



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



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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.



Families flocked to Upland Park on a cool and pleasant evening, and there was room enough for all.



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

Upland Zoners Weigh Application For Medical Marijuana Dispensary

Upland Borough has joined the national debate over the evolving legalization of medical marijuana. 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 in Illinois, after that state joined the wave of medical marijuana legalization, and is now operating in six states. PharmaCann (DBA Myralife) will be opening its first dispensary in Pennsylvania, when a medical marijuana store opens in Philadelphia on Oct. 4.

Looking to branch out into other PA locations, PharmaCann applied to Upland Borough this summer, hoping to receive approval to open a dispensary in vacant unit #55 (between the pizzeria and hair stylist) in the Upland Shopping Center. In July, the application was denied, as the borough felt that a "pharmacy" would be permitted in the General Commercial-zoned center, but a medical marijuana dispensary is more like a "medical clinic," which is only permitted in the borough's Medical District.

PharmaCann's Director of New Markets Matthew Levine came before the Upland Zoning Hearing Board on Sept. 17, seeking either a reversal of the earlier usage denial or a usage variance, either of which would allow the dispensary to move forward.

During the hearing, Levine recounted the operating systems and multiple security measures that PharmaCann takes with all of its dispensaries to ensure customer satisfaction and safety, as well as compliance with all laws. He noted that PharmaCann has never had a violent incident or a safety violation in any of their medical marijuana outlets.

Borough Manager Mike Ciach asked Levine if he was familiar with the crime rate in the nearby City of Chester, and expressed his concern for the safety of customers in the shopping center parking lot, after they have made a marijuana purchase.

The Zoning Hearing Board has up to 45 days to render a decision, but Zoning Solicitor John Wills scheduled the board to reconvene on Wednesday, Oct. 16 to hand down their decision in this case.

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Please clean up all grass clippings and rake leaves from the curb of the street. Clippings and leaves clog stormsewer inlets during heavy rain events, leading to flash flooding of low-lying areas.

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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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 August 2019, Upland officers issued 167 citations, with all but 16 being traffic citations. The year-to-date total for citations issued is 1,287.

A total of 124 parking tickets were also written in August, bringing the 2019 total up to 772.

Ten motor vehicle accidents were reported on borough roadways in August.

A total of 131 vehicles have been towed in 2019.

The UPD answered a total of 485 calls in August, in addition to making 45 assists to other local agencies. As of the end of August, the total call volume for this year is 3,211 calls.

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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.

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ROAD CLOSURE:

Starting on Sept. 30, Main Street will be closed from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Detours will be 8th Street to Upland Avenue & 22nd Street to Edgmont Avenue.

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.

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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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**Main Street Elementary School trip
to Linvilla Orchards
Thursday & Friday, Oct. 10 & 11**

Upland Fire Co. Hosts Fire Prevention Open House

2 to 5pm on Sunday, Oct. 6
at UFC firehouse on McClintock Drive

Refreshments, information tables,
Fire safety demonstrations, fire equipment on display

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VBS Nights

6 to 7pm on Mondays, Oct. 7, 21 and 28
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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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesdays, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, and Dec. 10
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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Designer Handbag BINGO

6 to 11pm on Saturday, Oct. 19
at MacQueen Hall

Bring your own food and beverages
Raffle baskets and 50/50 drawings; 10 rounds of BINGO
Tickets \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door

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Annual Youth Halloween Party

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Oct. 26
at MacQueen Hall

Food & beverages served; Prizes for best costumes
For borough residents up to 13 years old

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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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Thanksgiving Dinner For Seniors

6 to 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 9
at MacQueen Hall

Free turkey dinner for ALL Upland senior citizens

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Annual Tree Lighting & Youth Christmas Party

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

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Church Street Thrift Shop (operated by
Resurrection Life Church, at 8th & Church Sts.)

Open from 10am to 2pm
on Saturdays, Oct. 5 and 19

All proceeds go to RLC's Compassion Fund

Order Your Memorial Bricks Now

Construction of 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 will be the only project expense.

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](#)



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.



This group photo taken on Sept. 10 includes (left to right) Mayor Bill Dennon, Police Chief Mike Irely, 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.

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.



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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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.

"You sure would make a lot of enemies," Councilman Dick McClintock said of the notion of Borough Council deciding to block off heavily-traveled Upland Avenue as a safety precaution.

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

Sadly, the answer to that question is: Yes.

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.

Italian immigrant Carmine Caramanico established his family landscaping business in 1946 in Philadelphia. Over three generations, the business has expanded their property maintenance services, and grown to include over 100 employees at four locations.

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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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.



Roof Leak Needs Attention

The shingles on the roof of MacQueen Hall are only about a dozen years old, so it was not surprising that a recent inspection found that the deterioration of the chimney is the primary source of a roof 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 engineer 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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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.

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Chief Goes To School

Upland Police Chief Mike Irey will be joining other police chiefs when he attends the Northwestern Command School this fall. Upland Borough will pay \$4,100 for Irey to attend classes part-time at the Bucks County Training Center from October thru February, two weeks on, then two weeks off.

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UPD Bike Patrols Delayed

The bicycle patrols that the Upland Police Department has made in recent summers will not get started until early autumn this year, due to a temporary shortage of part-time police officers.

According to Police Chief Mike Irey, UPD bike patrols will resume in September or October, after some additional personnel are hired.

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New Public Park Coming Soon

The creation of a new public park on Eighth Street (at the intersection of Hill Street and Upland Avenue) began with the demolition of three corner buildings last year, and is scheduled to be completed by year end.

Borough Council recently awarded a contract in the amount of \$288,282 to low-bidder Premiere Concrete for sidewalk and walkway construction, which is slated to get underway this summer.

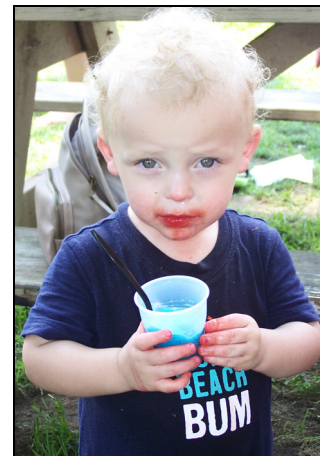
Fourth of July Sizzles In Upland



The cool and refreshing Slip-n-Slide was by far the most popular attraction at this year's Annual Fourth of July Family Picnic in Upland Park, where the adults generally hung out under the shade trees near the pavilion to beat the heat. Community Affairs Committee Co-Chair Moira Crawford has already announced that next year's July 4th festivities will feature multiple water slides, in lieu of the inflatable moon bounce and obstacle course that are not as 'cool'.



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On a hot day, it's important to stay hydrated. Big Var's water ices were a popular solution, with some folks enjoying multiple flavors, while others preferred bottled water.



Splash Park Discussed

An idea that probably got a boost from the popularity of the water slide at the Fourth of July Family Picnic is the creation of a splash park in Upland Borough.

Borough Council had been considering converting a borough-owned property on Front Street or Second Street into a public water park, but the available lots were simply too small to accommodate such a project. Another notion that is now being discussed is for the borough to either purchase or lease the western third of the Upland Baptist Church parking lot to utilize for a splash park.

The proposed facility would not include a pool, but a series of sprinklers and fountains that would offer pedestrians a refreshingly wet dousing on a hot and humid day. Water depth would not exceed 1.5 inches, so accidental drowning wouldn't be possible. A tentative goal for discussions between the church and the borough would be to have a splash park ready for use next summer, if possible.

Several important details and some legal technicalities would have to be worked out first, including whether chaperones should be stationed at the water park for child safety, and whether fencing would be needed for nighttime security.

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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.

Kerlin St. Lighting Approved

Borough Council has authorized the purchase and installation of four solar-powered LED light bollards to illuminate the new bench area on the north side of Kerlin Street, at the Upland Avenue intersection.

The expenditure of \$7,700 was approved for the 3-foot-high light fixtures, which will be installed and energized soon.

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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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Contract Awarded For Road Program

The 2019 Road Program contract has been awarded to hometown contractor A. F. Damon, Inc., the lone bidder for a joint contract between Upland and Parkside Boroughs.

The two neighboring boroughs pooled their repaving needs in an effort to get a better overall price. The joint contract's financial split breaks down to Upland paying \$149,417, while Parkside covers \$58,797 of the total amount of \$208,214.

The Upland roadways slated for fresh asphalt this year include: Race Street (2 blocks), Main Street (near Upland Baptist Church), Kent Lane (entire length), Sixth Street (Main St. to Church St.), Church Street (Sixth St. to Tenth St.), and Eleventh Street (Main St. to boro line).

As of the Aug. 27 Council meeting, this year's repaving work is projected to be done in October.

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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.

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Boro Receives Insurance Payout

At the June 25 Borough Council session, the borough received a check from Zurich American Insurance Company in the amount of \$180,353.25 as compensation for losses. The insurance payout settles the lawsuit of Upland Borough v. Ed Mitchell.

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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.

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