



# The Uplander



The Caleb Pusey House

MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough  
(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



Vol. 6-10; October 2014 edition



## Upland Enjoys Fireworks & Fundraisers



The annual Labor Day fireworks display was held Aug. 31, after evening rain showers had passed through Upland.



...But despite the rain, volunteers from Upland Fire Company # 1 managed to hold a successful fundraiser, selling food and beverages from the park pavilion.

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And even though it rained again on Sept. 13, fire company volunteers sold out all 208 Nelson's BBQ ribs and chicken dinners that were ordered, resulting in another successful fundraiser. A Nelson's encore is planned for Spring 2015.



On Sept. 10, a bench dedication ceremony (including a pancake breakfast provided by the Upland Diner) was held at Episcopal Place at Park Row on W. 24<sup>th</sup> Street. The wooden bench is a gift from the Upland Police Department and Borough Council, and is now being put to use in the senior facility's vestibule. In attendance were about 20 Park Row residents and (from left to right) Social Worker Jean Sales, Site Manager Theresa Bey, Mayor Michael Ciach, Council Vice President Christine Peterson, Police Chief Nelson Ocasio, and Executive Director Kathryn Evans.

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## Pay School Tax Now To Get Discount

Upland Borough Tax Collector Linda Mitchell will be at MacQueen Hall from **9am until noon on Monday, Sept. 29, on Wednesday, Oct. 1, and again on Monday, Oct. 6** to collect this year's school taxes.

**The last day of the discount period, which gives taxpayers a 2% discount for early payment, is Oct. 6, 2014.**

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## No Loose Needles In Trash

*The borough's trash haulers are asking residents to secure all used needles in a sealed hard plastic or metal container. The container lid must be screwed on tightly or taped down firmly, to prevent injury to our trash collectors.*

**Thank You for your cooperation!**

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## Free Health Screenings Offered

The Crozer Keystone Health System will be offering free comprehensive screenings on the first floor of **Springfield Hospital from 8-11:30am on Saturday, Oct. 4.** Patient registration starts at 8am and is accompanied by a continental breakfast.

The free health tests being offered include glucose/cholesterol screening, prostate screening and PSA, breast exams, walk-in mammograms, and many more.

For more information, visit the following websites:

<http://enewsletters.crozerkeystone.org>

or

[www.crozerkeystone.org](http://www.crozerkeystone.org)

or

<http://stayconnected.crozerkeystone.org>

The Crozer Keystone Health System will once again be hosting "Think Pink" mammography events in November. Held throughout the month at various Crozer locations, these events offer mammography screening, along with free gifts and refreshments for patients who sign up for an appointment.

Think Pink events will be held at Crozer-Chester Medical Center in Upland from **3-8pm on Monday, Nov. 3 and Tuesday, Nov. 18.** Check the above websites for other Think Pink locations and dates.

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### Stop Sign Changes Approved

Borough Council has approved a handful of changes in the disposition of stop signs on residential streets to promote greater traffic safety.

The following changes are effective immediately:

- 8<sup>th</sup> St. stop sign at intersection of Upland Ave. changes from both directions to just eastbound.
- Church St. stop sign at intersection of 8<sup>th</sup> St. changes from northeast only to both directions.
- Mulberry St. stop sign at intersection of 10<sup>th</sup> St. changes from north only to both directions.
- Southwest-bound Church St. stop sign at intersection of 8<sup>th</sup> St. to be removed.
- New stop signs to be added:

On Mulberry St. at intersection of 11<sup>th</sup> Street Extension (both directions); On 11<sup>th</sup> Street Extension at Mulberry St. (westbound); and on 11<sup>th</sup> Street Extension at Hill St. (eastbound).

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### Door Contract Covers Firehouse

Borough Council voted unanimously on Sept. 9 to enter into a maintenance contract with Delaware Valley Overhead Doors to ensure the smooth operation of the firehouse bay doors. Upland Borough contracts with the same company to maintain the large overhead doors at the recently acquired Reese Center complex on W. 24<sup>th</sup> Street.

The borough-owned firehouse now has four bay doors to maintain, which will be done for \$520 for one year, with the fire station getting priority service. Under the terms of the contract, the borough will pay a discounted service fee of \$65 per hour, plus parts. The borough will get a 10% discount on all replacement parts, and \$100 in free parts (as needed) every six months.

## **Do Not Feed Wildlife**

*The Delaware County Health Department is urging all residents to NOT feed the wildlife. Pet owners who leave food and/or water outside for their pets should stop the practice, while all trash containers should be tightly sealed with lids, as accessible food/garbage will attract wildlife to your house.*

*This year, the Health Department has seen a spike in the number of skunks and raccoons that are roaming the county at night. Both wild animals are known carriers of diseases, including rabies.*

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### Fire Co. Weighs Ambulance Corps

As promised, Councilman Dan Smith gave his fellow Council members an overview of his research into the viability of operating an ambulance service out of Upland's firehouse at the Aug. 26 meeting.

Smith, who also serves the borough as fire chief, noted that there are many variables to consider, and concluded that additional information was needed before any decisions could be made.

Using data from the first six months of 2014, Smith found that Upland had 355 ambulance transports to Crozer-Chester Medical Center. Extrapolating a conservative estimate of 500 transports per year, with each transport generating a \$300 charge, an Upland-based ambulance corps could expect to bring in about \$150,000 in revenue annually.

Operating expenses (including insurance, fuel, and vehicle repairs) would be highest for the first year, as start-up costs would also be part of the equation. Start-up costs would range from \$120,000 up to \$162,000, which would include buying a used ambulance for an estimated \$50,000, Smith said.

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### Congratulations To Catania Engineering On 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

Catania Engineering Associates, Inc., located on MacDade Blvd. in Milmont Park, has been faithfully serving Delaware County for half a century.

The firm's founder, Charles Catania, has been the borough engineer for Upland Borough for over 60 years, and has rarely missed a monthly Borough Council meeting during his lengthy tenure. Catania has been the engineering expertise behind a laundry list of Upland Borough projects, including the Auburn Village apartment complex and countless grant-funded public improvements.

At the Sept. 9 Council meeting, Council President Ed Mitchell praised Catania and the remarkable longevity of his civil engineering firm.

"If you look at the roads and buildings, and all the things this firm has brought to our community over the years, it's just outstanding," Mitchell said. "We're very proud that you're here, Chuck...And another 50!" he added.

A formal 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration was held on Sept. 26 at Spring Haven Country Club. The event was attended by scores of Delco municipal leaders, who were all there to express their gratitude for Catania's professional assistance and guidance.

### Council Renews PennDOT Contract

Upland Borough has renewed a five-year Winter Traffic Services Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. The pact will be effective from the winter season of 2014 through and including 2019.

Under the terms of the agreement, the borough will plow and salt all state-owned roads within Upland, which includes Upland Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and Main Street. The state will then reimburse the borough for the cost of road services rendered.

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### Borough Buys New Truck

When the borough's rusted 1993 pick-up truck blew its engine in August, it was apparent that the time had arrived to get a new vehicle for the Public Works Department.

At the Aug. 26 meeting, Borough Council approved the purchase of a white 2015 Ford F-350 heavy-duty pick-up truck, which came complete with a snowplow and utility box, for a total cost of \$42,259.

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### Fire Co. Plans Fundraisers

Upland Fire Company # 1 has scheduled a series of fundraisers to help cover the cost of firehouse improvements. While the bulk of the recent \$315,000 renovation was financed by the borough, the fire company contributed its entire reserve fund (\$52,000), and money is now needed to complete some interior upgrades to the new addition.

Please support the fire company's self-help efforts to raise funds for firehouse improvements.

- At the end of **October**, a pamphlet will be sent out to all Upland residents, offering a selection of beautiful holiday wreaths.
- Christmas trees will be sold at the firehouse, from **late November until Christmas Eve**, with free delivery offered to all seniors.
- A Monte Carlo Night is being planned for **February**.

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### Historical Commission Elects Officers

Borough Council recently established the Upland Historical Commission to serve as an advisory body that will focus on protecting the borough's historical assets.

One of the commission's primary tasks is to review new development applications to assess the potential impact on Upland's historic sites.

Borough residents who have stepped forward as UHC charter members to help protect their hometown heritage include Sandy Deldeo, Brian Davis, Brock Peterson, and Tom Bryant, along with Architect Lou Brown (of Catania Engineering Inc.), who brings technical expertise to the panel.

At a recent organization meeting, UHC members named Brown as chairman and Bryant as vice-chairman, while Peterson will serve as secretary.

Alternate UHC members are still being sought. Interested residents should contact the borough office at **610-874-7317**.

According to Comedian Jeff Foxworthy,

### YOU may live in Pennsylvania, if:

- Your local Dairy Queen is closed from September through May.
- You design your kids' Halloween costumes to fit over a snowsuit.

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### Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session  
Tuesday, Oct. 14; **Monday, Nov. 10**; and Tuesday, Dec. 9  
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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### Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

4 to 7pm on Saturday, Sept. 27

at MacQueen Hall... **TAKE-OUT AVAILABLE**  
Spaghetti & meatballs dinner includes salad bar,  
garlic bread, desserts, and beverages

Adult - \$8, Senior - \$6, Children under 10 - \$4

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### Landingford Plantation Clean-up Day

starts at 8:30am on Saturday, Oct. 4

All volunteers are welcome to join this semi-annual  
effort to spruce up the grounds of the historic  
Caleb Pusey House on Race Street.

Bring work gloves; Tools will be provided

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### Electronic Recycling Event

9am to Noon on Saturday, Oct. 25

in MacQueen Hall parking lot

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Don't miss this year's last opportunity to drop  
off all sorts of electronic recyclables (includes  
any device with batteries or a plug) at no charge.

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### Annual Welcome Day Celebration at Landingford Plantation

Noon to 4pm on Saturday, Oct. 25

Enjoy colonial craft demonstrations and re-enactors,  
Guided tours of historic buildings, and delicious food

Back by popular demand: FREE ANTIQUE APPRAISALS  
(limit of 2 appraisals - first one is free, second requires \$5 donation)

**FREE Admittance & FREE Parking on premises**

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### Annual Youth Halloween Party

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Oct. 25

at MacQueen Hall

For kids 13 and under - ID required

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### Free Holiday Dinner for Seniors

6 to 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 15

at MacQueen Hall

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### Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony & Visit From Santa Claus

starts at 6pm on Friday, Nov. 28

at MacQueen Hall

Santa will sit for photos and hand out gifts to all pre-  
registered children (age 10 and under) at the Youth  
Christmas Party, immediately following tree lighting



Part-time Upland Police Officer John McIntosh was recently sworn in by Mayor Michael Ciach, while McIntosh's girlfriend Katie Boyle held the Bible and his son John looked on.

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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.

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

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Phase I of the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Extension (linking Mulberry St. to Hill St.) was recently paved and completed. While the 250-foot roadway (seen here from Hill St.) is rather non-descript, once Phase II is complete (linking Hill St. to W. 24<sup>th</sup> St.), borough residents will have a new emergency route to Crozer-Chester Medical Center and a shortcut to the Upland Shopping Center. According to Borough Engineer Charles Catania, Phase II should be completed this Fall.

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## Website Provides Valuable Info

Visit [www.uplandboro.org](http://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.

## Part-timers Join Upland PD

Effective as of Sept. 9, three new part-time officers have been hired to fill vacancies in the Upland Police Department. The new officers' starting pay rate is \$18.76 per hour, as per the FOP contract.

**Officer John McIntosh** graduated from Interboro High School in 2003 and from the Delaware County Police Academy in 2013. Being hired by the Upland PD is McIntosh's first law enforcement position.

**Officer Stephen Mengini** graduated from Ridley High School in 2009 and from the Delco Police Academy in 2010. He has worked as a police dispatcher at the Delco 911 Center since 2010.

**Officer Michael Irey** graduated from the police academy in 1992 and brings a wealth of experience to Upland. He has 18 years of police experience (including service with the Colwyn PD and Nether Providence PD) and has over 1,800 hours of law enforcement training and certifications.

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## Upland Officer Working With Feds

Detective Anthony DeLuise of the Upland PD was recently given a unanimous green light by Borough Council to work with U.S. Federal Marshals tracking down fugitives. In exchange for loaning a full-time officer to federal authorities, the Upland PD will benefit from access to federal data bases.

"Certainly, there's no shortage of crime, so we can use all the help we can get," said Council President Ed Mitchell. "I'm all for it," he said of the officer loan. Upland Officer Michael Curran will cover detective duties in DeLuise's absence.

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## Upland Baptist Church Offers Family Fun & Freebies

**Monday Night Vacation Bible School (VBS):** Every Monday from 6:30-7:30pm (except Oct. 13, Dec. 22, and Dec. 29) – Dinner, activities, stories and crafts.

**Grocery BINGO:**

The entire family can play in the Chapel from 1-4pm on Saturday, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 22, & Dec. 20.

**Trunk-or-Treat:**

Halloween treats for kids on Friday, Oct. 31.

**UBC Food Bank:**

Distribution every Wednesday from 9-10am.

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## Nia Center Hosts Open House

The Nia Center recently returned to the historic Ruth L. Bennett property at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Reaney Streets in Chester, and will be celebrating the occasion with an **Open House from 3-7pm on Friday, Oct. 10**. The community is invited to attend this free event. The Nia Center provides arts and educational activities for children, youth, and families. PennDOT's restoration of the old nursery building will allow the non-profit organization to continue their cultural enrichment programs for children.

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

[mcrawford@uplandboro.org](mailto:mcrawford@uplandboro.org)



**Upland Mayor Michael Ciach (far right), who recently announced his candidacy for the 159<sup>th</sup> 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 159<sup>th</sup> 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 159<sup>th</sup> 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 159<sup>th</sup> 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 159<sup>th</sup> 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 159<sup>th</sup> 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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### **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 \*\*\***

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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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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](http://www.facebook.com/groups/334480793300363)

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**The next Heavy Trash Pick-ups will be made on Wed., Oct. 29.**

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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**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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**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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**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](http://www.ready.gov/floods), while information on how to obtain a flood insurance policy can be found at [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov).

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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.

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 became effective as of May 1, 2014, Smith advises all borough property owners to contact their insurance agents soon.

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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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**Street Improvements Completed**

The borough's Public Works Department was again hailed by Borough Council for their tax dollar-saving work on Upland streets. At Council's July 8 meeting, Streets & Equipment Committee Chairwoman Christine Peterson noted the excellent work that was recently completed with the repair of a stormwater inlet on Oak Lane and the installation of 44 linear feet of new curb on Main Street.

Upland Resident Peter Hartshorn, who was hired by the borough last year as the third full-time man in the Public Works Department, is the master technician when it comes to concrete work.

## 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

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The new and improved home of Upland Fire Company No. 1

## Carnival Nets Revenue For Borough Events

According to Community Affairs Committee Chairwoman Sandy Miazza, the outdoor carnival that set up in Bristol Lord Field from May 20-24 generated \$4,726 in borough revenue, despite the off and on rainy weather during that week.

All of the carnival revenue will be put towards other events for Upland residents. Upcoming community events include a senior citizen road trip to Shady Maple restaurant (**Oct. 13**), the annual Youth Halloween Party (**Oct. 25**), a free Holiday Dinner for Seniors (**Nov. 15**), and the annual Youth Christmas Party and visit from Santa (**Nov. 28**).

Come one, come all, and enjoy the bounty!

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## Wow - It's Magic!



A new summer activity for Upland youth was brought to MacQueen Hall on Aug. 23, when the Community Affairs Committee sponsored a kid-friendly magic show.

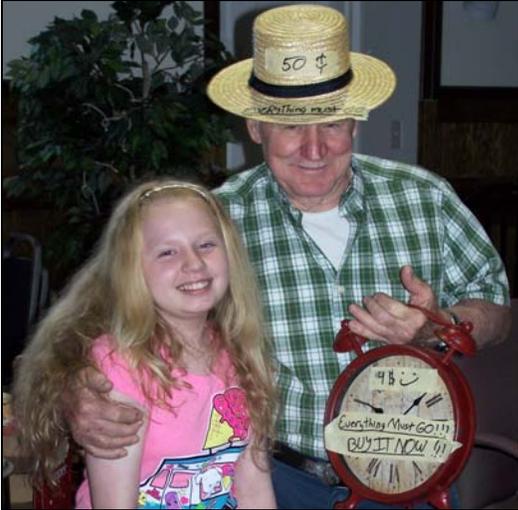


Among the impressive magic tricks were the mysterious disappearance of seven pizzas and three tubs of ice cream.



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## Upland Seniors Sell Their Wares



The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Upland Senior Citizens Club Flea Market was held on June 14, drawing shoppers looking for a bargain. Judging by Parker Ferguson (above), the vendors were also eager to make a deal.

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### Borough Buys Building To Create Parking & Police Exit

A vacated Eighth Street home was recently purchased at auction by Upland Borough, with the intent of razing the building to create a small public parking lot and a secondary exit for Upland police vehicles.

The borough paid just under \$15,000 for the deed to the vacant building, getting the property for less than half of what they were prepared to pay.

The house at 227 Eighth Street sits directly behind the Kenneth N. Miller Law Center, which opened in February 2010 to serve as the Upland Police Department's first free-standing headquarters.

The primary purpose behind the land acquisition is to create a second exit driveway for police vehicles.

"The main thing was to enable us to get out of the police station during school hours," noted Council President Ed Mitchell.

Establishing a public parking lot with eight spaces (available on a first come, first serve basis) is a bonus for Eighth Street residents. No parking permits will be required by the borough to use this lighted lot. The additional off-street parking will be free, Mitchell stressed.

"It's not going to be a private parking lot. It's to be shared by the community," said Mitchell.

No timetable has been established for the property conversion. According to the borough office, the demolition and paving work will be done as funds become available.

A handful of Eighth Street residents came to Council's June 10 meeting to get more information. The speed of traffic on the residential street was a mutual concern.

After each neighbor had received answers to their questions, all agreed that the additional off-street parking and a greater police presence will both help promote Eighth Street safety.

### Fire Co. Seeking Additional Revenue

Fire Chief/Councilman Dan Smith recently told his fellow Council members that the fire company will now be getting more aggressive in collecting money owed for fire services. Under a borough ordinance adopted in 2011, the fire company can bill non-contributors for services rendered.

"We will take an aggressive approach to this, in hopes of either increasing our revenues from the fund drive or receiving monies from billing," Smith stated.

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### Free Smoke Alarms Still Available

Upland Fire Co. #1 has been giving away free smoke/fire alarms to any borough resident who wants one since January. Dozens of free smoke detectors have been installed over the past six months, and request forms are still available at the borough office.

If a resident needs help installing their free battery-operated smoke alarm, fire company volunteers have been providing that service for free.

**This offer of free alarms and free installation will continue as long as supplies last.**

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## Friends & Families Celebrate a Red, White & Blue Fourth



A little morning rain from Tropical Storm Arthur could not stop the borough-sponsored Annual Fourth of July Family Picnic at Upland Memorial Park, where the free food was wonderful, but the joyful communing of friends, neighbors, and families was even better.



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**Four Upland police officers and two Crozer-Chester Medical Center security guards were recognized for their extraordinary actions at the July 8 Borough Council meeting.**

**Police Officers & CCMC Guards Commended For Life-Saving Actions**

On the night of June 11, Upland police officers were called to Crozer-Chester Medical Center for a stabbing in the emergency room. As the assailant was stabbing his stepfather with a knife, two CCMC security guards, Officers Michael Powell and Graham Williams, intervened to save the victim's life. The two security guards managed to subdue and disarm the attacker, then cuffed and restrained him, until the police arrived. On July 8, Upland Borough Council recognized the timely actions of the guards, presenting both with a unit citation.

"We want to thank Officer Powell and Officer Williams for their heroic act," stated Mayor Michael Ciach, while presenting the framed awards.

Citations were also given to Upland Officers John Bogan and Sean Dougherty, who were the responding patrolmen, and Investigator Anthony DeLuise and Officer Michael Curran, who led the criminal investigation after the incident.

The entire group of officers, along with CCMC Director of Security Steven Jackson, were given a standing ovation by borough citizens.

"Although this situation was tragic, with the proper teamwork, the victim made out okay and the bad guy is now behind bars," Ciach noted.

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**Police Chief Completes FBI Training**

Mayor Michael Ciach formally congratulated Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio on July 8, shortly after Ocasio had completed an intense law enforcement training course offered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The week-long FBI course was given at Princeton University, and included special training in the fields of law enforcement ethics, generational leadership, administrative issues with social media, media relations, emotional survival, and officer survival.

Of the 65 law enforcement executives invited from New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, the 25-year-old Ocasio was the youngest in attendance, and is in fact, the youngest person to ever complete this FBI training program.

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**Website Sets New Benchmark**

Borough residents told borough officials that they liked what they saw on the borough website by setting a new record for Upland Borough website visits on May 28.

While the borough's website contains a wealth of information and draws many visitors for different reasons, the main attraction on May 28 was viewing photographs taken at Upland's extensive Memorial Day festivities on May 26. The posted photo galleries contain a total of 222 pictures of the holiday parade, memorial services, and the church-sponsored family picnic in the park. The digital snapshots were taken by longtime Upland residents Dick McClintock and George Patterson, and borough newsletter editor Ken Stark.

According to Webmaster/Councilwoman Moira Crawford, who created the borough's website when she joined Borough Council in 2008, the 1,934 visitors to the website and 5,020 page views during the month of May is about 30% above the monthly average, while the total of 140 website visitors on May 28 alone represents a new single-day high.

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**Auburn Village Maintenance Man Mike Diggins**

**Borough Employee Earns Award**

Church Street Resident Michael Diggins is the friendly borough employee who has worked as the maintenance man for the Auburn Village apartment complex since October 2011.

Diggins recently attended the Dale Carnegie Leadership Training School at the borough's expense, to enhance his public relations skills. Other Upland Borough employees who have taken the professionalism courses have found them to be of great value in jobs that require daily contact with the general public.

Upon graduating on May 29, Mike's classmates elected him as the recipient of the Breakthrough Award, recognizing his self-improvement efforts.

"An accomplishment such as this reflects favorably on our entire organization, so I want to tell Mike: 'Good job in school,'" Borough Council Vice President Christine Peterson stated at the July 8 Council meeting.

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About 60 Upland senior citizens took the Borough up on its offer of a free breakfast on July 28.



\* \* \*

### Borough Saves \$\$\$ On Loan Re-Fi

By recently re-financing the 20-year loan that paid for construction of the new police station in 2009, the borough has saved its taxpayers about \$30,000 in interest over the next five years.

The original \$850,000 loan from TD Bank came with a 4.83% interest rate, but the rate is scheduled to reset every fifth year of the 20-year term. Upland Borough Special Counsel John Jay Wills, Esq. negotiated the new interest rate for the borough, getting a reset rate of 3.5% through 2019, at which time the rate will be reset again, depending on the prevailing market. Finance Committee Chairwoman Moira Crawford reviewed the new interest rate and recommended Borough Council's approval.

Over the next five years, Upland Borough will pay about \$5,000 in debt service every month, saving about \$500 each month over the payments made during the first five years of the loan.

The first free-standing headquarters of the Upland Police Department should be paid off by 2029.

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### Charter School Planning Float For Next Memorial Day Parade

Dozens of students and staff of the new Chester Community Charter School in Upland marched in this year's Memorial Day parade to celebrate the school's inaugural year, but the word is now out that the school is planning to enter a float in the borough's 2015 procession. What a neat way to join the party, and besides, why walk when you can ride!

### Upland PD Shines Spotlight On History

Do you have any old photographs of Upland police officers? Can you tell a story, recalling an event or particular instance that involved the Upland Police Department?

If so, Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio would like to make copies of your old photos and/or sit down with you and listen to your police-related stories.

This community outreach is part of Ocasio's effort to preserve the proud history of the borough's police force, which was established back in 1869, when Upland Borough was officially incorporated.

If you can help the Upland PD retrieve any piece of its history in any way, please call the police station at **610-872-3040** to share the information.

All photos should be removed from frames or albums, so that the prints can be scanned into a digital format and immediately returned to the owner completely unscathed.

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### 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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