

WINTER
2008
Issue

Old Tappan News

Mayor's Message



Since the early 1980's, which encompasses both the Gallagher and Wiss administrations, your Mayor and council has worked very hard to keep our town safe, and our municipal taxes low (the only component of your tax liability that we are responsible for). Throughout this period, Old Tappan has been at the forefront of forming shared services agreements with neighboring communities because we collectively rec-

ognized early on that when times were troubling (like they are today), sharing with other municipalities will reduce our overall operating and capital expenditures. I mention this now, in light of our most recent agreement with Rivervale, and felt that it would be timely to discuss exactly what types of agreements Old Tappan currently has in place.

At a Pascack Valley Mayor's meeting a few months back, Mayor Blundo of Rivervale approached me about sharing the costs for our new skate board park. That discussion ultimately resulted in our towns splitting the costs of the park and at Town Day on September 13, 2008, Mayor Blundo and I shook hands on our cooperative venture. As we speak, children from both towns are happily using the facility. The idea for the skate board park has been worked on for a few years and we are proud to be sharing the costs, and enjoyment with our neighboring town.

Recently Old Tappan, in conjunction with the Pascack Valley Mayor's Association, created a purchasing cooperative. Over the past twelve months, we successfully bid on road work which reduced our costs by over 20%. We have also received a grant to study the ten DPW departments for the purpose of evaluation and shared opportunity. Other initiatives that are in progress are blanket energy purchases to mitigate our expenses, audit of hydrant costs, leaf and brush recycling, storm water management including pump stations, truck and auto washing, storm drain maintenance, cameras and specialized equipment. I am also working with the Northern Valley Mayor's Association to create similar opportunities over the next few years.

Additional shared services agreements that we have entered into are as follows: a senior bus, street sweeper, sewer jet and bucket truck with Hillsdale, whereby we allow each town to share one vehicle, some as part of a scheduled program and some on an as needed basis. We are now partnering with Northvale in a grant request for the Safe Routes to School program. Our long standing partnerships with Fire and First Aid continue through the mutual

aid program. Our Police dispatch is done with Rivervale, fuel is purchased through Bergen County, and our police department utilizes cooperative purchasing with other police agencies, purchasing supplies such as ammunition, flares and other agency supplies to reduce costs. We are also the fuel supplier to River Vale, Northern Valley Regional High School, River Vale Police Department and Charles DeWolf School, all the while ensuring that emergency service vehicles have a ready source of fuel thereby reducing the need for separate, costly pumping centers. Most recently Old Tappan, in conjunction with nine other towns, entered into a cooperative agreement with the county for a new sewer jet truck. This is a cost savings to us in excess of \$200,000.

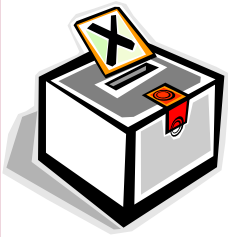
Additionally, when you think about shared services, one of the first may have been BCCLS, The Bergen County Cooperative Library Service. Innovative in its time and now taken for granted, BCCLS makes every book available to any resident from any library in the system. We are blessed to have a blue chip facility staffed by extraordinary people at the library, under the outstanding leadership of Susan Meeske.

And lastly, you may recall the Resource Optimization Initiative we started with School Superintendent Bill Ward last year. Through ROI we assist the schools with maintenance and up-keep of their fields and machinery, as well as provide fuel for their vehicles, as stated previously. The borough and the school board are in the process of looking into energy audits to obtain real solutions to energy conservation. We are also in the process of exploring alternative energy production, including solar. Earlier this year, we applied for funds to conduct the solar energy study: we are still waiting for a response.

As you can imagine, the above mentioned agreements don't really "show up in the box score." Unless you see it and feel it, you really don't know that they exist, or that we are working on them. But they do exist, they have been and will continue to be an important part of this Mayor and Council's thinking.

As far as today's environment is concerned, hang in there as we will get through these unprecedented and very turbulent times that we are facing. Back in April when I wrote that the price of oil had peaked, I didn't expect that we would drop by 50%. So, stay positive, smell the roses and cherish all that we truly have.

Informed and reasoned decision making on the many critical issues before us can only be done with your input. The Mayor and Council need your help and support. Come to our meetings, write us, call us or email us at mayor@oldtappan.net. Be a part of the exciting process of shaping our evolving town, in a positive, collaborative manner while carefully preserving what is so special about it.



2008 GENERAL ELECTION INFORMATION
FROM THE BOROUGH CLERK



GENERAL ELECTION: Tuesday, November 4th – 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Districts and Polling Places – Watch for your Sample Ballot, which will indicate your District and Polling Place in the left hand corner.

Contact the Municipal Clerk's office at 201-664-1849 ext. 238 if you have any questions.

POLLING PLACES: Districts 1, 2, & 3 - T. Baldwin Demarest School, School Street/Herrick Drive



A Message from Fire Chief and Fire Marshal Nicola Lepore.....

This year the Old Tappan Fire Department ladies auxiliary celebrated its 75th year. I was surprised to find that a majority of our residents are unaware of this group and the service they perform for our Fire Fighters, emergency responders and ultimately the community.

As any Fire Chief knows at any large emergency there are many things to be concerned with and many responsibilities. A big responsibility is the good and welfare of our fire fighters and this is where our Ladies Auxiliary comes in.

The Ladies auxiliary is a volunteer organization made up of candidates who meet the eligibility requirements. The purpose of the ladies auxiliary is to promote a social atmosphere within the organization and to support the interests of the emergency service organizations.

The primary function of the Ladies Auxiliary is to be available to assist our emergency services with necessary refreshments when they respond to fire or any other serious emergency that may occur within our community.

A secondary function is to provide funds for donations to the New Jersey Burn Centers, the Firemen's home in Boonton, New Jersey as well as providing a scholarship each year to an eligible 8th grader in Charles DeWolf School.

The first meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary was held on August 16th 1933 at the home of the late Ida Stokes, with 24 members in attendance. The auxiliary purchased a gas stove and all equipment for the first firehouse kitchen, as well as donating \$1,969.20 to the firemen to build the fire house.



If anyone sixteen (16) years of age or older, who is related to an Old Tappan Fire Department members or Ladies Auxiliary member, or a resident of the community, is interested in becoming a member, the Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of each month downstairs in the fire house. You may also contact the Borough Hall at 201 664 1849 ext 227.

These dedicated ladies are a very important part of our fire service. These ladies come out to help us in all sorts of adverse and sometimes dangerous conditions. In good and bad weather hot days and cold days no matter what time of the day or night.

On behalf on our fire fighters and myself, a heartfelt THANK YOU, for your service and dedication to our fire service and Old Tappan's emergency services. *We congratulate you on your 75th anniversary.*

Since this is the last news letter of the year I would like to take this time to remind everyone of the following safety items:

- Change batteries in your smoke detectors when you change your clocks.
- If you have a wood burning fire place or stove, be sure to have the chimney cleaned and inspected for cracks before using them this season.
- Having your furnace and or boiler serviced before the heating season to ensure proper operation, this could be a source of carbon monoxide if not serviced properly.
- Be sure your homes have a clear and visible house number. If we cannot find your address we could waste precious time when responding to your home with a fire truck or ambulance.
- If you use a live Christmas tree this holiday season, be sure it is kept properly watered and in an area that would not block your exit in the event of a fire. Be sure all lights and wires are in good condition. Every year there are many house fires and fatalities due to carelessness with holiday decorations.

Santa Claus will be coming to town in December, keep an eye on the Fire Department sign for the exact date and time.

On behalf of the firefighters and officers of the Old Tappan Fire Department we would like to thank you all for your support this year. Thank you also to the Mayor and Council for their continued support of the fire service and the public safety of it's residents. *Have a joyful and safe holiday season!*



Property taxes are due on 11/1/08. There is a 10 day grace period to 11/10/08.

In early 2009 the tax office will begin accepting VISA and MASTERCARD debit and credit card transactions for a resident who comes into the tax office to pay their current sewer service charge due semi-annually on March 1st and September 1st.

We also will begin accepting in early 2009 VISA and MASTERCARD debit and credit card transactions for a resident who comes into the tax office to pay their current annual special benefit assessment installment.

These installments are due annually at different due dates throughout the year. If you decide to pay off the entire assessment, that must continue to be paid by cash or check.

During 2009 look for the online payment of real estate taxes, sewer service charges, and various other fees by ACH electronic check through a link on the Borough of Old Tappan's website www.oldtappan.net.

Annual Deductions on Property Taxes:

Senior Citizens: Annual property tax deduction of \$250 for homeowner's age 65 or older or disabled who meet certain income and residency requirements.

Veteran Deduction: Annual property tax deduction of \$250 for homeowners who are qualified war veterans and their surviving spouses.

Please inquire at the tax office about these property tax deductions.



A Message from Police Chief Joseph Fasulo.....

Congratulations parents and children. I have never seen more kids wearing their bicycle helmets than I have this past summer. Keep up the good work and hopefully we will have 100% compliance soon. Just a reminder that anyone using the new skate park is required to have all safety equipment and to wear it.

No Overnight Parking on Borough Streets begins November 15th and runs through April 1st.

Please be careful of pedestrians walking or crossing the roadways and remember to push the button on the traffic light stanchions to cross safely. This activates the Walk/Do Not Walk sign in sequence with the traffic signal.

Sgt. Charles "Chuck" Anders will be retired as of October 1st after serving the Borough of Old Tappan for the past 25 years. Chuck is one of the most loyal and dedicated individuals that I have ever known. Chuck started his career with the Old Tappan Police Department in October of 1983 after having served overseas with the United States Air Force as a Military Police Officer. Chuck is a unique individual who will always go that extra mile to make someone else's life better. There aren't enough fingers and toes in the entire department to count for the amount of times someone has stopped in just to say that he made a difference in their lives. Chuck's family has always had a great son, husband and father in their home and the Police Department Family will miss his constant upbeat attitude and practical jokes. **Thanks for the "Great Job" and enjoy your retirement.**

Senior Volunteer Bus Driver Retirees Honored By Mayor & Council...

Senior bus drivers, Ellie DiDonato and John Prahm, have announced their respective retirements recently. Ellie was one of the original van drivers and John and his wife, Barbara, were a husband & wife team since 2003. On behalf of the community and its seniors, the Mayor & Council extended a heartfelt thanks for their years of volunteer service by way of Proclamation on Monday, October 6, 2008. We wish them well in their most deserved retirement.

The senior bus was purchased by way of a grant in the year 2000 and has since logged some 67,000 miles driving seniors to nearby shopping centers, doctors offices, senior meetings, and town wide events. Old Tappan has a shared services agreement with Hillsdale, who uses the senior van on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. On Mondays and Fridays the senior van is used by Old Tappan residents. Recently the van is also used for the Library movie matinees, the annual flu shots and the Golden Age meetings. Mrs. Vivian Barbiero serves as coordinator who oversees operations on a daily basis. For information regarding transportation or to serve as a much needed volunteer, please contact Vivian @ 201-767-8651.



Submitted by John Kramer, a senior van driver

Tire Recycling Computers / Electronics Program



Homeowners wishing to dispose of tires or computer or electronic equipment such as television, VCR, radios, etc, are invited to bring these materials to the following locations:

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday, November 1, 2008
Collection Hours: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
(rain or shine)

Household Hazardous Waste Events

Household hazardous waste will be accepted at the locations listed below. To determine the materials that will be accepted please go to BCUA.org Look under Solid Waste recycling and than Household Hazardous Waste for a list of items which will be accepted. Locations and times are:

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road
Saturday, November 15, 2008
Collection Hours 9:00 Am to 3:00 PM
(rain or shine)



Summer Enjoyment at Oakes

The concerts in the park at Oaks Park were a huge success in 2008. Over the summer on warm breezy Wednesday nights our residents enjoyed music ranging from jazz to country and rock & roll to Broadway. Everyone brought their folding chairs, snacks and the evenings became a social event for young and old. Older folks taking a rest while the kids zipped by on their skateboards reminded me of a time long ago when Old Tappan was moving along at a slower pace and our parks were a place to gather and relax. If you walk around the path in the park you will undoubtedly run into the next generation being pushed in strollers and gathering a crowd of folks uttering their "oohs" and "ahhs". Oaks Park is everything we envisioned and I am thrilled about how much use it is getting.

A huge thanks to the Social and Cultural affairs committee, chaired by Joanne Nesi, for their work in getting the events booked and organizing other events in the park. Many thanks also go to our sponsors who help us with a needed shot of revenue so we can keep this boat afloat. Next year look for an even larger program of events as we continue to keep this park the jewel that is.

Submitted by Ron Binaghi

Special Thanks to this year's sponsors...

<p>Gold : Inserra Supermarkets</p>	<p>Silver: Dr. Hess, Old Tappan Veterinary Curves of Old Tappan The Old Tappan Flower Garden</p>
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Mayor's Wellness Campaign



Women's Cardiovascular Health Issues And a 5K Walk

The Board of Health of the Borough of Old Tappan is pleased to announce its next program, "Women's Cardiovascular Health Issues". Presented by guest speaker Dr. Edward Greaney. Dr. Greaney is a Clinical Assistant Professor specializing in Internal Medicine at the NYU Medical Center and we are excited to have an expert of his stature address our community regarding such an important issue. All are welcome.

The event is scheduled for Sunday November 2, 2008 at the Stone Point Park Pavilion. The outdoor lecture will start at 1:00 PM. Immediately following the lecture will be a 5K walk through the Borough.

Please join us for an informative lecture, fresh air and a stimulating walk with friends.

Any questions, please contact Councilman Matt Nalbandian

REMINDER TO PET OWNERS

Pet Licenses expire
December 31, 2008.

Pet License applications for 2009 will be mailed out mid December. Applications will also be available at Borough Hall and on our website.

Please note the new time for the Free Anti Rabies Clinic. It will be held at the DPW Garage, Russell Avenue on Saturday, January 10, 2009 from 9 A.M. to 11 A.M. Dogs (on a leash) from 9:00 a.m to 10 a.m, and cats (in pet carrier) from 10:00 a.m to 11:00 a.m. If you want to renew your license on the day of the clinic, please bring completed license form and check (no cash).





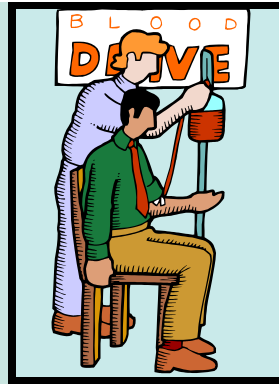
Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make Town Day such a success!

LIONS OF OLD TAPPAN

The Lions of Old Tappan will hold their next Blood Drive on Monday, December 1, 2008 at the Firehouse from 4 to 7:30 pm. Donors are always needed, especially during the holiday season. What greater gift can we give at holiday time.

This is also the time of year when the Lions make their White Cane collections for the blind. The Lions give of their money and time to all projects involving sight, our most precious gift. From supporting Camp Marcella for sight challenged children in Hibernia, New Jersey, to collecting used eyeglasses, the Lions are their with their support. These are hard times for many so please help us to help the blind.

The Lions Club is open to all men and women. We even have special lower dues for family units. Please contact us if you are interested. We meet the second Saturday of the month at 9:30 am and the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Join us.



The Old Tappan Municipal Alliance
18th Annual
Mayor's Trophy
Golf Tournament



was held on Monday, September 22nd, at the OT Golf Course. The weather was perfect and the golfing was almost perfect! Thank you to everyone who helped make the tournament a success and a huge thanks to Champions Grill for all they did for us that day.

The purpose of the *OT Municipal Alliance* program is to promote public awareness concerning alcoholism and drug abuse as well as determine problem solving strategies for our community's unique substance abuse & prevention needs for all ages.

Next up - **FRIGHT NIGHT** at CDW!

BOOK DRIVE MAKES BIG IMPACT

Girl Scout Troop 1396 collected hundreds of books from our community from February to June to donate to Project Literacy of Bergen County. This is an organization dedicated to raising the level of public consciousness on the issues of adult literacy. After bringing their collection to Project Literacy in Hackensack the girls were informed that their troop was to be named the "Service Organization of the Year" at the 20th annual awards ceremony at Hackensack University Medical Center. In addition to contributing to a great cause, the girls from Troop 1396 used the drive as their community project, another step that will bring them closer to achieving the Girl Scout Bronze Award, the highest honor a Junior Girls Scout can earn. This girls were very excited with their project and also expanded their knowledge on what other kinds of books are out there along the road.



OLD TAPPAN PEACE POLE

The Girl Scouts of Troops 677, 684 & 724 designed and built a Peace Pole that is now installed in Stone Point Park. Peace poles have been placed in many places around the world for years and now Old Tappan is home to one. Besides proclaiming "May Peace Prevail On Earth", it also contains the word "peace" in many different languages. The girls worked many hours on the pole and received their Bronze Award with this project. Many thanks to Tony Herbert for all his work and patience and to Binaghi Farms for the donation of the flowers.



We would like to extend our sincerest Thanks to all of the following contributors who helped make Town Day the success that it was...

- A&P Supermarket
- Alex Toys
- Angela Casola, Mary Kay Consultant
- Baviello's Italian Deli
- Bi State Shipping Store 'n More
- Blue Moon Mexican Café
- Books & Greetings
- Buldo Sanitation
- Butterworth's Bagels
- Certified Gifax and Signz
- Champion's Grill
- Charlie Brown's Steakhouse
- Cinamacar Leasing
- Colonial Manor
- Costco
- Curves for Women
- CVS Pharmacy
- Dairy Queen
- Daniel Restaurant
- DiBari's Deli
- Doug's Pro Shop
- Eden Nails
- ERA Lancia Realty
- Evergreen Chinese Restaurant
- Exxon of Old Tappan
- Forcellati Brothers Nursery
- Fortis Title Group
- Gary Mascolo, Coldwell Banker
- Head to Toe Hair Salon
- Jacqueline Buzzetti, Mary Kay Consultant
- Jim Donaghy Family
- John Rinaldi, Remax/Twin Valley Real Estate
- Joseph Rubino – State Farm Insurance Agent
- Kearny Federal Savings
- Kings Supermarkets
- Korean Presbyterian Church of the Palisades
- Lakeview Condominium Association
- Massoyan Jewelers
- Matsuba Sushi
- McDonald's of Old Tappan
- McLaughlin & Associates
- Mindy's Munchies
- Morning Glory
- NVOT Sports Foundation
- Old Tappan Baseball Association
- Old Tappan Basketball Association
- Old Tappan Cleaners
- Old Tappan Elementary PTA
- Old Tappan Fire Department
- Old Tappan Flower Garden
- Old Tappan Football Association
- Old Tappan Golf Commission
- Old Tappan Lion's Club
- Old Tappan Men's Softball Association
- Old Tappan Police Alliance
- Old Tappan Soccer Association
- Paula Clark/Coldwell Banker
- Pearson Education
- Perennials
- Petrillo's Deli
- Phil Griffin

- Pizza Factory
- PNC Bank
- Prudential Adamo Realty
- R & C Interlock Corp.
- Ronnie Manus/Ronnie's Bagels
- Shop Rite of Northvale
- Spagnuolo Builders
- Sports Time
- St. Pius Roman Catholic Church
- Starbucks of Old Tappan
- Sunrise Assisted Living
- Tea & Beer, Inc.
- The Adamo Family
- The Arthur Family
- The Borough of Old Tappan
- The Brennan Family
- The Brophy Family, Poland Spring Water
- The Buldo Family
- The Carnazza Family

- The Charles Family
- The Cisneros Family
- The DePhillips Family
- The Germinario Family
- The Haveron Family
- The Kroese Family
- The Latilla Family, Manhattan Fruit Exchange
- The McLaughlin Family
- The Messina Family
- The Ponte Family
- The Scirocco Group
- The Shanley Family, Manhattan Mercedes Benz
- The Stella Family
- Vale Cleaners
- Wine & Whiskey Barrel



OLD TAPPAN BASKETBALL Opening Day is Saturday December 6, 2008

Old Tappan's Recreation Department offers a wonderful youth basketball program for all our players.

OLD TAPPAN BASKETBALL programs are available for all children from Kindergarten through 6th Grade. It is one of the most popular sports in our town with more than 350 players participating in our programs.

Our **Kindergarten, 1st Grade** and **Second Grade** programs for both **Girls and Boys** is run by professional basketball instructors who are skilled at working with younger players. They make it not only educational but a lot of fun. All new players in our program will receive their own basketball to work with not only during our scheduled times but at home as well. A variety of skills are taught addressed to the age of the players and gradually these players are introduced to game type situations. All players receive an **OLD TAPPAN BASKETBALL** reversible basketball jersey. We are proud to say we are only one of a very few towns in our area that offers basketball programs for our younger players and the response has been incredible!

OLD TAPPAN BASKETBALL continues with 6 wonderful programs for our older playeyers.

- **Girls Grades 3 and 4**
- **Girls Grades 5 and 6**
- **Girls Grades 7 and 8**
- **Boys Grades 3 and 4**
- **Boys Grades 5 and 6**
- **Boys Grades 7 and 8**

Each of these groups will have practice/training sessions to begin the year and once the season begins they will have a practice and game each week. Teams of equal skill are formed, and equal playing time is stressed to our coaches. Games are officiated by high school players who graduated from our programs and this program has been a wonderful bridge from our program to the high school. All players will receive our **OLD TAPPAN BASKETBALL** reversible basketball jersey.

Registration Information: Old Tappan Basketball registration for this winter's season will begin on October 20 and will continue until November 20. All participants from last year will receive an email announcement as well. Online registration is done through our town's website at:

<http://oldtappan.net/basketball.cfm>

For additional information please contact: Peter Soumas at OTHoops@gmail.com

Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention Night was held at the Old Tappan Fire Department on Tuesday, October 7th. Residents were able to view all the fire apparatus while the children got a chance to stop, drop and roll in the smoke filled chambers. Thank you to our wonderful volunteer fire department for promoting fire safety in our community.



Borough of Old Tappan
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Old Tappan, NJ 07675

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