

Upper Saddle River Borough Bulletin

The Official Borough Newsletter
Published Monthly by the Mayor and
Council

Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458

Summer 2010

A Message from the Mayor and Council

- **Municipal Budget** - At the Regular Mayor and Council Meeting on June 3rd, a public hearing was held for the 2010 Municipal Budget. Final approval will take place once state review has been completed. The budget, in the amount of \$11,480,589.93, reflects a 2.9% increase in the amount to be raised by taxes for municipal services over last year's budget. The increase is due to rising fixed costs and a decrease in state aid of \$251,396.00. This represents an average annual increase of \$77.13 per household. The municipal budget constitutes just 17% of a homeowner's tax bill. We will continue to look for ways to reduce the tax impact on residents without jeopardizing services.

- **The Dick Meighan Memorial Run** – Also at the June 3rd meeting, representatives from the Dick Meighan Run, held annually on Thanksgiving Day, presented scholarships to five outstanding students from the Saddle River Valley area. Money was also donated to Shelter Our Sisters, the Rose Foundation for Haiti Relief, the Upper Saddle River Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Educational Foundation, Fire Department, Ambulance Corps, the Saddle River Valley Rescue Squad and the Youth Guidance Council. The event has become an area tradition that benefits the entire community.

- **Please drive safely** – Now that school is out, children are outside playing and, with the warmer weather, residents of all ages are outside walking, jogging and cycling. Please drive carefully and observe all traffic signs and speed limits. It is very easy to exceed the 25 mile per hour speed limit on residential streets if you are not paying attention.

- **Shade Tree Commission** – For the eighth consecutive year, Upper Saddle River has been designated as a Tree City U.S.A. Our residents are rightfully proud of our trees. The Shade Tree Commission works to preserve and enhance this natural resource. Please read the article inside this bulletin written by Shade Tree Commission Chair, Arnie Friedman, regarding important tree maintenance. The Shade Tree Commission members are to be commended for all they do in our community. If you would like to join this Commission, please send a letter of interest to Rose Vido, Borough Clerk, 376 West Saddle River Road, Upper Saddle River.

- **Upper Saddle River Recreation Commission** – We would like to acknowledge the Recreation Commission and the dedication of its members. Recently we have had several outstanding events: the USR Women's Biathlon and the USR Youth Triathlon. Before we know it, it will be time for USR Day and the Dick Meighan Run. Family Movie Night and the Fishing Derby are other examples of the wholesome family events that the members plan and organize each year. This group truly makes us proud to live in Upper Saddle River.

If you are able to help at USR Day, scheduled for Saturday, September 11th, please contact Ed Gartner, Recreation Commissioner, at USRRecreation@aol.com. There is more information on this event inside this bulletin. Volunteers are always needed.

Sincerely,

*Mayor Kenneth Gabbert
Council President Deborah Viola,
Council Members Roger DeBerardine,
Vincent Durante, Joanne Florio, Jo-
anne Minichetti and Dennis Schubert*

3rd Quarter Taxes Due August 1

Annual forms detailing property taxes for the 3rd and 4th quarter 2010 and the 1st and 2nd quarter 2011 are being mailed to all Upper Saddle River property owners. If you pay your taxes directly to the Borough of Upper Saddle River, this will be a bill. If you have a mortgage, the notice will be clearly marked "for advice only" and is for the owner's information; the mortgage holder pays the amount due.

The Tax Office wishes to remind residents that the third quarter taxes are due on or before August 1st. Upper Saddle River offers a ten-day grace period. If real estate taxes are not paid within the grace period, State law requires that interest is then due from August 1st to the date they are paid at the rate of 8% on the first \$1,500.00 and 18% on the amount over \$1,500.00.

Police Department

The Upper Saddle River Police Department would like to remind our residents that the speed limit on Borough roads is 25 MPH and is monitored throughout the year by our Traffic Safety Division. Please be aware of pedestrian traffic at all times. Any complaints about speeding within the Borough can be forwarded to the Police Department web-site at www.usrpd.net. The Police Department would like to wish all our residents a healthy and safe summer season.

Have a safe and healthy summer!

USR Day 2010

Scheduled to be held in Lions Park on Saturday, September 11th, USR Day 2010, will begin at 2:00 p.m. and conclude at 7:00 p.m. The rain date for this event is Sunday, September 12th.

Food wristbands can be purchased in advance at the USR Library or Borough Hall for a cost of \$30.00 for a family up to 6, \$10.00 for an individual, and are free for seniors (62 and over) and children under 6. Tickets will also be available the day of the picnic. Activities will include family games, face painting, carnival rides, and stage performances and fun for all.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with any aspect of the coordination of this town wide event, please call Esau Ali at 201-934-9075 or Ed Gartner at 201-327-3634 (USRRecreation@aol.com). Or go to our website at www.USRToday.org.

Social Tennis at Wickersham Courts

We will be holding some organized social tennis play at the Wickersham tennis courts. These socials are for all players who already know how to play tennis matches.

Schedule (first come first serve)

Monday, June 28th and July 5th – 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Doubles Climb the Ladder (Max of 20 Players) \$20 each.

Tuesday, June 29th and July 6th – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Doubles Climb the Ladder (Max of 20 Players) \$20 each.

Wednesday, June 30th and July 7th – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Singles Round Robin (Max 10 Players) \$30 each.

Thursday, July 1st and July 8th - 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Doubles Climb the Ladder (Max of 20 Players) \$20 each.

If you have any questions, please call Sharon at 201-264-0556.



THE UPPER SADDLE RIVER
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Keeping your Lawn Healthy

Most homes in USR are served by private wells. Water use dramatically increases during the summer months when automatic lawn sprinklers are in operation. Please visit the Healthy Lawn link at www.USRToday.org for seven tips on how to conserve water.

Please stop by the Environmental tent on USR Day to hear about the launching of our Borough's Sustainable New Jersey Program. See how our municipality, residents, schools, local businesses and organizations will be working together to go green.

Please Cut Back Trees and Shrubs for Safety Reasons

Spurred by the amount of rainfall we have experienced this year, the verdant spring foliage can pose problems of vision on our roadways. For safety, homeowners are again asked to prune back tree, shrub, and other growth on their property roadsides.

One annual trouble spot is at the ends of driveways. Check yours to be sure that you can clearly see traffic or pedestrians from both directions on your street as you emerge into the road and that an oncoming car will be able to see you. Cut back the excess if need be.

For obvious reasons, overgrowth can be particularly hazardous at intersections. Borough Ordinance stipulates that brush and hedges must be at least 25 feet back from a point of an intersection and not more than 2 ½ feet high.

Choosing a Contractor

A homeowner, before hiring anyone to do a home improvement job, whether it be big or small, needs to ask the contractor some important questions to avoid possible headaches and less than satisfactory results.

The homeowner should check if the contractor is insured and obtain a copy of their Certificate of Insurance.

The contractor should be licensed. In the State of New Jersey, the homeowner or a direct relative can work on their "owner occupied" home without a license. However, the following trades require a State License to perform work in your home: electrical contractors, plumbing contractors and home improvement contractors.

The homeowner should also be aware that permits are required for most work, generally only repairs do not require a permit. A licensed professional will know this, but when in doubt, call the Borough's Building Department at 201-934-3966.

For your protection, all landscapers and tree removal companies are required to obtain an annual permit from the Borough to perform work in Upper Saddle River.

Paper Shredding

The Borough will be holding a one-day paper shredding program. Nexcut, a paper shredding company, will provide a truck on Saturday, October 23, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. to shred papers for Borough residents at no charge. This will be available at the recycling depot behind the Borough Hall. The truck will have a fully functional camera system that allows residents to observe the shredding operation.

Electronics and Tire Recycling

The Environmental Committee, in conjunction with the Borough, encourages all residents to recycle computers, electronic equipment and tires. Recycling prevents them from entering our landfills.

Bergen County Utilities Authority is holding this collection on Saturday, August 21st at Bergen County Community Services Bldg., 327 East Ridgewood Avenue, Paramus from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., rain or shine.

Household Hazardous Waste

Bergen County Utilities Authority will hold their Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection on Saturday, July 17th at Bergen County Utilities Authority, Foot of Empire Blvd., Moonachie from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. rain or shine. It is free of charge for Bergen County residents - identification is required.

The next scheduled HHW collection date is Saturday, September 11th at Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah.

UPPER SADDLE RIVER WASTE COLLECTIONS, SUMMER 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.

*****Please Note: There will be garbage collection on Monday, July 5th. *****

<u>W. Saddle River Rd. & west</u>	<u>East of W. Saddle River Rd.</u>
Tuesday, July 6	Tuesday, July 13
Tuesday, July 20	Tuesday, July 27
Tuesday, August 3	Tuesday, August 10
Tuesday, August 17	Tuesday, August 24
Tuesday, August 31	

Large Appliances: Thursday, July 1st and August 5th by appointment only. Please call 201-327-2196 to schedule a pick-up. The next pick-up will be in September 2, 2010.

Bulky Trash: The next collection date will be Friday September 17, 2010.

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

Trees, Safety and Our Town

This winter's big storms took their toll on our forest. Many trees were broken, knocked down and lost. Our power was out from downed lines and roads were blocked by debris and fallen trunks. Many people have asked if anything can be done to avoid future occurrences.

The answer is yes, there are definitely things that can be done as we go forward that will help.

The storms this winter were unusually severe, the N'or Easter that raged through was unprecedented in its severity and it followed a very wet summer and fall. The Shade Tree Commission met this past April with other town commissioners and arborists from the Utilities to discuss the storm damage and preparation for future occurrences. The planting of trees under or near power lines needs to be reviewed and better guide lines set.

Regular Maintenance of Trees. Trees need to be maintained in good health. That means every two years or so property owners must have a qualified professional inspect their trees. Dead or diseased branches should be removed. "Girdling" roots should be identified or removed. Young trees planted with their burlap and wire baskets still on should be dug out and everything removed. Evergreens with shallow roots need to be staked if the ground is soft or they are leaning. Pruning for good structure and lessening of wind stress should be done on growing and large trees to improve their ability to withstand unusual wind gusts and big storms. The maintenance of trees on private property, even if they are along the road, are the homeowner's responsibility. The Upper Saddle River DPW does not do any tree removals or replanting. If a hazardous tree is on a County right of way, you may contact the Borough Clerk for referral to the County Tree Department.

Inspect and Identify dead, dying, or defective trees that may be hazardous. Many of the trees that fell this year and damaged power lines or blocked roads should have been identified and removed before the storms. Trees do not die suddenly; they decline from poor maintenance, disease and damage. Look at your trees! Look first at the canopy and see if there are lots of healthy green leaves in summer, buds and flowers in spring, leaves that are yellowing or falling early. These are signs of health or illness. Next look at the trunk. If you see horizontal cracks, oozing sap, excessive woodpecker

Upper Saddle River Library

Summer Concerts

The Crossover Band - Friday, July 9th, 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., Rain date July 16th. This popular rock and roll band plays music from the 70's to today and features lead singer and Upper Saddle River resident Kevin Cole.

Enjoy NYC museums with your family!

Borrow a free day pass at the circulation desk and enjoy the American Museum of Natural History, Museum of the City of New York or the Guggenheim Museum.

Summer Listening and the Beach

Download audio books, eBooks, music and videos for most mobile devices. With hundreds of popular and classic titles to select from there's something for all the family to listen to! Getting started is easy, visit our BeAT website: www.beateaudio.org or sign up for a free 30 minute class at the library- July 7th at 7:30 p.m. or July 15th at 11:00 a.m.

Join the USR Library Summer Reading Club this summer and "Make a Splash!" The library has many summer programs for children and teens from June 24-August 5.

holes, fungus (mushroom like growths), rotten spots or big cavities with rotting debris you need to ask for an expert's opinion. Trees that have grown with more than one trunk often have rot and cracking right at the "V" where they divide. It is a place where the growing tree can push itself apart and collect water and rotting matter that can eventually make the tree split in half. Clean these areas out with your hand, poke around for soft or rotten spots. Next look at the bottom of the tree where it comes out of the ground. Do you see any roots circling the tree? These "girdling" roots could be choking the base and causing roots to die. Dead or dying roots can't hold a tree in the ground. Look for signs of rot, large mushrooms or other fungus, void spaces filled with rot. Look to see if the ground behind the tree is suddenly lifting as if the roots are pulling out of the ground. If you are in doubt, call an arborist or other tree professional for their opinion. Many trees that fell this year were healthy until their roots systems were compromised by construction damage, severed roots, or inadequate root systems.

We at the Upper Saddle River Shade Tree Commission are here to help protect our forest and our residents. With proper tree maintenance, removal of hazardous trees and correct planting, we will have a safe and beautiful town.

Hopper-Goetschius House Museum

The Hopper-Goetschius House Museum is open every Sunday in July and August from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Come take a guided tour through the past and see what life was like in Upper Saddle River in the 18th and 19th centuries.

SRVJWC - Help Rescue a Child

The Saddle River Valley Junior Woman's Club has joined forces with Bergen County CASA. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates at www.bergencasa.org/) is an independent, non-profit organization of professionals and trained volunteers who have been appointed by the NJ Family Court to advocate for children removed from their homes due to abuse and/or neglect while helping to move them toward safe and permanent homes. SRVJWC is offering Arbonne's Detoxifying Rescue Wash and Re-Mineralizing Body Lotion at a discount with all proceeds going to CASA. Wash fundraiser price is \$38.00 each, Lotion \$42.50 each (includes tax and delivery for those in USR and the surrounding areas). For more information, please visit www.srvjwc.org or call Jocelyn Minervino, Independent Consultant, for more information at 201-665-9454. Thank you for helping to rescue a child!

A Victorian Summer Day

Come join us at the Hopper-Goetschius House Museum on Sunday, July 18th for a Victorian Summer Day. Bring a picnic lunch or buy a hotdog and homemade ice cream. Play quills, horseshoes, badminton or croquet. Enjoy a display of summer whites that belonged to the Goetschius women. Costumed docents will guide you through the house.

Coming Up In Summer 2010

BOROUGH BOARDS

THURSDAY, JULY 1
6:30 p.m. Mayor and Council Executive Session at Borough Hall
8:00 p.m. Mayor and Council Regular Session at Borough Hall
THURSDAY, JULY 8
7:30 p.m. Planning Board Work Session at Borough Hall
THURSDAY, JULY 15
7:30 p.m. Zoning Board Executive Meeting at Borough Hall
8:00 p.m. Zoning Board Regular Meeting at Borough Hall
MONDAY, JULY 19
8:00 p.m. NHRHS Bd of Ed. Regular Meeting at NHRHS Library
WEDNESDAY, JULY 21
7:00 p.m. Shade Tree Commission Meeting at Borough Hall
7:30 p.m. Library Board of Trustees at USR Library
THURSDAY, JULY 22
7:30 p.m. Planning Board Regular Meeting at Borough Hall
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5
6:30 p.m. Mayor and Council Executive Session at Borough Hall
8:00 p.m. Mayor and Council Regular Session at Borough Hall
THURSDAY, AUGUST 12
7:30 p.m. Planning Board Work Session at Borough Hall
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18
7:00 p.m. Shade Tree Commission Meeting at Borough Hall
7:30 p.m. Library Board of Trustees at USR Library
THURSDAY, AUGUST 19
7:30 p.m. Zoning Board Executive Meeting at Borough Hall
8:00 p.m. Zoning Board Regular Meeting at Borough Hall
MONDAY, AUGUST 23
8:00 p.m. NHRHS Bd of Ed. Regular Meeting at NHRHS Library
THURSDAY, AUGUST 26
7:30 p.m. Planning Board Regular Meeting at Borough Hall

SERVICE GROUPS

THURSDAY, JULY 1
8:00 p.m. Fire Department Meeting
WEDNESDAY, JULY 7
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Meeting
7:45 p.m. Ambulance Corps Meeting
FRIDAY, JULY 9
7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill
TUESDAY, JULY 13
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill
TUESDAY, JULY 20
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill
WEDNESDAY, JULY 21
7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill
THURSDAY, JULY 22
12:00 noon.—2:00 p.m. Adult Walk-in Clinic at Borough Hall
TUESDAY, JULY 27
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill
7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill
WEDNESDAY, JULY 28
7:30 p.m. Ambulance Corps Drill
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Meeting
7:45 p.m. Ambulance Corps Meeting
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5
8:00 p.m. Fire Department Meeting
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill
FRIDAY, AUGUST 13
7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18
7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill
7:30 p.m. Fire Department Drill
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25
7:30 p.m. Ambulance Corps Drill
THURSDAY, AUGUST 26
12:00 noon.—2:00 p.m. Adult Walk-in Clinic at Borough Hall
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31
7:30 p.m. Rescue Squad Drill

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

Tuesday, July 13 Tuesday, August 10
Tuesday, July 27 Tuesday, August 24