



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



Vol. 10-9; September 2018 edition



UPD's National Night Out Draws A Crowd



The warm and humid evening of Aug. 7 saw a throng of Uplanders enjoying the free food and festivities at Bristol Lord Field during the Second Annual National Night Out, which focuses on building good relations between police officers and the residents they protect.



Special thanks go out to Officer Andy Nichols, who manned the grill and cooked up 500 hot dogs to feed the crowd.



Former Marine Volunteer Sal DeViato (dressed as an escaped prisoner) didn't even break a sweat during Chester PD Officer Joe Dougherty's K-9 demonstration.



After the demo, K-9 Officer Mickey showed his gentle side, allowing children (and even an undisguised Sal) to pet him. ...And okay, Sal was sweating just a bit during that demo – Wouldn't you have been?



The volunteer members of Upland Fire Company No. 1 were on hand to give out fire helmets and test hose skills.



Council Renews Call For Mitchell Resignation

Borough Council is once again calling for Councilman Edward Mitchell to resign his Council seat. A similar demand was made, to no avail, in March 2017, before Mitchell was found guilty on 42 of 44 felony counts stemming from an illegal payback scheme.

"It's appalling that he will not step down," lamented Council President Christine Peterson. *"He's been found guilty of taking money from the taxpayers, yet he is still getting a monthly paycheck (as an elected Council member)."*

Mitchell has not attended a Borough Council meeting since he was arrested in December 2016. Mitchell's sentencing hearing is slated for Sept. 14 in Media, where Upland Borough officials will be asking the court for restitution.

*

UBC Food Bank Gets Fresh

The Community Food Bank at Upland Baptist Church recently added locally-grown fresh fruits and vegetables to its list of available food items – all free for the asking. Local residents can stop by the church any Wednesday morning, from 9 to 10am, to pick up groceries to help feed their families.

The UBC Food Bank is continually in need of canned and dry goods to keep a well-rounded selection of nutritional foods on hand. Please donate to help support this ongoing community outreach mission.

For more information on the UBC Community Food Bank, call Louise at **610-876-1857**.

*

Sesquicentennial Merchandise On Sale Now

Baseball caps (two styles), t-shirts, and Christmas tree ornaments, all bearing the special logo for Upland Borough's 150th birthday celebration are now available at the borough office during regular business hours. The sesquicentennial logo items will also be sold (for \$10 to \$20 each) at upcoming public events and during the many planned festivities on Memorial Day weekend 2019.

***Upland residents will get twice the bang for their fireworks buck next year, as a special fireworks show will be held at Bristol Lord Field as part of the sesquicentennial celebration on Sunday May 26, in addition to the traditional Labor Day weekend fireworks display.

*

Paving Contract Awarded

The 2018 road paving contract has been awarded to the lone bidder, A. F. Damon, Inc. of Upland. The hometown contractor offered to repave 700 linear feet of Woodside Avenue (from Tenth Street to its terminus) for \$43,760.

Please Rinse Out Recyclables

Major changes may be on the horizon for Upland Borough's recycling program, as Borough Council decides how to handle skyrocketing costs and an array of potential new restrictions on recyclables.

While Uplanders await the outcome of the next round of trash contract negotiations, to see what will and what will not be collected for recycling, one thing we can all do now is to clean up the items we put out for collection.

Currently, the average American household contaminates about 30% of its recyclables, generally by leaving a trace of liquid in bottles or food residue encrusted on cans and boxes. With the acceptable industry standard being a mere 0.01% for contamination, the result is that tons of recycling are rejected by processors on a daily basis, due to the exorbitant cost of separating and cleaning bacteria-ridden items.

The cost of handling contaminated recyclables has gotten so high that B & L Disposal (Upland's trash hauler) recently adopted a policy of adding up to a \$100 per ton surcharge to any recycling collections that contain contaminated items and require additional processing.

Rinsing out your recyclables may be a small step in the effort to sustain our planet's resources, but it is a step in the right direction, and may soon be required anyway, so it seems to be a step worth taking now.

*

Late Night Fireworks = Noise Violation

At Council's Aug. 28 meeting, the borough's noise ordinance was amended to read:

"It is strictly forbidden to discharge or set off noise-making fireworks, unless a permit for the purpose of entertainment to do so has been granted by Borough Council."

The noise ordinance that now applies to fireworks is in effect from **10:00pm to 7:00am** every weekday and **until 8:00am** every weekend (Saturdays and Sundays), with no exceptions made for holidays.

*

Attention

All Property Owners:

Code Enforcement Crack Down Is Underway

Borough Council is hereby giving all property owners fair notice that stricter enforcement of property maintenance laws is coming to Upland Borough this summer and fall.

An increase in the number of properties where tall grass and/or trash and debris can be plainly seen from the street was recently discussed by Council. The agreed solution will be the issuance of more citations and fewer warnings from the code enforcement officer, with unpaid citations leading to the filing of municipal liens against noncompliant property owners.

Fire Chief Smith Saves Life

Upland Borough Fire Chief/Fire Marshal Dan Smith drew a standing ovation in Council chambers, after a letter from a grateful parent was read aloud, detailing Smith's recent life-saving intervention.

Smith was among the first responders on the scene on May 26, when an emergency call went out for a man slumped over the wheel in his car. Smith tried to wake up the unconscious victim, then pulled him from the car and laid him on the ground.

The man was not breathing, as Smith tried to resuscitate him for 10 minutes, while family members anxiously looked on. Paramedics soon arrived and took over the emergency care of the patient, who was suffering from a heart condition. The fortunate man was hospitalized, but lived to tell the story, leading his letter-writing mother to proclaim in no uncertain terms:

"Because of Dan's quick actions, my son is here with his family. Mr. Smith, you saved my son's life, and for that, I am eternally grateful."

*

Tree Trimming/Removal Pending

After reviewing three bids, Council has awarded a \$8,775 contract to Cels Tree Care, LLC for the trimming and/or removal of several dead trees that are located on borough property, and in some cases, could threaten vehicles, buildings, or electrical wires if the trees were brought down by the wind.

*

UPD Eyes K-9 Addition In 2019

Borough Council recently agreed to revisit the possibility of purchasing a police dog for the Upland Police Department during upcoming budget preparations for the 2019 fiscal year.

**Free tours of the historic
1683 Caleb Pusey House on Race Street
are available every Saturday,
from 1 to 4pm, through October.**

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 July 2018, Upland officers issued 171 citations, all but 12 of which were traffic citations. The year-to-date total for citations issued is 1,119. Sixty-six parking tickets were also written in July, bringing the 2018 total up to 297.

Seven motor vehicle accidents were reported on borough roadways in July.

A total of 81 vehicles have been towed in 2018.

The UPD answered a total of 507 calls in July, in addition to making 48 assists to other local agencies. As of the end of July, the total call volume for this year is 3,435 calls.

2nd Annual Classic Car Show on Saturday, Sept. 8 (rain date: Sept. 22)

Registration starts at 10:00am

at Upland Baptist Church parking lot

DJ; 50/50 raffle; Food & beverages available

**This is a fundraiser for the Upland Fire Company
Donations of non-perishable items will be accepted
for UBC Food Bank**

Call Paul at 484-485-1297 for more info

*

VBS Nights

6 to 7pm on Mondays, Sept. 10, 17 & 24

at Upland Baptist Church

**Dinner at 6:00pm, followed by Bible lesson
and creative activity from 6:30-7pm**

Free & Open to all in our community

*

Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

Tuesday Sept. 11, Oct. 9, and Nov. 13

on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

*

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Sept. 15

at MacQueen Hall

Adults: \$10; Seniors: \$8; Children \$6

Proceeds benefit Community Affairs Committee

*

Annual Shady Maple Trip For Seniors

Monday, Oct. 8 – transportation provided

Attendees must sign up with boro office in advance

Limited space available

*

Designer Handbag BINGO Fundraiser

7 to 11pm on Saturday, Oct. 13

at MacQueen Hall

Tickets: \$30 in advance (at boro office) or \$35 at door

Baskets & 50/50 raffles; BYO beverages/food

Proceeds benefit Community Affairs Committee

*

Annual Youth Halloween Party

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Oct. 27

at MacQueen Hall

Attendees must show proof of residency

*

Annual Senior Citizens

Thanksgiving Dinner

6 to 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 10

at MacQueen Hall

All Upland senior citizens are welcome

*

Annual Tree Lighting & Santa Visit

Tree lighting at 6:00pm, followed by

Youth Christmas Party with Santa

Friday, Nov. 23

at MacQueen Hall

Youth Magic Show Is...Magical!



Michael the Magician amazed and entertained Upland children on Aug. 18, but a chance to pet and hold Bandit the rabbit was the highlight of the show.



After the magic show, the excitement continued with pizza and make-your-own ice cream sundaes for all.



Winter Roads Agreement OK'd

Council has renewed the Winter Roads Agreement with PennDOT, wherein the borough gets \$4,376 in state funds to purchase rock salt to spread on state-owned highways in Upland this coming winter.

*

AV Gutter Cleaning Approved

Council has approved the expenditure of \$3,300 for The Gutter People to clean all Auburn Village rain gutters. The overdue maintenance project has not been done in three years, according to Borough Manager Mike Ciach. The lack of cleaning has allowed tree saplings to take root in the gutter muck.

*

Oronzio Scholarship Awarded

To honor the March 2017 passing of Upland native David Oronzio, his father George has established a scholarship fund for students pursuing careers in fire, police, or EMS work. The Dave Oronzio First Responders Foundation is aiming to hand out a \$500 scholarship to a deserving student each year.

The first scholarship award was presented in early August, with George Oronzio handing over a check facsimile to Middletown Fire Company President John Toal. The scholarship will ultimately go to a volunteer member of Middletown Station 50, with whom Dave Oronzio ran for 15 years.

To learn more, or to make a donation in support of next year's scholarship award, go to

www.daveoronzio.com.



On June 24, Resurrection Life Church celebrated its 30th anniversary. Pictured here are the original RLC members in 1988, with Pastor Bryan McGrouty and his wife Patty sitting front center. The last 15 years have seen the RLC congregation grow to become an integral part of Upland.



These signs (provided by the state at no cost to the borough) will soon be posted in Upland's parks and playgrounds, in an effort to spare our children from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke. Borough Council recently passed an ordinance that prohibits smoking in public areas, and provides up to a \$500 fine for violations.

July 4th Sizzles In Upland



The kids knew how to beat the heat at this year's Annual July Fourth Family Picnic, where the free food and fun were provided by the Community Affairs Committee.



Among our youth, swimwear was preferred to make temperatures in the low 90s more bearable.



...While an ample supply of frosty snowcones and ice cold beverages certainly helped cool things off.



The Crawford sisters (left to right: Diana, Shannon, Moira, and Denise) were among the volunteers who worked hard in the pavilion to make the Family Picnic a success.

Noise Ordinance Covers Fireworks

Recent changes to the state law regarding the purchase and use of fireworks has led to an uptick in sales, and as a result, an increase in the number of occasions when fireworks are a public nuisance. Upland Borough Council members described the proliferation of fireworks around the July Fourth holiday as turning Upland into "a war zone," where late night explosions sent frightened pets running for cover and kept entire neighborhoods awake past midnight.

"This has to be done safely and at a reasonable time," Council President Christine Peterson said of setting off hand-held fireworks.

In an effort to thwart future instances of late night fireworks abuse, Council has amended the noise ordinance in the borough code to include fireworks-related disturbances.

*

Boro Transfers Funds

At Borough Council's July 10 session, the transfer of \$215,000 was authorized from the PLGIT special revenue account to the General Fund, to cover the cost of a series of recent upgrades and public improvement projects.

Included in the improvements are benches and landscaping at the Kerlin Street/Upland Avenue intersection; demolition of three buildings on the corner of Eighth & Hill Streets; creation of new public parking lots on Eighth Street and Sixth Street; and the recent "painting" of the new wall section along Main Street.

Enhancement of the new stone wall with colorizing stain cost \$8,600. Council was so pleased with the results that re-pointing and "painting" the remainder of the Main Street wall is now being considered.

*

Upland Has 'Quiet Time' Law

In response to a resident's recent inquiry, Borough Council reminds all residents that Upland Borough has a noise ordinance that calls for "quiet time" between the hours of 10:00pm and 7:30am. Your neighbors thank you for faithfully observing this law.

Little Free Library Opens

An idea that was hatched by Upland Police Corporal Michael Curran recently came to fruition with the installation of a Little Free Library book exchange box on Castle Avenue. The box itself was made by master carpenter Parker Ferguson, who also serves as the borough's building inspector.

Officer Curran is promoting the benefits of summer reading and the expansion of young minds. The Little Free Library is an extension of a reading program launched by Upland Police Chief Mike Irey, wherein Upland officers visit Main Street Elementary and the Chester Charter School to read to students every week during the school year.

"With the Little Library, residents will be able to share books and avoid the cost of purchasing one," said Curran. "I sincerely hope the community will utilize this Little Library, not only for the sharing of books, but also to meet new people with similar interests and to form friendships," he added.



It didn't take long for a collection of paperback and hardback books to become available in the Little Free Library box, located at the entrance to the MacQueen Hall parking lot.

Sewer Lateral Blockage Becomes Cautionary Tale

Borough Engineer Dan Archdeacon's report on recent Catania Engineering activities at the July 10 Borough Council meeting included a plumbing incident that could happen in any family home.

When a sewer lateral blockage was reported at a Ninth Street address, Catania Engineering oversaw the inspection and removal of the blockage, which turned out to be an entire container of sanitary wipes that had been flushed down the toilet, presumably by a child.

Archdeacon suggested that the emergency removal of the accidental blockage was a costly reminder of the value of keeping easily-flushable items away from children in the bathroom.

New Officers Sworn In

Upland Police Department vacancies were filled when three part-time officers were sworn in by Mayor Bill Dennon on July 10.

Officer Stephen Mengini, age 28, grew up in Woodlyn and graduated from Ridley High School in 2008, then from the Delco Police Academy in 2010. Mengini has since worked a year as a Lincoln University campus police officer and six years with the Philadelphia sheriff's office, as well as a previous two-year stint as a part-time Upland cop.

Officer Lawrence Porter, 50, is originally from Detroit, MI. He attended Schoolcraft College, where he earned an associate's degree in criminal justice. Porter served the community of Southfield, MI for 24 years, with the last 10 being as a police sergeant.

Officer Bryan Reeser, 40, hales from Brooklyn, NY. He attended Kingsboro College for two years, and graduated from the Temple University Police Academy in 2018.

Prior to becoming a police officer, Reeser worked as a U.S. park ranger for three years and as a federal officer with the Department of Defense for four years. His most recent position was serving as a police officer for the Chester Housing Authority.

*

Historical Commission Dissolved

The Upland Historical Commission (UHC) has been officially dissolved by Borough Council.

The now defunct advisory board was established in July 2014 to assess the impact of tearing down potentially-historic buildings on the Crozer Hospital campus. After reviewing this one case, the UHC has since been dormant.

Last year, Borough Council terminated the terms of all five UHC charter members, effective as of Dec. 31, 2017.

Council President Christine Peterson noted that the Delaware County Heritage Commission would be able to provide Upland Borough with the same kind of guidance and advice, should the issue of historic demolition arise again.

*

Vet Flag Project Earns Kudos

The recent hanging of red, white & blue memorial flags to honor Upland's Hometown Hero military veterans has drawn praise and recognition for Upland Borough.

A recent Daily Times Sound Off column expressed the feelings of many who have seen the flags on display, stating: *"I'd like to compliment Upland Borough on the use of veterans' pictures on flags on the utility poles. That's an outstanding gesture, and as a veteran, I appreciate it very much."*

If you see that a Hometown Heroes flag is damaged in any way, or needs to be rehung from a utility pole, please call the borough office at **610-874-7317**.

Upland Applies For Pothole Relief

Borough Engineer Dan Archdeacon recently submitted Upland's application to the county for \$1,522 in additional funding to fix potholes. Delco Council is making extra money available through the Liquid Fuels Fund, in recognition of a heavy-plowing winter season that created more than the usual number of potholes across Delaware County. The amount that Upland will receive for pothole repairs will be determined by the number of municipal applicants.

* * * * *

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.

* * * * *

More Street Lighting Requested To Curb Vehicle Break-ins

Upland residents, along with neighboring communities, have recently been the victims of a series of overnight vehicle break-ins. **Residents are urged to take care to close car/truck windows and lock all doors at night**, as these thieves are generally looking for the easy pickings provided by unlocked vehicles.

Two Church Street residents came before Council on June 26 to report frequent vehicle break-ins in their neighborhood, with most occurring between the wee hours of 2 to 4am. They noted that one neighbor has already been hit by thieves "three or four times."

"Whoever is doing this, they keep coming back over and over and over again," lamented one resident.

Although there are security cameras in the area, the captured images are too dark to discern faces, the residents said. The situation led the concerned residents to ask Council for more street lights and more early morning police patrols to improve security on Church Street.

Council VP Moira Crawford vowed to look into the possibility of adding more street lighting, but noted that such an improvement could be costly and would require extensive coordination and cooperation with PECO.

In the meantime, the best defense against vehicle break-ins is for every resident to use common sense and be vigilant.

"If you see anything out of the ordinary, call the police immediately," Councilman Dick McClintock advised residents.

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.

* * *

Carnival Comes To Town



The outdoor carnival's annual visit to Bristol Lord Field in early June appealed to fun-seeking families, and generated \$3,800 in borough revenue, which will be applied to future events sponsored by the Community Affairs Committee.

*



Some carnival rides promoted togetherness...



...While other rides attracted the thrill-seekers among us.

* * *

Council Mulls Permit Discount For Senior Citizens

A borough resident recently asked Borough Council to consider waiving permit fees for disabled veterans, but since Upland only has a handful of disabled veterans, Council is discussing going a step further and offering a permit fee discount to all senior citizens.

The possibility of waiving permit fees was discussed at length at Council's May 8 caucus session, but since borough inspectors get paid for their work through those fees, waiving the fee altogether was not seen as practical. A percentage discount on certain types of permit fees, however, was generally viewed as something the borough could offer to help out seniors on fixed incomes.

The exact details of a permit fee discount program will be worked out soon and announced at a future Council meeting. Once a proposal is formalized, the borough will then be able to budget accordingly for fiscal 2019, when the proposed discounts would go into effect, noted Council VP Moira Crawford.

* * * * *

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, and photo galleries of recent community events.

**To share digital photos or information
on the borough's website, send email to**

mcrawford@uplandboro.org

* * * * *

Recycling Costs Skyrocket

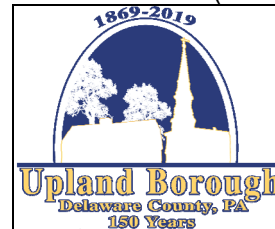
Upland Borough's trash hauler, B & L Disposal, recently notified all of its customers that "the recycling market has crashed," ever since China stopped accepting shiploads of recyclables from the US. After losing the top buyer for their recycling collections, American trash haulers are saying that their recycling processing costs will now jump, and those cost increases must be passed along to their municipal clients.

As of May 1, according to B & L's notice, the cost to process recyclables has increased from \$1.72 per ton to \$65 per ton – that's a stunning 3,779% hike! Exactly how each municipality handles the cost increase remains to be seen. While large townships are required under state law to have recycling programs, small boroughs like Upland are not. Other options for Upland Borough Council include negotiating a new contract with B & L or another trash hauler, and/or raising the \$135 per household trash collection fee, which has not been changed since it was first levied in 2008.

Logo Contest Winner Named

In connection with plans that are now being made to celebrate Upland Borough's 150th Anniversary in May 2019, Borough Council held a contest to create a special Upland Borough logo. A cash prize of \$250 was offered for the winning logo design. This special borough logo will be applied to several giveaway items at the 150th Anniversary celebration, to be held over the 2019 Memorial Day weekend.

A total of four unique design ideas were submitted. Borough Council declared the winning entry to be that of Vinnie Caroselli, a lifelong Upland resident who is currently majoring in graphic design as a sophomore at Juniata College. Caroselli's logo design features the silhouette of the Upland Baptist Church steeple and the Caleb Pusey House, representing two of Upland Borough's most recognizable historic structures (see below).



* * * * *

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.

* * * * *

Council Approves Police Vehicles

The purchase of two new police vehicles was recently authorized by Borough Council.

At the May 22 session, Council approved the expenditure of \$43,995 for a new Chevy Tahoe, contingent on receiving a CoStars grant, which would lessen the cost. The 2018 Tahoe will replace a 2012 Tahoe with 50,000+ miles on the odometer, which could then be used by the borough's code enforcement officer.

At Council's June 26 meeting, the purchase of a 2017 Ford Interceptor sedan was authorized, to take advantage of CoStars' low price of \$23,891. This squad car will bring the UPD fleet back up to six operational marked vehicles.

* * *

* *

*