



The Caleb Pusey House

# The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

## The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



Vol. 7-11; November 2015 edition



### Halloween Costumes Show Creativity



Balloons twisted into shapes and a variety of animals were popular at the annual Youth Halloween Party on Oct. 24.



This group was judged to have the three best costumes for the 6- to 8-year-old age group, but several other clever home-made costumes made the judges' decisions tough.

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About 30 costumed kids attended the free event, which was sponsored by the Community Affairs Committee.

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### Halloween Hours: 6 - 8 PM

Upland Borough has officially declared the hours of **6 to 8pm on Saturday, Oct. 31** to be the proper time for trick-or-treating.

In the name of public safety, costumed children and handing-out homes are asked to limit the door-to-door fun to these two hours.

### Police Chief Earns Degree

Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio recently completed two and a half years of study at Neumann University in Aston, earning the 120 credits needed for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Liberal Arts.

#### Congratulations, Chief!

Ocasio, who just celebrated his 27<sup>th</sup> birthday, is now gearing up for the additional 18 months of study that will be needed to attain a Master's Degree in Organizational and Strategic Leadership.



Mayor Michael Ciach presented Police Chief Nelson Ocasio with an education certificate on Oct. 13, acknowledging Ocasio's recent completion of his Bachelor's Degree.

## **Council Needs Your Feedback On Blue Ribbon Proposal**

Councilman Bill Dennon is looking for some input from his fellow residents regarding the possibility of holding a blue ribbon campaign in support of the Upland Police Department.

Dennon has suggested that residents might want to display blue ribbons outside their homes, the same way that yellow ribbons are used to welcome home returning veterans. Dennon describes the blue ribbons as a way for residents to assure their hometown police force: "We have your back!"

It has not yet been determined whether the ribbons would be free or if a nominal charge would be necessary to cover costs.

If a positive response is received to this proposal in early November, a mid-November date will be chosen for borough youth to create the ribbons at MacQueen Hall, with the borough providing all materials.

If you think that this ribbon campaign is a good idea, and if you would like your children to participate in an arts & crafts day to produce the ribbons, please call the borough office at **610-874-7317** or email Bill directly at **bdennon@Contributionship.com**.

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## **Police Website Up & Running**

If you need more information regarding a police matter or if you have a specific question that needs an answer from a police officer, you are in luck. The Upland Police Department recently launched its own website at [www.uplandpolice.org](http://www.uplandpolice.org).

The Upland PD website can be used in English or Spanish and provides a wealth of information, including individual officer's email addresses, department history and general information, anonymous tip forms, and a list of frequently asked questions and answers, et al.

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## **Judge Orders**

### **Charter School Compromise**

The Chester-Upland School District recently received some much-needed good news, when Delco Common Pleas Judge Chad Kenney ordered a compromise on the per-student amount that the district must reimburse charter schools.

In his 21-page ruling, Kenney rejected the \$40,000 per student that the district has been saddled with in recent years, and also dismissed the proposed \$16,000 per student that had been suggested by state-appointed CUSD receiver Francis Barnes. Instead, Judge Kenney felt that about \$27,000 per student would be a fair compromise, while all debt currently owed to the charter schools would be wiped out. Kenney argued that the combination of financial adjustments would give the CUSD its best chance at fiscal recovery and ultimately break the chain of financial dependence that has plagued the district and the state for the last two decades.

## **School Board Report On Council Agenda**

Upland Borough has not always had an Upland representative on the nine-member Chester-Upland School Board, but it does now in the person of Cephus Richardson, and Upland Borough Council would like to hear from him.

Starting with the Oct. 13 Council meeting, a report from the borough's lone school board representative has been added to the meeting agenda. Richardson did not attend the October meeting, so no school board report was given, but Council President Ed Mitchell expressed his hope that a monthly school district update would be forthcoming at future Council meetings.

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## **Website Sets New Benchmark**

Not only was Upland Borough's annual Labor Day fireworks display a treat to see live, as witnessed by the hundreds of residents who attended the Sept. 6 event, but checking out the pyrotechnics was also a popular pursuit on the borough's website.

Two days after the event, those who may have missed the display and/or those who wanted to relive it were able to view Cow Bingo and fireworks photos and an incredible six-minute fireworks video (thanks to Matt Steigerwalt), which includes the spectacular finale. In fact, so many people visited the borough website on Sept. 8 that the website set a new single-day high with 190 visitors.

If only the Phillies could pile up the hits like that!

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## **Subdivision Gets Conditional Approval**

A proposed three-lot subdivision (two new homes and one existing home) of the 0.5-acre property at 1103 Woodside Avenue has garnered conditional approval from the borough's planning commission. A total of four public hearings were needed over the past three years to keep this subdivision application moving through the official review process.

On Aug. 20, the planning commission unanimously recommended plan approval, provided that the following three conditions were met:

1. The applicant must appear before the borough's Zoning Hearing Board to get relief for an insufficient front yard setback.
2. The applicant must submit a stormwater operation & maintenance agreement to the borough office.
3. The applicant must file a planning module exemption with the PA Department of Environmental Protection to allow for new sewage flows.

An attorney representing the applicant came to the Oct. 13 Council meeting to discuss the proposed subdivision, but Council President Ed Mitchell made it quite clear that no further discussions would be held with borough officials until the applicant is in compliance with all three stated conditions.

*"When you get everything ready, signed and sealed, then we'll move forward," Mitchell stated.*

## Curbside Leaf Pick-ups Begin

The borough's Public Works Department will be starting their annual rounds for curbside leaf collections during the first week of November.

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Please rake leaves to the curb (not into the street) for pick-ups on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays every week** (weather permitting).

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## Floodplain Ordinance Amended

Council unanimously adopted curative revisions to the Floodplain Management section of the borough code at its Oct. 13 session.

The amended Chapter 90, Article V (under Technical Provisions, Section 5.02, "Elevation and Flood-proofing Requirements") now reads: "Within any Special Flood Hazard Area, any permitted new construction or substantial improvements shall be accomplished in such a way that the following provisions apply:"

The re-worded ordinance is effective immediately.

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**DID YOU KNOW?:** When William Penn landed on the west bank of the Delaware River in late October 1682, the name of the Swedish settlement where he landed was Opland (also spelled Oplandt) – so named by the Swedes, as the low-lying area reminded them of similar land in Sweden. Among Penn's first acts as the new proprietor was renaming the settlement Chester, taking the name from a town in England.

For the next two centuries, the area west of Chester was known as Chester Mills, based on several mills that were situated along Chester Creek. When Upland Borough was incorporated in 1869, the town's most prominent citizen, John P. Crozer, suggested that the original name be resurrected to honor the earliest settlers, hence Upland Borough was founded, using an English transcription of the Swedish name.

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## Order Holiday Wreaths Now

Upland Fire Company No. 1 is once again offering a selection of beautiful holiday wreaths, sprays, and grave blankets for the upcoming holiday season.

All items are made with real pine branches and decorated by Elwyn Institute residents, so both the fire company and Elwyn will benefit from your order. Contact the fire company at [ufcfund57@yahoo.com](mailto:ufcfund57@yahoo.com) for more information.

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## Fire Co. Slates Tag Day

The volunteers of Upland Fire Company No. 1 will be holding a fundraising Tag Day at the bustling intersection of Kerlin Street and Upland Avenue on **Friday, Nov. 6, from 3:30 to 7pm.**

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**Please give generously in support of Upland's lone fire company!**

## Borough Office Closed

Please note that the Upland Borough office on the ground floor of MacQueen Hall will be closed on the following dates in November:

**General Election Day – Tuesday, Nov. 3**  
**Veterans' Day – Wednesday, Nov. 11**  
**Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, Nov. 26**  
**'Black Friday' – Friday, Nov. 27**

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## Halloween Trunk-or-Treat



**6 to 7pm on Saturday, Oct. 31**

in the Upland Baptist Church Main Street parking lot  
Friends and neighbors are invited to join us in the parking lot as we give out treats to the neighborhood children.

**Bring a chair and join the fun!**

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## Monday Night VBS

**6 to 7pm, every Monday night**

at Upland Baptist Church

**(Dinner, activity and Bible story)**

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## General Election Day

Polls are open from 7am to 8pm

**Tuesday, Nov. 3 - Please VOTE!**

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## Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

**Tuesday, Nov. 10, Dec. 8, and Jan. 12**  
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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## Free Thanksgiving Dinner



**12 to 4pm on Thursday, Nov. 12**

at Episcopal Place at Park Row  
(421 West 24<sup>th</sup> Street)

**This free meal is open to the public, but attendees are asked to RSVP to Theresa Bey (at 610-872-0100) no later than Wednesday, Nov. 4**

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## Free Thanksgiving Dinner for Seniors

**6 to 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 14**

at MacQueen Hall

**(Attendees must register at boro office)**

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## Resurrection Life Church

### Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner

**4 to 6pm on Saturday, Nov. 21**

**On ground floor of church; corner of 8<sup>th</sup> & Church Sts.**  
**All are welcome to attend!**

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## Annual Holiday Tree Lighting



### & Visit From Santa

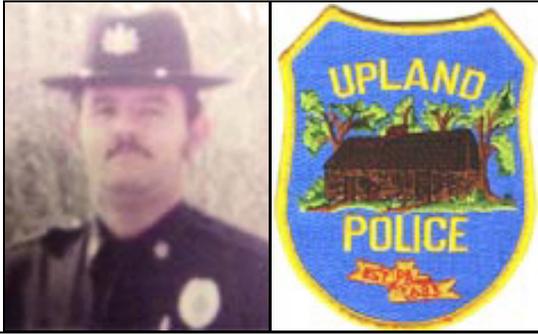


Tree lighting at 6pm, immediately followed by refreshments and photos with Santa

**Friday, Nov. 27**

at MacQueen Hall

**(Please Note: Parents must register children under 10 years of age for them to receive a gift from Santa)**



This photo and a brief bio of fallen Upland Police Sergeant Morris "Chubby" Albany, Jr. can be found on the Officer Down Memorial Page website.

### Fallen Officer Remembered

At Borough Council's Oct. 13 meeting, Mayor Michael Ciach dedicated the moment of silence to the memory of Upland Police Sergeant Morris J. Albany, Jr., recognizing the date as the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Albany's death. Albany is the only Upland police officer ever killed in the line of duty. Albany grew up in Upland and graduated from Eddystone High School in 1958. He then served four years (Nov. 1959 to Nov. 1963) in the U.S. Navy, before starting his law enforcement career in 1965 as a part-time Upland police officer. Sgt. Albany was cited for valor in Dec. 1975, when he apprehended four bank robbery suspects. Around 9:50pm on Oct. 13, 1976, Albany was off-duty, when he tried to thwart a robbery at John's Bar in Chester. The policeman wrestled with one of the two armed suspects, until Albany was shot in the chest and died shortly thereafter at the scene. Albany managed to get off a gunshot of his own, hitting the perp in the spine and paralyzing him from the waist down. Both robbery suspects were arrested and ultimately sentenced to life in prison. Albany was married and the father of twin daughters at the time of his death. An estimated 1,400 uniformed and non-uniformed police officers from seven different states attended the heroic sergeant's funeral.

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**DID YOU KNOW?:** William Penn wanted to name his New World colony "Sylvania," meaning 'woodlands,' but King Charles II of England insisted on Pennsylvania, to honor Penn's father, who had served the king as an admiral in the Royal Navy.

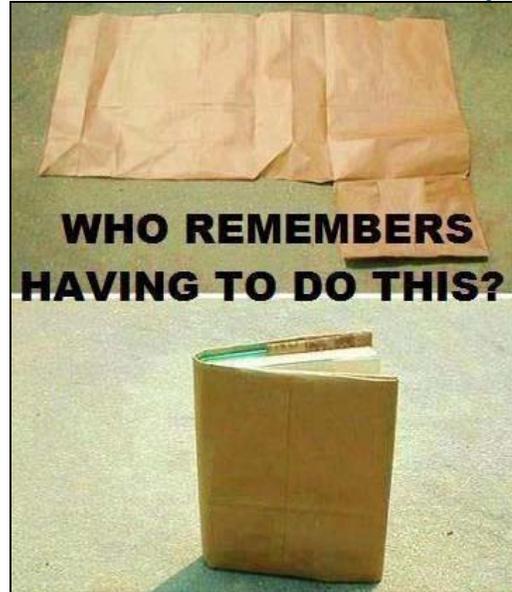
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### Website Provides Valuable Info

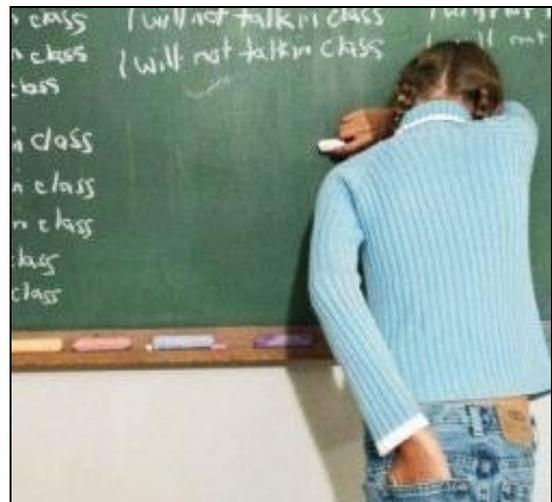
Visit [www.uplandboro.org](http://www.uplandboro.org) to find an expanded version of the borough's monthly newsletter, a current events calendar, historical narratives, public health notices, borough ordinances, council meeting minutes, live surveillance video feeds, and lots of photo galleries of recent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

*To share digital photos or information on the borough's website, send email to [mcrawford@uplandboro.org](mailto:mcrawford@uplandboro.org)*

## Do You Remember...? Some school-related blasts from the past:



Once upon a time, students were held responsible for maintaining the condition of textbooks.



And if you can recall a blackboard scene like this one, you probably also knew the way to the principal's office.

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Police Chief Nelson Ocasio and Officer Anthony DeLuise paid a visit to first-graders at Chester Community Charter School on Sept. 29, to answer questions about laws and law enforcement. Each student received a sticker badge, as a deputy of the Upland PD.

## Lee Hunter Retires



**ABOVE:** Councilman Leland Hunter gets an assist from his daughter, Kimberly Hunter, at a retirement luncheon on July 31. Difficulty with walking led Hunter, age 76, to turn over all Code Enforcement Officer duties to his former assistant, Bill Kirby (standing directly behind Lee).

**BELOW:** Hunter received tokens of appreciation from Borough Council, represented by Mayor Michael Ciach (holding granddaughter Danica) and Council VP Christine Peterson, and from the Upland Police Department, represented by Police Chief Ocasio.



Hunter's distinguished Upland career includes 5 years working in the borough's highway department; 7 years as the Code Enforcement Officer; 8 years on Borough Council; 10 years as a member of Main Street Elementary School PTO; 18 years as borough constable (under Judge Kenneth Miller); 21 years as a member of Upland Senior Citizens, serving as president the past 5 years; and 52 years as an Upland Fire Company member.

*"I was born and raised in the Borough of Upland, and I've always had the total respect of the residents and our political team," Hunter stated.*

*"The only reason I'm giving up the code job is because I can't walk, otherwise, I would have stuck it out," he added.*

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## Important Notice

### For Auburn Villagers

In the event that an Auburn Village resident is locked out of their home after normal business hours, the quickest way to get back into your home is to **CALL 9-1-1** and wait for the police to arrive. The Upland Police Department now has master keys for every Auburn Village unit.

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## Historic Site Walloped By June 23 Storm



The new shake-shingle roof of the historic Caleb Pusey House (1683) on Race Street suffered a glancing blow from the top half of a sheared-off pine tree, while the roof of the historic Crozer Schoolhouse (1849) next door took the full impact of a toppled tree, which badly damaged that roof.



The Friends of the Caleb Pusey House is seeking financial help to cover the cost of tree removal and roof repairs.



The roof of historic Crozer Schoolhouse No. 1 (built in 1849 by John P. Crozer to educate the children of his millworkers) was damaged by a fallen tree during the June 23 windstorm. The roof is now covered by a tarp, while the Friends of the Caleb Pusey House try to raise funds for a new roof. The upper floor of the schoolhouse is used as a repository for the artifacts recovered in an archeological dig of the historic Pusey House (next door, on Race St.) in the 1960s.

**If you can donate to help preserve a vital piece of Upland history, please send your tax-deductible contribution to FCPH at P.O. Box 1183, Upland PA 19015-1183.**

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## Flood Safety Awareness

### Could Save Your Life and/or Property

Every year in the US, 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).

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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### Storm Response Earns Kudos

"For a tiny town, we sure took a big hit," Council Vice President Christine Peterson said of the June 23 windstorm that ravaged our area. "I can't ever remember seeing so many trees down, and I've lived here forever!"

"Our police department, our fire department, our Public Works Department, and Council and the residents – Everyone did a great job in coming together to help each other out. It was a good thing to see," Peterson said at the July 7 Council session. Mayor Michael Ciach noted that he had placed Upland Borough under an official state of emergency for three days, starting a half hour after the windy storm front had passed through town, following the lead of Delaware County Council.

"Unfortunately, we lost power for a few days, but over in Brookhaven, they lost power for four or five days," Peterson said, suggesting that it could have been even worse for Upland.

"We're still working on removing a lot of the fallen trees that we have around town, but there are a lot of trees in this town, so it may take a while to get all the debris taken away," Peterson noted.

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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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### Flooding Questions Answered

The Upland Borough website recently added a new feature that is essentially a PDF file of a 65-page FEMA booklet that answers the most commonly asked questions about flooding, flood plain management, and flood insurance.

To access this information at [uplandboro.org](http://uplandboro.org), first select the 'Departments' link, then 'Floodplain Management,' then 'Answers to Questions about the NFIP' (National Flood Insurance Program).

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### Council Awards Demolition Contract

The contract to demolish the vacant house at #36 Upland Avenue was awarded to BRB Contractors, of King of Prussia, at Council's Aug. 25 meeting. Of the three bids received, the \$10,500 that BRB will be charging the borough to raze the condemned building was nearly half of the next lowest bid, and almost a third of the highest bid.

The demolition project will be paid for with funds from a 2014 Community Development Block Grant, and should be completed by the end of the year.

### 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.

- 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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Upland Council President Ed Mitchell was recently presented with a property deed replica from Delaware County Council to symbolize Upland Borough's purchase of the vacant lot at #15 8<sup>th</sup> Street for \$1, as part of the borough's Flood Revitalization Program.

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### Kirby Takes On Code Enforcement

Following Councilman Leland Hunter's retirement from serving the past seven years as the borough's code enforcement officer, Hunter's former code enforcement assistant, William Kirby, has taken over the job, effective Sept. 1.

Kirby will be paid \$12.50 per hour as the borough's code enforcement officer, working five hours each day, from Tuesday to Friday each week.

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### Council OKs Traffic Study

Upland Borough Council has given its approval to filing a request for a PennDOT traffic study of the Upland Avenue corridor between Kerlin Street and Edgmont Avenue. Upland Traffic Officer Sean Dougherty feels that the speed limit along Upland Avenue (currently posted as 35 MPH) needs to be re-evaluated with pedestrian safety in mind in this heavily-traveled stretch of state-owned highway.

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As is usually the case, the face-painters were popular with the kids at Resurrection Life Church's Annual Community Block Party, held on Aug. 8.

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The Upland children who attended the borough-sponsored Youth Magic Show at MacQueen Hall on Aug. 22 were amazed and delighted by Constantine the Magician...



...Then fed all-you-can-eat pizza and make-your-own sundaes by their Community Affairs Committee hostesses!



## Report Blocked Stormwater Inlets

To keep stormwater runoff flowing swiftly from the street and down into underground channels that ultimately take runoff to Chester Creek, stormwater inlet grates need to be cleared of debris on a regular basis.

Our Public Works Department is always on the lookout for partially blocked stormwater inlets, but every resident should be vigilant, and should report a blocked inlet to the borough office immediately.

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## Council Mulls New Approach To Tax/Code Delinquents

Borough Council has had just about enough from property owners who routinely refuse to pay their borough taxes and/or code citations generated by a lack of property maintenance.

"We have people in the borough, it's sad to say, that will not obey the rules, and they make quality of life issues for everyone around them," Councilman Harold Peden noted.

The borough's only recourse in such situations has been to place a lien on the delinquent property, so that all monies owed will eventually be paid at the time the property is sold. But some property owners, including several absentee landlords, don't care about liens that will be paid off in the future, so long as they are able to collect full rents in the meantime. A total of nine liens were placed on Upland properties so far in 2015. According to Borough Solicitor Robert O'Connor, about half of the municipal liens being filed are being put on the same properties that have been lienied several times in the past, with some properties now carrying up to six liens.

"Even though we've lienied these properties, they just continue to thumb their nose at us, year after year," Peden observed.

"Some liens do encourage the property owner to pay us," said Peden. "So I think we should advertise the fact that if you're one of the people who doesn't comply with us; if you're not going to cooperate with your neighbors; if you're not going to keep our borough clean; if we have to keep coming after you, then we're going to lien your property. If people know that up front, I think it might save (Code Enforcement Officer) Mr. Kirby from having to write a few citations."

The Council discussion regarding multiple liens led to agreement that a new approach is needed to force repeat offenders into payment of delinquent taxes and code violations.

One potential solution would be establishing tiers for penalties generated by non-payment of taxes and code citations. Under a tiered schedule of fines, chronic delinquents would be subject to greater penalties than first-time offenders.

"Maybe we should be raising the stakes to the next level for the (property owners) who keep doing this over and over again," Peden suggested, garnering Council's general consent.

## Cow Pie Bingo Draws Crowd

Prior to the annual Labor Day fireworks display at Bristol Lord Field, volunteers from Upland Fire Company No. 1 held another successful fundraiser that included Cow Pie Bingo and an assortment of other youth-oriented activities.

While Sugar the cow thought about where she wanted to drop her flop, attendees could buy lunch at the pavilion, with a Big Var's water ice or popsicle for dessert, or pull a prize from the duck pond. But the biggest hit of the day was the arrival of Superman, Spiderman, and Elsa and Anna, all of whom were swarmed by wide-eyed kids of all ages. The superheroes happily posed for photos with anyone who asked, and even joined in the line dances that were prompted by the DJ's popular music.

A total of 326 Cow Bingo tickets were sold. The winning Bingo ticket was held by Marge Smoluk, of Swarthmore, who took home the grand prize of \$1,000. The winner was determined by which grid square the cow *eventually* dropped her "pie" on.



This is Sugar, whose only job on Sept. 6 was to pick a spot on which to poop, but she took nearly two hours to decide where to go on the warm afternoon...



...So a visit from Superman and Spiderman, along with Elsa and Anna (from the Disney movie Frozen), was a welcomed distraction for the children...



...While fire company volunteers kept the crowd fed with Big Var's water ice and hotdogs, meatball sandwiches, and soft pretzels from the pavilion.

## Labor Day Fireworks Wow



Hundreds of Upland residents turned out on a Sunday evening to see the borough's annual Labor Day fireworks display at Bristol Lord Field, and no one left disappointed.



This amazing photograph is now being studied by scientists worldwide, as it represents the first time that a camera has caught the precise instant of a mind being blown.

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### Council Designates Disaster Agent

In accordance with Pennsylvania's Disaster Emergency Assistance Act, Upland Borough has designated Borough Manager Greg Grillone to serve as the borough's "agent" in the event of a public disaster. Grillone will be the official who will oversee the borough's own emergency resources, while dealing with all outside emergency relief agencies and being responsible for securing whatever assistance the borough needs in the aftermath of a disaster.

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### Council Approves Donation

Borough Council unanimously approved a \$2,500 donation to Detachment 288 of the Marine Corps League at Council's Sept. 8 public meeting. Members of Detachment 288, which operates out of its Sixth Street headquarters, have graciously provided military honor guards for several borough events, including the annual Memorial Day services at the war memorial in Upland Memorial Park. According to Commandant Mark Slaymaker, the requested borough donation will be utilized to pay for several maintenance projects at the Sixth Street site, including pavilion roof repairs; the purchase of three heavy-duty outdoor picnic tables (to be bought by the borough from Delco prisons at the special rate of three tables for \$500); and upgrades to the heating and cooling systems.

## Upland Gives Up The Love



Aiming to help Councilwoman Sandy (nee Kirby) Miazza defray recent medical expenses, a Sept. 19 fundraiser was held at MacQueen Hall, where Sandy was surrounded by an estimated crowd of 375 loving friends and supporters.

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Under the banner of "No One Fights Alone," generations of Kirby Klan members tirelessly sold t-shirts, cancer-awareness bracelets (in plastic jar), and raffle tickets for 60 different prize baskets or gift packages that were donated by individuals and local merchants.

Donors of time, energy, products, or money included Brookhaven Deli, Sam & Sam's, Frankies on Fairview, Monaghan's Pub, Pretzel Boys, Big Var's Water Ice, Renzi's, Upland Diner, Upland Athletic Club, Upland Fire Company No. 1, Detachment 288 of the Delaware County Marine Corps League, Upland Senior Citizens Club, and Upland Borough Council, while the Sept. 19 fundraising event was staffed by the borough's Community Affairs Committee, Borough Council members, and many friends and members of the Kirby and Miazza families.

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Following up on a recent suggestion from fellow Councilman Leland Hunter, Sandy's "outstanding contributions to the Community Affairs Committee" were honored by Upland Borough Council with the mounting of a wall plaque, located just outside the kitchen in MacQueen Hall.



These are just four of the dozens of winners who walked away from the fundraiser with some nifty raffle prizes.

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### Flip-Up Stop Signs Ordered

Motorists have seen new hinged stop signs, or more accurately half-signs, mounted on poles in other towns, and will soon see them in Upland, too. The temporary flip-up stop signs have a very specific purpose in the wake of a power outage, such as the prolonged outage we experienced in the aftermath of the June 23 windstorm.

According to PA state law, when a power outage knocks out a traffic signal, the affected intersection automatically operates as a four-way stop. Most drivers got the hang of this simple rule fairly quickly for several days, but of course, there are always a few motorists who feel that the rules are meant for everyone else to follow, but not themselves.

The new flip-up stop signs will serve as a reminder for those drivers who have trouble awaiting their turn at a signal-less intersection. When power goes out, the borough's highway department can quickly flip up all the folded stop signs to create a visual reminder that the crossroad is now temporarily a legal four-way stop, where all stop-sign rules apply.

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### Surge In Parking Tix Written

Upland residents may want to think twice before they illegally park in a fire lane or a spot reserved for handicapped drivers.

Traffic Officer Sean Dougherty, of the Upland PD, recently reported his ticket-writing activities for the month of August, noting that he had issued a total of 200 parking tickets in that month alone. That brings the total number of parking tickets handed out this year up to 467, so enforcement has clearly been ramped up.

Dougherty explained that most of the tickets were issued to vehicles illegally parked in fire lanes or handicapped spots. He added that the tickets written electronically through the new computerized E-Citation system are virtually "indisputable," since each ticket includes a photograph of the illegally-parked vehicle and its license plate, and the GPS of the location.

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