



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



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C - A - R - N - I - V - A - L !!!



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



But the best thing about the Carnival coming to town is having the opportunity to make new friends.

Upland Shows Its Colors To Celebrate Memorial Day



The grave of Reverend David and Dorothy MacQueen at Upland Baptist Church was decorated and saluted by an honor guard to kick off Upland Borough's Annual Memorial Day celebration on May 26.



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



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

Borough Makes It Official For Chief Ocasio

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

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

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

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

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Council Approves 2014 Road Program

This year's road-paving program will likely be completed during June. A. F. Damon, of Upland, was once again the low bidder, beating out three other local contractors to win the paving contract in the amount of \$64,342. Other bids ranged as high as \$106,356.

The Upland streets that are slated for a fresh layer of asphalt this year include: Fourth Street, Front Street (Auburn Village), Upland Avenue (from 4th to 6th St.), and Church Street (from 4th to 6th St.)

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Bridge Clean-out Proves Worth In Flooding Near-Miss

The near-flooding of Chester Creek on May 1 (in the wake of 8 inches of rain in a 36-hour period) was another reminder of the difference being made in flood control for the lower end of Upland, since tons of silt and mud were removed from under the Kerlin Street Bridge in December 2012, re-opening both of the archways under the concrete highway bridge.

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

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

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New Auburn Village Doors On Tap

According to Auburn Village Committee Chairperson Christine Peterson, the third phase of rear door and screen door replacements at the borough-owned apartment complex will begin in early June and should be completed this summer.

Formation of Historical Commission Near

The creation of an advisory body that would focus on protecting the borough's historical assets has been planned for the last two years, but the process took a significant step forward on May 7, when Councilman Harold R. Peden (who also serves as president of the Friends of the Caleb Pusey House) made a public presentation at MacQueen Hall that culminated in the enlistment of five volunteers.

A primary task of the Upland Historical Commission will be to review new development applications to assess the potential impact on the borough's historic sites, including the Pusey House (built in 1683), which is listed on both the National and Pennsylvania Historic Registers.

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

According to Peden, the listed volunteers will be formally appointed to serve as the charter members of the Upland Historical Commission at Borough Council's Sept. 9 voting meeting. Alternate commission members are still being sought.

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Council Clarifies Rights of Residents With Handicapped Parking Permits

When a resident recently came before Borough Council to complain about a neighbor's handicapped parking space, Council members took the opportunity to clarify what having a handicapped parking permit really means.

Having a handicapped parking permit does NOT mean that a specific person or driver has exclusive ownership of a specific parking space.

"No handicapped spot in Upland belongs to any one person, explained Council Vice-President Christine Peterson. "Handicapped spots belong to anyone with a handicapped parking permit."

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An Era Ends; Dorothy MacQueen Passes

Dorothy MacQueen, the devoted and loving wife of the late Reverend David MacQueen, died on March 28 at the age of 92, closing a memorable chapter of Upland history. It was the community's universal love of these two Christian servants that led to the decision to change the name of the Civic Association "Clubhouse" to MacQueen Hall in 1979. Dorothy was the strong woman who stood behind her husband's greatness. Many current borough residents attended Sunday School classes taught by Mrs. MacQueen at Upland Baptist Church. Her contributions to the preservation of the historic Caleb Pusey House on Race Street, where she served as a volunteer tour guide into her mid-80s, are beyond measure, and have inspired other history-minded volunteers to follow in her footsteps.

(To learn more about Dorothy & David MacQueen, read the expanded website version of *The Uplander*)

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Fire Co. Fund Drive Lacks Support

Fire Chief/Councilman Dan Smith shared the details of the 2013 Fund Drive for Upland Fire Company No. 1 with his fellow Council members at the May 13 caucus session, revealing some disturbing data.

Out of 1,158 homes in Upland, only 204 contributed to the annual fund drive last year, giving an average of \$37.21 to support the fire company.

Meanwhile, just five out of the borough's 61 businesses contributed an average of \$107, and only one out of 61 apartments gave anything at all.

One way to analyze the data would be to say that 17% of the borough's residents are giving over 90% of the donations received, which amounts to a poor community response for what everyone would agree is an essential community service.

"If you took all the records of what is owed (for fire services) each year, and each resident only gave the minimum of \$25, we'd raise over \$40,000 and have no issues at all funding the fire company, but instead we end up with \$8,390," Smith lamented.

To make matters worse, the fire company now receives no financial support from Crozer-Chester Medical Center.

But the CCMC complex is the source of numerous fire calls every year. Under a borough ordinance, the fire company can recover costs for fire services rendered to non-contributing properties, so the hospital may soon be getting an Upland Fire Co. billing invoice, instead of a funding request.

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Upland P.A.L.

Needs Your Support

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

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

Sponsors for various after-school activities are needed immediately.

Truax Construction, Inc. recently made the generous donation of four computers and a flat-screen television for the PAL program.

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

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Seniors Host Flea Market Encore

Last June's fundraising Flea Market drew such a good response, garnering \$300 to defray the cost of group activities, that the Upland Senior Citizens Club will be hosting an encore event from **9am-3pm on Saturday, June 14** at MacQueen Hall.

Vendor tables are available at \$15 per table, but **must be reserved by June 9**. Please call the borough office at **610-874-7317** to reserve a table or for more information.

Free Smoke Alarms Available

Upland Fire Co. #1 is giving away free smoke/fire alarms to any borough resident who wants one. Request forms are available at the borough office.

If a resident needs help installing their free battery-operated smoke detector, fire company volunteers will be providing that service for free as well.

A total of 50 9-volt First Alert alarms (each with a 10-year guarantee) were donated to the borough by BRK Electronics, while an additional 100 units were purchased at the discounted price of \$600.

This offer of free alarms and free installation will continue as long as supplies last, so don't delay.

"If any of our resident homeowners need smoke detectors, both Borough Council and the fire company are more than willing to make that happen," stated Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith.

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*** * * Important Notice:** During the June 14 Flea Market, borough residents can pick up the wristbands that will give them unlimited access to all food and amusements at the Annual July Fourth Family Picnic at Bristol Lord Field. * * *

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday, June 10, July 8, and Aug. 26

on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

(note that August meeting is on 4th Tuesday)

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Watermelon Party!

6:30 to 8pm on Monday, June 2

at Upland Baptist Church

Free for kids ages 5-12; Dinner will be served as well

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Upland Seniors Club Flea Market

9am to 3pm on Saturday, June 14

on second floor of MacQueen Hall

*** Wristbands for July Fourth Picnic available ***

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Annual July Fourth Family Picnic

11am to 2pm on Friday, July 4

at Bristol Lord Field

Upland residents must wear wristbands for unlimited free access to all food and amusements

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Summer Lunch Program

(Free to children 18 and under)

11:30am to 12:15pm, Monday thru Friday

July 7 thru Aug. 21

at Upland Baptist Church

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Vacation Bible School

(Free to children ages 5-12)

10:30am to 12:15pm, Monday thru Friday,

July 21 - 25 and Aug. 11 - 15

at Upland Baptist Church

Bible stories, songs, crafts and lunch



Fair weather allowed construction of the firehouse addition to move forward at full speed throughout the Spring.



Firehouse Addition Nears Completion

The first major upgrade of Upland's lone fire station began in mid-November, with a target date for completion of March 8, but construction was stalled by inclement weather in January and February. The welcome arrival of Spring-time temperatures in early March allowed construction crews to pick up where they left off. As of Borough Council's March meeting, the projected completion date was April 28, but construction actually spilled over into May. The extra weeks were well worth the wait, however, as a nice finished product has finally emerged. Beyond adding another fire truck bay, the \$315,000 construction project will also add some office space to the home of Upland Fire Co. #1.

Website Provides Valuable Info

Visit www.uplandboro.org to find an expanded version of the borough's monthly newsletter, a current events calendar, historical narratives, public health notices, borough ordinances, council meeting minutes, live surveillance video feeds, and lots of photo galleries of recent community events.

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

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

mcrawford@uplandboro.org



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

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Public Works Crew Commended (Again)

Three of the last four Borough Council meetings have included comments of praise for the extra effort that Upland's three-man Public Works Department routinely puts out on behalf of residents. Whether it's getting out of the plow truck to help a senior citizen shovel out her car or making a curb repair so as to not interfere with a valued borough business, the compliments for a job well-done by Chuck Boyd, Peter Hartshorn, and Patrick White keep coming month after month. "I'm really proud of you guys. You're doing a tremendous job," Council Vice-President Christine Peterson said, as she handed each man a gift envelope sent from a grateful business owner.



The Spring Plant & Herb Sale fundraiser hosted by the Friends of the Caleb Pusey House on May 10 was a huge success, garnering over \$400 in plant sale revenue and donations, while providing high-quality gardening and landscaping items. The great selection of colorful hanging baskets and ready-to-plant vegetables, flowers and herbs came from Wedgewood Gardens on Rte. 352 in Edgmont.





Upland Mayor Michael Ciach (far right), who recently announced his candidacy for the 159th District's seat in the PA House of Representatives, is congratulated by Lt.-Governor Jim Cawley (center) and members of the Upland Police Department, including (l to r) Patrolman Michael Curran, Patrolman Craig Scully, and Police Chief Nelson Ocasio.

Upland Mayor Makes Run For PA House

A host of local Republican Party officials gathered at the Marcus Hook Community Center on March 1 to formally announce the candidacy of Upland Borough Mayor Michael Ciach for the 159th Legislative District's seat in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

That seat has been held by Democrat Thaddeus Kirkland of Chester since 1993. Ciach is the latest in a string of GOP challengers to take on the entrenched Kirkland, who is currently serving his eleventh consecutive term as a state representative. "I'm going to make this a street fight, and go after him down and hard," Ciach promised his supporters. "I'm going to go into his backyard, right down into the City of Chester and go to the (council) meetings."

"District 159 used to be one of the strongest political organizations in the county, and we're going to get it back to being that way," Ciach added to applause.

The 159th District encompasses the City of Chester, Chester Township, Lower Chichester Township, parts of Ridley Township and Upper Chichester Township, and the boroughs of Upland, Parkside, Trainer, Eddystone, and Marcus Hook.

In his attempt to unseat Kirkland, Ciach brings an extensive resume of public service, including 12 years on borough council, prior to serving the last nine years as mayor. Ciach has also served as vice president of the Delaware County Association of Boroughs for the past three years.

Ciach's duties as mayor have broadened the scope of his experience, as he oversees the operations of the Upland Police Department, while serving as the borough's liaison to all public and charter schools and to Crozer-Chester Medical Center.

Ciach, 47, has lived in either Upland or Chester his entire life. He is currently employed as a copier salesman, and considers rearing his two adult children as a single parent to be among his greatest personal achievements.

Ciach feels that his experience as a decision-maker, both public and private, will help him make sound choices on behalf of the residents of the 159th District.

"I'm ready to go. I've got 20 years of municipal experience and the drive to see this area succeed again," Ciach says of his skill set.

The most urgent issues facing the 159th District are education, job creation and retention, and overall economic recovery, in that order, according to Ciach.

Among the Republican dignitaries who came to Marcus Hook to endorse Ciach's candidacy were Pennsylvania Lieutenant-Governor Jim Cawley, representatives from each of the district's municipalities, and about 60 of the party faithful.

"Mike Ciach is exactly the kind of candidate and public servant that we need in the 159th District," Cawley stated. "He's going to go door-to-door in his campaign and talk about a better way to get things done. I think he represents the true feelings of the people of Delaware County, and particularly this district."

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Firefighters Slate Tag Days

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

The all-volunteer fire company appreciates the financial support it receives from Upland residents and their neighbors, with an estimated \$7-8,000 being raised on Tag Days in recent years.

Please give generously.

All Mattresses and Box Springs Must Be Wrapped For Disposal

Responding to a plea from our trash haulers, the Borough now requires the disposal of any mattress or box spring to be done using a sealed plastic bag. Mattress disposal bags are sold in various sizes at Home Depot stores, but an improvised wrapping, using a plastic sheet sealed with duct tape, is acceptable.

To dispose of a mattress or box spring on the borough's heavy trash day (the last Wednesday of every month), residents must call the borough office (610-874-7317) to be put on the heavy trash pick-up list.

***** No Call or No Wrapping = No Pick-up *****

RLC Thrift Shop Open

The Church Street Thrift Shop, located at Resurrection Life Church on the corner of 8th & Church, is open to the public from **10am-2pm** on the first and second Saturday of month thru June.

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Council Amends Parking Regs

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

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

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

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Brutal Winter Was Costly

The winter of 2013-2014 saw 16 measurable snow events deposit a total of 67.4 inches on the Philadelphia area, which was good for second place all-time in total snowfall for the season. As you might expect, the cost of plowing and salting the borough's roadways was also well above the norm.

According to the borough office, Upland's Public Works Department spread 388 tons of road salt this winter, at a cost of \$19,405. By way of comparison, during the winter of 2012-2013, a total of 50 tons of road salt were used, at a cost of about \$3,000.

De-icing salt became so scarce this winter, that one person was even seen sweeping Upland streets and sidewalks to collect a few handfuls of salt. And while this may seem to be frugal, it is, in fact, illegal.

Other snow-related costs incurred by the Borough this winter include replacement of a \$1,200 gas tank on a plow truck and the replacement of plow blade edges. Snowblower repairs also added to seasonal costs, and the purchase of two heavy-duty Honda snowblowers was ultimately deemed necessary.

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The next **Heavy Trash Pick-ups** will be made on **Wed., June 25.**

Curbside collections of bulk trash items are made on the last Wednesday of the month. Residents must notify the borough office in advance for all bulk pick-ups and items must be **curbside by 6am** on collection day.

Bulk trash does not include electronic items like computers and televisions. These items will be collected at special recycling events.

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Thanks to Harvey Martin, Facebook members can enjoy historic photos and stories by visiting the "**Remembering Upland, PA**" group page at

www.facebook.com/groups/334480793300363

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Home Improvement Tips For Homeowners

The following tips may save you money and a lot of grief, if you are having any type of repairs or home improvements done around your home.

- Get at least three estimates, so that you can compare the prices of reputable companies. And don't hesitate to tell each contractor that you are shopping for the best price, as competition tends to keep prices down.

- Don't be pushed or rushed into signing any contract, even if you have to finance the project. Take your time and get the most for your money.

- Every contractor must show you proof of their insurance and a Home Improvement State License. They must also have an Upland Borough permit, and in some cases, an Upland Borough Contractor's License. A copy of the borough permit must be displayed in a front window of your home.

- Call the borough office at **610-874-7317** during regular business hours to get answers to any questions or concerns.

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The annual St. Patty's Day Ham & Cabbage Luncheon For Seniors was held on March 17, with the event drawing about 50 attendees, despite a light snowfall that morning, giving friends a chance to enjoy a traditional Irish meal, provided courtesy of the Community Affairs Committee.

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Upland Now Owns Reese Center

The vacated U.S. Army Reserve complex that sits on West 24th Street has officially been deeded over from the federal government to the Borough of Upland. A quitclaim deed was finalized in early June 2013, transferring ownership of the 5-acre facility to the borough at no cost.

With an estimated value of roughly \$5 million, the 5-acre Reese Center is comprised of three large buildings, all enclosed in a fenced compound.

The former Army depot was named after James William Reese of Chester, who was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions during the Sicily campaign of World War II.

Borough Council plans to convert the complex into a community center and a base for an Upland Police Athletic League program, utilizing revenue generated by the commercial parking tax.

"This is something our administration has been planning for years," Council President Ed Mitchell said of obtaining the Reese Center keys. "We haven't placed any burden on the taxpayers, and the money has already been appropriated to secure the future of the children and provide athletic programs for the community."

**Flood Safety Awareness
Could Save Your Life and/or Property**

Every year in the United States, flooding claims nearly 100 lives and causes an average of \$8 billion worth of property damage. To highlight these frightening facts, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are offering valuable flood safety tips online at www.ready.gov/floods, while information on how to obtain a flood insurance policy can be found at www.floodsmart.gov.

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**Residents Should Sign Up
For Emergency Phone Service**

To enjoy the full benefits of the borough's information phone service, residents with unlisted phone numbers should call the borough office at **610-874-7317** to register. The automated service was instituted in 2009 to keep borough residents informed of upcoming community events, but is also utilized in the event of a borough-wide emergency.

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Upland Firefighters Keep Raising Bar

Year-end totals for Upland Fire Co. #1 activities show that the volunteer emergency responders set a new benchmark in 2013, with a total incident count of 407. The Upland record of 397 incidents was set in 2012, edging the 2010 record of 395. Last year's record-setting performance by Upland firefighters included 12 fire incidents, 154 non-fire incidents, 199 mutual aid assists, and 42 drills. The activity log breaks down to 215 daytime calls and 192 at night, with a total of 334.2 hours spent in service by an average of seven runners per call.

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Fire Co. Improves Insurance Rating

Upland property owners should check with their insurance carriers to see how much the fire company's improved insurance rating will save them on property insurance.

Insurance Services Office (ISO) out of Marlton, NJ recently completed a Public Protection Classification (PPC) survey of the borough's fire suppression delivery systems. In the ISO's survey summary, significant advances in Upland Fire Company's capabilities, equipment, training, and document-keeping were noted since the last PPC survey, conducted in 2004.

Due to those advances, Upland Borough's PPC rating has now dropped from 5 down to 4.

According to Fire Chief Dan Smith, that one-point drop is very significant to borough residents, since it moves Upland Borough into the best of three insurance categories.

In terms of fire safety, a community's PPC is rated from 1-4, 5-6, or 7-9, with escalating insurance premiums applied to the higher numbers.

To take full advantage of this new 10-year PPC rating, which is effective as of May 1, 2014, Smith advises all borough property owners to contact their insurance agents soon.

Easter In Upland Is SWEET!



These young ladies show off the bounty they collected on April 19 at the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Bristol Lord Field, which is co-sponsored by Upland Fire Company # 1 and the Upland Athletic Club.



The annual Easter Breakfast in MacQueen Hall followed the Egg Hunt. The selection of delicious breakfast foods was obviously something to smile about, while the special holiday cupcakes were good enough to...wear.



War Memorial Gets Facelift

The war memorial at Bristol Lord Field recently received a makeover, just in time for the annual Memorial Day festivities at the site.

Several of the plantings around the two memorial stones (which bear the names of 100 of Upland's native sons) were replaced and the entire fenced area was spruced up with colorful annuals in preparation for Memorial Day – Monday, May 26.

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At an Open House on April 12, the Friends of the Caleb Pusey House displayed four recently framed historic documents that date back to the late-1600s and early-1700s. The rare documents include a property deed for 20 acres conveyed from William Penn to Caleb Pusey (held by FCPH Treasurer Harry Jackalous, far left), a property deed conveying 17.5 acres from Pusey to John Salkeld (on wall), and the wedding certificate of Lydia Pusey, Caleb's daughter (held by FCPH President Ray Peden). Each framed document is accompanied by a modern English translation of the old English text (seen hanging on Crozer Schoolhouse #1 wall behind FCPH Secretary Joanne Peden's head).

P.A.L. Program Gearing Up

Acting Police Chief Nelson Ocasio and Officer Michael Curran came before Borough Council on April 22 to report the substantial progress recently made in preparation for the launch of a Police Athletic League (PAL) program in Upland.

When the borough took ownership of the James W. Reese Center on West 24th Street last year, the first hurdle to starting a PAL program was cleared. More recently, Ocasio and Curran have been working with other PAL coordinators and visiting sites in Philadelphia, where the PAL program now has eight locations spread across the city.

Ocasio and Curran shared their vision of what an Upland PAL program might offer to the community. They suggested that neighboring towns might want to "build off of our model," noting that Upper Darby Township and Chester City have the only other PAL locations in Delaware County.

A PAL program is not a community daycare service, Ocasio noted, but it is "a safe haven, where kids can be kids."

And while the name suggests that a PAL program is all about sports, the chance to participate in team sports is just one avenue used to draw local youth into the free program.

Sports offered by PAL programs include baseball, flag football, basketball, ping-pong, soccer, and martial arts, but these offerings are often the springboard to group activities like school/homework tutoring, computer labs, spelling bees, nature walks, reading & math challenges, and trips to the zoo.

All PAL activities strive to teach values, said Ocasio, which in turn serves as a crime preventative.

PAL members range from 6 to 18 years of age. With roughly 1,000 youth in Upland alone, the new PAL program will be primarily open to Upland residents, but non-resident children with ties to Upland (through schools or churches) will also be welcome.

PAL programs typically operate Monday through Friday, from 4-9pm, with longer hours (9am-5pm) offered in the summer months, according to Curran. While some paid staff will ultimately be needed, most of the staff would be volunteers, including college and high school students, corporate sponsors, and community and church leaders. Funding for a PAL program in Upland will primarily come from the borough at first, but must ultimately include private donors, event sponsors, and local organizations that are eager to give back to the communities they serve.



At Borough Council's April 22 meeting, Patrolman Brian Boyd, Jr. was re-sworn as a part-time member of the Upland Police Department. Boyd, 29, spent the last year working with the Delaware County Park Police, after working the previous six years (two part-time, four full-time) on the Upland force. The reinstated officer poses here (center) with Mayor Michael Ciach and Police Chief Nelson Ocasio.

Park Row Offers Affordable Meals

The best-kept secret in Upland Borough may be that delicious dinners are available to senior citizens and their family members at Episcopal Place at Park Row (421 West 24th Street, across from the James W. Reese Center), every Tuesday and Thursday from 5-6pm. Seniors pay just \$2 for their meal, while visitors (under age 62) pay \$4 for dinner.

Diners can call the Park Row office at **610-872-0100** to get menu information or to make reservations.



Cathy Warfield, who served as Upland's health inspector for six years, recently received an award from Mayor Michael Ciach, in recognition of her service to the community.



Dorothy MacQueen posed for a 2012 Town Talk Newspaper Profile photo holding a painting of her beloved Pusey House.

Dorothy MacQueen

The Woman Behind "Mr. Upland"

It has been 17 years since Dorothy MacQueen lived in Upland Borough, but every day her name is still spoken by those who work at and visit storied MacQueen Hall, which was named after her husband, the late Reverend David MacQueen. Located at the center of the borough on the corner of Castle Avenue and Main Street, stately MacQueen Hall was built over a two-year span by financier John P. Crozer. The multi-level brick and marble edifice was dedicated in 1913, and was originally known as the Civic Association building. The prominent structure features a large second-floor community room that was once a venue for minstrel shows and a visit by Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show.

But the Civic Association building was also a base for the borough's many sports-minded youth. The ground floor (now Borough Council's meeting room) was originally a bowling alley, and a public swimming pool once sat where the parking lot is now located.

In the 1920s, the Upland Athletic Club fielded a team of baseball players that was of major-league caliber. In fact, the Upland AC team once defeated Babe Ruth and the Yankees in an exhibition game on the baseball diamond that sat across Castle Avenue from the Civic Association building.

With the Upland Athletic Club calling the Civic Association building home, the thriving community center came to be known to many locals as the Upland Athletic Association building, or more simply, the Clubhouse.

The grand structure was given new life in 1958, when major renovations allowed the ground floor to be used for municipal and police department offices.

Twenty-six years after the Civic Association building opened its doors, Dorothy Henderson and a group of fellow West Virginia University freshmen accepted a short ride in the car of a

WVU senior. It was the first time that Dorothy had laid eyes on young David MacQueen.

Dorothy Henderson grew up in western Pennsylvania in Rochester. In 1939, she was majoring in journalism at WVU when she met her future husband, who was on his way to earning several college degrees, including BAs in German and English and a masters in American Civilization from the University of Pennsylvania.

The couple married on Dec. 27, 1943, shortly before David abandoned his conscientious objector status and joined the US Navy during World War II. He enlisted in June 1944, the day after he graduated from Crozer Seminary.

"He didn't want to go into the military, because he felt that we had just been through this kind of war and initially felt America shouldn't get involved," Mrs. MacQueen recalled.

MacQueen spent most of his two-year enlistment as the chaplain attached to the auxiliary aircraft carrier *Thetis Bay*, which spent most of that time in dry dock in northern California.

Ironically, Chaplain MacQueen, the reluctant enlistee, went on to serve in the US Naval Reserves until age 60.

After being discharged from full-time duty in 1946, the MacQueens returned to the Upland area, so that David could complete his studies at Penn, while working at Crozer Seminary's library. At the time, Mr. MacQueen was still leaning towards a career as a college professor.

The church that the MacQueens attended while David was at the seminary was Upland Baptist Church, on Main Street in Upland.

When the church was in need of a new pastor, Rev. MacQueen could not resist the offer and officially took over the ministry duties at Upland Baptist on May 1, 1947.

"He said to me, 'You know, I really like that church. I think I'm going to do it,' and I know he really fell in love with all the history there," Dorothy remembered. "It worked out so well, he never wanted to leave."

Although Rev. MacQueen had several offers to take his ministry skills elsewhere over the next four decades, he never could bring himself to abandon his flock in Upland.

The MacQueens reared their own family in Upland, as well, bringing up two sons and a daughter - David Jr., Mark, and Nancy.

Ministry was so much more to Rev. MacQueen than just preaching from the pulpit on Sunday morning. He became involved headlong in all the community's affairs, and quickly became the borough's most recognizable face.

MacQueen made daily rounds at Crozer Hospital, and served on the hospital's board of directors for many years. He also founded a youth basketball league in the old gym on Main Street, along with other members of Crozer Seminary.

Rev. MacQueen kept the Well Baby Clinic going, and started an evening study hall in the church to

help students who needed a quiet place to do homework.

While her husband was serving the Upland community in every way he could imagine, Dorothy modestly characterized her own wide variety of contributions as "the usual things every minister's wife would do," including public speaking on behalf of the Women's Union and teaching Sunday School.

The MacQueens both became heavily involved in the preservation effort surrounding Upland's historic Caleb Pusey House in the 1960s, when an archeological dig at the English cottage on Race Street greatly enhanced the story of the colonial settlers who lived there.

Dorothy MacQueen was always quick to give credit to other local preservationists, including Mary Patterson, Sarah Brock, John Mayer, and Jo Albrecht, all of whom helped launch and sustain the restoration effort that saved the deteriorating 1683 structure and founded the Friends of the Caleb Pusey House (FCPH) as the non-profit overseer of the National Historic Register site.

"We were kind of hangers-on at first, then once we got our feet wet, we starting really working in earnest," MacQueen said of her household's involvement with the historic site.

With David MacQueen serving as FCPH President for a number of years, and Dorothy being FCPH Secretary and among the first members to give free guided tours of the Pusey House to the general public, there can be no denying the impact that the MacQueens made on the historic Race Street locale.

The love affair between the people of Upland and the MacQueens eventually grew to such a point that the Civic Association building - the very beating heart of the borough - was officially renamed MacQueen Hall on May 26, 1979.

On this grand occasion and many others, then-State Senator Clarence Bell, himself an Upland resident, referred to Rev. MacQueen as "Mr. Upland," giving a special title to a special man.

When Dorothy reflected on the honor bestowed on her husband, she was grateful, but concerned that a native Uplander might have been more deserving.

"I thought it was very nice, but always thought that it could have been a lot of people who lived their whole life here. I was happy for Dave, but didn't want to hurt anyone's feelings," MacQueen admitted. "But he did love Upland, and could not tear himself away from it."

Rev. MacQueen officially retired from his ministry duties in 1984, and died of a chronic heart condition on Jan. 27, 1989.

Dorothy continued to live in the Sears & Roebuck-built parsonage at 10th and Main Streets for another eight years after her husband's passing. The MacQueens had bought the property from the church years earlier.

In the wake of David's death, Dorothy carried on many aspects of her community involvement.

By the 1980s, the FCPH had evolved to the point where free guided tours of the Pusey House were being offered on a semi-regular basis, and Dorothy MacQueen was at the forefront of that public outreach effort.

"I started out by just doing a few tours there, but as time went on, I just got more and more involved," Dorothy said of the gradual evolution. "The first tour was nothing scheduled, but probably just someone who showed up and wanted to know something about the house."

Even after Mrs. MacQueen moved to Riddle Village in Middletown, she continued to pour her heart and soul into Upland and the Pusey House.

Over the course of the last three decades, a rough estimate of the number of tourists who heard Dorothy present the history of the Pusey settlement would be in the neighborhood of 2,500. During this period, if Dorothy wasn't actually giving the guided tour (often wearing a custom-made colonial-style dress), she was scheduling the other FCPH volunteers who helped do the same job.

In recent years, tours have been given every weekend from May through October, and that tradition continues today, with free tours offered every Saturday from 1-4pm or by appointment.

Enduring hot and humid summer afternoons in a 340-year-old, non-air conditioned, two-room, stone and brick cottage, especially on days when no visitors showed up, was by far the worst tour guide experience for Mrs. MacQueen.

The best of touring times involved children. In fact, many Pusey House tourists were entire classes of grade-school students, some of whom grew up to be teachers, who now regularly bring their own students to visit the historic site.

One day that MacQueen fondly recalled was a day-long camp out at the Pusey House by a group of students from a local Friends School, who gathered to celebrate Caleb Pusey's birthday.

"I was always glad when the kids behaved themselves, but the teachers were usually pretty good about keeping them in line," the veteran guide recalled. "I was often impressed by the mothers who came with their young children. They were the ones who most appreciated the stories of colonial sacrifice and hardship.

"The women were always fascinated to learn that the number one cause of death for women (in colonial America) was childbirth, and the second was fire burns, because they worked so close to the fireplace."

There is no corner of Upland Borough that has not been touched by the MacQueens. The borough's two most famous buildings - the Caleb Pusey House and MacQueen Hall - continue to stand as a testament to the humble couple who gave back so much to Upland.

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