



The Caleb Pusey House

# The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough  
(Settled 1683)



Spring 2010 edition



## Police Station Dedicated to Judge Miller



The Kenneth N. Miller Law Center - Upland Borough Police Department's first free-standing headquarters - was opened and occupied on Jan. 8 and dedicated on Feb. 5, 2010.

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A host of borough officials joined Judge Miller for the ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open the new stationhouse.

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Borough Council President Edward Mitchell (left) and Vice President Christine Peterson congratulate Judge Miller at the indoor reception that followed the outdoor dedication.

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Former Commandant Dick Mansfield (far right) served as the bugler for the Marine Corps League Delco Detachment 288 Honor Guard at the Miller Center dedication ceremony.

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Upland Police Patrolman Nick Adelizzi (right) and Patrolman Anthony DeLuise prepare to raise the American flag over their brand new state-of-the-art headquarters.

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### **Borough Officials Reorganize**

On Jan. 4, Senior Magisterial Judge Kenneth Miller administered the oath of office to the five residents who were elected to public positions in November. Mayor Michael Ciach is now serving his second term and fifth year as mayor, following 12 years of service on borough council.

Councilwomen Georgianna Cassidy-Hicks and Sandra Miazza were sworn in to begin their second four-year terms on council.

Councilwoman Moira Crawford took the oath for the first time as an elected official, having served most of the past two years on council as an appointee.

Tax Collector Thomas Winfree continues to build on his record as the borough's longest-tenured tax collector. Winfree is serving his 21st consecutive year at the post, as he begins his sixth elected term. Council President Edward Mitchell and Vice President Christine Peterson were both unanimously re-elected to lead council for the third straight year.

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### **Census Needs You To Succeed**

Every 10 years, the US Census Bureau takes a head count to determine exactly where Americans are living. Census data is vital to demographic studies that determine governmental representation, as well as grant eligibility and state or federal funding of community improvement projects.

It is critical that every head be counted to give Upland Borough its full due in the competitive funding arena.

The 2010 census contains just 10 questions - the smallest form ever used for an American census. According to census officials, the brief questionnaire will take just 10 minutes to fill out and return.

Census questionnaires will arrive by mail in mid-March and a reminder will soon follow. Residents are asked to complete and return the confidential form by April 1.

If a census questionnaire is not filled out and returned by each Upland address, a census-taker will stop by to personally collect the same information sometime between mid-April and June.

Persons interested in a temporary position as a census-taker in Upland Borough must follow a specific procedure to gain consideration for the \$17.75 per hour job.

Applicants must call in advance to schedule a time to take a 30-minute test. US citizenship and a valid drivers license are required. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and pass a background check.

The successful applicant will be paid during four days of training. Official duties begin in early March. For more information about becoming a census-taker, visit [www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov).

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***"The people of Upland are a different breed. It's not because of the water they drink; it's because of the hearts they have."***

- Judge Kenneth N. Miller, addressing the crowd at the Miller Law Center dedication on Feb. 5.

### **Food Bank Offers Help**

The Food Bank that operates out of the basement of the Chapel at Upland Baptist Church is intended to benefit borough residents who meet income qualifications.

The Food Bank is open for pick-ups from 9-10am every Wednesday. Donations of non-perishable food items can be made any time during the church office's regular weekday business hours, from 9am to 1pm.

Helpful donations include canned vegetables, meats, and potatoes, peanut butter, pasta, rice, and cereal.

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**\*\*\*To learn about weekly Upland Senior Citizens Club meetings in MacQueen Hall, call USCC President Betty Kondracki at 610-874-4101.\*\*\***

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### **Police Earn Kudos For Citations**

Under the leadership of Chief John Easton, the Upland Police Department continues to pile up the accolades...and the ticket count.

During 2009, in the second year of participation in the state's aggressive driving control program, Upland officers made a total of 388 traffic stops, resulting in 261 citations for a variety of offenses; arrests for DUI, drug possession, and firearms violations; and the capture of a wanted fugitive.

Beyond state-funded patrols, Upland patrolmen issued 3,736 citations last year, doubling the number of regular-duty tickets written in 2008.

"These officers are certainly doing their jobs," commended Mayor Michael Ciach.

In December, virtually every member of the force, including Chief Easton, qualified for M-4 rifle certification pins.

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### **Fire Co. Sets Record**

Upland Fire Company No. 1 - the borough's only fire company - set a new benchmark for number of calls answered last year, responding to a total of 394 alarms in 2009, with an average turnout of eight volunteer firefighters for each call.

Upland volunteers logged a total of 233 hours in service last year, answering 223 night calls and 171 daytime calls.

In December, several members of the company passed a vehicle rescue test at Clayton Park to earn certification, after nine weeks of preparation and training with "jaws of life" equipment.

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### **Holiday Decorating Winners**

This holiday season's home decorating contest was an illuminating experience for the scores of homeowners who tried to outshine their neighbors. The difficult job of judging fell to Councilwomen Georgianna Cassidy-Hicks and Sandra Miazza.

The winners were:

1st place (\$100) - Mr. & Mrs. Perez, 3727 Sixth St.

2nd place (\$50) - Bill Poole, 422 Willow Way

3rd place (\$25) - Mr. & Mrs. Hunter, 326 Church St.

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### **Parking Tax Enacted**

Starting in mid-March, the borough will receive tax revenue from commercial parking lots. The new parking tax will be applied exclusively to visitor parking at Crozer-Chester Medical Center, where the revenue from 1,380 public parking spaces will be taxed at a rate of 10%.

During the first full year of collections (2011), this new tax is expected to generate \$425,000 in borough revenue. The income will be utilized to support non-budgeted projects, such as the creation of a community center or the purchase of a new trash truck, or community programs, including youth, senior, and historic initiatives.

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### **It's Snow Time To Argue**

During the recent snow emergencies, Uplanders have displayed a tendency to shovel or blow snow from private property onto public streets, and to "save" cleared parking spaces on public streets with cones, trash cans, barbecue grills, desks, folding chairs, and lawn furniture.

#### **Both are illegal and can lead to a citation.**

Throwing snow into the street obviously contributes to a public safety hazard.

Public streets are owned by the borough or state, not individual homeowners, so parking space saving constitutes intentional obstruction of a public thoroughfare.

The cost of collecting and storing the items that residents use to hold shoveled spaces has made it **necessary for the borough to collect and discard curbside items** that might interfere with street plowing.

Residents are reminded that sidewalks must be cleared within 48 hours of the end of a snowfall.

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### **Fees Defray Extra-Duty Costs**

The borough has enacted a new fee to cover the cost of police officers working extra-duty details at special events. If additional police are needed for a parade, procession, ceremony, or public assembly (funeral processions and school-related activities are exempt), the organizers will now be responsible for paying for the stepped-up security.

A written application must be completed to request additional police coverage. The application fee is \$50, and the compensation rate for each officer is \$55 per hour, with a minimum of three hours per assignment. Requests must be submitted at least 10 working days prior to the event.

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### **Unlisted Homes Should Register**

To enjoy the full benefits of the borough's information phone service, residents with unlisted phone numbers should call the borough office to register. The automated phone service was instituted last year to keep every borough resident informed of upcoming public events and community offerings, and would be utilized in the event of a borough-wide emergency.

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### **Public Works Adds Bucket Truck**

The borough recently purchased a used 2003 Ford bucket truck for \$24,900, which includes a one-year warranty. The vehicle features an extending arm, with a worker's perch at the end, and will be used for tree trimming and setting up the borough's 22-foot-tall Christmas tree.

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**BULK TRASH will be collected curbside on the last Wednesday of each month - March 31, April 28, and May 26.**

**\*\*\*Items must be placed curbside by 6 am.\*\*\***

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### **Council Approves Repairs**

Borough council recently authorized the completion of the following repair projects:

Replacement of two Auburn Village roofs (\$69,900); Concrete curb repair on Castle Ave. (\$7,700); Installation of a new metal flag pole at the corner of Main & Castle (about \$4,500); and Installation of a drainage pipe that will relieve street flooding on Church St. near the pavilion (cost to be determined). The cost of installing gas tanks and pumps on borough property for the use and convenience of all borough vehicles has been deemed too prohibitive.

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### **Public Meetings and Events**

#### **Grocery Bingo**

play 5 Bingo cards for \$1; refreshments served  
**1-4pm on Sat., March 20, April 24, and June 19**  
at Upland Baptist Church (325 Main St.)

#### **Family Movie Night**

free G/PG-rated movie; refreshments for 50 cents  
**7-9pm on Sat., March 20 and April 17**  
at MacQueen Hall

#### **Easter Egg Hunt**

for residents up to 12 years old  
**9am on Sat., April 3**  
at Bristol Lord Field, Sixth and Main Sts.

#### **Breakfast with Easter Bunny**

complete breakfast; photos with the Easter Bunny  
adults-\$5, children 12 and under-\$3  
**9:30-11:30am on Sat., April 3**  
at MacQueen Hall

#### **Annual Clean-Up Day**

volunteers report to MacQueen Hall for assignments  
**8am until noon on Sat., May 22**

#### **Memorial Day Parade & Community Picnic**

parade at 9am; service at war memorial at 9:30am  
free picnic for all residents from 11am-1pm  
**Mon. May 31, at Bristol Lord Field**

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***"It's a great honor to have a building named after you. It's especially great to have it while you're still standing, and not as a memorial!"***

**- Judge Kenneth N. Miller...Feb. 5, 2010**



The historic Caleb Pusey House on Race St. has weathered the snows of winter many times before this record year.

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### Imagining Winter at Landingford Plantation

This is the first in a series of newsletter articles informing Uplanders about the history of the early settlers of the area now called Upland Borough.

We will start at the very beginning of Caleb Pusey's Landingford Plantation in October 1682.

Caleb Pusey had already purchased his land in Pennsylvania and his company, the Society of Free Traders, had given him control over the acreage where a new grist and saw mill would be built. He named this area "Landingford Plantation" - founded at the last boat landing and the first ford over Chester Creek. He was charged by the company to manage the milling business, which came to be called Chester Mills.

Caleb, his pregnant wife Anne, and his two teenage stepsons were fairly well-off and comfortable in England. Picture such a family being rowed up Chester Creek in a small boat and dropped off on the embankment with all of their worldly possessions, the disassembled pieces of a prefabricated mill, and several months supply of foodstuffs.

This area was still wilderness, with old-growth trees as far as one could see. A footpath that passed through Landingford was part of the Lenni-Lenape trade network that extended to the north and south.

The Puseys made their first home by digging a large hole in the ground (to the right of the existing structure). For a roof, they covered the 8-foot-deep hole with branches and grass thatching. Here the Pusey family and one indentured servant would wait out the winter of 1682/1683. There is no written record of the local weather, but in England, that winter was one of the worst ever.

Anne was pregnant when she arrived here and suffered the difficulties of childbirth during that first winter. Unfortunately, her newborn daughter Anne did not survive to see the spring.

Every aspect of daily life was a challenge. Caleb was involved in launching the business venture with Millwright Richard Townsend, while Anne worked to make a hand-dug cave into a home for her family.

There was plenty of work for the boys and the servant. Learning the art of hunting and fishing was

a new challenge for men who were not used to hunting for food. Water had to be carried from the creek in buckets. Wood had to be gathered and cut to useable size and stacked to be ready for cooking. As winter and spring progressed, the family relied increasingly on herbs and available spices to flavor the meats, fruits and vegetables that they had preserved.

That first winter at Landingford Plantation was an extreme challenge for the Puseys, who were unaccustomed to such hardships. This family's epic endurance is an example of how much people were willing to sacrifice to be a part of this new experiment in self-government called Pennsylvania.

- Ray Peden, President, FCPH



The Pennock Log House (built in Springfield in 1790, then moved to Upland in 1964) has survived many harsh winters.

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### Hometown Marine Serving Overseas

Upland native Corporal David Cassidy, Jr. enlisted in the US Marine Corps in 2006; received two meritorious masts for conduct during his training; and recently deployed to Haiti to join in the relief effort there, before heading back to the Middle East. Cassidy serves with "The Walking Dead" 1st Battalion of the 9th Marine Division, which had returned stateside after a seven-month deployment in Al Anbar Province, Iraq, where the Americans trained Iraqi police units while providing security for the war-torn region.

Cassidy is expected to come home again in August. After rejoining his wife Misong and 2-year-old daughter Audrianna, the Marine will finish out his enlistment and move back to Pennsylvania this fall. A heartfelt good luck and thank you goes out to Corporal Cassidy from all his hometown supporters.

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### Web Site Offerings

Visit the web site at [www.uplandboro.org](http://www.uplandboro.org) for borough news and information, historical narratives, public health notices, borough ordinances, meeting minutes, live surveillance video feeds, and photo galleries from community events.

To share photos or information on the web site, email Councilwoman Moira Crawford at [mcrawford@uplandboro.org](mailto:mcrawford@uplandboro.org).

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