



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

(Settled 1683; Incorporated 1869)



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Rain Can't Dampen Memorial Day Festivities...



Even though Upland Borough's Annual Memorial Day Parade was cancelled due to early morning rain on May 30, the 13th Annual Memorial Day Picnic went off as planned, co-sponsored by the congregations of Upland Baptist and Resurrection Life Churches.



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...As Upland Remembers Fallen Veterans



Three memorial services, which included gun salutes and the laying of wreaths at the graves of Rev. David & Dorothy MacQueen and Civil War hero Captain Theodore Blakeley, and at the war memorial in Upland Memorial Park, were postponed until 5 PM on May 30.



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Council Denies Demolition Permit

At Borough Council's May 10 meeting, a 5-1 Council vote upheld the recommendation made by the Upland Historical Commission (UHC) in April by denying the issuance of a demolition permit for Sunnyside House on Upland Avenue. Councilman Lee Hunter cast the lone vote in dissent, noting that the property could earn tax revenue for the borough, if converted to a free-standing Family Dollar store, whereas the vacant building currently generates no tax dollars.

Sunnyside House was built in 1863 by industrialist John P. Crozer, to serve as the home for one of his nieces. The residential structure has been owned by Crozer-Chester Medical Center since the 1970s, and has been utilized for different purposes, though it has sat vacant for the past six years.

The Sunnyside case was the first formal development plan review that the recently-formed UHC has handled. The five-member UHC voted unanimously on April 6 in recommending denial of a demolition permit. UHC Chairman Lou Brown said at the time that he felt CCMC had not actively sought out other potential uses for the former residence, while allowing the vacant structure to deteriorate in recent years.

After its own review, the Delaware County Planning Department supported denying the permit and subsequent new development plan, citing traffic concerns.

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Council Reaching Out To CUSD

Upland Borough Council is still trying to get information directly out of the Chester-Upland School Board (CUSD), but the ongoing efforts have yet to yield results. Since last October, Council's monthly meeting agenda has featured a slot for a report from the borough's lone school board representative, Cephus Richardson, but the Upland resident has not yet made an appearance at a Council meeting, let alone give a report.

Mayor Michael Ciach reported that he was trying to bridge the CUSD information gap in January, suggesting that a visit to a school board meeting might be necessary to force the issue.

At Council's May 10 meeting, the continued lack of a school board report prompted Council President Christine Peterson to update the static situation.

"We have reached out to the Chester-Upland School District, and they have not returned our calls," said Peterson.

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Fire Co. Selling Raffle Tix

Upland Fire Company No. 1 volunteers are selling \$1 raffle tickets as a fundraiser. The First Day of Summer BBQ Raffle offers chances to win a new gas grill with cover, a propane tank, a \$75 Giant gift card, and a case of beer.

The winning ticket stub will be drawn on June 20 (the Summer Solstice), and the winner need not be present to win.

Community Affairs Committee Needs Volunteers

Upland Borough's Community Affairs Committee is suffering from a lack of volunteers. The shortage of volunteer helpers threatens to force the cancellation of some of the events and activities that have been enjoyed by so many residents in recent years.

If you can give a few hours to help provide the manpower needed to support these popular offerings, please call the borough office at **610-874-7317** or contact CAC Member Moira Crawford at mcrawford@uplandboro.org.

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Police Department Has Been Busy

According to Mayor Michael Ciach, the Upland Police Department has been a presence on the borough's roadways lately.

A total of 137 citations were issued in the month of April, bringing the year-to-date total up to 548 citations issued in 2016.

There were 10 reported motor vehicle accidents in Upland during April, and the Upland PD has had a total of 59 vehicles towed this year.

Upland officers issued 39 parking tickets in April, pushing that total up to 121 for 2016.

The Upland PD received 319 calls in April, bringing the call volume up to 1,395 calls for the year.

Ciach ended his monthly report on May 10 by noting that it was National Law Enforcement Week. The mayor asked residents *"to remember both fallen and active officers, and keep them in your prayers this week."*

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Police Cycle To Be Replaced

Borough Council is anticipating the replacement of the police motorcycle that was involved in a traffic accident last October. While Officer William Meyer's injured ankle healed fairly quickly, the damaged bike was deemed a complete loss by the insurance company.

According to borough officials, the insurance payout was about \$23,000 for the totaled 1600cc Harley Davidson motorcycle, which was outfitted with all the accessories needed for police use.

A new police motorbike will be purchased through the state's Co-Stars Program, which gives special discounts to Pennsylvania municipalities.

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2016 Road Program Awarded

This year's road resurfacing contract has been awarded to low-bidder A. F. Damon, Inc., of Upland, in the amount of \$82,480. Only one other bid was received, and that bid was \$5,620 higher than that of the hometown company.

The 2016 road program will include the re-paving of the entire length of Eighth Street, and one block of Upland Avenue, from Eighth Street to Seventh Street.

Upland's annual road paving is typically done early in the summer, and will likely be completed in June.

Council Frustrated By Project Delays

An extension of the Main Street stone wall that would round the corner to the bus stop on Sixth Street has been pending for nearly two years, and Borough Council is getting tired of waiting.

Utilizing county money from a 2014 Community Development Block Grant, Council has taken all the necessary steps to bid out the project and secure a contractor to do the work, but low-bidder Ellis Construction, Inc. has not proven to be reliable.

Councilman Ed Mitchell recently inquired as to what the borough had to do to change the contract award on a grant-funded project.

"That wall should have been up and done by now," Mitchell stated at Council's May 10 meeting.

The borough can indeed change contractors for lack of performance, though the process would involve extra time and official paperwork.

Once completed, the stone wall extension and associated landscaping on the southwest corner of Sixth & Main will greatly improve the overall appearance of one of Upland's busiest crossroads.

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New Officers Sworn In

Three part-time Upland police officers were sworn in by Mayor Michael Ciach on May 10.

Officer Jevin Downs, age 28, grew up in Philadelphia and graduated from Lansdale Catholic High School in 2006. He also graduated from Berks County Community College in 2010 after earning a degree in criminal justice, then graduated from the Montgomery County Police Academy in March 2016.

Jevin's father, Jack Downs, held the Bible while his son was sworn in to his first law enforcement position.

Officer William Welsh, 26, is a Bethel Township native, who graduated from Garnet Valley High School in 2008. He then spent three years serving in the U.S. Army, before taking online college courses at the American Military University. He graduated from the Delaware County Police Academy in December 2015, and has worked for the Department of Homeland Security for about a year.

William's mother, Gretchen Welsh, held the Bible during the swearing ceremony, while his father, Bill, stood proudly behind his son.

Officer Carl White, 35, hails from Norwood, and graduated from Interboro High School in 1998. He has an associates' degree in applied sciences from Allstate Career School. He has used his EMS skills working as a paramedic for the last 19 years. He has worked as a part-time police officer with the Collingdale PD since 2013, and has been running with the Collingdale Fire Company for the past year. Carl's wife, Theresa, held the Bible while her husband was sworn in.

Did You Know?: *That William Penn wanted to name his New World colony Sylvania, meaning woodlands, but the king insisted on Pennsylvania.*

FCPH Plant Sale A Resounding Success

The Friends of the Caleb Pusey House want to thank all of their supporters who turned out on May 7 to make the second annual Spring Plant & Herb Sale fundraiser a multi-level success.

A total of just under \$200 was raised to continue the preservation and upkeep of the 1683 Pusey House – the oldest English cottage in America. With about \$100 worth of plants left over, the FCPH was also able to restock the herb garden that grows next to the Pusey House, and could even share a few potted plants with some of their most loyal supporters.

The greatest success of the day, however, was the opportunity to give Pusey House tours to another two dozen visitors, allowing the FCPH to show off the crown jewel of Upland's history.

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Recycling Changes Pending

In an effort to combat the rising cost of providing Upland residents with the convenience of curbside recycling collections, borough officials are planning to start separate collections for newspapers and cans in July. Single stream recycling, where all recyclables are collected together, is now more expensive than regular trash collections, prompting the borough to make the pending change.

As of July 1, residents will be asked to put out bundled newspapers and cans (all types) separated from plastic recyclable items. A specific collection schedule has not yet been set for these bi-monthly pick-ups, but recycling collection days will be announced on the borough website and in the July edition of *The Uplander*...Please stay tuned for further information on this cost-cutting action.

Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

Tuesday, June 14, July 12, and Aug. 23

on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

NOTICE: August meeting is on 4th Tuesday

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First Day of Summer Raffle Drawing

Monday, June 20

Please support Upland's lone fire company

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Annual Fourth of July Family Picnic

11am to 2pm on Monday, July 4

at Bristol Lord Field

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

mcrawford@uplandboro.org

Carnival Comes To Town



The outdoor carnival returned to Upland from May 25-28, providing food and fun for the entire family.



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A borough-sponsored Free Paper Shredding event was held on May 7. Here, a resident watches the disposal of a box of his documents, while borough employee Tim Peticca (in truck bed) prepares to shred out-dated borough documents.



The Annual Spring Clean-up Day at Landingford Plantation, held on April 30, was a group effort that saw the removal of tons of debris and invasive vegetation from the historic Race Street site.



The 2nd Annual Spring Plant & Herb Sale was held at the historic Caleb Pusey House on May 7. The fundraising event was once again a success.

(Find details on page 3)



Free Historic Pusey House Tours are available (no appointment needed for individuals or small groups) **every Saturday, from 1 to 4pm, from May thru October.**



Three more part-time police officers were sworn in on May 10. Posing here with Acting Chief Michael Irely (far left) and Mayor Michael Ciach (far right), the new hires include (l to r) Officer Jevin Downs, Officer William Welsh, and Officer Carl White.

(See story on page 3)

Ciach Poised For 2nd State House Run

The Republican Party has endorsed Upland Mayor Michael Ciach for another 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 8 out of the 10 towns in the district.

Ciach, a Chester native and 40+ year resident of Upland, hopes to clear the hurdle of winning over the majority of voters in the City of Chester and Chester Township in his 2016 bid.

With Kirkland now moving 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 were uncontested in the April 26 primary election.

Mayor Ciach noted that although he was born in the City of Chester, Upland has been his home for most of his life, in fact, since the third grade.

"I love this borough and it has been the keystone of my support," Ciach stated. "Over the last 30 years of public service to the borough, either as Coach, Councilman, or Mayor, I have received your unwavering support, and I vow to you that I will continue to serve this borough with a steadfast and unconditional resolve to keep Upland Borough the safe, honest, family town that I know it to be.

Whether I'm in the Capitol Building in Harrisburg or in MacQueen Hall in Upland, NOBODY, no matter who they are or who they think they are, will stand between me and that promise. I only ask this of you: your continued support and trust."



In the wake of the resignation of Councilman Harold R. Peden, longtime public servant Richard B. McClintock was sworn in to fill the Borough Council vacancy on April 12.



McClintock Back On Council

Councilman Harold 'Ray' Peden has resigned from his seat on Borough Council, effective March 22, prompting the Vacancy Committee to recommend Richard B. McClintock to Council for approval.

McClintock has already served a total of 20 years on Council, the last six of which were as Council president, prior to his own mid-term resignation in 2008.

The retired Mulberry Street resident brings a unique mix of experience to municipal government, having previously worked as an Upland police officer and the director of security at Crozer-Chester Medical Center. He is also an honorary life member and a past president of Upland Fire Company No. 1, as well as a veteran and past commander of Upland American Legion Post 871.

Other service positions on McClintock's resume include former president of the Upland Athletic Club, past president of Brookhaven Lions Club, former master of his lodge, past member of the Chester-Upland School Board, and life member of the southeastern PA Police Chief's Association.

Furthermore, McClintock has been the mayor of Upland Borough and a former member of the Delaware County Association of Boroughs, having served the latter as secretary and second vice president. He has also logged 25 years of service on the Delaware County Parks Board.

"It's great to be back!" McClintock said, after being sworn in once again on April 12. "I've served a long time in the Borough of Upland, and I really look forward to coming back."

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Speed Limits Changed

Council amended the Vehicles and Traffic section of the borough code at its March 8 session. The changes include new speed limits for three borough roadways, **all of which are effective immediately.**

The new speed limit for the entire length of Main Street has been 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) has been 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.

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.



Crozer-Chester Medical Center officials want to demolish this vacant building on Upland Avenue, known as Sunnyside House, which was built in 1863 to be the home of a niece of John P. Crozer.

Historical Commission Wants Council To Deny Permit

Crozer-Chester Medical Center officials want to make a zoning change that would permit construction of a new free-standing home for the Family Dollar Store. Family Dollar is currently leasing space in the Upland Shopping Center, which gives the retail store 5,000 square feet of floor space, whereas the proposed building would provide 9,200 square feet.

The proposed building would sit across Upland Avenue from the shopping center, on land currently owned by Crozer-Chester Medical Center. The 2.5-acre lot that CCMC wants to sell to Family Dollar once had three vacant buildings on it. Two of those structures were recently razed, and a demolition permit has been requested for the third - a former Crozer family home known as Sunnyside House.

Prior to the requested issuance of a demolition permit for Sunnyside House, the Upland Borough Historical Commission reviewed the structure's historical status on April 6, aiming to make recommendations to Borough Council. After an hour-long hearing, followed by a half-hour executive session for legal counsel, the commission returned a unanimous decision to recommend denial of the permit.

The five-member Upland Historical Commission (UHC) was founded in 2014, and this case is the first potential construction project that the commission has been asked to review. With UHC Solicitor John J. Wills leading the proceedings, the applicant (Crozer-Chester Medical Center) was represented by Vice President of Facilities, Planning & Development Brian Crimmins.

No specific reason was given for the advisory body recommending permit denial, but UHC Chairman Lou Brown did question CCMC's efforts to maintain Sunnyside while it was vacant over the past six years, and he also questioned CCMC's efforts to "re-purpose" the house for another type of use.

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**

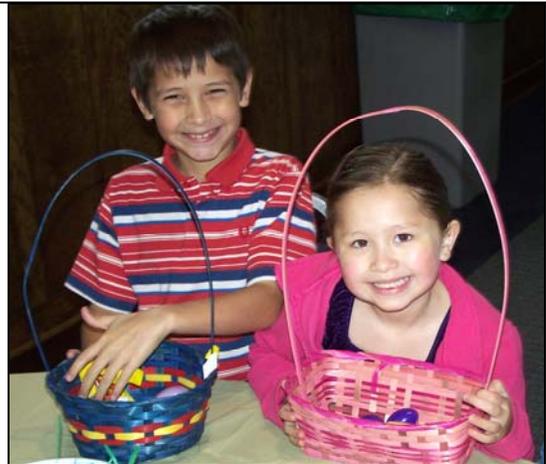
Residents Should Sign Up For Emergency Phone Service

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.

Easter Events Draw Crowd



The ever-popular Annual Easter Egg Hunt, co-sponsored by the Upland Athletic Club and Upland Fire Company No. 1, was held on March 26 in Upland Memorial Park.





The Easter Bunny posed for photos with children at MacQueen Hall during the Annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, sponsored by the Community Affairs Committee.

Council Approves Donation For Egg Hunts

Borough Council recently approved a \$250 donation to the Upland Athletic Club to help cover part of the cost of the borough's Annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Upland AC co-sponsors the Egg Hunt with Upland Fire Company No. 1, while the borough's Community Affairs Committee serves up Breakfast with the Easter Bunny in MacQueen Hall.

Special thanks and recognition must go out to the Easter Bunny himself, and of course, his personal escort, Fireman Robert Covey.

This year's Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on a chilly, but sunny March 26, with scores of kids in three different age groups gathered around hundreds of colorful plastic eggs laid out in Main Street Elementary School's side yard and on Bristol Lord Field's playground and ballfield.



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.

Eighth Street Beautification Project Making Progress

An overview of the ongoing Eighth Street Beautification Project was accepted as presented by Council on April 12. The project summary lays out the series of past and future steps that are necessary to improve the overall appearance of the area surrounding the bustling intersection of Eighth Street, Hill Street, Kerlin Street, and Upland Avenue.

In recent months, Council has purchased two vacant housing lots (#4 Eighth St., which has already been demolished, for \$600, and the Pileggi property on Kerlin St. for \$15,000) and has bid on another lot (#6 Hill St.), with the intention of tearing down the empty buildings to make room for landscaping with more eye-appeal.

"This is the entrance coming into Upland," noted Councilman Ed Mitchell. "If you look at it down there, it's kind of shabby... We're hoping to clean up that eyesore."

"It's been an eyesore there for a long time, but if you give us a little more time, we'll make it pretty," Mitchell added.

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Flooding Questions Answered

The Upland Borough website features 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).

Police Website Up & Running

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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Two New Hires Are Conditional

Borough Council announced the hiring of two borough employees at its April 12 session, noting that each new hire must obtain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) within 90 days or face termination.

John "Tim" Peticca was re-hired as a full-time Highway Department worker. He was previously employed by the borough as an Auburn Village maintenance man.

Ronald Green has been hired part-time for Auburn Village maintenance. He has an extensive background in construction and maintenance.

Both new hires will be paid \$15 per hour to start. An extra dollar per hour will be added to their pay rates, after each man has obtained the required CDL.

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.



The congregation of Resurrection Life Church held a Fried Chicken Dinner Fundraiser on April 16, selling 90 home-cooked meals to help fund replacement of the church roof.



Part-time Police Officer John Zebley (right) was sworn in on April 12 by Mayor Michael Ciach, while Acting Upland Police Chief Michael Irely held the Bible.

Part-Timer Joins Upland PD

Police Officer John Zebley was sworn in by Mayor Michael Ciach on April 12, to serve part-time on the Upland Borough police force.

Zebley lived in Upland until age 8, then moved to Prospect Park, where he graduated from Interboro High School. He graduated from the Delaware County Police Academy in 2006.

Officer Zebley has worked full-time for the Chester Housing Authority for the last 11+ years and as a part-time cop for the Prospect Park Police Department for the past 10 years. He plans to continue at both jobs, in addition to his new posting in Upland.

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Upland Rejects SPCA Offer

The issue of where to take stray dogs and cats that are captured by Delco Animal Control officers remains unresolved. A recent offer from Brandywine SPCA (formerly Chester County SPCA) didn't help the matter, as the proposal was seen as one-sided by Upland Borough officials.

Under the rejected proposal, the borough would have to enter into a three-year contract for boarding services; would have to pay an annual fee of \$2,000, plus a monthly fee of \$500, plus from \$150 up to \$400 for each stray; and would have to cover the cost of insurance for Brandywine SPCA.

After reviewing the proposed contract, Borough Manager Greg Grillone labeled the pact as "an outrageous deal." He recommended that Upland go without stray boarding services, once the current contract with the Delaware County Animal Control Board expires on April 30.

"Some municipalities are using local vets, and others are just going to let whatever happens happen, and they'll continue to use their own animal control people to work with local shelters," Grillone told Council on April 12. *"The good thing is that we don't get that many animals during the course of the year,"* he noted.

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Website Visitors: Up, Up, & Up!

Upland Borough has the most visited municipal website in Delaware County, and the gap between first and second-place keeps growing.

Council Vice President/Webmaster Moira Crawford created Upland Borough's website when she joined Council in 2008, and now the renovated site draws more and more visitors each month. Each month of the new year has seen the website establish a new single-day high for number of visitors, with 195 visitors on Jan. 17 being edged by 196 visitors on Feb. 23, and then a new benchmark of 208 visitors being set on March 8.

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

In related business, Borough Council has approved the expenditure of an additional \$135 to bring the borough's digital/electronic storage space up to 25 gigabytes, to accommodate greater use of the borough's website and email accounts.

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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.

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.



Corey of B & L Disposal Services (left) and Pete Hartshorn of the Upland Highway Department endured a rainy Saturday morning on April 23 to collect electronic recyclables in the MacQueen Hall parking lot. This semi-annual Electronic Recycling Event collected over 200 pieces (mostly TVs and computer items) weighing over 2 tons.

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