



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



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The annual Labor Day fireworks show did not disappoint on Sept. 1, lighting up the night sky, much to the delight of the scores of Upland families that gathered at Bristol Lord Field.



Representing Delco Detachment 266 of the Marine Corps League, Mike Avellino (left) recently presented a certificate of appreciation to Upland Borough Council (represented by Council President Ed Mitchell and Mayor Ciach) for the financial assistance that helped repair the outdoor pavilion at the vet organization's Sixth Street headquarters.



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At council's Sept. 10 session, Deputy Police Chief Nelson Ocasio (white shirt) presented service commendations to three Upland officers, including (left to right) Officer William Meyer (for enforcement of traffic laws), Officer Nick Mariani (for confiscation of 154 bags of heroin), and Officer Jay Rattman (for multiple arrests that took guns off the street). The awarded patrolmen were all thanked by Borough Council for their meritorious service.



Mayor Michael Ciach handed out borough proclamations to Doug and Marsha Scott on Aug. 27, in recognition of their role in stopping an Auburn Village home invasion in July. Ciach called the married couple "true heroes of Upland."



Upland Ambulance Service Will Not Change

When an ambulance is dispatched to an emergency, it is either an Advanced Life Support (ALS) unit or a Basic Life Support (BLS) unit, depending on the skill level of the ambulance crew. Obviously, the more serious medical emergencies warrant the highly-trained paramedics of an ALS crew, while less critical situations can be handled by the EMTs of a BLS crew.

Staffing an ALS unit is naturally more expensive than a BLS ambulance, and it is this economic reality that recently led Crozer-Chester Medical Center to announce its intent to cut back on one ALS crew.

In the wake of the announcement, Councilman/Fire Chief Dan Smith and the borough office were deluged by questions from concerned Upland residents. But there was no need for alarm, Smith explained, as the borough gets its primary ALS ambulance service from Parkside, while CCMC only provides backup.

"There will be no interruption to Upland ambulance service, even if Crozer shuts down an ALS ambulance," Smith recently reassured residents.

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Traffic Congestion Around Charter School Frustrating For Neighbors

The first month of classes at the Upland campus of the Chester Community Charter School has been a dream come true for some and a nightmare for others, especially those residents who live nearby the school, where traffic congestion from busses and parent drop-offs has been plaguing neighbors.

Several school neighbors came out to the Sept. 10 Council meeting to vent their frustrations and try to enlist some help in quelling the situation. 11th Street residents reported parents parking in front of their driveways, while those who live near the intersection of 11th and Patton Avenue said that many drivers were running the stop sign there.

All agreed that the presence of a uniformed police officer for an hour in the morning and an hour each afternoon (an assignment the borough opted for in response to early complaints) has improved the traffic mess, but not resolved it.

"We've cut 45 minutes of chaos down to about 25 minutes at this point," noted Council President Ed Mitchell.

Part of the traffic problem is the lack of a school bus for Toby Farms kids who attend the charter school. Mitchell suggested that the school district may soon be forced to remedy that situation, to cut down the vehicle count coming to and from the school.

Other potential traffic-calming solutions were discussed, including the creation of one-way streets near the school and the widening of Main Street, but no official decisions were made.

"We are an old horsecart town, and it's time to widen the street," Mitchell stated, noting that the borough would need to seek grant money to finance such a major project.

Council Supports Youth Football

At the Aug. 27 meeting, Borough Council appropriated \$2,500 (the same amount as last year) to financially support the Upland Hurricanes Youth Association for the upcoming football season.

Formerly known as the Upland Regulators, leadership of the youth gridiron team was taken over by Realtor/Sports Enthusiast Gary Timmes last fall, rescuing the program from fiscal collapse.

"We're happy to help out," said Council President Ed Mitchell. "You're doing great things for our kids," he told Timmes.

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Bus Route Change Raises Concerns

Several residents came before Borough Council at its Sept. 10 meeting to ask if anything could be done to stop SEPTA's #117 bus from using Main Street. SEPTA recently made the routing change to include the new charter school at 11th & Main as one of the bus' regular stops.

While it is understood that some charter school students may utilize the re-routed bus, residents who live and/or walk along the narrow section of Main Street are concerned about pedestrian safety, where only a matter of inches can separate a vehicle's side-view mirrors from the sidewalk.

Unfortunately, there is nothing that the borough can do about the situation, as Main Street is a state-owned roadway, and SEPTA does not need borough permission to use it.

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Pepe LePew Making Presence Known

When a '70s rock band asked: "Oo-oo that smell – Can't you smell that smell?" they probably weren't talking about skunks, but some folks in Upland were recently confronted by that unmistakable odor and came before Borough Council seeking help.

Skunks are nocturnal creatures, so we generally smell their pungent scent at night, especially at those times of year when young offspring are trying to establish their own territories and end up setting off skunk fights in the process.

The best way to avoid making your home a skunk hangout is to make sure that trash and garbage are cleaned up from your property and secured in cans with lids. Property owners can decide to hire an exterminator or to trap and release the critters themselves. Considering that skunks can carry rabies, professional help is strongly recommended. Borough Council members sympathized with those homeowners whose yards have been dosed with skunk spray, but noted that the borough cannot use public funds to address a private property issue.

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

STOP! Still Means STOP!

In an effort to address the borough-wide problem of excessive speeding, the Public Works Department has recently been replacing damaged or faded roadside traffic signs and adding red reflective tape to STOP signs. The red tape will draw a driver's attention to the STOP sign, but the traffic control is only as good as a driver's intent to obey the law.

Please help keep our streets safe for our children and all pedestrians – **SLOW DOWN and STOP!**

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Council to Adopt New Regs For Abandoned Satellite Dishes

At its Oct. 8 meeting, Borough Council intends to adopt a new ordinance aimed at removing the rooftop satellite dishes that are often left behind after a subscriber moves or switches to cable.

The accumulation of abandoned satellite dishes "is a growing community eyesore and creates potential public safety and building maintenance issues," according to proposed Ordinance No. 3 of 2013, which was approved for advertising on Aug. 27.

Under the ordinance, the proliferation of abandoned satellite dishes (measuring less than one meter in diameter) will be controlled through Use & Occupancy inspections, giving a property owner 30 days from the end of a service subscription to remove the inactive dish. Noncompliance can lead to escalating fines, in addition to the violator covering the borough's costs for dish removal.

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New Fire Engine To Be Officially Housed

The Upland Fire Co.'s new 30-foot-long Squad 57 went into service around Memorial Day.

Upland Fire Company No. 1 will be the host station for the annual Delaware County Fireman's Association Convention housing parade on Saturday, Oct. 12.

The parade will start at 1pm at the Upland Shopping Center, then snakes through the borough, coming down Upland Ave. to 6th St., turning right onto 6th, right onto Main St., left onto 11th St., left onto Patton Ave., then left again back onto 6th St. and past the firehouse, before ending at the staging area around the Upland Baptist Church.

The procession will feature fire vehicles from across the county. A total of 75 pieces of apparatus from 24 Delco fire companies will participate in the three-hour event, some accompanied by marching bands, as the fire stations compete for prizes and trophies. After the parade, the public is invited to enjoy free hot dogs and refreshments at the firehouse.

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.

Upcoming Public Meetings and Events

Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

Tuesday, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, and Dec. 10
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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Vacation Bible School (VBS) Night

(For children ages 5-12)

Starts at 6:30pm every Monday thru May 19
at Upland Baptist Church

Come for dinner, bible story and activity

*** No VBS on Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 23 & 30 ***

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Grocery Bingo

1-4pm at Upland Baptist Church

on last Saturday of Sept.-Nov. and Jan.-April

Fun for the entire family!

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Landingford Plantation Clean-up Day

Starts at 8:30am on Saturday, Oct. 5

All volunteers are welcome to join this semi-annual effort to spruce up the grounds of the historic Caleb Pusey House on Race Street.

Bring work gloves; Tools will be provided

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Welcome Day at Pusey House

Noon - 4pm on Saturday, Oct. 26

Enjoy colonial craft demonstrations and re-enactors, FREE ANTIQUE APPRAISALS - limit two per visitor (First appraisal is free; second requires \$5 donation), Guided tours of historic buildings, and delicious food FREE Admittance & FREE Parking on premises

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Annual Youth Halloween Party

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

For borough youth up to 13 years of age – ID required Entertainment, refreshments, prizes for best costumes!

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Holiday Dinner for Senior Citizens

6pm on Saturday, Nov. 16 at MacQueen Hall

A delicious home-cooked turkey dinner with all the trimmings - FREE to all Upland seniors

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9th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner

4-6pm on Saturday, Nov. 23

at Resurrection Life Church (8th & Church Sts.)

Enjoy traditional holiday meal in church dining hall or have your FREE dinner boxed to take home

*** Transportation and/or delivery are not available ***

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Annual Holiday Tree Lighting and Visit From Santa

Festivities start at 6pm at MacQueen Hall
on Friday, Nov. 29

To receive a gift from Santa, all children 10 and under must be registered with boro office by parent/guardian

*** Registration starts Oct. 1 and ends on Nov. 8 ***

Aryn's Helping Hands Raises Funds

On Aug. 24, a crowd of 125 gathered at the Upland headquarters of Marine Corps League Detachment 266, where the 4th Annual Aryn's Helping Hands fundraiser was held. The event is named after Aryn Strigle, a 7-year-old Auburn Village resident and leukemia survivor, now in remission.

According to AHH co-founders Robert "Butch" Ferguson and his wife Sherry, the event raised over \$5,000 to help defray the expenses of other local children with medical problems, thanks in large part to the generous participation of members of the Pennsylvania Coalition of Motorcyclists. The main recipient of this year's proceeds was a Brookhaven teenager, who has leukemia and recently went through a bone marrow transplant.

An 8-team AHH benefit softball tournament is slated for **Saturday, Oct. 5** (starting at 9am) at the Mickey Vernon Field Complex in Marcus Hook. Come on out and root for your favorite teams!

The Aryn's Helping Hands family wishes to express their gratitude to all those who support and encourage AHH's merciful mission.

If you want to help, call Butch at **610-496-7304**.

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Do You Remember...?



...the '80s, when cordless cell phones looked like this, weighed a few pounds, and were available for just \$1,499?



...the '50s, when fresh milk was delivered to your doorstep every morning in glass bottles?

(Look for more nostalgia in coming editions)



Borough Councilman Leland Hunter has been a council member since 2008; has served as Upland Borough's code enforcement officer for the past five years, and as president of the Upland Senior Citizens Club for the last two years; and has been a member of Upland Fire Co. No. 1 for 55 years.

MEET YOUR LEADERS

We asked Borough Councilman Lee Hunter:

1. What is unique about Upland Borough?

...Upland is like my family. I was born and raised in Upland; have lived here all my life; and I love it.

2. What led you to public service?

...I wanted to try to better my hometown.

3. What are your priorities for the borough's future?

...To help maintain Upland as a unique town to work and live in.

4. What personal achievement are you most proud of?

...Becoming a borough council member, and serving the community as a fire company member, Main Street School PTO member, and as code officer.

5. What was the most significant event in your lifetime?

...The births of my son, Steve, and my daughter, Kim

6. What is your pet peeve?

...People who bad mouth Upland

7. What or who makes you laugh?

...All children

8. What is your all-time favorite movie?

...Witness

9. What is must-see TV in your home?

...The show "Cops" and any football game

10. If you could have a long chat with anyone (past or present), who would you choose?

...My father, who passed 45 years ago

Moving to Plan "Bee"

The report of an active beehive in a tree, 25 feet off the ground on Second Street, caused some concern in August, but the matter was ultimately left in the capable hands of Mother Nature.

No one was stung and the bees seemed to be non-aggressive, but two pest control companies were called in to evaluate the situation. After spraying the hive with insecticide, the decision was made to leave the nest alone and hope that the remaining bees simply move on. The onset of cooler weather generally means the end of the active bee season.

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Bidders Line Up For Firehouse Addition

The Aug. 19 bid opening for work related to a new firehouse addition drew quite a crowd, with a total of 27 bids submitted by 13 local contractors.

The planned construction project will add a new truck bay and some office space to the home of Upland Fire Co. No. 1 on McClintock Drive. This will be the first expansion of the firehouse, since it was built in 1975.

The pending work breaks down into three contracts. Columbus Construction, LLC (of Philadelphia) was awarded the contract for general construction, submitting a low bid of \$219,709; Ellis Construction, Inc. (of Glen Mills) won the mechanical contract with a low bid of \$45,000; and Charles A. Higgins & Sons (of Media) earned the contract for electrical work with a low bid of \$50,593.

The borough has committed \$240,000 in funding to the project, while the fire company will ultimately be responsible for the remaining cost of the \$315,302 addition.

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More Reese Center Upgrades Approved

Council approved another packet of upgrades to the James W. Reese Center at its Aug. 27 and Sept. 10 meetings, authorizing the transfer of a total of \$40,705 from the Parking Tax Fund to the general fund.

The monies will be used to pay Tri-County Comfort Systems \$16,950 for the installation of a bathroom, shower area, emergency eye wash station, and utility wash tub in the garage, as well as all associated plumbing, trenches, drains, and accessories needed for the bathroom facilities.

Expenditures also include \$5,075 to Aungst Electric for the installation of double receptacles and exhaust fans and the rewiring of conduits and ceiling fans, as well as light replacement in the garage area; plus \$18,885 to Accurate Custom Roofing for roof repairs and re-coating, as well as repair of soffits and gutters; plus \$9,795 to Logan Technology Solutions for the installation of local area network and fiber optic infrastructure, adding network switches and an Ethernet transceiver, and the activation of 10 Keyscan devices to operate the electronic gates.

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Borough Awards Towing Contract

At its Sept. 10 session, Borough Council awarded a three-year contract for vehicle towing services to Clayton Towing of Chester. A borough option to extend the contract for an additional two years was also included in the new pact.

The contract was conditionally approved, pending the determination of the specific amount that the towing company will charge for hauling oversized vehicles, which can involve heavy-duty equipment.

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

Upland Slates Electronic Recycling Day

In keeping with recent changes to recycling laws, which ban electronic items from regular recycling collections, Upland Borough will hold one more special **Electronic Recycling Day** on **Saturday, Oct. 26**. On this date, a small collections trailer will be parked in the MacQueen Hall lot from **9am to 1pm**, when residents can drop off any electronic recyclables.

Electronic recyclables include electric toys and games, computers, laptops, monitors, keyboards, printers, copiers, fax machines, projectors, phonographs, TVs, radios, electric typewriters, VCR/DVD players, video cameras, answering machines, cassette players/recorders, CDs and DVDs, all types of telephones, and calculators.

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Heavy Trash Not For Electronics

Collections of bulk trash items are made on the last Wednesday of the month, which is **Oct. 30**. Residents must notify the borough office in advance for all bulk pickups and items must be placed **curbside by 6 am** on collection day.

Bulk trash does not include electronic items like computers and televisions – such items will be collected at a special event from 9am-3pm at Upper Chichester Municipal Building on **Oct. 19** (Sat.)

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Residents Must Help To Stop Trash Pickers

The practice of picking through curbside trash and recycling containers to remove items of value is illegal in Upland. Prohibited in the borough code, curbside picking can lead to citations of up to \$600 for regular trash items and a minimum of \$200 and a maximum of \$1,000 for recyclable items.

Pickers often leave a mess after rooting through piles of trash, and when pickers remove recyclables from the trash stream, they are stealing from borough taxpayers, who are credited for the tonnage of recycling collections. The more recycling collected, the lesser the borough's trash bill.

In an effort to bring this messy and fiscally-draining practice of trash picking to an end, Borough Council is asking residents to be vigilant on trash days (every Monday and Thursday) and recycling days (first and third Fridays of each month). Since pickers generally work in the early morning hours and move through the town fairly quickly, catching them in the act is often difficult for the police officers on duty. But that is where residents can help.

Any resident who observes a trash-picker in action is urged to call 911 immediately to give a description of the offenders and their vehicle. A call to the borough office (**610-874-7317**) is also requested, as even small tidbits of information will eventually add up and give police enough data to identify the culprits. Taking a cellphone photo of illegal pickers would also be useful for police analysis.

"Our ordinance is only as good as our enforcement, and it is difficult to enforce without the help of the public," noted Councilman Harold R. Peden.

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RLC Thrift Shop Re-opens

The Church Street Thrift Shop, located at Resurrection Life Church on the corner of 8th & Church, has reopened, after a summer hiatus. The thrift shop is open to the public from **10am-2pm** on the first and second Saturday of each month, from September thru June.

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First Section Of Fence Pending

The first 554 linear feet of wrought iron fence (representing about a quarter of the total scope of the project) will soon be installed atop the stone wall along Main Street in Auburn Village. The work will be done by Ellis Construction at a cost of \$8,750.

The fence will be 4-foot-high, and will help keep pedestrian traffic off the grass and on the sidewalks.

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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.

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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. The value of being kept informed became apparent during Superstorm Sandy last October. After the storm, over a dozen households called the borough office to get their names added to the calling list. Don't be left out of the information loop. Register your home with the borough for safety sake.



On June 17, this group of volunteers from Upland Fire Co. #1 brought back, unloaded, and reset the antique furnishings of the historic Pusey House on Race Street, after the fire company had taken the heavy furniture to higher ground to protect it from floodwaters earlier in the month.

Upland Now Owns Reese Center

The vacated U.S. Army Reserve complex that sits on West 24th Street has now officially been deeded over from the federal government to the Borough of Upland. A quitclaim deed was finalized in early June, transferring ownership of the 5-acre facility to the borough at no cost.

With an estimated value of roughly \$5 million, the 5-acre Reese Center is comprised of three large buildings, all enclosed in a fenced compound.

The former Army depot was named after James William Reese of Chester, who was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions during the Sicily campaign of World War II.

The borough is planning an official Reese Center dedication ceremony for later this year. Borough Council plans to convert the complex into a community center, utilizing revenue generated by the parking tax.

"This is...something our administration has been planning for years," Council President Ed Mitchell said of obtaining the Reese Center keys. "We haven't placed any burden on the taxpayers, and the money has already been appropriated to secure the future of the children and provide athletic programs for the community."

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Church Food Bank Offers Help

The Upland Baptist Church Food Bank has been helping low-income borough families meet their grocery needs for the past 45 years.

Dry goods, canned foods, and bakery items come to the UBCFB through individual contributions, corporate donations (such as Giant in Brookhaven), and purchases from Philabundance. Basic staples such as cereal, tuna, pasta, soups, canned vegetables, peanut butter and jelly, and any type of quick-meals are always in need.

Any Upland residents can be UBCFB recipients, with proof of residency and an annual income that is less than \$17,235 for a single person. Add \$6,030 for each additional person in a household to determine the applicable yearly income limit.

Bags of groceries can be picked up by a registered recipient every Wednesday, from 9-10am, in the church basement, while bi-weekly deliveries are made to senior citizens and handicapped persons.

About 35 grocery bags are loaded with food stuffs every Tuesday morning by a group of volunteers, with the bag count jumping close to 60 when deliveries are made to seniors every other week.

If your family could benefit from the generosity of others, please contact Louise Sauk at **610-876-1857** or call the church office at **610-874-7474**.

MacQueen Hall Makeover Completed

With the delivery of new chairs and the installation of new carpeting on the second floor and new lighting in the hallway of MacQueen Hall this spring, a three-year makeover of the stately building is now complete.

(continued on next page)

Built by John P. Crozer to be the social hub of the borough, the former Civic Association Building has been completely overhauled to celebrate its 100th anniversary this year.

Beyond the outdoor addition of a separate police headquarters in 2010 and an emergency generator earlier this year, the interior renovations include colorful wall murals, a gas fireplace, new council chairs and desk, and an audio system in the downstairs public meeting room, while the spacious second floor has benefited from new paneling and the installation of a wet bar.

The combination of improvements have generated "a lot, and I mean a lot" of requests to rent out MacQueen Hall for private functions, according to Building & Grounds Committee Chairwoman Sandra Miazza. For information on rental rates and dates, call the borough office at **610-874-7317**.

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Great Scott! ... Fireman Hailed As Hero

On the afternoon of July 9, married Upland firefighters Doug and Marsha Scott were returning home from a fire call when they heard a commotion at the doorway of an elderly Auburn Village resident, as a young man forced his way inside the apartment and slammed the door behind him.

Doug Scott then did what all emergency responders are trained to do – He got involved. Able to hear that the intruder was assaulting the woman, Scott began kicking down the locked front door, causing the young assailant to flee out the back door.

Police are still searching for the light-skinned black male, who had stated his intent to rape the victim. Meanwhile, a grateful community gives a sincere thank you to dedicated volunteer Firefighters Doug and Marsha Scott, who may well have saved a neighbor's life.

Main St. Elementary Spared Closure

The potential closure of Main Street Elementary School has haunted many Upland grade-school students and their families for most of 2013, ever since state-appointed Receiver Joseph Watson announced that school closures and consolidations would be among the drastic measures needed to get the Chester-Upland School District back into the black for the 2013-14 fiscal year.

In mid-August, the CUSD projected an enrollment increase of about 600 students in the upcoming school year, which meant that the closure of Main Street Elementary and the C-U School of Arts could be put on hold, at least for the time being.

According to C-U District Superintendent Gregory Shannon, district-wide enrollment totals that were expected to be around 2,200, were pumped up to an estimated 2,800 by a promotional campaign that urged defecting families to reconsider public schools over parochial or charter school options.

"We have been working feverishly to ensure that we develop and provide safe, healthy, and nurturing school environments for all of our children," said Shannon.



The Fourth of July Family Picnic provided an opportunity for Upland kids, including Emma Wallace of Clearwater Lane (above) and cousins Jordana Long of Fern Lane and Alexandria Hartman of Church Street (below), to show off just how cute they are.



...While other residents enjoyed the many cool and fun activities that were offered at the family-oriented event on this hot summer day.

Community Charter School Opens

The Upland campus of the Chester Community Charter School was completed on schedule and started holding classes in September, as planned. Located at 1100 Main Street, the new school offers a FREE full-day Kindergarten program to children who turned 5 on or before September 30, in addition to instruction for elementary grades 1-5.

Two open house events and a carnival were held in August to welcome parents and students. As of Aug. 24, 258 grade-schoolers had signed up for the inaugural year of classes at the Upland campus.

To obtain an enrollment application or more information, call CCCS at **610-447-0400** or visit the website at **www.chestercommunitycharter.org**.

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A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the new Upland campus of the Chester Community Charter School on Aug. 24, with Principal Christine Matijasich and CCCS CEO Dr. David Clark doing the honors.

**Resurrection Life Church
Celebrates Milestone Anniversary**

On June 23, the congregation of Resurrection Life Church celebrated the 25th anniversary of its founding and the 10th anniversary of moving to its current location on the corner of Eighth and Church Streets in Upland.

Founded by Pastor Bryan McGrouty and his wife, Patty, services at Resurrection Life Church were first held at the Christian Academy in Middletown, then moved to the Praise Center in Eddystone. Then in July 2003, in the wake of the closure of the Upland Methodist Church, the RLC flock bought the historic corner site to establish its permanent home.

The RLC sanctuary dates back to 1873, when the original pulpit faced Eighth Street. A parsonage was added in 1882, and a major renovation in 1926 saw the addition of a bell tower and Sunday School rooms, while the sanctuary interior was turned 180 degrees to today's westward-facing orientation.

The interior renovations completed over the last decade are many, including new floor tiles and carpets, improved lighting and audio systems, and a fresh coat of paint, all of which serve to brighten the sanctuary. A new roof for the building is the next project pending on the to-do list.

The Church Street Thrift Shop opened at the church in 2007, and continues to operate today.

Most RLC Sunday services, which start at 10:30am, draw 50-60 worshipers, but the special anniversary celebration packed the house with 117 supporters, guests and members, past and present.

The celebratory service included guest speaker Apostle Thurlow Switzer, who called the RLC congregation "a spiritual city of God, set upon a hill," while a dozen member testimonials used words like "home," "friendship," and "compassion" to describe their RLC experience.

Praise music was provided by three guitars, an organ (played by Patty McGrouty), and drums, while the worshipers shared several tambourines and maracas to help set the beat.

A card was given to the McGroutys from the entire congregation, expressing their gratitude for the couple's dedicated leadership in the name of God.



A crowd of about 100 locals turned out on Aug. 10 to join in the fun at Resurrection Life Church's 25th anniversary Neighborhood Block Party on Church Street, where the food servers and face-painters were kept busy all day.



The annual borough-sponsored excursion to a Wilmington Blue Rocks game on Aug. 9 once again proved to be a fun night for all.



Did You Know?: The sprawling City of Brotherly Love that William Penn intended to build was originally planned for present-day Chester, but after surveying the land, the Chester area was deemed to be too small to become Philadelphia, so Penn went north up the Delaware River to find his new city site.



Hundreds of 7-year-old Aryn Strigle's (holding sign) family and friends, many of whom arrived on their motorcycles, attended the 4th Annual Aryn's Helping Hands event on Aug. 24 to defray medical bills for local cancer patients.