



The Caleb Pusey House



MacQueen Hall

The Uplander

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



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Lawn Signs & Blue Ribbons Still Available



Councilman Bill Dennon and Police Chief Nelson Ocasio hold up one of the pro-police lawn signs that residents can have simply for the asking. The signs and handmade blue ribbons are free, but there is a limited supply of both, so call the borough office soon (at 610-874-7317) or contact Dennon directly (at bdennon@contributionship.com) to get yours.



Part-time Police Officer Daniel Lemmon became the newest member of the Upland PD when he was sworn in by Mayor Michael Ciach on Feb. 9, while Police Chief Nelson Ocasio held the Bible.



Spring perennials like these daffodils were pushed ahead of schedule by record warmth in December, leading them to set blossoms in mid-January (Above), but by mid-February (Below), the harsh realities of winter had set in.



Officer Lemmon graduated from Upper Darby High School in 2009, and has completed two years of study at Delaware County Community College, majoring in Administration of Justice. At age 25, Lemmon's Upland posting is his first law enforcement job, though he worked a few months as a TSA agent at Philadelphia International Airport.

Ciach Endorsed For State House Run

The Republican Party has endorsed Upland Mayor Michael Ciach for a second run at the soon-to-be vacated 159th Legislative District seat in the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives. Ciach challenged incumbent Democrat Thaddeus Kirkland in 2014, but came up short, although the mayor did carry the vote in 9 out of the 10 towns in the district.

Ciach, a Chester native, hopes to clear the hurdle of winning over the majority of voters in the City of Chester in his 2016 bid.

With Kirkland now poised to move into his new post as Chester's mayor, Ciach's opponent at the polls this November will be Kirkland's nephew, Brian Kirkland. Both candidates will be uncontested in the April 26 primary election.

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Welcome Back, Officer Meyer!

Officer William Meyer returned to work last month, after recovering from an ankle injury sustained in a motor vehicle collision last October. Meyer was on-duty and riding his police motorcycle when he was struck by a car at the intersection of Upland Avenue and Kerlin Street. The motorcycle was totaled as a result of the accident.

Meyer is one of five full-time members of the Upland Police Department.

"We need him and we miss him," Police Chief Nelson Ocasio said of Meyer during his absence.

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Homeowner "Disgusted" By Neighbors' Trash

A 25-year homeowner on W. 22nd Street came before Borough Council last month to complain about her renter neighbors. The frustrated resident listed multiple issues, including windblown trash, uncut grass in the summer, and sidewalks that are not shoveled in the winter – all of which are public health hazards.

As a homeowner surrounded by renters, the resident said that she was "disgusted" by the lack of attention that her neighbors and their landlords give to their properties. In most cases, the landlords live outside of Upland and are only interested in receiving their rent checks on time.

"This needs to be addressed constantly, until these landlords teach these tenants how to reside in a residential community, where people own their homes," the resident suggested.

"I know, it's terrible up there. Three-quarters of these people are renters, and they don't care," Code Enforcement Officer Bill Kirby noted.

Although the landlords can be cited for lack of property maintenance, the root of the problem is tracking down the out-of-state property owners to issue a citation, stated Kirby.

Council advised Kirby to write citations as needed for code violations, then let the borough office do the job of finding the landlord's business address.

Volunteers Step Up For Youth Panel Resurrection

The Upland PD wants to re-establish a Youth Aid Panel in Upland Borough, so it was with great pleasure that Police Chief Nelson Ocasio recently announced the names of the six borough residents who signed up for three Youth Aid Panel training sessions in February.

There are currently 25 Youth Aid Panels operating across Delaware County. These judicial panels are comprised of citizens who are willing to hear the criminal cases of first-time juvenile offenders (in lieu of a judge), usually handing out sentences of community service, while sparing the teen from having a criminal record.

The community-minded residents who will soon help relaunch a Youth Aid Panel in Upland include Pamela Hartshorn, Monica Manerchia, Donna Gray, Abigail Gertner, and Wesley Fraim. Speaking on behalf of Upland's youth, thank you for your time and your efforts to create an alternative form of justice for good kids who get into trouble.

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Highway Department Earns Kudos

"As you all know, we had a nasty snowstorm," Streets & Equipment Committee Chairman Lee Hunter reported at the Feb. 9 Council meeting, referring to the Jan. 23 storm that dumped 17 inches of snow on Upland. *"I feel our streets were well taken care of...and I think they did one hell of a job,"* Hunter said of the borough's three-man Highway Department.

The fact that one of those highway workers was out with the flu during the storm made the net result even more impressive.

"We basically just had one guy, and then we had to piecemeal some other people, so I think they did an awesome job," added Council President Christine Peterson.

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Borough Supports Historic Pusey House Mission

Borough Council recently voted unanimously in approving a budgeted \$7,000 donation to the Friends of the Caleb Pusey House (FCPH), the non-profit caretakers of historic Landingford Plantation on Race Street. The borough has made a comparable donation to the FCPH in recent years, providing funds that are used to pay for the utilities that help keep the Pusey House (1683), the Pennock Log House (1790), and Crozer Schoolhouse No. 1 (1849) open to the public from May through October.

Councilman Harold R. Peden, who also serves as FCPH president, abstained from the approval vote, and expressed his sincere appreciation for the borough's continued fiscal support.

*****Free Pusey House tours are available (no appointment needed) every Saturday, from 12 to 4pm during the spring, summer, and fall.**

Planning Commission Vacancy Filled

In the wake of Council President Christine Peterson's resignation from the borough's planning commission, Borough Council has named retired-Judge Kenneth Miller to fill the vacant seat on the advisory panel. Miller, 79, served this community as a district judge in Delaware County for over 25 years, before retiring in 2008.

Miller's four-year appointment will expire on Dec. 31, 2019. The Upland Borough Planning Commission does not hold regularly scheduled meetings, but convenes on an as-needed basis.

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Upland Seeks PECO Grant

Upland Borough has applied for a PECO Green Region Open Space Program grant to help resolve a stormwater runoff problem in the park playground at Sixth & Church Streets. These grants for public improvements can be up to \$10,000, and will require the municipality to put up matching funds. Stormwater runoff from the playground became a serious issue last winter, when sheets of ice formed on Church Street, requiring extensive salting for public safety. Council has also targeted this stormwater problem in the application for a 2016 Community Development Block Grant from the county.

According to Borough Engineer Lisa Catania, the plan to redirect the stormwater flow will include the creation of a swale that will channel runoff into a rain garden and keep it out of the playground.

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Council To Change Collectors

At its Feb. 9 meeting, Borough Council voted unanimously to terminate the contracts with two collection agencies – Berkheimer Associates and e-Collect. Berkheimer had previously collected unpaid local service taxes (LST), while e-Collect was responsible for garnering delinquent earned income taxes (EIT). Ninety days notice is required to terminate both collection contracts.

In the near future, Council plans to engage turnKey Taxes as the borough's collection agency for unpaid LST and EIT.

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Snow Dos and Don'ts

Please observe the following public safety measures during any snow emergency:

Do: Remove snow from sidewalks within 48 hours of the end of a snowfall. By clearing snow immediately, you will use less de-icing material.

Do: Make sure that the de-icing product you are using is environmentally safe.

Don't: Shovel snow back into a plowed street, as this creates a public safety hazard.

Don't: Attempt to save or block off a cleared parking space with any type of furniture, grills, or traffic cones. The borough will remove any space-saving objects, as this illegal practice amounts to obstructing a public thoroughfare.

UBC Food Bank Needs You!

The Community Food Bank at the Upland Baptist Church is in need of volunteer workers to help separate donations and to bag up groceries for the families that benefit from this vital community outreach program.

*Food Bank helpers are needed every Tuesday and Wednesday, from 8 to 10am. Call the UBC office at **610-874-7474** for more information.*

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Annual Soup & Salad Dinner Fundraiser

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Feb. 27
at MacQueen Hall

All-U-Can-Eat (at MacQueen Hall) homemade soups & chili with bread & salad bar – TAKE OUT available

**Tickets available at boro office & at door
Adults - \$8; Seniors - \$6; Children under 12 - \$4**

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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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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday, March 8, April 12, and May 10
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

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Annual St. Patty's Day Ham & Cabbage Luncheon For Seniors

Noon on Monday, March 14
at MacQueen Hall

All Upland senior citizens are invited to this free lunch

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Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast w/Easter Bunny

on Saturday, March 26

Egg Hunt starts at 9am sharp
in Upland Memorial Park (6th & Main);
Breakfast & photos with Easter Bunny
immediately follow at MacQueen Hall

**Children under age 12 with photo IDs will be admitted free, while those without ID pay \$3
Adult admission for breakfast: \$5 per person**

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The Upland Senior Citizens Club is taking its annual winter hiatus, until Monday, March 7. If you are a senior citizen (you don't have to be an Upland resident), feel free to come out and join the group for cards, games, and plenty of good conversation **every Monday from 9am to 3pm at MacQueen Hall, March thru December.**

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Speed Limits To Be Changed

Council is advertising its intent to amend the Vehicles and Traffic section of the borough code at the March 8 session. The changes will include new speed limits for three roadways within the borough. The new speed limit for the entire length of Main Street will be decreased to 25 MPH, where it had been 35 MPH.

Conversely, the new speed limit for Upland Avenue (between Kerlin Street and the Upland Borough line) and for 22nd Street (from Upland Avenue to the Upland Borough line) will be increased to 35 MPH, where it had been 25 MPH.

These speed limit adjustments are the outgrowth of PennDOT traffic studies that were done in recent months. The data from these studies is available for public inspection at the borough office.

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Spring Plant & Flower Sales

Upland Fire Company No. 1 will once again be selling potted Easter flowers (tulips, hyacinth, daffodils) on Easter Weekend, **March 25 - 27**, at the firehouse on McClintock Drive. Please support this fundraiser for Upland's one and only all-volunteer fire company.

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The Friends of the Caleb Pusey House will once again be hosting a Spring Plant & Herb Sale at their historic location on Race Street on **Saturday, May 7, from 10am to 3pm**. This fundraiser will offer potted herbs, vegetable plants, landscaping annuals, and an assortment of flowering baskets at below-retail prices, just in time for Mothers' Day.

Tour guides will be on hand to present the rich history of Landingford Plantation, so consider adding 15 minutes to your visit to take a tour of the 1683 Pusey House – the oldest English cottage in America.

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Free Shredding/Recycling Events

A pair of recycling events will be held this spring in the MacQueen Hall parking lot, off Castle Avenue.

An Electronic Recycling Day will be held on **Saturday, April 23**, when residents can drop off any device with a power cord at no charge.

A free paper shredding event will be held on **Saturday, May 7, from 9am to 12 noon**. Borough residents may bring up to six boxes of paper documents for secure disposal in a Cintas mobile shredder.

*****Please note: Staples, rubber bands, folders, and paper clips DO NOT have to be removed prior to shredding.**

Beyond the removal of clutter from your home, another good reason to recycle paper is the positive impact on the environment. Just one year's worth of paper recycling by Cintas alone saves an estimated 4.7 million trees, nearly 822,000 cubic yards of landfill space, 1.1 billion kilowatts of energy, 68.5 million lbs. of carbon dioxide emissions, 23 million gallons of oil, and 1.9 billion gallons of water.

Words To Live By...

You do not find the happy life. You make it.

-Camilla Eyring Kimball

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain.

-Anonymous

The secret to getting ahead is getting started.

-Mark Twain

Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.

-Mark Twain

The world is filled with nice people. If you can't find one, be one.

-Anonymous

Everything in moderation, including moderation.

-Julia Child

Adults are just outdated children.

-Dr. Seuss

Beauty begins the moment you decide to be yourself.

-Coco Chanel

Don't be pushed by your problems. Be led by your dreams.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Everything will be okay in the end. If it's not okay, it's not the end.

-Anonymous

Don't waste a minute being unhappy. If one window closes, run to the next window...or break down a door.

-Brooke Shields

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Website Posts New Record High

On Jan. 17, 2016, a total of 195 people logged onto Upland Borough's official website, establishing a new single-day benchmark for number of visitors.

Council Vice President/Webmaster Moira Crawford created the website in 2008 – her first year on Borough Council – and has seen its popularity grow by leaps and bounds since then.

If you are unaware of the wealth of information and the wide variety of links available on the borough website, you need to visit www.uplandboro.org to find out what all the buzz is about.

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Website Provides Valuable Info

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

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

mccrawford@uplandboro.org

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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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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, while information on how to obtain a flood insurance policy can be found at www.floodsmart.gov.

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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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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, first select the 'Departments' link, then 'Floodplain Management,' then 'Answers to Questions about the NFIP' (National Flood Insurance Program).

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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.



Councilwoman Sandy Miazza'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.

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Home Improvement Tips

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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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.

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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Upland Submits CDBG Wishlist

Borough Council recently held a public hearing to get input on potential public improvement projects that could be funded by a 2016 Community Development Block Grant. Delaware County Council awards CDBG funds every April, following the December submission of potential projects from each Delco municipality.

Upland has requested CDBG funding for new equipment and re-surfacing of the public playground next to Bristol Lord Field as a first choice, and funding for general street improvements as a second choice.

Seniors Enjoy Holiday Party



The members of the Upland Senior Citizens Club gathered for their annual holiday party on Dec. 14. There was lots of good food served to go along with the good cheer and good will between friends.



Santa Claus posed with members of the Upland Garage Motorcycle Club, who paid their annual visit to MacQueen Hall to support the borough's senior citizens, donating four door prizes (in envelopes held by USCC President Lee Hunter) that were raffled off to lucky party attendees.

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Holiday Decorating Winners Named

The winners of this holiday season's home decorating contest were announced at the Jan. 12 Council meeting, as follows:

- 1st place (\$100) - John & Margaret Marencin, Oak Ln.
- 2nd place (\$50) - Deborah Sutherland, Patton Ave.
- 3rd place (\$25) - Howard Novack, Church St.

Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to all the house decorators who helped brighten the holidays for their neighbors.

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Upland Police & Firefighters Busy In 2015

With year-end totals reported at Council's Jan. 12 meeting, it is apparent that both the Upland Police Department and Upland Fire Company No. 1 were very, very, busy last year.

In 2015, the Upland PD fielded 4,223 calls; issued 1,149 citations and 927 parking tickets; and ordered the towing of 191 vehicles.

Meanwhile, the borough's lone fire company responded to a total of 403 incidents last year, including six fires, 169 non-fire incidents, 198 mutual aid assists, and 30 drills.

The fire calls break down to 205 daytime calls and 198 at night, while totaling 290.4 hours in service for the year, with an average of six volunteer firefighters responding to each call.

Borough and Trash Hauler Partner To Help Vets

Upland residents and their trash hauler, B & L Disposal Services, have been working together to assist veterans from Philadelphia and Delaware Counties for the past six months, even though the residents have been unaware of their contributions.

For the last two years, Upland Borough has been the beneficiary of two Electronic Recycling Days, when B & L parked a trailer in the MacQueen Hall lot and residents were able to drop off unwanted and outdated electronic devices at no charge. B & L then stripped down those electronic items into whatever recyclable materials they would yield, then sold those materials to manufacturers to cover their costs and turn a small profit.

Since this summer, however, B & L Owner Lou Bizzari has been donating the cash yielded from Upland's recyclables to a program called Second Brigade Welcome Home, which is being organized by the Second Brigade Motorcycle Club, whose members include several veterans. By donating the proceeds from Upland's recycling, Bizzari and his club mates have been able to feed about 125 veterans on a daily basis, while also providing health care, clothing, job training, and short-term housing for homeless vets.

Bizzari and his wife, Vanessa, presented Upland Borough Council with a framed certificate of appreciation at the Nov. 10 Council meeting, to acknowledge the successful partnership.

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Council Hears Expansion Proposal

At Council's Dec. 8 meeting, a proposal was presented for construction of a larger building to house Family Dollar, currently located in the Upland Shopping Center. The new building would sit across Upland Avenue from the shopping center, on land currently owned by Crozer-Chester Medical Center.

According to CCMC Facilities Planning & Development VP Brian Crimmins, the 2.5-acre lot that CCMC would be willing to sell to Family Dollar now has three vacant buildings on it. CCMC plans to demolish the three structures and has already applied to the borough for a demolition permit.

Family Dollar's leased space in the shopping center currently gives the retail store 5,000 square feet of floor space, whereas the proposed free-standing building would provide 9,200 square feet. Some stock items are currently being displayed in the aisles, due to limited shelf space, Crimmins noted.

After consulting with PennDOT, CCMC has been advised that widening Upland Avenue would likely be required, but the need to create a left-turn lane could be eliminated, if the driveway entrance to the new store would be aligned directly across from the intersection of West 24th Street.

Council members noted that a zoning change would be needed to convert two residential zones and one institutional zone into one commercially-zoned building lot.

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Council Starts New Era



At Borough Council's Jan. 4 reorganization meeting, Council members elected Upland's first all-female Council leadership. Congratulated here by Mayor Michael Ciach, Council President Christine Peterson (left) moves up from the vice-presidency she had held for the last 8 years, while new Council VP Moira Crawford (right) succeeds Peterson, after serving the past 8 years as Finance Committee chair.



In all, five re-elected Council members (including Harold R. Peden, Edward Mitchell, Christine Peterson, Leland Hunter and William Dennon) were sworn in as a group on Jan. 4, with Mayor Ciach performing the duties, while family members or friends held the Bible.

Peterson Elected Council Prez

Council's Jan. 4 reorganization meeting saw the changing of the guard, so to speak, when two Council members were elected by their peers to serve as the new leadership.

Councilwoman Christine Peterson, who garnered the most votes amongst the re-elected Council members in the Nov. 3 general election (when all five Republican candidates were unopposed), was nominated to be Council president by Councilman Bill Dennon. Ed Mitchell, who had served as Council president for the past eight years, was nominated by Councilman Harold R. Peden, but Peterson edged out Mitchell with a 4-3 Council vote.

Councilwoman Moira Crawford was nominated by Councilwoman Sandy Miazza to serve as Council vice-president, and was then elected to the post by a unanimous vote.

"I want to thank all of you for your support," Peterson said, reading from a prepared statement. "I feel that our town is at a crucial point in its history of recent growth. I greatly appreciate the faith and confidence you have in me to bring compassion and strength to this position. As the first female Council president in Upland Borough's history, I will strive to make us all proud," she added.

Public Service Appointments Made

A laundry list of annual appointments (mostly re-appointments) were made at Borough Council's Jan. 12 session, as follows:

Catania Engineering, Inc. will continue to provide civil engineering services to the borough for the 62nd(!) consecutive year in 2016, while Borough Solicitor Robert E. O'Connor, Esq. serves his 15th year as Upland's legal eagle.

This year will be Police Chief Nelson Ocasio's third year at the helm of the Upland PD.

The membership of the borough's three advisory boards has been amended to include:

Zoning Hearing Board: Dorreda Shaw, Joanne Peden, Edward Klepacki, Harris Bloom, and Ronald Reynolds

Planning Commission: Dana Dudek, George Oronzio, and Joseph Stephano

Civil Service Commission: Richard McClintock, Denise Crawford, and Dorothy Patrick

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Ed Allen, his wife Heather, and his daughter Zoe were invited to Borough Council's Jan. 12 meeting for special recognition from Upland Police Chief Nelson Ocasio.

In-Vesting In Delco Police

Last summer, Ridley Park Police Officer Marc Hanley was shot while on duty, but his life was saved by his bulletproof vest, even though the vest was technically past its safety expiration date. When Hanley's friend, Ed Allen of Media, heard about the incident, he decided to do something about the situation.

"After making my rounds to (Delaware County) police departments, I found that some vests were expired and some didn't have them," Allen explained. "I knew it was time to make a stand, and help out as best I could."

Over the past four months, Allen has donated \$5,000 to purchase four new vests for Delco cops – one for Ridley Park, one for Marcus Hook, one for Trainer, and most recently, one for the Upland PD. Allen intends to buy one vest each month for a full year, donating the vest where it is most needed, as part of Officer Hanley's Vest-A-Cop Campaign.

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Upland PD Supporters Are True Blue



Upland Highway Department worker Dariusz Grodzki and his wife Cathy (above) created some of the best-looking blue ribbons, while other volunteer ribbon-makers broke out the heavy equipment to help get the job done.



Blue Ribbon Vols Get Crafty

An Arts & Crafts Day was held on Jan. 9 at MacQueen Hall, where borough residents of all ages were able to express their creativity, while contributing to Councilman Bill Dennon's Blue Ribbon Campaign.

Dennon hopes residents will display the handmade blue ribbons outside their homes to show their support of the Upland Police Department, in the same manner that yellow ribbons are used to welcome home returning veterans.

About 30 residents turned out to help create blue ribbons, with many coming armed with their own glue, scissors, and a variety of sewing tools. The two-hour event saw volunteers cutting 26 sq. yds. of blue material into strips, while groups of crafters applied their talents to produce an assortment of ribbons, from lapel-sized to front door-sized.

The best part of this community-building event was the personal touches that each ribbon-maker painstakingly added to their ribbons. Some of the handmade ribbons carried messages, such as "Support Our Police" or simply "UPD."

The crafters received a surprise bonus, when City of Chester Police Officer Joe Dougherty and his K-9 partner, Mickey, stopped by for a demonstration of police dog skills. The 6-year-old German Shepherd displayed his attack (thanks to fearless volunteer Sal DeViato) and tracking skills on the front lawn on

Main Street Elementary School, then Officer Dougherty answered questions from the audience. Altogether, it was a special day for all in attendance. "I want to thank all the people who came out to the ribbon-making event," Police Chief Nelson Ocasio said. "It's a great thing to see that many people come together to support police officers. It really meant a lot to us."



Chester Police Officer Joe Dougherty and his partner, Mickey, gave a K-9 skills demo on Jan. 9.

MIA School Board Rep Frustrating Borough Council

Cephus Richardson is Upland Borough's lone representative on the nine-member Chester-Upland School Board, but you'd never know it by his attendance at Upland Borough Council meetings. An update on CUSD matters has been on Council's monthly meeting agendas since last October, but Richardson has yet to provide such a report to his fellow Uplanders.

Mayor Michael Ciach, who serves as a liaison between the borough and the school district, told Council on Jan. 12 that he would soon be taking the next step of attending a school board meeting, where he can investigate why Upland is being left out of the CUSD information loop.

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Please Consider Your Neighbor

The husband and wife owners of a Castle Avenue property recently came before Borough Council, armed with photographs of their neighbor's unkempt overgrowth, which has been creating safety issues and clean-up expenses, all due to an "unresponsive neighbor."

The overgrowth includes dead trees, which hang over a fence and regularly drop branches into the neighbor's yard, as well as uncontrolled vines that have climbed utility poles and put a stranglehold on the same electric lines that provide power to the police station.

Code Enforcement Officer William Kirby has stopped by the site to take photographs of the offending overgrowth, and will likely be paying another visit soon to issue citations, if the intrusion on other properties is not promptly addressed.
