



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



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Easter Bunny Visits Upland!



The Easter Bunny made lots of friends when he paid a visit to Bristol Lord Field and MacQueen Hall on April 7.



Families enjoyed the plentiful food and each other's company at the Easter Bunny Brunch in MacQueen Hall.



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...but then there's nothing quite like the thrill of that first bite into a beautifully-decorated chocolate Easter Egg.

Adoption Slated For Revised Sewer Inspection Ordinance

Adoption of a limited sewer lateral inspection ordinance initially came at Borough Council's Jan. 10 meeting, but a lot has happened since then.

On March 13, Council had planned to amend the adopted ordinance to limit mandatory sewer lateral inspections to those properties being sold to new owners and those under major renovation. But some council members expressed discomfort with the new language, the matter was tabled until April.

On April 10, unanimous approval was garnered to advertise a revised ordinance for adoption in May.

Under this ordinance, prior to sale of a commercial or residential property (where buildings are more than 15 years old), the property owner must allow a video inspection of the sewer line from the building to the street to obtain a Certification of Lateral Compliance from the borough engineer or 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. Temporary Use & Occupancy permits would give a homeowner an 18-month grace period to complete repairs and get a permanent U & O.

Exactly who will cover the cost of the repairs is something that would be negotiated between the buyer and the seller.

A sewer lateral inspection is also mandated when a homeowner converts his house from a single family dwelling to a multi-family residence or apartments.

Earlier ordinance drafts contained a provision that required a lateral inspection if renovations worth 50% of the total value of the house were made. The "curative" inspection ordinance that will be adopted on May 8 does not include the "50% rule."

Under this new law, the borough has already had its first lateral inspection performed, and the Church Street home that is being sold "passed" the test.

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Public Park Uses Restricted

Since 1969, the borough has had a law that prohibits certain activities in all public parks, and restricts ball playing in three parks.

The list of banned (except with formal authorization from Borough Council) activities includes: carnivals, fairs, circuses, helicopter rides, bungee jumping, fireworks, open fires, and overnight camping.

Ball playing is not allowed in Hill Street Park, Third Street Park, and in the Crozer Memorial Playground at Bristol Lord Field.

Ball playing is, of course, permitted on the baseball diamond at Bristol Lord Field, which was named after Bristol 'Bris' Lord ("The Human Eyeball"), a native Uplander who played in the major leagues from 1905-1913.

Although these laws have been on the books for decades, the prohibitions were recently discussed by council, as the park restrictions will be stricken from the borough's updated zoning code and formally transferred over to the borough code on May 8.

Council Amends Borough Code

Two ordinance amendments were adopted at the Borough Council meeting on April 10.

Under Ordinance No. 6 of 2012, a 15% (of total project cost) performance/maintenance bond will be required for any person or company that has to excavate a public street or sidewalk for any reason.

Too often the borough has been left to assume the responsibility of repairing such excavations, so the borough wants to hold an amount (up to 18 months) that will allow the Public Works Department to finish uncompleted jobs, without taxpayers footing the bill.

"We're really sick and tired of people opening up the sidewalks and streets, then putting them back together again and having them sink, so that we have to bear the brunt of fixing them," stated Councilman Harold R. Peden.

Prior to unanimous adoption, Councilman and Code Enforcement Officer Leland Hunter stated his concern that the bond homeowners have to post might not be posted by utility companies, some of which have a long history of shoddy road repairs.

"They (public utilities) have to be accountable, just the same as anybody else," Hunter stated, and the rest of Borough Council agreed.

As a result, there will be no distinction between private property owners and public utility companies in the enforcement of Ordinance No. 6 of 2012.

Under Ordinance No. 5 of 2012, the borough code chapter that deals with the licensing of Master and Journeyman Plumbers is now extended to Master and Journeyman HVAC Mechanics, as well.

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Residents Must Pre-Register For Non-Agenda Discussions

Borough Council is planning to adopt new rules for public participation at council meetings at its May 8 session. The rules are not intended to restrict public comment, but to promote an orderly system of public comment; to give every person an opportunity to be heard; and to ensure no one is embarrassed when exercising their right to free speech.

While public comment is always welcomed at regular voting meetings, public participation is not invited at council's work sessions.

Under the proposed ordinance:

*All remarks must be directed to Council as a body, and not to any particular Council member, elected official, or other resident in attendance.

*Any person making personally offensive or impertinent remarks, and those who become unruly while addressing Council, will be called to order by the presiding officer and can be barred from speaking before Council.

*Citizens who want to address council on non-agenda topics at a regular meeting may do so by providing notice verbally or in writing to the borough manager before the end of business on the scheduled meeting day. Name, address, and the subject to be discussed must be provided.

*To speak at special council meetings, citizens must pre-register with the borough manager at least one half hour prior to the start of the meeting.

*If no written notice is given, citizens may still address council, but the presiding officer may limit the speaker to no more than 3-5 minutes of time. Such discussions will be held prior to the vote on agenda items.

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C-U Security Guards "Impersonating" Cops

By putting "Chester-Upland Police" (a non-existent entity) on the shoulder patches of armed school security guards, the school district has come under fire from Chester City and Upland Borough Council, both of whom have leveled the charge of "impersonating a police officer." Last month, letters to C-USD administrators from both municipalities issued a demand to "cease and desist" from wearing the deceiving patches.

Even more disturbing to Borough Council than the misleading uniforms were reported instances of school security vehicles making daytime traffic stops and issuing citations in the Main Street school zone. School district security vehicles have an orange and black emblem on the doors, but a driver being pulled over would only see the flashing red and blue lights atop the roof.

Most motorists would assume the lighted vehicle behind them is a police car, so they would probably pull over. But since school security personnel are not "120-certified" for police duties, the real danger would arise when a driver didn't respond properly and an argument or chase ensued.

Municipal officials moved quickly to prevent further instances of security guards being mistaken for police officers, including the borough's use of its robo-calling service in mid-April to alert all registered residents to the potential dangers.

"We don't want to see an Amy Willard thing in Upland, where someone thinks they have a right to stop someone else, but they don't," noted Council President Edward Mitchell. "We won't tolerate this in our town."

Residents are advised to always cooperate with a vehicle pullover, but to call 911 immediately to report anything suspicious about an officer's uniform, vehicle, or behavior.

"If you get stopped in our town (by someone other than an Upland police officer), call us through 911 right away, and we'll handle the situation," advised Upland Patrolman Nelson Ocasio.

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Borough Buys New Truck

The borough has purchased a new salt truck for the Public Works Department, paying \$58,000 for the multi-purpose vehicle. According to Council VP Christine Peterson, the white 2012 Ford 450 truck was bought through the state's Co-Star program to save money. The truck comes equipped with a snow plow and salt spreader, and features a 9-foot-wide stainless steel body.

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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. A new website feature will highlight borough council meeting minutes of yesteryear, to give today's residents a glimpse into the issues that concerned Uplanders in the past.

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

Upcoming Public Meetings and Events

Borough Council Meetings
6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday, May 8
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

Upland Fire Co. Tag Days
3:30 - 7pm on Friday, May 11
and 10am - 3pm on Saturday, May 12
at the intersection of Upland Ave. and Kerlin St.

Grocery Bingo
1-4pm on Saturday, May 26
at Upland Baptist Church chapel

Memorial Day Holiday
 Monday, May 28 
Borough office closed; no trash collected

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at Bristol Lord Field:
9:00am - parade starts on Main St.; goes down 2nd St.; comes up Upland Ave.; turns onto 8th St.; crosses over to Mulberry St.; then moves down Church St. to the war memorial
10:00am - Memorial Service to honor fallen vets
11:00am - Free picnic for all residents

Bristol Lord Field Ready For Summer

The Port-a-Potties and picnic tables are back in place to serve visitors to Bristol Lord Field, which is ready for another summer of fun in the sun. More security lights (activated by motion detectors) will soon be installed around the park's pavilion, where groups of teens tend to hang out. Last month, the water heater inside the pavilion "blew up," but caused no serious damage. Fortunately, the heater was still under warranty, and will be replaced in time for Memorial Day events in and around the pavilion. This year's summer events at the park will include the annual Memorial Day parade and service at the war memorial, followed by a community picnic

(Monday, May 28); Fourth of July Family Picnic, featuring a kick-ball game between the borough's youth and the Upland Police Department **(Wednesday, July 4)**; the annual Labor Day fireworks display **(Sunday, Sept. 2)**; and the return of the Carnival (dates TBD in September).

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Who knew that a good hearty breakfast had this kind of bonding effect on kids!?





Spring has most decidedly sprung in Upland.

Did You Know?: Most of the area that is today's Upland Borough was known as Chester Mills for nearly two centuries. The name Upland (originally used by Swedish settlers) was restored soon after John P. Crozer and his wife took up residence here around 1847.

Upland Business Matters

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



(Above) G & G Pizza owner Vadalon Caceres slices a pizza pie; (Below) while Mary de la Cruz (left) and Theresa Stackhouse put the finishing touches on a lunch order.



G & G Pizza

Upland Shopping Center; phone: 610-874-7999

The family-owned and operated G & G Pizza has been located in the Upland since 1997. The pizzeria is open from 11am to 11pm, Monday thru Saturday. In addition to gourmet pizzas with a selection of 20 toppings, the take-out eatery offers cheesesteaks, hoagies, strombolis, wraps, gyros, burgers, pastas, fresh salads, and seafood platters, as well as sides of fries, buffalo wings, chicken fingers, or cole slaw. Two large 16-inch pizzas for \$15.99 + tax is one of many Everyday Specials, while different Daily Specials are offered Monday thru Thursday.

G & G Pizza wants their customers to know:

- We deliver all day for orders of \$8 or more.
- Our pizza dough is made every morning on the premises, using only fresh ingredients.
- Our sauce is seasoned with a blend of herbs and spices, and we blend a variety of imported cheeses for a superior pan pizza.



The annual Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Bunny Brunch are co-sponsored by Borough Council, the Upland Fire Co., and Upland Athletic Club to provide parents with an opportunity to enjoy quality time with their children.



Upland PD Has DARE Officer; Needs Corporal

Part-time Patrolman Jay Rattmann had been on the force less than a month, when he volunteered to become the Upland Police Department's DARE representative.

Rattmann recently completed a free Drug Abuse Resistance Education course in New Jersey to learn how to handle some of the situations he will encounter while giving anti-drug presentations at local schools.

Officer Rattmann recently met with the Main Street Elementary School principal, and will soon become a familiar face to Upland students.

But while the Upland PD now has a DARE officer, the force is currently lacking a corporal, who would take temporary command in the absence of Police Chief John Easton.

Only one patrolman on the force currently meets the mandated requirements for corporal testing, which are three years of part-time and one year of full-time police work. To broaden the field of candidates, Council is considering changes to the borough ordinance that sets the prerequisites for the rank of corporal. This topic will be addressed at Council's May 8 public meeting.

Zoning Update Ready For Adoption

A two-year joint effort between county and borough officials has brought the quest to update Upland Borough's zoning code to a successful end.

A committee of borough leaders has met 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 that was charged with updating the code, the revised zoning code has now been reviewed and approved by the Upland Planning Commission, Delaware County planners, and Upland Borough Council, with final adoption slated for council's May 8 meeting.

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

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Pusey House Ready To Rebound

After suffering insult and injury from three floods in the last two years, the historic Caleb Pusey House is poised to begin another season of public tours.

The 13-acre Landingford Plantation, located creekside on Race Street in the lower end of the borough, will soon be hosting an event that celebrates construction of the Pusey's English cottage in the spring of 1683.

Pusey House Welcome Day will be held from 12 - 4 pm on Saturday, May 12.

The free family-oriented event will feature guided tours of the Pusey House and Crozer Schoolhouse #1 (built 1849) next door, food and refreshments, colonial re-enactors and craft demonstrations.

Starting at 8:30am on the prior Saturday, **May 5**, the Friends of the Caleb Pusey House (FCPH) will host a general property clean-up to prepare for guests. Any and all volunteers are welcome to participate and should bring a pair of work gloves.

Welcome Day in October, which celebrated the Chester landing of Pusey and Penn on the sailing ship *Welcome* in late October 1682, had been the FCPH's annual showcase since 2006. Due to the repeated flooding of Chester Creek in September and October, however, cancellation of the last two October events has been necessary.

The FCPH is now hoping that by moving their annual Welcome Day celebration to the spring, the tides of fortune will literally change.

For more event information, or to schedule group tours from May through October, call FCPH President Ray Peden at **610-874-5665**.

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Borough Amends Employee Handbook

Borough council recently updated the employee handbook to require all employees with Commercial Driving Licenses (CDL) to report their use of any of the drugs on a list of "controlled substances," which includes some prescription medications.

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Mayor Serving As Liaison To CCMC

Mayor Michael Ciach was formally named to serve as the borough's official liaison to Crozer-Chester Medical Center at Borough Council's April 10 meeting, but Ciach has actually been performing these duties informally for some time...*(cont. on pg.6)*

One item currently under negotiation between the borough and CCMC is the possibility of stationing a part-time police officer in the hospital's emergency room during second shift, Monday through Friday, when the demand for an additional officer is the highest. When a patrolman has to leave his assigned post to accompany a prisoner to the hospital, his post can remain unattended for hours.

"It's no longer a matter of if; it's a matter of when every week," Council Vice President/Upland PD Secretary Christine Peterson noted. "And it's happening way too much when we have only one officer on. When they get caught up at Crozer, we have to get someone else to cover us, so that we can cover over there. It's just crazy."

The borough is hoping that the hospital will share the expense of the additional police officer, considering the additional security provided for hospital staff, while borough residents would benefit from having regular police patrols uninterrupted.

"As we get into the summer months, we're afraid this is going to become even more of a normal thing, and we want to make sure we have coverage on our streets," said Council President Edward Mitchell.

It was noted that the borough/police department would need to be able to pull the additional ER officer out of the hospital to help cover an emergency elsewhere in the borough, if necessary.

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Regulators Football Team Needs Equipment, Funding

Coaches for the Regulators youth football teams, which draws its members from Upland and Toby Farms and won a 90-lb. championship last year in the Pop Warner League, have also been recruiting in Parkside and Brookhaven for the upcoming season. With over 150 kids signed up and anxiously awaiting the start of the 2012 season, Regulators Head Coach Gary Timmes recently came before Borough Council to report that the three-year-old youth football program has now formed a board of directors and has received permission to play in the Delco Football League this year.

But there is no money in the treasury and no equipment, except a few helmets, said Timmes.

Timmes said that the Regulators would need to raise \$8,700 to buy complete uniforms for every player, while covering \$1,100 in insurance costs. The Upland AC puts up \$50 for each Upland resident who plays for the Regulators, covering over half of the 2011 registration fee.

Timmes is himself a local businessman, and is actively canvassing his fellow business owners, as well as Borough Council, looking for financial support to continue the budding program.

"Our businesses are slowly coming back, but we need help from everybody," Timmes stated.

Third-year assistant coach Timothy Nash added his own plea to Borough Council.

"We want to bring football back to Upland, so we really want this to work," said Nash.

Council members sympathized with the coaches' fiscal plight and appreciated their dedication to local youth, but no public funding was committed to support the Regulators at this time.

If you can help put the Regulators back on the field this year, call Timmes at GT Realtors at **484-816-0762**.

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Upland Needs Chester Scale House

If Upland police officers are going to keep oversized vehicles off borough roads by issuing citations, a place to verify the weight of offending vehicles is needed, and the Chester Scale House on Third Street would be ideal for that purpose.

Borough Council is now involved in talks with Chester City officials, seeking an agreement on sharing the Chester Scale House.

PennDOT offers special training for police officers to certify them for oversize-vehicle stops and roadside inspections. Upland officers are already signed up for the five-day course in June, according to Council Vice President Christine Peterson.

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Council Revises Committee Assignments

In the wake of the interim appointment of Councilman Daniel Smith, Borough Council has revised the committee assignments for the remainder of 2012, as follows:

Charter School Committee:

Smith (chairman) and Sandra Miazza

Community Affairs Committee:

Miazza (chair), Moira Crawford, and Smith

Ordinances & Resolutions Committee:

Harold R. Peden (chair), Miazza, and Smith

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Borough Eyes New Fire Truck

Borough Council has authorized the borough engineer to prepare bid specifications for a new fire truck for the Upland Volunteer Fire Co. The purchase of the truck's accessory equipment will go through the state's Co-Stars program to save money, but the new engine with equipment is still expected to cost about \$750,000.

A year of lead time is needed for the purchase process to unfold, so Council opted to formally start the process at its April 10 meeting.

The new 2012 truck will replace the 1989 engine now in service.

Council is also considering renovations to the borough-owned firehouse on McClintock Drive, where one small office is currently shared by 11 fire company officers. Joint meetings between council members and fire company officials are planned to discuss proposed building renovations.



Councilman/Code Enforcement Officer Leland Hunter recently had lettering applied to the door of the dark blue used police car that he now drives while on code duty.

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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.

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 May 30.

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, 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 controlling stormwater infiltration, **call DELCORA at 610-876-5523.**

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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.

Newsletter Now Monthly Publication

The Uplander 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.

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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.



The James W. Reese Armory complex on West 24th Street is currently vacant, but will soon be bustling with activity, once Upland Borough officially takes ownership.



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.

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 had previously been stored on a bookshelf on the ground floor of MacQueen Hall. Some of the hand-written pages date back to the mid-1800s 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 (in 1869). Those records literally have to be kept and bound," said Borough Manager Shirley Purcival.

To safeguard these documents, the borough recently contracted with General Code Publishers to copy and store all the information on read-only CDs, to allow risk-free handling. The Rochester, NY-based firm charged \$4,000, plus labor costs, to put 26,000 pages of files onto two CDs, and an additional \$8,500 for the purchase of Kodak reading equipment.

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

The original paper documents that represent Upland Borough's rich history are now secure in a fireproof/explosive-proof metal storage cabinet.

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Borough Tax Collector Linda Mitchell (right) was recently visited by Resident Sandra Freeman, who paid her 2012 tax bill before March 31 to get a discount. Face value is now due until May 31. After that date, penalties will be added.

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

The Upland Baptist Church on Main Street offers a unique form of family entertainment on the last Saturday of 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.

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.

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Council Adopts Blight Control Ordinance

Borough Council unanimously adopted a Blight Control Ordinance at its March 13 meeting.

The ordinance creates 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 allows the borough to deny permits and approvals due to existing blight conditions, and empowers the borough to take abatement measures and legal action, if necessary, to protect neighbors from "deteriorated properties that create public nuisances."

Copies of the 8-page Blight Control Ordinance are available at the borough office. This new law is **effective as of May 12, 2012.**

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New Shingles and Doors On Tap

According to Auburn Village Committee Chairperson Christine Peterson, the completion of a year-long re-roofing project at Auburn Village is at hand, with the last of the new shingles being laid this Spring.

The installation of new rear doors will also 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.

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Radar Speed Boxes Ordered

Borough Council has approved the purchase of two digital radar speed boxes at a total cost of under \$8,000. The portable devices 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 utilized wherever speeding is a problem.

One of the flashing speed signs will initially be kept on Main Street, while the other will be deployed along Sixth Street, according to Council VP/Streets & Equipment Committee Chair Christine Peterson.

The smart signs can transmit speed data directly to computers in police vehicles, giving officers an accurate log of the number and degree of speeding violations for every hour of every day. Such data will help police officers know precisely where and when enforcement is needed.

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