars raised, with the dinner generating a profit of \$800, which will help fund the borough's many upcoming free events.

Community Affairs Committee leadership was very pleased with the turnout and the amount raised, and thanked the many residents who made the fundraiser a resounding success.

M.E.S. Students of the Month

The following students were named Student of the Month in September at Main Street Elementary School:

Aubrey Clark, Cari Long, Lauren Sparks, Gabriel Bradley, Jayden West, Yan Weng, Naseem Hunter, Prentice Cotterell, Zori Upshaw, Deniere Jackson-Ponder, Mahogany Winchester, Malik McCommons, Kevin Torrech Morales, Daniela Vargas, Kamora Harper, Mason Dixon, Kylon Jones, and London Sparks (Abner).

Congratulations to all, and keep up the good work!

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Boro Needs Newsletter Editor

Ken Stark, the editor of *The Uplander* since its inception in 2009, is retiring at the end of this year. In an effort to continue to produce a newsletter to keep the residents of Upland Borough informed, borough officials are seeking a qualified person or persons to take the helm of the newsletter next year. The successful candidate(s) for this position will need to have basic computer, photography, and writing skills, but does not need to be an expert in any of these fields to qualify.

Interested parties should send a resume and letter of introduction to the attention of Borough Manager Michael Ciach, 224 Castle Ave., Upland, PA 19015.

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Seniors Seeking Seniors

The Upland Senior Citizens Club meets at MacQueen Hall every Monday, from 9am to 3pm. The group convenes weekly for cards, games and good conversation; for day trips and holiday events; and for special lunch and dinner events.

Parkside Borough also has a senior citizens group, which meets every Thursday morning at 9:30am for card games and BINGO at the county's Redwood facility, located off Sixth Street.

Both seniors groups are looking for new members to join their weekly gatherings. Both groups have an annual \$5 membership fee, which is a token fee, considering the many benefits that members enjoy. Neither group has a residency requirement for members, nor are there any age requirements. So if you are retired, spending too much time alone, and looking for something new to help fill your time, joining one or both of these groups of active seniors may be the social jumpstart that you've needed.

To learn more about senior citizen opportunities, call Gwen Taylor at home (610-874-9470) or on her cell phone (267-319-6948).

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Did You Know?: 'November' is taken from the Latin word 'novem' (nine), as November was originally the ninth month of the early Roman calendar.

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Halloween Trick-or-Treat Hours

6 to 8pm on Thursday, Oct. 31

Children and handing-out homes should observe these hours for the welfare of all residents

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UBC Trunk-or-Treat

6 to 7pm on Thursday, Oct. 31

in Upland Baptist Church parking lot

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Daylight Savings Time Ends

2:00am on Sunday, Nov. 3

Turn clocks back one hour

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VBS Nights

6 to 7pm on Mondays, Nov. 4, 18 and 25

at Upland Baptist Church

Attendees enjoy dinner at 6:00pm, then a Bible lesson and creative activity from 6:30 to 7:00pm

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General Election Day

Tuesday, Nov. 5

Polls open from 7:00am to 8:00pm – PLEASE VOTE!

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Veterans Day

Monday, Nov. 11

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

Tuesdays, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, and Jan. 14

on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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Annual Thanksgiving Dinner For Seniors

6 to 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 9

at MacQueen Hall

Free homestyle turkey dinner with all the fixin's for ALL Upland senior citizens

Attendees must pre-register with the boro office, to give the food preparers an accurate head count

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Annual RLC Community Thanksgiving Dinner

4-6pm on Saturday, Nov. 23

at Resurrection Life Church, 8th & Church Sts.

Free turkey dinner (available To Go) for one and all

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Annual Tree Lighting & Youth Christmas Party

Starts at 6:00pm on Friday, Nov. 29

at MacQueen Hall

Friday, Nov. 8 is the deadline to submit sign-up forms for a gift from Santa Claus at the Annual Youth Christmas Party on Nov. 29.
Santa's gifts are for Upland children age 13 & under



The Resurrection Life Church Thrift Shop, located in the church at 8th & Church Streets, recently celebrated its 9th anniversary of offering affordable goods to the community. The RLC Thrift Shop is generally open from 10am to 2pm on the first and second Saturdays of each month. Most merchandise is offered at 50% off, while all proceeds go to the RLC Compassion Fund, helping people in need. As you do your Christmas shopping, please stop by the RLC Thrift Shop to see just how much you can save, while supporting the church's community outreach programs.

BINGO Fundraiser Returns



With Fire Chief Dan Smith calling out the letters & numbers, the Community Affairs Committee hosted another Designer Handbag BINGO fundraiser at MacQueen Hall on Oct. 19, with many winners walking away happy.



But the real mission of those who attended the BINGO fundraiser was to get together with family and friends to enjoy an evening of good fun.

UFC Hosts Open House



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Upland Fire Company No. 1 hosted a Fire Prevention Open House on Oct. 6, offering firefighting info and demos, free refreshments, and activities for their visitors. And while coloring with crayons is definitely fun, what could be cooler than handling a live fire hose?



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Upland firefighters know that team work is the key to getting their job done swiftly and safely.

Fireworks Pop in Upland



The Annual Labor Day Weekend Fireworks Display on Sept. 1 drew a large crowd to Bristol Lord Field, where Upland Fire Company volunteers raised funds by feeding attendees before the show.



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Of course, the early birds got the best seats in the house.



Some attendees were more creative than others in finding an unobstructed perch from which to watch.

Patton Ave. Stormsewer Repair Pending

A sinkhole that has developed on Patton Avenue will soon be addressed with an innovative repair of the leaking underground stormsewer line that caused the sinkhole to collapse.

Borough Engineer Dan Archdeacon recently advised Borough Council to contract with North American Pipeline Services, out of Freehold, NJ, to handle the subterranean repair. This company is the only local contractor that has the specialized equipment needed for this project, Archdeacon said. The work of a "jetter" truck and crew will be completed in one day, but at a cost of a \$6,900 flat fee for the truck and crew, plus \$20 per gallon of the sealant grout that will be pumped into the breached areas to make the repair. The total expenditure will not exceed \$11,000, according to Archdeacon.



The Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser was prepared and served up on Sept. 14 by members of the Community Affairs Committee, including (above, l to r) Council VP Moira Crawford, Councilwoman Julie Kerns, and Councilwoman Judy Bush. (Below) The successful fundraiser also provided old friends and acquaintances with a chance to reconnect.



Fire Co. Needs New Equipment

Upland Borough Council is lending a fiscal helping hand to Upland Fire Company No. 1. While the borough owns the firehouse on McClintock Drive, the fire company is operated by a dedicated group of volunteers.

Fire company officials recently notified the borough that some of their firefighting gear is over 10 years old, and as such is out of compliance with state certification regulations.

To remedy this situation, the borough has donated \$17,777 to the fire company, to pay for five complete sets of protective gear (four other sets are already on order) and 10 pairs of firefighter boots.



This group photo taken on Sept. 10 includes (left to right) Mayor Bill Dennon, Police Chief Mike Irey, Corporal Carl White, part-time Patrolman John McIntosh, full-time Patrolman Tim Ervin, and Lieutenant Mick Curran.

UPD Fortifies Ranks

Three Upland policemen were sworn in by Mayor Bill Dennon on Sept. 10, with the officers attaining different status levels with the UPD.

Corporal Carl White was promoted from the rank of full-time patrolman to the UPD's only corporal. White is originally from Norwood, and graduated from Interboro High School in 1998. He joined the Upland force in May 2016 as a part-timer, and moved up to full-time status in June 2018.

Prior to coming to Upland, White spent 19 years as a paramedic, and worked part-time for the Collingdale Police Department.

Patrolman Timothy Ervin moved from part-time to full-time status with the UPD.

Ervin grew up in Clifton Heights, and graduated from Upper Darby High School in 2005.

Before he joined the Upland force, Ervin spent five years with the Darby Borough PD, then a year and a half with the Darby Township PD.

Patrolman John McIntosh rejoined the UPD as a part-time officer.

McIntosh is a Chichester native, and graduated from Interboro High School in 2003.

McIntosh served as a part-timer in Upland from Sept. 2014 to January 2019, then left the UPD temporarily to work part-time for the Bethel Police Department.



Officer Timothy Ervin was assisted by his son Ryan, 9, and his daughter Allison, 4, who worked together to hold the Bible, while their father was sworn in as a UPD full-timer.

Loan For Police Station Refinanced

Upland Borough recently refinanced the bank loan that was taken out in June 2009 to pay for construction of a free-standing police station next to MacQueen Hall.

The TD Bank loan was originally a 20-year loan, with the borough paying 4.83% interest on the \$850,000 principal amount, but with the interest rate being reset every five years.

The loan was refinanced in 2014, dropping the interest rate to 3.5%.

The most recent refinance has secured an interest rate of 3.25% from TD Bank until 2024. This interest rate reduction will save Upland taxpayers an estimated \$10,000 over the remaining 10-year term of the loan, according to Finance Committee Chairwoman Moira Crawford.

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Sinkhole Threat Worries Council

Borough Councilman Lee Hunter recently asked his fellow Council members a question to which there seems to be no answer: When is PennDOT going to address the threat of sinkholes along Upland Avenue, between West 24th Street and Kerlin Street?

A persistent sinkhole at the intersection of W. 24th Street and Upland Avenue has been repeatedly patched and filled in recent years, but the root cause of the problem has never been fully investigated. According to Hunter, subterranean streams have undermined several places along that section of Upland Avenue, making a street collapse or another sinkhole a distinct possibility.

Council President Christine Peterson agreed with Hunter's concerns, but noted that PennDOT has been repeatedly told about the sinkhole threat on state-owned Upland Avenue, even though no remedial action is ever taken.

A frustrated Hunter even asked if the borough could declare the roadway unsafe and block off all traffic, forcing PennDOT into a response. Peterson acknowledged that blocking traffic might work, but lamented that the borough's police can only block off a state road in the event of an actual emergency, not as a precaution.

"So we just have to wait for the street to collapse?" an exasperated Hunter asked.

Sadly, the answer to that question is: Yes.

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Boro Renews Winter PennDOT Pact

Upland Borough has renewed a five-year Winter Traffic Service Agreement with PennDOT.

Under the agreement, the borough will continue to plow and salt the four state-owned roadways that run through Upland during snow/ice events through the winter of 2023/2024. PennDOT will reimburse the borough in the amount of \$5,700 per year, as payment for helping to keep state highways safe.

National Night Out Draws Crowd



Uniforms of many styles, colors, and sizes were prevalent at the 3rd Annual National Night Out event, held at Bristol Lord Field on Aug. 6 and hosted by the Upland PD.



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In addition to free hot dogs, the attractions included a medical evac helicopter landing and carnival games...



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...But the biggest surprises of the day were some very special guests, who stopped by to greet their fans.

Boro Website Upgrade Pending

Council Vice President Moira Crawford, who also serves as the webmaster for the borough's Internet website, is hoping that an overhaul of the website's design will be completed by year's end.

The borough's current website, which is visited by scores of Uplanders every month, was built with a framework provided by the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs. According to Crawford, "a better set-up" is offered by Civic CMS, so Upland Borough will be hiring the private web development firm to upgrade our website.

Crawford noted that the web designs offered by Civic CMS are less time-consuming to update and connect easily to other social media platforms. Civic CMS will also provide user training for borough personnel.

Civic CMS will charge the borough a one-time fee of \$7,500 for updating the website, then a \$2,000 annual maintenance fee for each year of the three-year contract. The fees will be paid in three annual installments of \$4,500.

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No Parking Lot Permits Required

After further discussion and deliberation, Borough Council has shelved the notion of requiring parking permits for residents to use the off-street parking lots on Sixth and Eighth Streets.

Parking **for Upland residents only** is now allowed in the Sixth Street (20 spaces) and Eighth Street (8 spaces) lots on a first come, first serve basis.

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2019 CDBG Earmarked For Restrooms

Upland Borough has received a 2019 Community Development Block Grant from Delaware County Council in the amount of \$33,500, which will be applied to the construction of public restroom facilities at Upland Park.

Borough Council President Christine Peterson noted that, now that sufficient funding is in place, Borough Council will have to decide exactly where the permanent restroom facility will be located.

Youth Magic Show Is Just An Illusion



Michael the Magician kept the crowd entertained with his bag of tricks at the Youth Magic Show on Aug. 24...

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...But the main attractions were the Make-Your-Own ice cream sundaes (above) and slices of pizza (below), served up by Community Affairs Committee Leaders Council VP Moira Crawford (left) and Councilwoman Julie Kerns.



Special Building Permit Discounts Now Available

Upland Borough is now offering building permit discounts to seniors and veterans. A 50% discount (up to \$250) on up to \$10,000 worth of assessed value work is available to senior citizens (age 62 or older) and certified military veterans who have been honorably discharged. A DD214 or active military ID must be produced to qualify as a certified veteran. This discount can only be utilized once per calendar year, and only for residential building permits where the applicant occupies the residence.

Roof Leak Needs Attention

A recent inspection of the MacQueen Hall roof found that the deterioration of the chimney is the primary source of a leak that has led to water damage on the ground floor of borough hall.

According to Borough Engineer Dan Archdeacon, some repointing of the chimney bricks will be necessary, and the chimney flashing will need to be replaced.

Since MacQueen Hall is over 100 years old, a hazardous materials inspection should be conducted to check for the presence of asbestos and/or lead paint, prior to any repairs being made, Archdeacon advised.

The borough will be seeking quotes from an array of contractors, as this renovation project will ultimately require the expertise of both roofers and masons.

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Caramanico Expansion OK'd

Borough Council recently followed the recommendation of the Planning Commission in approving a major renovation project for the Race Street location of C. Caramanico & Sons.

Caramanico's main office moved from Springfield to their current 3-acre site at #6 Race Street in Upland in 1999. The plan to expand the main office site is technically a reverse subdivision, which will see the incorporation of the lot at #4 Race Street.

Under the approved development plan, the vacant building at #4 Race Street will be renovated for use as office space, while other upgrades to the Caramanico complex will include additional parking and paving.

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Sesquicentennial Home Decorating Winners Named

The three winners of the Sesquicentennial Home Decorating Contest were announced at Council's June 25 meeting. The theme was patriotic, with the judging being done by Borough Council members.

1st place – 25 Church Street (\$100)

2nd place – 208 Ninth Street (\$50)

3rd place – 23 Church Street (\$25)

Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to all those residents who showed their American colors.

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