



The Caleb Pusey House

The Uplander



MacQueen Hall

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



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Youth Enjoy Magic Show



But it was no surprise that the pizza and the make-your-own ice cream sundaes were the stars of the show.

The Annual Summer Youth Magic Show was held at MacQueen Hall on Aug. 27, where about 15 kids and a like number of adults were entertained by Constantine.



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Officer Goes 'Extra Yard' During Traffic Stop

The recent actions of part-time Upland Police Officer Daniel Lemmon gave law enforcement agents everywhere a welcomed shot in the arm. Officer Lemmon recently pulled over a young motorist for a routine traffic stop and found that the driver did not have all the proper paperwork in hand. Although citations could have been issued right there and then, the officer used good judgment in making a couple of phone calls to eventually get the situation satisfactorily resolved, all without punitive measures taken.

When commending Lemmon's actions, Mayor Michael Ciach and Acting-Police Chief Michael Irey did not give all the details of the traffic stop, but Irey said that Lemmon had gone "the extra yard." It was noted that the driver's grateful parent had written a letter to the Upland PD, stating that "it just goes to show that all police officers aren't out to get you."

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Upland Historical Commission Reinstated

All five of the charter members of the Upland Historical Commission were reinstated with new two-year terms at Council's Aug. 23 session. The reappointed members include Chairman Lou Brown and Upland residents Tom Bryant, Brian Davis, Sandra Deldeo, and Brock Peterson.

Charged with the mission of preserving Upland Borough's historic resources, the UHC recently recommended Borough Council's denial of a demolition permit for Sunnyside House (built in 1863) on Upland Avenue.

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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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Enormous Pothole Discussed

A pothole in the alleyway behind 22nd Street homes has grown to be several feet in width and a depth that presents a risk to the undercarriage of cars.

A concerned resident returned to Borough Council chambers on Aug. 23 seeking a solution, but found that the legal status of the alleyway is the root of the problem.

The alleyway is not a dedicated public road, so the borough has no responsibility to maintain it, yet residents' vehicles and trash trucks use the alley every day, so it functions as a public roadway, even though it is technically private property.

"(The alley) is somewhere between private property and a borough road", suggested Borough Solicitor Robert O'Connor.

In an effort to bridge the legal gap, borough officials will look into the possibility of extending the property maintenance code to cover alleyways, similar to the way that sidewalks are public property that must be privately maintained by the property owner.

Wall Extension To Be Rebid

The saga of a stone wall extension and landscaping that would dress up the southwest corner of the Sixth & Main Streets intersection has featured more unexpected twists and turns than a Rattlesnake Roundup. The proposed public improvement is being funded by a 2014 Community Development Block Grant from the county, but the project has been idled by a series of setbacks.

After nearly two years of waiting, Council recently sacked the original low-bidding contractor and rebid the improvement project.

Only one contractor bid the second time around, submitting a bid in the amount of \$74,600. But now the \$38,500 in CDBG funds, which once covered the entire cost, is barely half of the funding needed.

In July, the borough engineer's recommended next step was a return to Delco Council, to see if more CDBG funding might be available. At the Aug. 23 meeting, however, it was announced that no more county funding would be forthcoming.

Hence, the new recommendation is to re-evaluate the scope and materials to be used, then to rebid the project a third time, in the hopes of securing a price closer to the original grant amount.

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Frankie's on Fairview Approved For Catering Recommendation

Frankie's on Fairview (located at 604 Fairview Road in Woodlyn) has been Upland Borough's go-to caterer for several years, doing a tremendous job when called upon to provide delicious meals for occasions such as the annual holiday dinner for borough employees, officials, and associates.

In exchange for *Frankie's* giving the borough top priority on event dates, the borough has agreed to recommend *Frankie's* to any MacQueen Hall renters who might be seeking a caterer.

The recommendation will not prohibit the use of another caterer for private events at MacQueen Hall. But if an event planner is looking for a caterer with a proven track record of quality food and excellent service, they need look no further than *Frankie's*.

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Trash Contract Awarded

After receiving three bids for the next trash and recycling collections contract, which will cover the years 2017 through 2022, Borough Council awarded the contract to B & L Disposal Services – the low bidder and the borough's current collector.

Under the approved contract, the borough will pay \$97,035 for the first year of the contract, then a sliding scale will incrementally bring the annual charge up to \$109,165 for the fifth year.

The new contract includes the collection of regular trash (every Monday and Thursday, excepting holidays), recycling (on the first and third Friday of each month), and bulk trash pick-ups (on the last Wednesday of each month).

UPD Selling Two Used Cars

Now that borough officials have decided to purchase two 2017 Ford Interceptors to reinforce the Upland Police Department fleet, the borough is looking for the best way to dispose of two used squad cars – a 2004 Ford Crown Victoria with 132,785 odometer miles (most recently used as a Code Enforcement vehicle) and a 2008 Crown Vic with only 82,404 miles on it, but with a blown motor. Before Council accepts the offers made by two local auto shops, who would likely utilize these vehicles for parts, the cost and potential benefits of advertising the used cars online on the Municibid website will be researched and weighed.

Parking Tax Revenue Earmarked

Borough Council has taken the formal step of changing the official stated use of revenue received through the commercial parking tax that was enacted in 2010. Applicable only to the parking facilities at Crozer-Chester Medical Center, the parking tax generates roughly \$125,000 in borough revenue annually, although the dollar amounts do vary from year to year.

Previously, parking tax revenue had been earmarked for improvements to either the Reese Center (on West 24th Street) or the Netherleigh Mansion Carriage House (at Camp Upland), but now those funds are officially designated “100 percent to be allocated and accrued for Upland Borough improvement projects.” By generalizing the intended use of parking tax revenue, Council gives itself greater flexibility in discretionary spending.

Council OKs New FOP Contract

At its Aug. 23 meeting, Borough Council unanimously approved a new five-year collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police. The pact is retroactive to Jan. 1, 2016 and will be in effect until Dec. 31, 2020.

Fire Inspections Continue

Annual fire safety inspections for every commercial property in the borough started in July, with 26 rental properties being inspected during the month of July, according to Fire Marshal David Favinger.

Boro Relinquishes ‘Taken’ Property

On May 1, 2015, Upland Borough filed a declaration of taking in the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County to take ownership of 3702 Sixth Street, under the Eminent Domain Code.

In the interim, the borough has not made any payments, nor has the condemnee tendered possession of the property.

Since the borough has not taken actual possession of the property, pursuant to the declaration of taking, the borough has now opted to revoke the condemnation proceedings, relinquish title to said premises, and re-vest the condemnee with a fee simple or absolute title.

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Borough Council Meetings

6pm caucus; 7pm regular voting session
Tuesday Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8
on ground floor of MacQueen Hall

Annual Labor Day Fireworks

Starts at dusk on Sunday, Sept. 4
at Bristol Lord Field
(Fire Co. will be selling refreshments at the pavilion)

Upland Fire Co. Tag Days

4 to 7pm on Friday, Sept. 9 and
10am to 3pm on Saturday, Sept. 10
at Upland Ave./Kerlin St. intersection
Please support Upland's lone fire company

Monday Night VBS

6 to 7pm every Monday, starting Sept. 12
at Upland Baptist Church
Open to children pre-K to 5th grade
Includes activity/craft, Bible lesson, and dinner

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Sept. 24
at MacQueen Hall
Admission tickets available at boro office or at door:
\$6 – children under 10; \$8 – seniors; \$10 – adults
(add \$1 for take-out orders)

Blessing of the Animals

3pm on Sunday, Oct. 2
at Upland Baptist Church
Please bring your pet on a lease or in a crate

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

Annual Youth Halloween Party

4 to 6pm on Saturday, Oct. 29
at MacQueen Hall



Annual Trunk-or-Treat

6 to 7pm on Monday, Oct. 31
at Upland Baptist Church



Free Thanksgiving Dinner for Seniors

6 to 8pm on Saturday, Nov. 12
at MacQueen Hall

Holiday Tree Lighting /Santa Visit

Starts at 6pm on Friday, Nov. 25
at MacQueen Hall

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Children Learn at UBC Lunch



Rev. Brenda Shaw (far left) and former service dog Neville with his handler Carol Stark (far right) flank the kids who attended the last day of Upland Baptist Church's summer lunch program on Aug. 18. Representing Canine Partners for Life, Neville provided a demonstration of service dog skills, while Mrs. Stark fielded questions and read a short story aloud as part of the Library Day program.



Neville showed the children how a service dog can help a person with a disability to get undressed...



...And how he can retrieve and give back a set of keys that a person using a wheelchair might have dropped.



Neville, in his WORKING-DOG-TAKING-A-BREAK pose.

Church Hosts Block Party



There was lots of clowning around going on when the congregation of Resurrection Life Church served up their Annual Community Block Party on Aug. 13, with over 50 local residents in attendance. Free food offerings included chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans and chips, while prizes were awarded to game and drawing winners, and the summer heat made the addition of a water sprinkler a huge hit this year.



RLC Pastor Bryan McGrouty gets photo-bombed at the Annual Community Block Party.

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How Do You Beat the Heat?



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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

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.

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Council Welcomes New Member; Appoints New Vacancy Chair

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.



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



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.

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 recently prepared the specifications for Upland's next five-year trash contract (covering 2017 to 2022), borough officials are now thinking that January (at the start of the new contract) would be the best time to make changes to recycling collections.

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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.

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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.

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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 early September.



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.

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 he 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."

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.

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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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.



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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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 Enjoys Fun-Filled July Fourth



The Big Var's water ice that was enjoyed by many at this year's Fourth of July Family Picnic 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.

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

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.

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Neighbor Suspects Illegal Tenants

A Scott Avenue resident recently came before Council to ask how the borough can 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 keeps 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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