



The Uplander



The Caleb Pusey House

MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



Vol. 2-3; March 2012 edition



Grocery Bingo Offers Family Fun



The Kaufman family cleaned up by winning all sorts of edible items at Grocery Bingo on Jan. 28.

*



The Community Affairs Committee's annual Soup and Salad fundraising dinner on Feb. 25 was again a success, with many residents placing take-out orders. At MacQueen Hall, Councilman Leland Hunter (above) went back for more homemade vegetable soup, while the Nickersons of Castle Avenue (below) sampled a little bit of everything offered.



There is no age limit when it comes to being a Grocery Bingo winner, as both Rose Redding and Ryan Laskey can attest.

*





The friendly Upland Baptist Church volunteers who keep the kitchen open and the Bingo cards coming include (left to right) Char and Dan Miller, Denise Sweeney, and Deloris Hanley. (see story on back page)



Jenny Rae Smith held the Bible while her husband, Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith, was sworn in as an interim borough councilman by Mayor Michael Ciach on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. The newlyweds were married in November.

Smith Appointed To Fill Council Vacancy

In the wake of the Jan. 23 resignation of Georgianna Cassidy-Hicks, Upland Borough Council has filled the vacated council seat with the interim appointment of Daniel Smith, of Patton Avenue.

The open position was advertised in the Daily Times and on the borough website, and drew two applicants. The other candidate was Sixth Street Resident Harris Bloom, who was publicly thanked for his willingness to serve his community.

Smith will essentially be serving the final two years of Cassidy-Hicks' second four-year term on council. The Republican freshman will be running for election to his own four-year term in 2013.

Councilman Smith identifies "public safety and listening to the community" as his priorities as a public servant.

Smith, 38, has been an Upland resident for 12 years, and has served as fire chief of the borough's volunteer fire company for the past seven years.

Smith grew up in Sharon Hill and graduated from Academy Park High School in 1991. He earned an Associate's Degree in Specialized Electrical Engineering from R.E.T.S. in 1993, and has worked as an electrical engineer in Broomall since then.

Smith used to provide borough council with a monthly report on fire company activities. Now that the chief sits on the other side of the council table, the monthly report will be presented by volunteer Firefighter Robert Covey, who has been an active member of Upland Co. No. 1 for the last three years.

*

Council Adds More Comment Time

Starting with Borough Council's Feb. 14 meeting, an additional public comment segment will now be offered at the start of each regular monthly session, allowing residents a chance to speak on any agenda items. The usual practice of allowing comment on any topic whatsoever at the end of council's business meeting will be continued.

By adding an agenda-only public comment segment, Upland Borough is following the municipal meeting format suggested under the Right To Know Act.

"Everybody has a right to present their issues in a manner in which they're comfortable. The residents are supposed to hold us to task and demand answers from us, after giving us a fair amount of time to follow up," Council President Edward Mitchell says of every resident's right to public comment.

*

Delinquent Tax Bills Sent To Collector

Borough Council has unanimously moved to exonerate Tax Collector Linda Mitchell of further efforts to collect delinquent 2011 taxes. All outstanding tax folios have now been turned over to Berkheimer Associates and Credit Tech for collection.

Unpaid 2011 taxes owed to the borough, which will now have late penalties tacked on, include \$550 in per capita tax, \$5,016 in single per capita tax, \$11,384 in real estate tax, and \$10,543 in trash service fees.

Bids Sought For Auburn Village Lateral Inspections

Borough council has authorized the borough engineer to take bids to select a company to perform sewer lateral inspections on all Auburn Village apartments. As the owner of the 156-unit complex, the borough is taking a proactive approach to identifying and mitigating leaky sewer laterals that contribute to stormwater infiltration and higher sewage processing costs. Inspecting and repairing the sewer infrastructure of the Auburn Village complex is one of the borough's largest undertakings this year.

In a related matter, Borough Plumbing Inspector Tom Kennedy has been approved to attend the state-run Certification Class for Lateral Inspections and Grading, which is upcoming in Pittsburgh. In exchange for covering the \$900 course fee and Kennedy's expenses, the borough will have a state-certified inspector on hand to help carry out the sewer lateral inspections that are now mandatory in Upland at the time of property sale.

*

Blight Control Ordinance Pending

Borough Council has announced the intent to adopt a Blight Control Ordinance at its March 13 meeting.

The ordinance would create a new chapter in the borough code to regulate "serious code violations" that impact the surrounding community.

The formal name of the proposed ordinance is the Upland Neighborhood Blight Reclamation and Revitalization Ordinance. The law would allow the borough to deny permits and approvals due to existing blight conditions, and empower the borough to take abatement measures and legal action, if necessary, to protect neighbors from "deteriorated properties (that) create public nuisances."

Copies of the eight-page ordinance proposal are available at the borough office. The public is invited to attend the March 13 council session to give input prior to consideration of adoption.

*

Free Training Offered For Landscapers

If you are a professional landscaper, a groundskeeper, or just a homeowner who wants to keep his property looking good, a free training session called "Caring For Managed Open Space" is being offered at the Ridley Creek State Park Mansion Ballroom from 8:30 to 11:30am on Wednesday, **March 7**. Check-in and a free continental breakfast start at 8:30am, while the presentation starts at 9am.

The topics that will be covered by the training session's two expert presenters include mowing for minimal environmental impact; creating meadows and stormwater basins; invasive plant species; pesticide use; planting, mulching, and pruning of trees; and care and use of landscaping equipment.

Please pre-register by March 5 at 610-892-8731 or crc@nni.com.

*

New Doors, Awnings Coming Soon

According to Auburn Village Committee Chairperson Christine Peterson, the installation of new rear doors will soon begin on Auburn Village rental units, on an as-needed basis. Samples of the new storm and screen doors are on display in the lobby of the borough office in MacQueen Hall.

Another improvement project that is slated for this Spring is the installation of fabric awnings on MacQueen Hall and the adjacent Kenneth N. Miller Law Center. Borough council recently approved the expenditure of \$17,175 to purchase and install the awnings.

*

Hazard Mitigation Plan Adopted

At its Feb. 14 meeting, Borough Council unanimously adopted the 2011 Delaware County Hazard Mitigation Plan to protect Upland residents. The Hazard Mitigation Plan outlines the proactive steps that municipalities should take to prepare for natural disasters to reduce the impact on residents. Municipalities across the county are lining up to sign on to the Hazard Mitigation Plan, since being a signatory is a prerequisite to getting federal and state disaster relief funds.

*

Borough Fee Schedules Consolidated

For the convenience of contractors, residents, and borough employees alike, the wide variety of fee schedules that exist for borough services, permits, inspections, licenses, hearings, activities, rentals, documents, and codes have now been incorporated into one document.

The Upland Borough Comprehensive Fee Schedule will enable more convenient administration of borough business and improve citizen access to this information. This document can be picked up at the borough office or viewed and downloaded for free from the borough website.

*

Zoning Code Update Nears Completion

A two-year joint effort between county and borough officials has brought the quest to update Upland Borough's zoning code close to a successful end. A committee of borough leaders has met diligently with Delaware County Planning Department consultants to hammer out the details of modernizing a zoning code that was originally adopted in 1946, and not formally amended since 1969.

According to Councilman Harold R. Peden, who has served as chairman of the borough task force, a first draft of the revised zoning code was recently reviewed and approved by the Upland Planning Commission. The last steps in the approval process are final reviews by county planners, borough council, and the general public, all of which will happen over the next few months, with final adoption slated for May.

Peden noted that the former booklet-sized zoning code is now four times larger and has become a one-inch-thick book.

Radar Speed Boxes Purchased

Borough Council has approved the purchase of two digital radar speed boxes that will tell drivers exactly how fast they are moving on Upland's streets. The battery-operated speed monitors can be mounted to any street sign or utility pole, and easily moved to different parts of the borough to be utilized wherever speeding is a problem.

Upcoming Public Meetings and Events

Borough Council Meetings

**6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday, March 13
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall**

Saturday, March 17

☘ St. Patrick's Day ☘

**St. Patty's Day Ham & Cabbage Luncheon
starts at noon on Monday, March 19
on second floor of MacQueen Hall**

**** Free to all Upland seniors, age 62 and over ****

Grocery Bingo

**1-4pm on Saturday, March 31
at Upland Baptist Church chapel**

Community Egg Hunt & Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

**starts at 9am on Saturday, April 7
Egg Hunt at Bristol Lord Field playground;
Breakfast on second floor of MacQueen Hall**



Kevin Kozlowski designed and erected the Willow Way first-place winner in this holiday season's home decorating contest. Now that he's the reigning decorating king, the Upland Fire Co. volunteer has vowed to add amperage in a bid to stay on top in 2012. "The pressure's on me now to go further and further and further," says Kevin, who's thinking that the addition of a snowman, to go along with Elmo and Cookie Monster in the front yard, just might do the trick.

*



A new service bar was recently installed on the second floor of MacQueen Hall as an accommodation for the many public events that are held at the venue. The large community room was also rep paneled with wood-grain paneling that replicates that original paneling used in the 90-year-old structure.

The woodwork was done by Master Carpenter/Borough Building Inspector Joe "Parker" Ferguson, who refurbished the council table in the ground floor meeting room last year.

*

B-I-N-G-O Spells Family Fun

The Upland Baptist Church on Main Street offers a unique form of family entertainment every month by inviting the general public to play Grocery Bingo on the second floor of the chapel.

Players of all ages have turned out over the last three years to participate in Grocery Bingo, which started as an outgrowth of the church's annual Fall Festival. Now all the money raised through Bingo card sales and kitchen proceeds goes directly into the church's Community Outreach program, making the venture a win-win situation for everyone involved.

Regular Grocery Bingo cards are sold at 25 cents each or five for \$1. The winner(s) of these games get to select any item found lined up on the edge of the stage. These items are generally worth \$3-4 each, and vary with whatever dry goods are currently in stock at the church's food bank.

Special Grocery Bingo cards are 50 cents each or three for \$1. These special game winners get \$5 gift certificates to local eateries, such as McDonald's.

Of course, a Saturday afternoon of Bingo-ing can make a card watcher hungry and thirsty, and that's where the volunteers in the kitchen come in, offering fresh-made hotdogs, homemade desserts, and a variety of beverages, all at family-friendly prices.

*

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 photo galleries.

**

To share photos or information on the Upland Borough website, send email to Councilwoman Moira Crawford at mcrawford@uplandboro.org



The old and the new of Upland sit side by side, when Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith's newly detailed used police cruiser is parked in front of the historic Caleb Pusey House.

Upland Business Matters

Upland Borough Council proudly supports this hometown business and encourages Upland residents to visit this establishment:



Eduardo Hrlic has been the owner/operator of Upland Diner since 2006. Prominently located on the point, where W. 22nd St. splits off from Upland Ave., the diner has had many faces, starting out as a Hardee's restaurant in the 1970s.



Upland Diner

1000 Upland Avenue; phone: 610-872-6545

Open every day from 6:30am to 9pm, the Upland Diner offers breakfast at any time of day. Homemade pot roast is served every Wednesday; prime rib is offered on Thursdays; and Saturday's and Sunday's menus feature BBQ ribs and chicken. A family atmosphere is found at the Upland Diner, where homemade wholesome foods are prepared with only the freshest ingredients.

Owner Eduardo Hrlic wants his patrons to know:

- A Senior Citizen menu offers a complete dinner with desert, starting at \$7.15.
- Breakfast specials (including 2 eggs, home fries, and toast) start at \$2.25 and are offered Monday thru Friday until 11am.
- By joining a Frequent Diner Program, patrons earn a 10% credit that can be used towards the enjoyment of a future meal.

How To Disconnect & Redirect Sump Pumps and Downspouts

As part of the ongoing countywide effort to reduce the amount of stormwater that infiltrates the DELCORA public sewer system, residents are being provided with tips on how to disconnect and redirect illegal sump pump and downspout connections. In wet weather, such as we've had over the past year of record-breaking rainfall, it only takes a few improperly connected sump pumps to cause a sanitary sewer back-up into nearby basements, streets, and streams.

A DELCORA brochure is now available in the lobby of the borough office that gives step-by-step instructions on how to disconnect subterranean downspout and sump pump discharge lines and redirect the outfall to proper receiver areas, such as rain gardens, lawns, or a rain barrel to store water for future use in a garden.

For more information on efforts to control stormwater infiltration, **call DELCORA at 610-876-5523**.

*

Break-ins Highlight Need To Dial 911

In the wake of several local house break-ins, Upland Police Chief John Easton and every member of Borough Council are reminding residents of the importance of dialing **9-1-1**. Any and all suspicious activity and/or persons should be reported to the police via a 911 call, as soon as suspicions are aroused.

"It's the best weapon we have," noted Council President Edward Mitchell.

*****According to some borough residents, there have recently been instances of men posing as Comcast technicians stopping by homes in the evening to do a non-emergency cable service "inspection."

Be warned, however, that **Comcast does not send out cable line inspectors at night**. Any stranger asking a homeowner if they have cable service (something a Comcast technician would already know for a given address) should be regarded with suspicion.

*



Upland Police Department Investigator Steven Jackson received an Exceptional Service Award and was promoted to the rank of detective on Jan. 10. Holding his commendation and the red uniform bar that he will proudly wear, Jackson is congratulated here by Mayor Michael Ciach and UPD Chief John Easton.

Officer's Dedication Pays Off

Upland PD Investigator Steven Jackson was recently commended for his tireless efforts to bring an arrest in two forcible felony cases, and on the same day, was promoted to the rank of detective.

The Exceptional Service Award was bestowed as a result of Jackson's lengthy investigation of a burglary/robbery case and a robbery/homicide case, during which he virtually lived at police station and refused to rest until all those involved in the two crimes were identified and brought to justice.

"It takes a special person to know what his or her duty requirements are, and an exceptionally devoted person to go beyond those requirements in order to protect and serve our borough," Upland Police Chief John Easton said of Jackson.

Jackson, 23, hails from Drexel Hill. He came to Upland as a part-time officer in June 2010, after spending one year with the Millbourne PD. He had moved from part-time to full-time status with the Upland PD in August 2011.

*



Thanks to a mild winter, work to create 30 additional off-street parking spaces for Auburn Village residents was completed in January with paving and sealing, line striping, and the planting of spruce trees. As of late February, seeded areas of lawn were already starting to grow in. Ample spaces are now available for Elm Lane residents (above), while Dogwood Lane residents are utilizing the extra parking spaces created on both sides of McClintock Drive (below).



*



* * *

Condolences To Winfree Family

Upland Borough lost a loyal friend with the Jan. 23 passing of Nancy (nee McKnight) Winfree at age 71. The John F. Kennedy Drive resident was a 45-year member of Our Lady of Charity, a loving mother and grandmother, and the wife of the late Thomas Winfree, Sr., who served a record 20 years as the borough's elected tax collector before his untimely death in August 2010.

"The whole family was good people and good to Upland," recalls Ed Mitchell. "Tom was a kind soul and Nancy was a sweetheart to everyone."

* * *

Year-End Totals Show Busy 2011 For Emergency Responders

The year-end summary of the activities of the Upland Fire Co. indicate that last year was another busy one, with a total of 326 calls answered and 27 drills held (for a total of 353 incidents - 183 daytime and 170 at night) in 2011. The average number of runners for each incident was 6 volunteers.

The emergency calls break down to 9 fire incidents, 144 non-fire incidents, and 173 instances of mutual aid given to another agency.

The fire loss summary for the year included \$86,000 for structures, \$58,000 for contents, and \$9,000 from a total of 5 vehicles.

Company No. 1 covered 11 motor vehicle accidents, and gave 5 ambulance assists and 6 police assists in 2011.

The volunteers responded to 4 liquid fuel leaks/spills, 5 gas/vapor leaks, 9 instances of electrical wires down, and 3 carbon monoxide alerts.

"And that includes a hurricane, a tornado, an earthquake, and floods," said Fire Chief Dan Smith.

Also answered were 39 auto alarm system failures and 7 malicious false fire alarms.

No firefighters were killed or injured last year, but 4 civilians sustained minor injuries.

* * *

**The borough office will be closed on
Friday, April 6
in observance of **Good Friday****

* * *

Upland Fire Co. Names 2012 Officers

A familiar cast of characters will lead Upland Fire Company No. 1 through 2012, including Fire Chief Dan Smith, 1st Assistant Chief Steve Johnson, Chief Engineer/President Doug Scott, Vice President Dan Kennedy, and 1st Assistant Engineer Joe Taylor IV.

Other returnees are Recording Secretary Stephanie Johnson, Financial Secretary Megan Sokolovich, Treasurer Barbara Doyle, Chaplain Brenda Shaw, Solicitor Robert O'Connor, and Trustees Robert Covey, Steve Jackson, Steve Kalichak and Marsha Scott.

*

Council Adopts Ordinance For Limited Sewer Line Inspections

Borough council has adopted an amended ordinance that will limit mandatory sewer lateral inspections to those properties being sold to new owners and those under major renovation.

Adoption of the pared down mandate came at council's Jan. 10 voting session by a 6-1 vote, with former Councilwoman Georgianna Hicks in dissent.

Under this ordinance, prior to sale of a property, the property owner must allow sewer line inspection and obtain a Certification of Lateral Compliance from the borough engineer or his designee.

If repairs or lateral replacement are deemed necessary as a result of the inspection, all work must be completed before a compliance certificate will be issued.

Aston Township and other Delco municipalities have recently passed a similar ordinance in a countywide effort to address the growing problem of stormwater infiltration into the sanitary sewer system.

In September, Upland council was poised to adopt an ordinance that would have required every borough homeowner to submit to a sewer line inspection over the next 10 years. That mandate was tabled by council, however, when the proposed law was met with overwhelming opposition from residents.

If the original ordinance had passed muster, Upland would have been the first Delco municipality to require universal sewer lateral inspections to help curb stormwater infiltration.

*

Survey, Tree Inventory Ongoing In Park

If you happen to see strangers mulling around in Upland Park during daylight hours, you need not worry, as they are either there to survey the park's borders or to conduct a tree inventory.

The borough hopes to eventually take ownership of the adjacent carriage house site - the stone building that is all that remains of the Netherleigh Mansion estate of George Crozer. The county currently controls the historic site, so a land survey is needed to facilitate the property transfer.

Once the borough owns the Crozer homestead site, planned improvements for public use of the tract will include a walking trail and night lighting.

While the borough wants to improve the estate grounds, there is also a strong desire to save as many of the mature trees as possible, as these trees are used by eagles for nesting and are part of the site's rustic charm.

*

Unlisted Homes Should Register

To enjoy the benefits of the borough's information phone-message service, residents with unlisted phone numbers should call the borough office to register. The automated phone service keeps borough residents informed of important public meetings and community activities, and would be utilized in the event of a borough-wide emergency.

*

Pusey House Caretakers Seek Grant

The Friends of the Caleb Pusey House - the non-profit organization that has overseen and maintained the historic Race Street site since the 1960s - is seeking an Historic Community Development Block Grant award from the county this year.

Application has been made for a similar preservation grant each of the last four years without success, but FCPH President Ray Peden is hoping that this fifth application will garner an award to help preserve the Pennock Log House (1790). Peden estimates that the chinking repairs and log replacements that are needed to restore the flood-ravaged log cabin will cost about \$72,000, so the historic grant application will be in that amount. "Council has tremendously supported these efforts," noted Borough Council President Edward Mitchell. Peden agreed, acknowledged, and appreciated Upland Borough Council's unwavering commitment to historic preservation.

*

Race Street Drainage Repair Pending

According to Borough Engineer Charles Catania, planned drainage improvements to the eastern end of Race Street are slated for this Spring.

Repairs that will lessen the frequency of flooding of the intersection of Race and Main Streets in the wake of heavy rains are being financed through a 2011 Community Development Block Grant from the county. The borough will advertise for contractor bids in February; award the lowest bidder in March; and expect the work to be completed soon thereafter, weather permitting.

*



The James W. Reese Armory complex on West 24th Street was named after a World War II recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, from Chester, PA. The buildings are currently vacant, but will soon be bustling with activity, once Upland Borough officially takes ownership.



*

BULK TRASH is collected curbside on the last Wednesday of each month. Residents must call borough office to schedule pick-up and bulk items **must be placed curbside by 6am on March 28.**

*

More (!) Community Events In 2012

The Community Affairs Committee of Borough Council was pleased to be able to bring 17 events to Upland residents in 2011, setting a new benchmark for public entertainment and enjoyment.

Many of these offerings were free to residents, including an Easter Egg Hunt, a Wilmington Blue Rocks game, and Halloween and Christmas Parties for youth, a Ham & Cabbage Luncheon and Turkey Dinner for seniors, Family Picnics on Memorial Day and July 4, and a Labor Day Fireworks display.

To finance the freebies, other events were staged as fundraisers, including a three-day Carnival and soup & salad and spaghetti dinners.

Councilwoman and Community Affairs Committee Chairperson Sandra Miazza called this past year's laundry list of public events "a real success," and said she hopes to deliver a few more fun-filled outings for residents in 2012.

"It's just great!" commended Council President Edward Mitchell. "We've never had that much participation and activity from any of our committees in this borough - ever!"

***Borough Council is instituting a family ID program that will ensure that the free events are attended by Upland Borough residents only, since they already support these offerings by paying their taxes.

*

Borough Invests In Records Preservation

Notebooks and folders containing Upland Borough Council meeting minutes and every law ever adopted by a long line of leaders are currently stored on a bookshelf on the ground floor of MacQueen Hall. Some of the hand-written pages date back to the 1700s and have deteriorated to the point that handling them is a risky proposition.

"We have to, by law, continue to keep our minutes, ordinances, and resolutions from the day the borough was incorporated. Those records literally have to be kept and bound," said Borough Manager Shirley Purcival.

The borough recently received an offer from General Code Publishers to copy and store all the information on read-only CDs, to allow risk-free handling. The Rochester, NY-based firm will charge about \$4,000, plus labor costs, to put 26,000 pages of files onto CDs, and an additional \$8,500 for the purchase of Kodak reading equipment.

A fireproof/explosive-proof storage cabinet was recently purchased to provide a safe place to hold the original files, according to Purcival.

Adding new files to the CD collection will be a simple matter of an annual update, at a cost of 49 cents per page.

*

RECYCLE Stickers Available

Residents can stop by the borough office in MacQueen Hall to pick up a free **RECYCLE** sticker. By affixing a **RECYCLE** sticker to a trash can, the labeled receptacle will augment the red recycling collection cans issued by the borough.

*

Upland Submits CDBG Project Proposals

Borough officials recently agreed on the submission of two improvement projects in their request for funding through 2012 Community Development Block Grants from the county.

The borough's first priority is the extension of 11th Street to create a connector road between Mulberry and Hill streets. According to borough Engineer Charles Catania, construction of the "much-needed connector street" would cost an estimated \$38,500.

"One of the attractive things about extending this road bed, is if anyone has ever been caught down in the lower end (of the borough) during a flood, you know that there's no way to get to Crozer Hospital," noted council President Edward Mitchell. "This way, you can weave your way around and come out at the shopping center (on Upland Avenue). So we're kind of excited to get this open as an emergency route for anybody in the lower end."

A second priority for CDBG funding would be installation of a 4-foot-high wrought iron fence atop the 500-foot-long retaining wall that runs down Main Street along the Auburn Village apartment complex. At an estimated cost of \$16,500, it is hoped that safety fencing would "make it inconvenient" for pedestrians to cut across the grass, hence keeping students walking to Main Street Elementary School on the sidewalks.

*



Mayor Michael Ciach (far left) performed the swearing-in duties at the reorganization meeting on Jan. 3. The re-elected members of Borough Council included (l to r) Harold R. Peden, Leland Hunter, Vice President Christine Peterson, and President Edward Mitchell. Borough Tax Collector Linda Mitchell (far right) was also sworn in to her first elected term.

*

Newsletter Now Monthly Publication

The Uplander newsletter is now a monthly publication. New editions of the borough newsletter, filled with photos and news items exclusively from your hometown, will be delivered directly to every home each month.

To submit photos or notices for inclusion in the newsletter, send items of public interest via mail to the borough office at 224 Castle Avenue, Upland, PA 19015 or via email to kennstark@comcast.net. The deadline for inclusion in the next newsletter is the 15th day of the previous month. The borough reserves the right to edit all submissions.

*

Food Bank Offers Help

The Food Bank in the basement of the Chapel at Upland Baptist Church benefits low-income borough residents and is open for pick-ups from 9-10am every Wednesday. Donations of non-perishable foods are accepted during the church office's regular weekday business hours, from 9am to 1pm. Helpful donations include canned vegetables, tuna and meats, peanut butter, pasta, rice, and cereal.

*

Medical Waste Requires Special Disposal

Residents who generate medical waste must take all biohazardous material to a disposal facility or return it to the place of purchase for proper disposal. Please **DO NOT PLACE IN TRASH CANS WITH REGULAR TRASH**, as this represents a hazard to our trash collectors.

*



This existing structure is part of the Chester campus of the Community Charter School, and has been offered as an example of what the proposed charter school building at 11th and Main Streets would look like, if approved.

"Having Choices Would Be Better"

- a message from Upland Borough Council
President Edward Mitchell

In a perfect world, every taxpayer would be able to choose the educational institution to which that family would entrust their children's future. But the reality we face as Chester-Upland School District taxpayers is that we have little choice in the matter, as the system now stands. As a result, what we are putting our kids through is not a fair process.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's constitution guarantees every citizen of this state a "free quality education." I feel that, if the public school district cannot fulfill its mission, then individual parents should be able to decide where their kids can go to school.

I believe Chester-Upland taxpayers have two good alternative choices.

Parents need to accept private schools as a viable option and get behind a voucher system, where money designated by the state to educate a child would follow that child wherever he or she went to school.

Another alternative would be to let new Chester Mayor John Linder run the school district. The man is a professor by profession. When he ran the Village Charter School a few years ago, they made Average Yearly Progress in the first year.