



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



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Halloween Costumes Are Spooktacular



The colorful outfits worn by Upland children at the annual Youth Halloween Party on Oct. 25 (the winners of the five and under age group are seen above) were impressive, and some families even made it a theme night. About 60 costumed kids attended the free event, which was sponsored by the Community Affairs Committee.



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Halloween Hours: 6 - 8 PM

Upland Borough has officially declared the hours of **6 to 8pm on Friday, Oct. 31** to be the time for trick-or-treating.

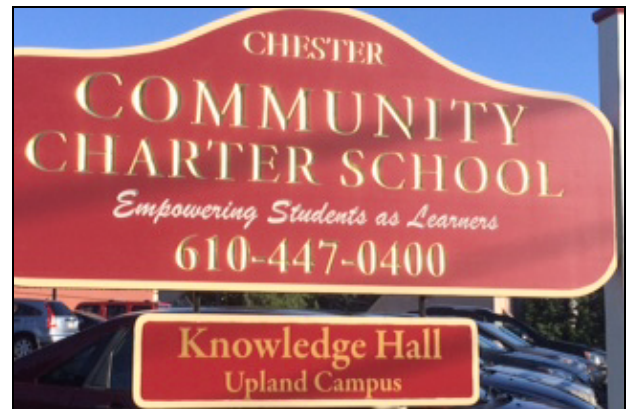
In the name of public safety, costumed children and handing-out homes are asked to limit the door-to-door fun to these two hours.



Charles J. Catania, Sr. P.E. holds the engraved teardrop-shaped award that he received from Upland Borough, while Mayor Michael Ciach holds a borough proclamation. Catania and Ciach are flanked by Borough Council President Edward Mitchell and Vice President Christine Peterson.

(See story on page 2)

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(Above) The CCCS sign on Main Street now reflects the new name of the three-story school building; (Below) CCCS students recently enjoyed an educational visit from Upland Fire Company No. 1.



Upland Pays Tribute To Catania

In 1954, Upland Borough was the second municipality to hire Charles J. Catania, Sr. P.E. to serve as its borough engineer, following the lead of neighboring Chester Township. Since then, Catania has become an invaluable asset for both of his original clients, while tacking on another two dozen Delco clients in the process.

Catania founded his engineering firm, located on MacDade Blvd. in Milmont Park, in August 1964. Catania Engineering Associates now handles the civil engineering duties for almost half of the municipalities in Delaware County.

At a 50th anniversary celebration on Sept. 26, Upland Mayor Michael Ciach presented a special award and read a proclamation aloud, as a gesture of appreciation from the borough. The presentations were repeated at Borough Council's Oct. 14 meeting, to make the formal recognition part of the borough's official record.

The proclamation credits Catania for his role in securing countless grants for Upland Borough, while overseeing a broad range of public improvement projects.

"Chuck has brought millions of dollars into this community for any number of projects, and it speaks volumes about Council's ability to keep the right people in place to do the right things," stated Council President Ed Mitchell.

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Please Pick Up Pet Poop!

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 is planning to adopt 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 would make 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. Picking up and properly disposing of pet waste is a common courtesy that should be part of every pet owners' regular routine.

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Upland Baptist Church Offers Family Fun

Monday Night Vacation Bible School (VBS): Every Monday from 6:30-7:30pm (except Dec. 22, and Dec. 29) – Dinner, activities, stories and crafts.

Grocery BINGO:

The entire family can play in the Chapel from 1-4pm on Saturday, Nov. 22 & Dec. 20.

Trunk-or-Treat:

Halloween treats for kids on Friday, Oct. 31.

Charter School Celebrates 2nd Year

The Chester Community Charter School in Upland has a new name: Knowledge Hall. The school has opened for its second year in Upland with a strong academic program, and has added an extensive Fine Arts and a Physical Fitness Program.

CCCS students are now participating in Art, Music, Dance, and Band classes. Students in grades 4-6 are also able to participate in the school's Ensemble Program, which provides them with instrumental lessons. Dance teachers from the Rock School in Philadelphia are teaching the students a wide array of dance. In the upcoming months, 5th-grade students will be receiving Ball Room Dance lessons from Dancing Classes of Philadelphia.

CCCS is committed to educating the whole child and providing a diverse educational experience. The Arts Program will be showcased in November at a gala event, where families will be able to participate. In addition to new programming, the school observed National School Lunch Week, which concluded on Oct. 17 with a "Be a Champion" celebration that included raffles, games, and sports-themed apparel.

In observance of Fire Prevention Month, Upland Fire Company No. 1 came to the charter school on Oct. 20 to provide CCCS students with fire prevention instruction.

CCCS students and staff also participated in an Anti-Bullying Summit on Oct. 28, where students discussed the influences and effects of bullying.

For more information about CCCS curriculum or upcoming events, call the school at **610-447-0400**.

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Change In Time Restrictions Planned

Another curative amendment on the agenda for adoption at the Nov. 10 Council meeting will allow greater flexibility for contractors and homeowners who might want to work into the evening. Council intends to amend the noise ordinance in the borough code by cutting three hours off the restricted construction period, or in other words, adding three hours (from 7-10pm) of potential work time on weekday evenings.

Approved for advertising at Council's Oct. 14 session, the amended ordinance would restrict "construction work or activities relating to construction work between the hours of 10:00pm and 7:00am...on weekdays, and if the following day is Saturday or Sunday, from 10:00pm to 8:00am."

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Curran Promoted To Detective

Upland Police Officer Michael Curran has been promoted back to the rank of detective. He will receive a \$2,000 annual stipend as part of his promotion.

Curran originally joined the Upland force in 2005, and became a detective in June 2009. But Curran's certification expired, forcing him to take a leave of absence. He was re-hired as a part-time officer in December 2013, and promoted to full-time status in June 2014.

Police Sting Nets Bad Guys

At 6am on the morning of Sept. 26, an army of 250 law enforcement officers, including members of the Upland Police Department working in concert with the FBI, conducted coordinated raids on hundreds of suspected drug dealers in the Mid-Atlantic region. Of the 41 members of the Rose in Upland Drug Trafficking Group who were arrested, over half will face life-terms in prison. The two "most dangerous" suspects caught in the sting operation had been living in Upland, according to Police Chief Nelson Ocasio, who called the pair "transporters."

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Council Halves Football Donation

The Upland Hurricanes youth football team and cheerleading squad may have to enlist financial support from the other communities from which they draw participants, after Upland Borough Council recently decided to cut its annual donation in half, dropping from \$2,000 to \$1,000.

According to Councilwoman Sandy Miazza, Upland is the only municipality that has given fiscal support to the Hurricanes in the past two years. At the Oct. 14 Council meeting, Miazza reported that she recently received a list of players' home addresses from the coach and found that only 20 members of the organization live in Upland. Most Hurricane players and cheerleaders are Toby Farms residents. Council unanimously agreed to maintain its fiscal support, but with a reduced amount, donating \$50 on behalf of each of the Upland participants.

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Pavilion Vandals Caught

The youths who damaged one of the security doors on the pavilion in Upland Memorial Park this summer have been arrested and turned over to the Delaware County Juvenile Court system, according to Police Chief Nelson Ocasio. The failed break-in damaged several of the metal slats that make up the sliding security panels, costing Upland Borough taxpayers hundreds of dollars in repairs.

Building & Grounds Committee Chairwoman Sandy Miazza noted on Oct. 14 that the pavilion door has been repaired, and that Plumbing Inspector Tom Kennedy would be winterizing the utilities in the pavilion to end another season of community use.

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Free Mammograms Offered

The Crozer Keystone Health System will once again be hosting "Think Pink" mammography events in November. Held throughout the month at various Crozer locations, these events offer mammography screening, along with free gifts and refreshments for patients who sign up for an appointment.

Think Pink events will be held at Crozer-Chester Medical Center in Upland from 3-8pm on Monday, Nov. 3 and Tuesday, Nov. 18. Check the websites below for other Think Pink locations and dates.

<http://enewsletters.crozerkeystone.org>

www.crozerkeystone.org

<http://stayconnected.crozerkeystone.org>

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Fire Company Fundraisers

Next up in a series of Upland Fire Company # 1 fundraisers (to help cover the cost of firehouse improvements) are two holiday-related offerings:

- At the end of October, pamphlets were sent out to all Upland residents, offering a selection of beautiful holiday wreaths, sprays, and blankets. All items are made with real pine branches and decorated by Elwyn Institute residents, so both the fire company and Elwyn will benefit from your participation.

Order forms and advance payment must be received by Nov. 11. Fire company volunteers will deliver each order on Saturday, Nov. 29.

- Christmas trees will be sold in the firehouse parking lot, from **late November until Christmas Eve**, with free home delivery offered to all seniors.

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Photo IDs For Resident Children

An ID photo session will be held **for children (ages 6-15) from noon to 2pm on Saturday, Nov. 15 at Upland Police Headquarters, behind MacQueen Hall**. Parents must be present to sign for their children and to provide proof of residency. Starting next year, photo IDs will be necessary for Upland children to participate in any borough-sponsored youth activities. Other ID photo sessions for resident children will be offered as needed.

Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

Monday, Nov. 10; Tuesday, Dec. 9 and Jan. 13
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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Free Holiday Dinner for Seniors

6 to 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 15
at MacQueen Hall

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Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony & Visit From Santa Claus

starts at 6pm on Friday, Nov. 28
at MacQueen Hall

Santa will sit for photos and hand out gifts to all pre-registered children (age 10 and under) at the Youth Christmas Party, immediately following tree lighting

The deadline to register your child for a gift from Santa is Friday, Nov. 7

No exceptions will be made

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 mccrawford@uplandboro.org



Mayor Michael Ciach is hoping that Upland voters will turn out on Election Day (Tues., Nov. 4) to lend him their support.

Voters Should Know:

Upland Mayor Michael Ciach is running in the Nov. 4 election as the Republican candidate for the 159th Legislative District's seat in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. To inform voters of what he stands for, Ciach answered the following questions:

1. How would you hope to change the leadership of the 159th District?

If elected, I would lead this District into prosperity by working with ALL the municipalities across party lines to encourage new businesses to come to our area. A riverfront district in a riverfront county should be more appealing to new businesses.

2. How can the electorate help you affect changes in the 159th District?

By considering all the issues and supporting the candidate that they truly feel wants to help them. No matter which party they are registered under, in the General Election, all voters can vote any way they want. I have something to prove, while Mr. Kirkland's record (or lack thereof) is obvious.

3. How has Delaware County's Republican leadership benefited residents of the 159th District?

The Republican leadership in Delaware County has a history of encouraging jobs - just look at how they were able to keep the refineries open. It takes active leadership to keep a city, town or county thriving, and the GOP record speaks for itself.

4. How would you address inequities in the taxes paid by residents and businesses in the 159th District?

Property tax reform, especially for our senior citizens, is a must. There are already some good ideas floating around Harrisburg, but I have a few of my own. Increasing the number of jobs

available, and also the income generated by those jobs, would certainly help. If people can't afford their basic living expenses, how can they be expected to pay their taxes?

5. What is the most glaring deficiency in the 159th District today?

The lack of work being done to save our schools, stop crime in our streets, and provide a better quality of life for our residents. Senior citizens, who have worked hard their entire lives, can now barely afford to live in their own homes. Someone needs to change this by screaming from the bottom of their lungs that something needs to be done.

6. If elected, what would be the first items on your House of Representatives agenda?

I already actively follow pending legislation. I would jump right in and see where I can start to help the people of the 159th District. All of our towns (in alphabetical order: Chester City, Chester Township, Lower & Upper Chichester Townships, Eddystone, Marcus Hook, Parkside, Ridley Township, Trainer, and Upland) need help, and I want to get it for them. I will earn my keep in Harrisburg!!!!

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The Community Affairs Committee's Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Sept. 27 filled lots of bellies and put smiles on the faces of Upland residents of all ages.



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Upland Mayor Michael Ciach (far right), who recently announced his candidacy for the 159th District's seat in the PA House of Representatives, is congratulated by Lt.-Governor Jim Cawley (center) and members of the Upland Police Department, including (l to r) Patrolman Michael Curran, Patrolman Craig Scully, and Police Chief Nelson Ocasio.

Upland Mayor Makes Run For PA House

A host of local Republican Party officials gathered at the Marcus Hook Community Center on March 1 to formally announce the candidacy of Upland Borough Mayor Michael Ciach for the 159th Legislative District's seat in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

That seat has been held by Democrat Thaddeus Kirkland of Chester since 1993. Ciach is the latest in a string of GOP challengers to take on the entrenched Kirkland, who is currently serving his eleventh consecutive term as a state representative. "I'm going to make this a street fight, and go after him down and hard," Ciach promised his supporters. "I'm going to go into his backyard, right down into the City of Chester and go to the (council) meetings."

"District 159 used to be one of the strongest political organizations in the county, and we're going to get it back to being that way," Ciach added to applause.

The 159th District encompasses the City of Chester, Chester Township, Lower Chichester Township, parts of Ridley Township and Upper Chichester Township, and the boroughs of Upland, Parkside, Trainer, Eddystone, and Marcus Hook.

In his attempt to unseat Kirkland, Ciach brings an extensive resume of public service, including 12 years on borough council, prior to serving the last nine years as mayor. Ciach has also served as vice president of the Delaware County Association of Boroughs for the past three years.

Ciach's duties as mayor have broadened the scope of his experience, as he oversees the operations of the Upland Police Department, while serving as the borough's liaison to all public and charter schools and to Crozer-Chester Medical Center.

Ciach, 47, has lived in either Upland or Chester his entire life. He is currently employed as a copier salesman, and considers rearing his two adult children as a single parent to be among his greatest personal achievements.

Ciach feels that his experience as a decision-maker, both public and private, will help him make sound choices on behalf of the residents of the 159th District.

"I'm ready to go. I've got 20 years of municipal experience and the drive to see this area succeed again," Ciach says of his skill set.

The most urgent issues facing the 159th District are education, job creation and retention, and overall economic recovery, in that order, according to Ciach.

Among the Republican dignitaries who came to Marcus Hook to endorse Ciach's candidacy were Pennsylvania Lieutenant-Governor Jim Cawley, representatives from each of the district's municipalities, and about 60 of the party faithful.

"Mike Ciach is exactly the kind of candidate and public servant that we need in the 159th District," Cawley stated. "He's going to go door-to-door in his campaign and talk about a better way to get things done. I think he represents the true feelings of the people of Delaware County, and particularly this district."

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Upland Weighs Brine Use

To brine or not to brine? That is the question.

Streets & Equipment Committee Chairwoman Christine Peterson told her fellow Council members on Oct. 14 that purchasing liquid salt-brine spreading equipment for the coming winter would not be practical, since the expenditure was not included in the 2014 budget.

Budgeting to invest in a salt-brine system might be a good idea for next year, however, as the pre-treatment of roadways with brine would ultimately reduce the number of hours spent plowing and subsequently reduce manpower expenditures during the winter months, Peterson said.

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Website Now Faster

According to Councilwoman & Webmaster Moira Crawford, the borough website was recently given its own server, which should allow visitors to move about even faster, as they check out the many links to information and photographs that are offered.

Crawford told Borough Council on Oct. 14 that she is aware of a number of municipalities that are copying her Upland Borough website features.

And why wouldn't her website be seen as a model? During September 2014, the website averaged 51 visitors each and every day of the month, proving that someone in Upland is doing something right.

Not resting on her laurels, Crawford noted that she is planning to make some upgrades to the website to keep things fresh for regular visitors.

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



Phase I of the 11th Street Extension (linking Mulberry St. to Hill St.) was recently paved and completed. While the 331-foot roadway (seen here from Hill St.) is rather non-descript, once Phase II is complete (linking Hill St. to W. 24th St.), borough residents will have a new emergency route to Crozer-Chester Medical Center and a shortcut to the Upland Shopping Center. According to Borough Engineer Charles Catania, Phase II should be completed in November.

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.

The next Heavy Trash Pick-ups will be made on Wed., Nov. 26.

Curbside collections of bulk trash items are made on the last Wednesday of the month. Residents must notify the borough office in advance for all bulk pick-ups and items must be **curbside by 6am** on collection day.

Bulk trash does not include electronic items like computers and televisions. These items will be collected at special recycling events.

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.

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Fire Co. Improves Insurance Rating

Upland property owners should check with their insurance carriers to see how much the fire company's improved insurance rating will save them on property insurance.

Insurance Services Office (ISO) out of Marlton, NJ recently completed a Public Protection Classification (PPC) survey of the borough's fire suppression delivery systems. In the ISO's survey summary, significant advances in Upland Fire Company's capabilities, equipment, training, and document-keeping were noted since the last PPC survey.

Due to those advances, Upland Borough's PPC rating has now dropped from 5 down to 4.

According to Fire Chief Dan Smith, that one-point drop is very significant to borough residents, since it moves Upland Borough into the best of three insurance categories.

In terms of fire safety, a community's PPC is rated from 1-4, 5-6, or 7-9, with escalating insurance premiums applied to the higher numbers.

To take full advantage of this new 10-year PPC rating, which became effective as of May 1, 2014, Smith advises all borough property owners to contact their insurance agents soon.

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A new summer activity for Upland youth was brought to MacQueen Hall on Aug. 23, when the Community Affairs Committee sponsored a kid-friendly magic show.



Four Upland police officers and two Crozer-Chester Medical Center security guards were recognized for their extraordinary actions at the July 8 Borough Council meeting.

Police Officers & CCMC Guards Commended For Life-Saving Actions

On the night of June 11, Upland police officers were called to Crozer-Chester Medical Center for a stabbing in the emergency room. As the assailant was stabbing his stepfather with a knife, two CCMC security guards, Officers Michael Powell and Graham Williams, intervened to save the victim's life. The two security guards managed to subdue and disarm the attacker, then cuffed and restrained him, until the police arrived. On July 8, Upland Borough Council recognized the timely actions of the guards, presenting both with a unit citation.

"We want to thank Officer Powell and Officer Williams for their heroic act," stated Mayor Michael Ciach, while presenting the framed awards.

Citations were also given to Upland Officers John Bogan and Sean Dougherty, who were the responding patrolmen, and Investigator Anthony DeLuise and Officer Michael Curran, who led the criminal investigation after the incident.

The entire group of officers, along with CCMC Director of Security Steven Jackson, were given a standing ovation by borough citizens.

"Although this situation was tragic, with the proper teamwork, the victim made out okay and the bad guy is now behind bars," Ciach noted.

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Police Chief Completes FBI Training

Mayor Michael Ciach formally congratulated Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio on July 8, shortly after Ocasio had completed an intense law enforcement training course offered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The week-long FBI course was given at Princeton University, and included special training in the fields of law enforcement ethics, generational leadership, administrative issues with social media, media relations, emotional survival, and officer survival.

Of the 65 law enforcement executives invited from New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, the 25-year-old Ocasio was the youngest in attendance, and is in fact, the youngest person to ever complete this FBI training program.

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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.

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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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Auburn Village Maintenance Man Mike Diggins

Borough Employee Earns Award

Church Street Resident Michael Diggins is the friendly borough employee who has worked as the maintenance man for the Auburn Village apartment complex since October 2011.

Diggins recently attended the Dale Carnegie Leadership Training School at the borough's expense, to enhance his public relations skills. Other Upland Borough employees who have taken the professionalism courses have found them to be of great value in jobs that require daily contact with the general public.

Upon graduating on May 29, Mike's classmates elected him as the recipient of the Breakthrough Award, recognizing his self-improvement efforts.

"An accomplishment such as this reflects favorably on our entire organization, so I want to tell Mike: 'Good job in school,'" Borough Council Vice President Christine Peterson stated at the July 8 Council meeting.

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P.A.L. Program Gearing Up

Acting Police Chief Nelson Ocasio and Officer Michael Curran came before Borough Council on April 22 to report the substantial progress recently made in preparation for the launch of a Police Athletic League (PAL) program in Upland.

When the borough took ownership of the James W. Reese Center on West 24th Street last year, the first hurdle to starting a PAL program was cleared. More recently, Ocasio and Curran have been working with other PAL coordinators and visiting sites in Philadelphia, where the PAL program now has eight locations spread across the city.

Upper Darby Township and Chester City have the only other PAL locations in Delaware County.

A PAL program is not a community daycare service, Ocasio noted, but it is “a safe haven, where kids can be kids.”

And while the name suggests that a PAL program is all about sports, the chance to participate in team sports is just one avenue used to draw local youth into the free program.

Sports offered by PAL programs include baseball, flag football, basketball, ping-pong, soccer, and martial arts, but these offerings are often the springboard to group activities like school/homework tutoring, computer labs, spelling bees, nature walks, reading & math challenges, and trips to the zoo.

All PAL activities strive to teach values, said Ocasio, which in turn serves as a crime preventative.

PAL members range from 6 to 18 years of age. With roughly 1,000 youth in Upland alone, the new PAL program will be primarily open to Upland residents, but non-resident children with ties to Upland (through schools or churches) will also be welcome.

PAL programs typically operate Monday through Friday, from 4-9pm, with longer hours (9am-5pm) offered in the summer months, according to Curran.

While some paid staff will ultimately be needed, most of the staff would be volunteers, including college and high school students, corporate sponsors, and community and church leaders.

Funding for a PAL program in Upland will primarily come from the borough at first, but must ultimately include private donors, event sponsors, and local organizations that are eager to give back to the communities they serve.

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Fire Co. Seeking Additional Revenue

Fire Chief/Councilman Dan Smith recently told his fellow Council members that the fire company will now be getting more aggressive in collecting money owed for fire services. Under a borough ordinance adopted in 2011, the fire company can bill non-contributors for services rendered.

“We will take an aggressive approach to this, in hopes of either increasing our revenues from the fund drive or receiving monies from billing,” Smith stated.

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On Sept. 10, a bench dedication ceremony (including a pancake breakfast provided by the Upland Diner) was held at Episcopal Place at Park Row on W. 24th Street. The wooden bench is a gift from the Upland Police Department and Borough Council, and is now being put to use in the senior facility's vestibule. In attendance were about 20 Park Row residents and (from left to right) Social Worker Jean Sales, Site Manager Theresa Bey, Mayor Michael Ciach, Council Vice President Christine Peterson, Police Chief Nelson Ocasio, and Executive Director Kathryn Evans.

Borough Buys Building To Create Parking & Police Exit

A vacated Eighth Street home was recently purchased at auction by Upland Borough, with the intent of razing the building to create a small public parking lot and a secondary exit for Upland police vehicles.

The borough paid just under \$15,000 for the deed to the vacant building, getting the property for less than half of what they were prepared to pay.

The house at 227 Eighth Street sits directly behind the Kenneth N. Miller Law Center, which opened in February 2010 to serve as the Upland Police Department's first free-standing headquarters.

The primary purpose behind the land acquisition is to create a second exit driveway for police vehicles. “The main thing was to enable us to get out of the police station during school hours,” noted Council President Ed Mitchell.

Establishing a public parking lot with eight spaces (available on a first come, first serve basis) is a bonus for Eighth Street residents. No parking permits will be required by the borough to use this lighted lot. The additional off-street parking will be free, Mitchell stressed.

No timetable has been established for the property conversion. According to the borough office, the demolition and paving work will be done as funds become available.

A handful of Eighth Street residents came to Council's June 10 meeting to get more information. The speed of traffic on the residential street was a mutual concern.

After each neighbor had received answers to their questions, all agreed that the additional off-street parking and a greater police presence will both help promote Eighth Street safety.

Website Sets New Benchmark

Borough residents told borough officials that they liked what they saw on the borough website by setting a new record for Upland Borough website visits on May 28.

While the borough's website contains a wealth of information and draws many visitors for different reasons, the main attraction on May 28 was viewing photographs taken at Upland's extensive Memorial Day festivities on May 26. The posted photo galleries contain a total of 222 pictures of the holiday parade, memorial services, and the church-sponsored family picnic in the park. The digital snapshots were taken by longtime Upland residents Dick McClintock and George Patterson, and borough newsletter editor Ken Stark.

According to Webmaster/Councilwoman Moira Crawford, who created the borough's website when she joined Borough Council in 2008, the 1,934 visitors to the website and 5,020 page views during the month of May is about 30% above the monthly average, while the total of 140 website visitors on May 28 alone represents a new single-day high.

Borough Saves \$\$\$ On Loan Re-Fi

By recently re-financing the 20-year loan that paid for construction of the new police station in 2009, the borough has saved its taxpayers about \$30,000 in interest over the next five years.

The original \$850,000 loan from TD Bank came with a 4.83% interest rate, but the rate is scheduled to reset every fifth year of the 20-year term. Upland Borough Special Counsel John Jay Wills, Esq. negotiated the new interest rate for the borough, getting a reset rate of 3.5% through 2019, at which time the rate will be reset again, depending on the prevailing market. Finance Committee Chairwoman Moira Crawford reviewed the new interest rate and recommended Borough Council's approval.

Over the next five years, Upland Borough will pay about \$5,000 in debt service every month, saving about \$500 each month over the payments made during the first five years of the loan.

The first free-standing headquarters of the Upland Police Department should be paid off by 2029.

Upland PD Shines Spotlight On History

Do you have any old photographs of Upland police officers? Can you tell a story, recalling an event or particular instance that involved the Upland Police Department?

If so, Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio would like to make copies of your old photos and/or sit down with you and listen to your police-related stories.

This community outreach is part of Ocasio's effort to preserve the proud history of the borough's police force, which was established back in 1869, when Upland Borough was officially incorporated.

If you can help the Upland PD retrieve any piece of its history in any way, please call the police station at **610-872-3040** to share the information.

All photos should be removed from frames or albums, so that the prints can be scanned into a digital format and immediately returned to the owner completely unscathed.



Part-time Upland Police Officer John McIntosh was recently sworn in by Mayor Michael Ciach, while McIntosh's girlfriend Katie Boyle held the Bible and his son John looked on.

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Part-timers Join Upland PD

Effective as of Sept. 9, three new part-time officers have been hired to fill vacancies in the Upland Police Department. The new officers' starting pay rate is \$18.76 per hour, as per the FOP contract.

Officer John McIntosh graduated from Interboro High School in 2003 and from the Delaware County Police Academy in 2013. Being hired by the Upland PD is McIntosh's first law enforcement position.

Officer Stephen Mengini graduated from Ridley High School in 2009 and from the Delco Police Academy in 2010. He has worked as a police dispatcher at the Delco 911 Center since 2010.

Officer Michael Irej graduated from the police academy in 1992 and brings a wealth of experience to Upland. He has 18 years of police experience (including service with the Colwyn PD and Nether Providence PD) and has over 1,800 hours of law enforcement training and certifications.

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Part-time Police Officer Stephen Mengini was officially sworn in by Mayor Michael Ciach on Oct. 14. Mengini has worked at the Delco 911 Dispatch Center since 2010. The Ridley High School alum is congratulated here by his new bosses, Mayor Ciach and Police Chief Nelson Ocasio.

Upland Officer Working With Feds

Detective Anthony DeLuise of the Upland PD was recently given a unanimous green light by Borough Council to work with U.S. Federal Marshals tracking down fugitives. In exchange for loaning a full-time officer to federal authorities, the Upland PD will benefit from access to federal data bases.

“Certainly, there’s no shortage of crime, so we can use all the help we can get,” said Council President Ed Mitchell. “I’m all for it,” he said of the officer loan. Upland Officer Michael Curran will cover detective duties in DeLuise’s absence.



Despite the rain at the annual fireworks display, volunteers from Upland Fire Co. # 1 managed to hold a successful fundraiser, selling food and beverages from the pavilion.



And even though it rained again on Sept. 13, fire company volunteers sold out all 208 Nelson’s BBQ ribs and chicken dinners that were ordered, resulting in another successful fundraiser. A Nelson’s encore is planned for Spring 2015.

Council Renews PennDOT Contract

Upland Borough has renewed a five-year Winter Traffic Services Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. The pact will be effective from the winter season of 2014 through and including 2019.

Under the terms of the agreement, the borough will plow and salt all state-owned roads within Upland, which includes Upland Avenue, 6th Street, and Main Street. The state will then reimburse the borough for the cost of road services rendered.

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Fire Co. Weighs Ambulance Corps

As promised, Councilman Dan Smith gave his fellow Council members an overview of his research into the viability of operating an ambulance service out of Upland’s firehouse at the Aug. 26 meeting.

Smith, who also serves the borough as fire chief, noted that there are many variables to consider, and concluded that additional information was needed before any decisions could be made.

Using data from the first six months of 2014, Smith found that Upland had 355 ambulance transports to Crozer-Chester Medical Center. Extrapolating a conservative estimate of 500 transports per year, with each transport generating a \$300 charge, an Upland-based ambulance corps could expect to bring in about \$150,000 in revenue annually.

Operating expenses (including insurance, fuel, and vehicle repairs) would be highest for the first year, as start-up costs would also be part of the equation. Start-up costs would range from \$120,000 up to \$162,000, which would include buying a used ambulance for an estimated \$50,000, Smith said.

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.

Borough Buys New Truck

When the borough’s rusted 1993 pick-up truck blew its engine in August, it was apparent that the time had arrived to get a new vehicle for the Public Works Department.

At the Aug. 26 meeting, Borough Council approved the purchase of a white 2015 Ford F-350 heavy-duty pick-up truck, which came complete with a snowplow and utility box, for a total cost of \$42,259.

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