



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



Vol. 7-3; March 2015 edition



'CHICKEN COOP' IS GOING, GOING...GONE!



In January, Borough Council contracted with A. J. Jurich for the demolition of 4 Eighth Street, aka 'the Chicken Coop' for its tiny size. The long-vacant structure was close to falling over on its own.

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In early February, workmen went about the task of tearing down the one-story shanty, after a great deal of trash had been removed from inside.

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...And in less than a week from start to finish, the blighted Eighth Street site had been cleaned up and converted into an empty lot, putting an end to a neighborhood eyesore. "It's done, and everybody's happy," declared Councilman Harold R. Peden.



Part-time Patrolwoman Samanthe Wilding was sworn in by Borough Manager Shirley Purcival on Feb. 10, while Wilding's husband David held the Bible. Officer Wilding is the second female police officer hired to serve with the Upland PD.

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After she took the service oath, Officer Wilding is congratulated by Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio.

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As Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, Councilman Harold R. Peden (far left) recently joined Chief Ocasio in commending Police Officers William Meyer (left center) and Sean Dougherty for their respective roles in saving the life of a Mulberry Street resident on Dec. 11, 2014. Both officers received the Life-Saving Citation Bar for their actions.

Kirby Named Code Enforcement Assistant

The title of Assistant Code Enforcement Officer was officially bestowed on William Kirby at Borough Council's Feb. 10 meeting, providing some help for Code Officer Leland Hunter, who has performed the borough's code enforcement duties by himself for the past six years.

"I want to thank Bill Kirby for his assistance, which I very much need and appreciate," Hunter told his fellow Council members. "He's been doing a heck of a job for us," Hunter added.

Kirby will be paid \$10 per hour for the part-time position, while sharing use of the borough's code enforcement car with Hunter.

Kirby also currently serves as the borough's health inspector – a position to which he was re-appointed just last year, but a post where he has a total of nearly 20 years of experience overall.

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Grateful Marines Say Thanks

In response to Borough Council's recent donation of \$1,500 to the Delaware County Marine Corps League, the leadership of Detachment 288 sent a thank you note to the borough, which was read into the official record at the Feb. 10 meeting.

In his letter to Borough Council, Detachment 288 Commandant Richard Micolucci stated that the donation will be used to repair the access driveway to the group's Sixth Street headquarters.

Members of Marine Corps League Detachment 288 are prominently on display every year in Upland during Memorial Day festivities, providing the honor guard that fires rifle salutes to fallen soldiers at the Upland Baptist Church cemetery and at the war memorial in Upland Memorial Park.

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Got Salt? Yup!

Council VP and Streets & Equipment Committee Chairwoman Christine Peterson reports that 50 tons of road salt was recently delivered to Upland Borough to give the Public Works Department an ample supply for the rest of this winter. Barring extra-ordinary winter weather conditions over the next month, the current salt supply should even provide a good head start filling next winter's rock salt needs.

Peterson also reported that the Public Works crew has done a good job staying on top of icy road conditions this winter.

"Even though we haven't had a lot of snow, we have had several freezing incidents," Peterson said on Feb. 10.

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Buildings Get 'Heavy' Cleaning

According to Buildings & Grounds Committee Chairwoman Sandy Miazza, the police department headquarters building and MacQueen Hall have both recently received a "heavy" cleaning. The MacQueen Hall clean-up included the curtains on the second floor stage and storage closets.

Smith Resigns From Council

Fire Chief Daniel Smith has resigned from Upland Borough Council, effective as of Jan. 22. Smith's letter of resignation was officially "accepted with regrets" at Council's Feb. 10 meeting. In the letter, Smith did not give a reason for his decision.

There are nearly three full years remaining on Smith's unexpired Council term. Council's Nominating Committee has been reviewing resumes and applications, in the hopes of making an interim appointment at the March 10 meeting.

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Auburn Village Upgrades Keep Coming

This year's budgeted improvements to Auburn Village units that are either pending or already underway include the replacement of cabinets and railings (where needed) and new fire extinguishers for all units, according to Auburn Village Committee Chairwoman Christine Peterson.

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Part-time Officers

Join/Leave Upland Force

Part-time Police Officer Samantha Wilding was sworn in as a member of the Upland PD on Feb. 10. Wilding grew up in Aston and is a 2005 graduate of Sun Valley High School. She also graduated from the Delaware County Police Academy in 2013, and has spent the last 15 months working part-time as a Darby Borough police officer.

"I'm happy to be working with the Upland Police Department to help serve this community," Wilding said of her new posting.

Wilding fills a vacancy created by the recent resignation of part-time Officer Joshua Keenan, who has taken a full-time law enforcement position with the City of Norristown. Even though Keenan had only worked for Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio for a short five months, Ocasio described the former part-timer as "a great asset."

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Upland PD Seeks Corporal

Borough Council has approved the preliminary steps to identify the best candidate to serve as a corporal in the Upland Police Department. Members of the borough's Civil Service Commission will soon be conducting the necessary testing and interview process that will ultimately lead to the most qualified candidates.

Police Chief Nelson Ocasio is currently the only member of the Upland PD who carries rank. The creation of a new corporal will provide the Upland force with a second tier of leadership, to handle situations when the police chief is not available.

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Sign Replacements Planned

A concerted effort to fix or replace damaged roadside signs within the borough is underway. The repainting of sign poles and the signs themselves (where applicable) has already been started by the Public Works Department, while signs that have been damaged beyond repair have been ordered and the replacements will be installed this spring.

Legal Ruling May Let Boroughs Lien Rents On Scofflaws

Upland Borough is currently owed about \$70,000 in unpaid taxes and trash fees (plus penalties for non-payment) from rental property owners. The debt is difficult to collect, however, as some landlords are content to let the borough place a lien on the property, since that means that no debt payments will be made until the property is sold.

Meanwhile, these tax-delinquent property owners are free to rent the property and collect full rents, even while the borough (which is all other taxpayers combined) foots the bill for basic services like police and fire protection and trash collection. But a new court ruling may soon be changing all that.

A recent court decision in western Pennsylvania has set a legal precedent and opened the doors for a municipality to possibly collect on liens immediately by taking a portion of the monthly rent.

Council President Ed Mitchell recently noted that Upland Borough will be closely watching how the legal landscape evolves in the wake of this landmark court ruling.

"We want to be the second borough in the state to go after that money," Mitchell said on Feb. 10.

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Photo IDs For Kids Are **Mandatory** For Freebies

As part of an ongoing effort to ensure that Upland taxpayers are the sole beneficiaries of Upland tax dollars, **all borough children (ages 6 to 12) will be required to have a borough photo identification card to participate for free in any borough-sponsored events in 2015 and beyond.**

Popular annual youth-oriented events include an Easter Egg Hunt in the spring and a Halloween Party and visit from Santa in the fall, et al.

Two photo ID sessions were recently held to give Upland parents and their children opportunities to prepare for the new rule, but only 27 children turned out to register – a mere fraction of the usual number of participants for free youth activities.

But Borough officials are determined to make this new ID program work to the benefit of residents.

Another photo ID session for Upland children will be held on the ground floor of MacQueen Hall from 12-2pm on Saturday, March 28.

Henceforth, children without photo IDs will be charged a fee to participate in borough-sponsored events that are free to Upland children with IDs.

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Carnival Commits To Return

The company that operates the outdoor carnival that has visited Upland two of the last three springs has made a commitment to return to Bristol Lord Field from **May 19 to 23 (Tuesday-Saturday), 2015.**

LOCK ALL VEHICLES AT NIGHT

Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio is asking all residents to help police stem nighttime vehicle break-ins by taking the simple precaution of locking the doors of all vehicles parked outside overnight.

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday, March 10, April 14 and May 12
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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Soup & Salad Dinner Fundraiser

4-6pm on Saturday, Feb. 28

(Note time change – was previously 4-7pm)

Homemade soups & chili; Build your own salad

All-you-can-eat at MacQueen Hall; Take-out available

Tickets available at borough office and at door:

\$8 adults; \$6 seniors; \$4 kids under 12

All proceeds benefit Community Affairs Committee

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Annual St. Patty's Day

Ham & Cabbage Luncheon

For Seniors



at Noon on Monday, March 16
at MacQueen Hall



All Upland senior citizens are invited
to enjoy this free lunch!

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Oldies But Goodies Dance

Starts at 7pm on Saturday, March 21
at MacQueen Hall

Take a musical trip down Memory Lane with a DJ,
while enjoying bottled beer, snacks & refreshments

Admission: \$25 per person

All proceeds benefit Community Affairs Committee

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ID Photo Session for Kids

Noon to 2pm on Saturday, March 28
at MacQueen Hall

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Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast with Easter Bunny

Egg hunt on Bristol Lord Field starts at 9:00am sharp



on Saturday, April 4



Followed immediately by Breakfast & Photos
with the Easter Bunny at MacQueen Hall

**PLEASE NOTE: Children under age 12 with photo IDs
will be admitted free, while those without ID pay \$3
Adult admission for breakfast: \$5 per person**

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**The Upland Senior Citizens Club returns
from its annual winter hiatus on Monday, March 9.**

If you are a senior citizen (you don't have to be
an Upland resident), feel free to come out and join
the group for cards, games, and plenty of good
conversation **every Monday from 9am to 3pm at
MacQueen Hall, from March through December.**

Stormwater Education On Tap

A free seminar entitled “*Sustainable Landscape Management for Landowners*” will be presented at the Penn State Brandywine campus (Tomezsko Building auditorium) **from 2-3:30pm on Sunday, March 8**. Visit www.crcwatersheds.org or call **610-359-1440** for more information and to register.

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Other upcoming Chester-Ridley-Crum Creek Watershed events include the **18th Annual CRC Streams Cleanup from 9-11:30am on Saturday, April 25**. Cleanup volunteers are invited to attend a picnic at Ridley Creek State Park from 11:45am-1pm.

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Learn how to create your own eco-friendly rain garden at a free **Do-it-Yourself Rain Gardens** workshop presented **from 1-3pm on Sunday, May 3** at the Nether Providence Township building and again **from 2-4pm on Sunday, May 17** at Media Borough Hall/Community Center.

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Over the past year, Upland Borough has inspected 25% of the stormwater outfalls in the borough (as required by law); has monitored new construction to ensure that stormwater runoff controls were properly maintained; and has trained Public Works Department personnel to perform maintenance work to protect water quality. But borough employees alone cannot safeguard our storm sewers and streams from unlawful discharges.

All Upland residents are urged to immediately contact the borough office at **610-874-7317** to report any kind of dumping into storm sewers or streams. Residents are encouraged to contact the borough office with any comments or concerns regarding stormwater.

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Upland History Booklets For Sale

A booklet entitled ***The History of Upland, 1683-1969***, which was originally printed for the borough's 100th anniversary celebration in 1969, has been reprinted and is available at the borough office for \$20 per copy. Get yours while supplies last!

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Website Provides Valuable Info

Visit www.uplandboro.org to find an expanded version of the borough's monthly newsletter, a current events calendar, historical narratives, public health notices, borough ordinances, council meeting minutes, live surveillance video feeds, and lots of photo galleries of recent community events.

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

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The Upland Police Department recently took delivery of this four-wheel-drive 2015 Chevy Tahoe, which is pursuit-rated for special police usage. The Tahoe was purchased with a \$35,000 county grant to become the eighth vehicle in the Upland PD fleet, along with a supervisor's vehicle, two unmarked cars, and four patrol vehicles.



Upland's Public Works Department recently took delivery of this 2015 Ford F-350 truck to use primarily for Auburn Village maintenance. The truck came fully equipped with a utility/storage box on the rear and a detachable snowplow, which was put to good use just weeks after the truck was delivered.

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Who Needs Good Grammar?

When proper grammar goes by the wayside in the written word, the results can be so confusing that the reader can barely discern the intended message, as evidenced by the following actual hospital chart comments that were written by highly educated medical professionals:

- *The patient refused autopsy.*
- *The patient has no history of suicides.*
- *Patient has chest pain if she lies on her left side for over a year.*
- *On the second day the knee was better, and on the third day it disappeared.*
- *Patient has no rigors or shaking chills, but her husband states that she was very hot in bed last night.*
- *The skin was moist and dry.*
- *Skin: somewhat pale, but present.*
- *Patient is tearful and crying constantly. She also appears to be depressed.*
- *Patient had waffles for breakfast and anorexia for lunch.*
- *Patient is numb from her toes down.*
- *Patient has occasional constant infrequent headaches.*
- *Patient was alert and unresponsive.*
- *Patient has two teenage children, but no other abnormalities.*
- *Patient stated that she had been constipated for most of her life, until she got a divorce.*
- *Discharge status: Alive, but without permission.*

Do Not Feed Wildlife

The Delaware County Health Department is urging all residents to NOT feed the wildlife. Pet owners who leave food and/or water outside for their pets should stop the practice, while all trash containers should be tightly sealed with lids, as accessible food/garbage will attract wildlife to your house. This year, the Health Department has seen a spike in the number of skunks and raccoons that are roaming the county at night. Both wild animals are known carriers of diseases, including rabies.

Free Smoke Alarms Still Available

Upland Fire Co. #1 has been giving away free smoke/fire alarms to any borough resident who wants one since January. Dozens of free smoke detectors have been installed over the past six months, and request forms are still available at the borough office.

If a resident needs help installing their free battery-operated smoke alarm, fire company volunteers have been providing that service for free.

This offer of free alarms and free installation will continue as long as supplies last.

All Mattresses and Box Springs Must Be Wrapped For Disposal

Responding to a plea from our trash haulers, the Borough now requires the disposal of any mattress or box spring to be done using a sealed plastic bag. Mattress disposal bags are sold in various sizes at Home Depot stores, but an improvised wrapping, using a plastic sheet sealed with duct tape, is acceptable.

To dispose of a mattress or box spring on the borough's heavy trash day (the last Wednesday of every month), residents must call the borough office (610-874-7317) to be put on the heavy trash pick-up list.

***** No Call or No Wrapping = No Pick-up *****

Flood Safety Awareness Could Save Your Life and/or Property

Every year in the United States, flooding claims nearly 100 lives and causes an average of \$8 billion worth of property damage. To highlight these frightening facts, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are offering valuable flood safety tips online at www.ready.gov/floods, while information on how to obtain a flood insurance policy can be found at www.floodsmart.gov.

Thanks to Harvey Martin, Facebook members can enjoy historic photos and stories by visiting the "Remembering Upland, PA" group page at

www.facebook.com/groups/334480793300363

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.

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Home Improvement Tips For Homeowners

The following tips may save you money and a lot of grief, if you are having any type of repairs or home improvements done around your home.

- Get at least three estimates, so that you can compare the prices of reputable companies. And don't hesitate to tell each contractor that you are shopping for the best price, as competition tends to keep prices down.

- Don't be pushed or rushed into signing any contract, even if you have to finance the project. Take your time and get the most for your money.

- Every contractor must show you proof of their insurance and a Home Improvement State License. They must also have an Upland Borough permit, and in some cases, an Upland Borough Contractor's License. A copy of the borough permit must be displayed in a front window of your home.

- Call the borough office at **610-874-7317** during regular business hours to get answers to any questions or concerns.



Councilman Lee Hunter, who also serves as president of the Upland Senior Citizens Club, presented Councilwoman Sandy Miazza with a token of the group's appreciation at the Nov. 10 Council meeting. As chairwoman of the Community Affairs Committee, Miazza has organized free outings for borough seniors every year since she joined Council in 2006, including a ham and cabbage luncheon in March, a trip to Shady Maple restaurant in the fall, and a traditional holiday dinner in November.

New Website Logo?

Borough Council has approved a \$50 expenditure for a company to re-design the logo used on the official website of Upland Borough. Council agreed that several historic buildings in Upland could be incorporated into a new borough seal as well, including the Caleb Pusey House, and more modern structures like MacQueen Hall, Old Main, and the Upland Baptist Church.

Ciach Defeated, But Encouraged

Upland Mayor Michael Ciach (R) was defeated by incumbent Thaddeus Kirkland (D) by 5,000 votes on Nov. 4, as the two candidates vied for the 159th Legislative District seat in the PA House of Representatives. But even in defeat, Ciach was upbeat about the voter support he received.

Kirkland garnered 70% of the total number of votes cast by carrying his native Chester City, which has three times the population of the other nine 159th District municipalities combined.

Ciach may have only gotten 30% of the vote total, but he carried six of the 10 communities involved, so it can also be said that Ciach won the majority of 159th towns. Ciach is the twelfth consecutive Republican challenger that Kirkland has held off, but he is the first to win the support of the majority of Chester's smaller municipal neighbors.

Based on that success, Ciach has already announced that he will be running against Kirkland again in 2016. With one election campaign now under his belt and a two-year run-up to his next opportunity, Ciach hopes to mount a successful challenge and unseat Kirkland in November 2016.

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Council Hikes Commercial Parking Tax

Upland Borough has adopted an incremental increase in the Commercial Parking Services Tax over the next four years. The tax is paid by the only parking vendor in town – the operator of the parking facilities at Crozer-Chester Medical Center.

The parking tax was originally adopted at 10% of gross revenue in March 2010, and was stepped up to 11% over the next two years.

An amendment to the parking tax ordinance was unanimously approved by Borough Council at its Dec. 9 meeting. Under the amended ordinance, a tax rate of 12% will go into effect in January 2015. The rate will automatically increase by one percent each year thereafter for the next four years, bringing the parking tax rate up to 16% by 2019.

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Poop-Scoop Law Now In Effect

To address the persistent problem of people allowing their pets to poop on public and private property, then leaving the pile behind for someone else to clean up (or step in), Borough Council adopted a curative amendment to the borough code on Nov. 10, redefining the term "Nuisance" to include uncollected pet waste.

If you choose to leave your own property and walk your dog through the neighborhood, be aware that the amended ordinance now makes it officially illegal to leave your pet's waste lying "in any gutter, on any street, driveway, alley, curb, sidewalk, recreational trail, or public parkland in the borough, or upon the floors or stairways of any building or place frequented by the public."

Failure to comply with the new poop-scooping requirement could lead to citations and fines from the code enforcement officer, but there *should* be no need for such measures.

Council Applies For CDBG Funds

Upland Borough recently submitted an application to Delaware County Council, seeking consideration for a 2015 Community Development Block Grant.

Upland has chosen construction of a cut-through driveway, which would link the police headquarters parking lot to 8th Street, as its first priority for CDBG funding. This project would see the demolition of the vacant house at 227 8th Street and the creation of a small public parking lot on the residential street.

A second choice for CDBG funding is Phase III of the 11th Street Extension. The first two phases of construction of the new roadway have recently been completed, leaving but one more section of roadway to be built to complete the link between Mulberry Street and W. 24th Street.

Santa Claus Comes To Town



Santa Claus paid his annual visit to Upland on Nov. 28, posing for photographs and handing out gifts to 119 pre-registered Upland children.

Fire Company & Police Department Complete Busy Year

Both Upland Fire Company No. 1 and the Upland Police Department were busier than usual during 2014, as reflected by the year-end totals posted by the two public service organizations.

The borough's lone fire company set a new record for incident responses last year, with a total of 420. Raising the total activity bar has become a habit for Upland firefighters, whose new benchmark beat out the record set in 2013 (407), which bested the 2012 record (397), which outdid the 2010 record of 395 total incidents.

Last year's activity log for Upland fire volunteers breaks down to 8 fire incidents, 150 non-fire incidents, 229 mutual aid responses, and 33 drills. Fire company calls included 223 daytime and 197 nighttime incidents. An average of six runners turned out per call, with a total of 298 hours spent in service for the year.

As for the Upland PD, officers handed out a total of 1,128 citations in 2014, while answering 5,427 calls. The call volume doubled the 2013 total, but the number of citations written was down, compared to 2,082 tickets issued in 2012 and 1,666 in 2011.

Council Approves Rifle Racks

In an effort to give Upland police officers a margin of safety in their dangerous line of work, Council has authorized the purchase of locking rifle racks, which will be installed inside the cabs of six police vehicles. The difference of an officer being able to access his rifle inside the car, as opposed to opening the trunk, could be the difference of life and death in a shootout.

Each rifle rack will cost \$499, installed.

Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio requested the rifle racks for his officers to give them "a tactical advantage." According to Ocasio, someone recently took a potshot at a Chester Township cop, and in another incident, a vehicle involved in a Chester City shooting was riddled with bullets fired from assault rifles.

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No-Tax-Increase Streak Extended

Upland Borough taxpayers will enjoy a 28th consecutive year of the property tax millage holding steady at 2.0 mills in 2015. Furthermore, the annual trash collection fee, which was set at \$135 per household in 2008, will remain the same for the seventh straight year.

The 2015 general budget total is balanced at \$2,902,955. After cresting the \$3 million mark for the first time in 2014, the new budget total represents a \$157,206 (or roughly 5%) reduction in revenue and spending for this year.

The final 2015 budget for the borough-owned Auburn Village apartment complex totals \$778,000, which is the exact same amount that was budgeted for last year.

Maintaining the budgetary status quo for another year led Council President Edward Mitchell to thank his fellow Council members.

"The financial progress that we've made over the past eight years is significant, and a result of working together to achieve all the goals that we have set," Mitchell said.

"We have an excellent streets department, fire department, and police department. Borough Council functions well, and we do everything we can to promote education, and that's very important."

"So I want to say thanks to all of you," Mitchell added. *"Twenty-eight years without a tax increase speaks volume about what we're doing."*

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Congrats to Home Decorating Winners!

This season's Holiday Home Decorating Contest winners were announced by Councilwoman and Community Affairs Committee Chairwoman Sandy Miazza at Borough Council's Jan. 13 meeting.

The impressive winning displays were:

1st place – John and Fran Weare of 11th St.

2nd place – Howard Novack of Church St.

3rd place – Kathleen Conner of Upland Ave.

The winners received \$100, \$50 and \$25, respectively, for their extra efforts to brighten everyone's holiday season.

Upland Steps Up To Help Neighbor

At about 4am on the morning of Jan. 10, a drunk driver slammed his car into the Feltonville firehouse on Concord Road, setting off a chain of events that called for Upland to assist a neighboring community. Feltonville Fire Company (in Chester Township) and Upland Fire Company No. 1 provide mutual aid and cover for each other, whenever a call comes in.

When Feltonville's fire chief found that structural supports were damaged and the main bay doors would not open, he called Fire Chief Dan Smith.

Smith immediately got Council President Ed Mitchell involved, and passed along Feltonville's request for temporary space to house their fire vehicles.

Upland officials did not hesitate to lend a helping hand by allowing Feltonville Fire Co. to temporarily house four vehicles (a fire engine, rescue truck, command car, and ATV) in the two former Public Works Department garages on Kent Lane.

"It looks like it may take some time for Feltonville to heal that wound," Mitchell said at the Jan. 13 council meeting. *"They indicated that the insurance company that they had is going out of business in a couple of weeks, so there might be a long fight."*

"We need to make them feel at home and like they have a base of operations, even if it's a little bit out of their way, because that's what good neighbors do," Mitchell added.



Four Feltonville Fire Co. vehicles, including these two fire trucks, are being temporarily housed in the old Public Works garages on Kent Lane.

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Council Adopts Policy & Procedures For Police Recordings

Borough Council voted unanimously on Jan. 13 when adopting a 15-page Policy & Procedure manual for the utilization of Mobile Video/Audio Recording Equipment by the Upland Police Department.

Establishing formal Policy & Procedures guidelines "will allow the Upland PD to direct the retention, duplication, storage, and purging of all video and audio recordings" made by Upland officers. The adopted manual "will direct the Chief of Police and/or his designees to use the proper protocol for the duties, responsibilities, goals, legal requirements, and operational procedures for the proper use and handling of mobile recording equipment," Resolution No. 1 of 2015 states.

According to Councilman and Ordinances & Resolutions Committee Chairman Harold R. Peden, most of the text of Council's first adopted resolution of the new year was taken directly from current state police recording requirements.

**Police Upgrade
In-Car Computers**

Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio expects four of his department’s patrol vehicles to be equipped with the advanced ForCite E-Citation computer software system (distributed by United Public Safety) by early February.

The self-installed software cost the borough \$7,624 for licensing and one year of hardware support services. The system is managed entirely through Cloud-based software, so there are no server connections and no need for local IT support.

The mobile in-car computer system is designed specifically for police use, and comes with a built-in printer that can produce weatherproof, archival-quality citations, which will convert the job of “writing” tickets into an automated task.

“By adding this system to our vehicles, that 15-minute traffic stop will now be a 3-5-minute incident, which makes traffic stops much safer for the officer and the driver,” Ocasio noted.

Other benefits that the ForCite E-Citation system offers to police officers include driver’s license and vehicle registration scans, automatic e-filing of citations with state courts in PA and NJ, faster citation issuing from start to finish, accurate proof of violations for each citation issued, and lower court costs realized through less time spent in court.

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**Needles & Chemo Waste
Cause ‘Hot’ Trash Loads**

Upland Borough’s trash hauler is once again asking all residents to take extra care when disposing of used needles and chemotherapy waste. The presence of unwrapped needles or radioactive material will cause a trash truck to be labeled as a “hot load” which needs to be inspected by hand at the dump – a tedious process that is both time-consuming and costly to our trash hauler.

As a reminder, used needles should always be secured in a container that is taped shut, while chemotherapy waste must be also be tightly contained and disposed of through proper channels, but never in the regular trash.

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Property Liens Pile Up

According to the borough office, a total of 24 property liens remain outstanding for unpaid code violation citations.

Code Enforcement Officer Leland Hunter placed liens on 15 properties in 2013 for lack of maintenance, including failure to cut the grass and clean up debris. Five of these liens were ultimately satisfied, once the debt to the borough had been paid in full, after the properties were sold.

In 2014, Hunter placed liens on another 12 properties, with some being repeats from 2013. Of that dozen, three of the liens have been satisfied through the sale of the property and full payment of debt.

Borough Vehicle Swap Approved

At Borough Council’s Jan. 13 session, it was agreed that the usage of two borough-owned vehicles would be changed, effective immediately.

The white 2004 Ford Crown Victoria that had been used by Fire Chief Dan Smith for the past two years will now be driven by Councilman/Code Enforcement Officer Lee Hunter and Borough Health Inspector Bill Kirby, who will be assisting Hunter in his code enforcement duties.

Meanwhile, the navy blue 1999 Chevrolet Impala that Hunter had used for the past two years will now be utilized by Councilwoman Sandy Miazza. As chair of the Community Affairs Committee, Miazza makes frequent trips to local stores to purchase food, decorations, and children’s items that are needed for the many borough-sponsored events that she orchestrates every year.

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Speed Monitors Reflect Driving Habits

A pole-mounted speed monitor that recently recorded the traffic on Upland Avenue, near the intersection of Fifth Street, provided some interesting data for analysis by the Upland PD. The digital data can be a very useful tool for suppressing speeding hotspots, so Chief Nelson Ocasio is hoping to secure more of the solar-powered devices through a federal grant in the near future.

The traffic sample recorded on Upland Avenue over a one-week period totaled about 1,650 vehicles, with most drivers respecting the posted 25 MPH speed limit. Below is a listing of how many vehicles were moving at various speeds:

<u># Vehicles</u>	<u>Speed(MPH)</u>	<u># Vehicles</u>	<u>Speed(MPH)</u>
362	5 - 10	127	31 - 35
2,500	11 - 15	9	36 - 40
8,200	16 - 20	3	41 - 45
4,300	21 - 25	1	46 - 50
994	26 - 30	2	56 - 60

The good news is that fully 93% of the clocked motorists were traveling within the legal speed limit, while less than 1% were speeding excessively.

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