



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

The official newsletter of historic Upland Borough

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IN MEMORIAM – REST IN PEACE



Councilwoman Sandra (nee Kirby) Miazza passed away on July 4, after a yearlong battle with pancreatic cancer.

Sandy Made Good On Promises

Sandy Miazza was serving her third elected term as a member of Upland Borough Council, when she passed at Taylor Hospice on July 4. At that time, the Sixth Street resident was the longest continuously tenured Council member, having served more than a decade at the post.

Sandy served on several different committees during her 10+ years on Borough Council, but she was most proud of her work as chair of the Community Affairs Committee.

A lifetime Upland resident, Sandy came to Council in 2006, promising to provide more activities for the borough's youth and senior citizens. During her tenure, she fulfilled that promise beyond expectations, organizing and acting as hostess to several family events every year.

Prior to joining Council, Sandy was a frequent volunteer at Upland Athletic Club and Upland Senior Citizens events, where she enjoyed cooking for a crowd – a skill she continued to put to good use as Community Affairs Committee chairwoman. A "Sandy's Kitchen" wall plaque now hangs in MacQueen Hall, in recognition of the many meals that Sandy prepared and served to her fellow Upland residents.

"I'd like to mention her dedication to the borough and to Council, and just say that she will truly be missed."

Council President Christine Peterson, on the passing of fellow Councilwoman Sandy Miazza



Mrs. Judith (nee Kirby) Bush, of Sixth Street, was sworn in on July 12 to complete the remaining 17 months of the unexpired Council term of her older sister, Sandy Miazza.

While Mayor Michael Ciach swore in the new Council member, her daughter, Meghan, held the Bible.

Bush, age 56, is a lifetime Uplander, who has previously served the borough as a member of the Vacancy Board and a Community Affairs Committee volunteer, while also serving the past 10 years as a Republican committeewoman.



Among the youngest attendees at this year's Fourth of July Family Picnic was Molly Rey, who, at three weeks of age, was already displaying that irrepressible Kirby Klan spunk.

Council Appoints New Vacancy Chair; Welcomes New Member

At Borough Council's July 12 meeting, Judy Bush resigned from her post as chair of the borough's Vacancy Board, so that she could be appointed to Council as Sandy Miazza's replacement.

"I'll do my best for the people of the borough. I've lived here myself all these years and I think we can have an even better community," Bush said after her first session as a councilwoman.

Sandra Deldeo was subsequently appointed to fill the void and serve as the new chairwoman of the Vacancy Board. Deldeo also serves her community as a member of the Upland Historical Commission.

If Borough Council had not been able to agree on a replacement for Mrs. Miazza within 30 days of her passing, the appointment choice would have been passed on to the Vacancy Board.

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Street B-ballers Draw Complaints

Some residents are not abiding by the borough ordinance that prohibits the use of temporary curbside basketball backboards, while the children of some residents are not being very respectful of their neighbors.

Two Upland residents came to Council on July 12, asking for help with a group of belligerent teens who insist on playing basketball in the street on a nearby corner. The b-ballers have damaged property and parked cars, and often obstruct traffic and refuse to move out of the way. When they do move, the concession is often followed by a profane remark. Worse yet, one adult from the neighborhood has been equally aggressive and rude in support of the kids.

Councilman Lee Hunter, who recently retired from the post of Upland's code enforcement officer, understood the neighbors' complaints all too well, having personally seen similar behavior from the same crowd, not all of whom are Upland residents.

"It's a continuous problem, and it's not going to stop," Hunter asserted. *"If you tow the net away and fine them, they're going to pay the fine and put the net back. They're very defiant kids."*

The frustrated residents said that they have called the police, but even the direct intervention of the police chief did not defuse the standoff.

Acting Police Chief Michael Irey was on hand to hear the complaints and vowed to resolve the situation *"by the end of the week."*

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Highway Department Busy

The three members of Upland Borough's Highway Department have been kept busy in the early summer months, trimming back overhanging tree branches and making sidewalk and curb repairs.

According to Councilman Lee Hunter, who serves as chairman of the Streets & Equipment Committee, the Highway Department has now repaired all the broken concrete curbs and sidewalks in the borough, utilizing the concrete expertise of Peter Hartshorn.

Council Proposes Amendments To Sewer Lateral Ordinance

After a special committee revisited the sewer lateral ordinance that was adopted in January 2012, Council is advertising its intent to amend some parts of the ordinance at the Aug. 23 meeting.

The pending changes involve Chapter 150 of the borough code, entitled "Private Sanitary Sewer Lateral Connections." Under Subsection 18-C (Lateral Testing), the following language would be added, if the amendments are approved:

1. Closed Circuit Video recordings shall be used as the primary testing/inspection method for all laterals that have been in service for 10 years or more.

A. Proper cleaning of lateral by jetting to be completed prior to video recording. Failure to clean the lateral prior to video evaluation will result in a "Failure."

B. Evaluation of the said lateral will be performed by the borough engineer or his/her designee.

At the July 12 Council meeting, one resident expressed his continued opposition to the sewer lateral testing mandate, insisting that Council was overstepping its authority with *"an incursion on private property."*

In response, Borough Plumbing Inspector Tom Kennedy tried to clarify the reasons behind the law.

"This is property maintenance, and you have to take care of it. The laterals are part of the property maintenance code," Kennedy stated.

"You can't just let things fall apart, and the camera is the cheapest way to do (inspections)," he added.

Mayor Michael Ciach noted that state lawmakers are now considering passage of a statewide sewer lateral inspection law. While Upland may have been among the first Delco municipalities to adopt such a law, several more have followed suit and still more are getting ready to enact similar measures.

"We've done everything that we could to make this easier on the people and less harsh," Council President Christine Peterson said. She also took the opportunity to remind the complainant that the existing ordinance is a watered-down version of the original proposal, which would have made inspection of all laterals mandatory.

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Two Police Cars To Be Purchased

After weighing the pros and cons of purchasing versus leasing, Borough Manager Greg Grillone and Acting Police Chief Michael Irey have jointly decided to move forward with the purchase of two 2017 Ford Interceptors through the state's Co-Stars Program. The two new vehicles will resolve a current shortage in the Upland PD fleet, and the total cost will not exceed \$73,000.

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Annual Fire Inspections Underway

The yearly round of fire safety inspections for every commercial property in the borough started in July, according to Fire Marshal David Favinger.

Wall Extension Hits Another Snag

Getting free money is always great, but there are times when the restrictions involved with receiving a government grant can be a real pain in the assets. Council has tired of waiting for progress on a stone wall extension that would dress up the southwest corner of Sixth & Main, but the wait is not yet over. After nearly two years of repeated promises, but no action, Council recently sacked the original low-bidding contractor and rebid the improvement project, which is being funded by a 2014 Community Development Block Grant.

Only one contractor bid this second time around, submitting a bid in the amount of \$74,600. Now the \$38,500 in CDBG funds, which once covered the entire cost, is barely half of the funding needed. Rather than rebidding again, in hopes of a lower price, the borough engineer's recommended next step in this complex process is a return to Delco Council, to see if more CDBG funding is available.

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Trash Bids Received

According to the borough engineer, Upland Borough has received three bids vying for the next trash and recycling collections contract, which will cover the years 2017 through 2022.

The lowest bid was submitted by B & L Disposal Services, the borough's current collector. Under B & L's bid proposal, the borough would pay \$97,035 for the first year of the contract, then a sliding scale would incrementally bring the annual charge up to \$109,165 for the fifth year.

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Public Notices Back In *Daily Times*

Borough Council has announced its intent to go back to advertising public meetings in the *Delco Daily Times*, noting that most Upland residents do not read the *Chester Spirit*, where cheaper public notices have been utilized by several Southeast Delco municipalities in recent years.

Placing notices in the *Daily Times* will cost the borough more, but the additional cost will be offset by greater convenience to Upland residents.

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Vets May Get

Special Parking Spot

Councilman Bill Dennon reported to Council on July 12 that a new way to honor military veterans could be a local reality before the end of summer.

With the cooperation of the owners of Sam & Sam's Market in the Upland Shopping Center, Dennon wants to help create a veterans-only parking space near the front entrance to the popular grocery store.

The restricted parking space would be painted purple, similar to the way that parking spaces reserved for the handicapped are painted blue. A sign would also be posted to identify the special parking space, in the hopes that non-veterans would park elsewhere and respect the honor that is intended as a thank you to servicemen and women.

A public dedication ceremony has been tentatively scheduled for late August or early September.

Fire Chief Earns Certifications

Upland Fire Chief Dan Smith recently completed the course work required to earn two federal fire safety certifications, including Technical Search Specialist (utilizing sonar devices to locate persons trapped inside a collapsed building) and Structural Collapse Technician.

Smith received the special training and FEMA certifications as a member of the Delaware County Tactical Rescue Team.

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session

Tuesday **Aug. 23**, Sept. 13, and Oct. 11

on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

PLEASE NOTE: August meeting is on 4th Tuesday

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Summer Youth Magic Show

3 to 5pm on Saturday, Aug. 27

at MacQueen Hall

ALL Upland children with proof of residence are welcome!

Pizza and ice cream sundaes will be served

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Annual Labor Day Fireworks

Starts at dusk on Sunday, Sept. 4

at Bristol Lord Field

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Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Sept. 24

at MacQueen Hall

Admission tickets now available at boro office:

\$6 – children under 10; \$8 – seniors; \$10 – adults

(add \$1 for take-out orders)

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Welcome Day Celebration

12 to 4pm on Saturday, Oct. 29

at Caleb Pusey House on Race Street

Free Admission; Food and drinks available

Featuring Colonial Re-enactor Noah Lewis as Ned Hector

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Annual Youth Halloween Party

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Oct. 29

at MacQueen Hall

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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.**

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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

mrcrawford@uplandboro.org

Upland Enjoys Fun-Filled July Fourth



The colorful balloon artistry of Rainbow (left) and Mimi was a popular attraction at this year's Fourth of July Family Picnic.

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...While the Big Var's water ice that was enjoyed by many on this warm day was so refreshing, it just had to be shared.

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...And if there had been a contest for Most Handsome Patriot, these two guys would have been among the finalists.



Perhaps the greatest gift that the annual picnic gives borough residents is the opportunity for Upland families to spend quality time together.



Sign Up Now For D.C. Museum Trip

Episcopal Place will be hosting a trip to Washington, D.C. to visit the brand new National Museum of African American History & Culture on Saturday, Oct. 29. The cost is \$70 per person, and anyone can enjoy this day trip, but **the deadline for sign-ups is Wednesday, Aug. 3.**

The fee includes transportation, lunch at Carmine's Restaurant, and museum admission. Bus will depart from Episcopal Place (421 W. 24th St.) at 8:30am.

Please call Theresa or Jean at **610-872-0100.**

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Episcopal Place at Park Row staff wore orange on June 2 and July 20 to promote their united stand on gun awareness.



Sandra Deldeo was sworn in as the new chairwoman of the borough's Vacancy Board on July 12.



Noah Lewis (above) will portray real-life local American Revolution hero Edward 'Ned' Hector at the Welcome Day celebration on Oct. 29.

FCPH Planning Unique Welcome Day

If you enjoy learning about the rich colonial history of the Delaware Valley, you might want to mark Saturday, Oct. 29 with a red star on the calendar.

The Friends of the Caleb Pusey House will be holding their Annual Welcome Day celebration on Race Street that day, recognizing the New World arrival of the sailing ship *Welcome* (bearing William Penn and the Pusey family) in late October 1682. But this year's Welcome Day promises to be a very special event, as the FCPH has engaged local reenactor Noah Lewis to perform in the person of Revolutionary War hero Ned Hector.

Hector was a free black volunteer in the Continental Army and served gallantly as a member of a cannon crew at the Battle of Brandywine, and later at Germantown. At Brandywine Creek, Hector risked his life by stubbornly refusing to let his team of horses fall into British hands. Despite his dedication to the cause, Hector was repeatedly denied a pension by Congress, because he was black.

Lewis' portrayal of Hector covers his wartime service and postwar life (he lived to be 90), and features interactive segments that call for audience participation, such as the firing of a (make-believe) cannon, which requires a crew of seven.

Lewis' portrayal of Hector will be an ongoing performance from 1 to 4pm. Other attractions, including other reenactors, colonial crafts, and free tours of Landingford Plantation's three historic buildings (Pusey House (1683), Pennock Log House (1790), and Crozer Schoolhouse (1849)) will all start at 12 noon, while food and refreshments will be available all day long.

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Recycling Changes Put On Hold

In an effort to combat the rising cost of providing Upland residents with the convenience of curbside recycling collections, borough officials had hoped to start separate collections for newspapers and cans in July. Single stream recycling (the current system), where all recyclables are collected together, is now more expensive than regular trash collections, prompting Borough Council to consider changes.

Hoping to institute changes by July 1, Council had discussed this situation on multiple occasions in May and June, only to ultimately realize that the proposed collection changes would be more difficult than expected at this time.

Since the borough engineer is now preparing the specifications for Upland's next three-year trash contract (covering 2017 to 2020), borough officials are now thinking that January (at the start of the new contract) might be the best time to make changes to recycling collections.

If and when the proposed recycling collection changes are made, residents would be asked to put out bundled newspapers and cans (all types) separate from plastic recyclable items. Stay tuned for further information on this potential cost-cutting action.

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."

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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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**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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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.

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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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Carnival Comes To Town



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



Carnival Raises Funds For Entire Community

The outdoor carnival that visited Upland from May 25-28 generated a total of about \$6,000 in revenue for the Community Affairs Committee, which will help fund other community activities this year. Free activities that are on deck for Upland residents this summer include the Annual Youth Magic Show, and the Annual Labor Day Fireworks display.

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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. 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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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.

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).

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Fire Co. Pulls Raffle Winner

Upland Fire Company No. 1 volunteers had been selling \$1 raffle tickets as a fundraiser, with June 20 being the raffle drawing date. The First Day of Summer BBQ Raffle offered 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 was drawn on the summer solstice, with the lucky ticket holders being John and Barbara Phillips, of Upland.

The volunteers of Upland Borough's lone fire company appreciate the community support that made this raffle a successful fundraiser.

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Upland Finds Stray Solution

The problem of how to process stray dogs and cats has plagued every Delco municipality since the Delaware County SPCA stopped being the repository for such animals a few years ago. A stop-gap measure has been employing the Chester County SPCA for handling strays, but a recently proposed contract renewal with the same shelter (now called Brandywine SPCA) was labelled as "outrageous" by Upland officials, leaving the borough no immediate options for stray services.

At Council's May 23 session, a short-term solution to the stray problem was unanimously approved. Animal Control Officer Allen Strickler has agreed to take stray dogs and cats to the Conchester Animal Hospital on Rte. 322. Whenever possible, the CAH will record the drivers' license and phone number of the animal's owner, so the borough can bill for reimbursement. Any stray dog or cat that is not picked up by its owners within three (3) days will then be sent to a rescue.

The stray handling agreement applies only to dogs and cats. If a resident has an issue with a wild animal on their property, the Upland Police Department should be called first (at **610-872-3040**), then the property owner would need to call Mr. Strickler directly (at **610-485-2770**) to find a solution to the problem.

How Do You Beat the Heat?



Neighbor Suspects Illegal Tenants

A Scott Avenue resident recently came before Council to ask what the borough can do to determine if too many renters are occupying a house.

After months of observation, the suspicious resident is convinced that the rental property next door is over-occupied. He claims that groups of three or four different tenants "come in shifts," often arriving at night and carrying luggage. He noted that it is difficult to be sure how many people are living in the rental unit at any given time, but guessed that the head count has exceeded a dozen on occasion.

Under the borough code, no more than two people can occupy a bedroom, so a dozen tenants living in one rental unit would clearly be a code violation.

The borough tries to keep tabs on building occupancy through Use & Occupancy permits, but renters who are shuffling tenants in and out on a regular basis could be difficult to monitor and regulate.

Council thanked the resident for reporting the potential code violations and asked him to remain vigilant, noting that over-occupying a house is a fire safety hazard.

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Sewer Repair Ordinance Revisited

In January 2012, Borough Council unanimously adopted an ordinance that requires all homeowners to have their sewer lateral inspected if and when their property is put up for sale. Under the ordinance, all laterals that fail the video inspection for ground water infiltration must be replaced at the homeowner's expense, prior to property sale.

Enacting the sewer repair ordinance was intended to help address the countywide problem of stormwater infiltration, which adds millions of gallons of rain water to Delco's aging sewer system annually. Processing all that rain water at the DELCORA plant in Chester, in addition to the actual sewage, puts unnecessary stress on the processing plant and drives up the cost of sewer service for all customers.

But while Council's intentions were good, the sewer ordinance has not been well received by many Uplanders. One resident recently told Council that she was facing a \$9,000 sewer lateral repair bill that she could not afford, while several other residents have complained about the lateral-testing mandate since its inception.

Now, recent complaints have spurred a new Council discussion of the sewer repair ordinance, though no promises are being made about repealing or even amending the ordinance as it now stands.

"I did put a committee together to discuss the sewer lateral testing," Council President Christine Peterson said on June 14. "We are still in discussions, but should have something soon as to whether we are going to add to, take away, or leave (the current ordinance) the same."

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Grant Covers Road Program

A 2016 Community Development Block Grant from the county has been awarded to Upland Borough in the amount of \$99,000. This year's CDBG grant has been earmarked for road resurfacing, and will cover the entire 2016 road-paving program, which came in with a low bid of \$82,480.

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In another grant-funded matter, the borough engineer has prepared the bid specs for the proposed wall extension and corner landscaping at Sixth & Main Streets. Although 2014 CDBG funds have been set aside to pay for this public improvement, the previously awarded low-bidder has failed to complete the project in a timely manner, so the project is being rebid.



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 ChesterUpland 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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