

Coming up in September/October 2018

BOROUGH BOARDS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Thursday, September 6
Thursday, October 4
6:30 pm Executive Meetings
8:00 pm Regular Meetings

PLANNING BOARD

Wednesday, Sept. 12 and Thursday, Sept. 27
Wednesday, Oct. 10 and Thursday, Oct. 25
7:30 pm at Borough Hall

SHADE TREE

Wednesdays, September 19 and October 17
7:00 pm at Borough Hall

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, September 12 at 6:30 pm
and Thursday, October 18 at 6:00 pm at the Library

BOARD OF HEALTH

Monday, September 17 - 7:30 pm at Borough Hall

ADULT WALK-IN CLINIC

Thursday, September 27 and Thursday, October 25
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm at Borough Hall

*Municipal Court in Session, Borough Hall at 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, September 20 and Tuesday, September 25
and Tuesday, October 9 and Tuesday, October 23*

SERVICE GROUPS

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Meetings: Thursdays, Sept. 6 and Oct. 4 at 7:30 pm
Drills: Sept. 14, 19, 25 and Oct. 12, 17, 22 at 7:30 pm

AMBULANCE CORP

Meetings: Wednesdays, 7:30 pm Sept. 5 and Oct. 3
Drill: Wednesdays, 7:30 pm Sept. 26 and Oct. 24

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Mondays, September 17 and October 22
11:30 am in the Solarium of the USR Library

BERGEN HIGHLANDS ROTARY

Mondays, at 12:15 to 1:30 pm at Houlihans in Ramsey.
No meeting on Federal Holidays and last Monday of
the month is a Breakfast Meeting that starts at 7:45 am

SADDLE RIVER VALLEY LIONS CLUB

Tuesdays, Sept. 4 and 18 and Oct. 2 and 16
7:00 pm at Ramsey Country Club

WOMAN'S CLUB

Tuesday, September 11 - 7:00 pm at the Library
Tuesday, October 2 - 7:00 pm at the Library

DID YOU KNOW?

*In the 50s and 60s
our Population Grew Over 1,000%*

After zoning was passed in 1950, banks loosened up mortgage money and we had a building boom here in town. In some years during the 60s, 100 new houses were built, and between 1950 and the 1970s our population grew from 700 to 8,000. To visualize what our town looked like in 1950 take out 96% of the houses and almost all of the roads.

Upper Saddle River Historical Society

The Official Borough Newsletter
Published by the Mayor and Council



Mayor and Council Message

Borough Approved To Receive \$1.6 Million Funding for Open Space: The Governing Body is pleased to announce that the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders approved the Borough of Upper Saddle River's application for \$1,600,000.00 to pay for 80% of the acquisition cost for the nine acres purchased at One Lake Street. This is the largest grant award received by any municipality from the Bergen Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund for their 2017 funding cycle. The nine acres will be used for future recreational/open space purposes.

The purchase of the nine acres was negotiated with Mack-Cali as a part of the April 2016 settlement agreement after the company filed suit against the Borough for discriminatory zoning practices in federal and state courts. The settlement allows for the construction of 186 luxury for-sale townhomes, a private clubhouse and pool, plus 22 affordable units, rather than the possible 1,500 rental apartments with 10% low and moderate income units on 47.65 buildable acres.

As illustration, Montvale entered a settlement agreement on the Mercedes properties, (a total of 20.85 buildable acres) to allow two 4-story buildings with 308 rental units along with 20,000 feet of mixed use retail/commercial use, 40,500 feet of office use, 11,500 feet of retail and underground parking for 368 vehicles plus parking for an additional 504 cars. In addition there will be a 150 room hotel, a pharmacy, a bank and parking for another 298 vehicles. Another 185 rental units have been approved on the 7-acre Sony parking lot site. Mahwah has settled to allow 800 rental apartments near the Sheraton Crossroads.

The Governing Body thanks the entire team who worked to achieve the successful outcome of this funding initiative, with special recognition extended to Boswell Engineering and Borough Administrator Ted Preusch.

Eruv Update: Beginning the week of July 16, 2018, the Bergen Rockland Eruv Association (BREA) began erecting the new eruv route across Upper Saddle River, taking down the

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www.usrtoday.org

September/October 2018

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white PVC pipe along parts of the temporary eruv route which will be part of the new eruv and installing black plastic strips (called "lechis"). In the parts of the route near the New York border, black strips will be installed on poles. Upon completion of the new eruv route, eruv will be removed in areas that are not included in the settlement agreement.

In April of 2018, the Borough entered into a Settlement Agreement after BREA filed suit in U.S. District Court, Newark, claiming civil rights violations against the Borough for challenging an eruv that was erected for the benefit of Rockland County residents.

The settlement substantially reduces the size of the eruv originally proposed in Plaintiffs' lawsuit. Unlike the settlements in Mahwah and Montvale, the USR eruv route would change substantially.

The original eruv route in USR designed by Plaintiffs essentially ran from the Mahwah border across Sparrowbush Road to Old Stone Church to Weiss Roads, cutting a line across the northernmost portion of the Borough containing almost 20% of the Borough, or about 640 acres and about 557 homes.

The USR settlement calls for a new eruv route that cuts as close to the New York border as possible from West Saddle River Road to near the Montvale border, cutting the amount of land within the USR eruv by more than 60% and the amount of acres to 253 and homes to 230. Every USR home still within the proposed new eruv route would have been part of the original route proposed by Plaintiffs.

On July 5, 2018, the Borough filed an Order to Show Cause asking U.S. District Court Judge John Michael Vasquez to find the BREA in violation of the April 2018 agreement because they had failed to change the eruv route to streets close to the New York border within the time required by the Agreement and because the BREA had been shirking the Agreement's notice requirements to police and had allowed their subcontractors to perform substandard work in installing 10 black metal poles on

Borough right-of-way that were necessary to allow for the new eruv route.

The Court was receptive to the Borough's arguments and ordered counsel and all involved in implementing the agreement to meet and move the project ahead. The meeting was held on July 12, 2018 at Borough Hall and the Borough received specific assurances from BREA that the work would begin almost immediately, all notice and safety requirements would be observed, and private property would be respected and if damaged, restored. All approvals have been received from utilities for the project and most permits received by BREA; the Borough has been assured by Verizon that it would expedite its permits. The Court told the Borough's lawyers that if there were further issues, it would reopen the matter.

For more information, Questions and Answers and maps showing the eruv route, visit the following link to our Borough Web Page: <https://www.usrtoday.org/2018/07/17/purpose-rockland-county-eruv/>

Regrettably, anti-Semitic and other derogatory ethnic references continue to be found on social media sites that contain "Upper Saddle River" as part of the title. Such comments are not representative of our community. The Governing Body publicly condemns such discourse and encourages all residents to refrain from engaging in this type of dialogue. People may have different viewpoints, ethnic backgrounds or religions; however, hate only breeds hate. Such comments do nothing to help find solutions.

Apple Ridge Update: There have been continued concerns raised by residents regarding the remediation on the former Apple Ridge Golf Course site. The project is under the jurisdiction of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. It has also been overseen by the NJ Department of Agriculture, Bergen County Soil Conservation District and the Bergen County Health Department. All methodology, oversight, test results and final approvals of the remediation have been in accordance with the NJDEP recommendations and guidelines. The remediation process employed a method known

(Continued on page 2)

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as soil blending which reduces concentrations of targeted contaminants, in this case lead and arsenic, to meet residential direct contact standards. This is a widely used remediation method to protect public health and is in full accordance with all applicable state and federal regulations. At this time, the Borough has no reason to discount the work of the NJDEP.

The remediation on the 112 acre golf course in Mahwah and Upper Saddle River was completed on December 22, 2017. Based on the results of over 700 post-remedial soil samples collected across the site and analyzed in accordance with NJ Dept of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) regulations and protocols, the soils across the entire site meet the most stringent Residential Direct Contact Soil Remediation Standards for the contaminants of concern – arsenic and lead due to the site’s prior use as an apple orchard in which these were used routinely as pesticides. In addition, during the remediation, EcolSciences Inc, a licensed environmental management and regulatory compliance firm, conducted daily dust monitoring activities at the site. Over the course of 40 consecutive weeks of monitoring, only one marginal exceedance of the United States Environmental Protection Agency National Ambient Air Quality Standard of 0.150 mg/m³ was identified on August 29, 2017, and the exceedance was due to machinery idling in the immediate vicinity of the monitoring equipment and not a result of dust emissions related to the site.

However, the Governing Body, in response to concerns raised despite frequent reassurances from the state, county and review of test results by our Borough engineers and LSRPs, has brought the matter to Congressman Josh Gottheimer and Governor Murphy’s office. All documentation and history have been provided to them. The Borough does not have the authority to overrule the state agency. We thank both Congressman Gottheimer and the Governor for their assistance in this matter in advance.

We have requested that they work with the Borough to:

- Review the methodology, test results and final approval of the remediation to assure us that the NJDEP has done its oversight correctly.
- Assess whether there is anything in addition that should be done
- If so, help us get that accomplished
- If everything is again concluded as having been done correctly, help reassure residents

Columbia University Private Well Water Study: The Borough recently received notice of a study being conducted by Columbia University and the NJDEP. This state-wide study is currently taking place in several municipalities in our area. We have been advised the study has previously been conducted in Hunterdon, Bergen and other counties

and will be expanded in the near future.

“The 2002 Private Well Testing Act” (NJSA 58:12A-26 et seq.) mandates the testing of private wells at the time of the sale of a property. The test results are shared between the seller, buyer and NJDEP but are otherwise confidential. Accordingly, the Borough receives no record of these results. Without a resale, it is possible that homeowners may not test their wells on a regular basis. It is generally recommended that private wells are tested on an annual basis.

These entities have identified regional patterns of naturally occurring contaminants within drinking water based on several decades of confidential private well test results. The primary stated reason for elevated levels of certain contaminants is geology.

While the Borough and the general public do not have access to private well test results, the state maintains a public database for all public wells on a website known as “NJDEP-Drinking Water Watch”. This database also demonstrates the same occurrences of contaminants within certain geologic formations in the state.

Public systems are required to identify and institute measures to treat these regulated contaminants but private wells are not held to the same regulatory standards. Indeed neighboring towns’ public water systems have been upgraded and treated for contaminants. The NJDEP/Columbia study seeks to determine whether private wells within these areas should institute further measures to protect public health.

While there is also a potential for arsenic to impact aquifers from past industrial and agricultural uses, the study limits directly correlate with these known geologic formations and are in no way related to any recent or current development activity within the Borough.

The Borough supports this and many other worthwhile health initiatives to protect its residents. Those USR homes included in the study will receive a letter directly from Columbia University offering free well testing with instructions. Participation is up to the homeowner. The Borough has been told that the results will similarly remain confidential.

Information on well water testing, unrelated to this study, can be found on the Borough’s website under the Board of Health at <https://www.usrtoday.org/well-water-testing-info/>. You can also learn more on the NJ DEP’s website at https://www.state.nj.us/dep/water-supply/pw_pwta.html.

The Borough is neither administering nor coordinating this study. It is being administered by Columbia University. Because of the confidentiality, there has been no notice of when homeowners may receive the information or which homes will or will not be included.

Smart Meters To Be Installed by O and R: The NJ Board of Public Utilities approved Rockland Electric’s plan to install Smart Meters in their NJ service area. Smart meter installations began in Rockland County during the summer of 2017. Work will continue through 2020 in Orange County, Sullivan County, as well as their New Jersey service territory adding approximately 400,000 devices. For information on Smart Meters, please visit the O and R website at <https://www.oru.com/en/our-energy-future/technology-innovation/smart-meters/smart-meter-installation>. The Environmental Defense Fund, a National Big Green, worked with the NJBPU to bring this technology to NJ. Please read more at <http://www.easternenvironmental.org/smart-meters-and-ami-unanimously-approved-by-nj-board-of-public-utilities/>

O and R states they will mail a postcard to customers about three months before they come to your neighborhood, and a letter 45 days before installations begin. If the meter is outside, you don’t need to do anything. If you need to be home to allow access to the meter, they’ll let you know how to make an appointment. If you would like more information on opting out, please call 1-877-434-4100 or visit <https://www.oru.com/-/media/files/oru/documents/our-energy-projects/smart-meter-opt-out-app.pdf>. There is an opt-out form specific for NJ customers.

Hope to see the entire community at Oktoberfest on Saturday, Oct 6th: Fun for all ages with live music, health and wellness activities, a biergarten provided by Defiant Brewing Company, vendor tables, a bounce house, tractor rides, PBA Obstacle Course, USREF Scarecrow Contest and food trucks at Lions Park. Our community and service organizations will offer activities and showcase their clubs. Admission is free for USR residents. Rain date is Sunday, October 7th. If you are interested in volunteering, taking a vendor booth or being a sponsor, please contact usrcares@gmail.com.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Tuesday, October 16, 2018 is the last day to register to vote in the November 6, 2018 General Election. Registration forms are currently available at the Borough Hall weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. On October 16, 2018 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., registration forms are available at the Upper Saddle River Police Department which should be completed and left with the Dispatcher. Call Borough Clerk Rose Vido (201) 934-3963 if you have any questions.

Note the following polling places.

District 1 & 2 - Cavallini School gym
 District 3 - Borough Hall
 District 4 & 5-Upper Saddle River Public Library (Powers Room)

The Woman’s Club of Upper Saddle River

Start preparing to be a part of the 2nd Annual Townwide Garage Sale sponsored by The Woman’s Club of USR. The date is Saturday, September 29th with a rain date of Sunday, September 30th. The time is 9am to 4pm. You host the sale at your home--or rent a space for your table at The Firehouse if you have smaller items to sell.

For the small fee of \$30, we get your permit, do the advertising and provide buyers with a map indicating the location of the Firehouse and the streets with homes having sales. YOUR PROFITS ARE YOURS! Let your neighbors know that this is a great day to have a sale, too!

Details and a downloadable application form are on our website (usrwomansclub.org). Send checks & application forms by Sept. 14th - The Woman’s Club of USR, PO Box 645, Saddle River.

Start locating those treasures to sell now!

We welcome all members and interested area women to our first meeting of the new club year on Tuesday, September 11th at 7pm at the USR Library.

Happy Birthday, Anona

Anona Park Club Inc. opened in the summer of 1928, making it 90 years old this year. It was begun by William H. Yeomans (1885-1955), and carved out of wooded land by Yeomans and a small crew of local men. The lake and the dam, both built by hand, are still there, north of Old Stone Church Road, up Yeoman Drive. The park covered 50 acres, had hundreds of picnic tables scattered through shady groves, and at its peak, a membership of about 500 families.

Anona had a large pavilion with a bar and refreshment stand and provided swim races, square dances and Sunday night amateur shows, picnicking and summer enjoyment.

In 1965 Norman (William’s son) and Anne Yeomans (his wife) who had been running Anona for several years, sold the Park to a developer, and it became Anona Lake.

Fall Tennis Clinics: Registration is now being accepted for the 2018 fall tennis clinics. There will be one 5–week session at the Wickershams Tennis Courts, located in front of the Reynolds School. The clinics will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning on September 10th. The cost for the 5 week session is \$95. Registration forms are available at Boro Hall or on the Boro website at www.USRtoday.org. For more information please call the USR Recreation Department at 201-327-3634 or email at USRRecreation@aol.com.

USRA Coalition Presents

Mind Matters - Promoting Mental Health by Educating Youth and their Parents On the Signs of Depression

Tuesday, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m.
 Mahwah High School, 50 Ridge Rd, Mahwah.

The Upper Saddle River/Allendale Coalition (USRA) and Mahwah Municipal Alliance are co-sponsoring **Mind Matters**, a mental health awareness presentation. Become educated about anxiety, depression and suicide. Let’s work together to remove the stigma that often prevents proper intervention and treatment. Resource tables will be available.

The USRA Coalition was formed in recognition of the rise of prescription and non prescription drug and substance abuse in Bergen County, NJ. Its mission - "To educate and create awareness in our communities to prevent and reduce substance abuse and other related health issues." Learn more at www.usracoalition.org.

Flu Clinic-Upper Saddle River

The annual Flu Clinic will be held on Monday, September 17, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Borough Hall, 376 West Saddle River Road, Upper Saddle River, NJ. Regular vaccination is \$40.99; High dose is \$66.99. Bring proof of Medicare.

USR WASTE COLLECTIONS - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018		
Garbage:		
September	Every Monday & Thursday	
	NO garbage will be collected on Monday, Sept. 3rd - Labor Day	
October	Every Monday & Thursday	NOTE: Must call by 10am the NEXT DAY to report missed Trash/Recycles.
Recycling:		
September	West Side	East Side
	Tuesday, Sept. 4 and Sept. 18	Tuesday, Sept. 11 and Sept. 25
October	West Side	East Side
	Tuesday, Oct. 2, Oct. 16 and Oct. 30	Tuesday, Oct. 9 and Oct. 23
	NOTE: Must call by 10am the NEXT DAY to report missed Trash/Recycles.	
Curbside White Goods:		Call 201-327-2196 x221 to schedule appointment
September	Thursday, Sept. 6	for the appliance at LEAST three days prior to the pickup date.
October	Thursday, Oct. 4	
Curbside Bulky Trash:		
Friday, September 14		

9/11 Memorial Ceremony

On Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm, the Upper Saddle River Fire Dept will be hosting a memorial service and candlelight vigil. The service will take place at the 9/11 memorial in front of the firehouse. All residents are invited to attend.

Fire Prevention Night

The Upper Saddle River Fire Department will have Fire Prevention Night on October 17th from 5 pm to 8 pm. We will have demonstrations and fire truck rides, apple cider and donuts. Come and see what we do, it will be a learning experience.

The USR Historical Society

SEPTEMBER

Attention, artists! On Sunday, September 23, the USR Historical Society and the USR Friends of the Library are partnering to host an Autumn Art Show on the grounds of the Hopper-Goetschius House Museum from 1 to 4 pm. Admission is free. It’s open to local artists who would like to exhibit - paintings, drawings, photography, sculpture, pottery, silver work and wood carving. If you would like to participate, email Marica Lesznik atmlslesznik2@gmail.com. Mark your calendar to be sure to attend the show.

OCTOBER

This year our annual Harvest Festival will be on Saturday, October 13, from 1 to 4 pm. (with Sunday, Oct. 14 as the raindate). Our popular petting zoo and pony rides will be there as well as the blue grass band, Growing Old Disgracefully. There will be cider pressing in the Dutch barn, spooky stories in the school-room, the gypsy fortune teller in her tent, open hearth cooking in the outkitchen, and the blacksmith at his forge. Enjoy demonstrations of colonial crafts and tour the house and barn.

Parking will be in Lions Park. Handicapped parking will be at the museum lot. The event is free to Historical Society members and children 16 and under.

Household Hazardous Waste

There will be a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah NJ and Sunday, October 14, 2018 at Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Road, Paramus, NJ. The collection hours are 9am-3pm rain or shine. Free of charge for Bergen county residents, ID required. Visit www.bcua.org for additional information.

Adult Walk-In Health Clinic

Thursday, Sept. 27 and Thursday, Oct. 25 from noon-1pm at Borough Hall.

Paper Shredding

The USR shredding event is scheduled for Saturday, September 22, 2018 from 9am-1pm, rain or shine behind the Borough Hall. This event is free of charge for residents.