

Upper Saddle River Borough Bulletin

The Official Borough Newsletter
Published Monthly by the Mayor and
Council

Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458

March 2009

Mayor and Council

Residents are strongly encouraged to recycle all plastics, bottles and papers. Please be sure to keep these separate from the regular garbage so they are not accidentally picked up at the same time. Our dumping fees for garbage have increased by approximately 25% over last year. By recycling, not only will you be helping the environment but you will also help save tax dollars for the Borough.

The Mayor and Council would like to encourage all families to participate in the "Ready, Set, Relax Family Night" on Wednesday, March 18, 2009. This is one special night to relax and just be together as a family. There will be no homework, no sports practices, and no scheduled activities – just a chance to reflect on your daily activities and consciously choose what matters most – time with your family! This evening is endorsed by: Upper Saddle River Youth Guidance Council; Allendale Municipal Alliance; Saddle River Municipal Alliance; Ho-Ho-Kus Municipal Alliance; the Boroughs of Upper Saddle River, Allendale, Ho-Ho-Kus and Saddle River; Northern Highlands Regional High School; and the public school districts of Upper Saddle River, Allendale, Ho-Ho-Kus and Saddle River.

Our Borough has an approved emergency operations plan in place through the Office of Emergency Management to deal with many emergency issues, such as floods, hurricanes, severe snowstorms, transportation accidents, etc. All residents should review their personal emergency action plans so they know what to do in the event of an emergency. Our Borough website (www.usrtdo.org) has a copy of the Borough Emergency Operations Plan with links to additional websites on how to put together a plan.

There are still a few positions open on the various boards, commissions and committees. Please send a letter of interest and resume to the Borough Hall, 376 W. Saddle River Road, Upper Saddle River, NJ if you would like to be considered for one of these positions.

We have begun the process of the annual budget for the Borough. The Council will review operating expenses, salary and wage, and the capital budget. As always, we will strive to provide the services you have come to expect while maintaining our municipal tax rate, which is among the lowest in Bergen County. We plan on introducing the budget as soon as it has been completed.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the budget or any other matter, please feel free to contact any member of the Mayor and Council.

Books vs. Badges Basketball Game

The Upper Saddle River Youth Guidance Council is sponsoring its 4th annual Books vs. Badges Basketball Game on Friday, March 20, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at Northern Highlands Regional High School, Allendale. Come watch some of your favorite teachers battle it out against the Upper Saddle River Police Department! Admission is \$5.00. **Advance tickets only - NO tickets will be available at the door.** Tickets are limited and this event is always a sellout. Tickets will be available at USR Boro Hall, Saturday, February 28th and Sunday, March 1st, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., and Monday, March 2nd through Friday, March 6th, 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., or until they are **SOLD OUT**, whichever comes first. Please note this is a "family" fundraiser and younger students must be supervised. Refreshments and t-shirts will be sold at the game. For more information call Barbara 201-825-3894 or Robyn 201-818-6163, or check our website: www.USRYGC.ORG.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Saddle River Valley Lions Club invites all children age 8 and under to take part in the annual Lions Easter Egg Hunt. This year's hunt will take place at Lions Memorial Park, Lake Street at Valley Lane, on Saturday, April 4th and will begin at 10:00 a.m. "SHARP". Parents are reminded to provide their children with baskets. If necessary, the rain date will be the following Saturday, April 11th at 10:00 a.m.

USREF To Honor Beloved Coach Mike Blake Posthumously

The Upper Saddle River Educational Foundation (USREF) is proud to announce that Mike Blake will be awarded the 2009 *Award for Educational Excellence* posthumously. The award is given annually to an Upper Saddle River resident 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, i.e. parents, teachers, administrators, etc.

Blake will be honored at the USREF's sixth annual Gala Dinner Dance, *Town Night Out*, to be held on Friday, March 6th at the Estate at Florentine Gardens. The entire community is invited. The evening will feature a lavish three-hour cocktail hour with international stations, a Viennese Dessert Table with a coffee bar, dancing and entertainment. Fabulous live and silent auctions showcasing unique gifts will also be a highlight. All proceeds will benefit the students in grades Kindergarten through eighth in Upper Saddle River.

Known as Coach Mike, Blake was a tireless coach to boys and girls, coaching softball, baseball, soccer and basketball. He coached star athletes and kids who just were out to have some fun. Mike brought his lifelong love of sports to those he coached, teaching them teamwork, persistence and sportsmanship. Gentle and kind, he made a genuine difference in their lives. Unfortunately, Mike passed away much too soon this fall and 3,000 adults and children attended his wake - out of respect and love for the time, talent and encouragement he gave to all. He was an outstanding role model.

Tickets for the Gala and ad journal order forms are available on line, please visit www.usref.net. For more information on the dinner, the ad journal or to donate an auction prize, please contact Maria DiMartino at 201-818-2402 or mardimar@optonline.net.

Office of Emergency Management

With spring on the horizon and the threat of thunderstorms, heat waves and power outages from severe weather, the Office of Emergency Management suggests that residents prepare and follow an emergency plan.

- Prepare an emergency evacuation plan for your home. Use a blank sheet of paper to draw floor plans of your home, show the locations of exit doors, windows, stairways, large furniture, first aid kits, fire extinguishers and utility shut off points.
- Indicate at least two escape routes from each room if possible. Also indicate where family members should meet in case of fire.
- Practice emergency drills at least two times a year.
- Should an emergency event occur, pay attention to and follow emergency directions provided by local officials.
- Do not make UNNECESSARY phone calls either by cellular phone or landline. Keep critical lines of communication open for emergency use.
- Very important, if you want to help during an emergency, volunteer with one of our voluntary emergency services, fire, rescue and ambulance before an emergency occurs. By volunteering you will be trained and prepared to help.

USR Schools

The 2008 New Jersey School Report Card is now available online at the New Jersey Department of Education's website <http://education.state.nj.us/rc>. You may also access the Report Card directly from the Upper Saddle River Schools' website at www.usrschoolsk8.com under the "School Info" section on each school's homepage.

"Save the Date"

Classic Car Show, hosted jointly by North Jersey Regional A's and Upper Saddle River Historical Society, will be held on Sunday, May 31, 2009. The show is open to all cars and motorcycles over 25 years old. The location for this event is the Hopper-Goetschius House Museum, Upper Saddle River, NJ. It will feature live entertainment by the "JerseyKidz" rock band, food and refreshments, 50/50 Raffle, People's Choice Awards and free tours of the historic Hopper Goetschius House Museum.

For more information, please call Rose Ewings 201-391-7269 or visit njra2831.org or www.usrhistoricalsociety.org.

Household Hazardous Waste

Bergen County Utilities Authority will begin their Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection on Saturday, March 14, 2009 at Bergen County Utilities Authority, Foot of Empire Blvd., Moonachie. The hours are 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. rain or shine. It is open to all Bergen County residents. Please bring identification.

Some of the items accepted at this collection are aerosol cans, paints, pesticides, solvents and batteries.

Garbage and Recycling

The garbage and recycling schedule for the month of March is listed in the chart below.

If you think you have been missed for a pick-up, please call the Borough Hall by 10:00 a.m. the next day. For your convenience, the Recycling Depot, which is located behind the Borough Hall, is open every Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to noon. A monitor is on duty to assist you.

The bulky trash will be collected on Friday, March 13th. This pick-up includes furniture, bikes, mattresses, old clothes and shoes, toys and games, and any other household items you may want to discard. Bulky trash must be at the curb to be picked-up.

SRV Junior Woman's Club

Unbelievably, spring is right around the corner and that means our Annual Plant Sale is beginning. Please look for your order form in the March Bulletin. As always, there is a great selection of annuals, perennials, herbs, and hanging baskets. All of the plants will be delivered to your homes on Saturday, May 9th, the day before Mother's Day. Our hanging baskets and patio planters make great Mother's Day gifts. Order forms with payment should be mailed to SRVJWC, P.O. Box 101, Saddle River, NJ 07458 by Monday, April 6th. Checks should be made payable to SRVJWC. The funds raised will be donated to organizations in our community. This is an important fundraiser for the Club and we appreciate your participation. For more information contact Karen at 201-825-2373.

The Saddle River Valley Junior Woman's Club invites women interested in learning more about the organization to its next meeting Wednesday, March 25th. Please contact Joanne at 201-327-1080 for more details.

Historic Preservation Commission

Upper Saddle River's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) was established in 2008 to protect buildings listed on the Borough Inventory of Historic Sites from demolition or major alteration that would destroy historic value, to encourage owners of those buildings to explore alternatives to demolition and to foster pride in the community and its historic past. Upper Saddle River is rich with history and its historical buildings and sites add greatly to the town's charm.

The HPC has completed making an inventory of historic homes and sites and is making available historic markers for eligible homes. Homes must be listed on the Upper Saddle River Inventory of Historic Homes and/or the Bergen County Survey of Historic Sites. Members of the Commission will be contacting these homeowners and explaining the program to them. Homes built in 1800 or before will receive large freestanding markers with the designation "Upper Saddle River Historic Site" and a brief description of the history of the property. Homes and other historic structures built between 1800 and about 1900 will receive smaller plaques to be attached to the building itself.

The Commission is currently working with homeowners on the wording for the markers which will be paid for by private donations, not tax dollars.

The Commission meets at Borough Hall on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, please visit www.usrtday.org or e-mail Bill Yeomans at weyemans@optonline.net.

UPPER SADDLE RIVER WASTE COLLECTIONS, MARCH 2009

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: <u>W. Saddle River Rd. & west</u>	<u>East of W. Saddle River Rd.</u>
Tuesday, March 3	Tuesday, March 10
Tuesday, March 17	Tuesday, March 24

Large Appliances: Thursday, March 5th by appointment only. Please call 201-327-2196 to schedule a pick-up. The next pick-up is April 2nd.

Bulky Trash: The bulky trash pick-up will be Friday, March 13, 2009. The next collection date will be Friday, June 12th.

Cultural Center

March right in to the Saddle River Valley Cultural Center for a month of shows, workshops and fine art as we wave goodbye to winter and gear up for spring.

Children's Theater & Entertainment

Come to the Cultural Center for live theater performances for kids of all ages. Our intimate setting offers children a fun, interactive introduction to theater. Charlotte's Web will be performed Sunday, March 1st at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. All the enchanting characters are here: Wilbur, Fern, Templeton and of course, Charlotte. This beautiful musical about friendship will leave you spellbound. All ages. \$10.00 members, \$12.00 non-members.

Irish Children's Folk Dancing will be performed by the McLoughlin's School of Dance for **one performance only** on March 7th at 1:00 p.m. Back by popular demand, 10 local award winning Irish dancers join us in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Dressed in native costumes and dancing to instruments of their homeland, these young people will lift your spirits and brighten your day. What a great way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day! Refreshments will be served after the performance. All ages. \$10.00 members, \$12.00 non-members.

Ken Northridge's Magic Show will be held on March 21st at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Witness the performer voted "Best Magician of the Year" by his own peers! Magic intrigues us all. How did he do it? Join us as we see the best of the best. \$10.00 members, \$12.00 non-members.

BE CONSTRUCTIVE, a wood crafting mini workshop (2 days) will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd and Tuesday, March 10th from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Be constructive and get crafty with wood. Have fun building with wood. For ages 6 and up. \$40.00 for 2 days. Registration required.

Remember that it's not just performance arts at the Cultural Center. Join us to celebrate the fine arts, too. A Local Art Show & Exhibit will be held March 1-31. This month's featured artist, Katherine Hill, has won awards at 42 local shows. Come over and view her works, which were influenced by artists such as Claude Monet and Mary Cassat. All are welcome. Please call the Center for hours. Free.

An Artist's Reception will be held on Sunday, March 8th from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. Free.

We're pleased to announce that our new resident theater company, **APPLAUSE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**, a non-profit organization, is now offering shows and classes in musical theater, acting, singing and dancing, right here at the Cultural Center. For more information, call Kathy Renna at 201-362-4948 or request an e-mail brochure at kathyrenna@earthlink.net.

Lions Park Renovation Update

With spring just around the corner, the Recreation Commission thought it would be a good time to update the continuing renovation of Lions Park.

This past fall, the Borough Engineer field sampled the topsoil and found that the fields are in pH balance for proper turf growth i.e. slightly acidic, therefore, no liming was necessary. An extra 'dormant' fertilizing step high in Nitrogen was added in the fall and then the fields were aerified and seeded. This is necessary with all new fields due to the stockpiling and disturbance of the existing topsoil that destroyed much of the beneficial bacteria, microorganisms, and other valuable insect population from the topsoil, which all takes time to re-establish. With a proper nutrient balance and better assimilation of fertilizers and organic components of the soils, we anticipate a more vigorous spring turf.

We will be topdressing the fields as soon as the weather permits - early March. This process includes aerification, fertilization, seeding, and the placement of a thin layer of a special topsoil/sand mix over the turf portions of the fields. It is a very effective way to regenerate the fields and add nutrients to the underlying soils. We will be maintaining an aggressive fertilization program this year, and we will again top-dress the fields next fall.

We will be adding several small inlets to remove standing surface water. We are also going to install transverse slot drainage across the lower fields to augment percolation into the lower subsoils below the topsoil layer and to wick off excess water. This may be a multi-step process, depending on its success.

A preconstruction meeting was held in February for the new fieldhouse, which will include bathrooms, concession stand, open-air pavilion with picnic tables and a small storage area. We anticipate that groundbreaking will start March for the foundation and septic field. Barring inclement weather, the fieldhouse should be in use by late summer. The construction of the new fieldhouse should not impact the opening of the fields in the spring.

Saddle River Valley Fellowship

We are all looking forward to seeing the first robin of "Spring". It is a sign that spring is around the corner. It has been an old fashion winter, one we will remember

At our March 12th meeting we will play a game of BINGO. On March 26th we will have a speaker from the Red Cross.

We have had good attendance this year, please come and join in the fun. The meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 11:00 a.m. at the Bergen Highlands Methodist Church.

Spring Tennis Clinics Registration

Registration for the spring tennis clinics will take place at Boro Hall 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Mondays - Fridays. There will be two 5 – week sessions to be held at the Wickersham Tennis Courts. The first session will be held on Mondays or Wednesdays beginning the week of March 30th, with no lessons the week of school break. The second session will also be held on Mondays or Wednesdays starting the week of May 11th. During the second session an adult group will take place at 7:00 p.m. The cost for the entire 5-week session is \$90.00. For more information please call the USR Recreation Commission at 201-327-3634 or email USRRecreation@aol.com. Visit our website to download an application – www.usrtoday.org.

USR Tennis Permits Available for 2009

Tennis permits for the use of the USR tennis courts, located on West Saddle River Road in front of Reynolds School, will be available beginning Monday, March 30, 2009 at Borough Hall. A family membership will remain at \$25.00 and an individual membership will again be priced at \$15.00. For more information please call the USR Recreation Department at 201-327-3634 or USRRecreation@aol.com. Visit the Boro website at www.USRtoday.org for information about all Recreation programs.

Rec Soccer Fall 2009 Sign-ups 3/7 & 3/21

The recreational soccer is open to town resident children entering kindergarten through the 12th grades in September 2009. Children entering the 3rd grade and up must have a wallet sized photo included with the application. Information and application forms should be completed online at www.usrsoccer.org and then printed from the website, or can be found at the Library or Boro Hall. The completed forms will be collected from 9 a.m. until noon on Saturdays, March 7th and March 21st at the Boro Hall.

PLEASE DO NOT MISS THE SIGN-UP DATE - MARK YOUR CALENDAR. There will be a considerable late charge during the period following April 1st, after which the teams will have been formed and turned into the league. Once this is done, no more teams can be formed and we cannot guarantee that your child will be eligible to play.

Coming Up In March 2009

BOROUGH BOARDS

MONDAY, MARCH 2

8:00 p.m. USR Bd. of Ed. Reg. Session at Cavallini Media Center

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

7:30 p.m. Recreation Commission Meeting at Borough Hall

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

7:00 p.m. Mayor and Council, Executive Session at Borough Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 9

7:00 p.m. Historic Preservation Comm. Meeting at Borough Hall

8:00 p.m. NHRHS Bd of Ed. Regular Meeting at NHRHS Library

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

7:00 p.m. Mayor and Council, Executive Session at Borough Hall

8:00 p.m. Mayor and Council, Regular Session at Borough Hall

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

7:30 p.m. Planning Board Work Session at Borough Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 16

6:30 p.m. Environmental Committee Meeting at Borough Hall

7:30 p.m. Board of Health Meeting at Borough Hall

8:00 p.m. USR Bd. of Ed. Reg. Session at Cavallini Media Center

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

7:00 p.m. Shade Tree Commission Meeting at Borough Hall

7:30 p.m. Library Board of Trustees at USR Library

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

7:30 p.m. Zoning Board Executive Session at Borough Hall

8:00 p.m. Zoning Board Regular Session at Borough Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 23

8:00 p.m. NHRHS Bd of Ed. Regular Meeting at NHRHS Library

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

7:30 p.m. Planning Board Regular Session at Borough Hall

SERVICE GROUPS

MONDAY, MARCH 2

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, MARCH 2, 9, 16 & 23

12:00 noon Bergen Highlands Rotary, Houlihans, Ramsey

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Meeting

7:45 p.m. Ambulance Corp. Meeting

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

8:00 p.m. Fire Department Meeting

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

11:00 a.m. Senior Fellowship at Bergen Highlands Church

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill

7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m. Adult Walk-in Clinic at Borough Hall

7:30 p.m. Ambulance Corp. Drill

7:30 p.m. Junior Woman's Club Meeting

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

11:00 a.m. Senior Fellowship at Bergen Highlands Church

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

Tuesday, March 10

Tuesday, March 24

Mayor and Council
Borough Hall
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