SPRING
2009
ISSUE

Old Tappan News

Mayor's Message

I believe there is no more critical task for a governing body than the adoption of the budget. Over the past ten years, the overriding focus of this Mayor and Council has been to fashion a budget which is fiscally prudent within the overall context of managing our community. It is important to remember that one of the major components of managing the business of a Borough is truly a FINANCIAL one, and must always be looked upon from that perspective. Goals such as preserving open space, sharing services with neighboring communities, or providing our blue chip library with the necessary resources to renovate their building, are all viewed in the context of their present, and future, financial implications. This administration has not, nor will we ever, compromise our long term financial health for short term political gains.

During January, February and March, the Council and I have worked diligently together at numerous budget sessions. Last December, in preparation for the budget process, each department received a letter from me requesting that its operating budget would be reduced by 5% from the previous year. Unfortunately, even though a good start, we found this would not be enough. As the process started in January, we learned that the town's revenues were considerably lower than in previous years. Our interest income from investments was down dramatically (due to declining interest rates) while building permits also collapsed as fewer people renovated their homes than in the previous year. At that point, we quickly realized that we would have to reduce expenses much more than anticipated. The first step we took was to review every departmental request (including capital items which are needed to maintain our first rate services) and to meet with the heads of our various departments, boards, committees and commissions.

At the same time, we met with representatives from both the Police Department and the DPW to see if there was a way in which we could change the structure of their impending salary increase, to something that was more akin to the financial problems that are occurring today. After numerous sessions between us we decided, as their contract expires at the end of the year, that it would be best to take a fresh look during the fourth quarter to hammer out a contract that would be mutually beneficial. I would like to thank them however, for their work, and willingness, throughout the entire process.

With the assistance of our Chief Financial Officer, Rebecca Overgaard, as well as our Municipal Accountant, Jeff Bliss, we have fashioned a budget for the year 2009 which will yield a slight municipal tax increase. This increase will total $64 annually (or 3.7%), for a home ASSESSED at $622,000. Each and every council person deliberated long and hard about the merit of increasing taxes slightly given the current economic environment that we are confronted with. In the end, we felt that since we already cut so much from the budget that, by not increasing taxes just a bit, we would have had a much more serious problem going into 2010, particularly if the economy continues to meander along at a "repression" like pace. As hopefully you can see, the short term and long term financial well being of this municipality (and consequently, your financial well being as a homeowner and taxpayer) is uppermost in our minds.

In 2008, the breakdown of your tax bill was as follows:

- 14% for municipal services, which includes the operation of the Police Department and the Department of Public Works, the Borough's professionals, the Borough's many boards and commissions, the equipment utilized to ensure that our streets and roads are maintained properly, the administration of the Borough, as well as funding for the Library. This is what your Mayor and Council is responsible for.
- 73% for the elementary schools and high school, which is determined by the local and regional boards and voted on in April. The Borough of Old Tappan merely COLLECTS the tax.
- 13% for the County Tax, which is determined by the County government. The Borough of Old Tappan merely COLLECTS the tax.

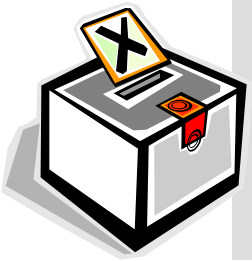
Hence, only $14 out of every $100 of your tax dollars paid for all the services provided by the Borough.

Continued on page 3

Congratulations to John Kramer and Ron Binaghi, Jr., on their re-election...

Mayor Victor M. Polce administering Oath of Office to Councilman John Kramer.

Mayor Victor M. Polce administering Oath of Office to Councilman Ron Binaghi, Jr.



Important Information For the 2009 Elections from the Office of the Borough Clerk

PRIMARY ELECTION: Tuesday, June 2nd – 6am - 8pm

Last day to register to vote in the Primary Election is Tuesday, May 12th. The Municipal Clerk's office will remain open on Tuesday, May 12th until 9pm

GENERAL ELECTION: Tuesday, November 3rd – 6:am - 8pm

Last day to register to vote in the General Election is Tuesday, October 13th. The Municipal Clerk's office will remain open on Tuesday, October 13th until 9:00 p.m.

The Bergen County Board of Elections issues voter Registration Cards.

If you are going to be out of town on Election Day, you may pick up an absentee ballot application at the Borough Clerk's Office. The **County Clerk** must receive applications by mail no later than 7 days prior to Election Day. **After the 7 day deadline all applications must be hand delivered to the County Clerk**.

DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES: Watch for your Sample Ballot, which indicates your District and Polling Place in the left hand corner. Contact the Municipal Clerks office at 201-664-1849 ext. 238 if you have any questions.

POLLING PLACE FOR DISTRICTS 1, 2, & 3: T. Baldwin Demarest School, School Street/Herrick Drive

A Message from Police Chief Joseph Fasulo…..

Hopefully we've made it out of the cold and into a warmer season by the time this newsletter reaches your home. As with the arrival of spring in town come added ventures to the parks and schools. Please be aware of children in both of these areas. Over the past several months I have noticed a marked increase in parents only dropping their children off in front of the TBD School which causes a great amount of traffic congestion. A large amount of this traffic could be eliminated if parents with older children would consider dropping off at the DeBerg Drive entrance. Parents traveling from the east have the option of turning down Russell Avenue, Leonard Drive or Charles Place to Irving Street to DeBerg Drive. Parents coming from the west would follow Washington Avenue to Lachmund Court to DeBerg Drive. As always, please obey the School Marshals and do not double park.

If you are planning a much needed vacation please notify the Police Department if you would like your home checked. Always let someone know when you are away and make arrangements to have the mail and papers picked up or stopped.

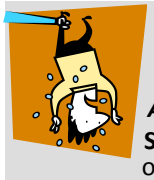
Over the years we have all heard of various internet and telephone scams that continue to thrive. I personally have found that a website, www.snopes.com keeps track of most current ones. It is unfortunate how many people fall victim to these scams each year and that most are embarrassed to report it. Please notify our officers if you have any doubts about someone wanting to give you something for nothing, it just doesn't happen.

Please remember that Speed is the number one violation that we see in our neighborhoods. Unfortunately the number one violators in our neighborhoods are our neighbors. Please make a concerted effort to be cognizant of the 25 MPH speed limit in all residential areas. Residents may again begin parking over night in the streets after April 1st. However we encourage you to still use your driveways as suspicious cars are easily spotted when the streets are empty and children riding bicycles and motorists have a better view of each other so that no one gets into an accident.

The Old Tappan Police Department proudly welcomed Gene Wilkins on January 5th, 2009, as the new member on our force. Gene was born and raised in River Vale, entered the coast guard after high school graduation and spent 6 years active duty with the helicopter squadron and presidential honor guard. He later put himself through the Cape May County Police Academy alternate route program.

Officer Wilkins was a much needed addition to our force. In September of 2008, Sgt. Charles Anders retired after 25 years of service. Shortly after that Officer Katie Weaver informed the department that she was pregnant. On October 30, 2008, she was removed from the schedule and was not allowed any patrol duties. In order to run law enforcement matters, routine patrol duties, emergency medical responses, and the multitude of services provided by the police department, there needs to be at minimum 13 officers. As of November of 2008, our police department was at 11. Officer Wilkins' hiring has helped put our police department back on schedule.

Enjoy the parks and longer daylight. Get out and walk or ride a bike or just go and watch the kids play sports.



Property taxes are due on 8/1/09. There is a 10 day grace period until August 11, 2009.

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.

Continued from cover page…

Old Tappan continues to maintain one of the lowest tax rates in Bergen County (second to Alpine according to our Municipal Auditor) while continuing to provide first class services. Additionally, this "business first" approach has resulted in a bond rating of Aa3, which is among the highest for municipalities in the Pascack and Northern Valley areas. This Mayor and Council will never use long term borrowing to support our day-to-day operating expenses. Nor would we resort to the type of fiscal madness coming from Trenton, where they are recommending that we (and other towns) defer our pension liability into the **future to be paid back at an undisclosed interest rate**. This is a recipe for financial Armageddon that would further adversely affect your financial investment in this town.

Your Mayor and Council are dedicated to getting you the most out of your tax dollars. You will continue to see the results of our efforts in 2009, and beyond. Over the past ten years, this administration has clearly shown a pattern of fiscal responsibility and concern for our collective financial futures. We believe in and are committed to bettering Old Tappan through sound planning and prudent investment in our infrastructure (particularly when economic conditions warrant such action), with particular emphasis on the present and future financial well-being of this town. Remember, our goal is to ensure that Old Tappan continues to be the extraordinary place it has always been, and that YOUR financial investment in this community is truly, a profitable one.

The Borough Website continues to be updated...

This year a calendar listing borough events was added to the home page. A comprehensive list of events can be found here.

A new Resident Handbook is available on the Borough Website. On the Home Page place your cursor on About Old Tappan and than move to Resident Handbook. The handbook is a rich source of information for our residents. It is on the website in a printable format. If you do not have access to the internet, please stop by Borough Hall, and we will be happy to make a copy of the handbook available to you.

With the Borough Calendar and the Resident Handbook on the Borough Website we will no linger print and mail the monthly events calendar or the Handbook to each resident. This will save paper and postage and make the Borough of Old Tappan ever more "Green". Both are available at Borough Hall for any resident who would like a printed copy.

With the guidance and help of the Technology Committee and the input of the staff at Borough Hall we will continue to try to make the website as useful and interactive as possible to serve the needs of the community.

Tire Recycling Computers/Electronics Program

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

Bergen county Community Services Building
327 East Ridgewood Ave, Paramus
Saturday August 22, 2009

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday, June 14 2009
Saturday, November 7, 2009

Collection Hours: 9am-2pm (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 Community College
400 Paramus Road, Paramus
Sunday, June 28, 2009
Sunday, October 4, 2009

Bergen County Utilities Authority
Foot of Empire Boulevard, Moonachie
Saturday, July 18, 2009

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday May 16, 2009
Saturday September 12, 2009
Saturday November 21, 2009

Collection Hours 9am-2pm (rain or shine)

We have recently been having a problem with objects in the sanitary sewer system that does not belong there. We have had the following, items of clothing, mop heads, cleaning cloths, and rocks. These items have jammed and clogged pumps, requiring the removal and disassembly of pumps from 3 different pumping stations. This is a costly and time consuming situation that should be unnecessary, it could also require the replacement of a pump costing $5000 or more. Disposing of such items is a violation of borough ordinance §198-5. You also chance causing a back up in your lateral or in the street main outside your house witch then could have sewerage backing up into your basement. We would also like to remind you that it is also a violation to dump cooking grease and oils down the drain as well as the connection of sump pumps and gutters to the sanitary sewer system.

Schedule of Events To Remember...

O.T. Municipal Alliance Senior Luncheon on Thursday, May 21, 2009, 12:00p.m. , at the Korean Presbyterian Church All seniors welcome!

Memorial Day Parade to be held on Monday, May 25, 2009. More information on back cover of newsletter.

Police Building Ribbon Cutting is scheduled for June 14, 2009 After a year of work, the new Police Building will be open for business! The event will begin at 1:00 P.M. with a ribbon cutting and comments by dignitaries at 1:30 P.M. followed by tours and refreshments..

Oakes Park Concert Series during July and August. The Social and Cultural Affairs committee has been hard at work setting up a spectacular schedule of concerts for this summer.

July 8th—Allan Namery, July 15th—Silk City, July 22nd—Bandit

July 29th—No Discipline, August,5th– Broadway Bound., etc..

Old Tappan Town Day to be held on Saturday, September 12, 2009 with a rain date of Sunday, September 13, 2009. The Town Day activities will take place at Stone Point from 12 Noon to 5:00 pm. Fireworks extravaganza to be held later that night at the Old Tappan golf course.

Mayor's Trophy Golf Outing sponsored by the Old Tappan Municipal Alliance is scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2009, with a rain date of Monday, October 3, 2009. 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.

Fire Prevention Week is the second full week in October. Keep a look out for information on the Fire Department and Ambulance Corp. open house usually held on the Tuesday of that week.

To The People of Old Tappan,

As you all know, on October 14, 2008, our family suffered a devastating fire. We lost everything, except the clothes (pajamas) on our backs. It was traumatizing for our entire family. We didn't know what to do, where would we go, where and how do we even try to start over? Thankfully we live in a town full of kind-hearted, caring, and generous people and businesses. Without the people and businesses of Old Tappan, we would not have been able to get though this trying time,

We would like to extend out heart felt thanks to everyone who has helped up through this traumatic event. We cannot find enough words to express our gratitude to all of the people who have donated everything from clothing, food, gift cards, money, and other resources. We would also like to thank all of the people, families, and businesses who have provided their time and their needed services for free. There are too many "Thanks" to list individually, which is proof that Old Tappan is full of kindness and generosity, for which we are truly grateful.

We would like to express special thanks to Donna Getz for organizing everything for our family. We would also like to give special thanks to the Old Tappan school district (staff and students), the Borough of Old Tappan's financial department for facilitating the collection of the generous donations, the Mayor, the police and fire departments, the Kuhlmeier family, the Richards family, Tina Struss-Johnson & family, the Carnevale family, Linda De Simone, Loretta Spangler, Eileen Mortiz, the Butterworth family, Jimmy and Peter Brisco, Barry of Barry's Septic and Ruben's Deli, *(Jody and Michael, Yvette Madaio, Lisa Guelpen, Susie Connolly, all of Harrington Park).*

We truly thank you from the bottom of our hearts, and wish everyone who has helped us, peace and happiness throughout 2009.

Thank You,

The Old Tappan Fire Family

Brought to you by the Senior Advisory Committee....

The Old Tappan Senior Citizens' Advisory Committee provides senior citizens with information on services that are available to them. The Committee endeavors to reaffirm the dignity and value of older adults in the community and informs the Mayor and Council and Borough residents of senior citizens' special needs. The Committee also runs several activities including a monthly Pizza-Bingo game on the third Monday of each month. The next one is on Monday, May 18th at 11:00 am in the Old Tappan Firehouse. Also planned for 2009 is a "Lunch 'n Learn" luncheon where we have sandwiches and salads plus a speaker on a topic of interest to seniors. Mark your calendars for the following Lunch n' Learn to b e held on Thursday, June 25th, at the firehouse. This will be an unusual and fun event entitled "Laugh for No Reason". Meetings of the Committee are held monthly on the third Thursday at 4:00 pm in the conference room at Borough Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

The Golden Age Club of Old Tappan...

The Golden Age Club of Old Tappan meets on the first and third Thursday of the month at the upper level of the firehouse.. We welcome anyone 50 years of age who would like to join us.

This years schedule calls for trips to Atlantic City, Westchester Dinner Theater to see Funny Girl, Forestburg Theater to see Showboat, and more. After the meetings stay and play cards, bingo or other games. We are looking for members who enjoy sociable afternoons with their neighbors and friends.

Addition information call Jean @ 201-664-4282

Woman's Club of Old Tappan News...

Submitted by Pat Royall Phone: 201-768-8128
Email: kmroys@aol.com

FALL RUMMAGE SALE – PLEASE DONATE YOUR TREASURES

The Fall Rummage Sale sponsored by the Woman's Club of Old Tappan to benefit the scholarship fund and community projects will be held Saturday, September 26th from 9AM to 4PM at the Old Tappan Fire House. The assortment of a little bit of everything, new and used, includes household items, small furniture, toys, bric-a-brac, tools, collectibles, small appliances, fabrics, jewelry, clothing, paperback books and much more. In addition, there will be homemade baked goods and the Woman's Club's cookbook "Treasured Recipes" for sale.

Anyone who wishes to donate items for the sale may bring them to the Fire House on Thursday, September 24th and on Friday, September 25th, hours to be announced. No clothing, hard cover books, large furniture, or TVs please. We thank you for your past support. For information contact Christine at jcjbriggs@hotmail.com.

Joyce Jacobson, RN of the Englewood Hospital Foundation demonstrates proper child care procedures

BABYSITTING CLINIC A BIG SUCCESS

The Woman's Club of Old Tappan and the Old Tappan Public Library co-sponsored a very successful Babysitting Clinic, attended by area 5th graders and older. The free two session course was held at the Old Tappan Public Library on January 8 and January 15.

46 youngsters received a certificate of completion by attending both sessions. Among the many aspects of babysitting addressed were care of babies and young children, information needed to have at hand for each babysitting assignment, health emergencies, first aid issues, home security, and fire safety

The sponsors would like to thank the excellent instructors: Joyce Jacobson, RN of the Englewood Hospital Foundation, Old Tappan First Aid Corps Crew Member Mark Geerinck, Old Tappan Police Sergeant Jim Butler, Harrington Park Fire Marshall Tom Simpson, Old Tappan Fire Department Chief Nick Lepore, and Old Tappan Fire Department President Mike Alessi.

WOMAN'S CLUB OF OLD TAPPAN COOKBOOK SPECIAL SALE

The Woman's Club of Old Tappan is offering a special sale of its cookbook, ***Treasured Recipes***, a collection of 500 cherished recipes from members, family and friends. The cookbook is published in a very attractive padded 3-ring binder format and divided into eight food category sections ranging from appetizers to desserts and everything in between. It includes cooking terms, tips and many helpful hints. Until June 30, the Special Price is $10. After that the cost returns to $13.50. Shipping, if needed, is $5.00. The cookbook is on display, with order forms, at the Old Tappan Borough Hall, the Old Tappan Library, the Golf Club Pro Shop and the Shipping Store 'N More. You may also call Libby at 201-767-1097 for orders and delivery arrangements. Proceeds benefit scholarships, charities and community projects.

JOIN US... The Club thanks Patrolwoman Katie Weaver of the OT Police Department for her excellent presentation as a guest speaker at our first meeting of the new year on Tuesday, January 20. The Woman's Club of Old Tappan invites new members. General meetings are usually held on the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, at 7pm at the Old Tappan Fire House. The opening fall meeting will be on Tuesday, September 15th and the annual member/guest potluck dinner meeting will be on Tuesday, October 20th . Guests are always welcome. For information, call Christine at 201-767-9512.

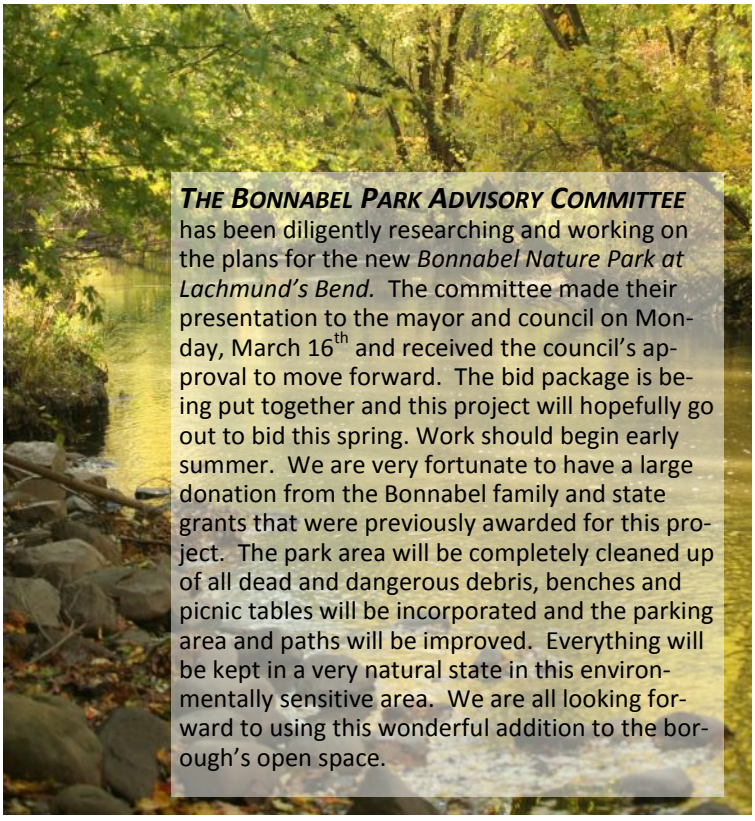
What is the value of your library card?

As of December 2008, 87% of our residents have library cards. Our library users borrowed an average $749 worth of books, DVDs, music cds, audio books and magazines from our library and other libraries in BCCLS with a total worth of $1,381,270! A total of 96,302 items were borrowed from our library in 2008.

Library Programs: The library advises residents of our library programs via email through a listserv. If you would like to be notified of our programs, please send your email address to meeske@bccls.org and we will add you to the listserv.

Summer is a few months away: Our children's and adult summer reading programs are just around the corner! The reading program theme this year is "Be Creative" so lots of crafts are in store for all ages. Summer programs will start July 6th and end on August 15th. Registration will start the week of June 22nd.

All library programs are listed on the calendar on the town website.



The Bonnabel Park Advisory Committee has been diligently researching and working on the plans for the new *Bonnabel Nature Park at Lachmund's Bend.* The committee made their presentation to the mayor and council on Monday, March 16th and received the council's approval to move forward. The bid package is being put together and this project will hopefully go out to bid this spring. Work should begin early summer. We are very fortunate to have a large donation from the Bonnabel family and state grants that were previously awarded for this project. The park area will be completely cleaned up of all dead and dangerous debris, benches and picnic tables will be incorporated and the parking area and paths will be improved. Everything will be kept in a very natural state in this environmentally sensitive area. We are all looking forward to using this wonderful addition to the borough's open space.

A Message from Fire Chief & Fire Marshal Nicola Lepore…..

Approximately 1500 people die annually from CO poisoning. CO enters our body through normal breathing. Once inside our body CO quickly bonds to the hemoglobin in our blood denying oxygen molecules the opportunity to attach. Essentially, our body starves as less oxygen is allowed to make its way to our organs. Excessive CO concentrations in our blood can lead to lead to irreversible brain damage and death. In fact, CO poisoning is the principle reason people die in building fires rather than succumbing to the actual heat of the fire.

Fortunately we, we do have an easy defense to combat the possibility of CO affecting our families in our homes, *purchasing and installing a CO detector*. CO detectors can be purchased at any local discount or home improvement store and range in cost from 25 to 60 dollars. It is important to know that all CO detectors operate and alarm using the same detection principle so extra cost usually translates to extra features, not more protection. I recommend purchasing CO detectors that plug in to a wall outlet and have a battery backup to provide detection during power outages.

CO detectors work on saturation. This means they need to be installed in an area with little or no air movement. It is best to follow local codes and manufacturers installation instructions when choosing a location to avoid false alarms.

Because CO in neutrally buoyant it is recommended to avoid purchasing combined CO and smoke alarms as this type force you to mount the detector at ceiling level. These detectors will not provide as much comprehensive protection as a detector that is plugged into a wall outlet at floor level where most sources of CO are found.

Studies have shown that children (under 8 years of age) and seniors (over age of 55) are ten times more susceptible to the affects of CO, so it may be a good idea to install CO detectors in bedrooms and nurseries.

Five easy steps to Carbon Monoxide Safety:

- Check the color of the flame of your gas appliances. Anything other than blue needs immediate attention, Have all gas appliances checked annually by a certified contractor
- Check all exhausts and flues from gas appliances or chimneys. Be sure they are not blocked by dirt, debris, leaves, animal nests and snow
- Do you or your family members have any unexplained illness? Flu like symptoms including fatigue, muscle pains, upset stomach, lethargy, dizziness, headaches or reddening of the skin.
- Do not operate any vehicles, gas BBQ's or gas heaters in garages without adequate ventilation. Do not warm your car in garage.
- Install a Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detector. Maintain the detector semi annually with fresh batteries and cleaning

If anyone in your family suffers from any symptoms of CO poisoning or your detectors sounds a continuous alarm, immediately evacuate the premises and move to an area with fresh air.

Remember, CO cannot be seen, smelled or tasted so do not rely on your senses to determine whether the alarm is false or real.

Once you and your family are safely evacuated, call 911 and let the Fire Department investigate the alarm for you. The Old Tappan Fire Department has equipment to test the CO level in your home. Do not return to the premises until the fire department or a representative form the gas company tells you that it is all right to go back inside. If you have any questions or concerns regarding carbon monoxide or co detectors, please feel free to contact my office.

Safety tips to remember:

- Change batteries in your smoke detectors when you change your clocks.
- If you have a wood burning fireplace or stove, be sure to have the chimney cleaned and inspected for cracks before using them.
- 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.

Once again, feel free to contact me at my office or Fire Headquarters for any fire safety related questions and concerns.

OT Volunteer Fire Department

The Old Tappan Volunteer Fire Department demonstrated some special fire training at the 2009 OTE PTA March Saturday Workshops. Pictured at far left is a demonstration of the Hurst Jaws of Life. This rescue tool is used to cut cars or any heavy metal should a victim be trapped. This was only one part of the popular "911" workshop which the PTA offered. Other emergency services included the Ambulance Corp., and a Police K9 unit.

Our Easter Egg Hunt was held on April 11th at Oakes Park. In spite of the rain, many families braved the weather to continue the tradition of hunting for eggs and goodies in the park. There was even a special appearance by the Easter Bunny who handed out treats to the children as he hopped along his way...All the children came away with baskets full of candy and a morning of fun!!

Much thanks to the Social Affairs Committee who put this event together for the children of Old Tappan and Jamie Cohen who was on hand for the great picture taking!

Upcoming Recreation Dates to Remember…..

	Registration	Season Runs
Fall Soccer	May and June	Sept through Nov
Summer Basketball	Mid March through end of May	Mid June through end of July.
Rec. Baseball/softball	Nov and Dec	Early March into June
Spring Travel Baseball/softball	March	Early March into June- **tryouts required**
Summer Travel Baseball/softball	June	Early June through Late July **- tryouts required**
Flag Football	April through end of June	September through mid November
Camp Serendipity	July 14-July 30	Tue, Wed, Thur.
Easter Egg Hunt	April 11th - 10am Oakes Park	rain date April 18th - 10am

To Register go to: Oldtappan.net/Recreation & Golf/ on-line registration

Camp Serendipity 2009

Planning for Camp Serendipity 2009 is now underway!!

The Camp will run from July 14 through July 30… Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

We are developing some exciting new additions to the Camp …..

1) This year we will be offering half day or full day camp to accommodate those who might want a longer day for their child.

Half Day Session -will run from 9am to 12pm; and
Full Day Session -will run from 9am to 3pm.

2) We will be adding some exciting programs to the Camp:

Performing Arts: Campers will have an opportunity to perform in skits, music and storytelling.
Nature Conservation: Campers will have an opportunity to explore environmental and community issues and projects.
We will continue to offer: Arts and Crafts, Field Games, Playground Time and Quiet Games and Activities… as well as special guest performers…

3) Eligible Campers are those entering Kindergarten to those entering 6th grade.

Please feel free to contact Gloria Wiesner, Recreation Director, with any questions about the Camp. Gloria can be reached at 201 664-184 ext. 24 or via email at gwiesner@oldtappan.net.
Please continue to check Old Tappan.net/Recreation &Golf/Summer Camp 2009 for program details. Community Pass should be open in early March for registration.

Note to Prospective Counselors:

If you will be 14 by the first day of Camp, you are eligible to become a junior Counselor. This position requires commitment to the full three weeks. If you are interested in becoming a Camp Counselor this year, please check the Old Tappan Web site for Counselor applications.

Mark your calendar for *Town Day and Night 2009* scheduled for Saturday, September 12th (with a rain date of September 13th).

The Town Day activities will take place at Stone Point from 12 Noon to 5:00pm. As in the past, a great day of fun, food and friendship is planned for all to enjoy. In the evening, another fabulous fireworks show will close out the evening at the Old Tappan Golf Course. Arrive at the Golf Course early with the fireworks beginning at 9:00pm. Gather your friends and neighbors to take in the Town Day and Night events on September 12th with the entire community and celebrate the spirit of Old

Youth Golf Clinic 2009

Great News! We will be expanding the Youth Golf Clinic this year to include children of all ages, as Old Tappan is presently seeking to become affiliated with The First Tee Organization. Further information will be forthcoming in the near future concerning registration and dates for this year's clinics. In addition, for eligible participants in the program, we will also be establishing a special parent/child membership at the Old Tappan Golf Course. Volunteers are needed to become certified First Tee mentors, so if you are interested, or require any additional information, please contact Chris Hliboki at chliboki@optonline.net.

As we now wind down our Winter 2008/2009 Basketball Season that is a reminder that our Summer Program is getting set to begin.

We organize summer programs at the following levels:

(Based on the current grade this Spring):

Boys 3rd /4th Grade

Girls 3rd/4th Grade

Boys 5th/6th Grade

Girls 5th/6th Grade

Boys 7th/8th Grade

Girls 7th/8th Grade

Online registration will begin on March 15th and will extend through May 31. Please go to www.oldtappan.net for further information. The season will begin June 22nd and will run until July 31.

The teams play against local area towns & play 3 games per week.

Home games are played outdoors at Stone Point Park and the stands are usually filled to capacity, please get there early.

In addition, the Varsity Basketball coaches at NVOT HS will be offering a Girls Basketball Camp, run by Coach Brian Dunn and his players, and the Boys Basketball Camp run by Coach Dennis Rossi and his players. We will be sending out announcements for these camps once the dates are set; these camps have been well attended by our players in past years and are both fun and instructional. Additional basketball information and programs will always be provided on Old Tappan basketball's website, www.eteamz.com/OT. Check our website and emails regularly for any

open basketball gym times this spring.

Please email any questions or inquiries to: OTHoops@gmail.com.

located at the Old Tappan Golf Course

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Now open for the 2009 Season

Champions features great sliders, burgers, salads and the best onion rings and sweet potato fries in the Northern Valley!

Champions can handle all of your catering needs and is a great location for your private party. With 3 wide screen televisions, Direct TV, The NFL Network, ESPN and ESPNU, Champs is a great place to watch a game and root for your favorite team. With Major League Baseball ready to start, Champs will have the top games featured on its widescreens. You'll feel like you're in the middle of all the sporting action while sitting at the town's largest bar. Catch all of the football games this fall and winter, the Giants and Jets each Sunday and College Hoop action can be seen on ESPN Full Court. Without a doubt, this makes Champions THE best place to watch your favorite game or sports activity. Catch all of the action at Champions!

"Among many things, our son Michael was an avid athlete."

MICHAEL LaVIOLA FOUNDATION

Michael LaViola was a Northern Valley Old Tappan football player who fought a bitter battle with Synomial Sarcoma— a rare form of cancer that is difficult to diagnose and treat. Michael's life ended all too soon on February 2, 2008, and the Michael LaViola Foundation honors his memory.
The foundation supports:

- Funding for Pediatric Sarcoma research
- Scholarships for two Northern Valley Old Tappan graduating seniors

We invite you to support the foundation by attending **Shoot for the Stars**, our first annual fundraising event, on Saturday, June 13, 2009. The event will be held at Champions Grill on June 13, 2009 from 7 pm. To midnight. Tickets are $75 per person—buffet dinner included. You can also take a chance to win a smart car!! The raffle will be pulled the night of the event.

Together we can support research into Pediatric Sarcomas, and give students help in affording the education they deserve

Monetary donations are also welcome.

Thank you in advance for your generosity,

Mary and Michael LaViola,
Michael LaViola Foundation

Please send donations to:
Michael LaViola Foundation
48 Bi-State Plaza, PNB 239
Old Tappan, NJ 07675-7070

Support a smart cause, win a smart car!

Drawing: Saturday June 13, 2009
No need to be present to win.

Shoot for the Stars

Date: Saturday June 13, 2009, 7pm – Midnight

Venue: Old Tappan Golf Club/ Champions Grill

Tickets: $75

To purchase tickets call:
201•803•2617 or 201•704•0912

*H*i, my name is Joseph Borghoff and I have been a resident of Old Tappan my entire life. I am currently a senior at Virginia Tech. At school I am involved with a non-profit Philanthropic Organization called Push America (http://pushamerica.org/), which is serves people with disabilities. This summer I am participating in the Journey of Hope (http://pushamerica.org/events/JOH/), which raises funds and promotes disability awareness.
The event is a 67 day, 4,000 mile cycling trek, beginning in mid-June at the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, CA and ending at our nation's capitol in Washington D.C. in mid-August. At each stop each team makes "friendship visits", which are fun activities we participate in, such as wheelchair basketball, puppet shows, and dances with people with disabilities.
Push America is the national philanthropy of my fraternity, Pi Kappa Phi. Their mission is to raise funds and awareness for people with disabilities. For instance, donations to Push America helped fund the accessible pool deck my brothers and I built at Camp ASCCA in Jackson's Gap, AL, two years ago.
I am extremely excited about this opportunity and cannot wait to get on my bike, create new friendships, and make a positive difference in someone's life. I am determined to reach my fundraising goal of $8000. Last year, the 2008 Journey of Hope team raised $500,000, all of which went to Push America. You can help further our commitment to service by making a tax-deductible contribution to Push America on my behalf. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated. Checks should be made payable to "Push America."
I truly believe that through service you can make a difference in someone's life and the world and that type of feeling stays with you forever. Please feel free to contact me by phone 551-427-3726 or email (borghoff@vt.edu).

From Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission
Angela Musella, Health Officer

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE . . . SWINE INFLUENZA A

CDC, Centers for Disease Control, has announced confirmation of 21 human cases of infection with Swine Influenza A (H1N1) in the United States, none of them in NJ. Case counts are updated daily and are available on the CDC website. CDC goals right now are to reduce transmission and illness severity. Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission, which is the local health department for your community, is in contact with the State Health Department which is watching for any new cases or indications of an outbreak. There is a national stockpile of antiviral drugs, gloves and masks which will be released as needed.

Flu viruses are spread from person to person through coughing or sneezing of people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching contaminated surfaces and then touching their eyes, nose or mouth. The symptoms of swine flu are similar to seasonal flu and include fever, lack of appetite, coughing, and fatigue. Some people have also reported having a sore throat nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. If you are ill with these symptoms and are concerned, please contact your health care provider.

To protect yourself from the Swine Flu, wash your hands frequently, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, and stay 4-6 feet away from people who are coughing or sneezing. To prevent the spread of germs, cough or sneeze into the crook of your elbow or cover your nose and mouth with a tissue. Wash your hands as soon as you throw your tissue away. When you are sick, stay home, and don't go to work or school, or run errands until you have felt well for two days. You cannot get swine flu from eating pork or pork products. There are no special recommendations for those who own a pig or are in contact with them frequently. This situation is developing rapidly and we will keep you informed as soon as new information becomes available.

For more information visit,
www.cdc.gov/swineflu or www.nj.gov/health

Bonnabel Park will be a park for all of us to enjoy.

The O.T. Environment Commission wanted to turn the children of Old Tappan for some input on how to keep the new Bonnabel Park clean. With that in mind, they decided to start with the Elementary School.

Paula Clark, Chairperson, and Gary Mascolo of The Environmental Commission arranged a meeting with Mrs. Connelly, TBD Principal, and Mrs. Clark, TBD Art Teacher. On the agenda was a proposal to hold a Bonnabel Park Poster Contest. Next thing you know a Poster Contest had begun.

Now we need your help...

Visit www.tbdpostercontest.com, view the posters that have been submitted and then email your vote! The children of grades 2, 3, and 4 have certainly shown their talents in these designs, and ideas. You can choose up to one poster from each grade.

There will be one winner from each grade. Each winner will receive a $50.00 Savings Bond, which will be presented by The Environmental Commission. *The Environmental Commission meets every third Tuesday at Borough Hall in Old Tappan.*

Scouts, Soups and Seniors: a Healthy Winter Combination ...

Old Tappan Girl Scout Troop **1462**, recently warmed local seniors' hearts with home made soups during the frigid weather.
The soups were delivered with winter "keep healthy gift bags" containing tissues, towels, and hand lotions.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the **many businesses, churches, schools, organizations and individuals**, that often go unrecognized for all their contributions throughout the year. It is only a truly dedicated, vibrant community that can work together so successfully to improve the lives of their residents. We are privileged to work with each of you.

If you know of any one who may benefit from one of our services or you would like to contribute to any of our programs, please feel free to contact Old Tappan Social Services at 201-664-1849 Ext. 233. Donations are always appreciated.

Old Tappan Social Services
Local Assistance Board

BE A STAR SPREAD THE NEWS

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

Recycling is a very important part of our everyday lives. We are Old Tappan Girl Scout Troop 1424 and are working on our Bronze Award. Our goal is to get recycling bins in all our town parks and fields. We have about 30 garbage cans in all our parks and fields and are trying to get recycling bins next to all of them. Save the Earth!!!! Here are some Quick Facts about recycling:

QUICK FACTS:

- The US throws away about 70 MILLION plastic waters bottles DAILY. Less than 15% get recycled. Let's try to use a lot less plastic water bottles in our everyday life or at least recycle them.
- 100,000 sea turtles, whales and dolphins die each year from choking on plastic bags.
- 380 MILLION plastic bags are thrown out each year and it takes 500 years for 1 plastic bag to dissolve in the landfills.
- San Francisco has BANNED all plastic bags in grocery stores. So let's stop using plastic bags and start using reusable bags.
- Shut off lights when not in use and unplug all appliances not in use especially cell phone chargers. Even though not in use they all are using electricity so why not unplug and save energy and money!

Do not let the water run when you are brushing your teeth or washing the dishes, this will save water!

Do you still use paper & plastic bags? Well it's Time to Stop! Now you can use reusable Eco-safe lunch bags and Eco-safe grocery bags. They come in all different colors like rainbow, blue or pink tie-dye and natural. They come with markers so you could draw or write all over the bag and than put in the washing machine and start all over again. By using reusable bags this will keep you from using and throwing away any plastic, paper bags or anything else that can hurt the environment.

If you would like to help Save The Earth please contact our troop leader at 201-784-0809

2009 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE will be held on Monday, May, 25, 2009. The Parade will step off from the back of Northern Valley Old Tappan High School promptly at 9:30 a.m.. Follow the route as shown end with the participating organizations assembling in front of the memorials in Oakes Park on Central Avenue. The Memorial Ceremony includes parading the colors, the National Anthem, the Invocation, address by the Mayor, placing wreaths at the Memorial, the rifle salute and taps.

Following the Mayor's address, representatives of each group presenting a wreath will be asked to step forward so that we can proceed promptly placing the wreaths at the Memorial.

In the event of inclement weather, the Fire Department siren will be sounded at 8:15 a.m. to advise that the Parade is canceled. In that event, the Memorial Day Ceremony will be held in the Charles DeWolf School Gym at 9:30 a.m. Wreaths will then be placed at the Memorial by representatives of each organization making a presentation, after which taps will be played.

We ask you to remind members of your organization, children and adults alike, that Memorial Day is a solemn occasion, dedicated to the memory of our countrymen who have given their lives so that we may enjoy our freedom. Let us treat their memory with dignity and respect, along the Parade route as well as during Memorial Services.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE ROUTE

Borough of Old Tappan
227 Old Tappan Road
Old Tappan, NJ 07675

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NEWSLETTER