

# Upper Saddle River Borough Bulletin

The Official Borough Newsletter  
Published Monthly by the Mayor and  
Council

Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458

January 2010

## *A Message from the Mayor*

May we all enjoy a happy and healthy 2010.

As of this edition I begin my seventh year as Mayor of Upper Saddle River. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our community. Seven years seems like a good time to reflect a bit, to reinforce even more and to rededicate to our quality of life efforts.

Reflecting is easy and enjoyable as we have recently experienced the many community events that make Upper Saddle River a wonderful place to live. Our long time residents have laid the foundation for a very caring community. A community that is inclusive to new residents while maintaining the local traditions. In December we experienced many joyous occasions. The Christmas Tree Lighting filled with good spirit, great music, children's laughter and even snow; standing room only festivities at the USR Library; the Menorah Lighting with the needed hot chocolate, and families enjoying the event; the Goetschius House and Historical Society events that have become so much a part of the season and of course your families and all that you did to bring a special USR feeling to the season. This is all part of why we choose to live in our community.

Reinforcing is what many of our families are doing these days. As we move into year three of the national economic crisis, you will be pleased that our Municipal Family is behaving much like your family. We are continuing to reduce expenditures, to look for debt to reduce, and even remove assets that are not critical to the long-term needs of the community. In addition we are striving to simplify processes and procedures, consolidate, work with neighboring towns,

and create more efficient municipal operations. In 2010, we anticipate even greater financial constraints that will make it difficult to keep the municipal tax increase under the rate of inflation; however, we shall not lessen the commitment to be as tough on our finances as you are at home.

And Rededication. In 2005 the community rallied around our *USR Vision 2020 Project* that provided extensive priorities for improving USR in the future. Well it is not 2020 but it is time to dare I offer *Refocusing – USR Vision 2020*. Like the multi-year improvements to the intersection at Lake Street and West Saddle River Road, many of the recommendations in *USR Vision 2020* have been achieved or are well underway. The time is right to again collect community comments as we refocus on goals for the future. Look for an opportunity for every resident to participate in the *Refocusing – Vision 2020* later this year. And, yes, I am open to a better name that does keep the theme of the project.

*USR Vision 2020* was the perfect example that government does not have all the answers. Our community and involving our residents will get us to the right answers. In 2010 we will keep the listening side of communications a priority.

We are blessed with many resident volunteers who work on the above issues and the Borough's many boards, commissions, committees, and special groups to support our community. Our thanks go to the volunteers and our excellent Borough staff who keep Upper Saddle River a quality place to live.

My family and I wish all residents and their loved ones a happy and healthy new year.

For any issue please contact me at kgabbert2@juno.com or the home phone number of 201-825-7348.

Sincerely,

*Mayor Kenneth Gabbert*

## **Congratulations**

### **Robert T. Regan, Esq.**

Each year the 566 New Jersey municipalities are invited to nominate an attorney who has demonstrated excellence in public sector and municipal law.

We are pleased to announce that at the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference held in November, 2009, Upper Saddle River attorney Robert T. Regan was awarded the prestigious "Fred G. Stickel Memorial Award".

For the past 27 years, Bob has served Upper Saddle River and many other municipalities as a competent, knowledgeable and skilled attorney who is always available to answer questions, solve problems and share his wisdom. Bob constantly goes above and beyond the call of duty to advise and research the many issues that affect municipalities.

Bob Regan exemplifies ethics in government and his service to municipalities is above reproach. Currently he is one of the longest continuous serving municipal attorneys with substantial municipal litigation experience in the County of Bergen.

We look forward to many more years with Robert T. Regan and his outstanding professional service to our community.

***Congratulations Bob!***

## ***Reorganization Meeting—Jan. 7***

The Mayor and Council would like to invite all residents to attend the 2010 Reorganization Meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. 2010 taxes Due -Feb. 1**

The Tax Office wishes to remind residents that first quarter taxes are due on or before February 1<sup>st</sup>. Upper Saddle River offers a ten-day grace period. State law requires interest be charged after that, calculated from the actual due date.

## YGC—Save The Date!

Mark your calendar now for the popular *Books vs. Badges Basketball Game*, scheduled for March 12, 2010 at Northern Highlands High School. This event is always sold out and is YGC's major fundraiser each year. In 2009, our budget was approximately \$39,000.00 for various programs and activities. A large portion must be raised through fundraisers and donations. If you are interested in making a donation to Youth Guidance Council, please make a check payable to USR D.A.R.E. Trust Account, PO Box 161, Saddle River, NJ 07458.

## Holiday Time is a Great Time For Giving

In last month's bulletin, it was mentioned that there were families in USR that are experiencing difficulties of the times. The Saddle River Valley Junior Woman's Club would like to thank those who donated for their generosity.

## Baseball Registration

Registration for USR recreation baseball from T-Ball (Jr. Kindergarten and Kindergarten), Instructional (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades); Minor League (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades), Major League (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades) and Pony League (7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders) is open through February 1, 2010. If your child wishes to participate, there are three easy ways to register: registration option #1 - in person: January 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at Borough Hall from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Option #2 - online registration at [www.usrbaseball.com](http://www.usrbaseball.com) until February 1<sup>st</sup>. Option #3 - by mail: USR Baseball, PO Box 46, Saddle River, NJ 07458. Registration forms can be downloaded at [www.usrbaseball.com](http://www.usrbaseball.com). We look forward to seeing you in the upcoming season. If you have any questions, e-mail [info@usrbaseball.com](mailto:info@usrbaseball.com).

## An Evening of Fine Wine and Food

The officers of the Upper Saddle River PBA Local 218 would like to invite our residents and friends to our 3<sup>rd</sup> bi-annual wine tasting, complimented with gourmet food from local vendors. Join us on March 27, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at Jack Daniels' new Porsche dealership located on Route 17 South, Upper Saddle River. Tickets are available by calling Debbie at 201-252-1500 ext 1501.

## Dick Meighan Memorial Run

This past Thanksgiving, approximately 1950 runners participated in the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Dick Meighan Memorial Run. The inaugural run was held in 1999 with 280 runners. Over the years, approximately \$140,000.00 has been donated to our service groups in town, the D.A.R.E. program, girl scouts, boy scouts, and the Upper Saddle River Educational Foundation. College scholarships have also been awarded to local students. During all these years, the Dick Meighan Run has been blessed with so many volunteers, who have helped make the run the exciting and joyous event it has become. At this time we wish to especially recognize three groups who have been with us from the beginning, each and every year: the Upper Saddle River Volunteer Fire Dept., the Upper Saddle River Ambulance Corps and the Saddle River Valley Rescue Squad. Every year they are out early Thanksgiving morning monitoring the roads, parking cars and manning their equipment. They are there because that's what volunteers do. They care about our town and it's residents. By the way, these same groups are also there for the annual Upper Saddle River Youth Triathlon held in June. For all your support for all these years and all you do everyday, we thank you and offer our most sincere appreciation.

## USREF To Hold Gala

The Upper Saddle River Educational Foundation (USREF) will be holding its 7<sup>th</sup> annual Gala Dinner Dance, "Town Night Out", on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 7:30 p.m. at The Estate at Florentine Gardens in River Vale, NJ. The evening will be a community-wide celebration featuring a three-hour cocktail party with international food stations followed by a Viennese dessert and coffee bar, dancing and entertainment, and our fabulous silent and live auctions.

USREF will be honoring our community services volunteers with the USREF "Award for Excellence". The award is given annually to an Upper Saddle River resident or service group who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the community as well as significant civic leadership. The recipient must be identified as a positive role model for children and be recognized by many in the community.

Our 2010 celebration will salute the USR Ambulance Corps, the USR Fire Department and the SRV Rescue Squad. All proceeds will benefit the students in grades Kindergarten through eighth in Upper Saddle River district.

For any additional information on how to participate in the evening's festivities, journal, or auctions, please visit our website at [www.usref.net](http://www.usref.net) or contact Susan Greenbaum Gross at 973-279-3000 or [susan@greenbauminteriors.com](mailto:susan@greenbauminteriors.com) or Malissa Piazza at 201-825-9244 or [malissap@gmail.com](mailto:malissap@gmail.com).

## SRV Senior Fellowship Group

Just want to repeat and say we had a great December. The Woman's Club invited us to a Christmas Party. The entertainment was wonderful. Our trip to the Brownstone for our party was a success. Our regular meeting was also a success with a sing-a-long led by Helen Nystrom, one of our members.

As long as the weather holds up we will have a Bingo day on January 14<sup>th</sup> led by Marie Forte and then a Movie Fest on January 28<sup>th</sup> led by Marie and Dick Musser.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in the New Year – 2010. Please bring some friends, let them know what an exciting group we have. See you on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month at 11:00 a.m. at Bergen Highlands Methodist Church.

## UPPER SADDLE RIVER WASTE COLLECTIONS, JANUARY 2010

**Garbage:** There is **town-wide Garbage Pick-up** on Mondays and Thursdays.

Please be sure to have your garbage out by 6:30 a.m. They will not stop back to pick up missed garbage if it was not out on time.

**Recycling:** W. Saddle River Rd. & west      East of W. Saddle River Rd.  
Tuesday, January 5                      Tuesday, January 12  
Tuesday, January 19                      Tuesday, January 26

**Large Appliances:** Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup> by appointment only. Please call 201-327-2196 to schedule a pick-up. The next pick-up will be in February 4, 2010.

**Bulky Trash:** The next collection date will be March 12, 2010.

If you have any questions, call 201-327-2196 Monday—Friday, between 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

## Christmas Tree Pick-up

The annual collection of Christmas trees will be held this month.

The DPW crews will begin to pick-up Christmas trees at the curb starting Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.

It is very important that the trees be totally bare. The equipment cannot process tinsel, wires and leftover decorations.

## Information You Should Know About Radon

January is Radon Action Month. Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas, which has always been a part of our environment. It's a natural decay product of uranium and is found in soil everywhere in varying concentrations. Radon has been identified as the leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking. The risk of developing lung cancer from elevated levels of radon is ten times more than exposure to second-hand smoke; resulting in approximately 21,000 deaths in the United States per year.

The DEP has concluded that radon is a statewide health issue. All homeowners are encouraged to test and, if levels are elevated, residents are urged to consider remediation.

Radon can move easily through soil and tiny cracks in rock. When it reaches the surface of the soil, it disperses and is diluted to very low levels in the outdoor environment. However, when the gas moves upward through soil beneath a home, it may enter through cracks or other openings in the foundation and build up to unacceptable levels. It cannot be detected without testing because the gas is invisible and has no odor. The greater the concentration and the longer a person is exposed, the greater the risk.

Homeowners can test for radon themselves or hire a New Jersey certified radon measurement company to perform the testing. Some certified radon measurement companies sell test kits, and test kits are often available in hardware stores or from local health departments. A list of certified companies, including companies that can mail you a "do-it-yourself" test, is available at [www.njradon.org](http://www.njradon.org) or you can call the Radon Section at (800) 648-0394. Testing is easy and homes with high levels of radon can be remedied.



### Alvin & The Chipmunks: The Squeakquel- Rated PG

On Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, Martin Luther King Day, the Saddle River Valley Junior Woman's Club will hold a school's out Movie Day at the Ramsey Theater. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Upper Saddle River Library. Tickets are \$7.00 and include a buttered bagel and a bottle of water. The concession stand will also be open. Drop off is at 9:30 a.m., movie starts at 10:00 a.m. Pick up is promptly at 11:30 a.m. Buy early, as tickets are limited. Tickets are available for sale at the USR Library or by calling Denise Mercier at 201-825-1947.

### Dog/Cat Licenses Due in Jan. 2010

Upper Saddle River dogs and cats are due for their annual licenses. The new 2010 certificates and tags will be available at the Borough Hall starting January 4, 2010. Licenses are required for all dogs and cats that have had rabies shots. You may mail in a completed application with your payment to expedite the process. We will mail the tags and certificates to you in January. We need proof of rabies immunization and proof of neutering/spaying.

Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and all necessary papers. All papers will be returned to you. Checks in the correct amount should be made payable to Borough of Upper Saddle River.

Upper Saddle River's basic licensing fee for dogs is \$15.00. Licensing for cats is \$5.00. There is an additional charge of \$3.00 for a non-neutered cat or dog. This fee is established by the state to help control the stray animal problem. **There is a \$5.00 late fee for dogs and cats registered after February 15<sup>th</sup>.**

## Kindergarten Registration

Parents of Kindergarten age children (having attained the age of 5 years on or before October 1<sup>st</sup>) are invited to attend a Kindergarten Orientation Program. The meeting will be held in the Travers Multipurpose Room on Wednesday, January 20, 2010, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Registration procedures, a typical day in Kindergarten, and curriculum will be discussed.

If you would like to attend, please **RSVP** to Mrs. Finn, Reynolds School Secretary at 201-961-6300 or e-mail [cfinn@usrschools.k8.com](mailto:cfinn@usrschools.k8.com) by Friday, January 15, 2010.

## SRV Cultural Center

Come to the Cultural Center for live theater performances and family events for kids of all ages. The **Magic Bob Show** will be performed on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Magician Bob wows adults and kids alike with his one-of-a-kind magic show. All ages welcome. \$10.00 for members, \$12.00 for non-members.

**Family Fossil Find** is scheduled for Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We'll have a paleontologist on site to help us dig for marine fossils that are 20 million years old. Kids will also take home a bag of shark teeth. For ages 5 and up, must be accompanied by an adult. \$10.00 for members, \$12.00 for non-members.

A vacation workshop, being held on January 18<sup>th</sup> (Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday) from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., will feature **Into the Wild**. Get up-close with John and his creatures from Outragehiss Pets. For ages 5 and up. \$45.00 registration is required.

**Cinderella's Fairy Godmother** will be performed on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Where would Cinderella be without the magic of her godmother? All ages welcome. \$10.00 for members, \$12.00 for non-members.

### 2010 DOG/CAT LICENSE APPLICATION

Borough of Upper Saddle River, 376 W. Saddle River Road, Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

Owner's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Tel # \_\_\_\_\_

**Dog:**  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_  
Color \_\_\_\_\_ Hair (long/short) \_\_\_\_\_  
Breed \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

**Cat:**  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_  
Color \_\_\_\_\_ Hair (long/short) \_\_\_\_\_  
Breed \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

License Fee Dogs \$15.00

License Fee Cats \$5.00

**Non-neutered Dog Additional \$3.00**

**Non-neutered Cat Additional \$3.00**

**There is a \$5.00 late fee for licenses obtained after February 15, 2010.**

**Proof of rabies vaccination and proof of neutering is required for all dogs and cats.**

Checks or exact change would be appreciated. **Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope** if applying by mail.

# Coming Up In January 2010

## BOROUGH BOARDS

MONDAY, JANUARY 4  
8:00 p.m. USR Bd. of Ed. Work Session at Cavallini Media Center

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6  
7:30 p.m. Recreation Commission Meeting at Borough Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7  
6:30 p.m. Mayor and Council, Executive Session at Borough Hall  
8:00 p.m. Mayor and Council, Regular Session at Borough Hall

MONDAY, JANUARY 11  
7:00 p.m. Historic Preservation Comm. Meeting at Borough Hall  
8:00 p.m. NHRHS Bd of Ed. Regular Meeting at NHRHS Library

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14  
7:30 p.m. Planning Board Work Session at Borough Hall

MONDAY, JANUARY 18  
6:30 p.m. Environmental Committee Meeting at Borough Hall  
7:30 p.m. Board of Health Meeting at Borough Hall

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20  
7:00 p.m. Shade Tree Commission Meeting at Borough Hall  
7:00 p.m. Library Board of Trustees at USR Library

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21  
7:30 p.m. Zoning Board Executive Session at Borough Hall  
8:00 p.m. Zoning Board Regular Session at Borough Hall

MONDAY, JANUARY 25  
8:00 p.m. USR Bd. of Ed. Reg. Session at Cavallini Media Center  
8:00 p.m. NHRHS Bd of Ed. Regular Meeting at NHRHS Library

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28  
7:30 p.m. Planning Board Regular Meeting at Borough Hall

## SERVICE GROUPS

MONDAY, JANUARY 4  
11:30 a.m. Friends of the Library Meeting at USR Library  
7:00 p.m. Historical Society Mtg. at Old Stone Church Ed. Bldg.

MONDAYS, JANUARY 4, 11, 18 & 25  
12:00 noon Bergen Highlands Rotary, Houlihans, Ramsey

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5  
7:30 p.m. Lion's Club Meeting at Double Tree Hotel, Mahwah

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6  
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Meeting  
7:45 p.m. Ambulance Corps Meeting

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7  
8:00 p.m. Fire Department Meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8  
7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12  
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14  
11:00 a.m. Senior Fellowship at Bergen Highlands Church

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19  
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill  
7:30 p.m. Lion's Club Meeting at Double Tree Hotel, Mahwah

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20  
7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26  
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill  
7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27  
1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m. Adult Walk-in Clinic at Borough Hall  
7:30 p.m. Ambulance Corps Drill

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28  
11:00 a.m. Senior Fellowship at Bergen Highlands Church

*Municipal Court in Session, Borough Hall at 6:00 p.m.*

*Tuesday, January 12*

*Tuesday, January 26*

**Mayor and Council  
Borough Hall  
Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458**

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