



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



Vol. 6-9; September 2014 edition



Oh, Oh, Oh...It's Magic!



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.



Among the impressive magic tricks were the mysterious disappearance of seven pizzas and three tubs of ice cream.



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.



The Community Block Party sponsored by Resurrection Life Church on Aug. 9 once again drew a sizable crowd.

Fire Co. Plans Fundraisers

Upland Fire Company # 1 has scheduled a series of fundraisers to help cover the cost of firehouse improvements. While the bulk of the recent \$315,000 renovation was financed by the borough, the fire company contributed its entire reserve fund (\$52,000), and money is now needed to complete some interior improvements to the new addition. Please support the fire company's efforts to raise funds. Giving this kind of financial assist to your hometown firefighters is the cheapest type of homeowners' insurance policy you can buy.

- Soft pretzels, bottled water, and glow stix will be sold at the **Aug. 31** fireworks display.
- A Nelson's BBQ fundraiser is planned for **September 13**, offering delicious BBQ ribs and BBQ chicken dinners to go.
- At the end of **October**, a pamphlet will be sent out to all Upland residents, offering a selection of beautiful holiday wreaths.
- Christmas trees will be sold at the firehouse, from **late November until Christmas Eve**, with free delivery offered to all seniors.
- A Monte Carlo Night is being planned for **February**.

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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.

According to Comedian Jeff Foxworthy, **YOU may live in Pennsylvania, if:**

- The speed limit is 55 MPH, you're doing 80 and everybody is passing you.
- "Going on Vacation" means going anywhere south of Harrisburg for the weekend.
- You measure distance in hours.
- You know several people who have hit a deer more than once.
- You have switched from "Heat" to "A/C" in the same day, and then switched back again.

Council Approves ID Badge Program

At Borough Council's July 8 meeting, the expenditure of \$5,025 was unanimously approved to cover the start-up costs associated with an identification badge system for borough employees. Photo-ID badges will be created by Logan Technology Solutions and will be used by every borough employee when interacting with the public. A primary goal of the ID badge system is to make borough officials readily identifiable to give them access, especially during an emergency situation, when emergency personnel might be trying to keep people away from a hazardous area that a borough official might need to see.

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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.

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Upland Creates Historical Commission

On July 8, Borough Council officially established the Upland Historical Commission to serve as an advisory body that will focus on protecting the borough's historical assets.

One of the commission's primary tasks will be to review new development applications to assess the potential impact on Upland's historic sites.

The borough residents who have stepped forward to help protect their hometown's heritage as charter members of the Upland Historical Commission include Sandy Deldeo, Brian Davis, Brock Peterson, and Tom Bryant, along with Engineer Lou Brown, who brings technical expertise to the panel.

Alternate commission members are still being sought. Interested residents should contact the borough office at **610-874-7317**.

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Firefighters Slate Tag Days

The volunteers who serve their community under the banner of Upland Fire Company No. 1 will be collecting donations at the intersection of Upland Ave. and Kerlin St. during their Annual Tag Days on **Fridays, Sept. 5 & 12**, from **3:30 to 7pm** each day. (Rain dates will be on the next Friday.)

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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Nelson's BBQ Dinners:

A Tasteful Way To Support Fire Co.

If you've been looking for another good reason to give financial backing to your one and only hometown fire company, the Nelson's BBQ Fundraiser on **Saturday, Sept. 13** should fit the bill.

Upland Fire Company No. 1 gets a portion of the profit from each dinner-to-go that is sold from 11am to 4pm that day. Half-rack BBQ Rib dinners are \$13 and Half-Chicken dinners are \$8, with each meal including a soda, dinner roll, and choice of one side (potato salad, macaroni salad, or cole slaw).

Meals can be pre-ordered and reserved for pick-up by calling **484-682-5000**. Pre-ordered meals that are not picked up by 4pm will be sold to walk-up customers.

A variety of baked goods will also be for sale.

Tables and chairs will be available for those who want to sit and eat on site. Meals will only be delivered to senior citizens who reside in Upland.

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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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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.

Charter School Planning Float For Next Memorial Day Parade

Dozens of students and staff of the new Chester Community Charter School in Upland marched in this year's Memorial Day parade to celebrate the school's inaugural year, but the word is now out that the school is planning to enter a float in the borough's 2015 procession. What a neat way to join the party, and besides, why walk when you can ride!

Electronic Recycling Event

9am to Noon on Saturday, Oct. 25
in MacQueen Hall parking lot

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Don't miss this year's last opportunity to drop off all sorts of electronic recyclables (includes any device with batteries or a plug) at no charge.

Annual Labor Day Fireworks Display

starts at dusk, on Sunday Aug. 31
at Bristol Lord Field

Upland Fire Co. will be selling soft pretzels, water and glow sticks as a fundraiser

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday, Sept. 9, Oct. 14 and Nov. 11
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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Nelsons BBQ Ribs & Chicken Fundraiser

11am to 4pm on Saturday, Sept. 13
in firehouse parking lot, off McClintock Drive

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Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

4 to 7pm on Saturday, Sept. 27

at MacQueen Hall... **TAKE-OUT AVAILABLE**
Spaghetti & meatballs dinner includes salad bar,
garlic bread, desserts, and beverages

Tickets will be sold at borough office and at the door
(Adult - \$8, Senior - \$6, Children under 10 - \$4)

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Landingford Plantation Clean-up Day

starts at 8:30am on Saturday, Oct. 4

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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Annual Welcome Day Celebration at Landingford Plantation

Noon to 4pm on Saturday, Oct. 25

Enjoy colonial craft demonstrations and re-enactors,
Guided tours of historic buildings, and delicious food

And back by popular demand: FREE ANTIQUE APPRAISALS
FREE Admittance & FREE Parking on premises

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Annual Youth Halloween Party

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Oct. 25
at MacQueen Hall

For kids 13 and under – ID required

Upland P.A.L. Needs Your Support

Now is the time for the community to embrace the Upland Police Athletic League youth program with financial support.

Aiming to create a foundation of financial supporters, the organizers of the Upland program are asking the community to step forward now with individual donations and corporate sponsorships.

To be among the first citizens to stand up and support the non-profit Upland PAL, send email to uplandpaldonations@yahoo.com or call Upland PD headquarters at **610-872-3040 ext. 208** to speak to Officer Michael Curran.

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.

The borough's website recently added a new **Items From Public** tab to the **History** section. If you have photographs of Upland of yesteryear that your neighbors might also enjoy, contact the borough office or Webmaster Moira Crawford to get photo prints scanned to a digital format.

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

mcrawford@uplandboro.org



About 60 Upland senior citizens took the Borough up on its offer of a free breakfast on July 28.



Do You Remember...?



...When 'developing' those photos that you had shot on vacation **ONLY** took one full day – It was a miracle!



...When boys this age were willing to do hard labor to earn their allowance.



...When every home in Upland Borough had one of these in the backyard. Believe it or not, that was only about 80 years ago!

No Loose Needles In Trash

The borough's trash haulers are asking residents to secure all used needles in a sealed hard plastic or metal container. The container lid must be screwed on tightly or taped down firmly, to prevent injury to our trash collectors.

Thank You for your cooperation!



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."

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 *****

Council Amends Parking Regs

Under an amended parking ordinance, overnight parking (on streets or private property) in any residentially-zoned area is now prohibited for all commercial vehicles, trucks, tractors, trailers, or vans with a DOT Class 3 or higher rating and/or a GVWR above 9,000 lbs. Street parking of these vehicles is restricted to no more than two hours between 6am and 10pm.

The amended ordinance also bans the parking or storage (for a period exceeding two hours) of all recreational vehicles and utility trailers on borough streets, while storage of no more than one RV (under 30 feet in length) or one trailer (under 20 feet in length) is permitted on private property (in a garage, rear yard, or driveway) with a minimum setback of 10 feet from the paved street.

Violators will receive fines of \$25 plus costs, and non-compliant vehicles can be towed at the owner's expense, after a warning is issued.

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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

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The next Heavy Trash Pick-ups will be made on Wed., Sept. 24.

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.

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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.

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Borough Council Vice-President Christine Peterson, who chairs the Streets & Equipment Committee, poses with the three-man Public Works Department crew that continues to garner unsolicited praise from residents and businesses. From left to right, your favorite Highway Department is: Supervisor Patrick White, Peter Hartshorn, and Chuck Boyd.

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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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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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**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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Street Improvements Completed

The borough's Public Works Department was again hailed by Borough Council for their tax dollar-saving work on Upland streets. At Council's July 8 meeting, Streets & Equipment Committee Chairwoman Christine Peterson noted the excellent work that was recently completed with the repair of a stormwater inlet on Oak Lane and the installation of 44 linear feet of new curb on Main Street.

Upland Resident Peter Hartshorn, who was hired by the borough last year as the third full-time man in the Public Works Department, is the master technician when it comes to concrete work.

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.

Ocasio and Curran shared their vision of what an Upland PAL program might offer to the community. They suggested that neighboring towns might want to "build off of our model," noting that 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.



The new and improved home of Upland Fire Company No. 1

Bridge Clean-out Proves Worth

The near-flooding of Chester Creek on May 1 was another reminder of the difference being made in flood control for the lower end of Upland, since tons of silt and mud were removed from under the Kerlin Street Bridge in December 2012, re-opening both of the archways under the concrete highway bridge.

The multi-municipal/PennDOT effort to increase the volume of water that could pass under the bridge during floods has yielded positive results on several occasions already, sparing the lower end from yet another widespread flood, though a couple of close calls have been seen since the bridge clean-out.

"The creek was looking real bad at one point, with debris piled up against the bridge, just like in the old days," Council President Ed Mitchell recounted at the May 13 caucus meeting. "But once they got the debris cleared, the creek went down quickly. That extra span being open is a special, special thing."

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Carnival Nets Revenue For Borough Events

According to Community Affairs Committee Chairwoman Sandy Miazza, the outdoor carnival that set up in Bristol Lord Field from May 20-24 generated \$4,726 in borough revenue, despite the off and on rainy weather during that week.

All of the carnival revenue will be put towards other events for Upland residents. Upcoming community events include the annual Labor Day Fireworks display (**Aug. 31**), a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser (**Sept. 27**), and a senior citizen road trip to Shady Maple restaurant (**Oct. 13**).

Come one, come all, and enjoy the bounty!

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The food and fun were both offered up in abundance when the Carnival returned to Bristol Lord Field from May 20-24.





Upland Patrolman William Meyer led the 2014 Memorial Day parade riding on the Upland Police Department's newest vehicle, a 1600 c.c. motorcycle.



The Annual Memorial Day Picnic has been co-sponsored by Upland Baptist and Resurrection Life Churches for the past decade, with the face-painting table being almost as popular as the free food.

Upland Siblings Praised For Academic Achievement

Kameron Staples, age 19, and his sister, Kamri, 17, grew up on Main Street in Upland, with both attending Main Street Elementary School. But graduating from Main Street Elementary was just the first step on the long and impressive academic ladder that the two students are currently climbing. Kameron and Kamri both graduated from the Chester-Upland School District's S.T.E.M. Academy, with Kameron doing so in 2013 and his sister following in his footsteps in 2014.

Both students graduated with a 4.0+ grade point average; Both were actively involved in high school sports and extra-curricular activities; Both took advanced placement courses; Both served as board members of the C-U Youth Court; Both were elected to serve as Student Government President; and Both represented their graduating classes as Class Valedictorian.

In 2013, Kameron was in competition with over 50,000 other candidates when he was selected as a Bill & Melinda Gates Millennium Scholar and received a full scholarship to the college of his choice, choosing Brown University.

This year, not to be outdone by her brother, Kamri applied for the same award (competing against another 50,000+ candidates), and was ultimately selected as a 2014 Bill & Melinda Gates Millennium Scholar, getting a full scholarship to Cornell University.

To shine the spotlight on the inspirational achievements of the Staples, Upland Mayor Michael Ciach presented the two students with borough proclamations on June 10, while Councilman Harold R. Peden read a congratulatory resolution into the official meeting record. The two exemplary teens then received a standing ovation from Borough Council and every person in the room.

"And I think the parents deserve a big hand too," offered Councilwoman Sandy Miazza, extending the praise and applause to Karl and Bettyjo Staples.

It is no surprise that Kamri is planning to challenge herself in her freshman year at Cornell, where she will major in biological science with a concentration in neurobiology, while on a pre-med track.

Kameron will soon be entering his sophomore year at Brown, where he is carrying a double major in political science and mechanical engineering.

Congratulations to both Kameron and Kamri on their many personal successes (past, present & future), as they light the path brightly for other Chester-Upland grads to follow.

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Kameron Staples and his sister, Kamri Staples, of Main Street, share a smile with Mayor Michael Ciach, after the two outstanding Chester-Upland graduates were feted by Upland Borough Council on June 10.

Borough Makes It Official For Chief Ocasio

Effective as of May 13, Nelson Ocasio's job title is Chief of Police for Upland Borough, dropping the "Acting" prefix that he had used since Chief John Easton retired in January and the "Deputy" prefix he had used for the year prior to that.

Ocasio, 25, served a year in Iraq as a specialist with the U.S. Army, before joining the Upland police force in 2010. He has since become a fixture in the community, while earning the respect of his peers through continuing education and exemplary law enforcement work.

"It's a great honor, and I appreciate the confidence that Council has in me to offer me this position...I won't let you guys down and I will get the job done," Ocasio told Council and the general public, after he was sworn in by Mayor Michael Ciach.

"And I'm grateful for the officers and staff that I have, because without them, I wouldn't be here today," the newly-minted police chief added.

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Upland Seniors Sell Their Wares



The 2nd annual Upland Senior Citizens Club Flea Market was held on June 14, drawing shoppers looking for a bargain. Judging by Parker Ferguson (above), the vendors were also eager to make a deal.

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.

"It's not going to be a private parking lot. It's to be shared by the community," said Mitchell.

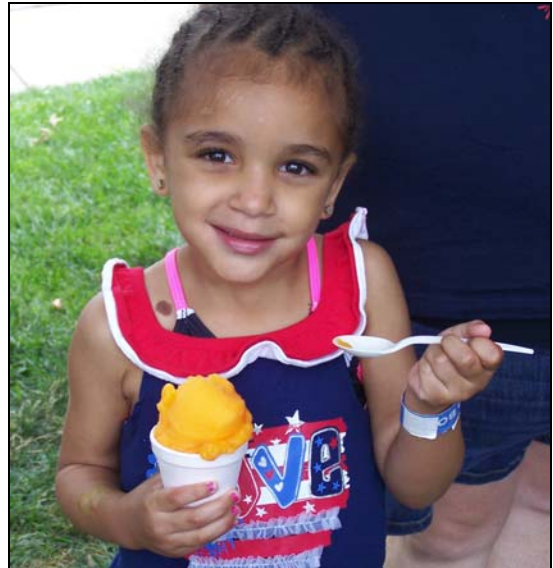
No timetable has been established for the property conversion. According to the borough office, the demolition and paving work will be done as funds become available.

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.

"Creating a cut-through is going to change the traffic pattern. Eighth Street is a speedway right now. It is not safe," one resident suggested. "People are doing 50 and 60 (MPH) down this road," he added.

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.

Friends & Families Celebrate a Red, White & Blue Fourth



A little morning rain from Tropical Storm Arthur could not stop the borough-sponsored Annual Fourth of July Family Picnic at Upland Memorial Park, where the free food was wonderful, but the joyful communing of friends, neighbors, and families was even better.



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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.

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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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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.

Borough Takes Bids On CDBG Projects

The borough held a bid opening on July 24, seeking the best price for two public improvement projects, both of which are being funded by Community Development Block Grants from the county. The borough engineer will review the sealed bids and give Borough Council his recommendations at the Aug. 26 meeting.

One set of bids involves the pending demolition of the blighted building at 36 Upland Avenue. This public safety project was selected by Delaware County Council for a 2014 CDBG award.

A second set of bids involves the second phase of construction of the 11th Street Extension. Phase 2 will see the laying of a new roadway that will connect Hill Street to 24th Street, completing the extension that will ultimately link Mulberry Street to 24th Street and provide a new emergency access to Upland Avenue.

Both phases of the 11th Street Extension are CDBG-funded, utilizing grants awarded in 2012 and 2013. The first phase of the project has been temporarily suspended, while the borough waits for PECO to relocate the guide wires that support a utility pole next to the new roadway. Laid in March 2013, the 250-foot-long first phase of the extension is still a gravel roadbed, and is not yet ready for use.

As Phase 2 preparatory work is getting underway, it is hoped that PECO can get their crews on the job soon, so that both new roadbeds might be paved at the same time.

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