



The Caleb Pusey House

# The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

## The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683)



Summer 2010 edition



### Carnival Comes To Town

A Community Carnival will be at Bristol Lord Field from **June 8-12**, operating from **6-10pm every day**. Enjoy rides, games, food and fun - ask about wristbands that will get you on every amusement!

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An Easter Egg Hunt for Upland children was sponsored by borough council, Upland Fire Co., and Upland Athletic Club.

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**No trash or recycling will be collected on Monday, July 5** in observance of the Fourth of July holiday - collections will be made on Tuesday July 6.



Upland Borough recently received this MVP gold cup (awarded to just one municipality in the state each year) in recognition of recent participation in the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs.

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### Council Alters Meeting Schedule

Borough Council's regular monthly caucus/voting meeting will be moved up one day to Mon., **June 7** to accommodate the carnival next door to MacQueen Hall, which opens on Tues., June 8. The July council session will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month - **July 27**.

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### Planning Board Seeks New Member

Borough officials are looking for a civic-minded resident who would be willing to serve on Upland's planning board. One seat on the five-member advisory panel is currently vacant. The board meets on an as-needed basis to review major construction plans. Interested parties should send a resume to the borough office for consideration.

### Police Officers Promoted

Two Upland Police Department members were recently promoted - one to the rank of corporal, and the other to full-time status.

Corporal Daniel DiNardo, 27, joined the force in April 2006 as a part-time officer and was promoted to full-time duty in December 2008. He currently serves as the department's field training officer and firearms instructor, and has been certified for taser training, forensic DNA analysis, and biological evidence collection and preservation.

Patrolman Anthony Deluise, 24, came onboard in June 2008 as a part-timer. His move to full-time is probationary for one year, at which time his promotion will become permanent. Deluise is certified for taser use, vehicle regulation, bike patrol, CPR/first aid, field drug testing, and self-defense.

The Upland PD recently took delivery of a 2010 Dodge Charger squad car to bring the department's fleet back up to four vehicles. The \$29,805 expenditure was budgeted for this year.

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### Food Bank Offers Help

The Food Bank that operates out of the basement of the Chapel at Upland Baptist Church is there to benefit low-income borough residents.

The Food Bank is open for pick-ups from 9-10am every Wednesday. Donations of non-perishable foods can be made 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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### Fireworks Store Cooperating

It took three years for the Phantom Fireworks store in the Upland Shopping Center to fully comply with the terms of borough council's January 2007 approval to permit construction of the sales outlet, but all requirements have now been met and the store is once again open for business.

Sales of pyrotechnics can only be made to out-of-state residents at the Upland store. That restriction did not deter the Phantom franchise from incurring the \$28,000 expense to add new signage and line-striping on Upland Ave. to create a left turn lane that will allow northbound traffic to enter the shopping center more safely.

Phantom has agreed to post a \$10,000 bond as escrow, which will assure the borough that any public funds expended for the mandated road improvements would be fully reimbursed.

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**BULK TRASH will be collected curbside on the last Wednesday of each month**

**- June 30, July 28, and August 25**

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

### Zoning Board Alternates Named

Borough council recently appointed two residents - Linda Mitchell of Fourth St. and Joanne Peden of Mulberry St. - to serve three-year terms as alternates on the zoning hearing board.

Council has also moved to compensate previously unpaid borough zoners at a rate of \$50 per person per hearing attended, starting in January 2011.

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### Sixth Street Paving Delayed...

PennDOT recently announced that the repaving of pothole-strewn Sixth St. will not be done this year, as had been planned. The state is diverting 2010 paving funds into the construction of handicapped-accessible corner ramps, many of which have already been installed in and around Upland.

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### ...But Fresh Asphalt To Be Laid Elsewhere

The borough's 2010 road paving contract was recently awarded to low-bidder A. F. Damon Inc. of Upland in the amount of \$56,535.

Streets designated for repaving this summer include part of W. 24th St., Castle Ave., Fourth St. (from Main St. to Griffith St.), and McClintock Dr. (from Sixth St. to Fourth St.).

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### Residents Want These Taxes

It seems impossible that any borough resident would want to see more taxes levied, but in the case of two new business taxes, Uplanders can rejoice.

A parking lot tax on commercial operators was enacted in March and is expected to generate \$425,000 in borough revenue for the first full year of collections (2011). The new revenue stream will be applied to special unbudgeted projects, such as the creation of a community center.

A tax on billboards has also been proposed and is being researched. While the borough can currently only collect a few hundred dollars in annual permit fees on the handful of commercial signs posted along I-95, the creation of a billboard tax could net the borough up to \$6,000 per sign per year.

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### Please Cut/Sweep Grass

Residents are reminded that the borough has an ordinance that mandates property maintenance, including the regular cutting of grass during the summer. Grass clippings should be swept up and dumped in the trash, whether a property owner is doing the mowing themselves or paying a professional landscaper. Grass clippings left in the street can lead to clogged stormsewer inlets and roadway flooding during thunderstorms.

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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 to keep every borough resident informed of community events, and would be utilized in the event of a borough-wide emergency.

### **Council Reappoints Former Member**

Councilman Dennis Walls recently submitted a letter of resignation, citing health issues. He first joined council in 2001 as an interim appointment, and was twice elected to the post.

The Fern Lane resident was lauded as a man of the people by his fellow Auburn Village renters back in 2004, when a controversial pay-for-pets policy was instituted at the apartment complex. Faced with a protesting crowd in the council meeting room, every other council member left the room and refused to listen to public comment, while Walls alone remained in his seat and allowed his constituents to express their opinions and vent their emotions.

Walls' replacement - Harold 'Ray' Peden - was named the same night the resignation was accepted with regret. Peden will serve the remaining 19 months of Walls unexpired four-year term.

Peden had previously served 20 years as a councilman, taking a hiatus from the post in 2004. He is currently president of the Friends of the Caleb Pusey House and serves as the borough's flood plain management coordinator.

Council also recently appointed Frank Sawicki to serve as a member of the borough's fire police.

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### **Council OKs Expenditures**

Borough council recently authorized the installation of an alarm system, but will rebid the purchase of a utility truck. Bids had been taken on a heavy duty Ford F-450, but the \$44,000 pricetag convinced council that the smaller F-350 model would meet the borough's needs for an Auburn Village truck.

A total expenditure of \$28,720 was approved for a fire and security alarm system for the borough's Fourth St. maintenance garages. The high-tech systems utilize heat and motion detectors.

A new street light at Dogwood and Elm Lane has also been approved to increase security for Auburn Village residents.

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### **Please Feel Free To Read This**

If asking nice is the best way to enlist someone's cooperation, the recent purchase of a dozen exceedingly polite warning signs just might improve safety on residential streets.

Select stop signs in the borough will soon have a warning sign added, which reads:

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO USE OUR SIGNS  
OR WE WILL FEEL FREE TO USE OUR TICKETS**

And while you're bringing that vehicle to a complete stop, be sure to have a nice day!

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### **Web Site Is There For You**

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).

### **Public Meetings and Events**

#### **Borough Council Meetings**

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session  
**Mon. June 7, Tues. July 27, Tues. Aug. 9**

#### **Grocery Bingo**

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

#### **Fourth of July Family Picnic**

Free food and amusements for all residents  
**11am-3pm on Sun., July 4**  
at Bristol Lord Field (Sixth and Main Sts.)

#### **Blue Rocks Game For Youth**

free trip to baseball game for children ages 8-15  
**5-10pm on Fri., Aug. 13**  
\*pre-register with Community Affairs Committee

#### **Labor Day Fireworks Display**

**starts at dusk (approx. 8:30pm) on Sun., Sept. 5**  
at Bristol Lord Field

#### **Upland Fire Co. Tag Days**

fundraising at Kerlin St./Upland Ave. intersection  
**3:30-7pm on Fri., Sept. 10**  
**10am-3pm on Sat., Sept. 11**  
(in event of rain, dates move to next weekend)

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#### **Chester Mills - Upland's Industrial Beginnings**

Part of William Penn's grand plan for his colony of Pennsylvania was to provide new colonists with the services they needed to survive. These services included sawing logs into boards and grinding grain. The first place to provide these vital services was Chester Mills - the grist/saw mill built on Chester Creek at Landingford Plantation by Caleb Pusey and millwright Richard Townsend in 1683.

It is thought that Penn was present when the first Chester Mills dam was erected, about two miles upstream from the Delaware River. The small corn mill that was connected to this dam, and the dam itself, were both swept away by flood waters in the fall of 1683. A second dam and grist mill was built a little further upstream, but soon met its demise during another flood. These setbacks were certainly an inauspicious start for the Pusey enterprise.

The solution to harness the waterway was to build a stone race alongside the creek to channel water to the third mill erected, this time about a mile downstream from the first mill sites. The race extended up to present day Toby Farms; brought a controlled water flow to the mill; and eventually gave Race St. its name.

Once established, Chester Mills continued to operate into the early 1800s, becoming a major producer of grains and lumber. In fact, at one point, 50% of all the milled flour exported from the American colonies came from Chester Mills.

**- Ray Peden, president Friends of Caleb Pusey House**



A week before Memorial Day, workers were busy renovating the pavilion at Bristol Lord Field.

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### Park Pavilion Expanded

The recently completed expansion of the Bristol Lord Field pavilion is a community improvement that will benefit many residents.

Situated off Church St., the pavilion has nearly doubled in size to now include storage areas. Among the upgrades to the pavilion was installing locks and adding a security camera that feeds live video to the police department and the borough website, allowing a host of concerned individuals to monitor the area.

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### Upland Sportsman Earns Recognition

Congratulations to Bill Kirby for recently being named 2010 Sportsman of the Year by the Delaware County Sports Hall of Fame, recognizing the Upland resident's lifelong support of numerous community sports activities.

Kirby's love of sports goes back to Eddystone High School, where he pitched a no-hitter in his first start on the baseball team and also played football.

He began coaching in 1965 and has led youth teams to championships at the Upland AC, with the Brookhaven Jets, and Crozer Chargers.

Kirby also helped revive the dormant football program at Our Lady of Charity School.

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### Dedicated Firefighters Honored

At the recent 84th Anniversary Awards Dinner for Upland Fire Co. No. 1, volunteer members were recognized for their ongoing dedication to the company and community.

The top responders for the company's record-setting 394 fire calls in 2009 were Shawn Nagy (290 responses), Todd Chalfont (272), Doug Scott (236), Will Fraim (232), and Fire Chief Dan Smith (206).

The winners of the Air Pack Challenge were Gregg Zyla (first place) and Brian Pierce (second place), while Robert "B. J." Covey received the Rocky Eusden Judges Award.

Life Membership Awards were given to Kevin Kozlowski, Jennifer Sokolovich, and Robert McClintock for 20 years of service to the company.

A special 50 Years of Dedicated Active Service Award was bestowed on Harold "Sonny" Johnson, along with a gold watch from his fellow members. Johnson joined the Upland Fire Co. in 1959 and has since held a number of officer posts, including vice president, director, and chief engineer. He continues to answer alarms and drive apparatus to fire calls. Johnson was also feted by borough council at the May 11 session, where he received a formal proclamation and praise from Mayor Michael Ciach.

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Councilman Lee Hunter proudly displays the recognition he recently received as a 50-year member of the Upland Fire Co.

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The enthusiastic volunteer crew at the borough's annual Clean-up Day on May 22 included (l to r) Councilwomen Georgianna Cassidy Hicks and Moira Crawford, Road Foreman Chuck Boyd, and George Patterson.

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