

2011 Issue 3

Old Tappan News

Mayor's Message



There are many times that residents will come up to me and ask, "Mayor, how is our town doing?" Well, as a picture paints a thousand words, the below photos are just a small sampling of what we have been doing over the past 6 months.

The first phase of the solar program is complete and as they say, "we are off the grid". Borough Hall and the entire Firehouse are now meeting their energy needs through solar power. Stand by for phase II.



Sidewalks are being installed along parts of DeWolf Road, Orangeburg Road, Central Ave and Chestnut Ave. Already we have noticed many residents taking advantage of these new "pedestrian" highways. Enjoy them for exercise. Use them for safety.



So with Summer now in full bloom, I remind you to get outside and enjoy the outdoors. Walk along the Old Tappan reservoir or in one of our several parks. Enjoy the concerts at Oakes Park. It is a special time in our special little town.



Photo above was taken by Murray Bass for the Pascack Group. More Memorial Day pictures on page 5 taken by Glen Stanton of Old Tappan

The Basketball Court at Stone Point Park received a complete rebuild and upgrade. The old broken pavement

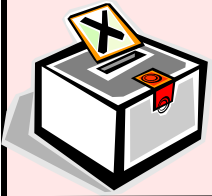
was removed and completely redone and a state of the art coating has been installed. We now have two basketball courts, an ice skating rink and a roller skating venue.



Let me know how you are doing and how the Council and I can make your Old Tappan, even better. We invite you to attend our meetings and witness how your elected officials manage the affairs of the borough: positively, disciplined and in a totally transparent manner.

Send me an email (mayor@oldtappan.net) or send in your comments through the website (www.oldtappan.net) to any of the Borough's many departments or boards, committees, and commissions.

Enjoy the season!



Important Information For the 2011 Elections from the Office of the Borough Clerk

GENERAL ELECTION: Tuesday, November 8th – 6:am – 8pm

Last day to register to vote in the General Election is Tue., October 18th.
Municipal Clerk's office will remain open on Tue., Oct. 18th until 9 pm

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. 14 if you have any questions.

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



Property Taxes are due 8/1/11. There is a 10 day grace period until 8/10/11.

2011 Tax Bills should be sent out sometime in the beginning of July 2011 as soon as the tax rate is certified. These tax bills will be calculated using your new assessed value. The third quarter is due August 1, 2011. There is a 10 day grace period until August 10, 2011.

State Administered Annual Deductions on Property Taxes:

2010 Homestead Benefit. Applications were mailed on June 7, 2011. Eligible homeowners will receive their 2010 Homestead Benefit as a credit on their 2012 tax bill. The deadline to file is October 31, 2011. For more information call the Homestead Benefit hotline 1-888-238-1233 or view online at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/2009homesteadinfo.shtml. You may file online at: www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/, or phone by calling 1-877-658-2972.

2010 Property Tax Reimbursement Program. The Property Tax Reimbursement Program reimburses eligible senior citizens and disabled persons for property tax increases. The amount of the reimbursement is the difference between the amount of property taxes that were due and paid for the "base year" (the first year that you met all the eligibility requirements) and the amount due and paid for the current year for which you are applying for the reimbursement, provided the amount paid for the current year was greater. You must meet all the eligibility requirements for the base year and for each succeeding year, up to and including the current year to qualify for the reimbursement. The deadline to file has been extended to October 31, 2011. Call the Property Tax Reimbursement Hotline at 1-800-882-6597 for assistance or online at <http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/propfrez.shtml>. Residents who receive homestead benefits and/or property tax credits or deductions may also receive the property tax reimbursement if they meet the eligibility requirements. However, the total of all property tax relief benefits that you receive (property tax reimbursement, homestead benefit, property tax deduction for senior citizens/disabled persons, and property tax deduction for veterans) cannot exceed the amount of property taxes (or rent/mobile home park site fees constituting property taxes) paid on your principal residence for the same year.

Under New Jersey law, if an applicant receives a property tax reimbursement that is larger than the amount for which they are eligible, the applicant will be required to repay any excess received. The amount owed can be deducted from any property tax reimbursement, income tax refund or credit, or homestead benefit before the payment is issued.

Under the terms of the proposed State Budget for FY 2012, only those applicants who received a reimbursement check for 2009 and whose income for 2010 does not exceed last year's income limit of \$70,000 would be eligible to receive a reimbursement for 2010, provided they met all the other program requirements. For eligible applicants, reimbursements for tax year 2010 (to be paid in 2011) cannot exceed the 2009 reimbursement amount approved for payment. The Division of Taxation will continue to accept 2010 applications from residents who either did not file a 2009 application, or who filed an application for 2009 that was not approved for payment. However, if enacted, the proposed budgetary changes would limit 2010 reimbursements to those who filed a 2009 application that was approved for a reimbursement and whose 2010 income was \$70,000 or less.

All property tax relief program information provided here is based on current law and is subject to change.

Local 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.

Would you like the convenience of paying your property taxes online with a check or credit card??

Save time and pay your taxes online at

www.oldtappan.net

This convenient service is being offered on a trial basis. If enough people are interested and use this convenient service it may become part of your regular Property Tax payment process!

The 3rd party cost to residents using this service is as follows:

- \$1.05 for ACH or e-check
- \$3.95 using VISA debit card
- 2.95% for all other company debit cards and credit cards

A minimal user fee to cover Borough administrative costs will be waived during this trial basis.

Tire Recycling, Computers And Document Shredding Program

Homeowners wishing to dispose of tires, computer and confidential document Shredding are invited to bring these materials to the following locations:

Bergen County Community Services Building
327 East Ridgewood Ave, Paramus
Saturday, August 20, 2011

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday, November 5, 2011

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

Household Hazardous Waste Events

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

Bergen Community College
400 Paramus Road, Paramus
Sunday, October 16, 2011

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday, September 10, 2011
Saturday, November 5, 2011

Collection Hours 9am-3pm (rain or shine)

For more information click on to the BCUA web site or look at the hazardous waste flyer at <http://www.bcu.org/files/2010%20flyer.pdf>

The Old Tappan DPW yard will accept and recycle unwanted electronics which contain significant amount of toxic and precious metals. Look for the storage box in the rear of the yard.

The Borough of Old Tappan

Proudly presents the

2011 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

at

Oakes Park

Central Avenue, Old Tappan

Wednesdays
7-9 p.m.

- June 29 North Jersey Concert Band
(Pop/Classical/Patriotic, Marches)
- July 6 Soul Finger
(High Energy Dance/Party Band)
- July 13 Beauty and the Grease
(50s, 60s, 70s, Rock & Roll, Oldies/Doo-Wop)
- July 20 Patti Davis and Bandit
(Classic Country Plus Contemporary Country)
- July 27 The UpSouth Twisters
(Cajun/Zydeco/TexMex/Rockabilly Roadhouse)
- August 3 Doodson Diaries
(Neo-Psychedelic Progressive Rock)

Presented by the
Old Tappan Social & Cultural Affairs Committee

*in case of rain, events may be rescheduled.
Check the Old Tappan website www.oldtappan.net



BRANCH CHIPPING

A message from your DPW Superintendant...

By the time you read this you may have already been aware that PSE&G will be in our service area trimming trees that are in proximity of their electrical lines. PSE&G is using Lewis Tree Service Inc. as their contractor to do this work, so you may see representatives from both companies in the area while this work is in progress. This work is to maintain the reliability of their network, especially during storms when tree branches may contact the lines causing outages. Borough representatives have met with Lewis Tree Service to let them know of our expectations of the work to be done and to minimize our concerns and that of our residents. They will be trimming trees along the roadway that have the potential to interfere with their power lines; it should not include the service to your house. PSE&G has the right to maintain certain clearances between their wires and the trees and will making the effort to maintain this clearance and trim the tree properly. Please contact the DPW if you have any specific questions or concerns at 201-664-4438 if we cannot answer your question we will put you in contact with the proper person.

News from the Environmental Commission...

The Old Tappan Environmental Commission welcomes its two newest members, Larry Weil and Melanie Rie. Both heeded the call for Commission volunteers and contacted Borough Administrator Pat O'Brien for details. The Commission is extremely happy with their appointments and we all look forward to a very productive year in guiding Old Tappan towards a more sustainable future. The Commission continues to seek community input in environmental related actions, so if you have an interest in playing a role in Old Tappan's green future, please contact Mr. O'Brien at Borough Hall.



Earth Day Observances: Led by Environmental Commission Member Bill Howe, Old Tappan Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts were galvanized into action to perform clean-ups at four Borough properties including Stone Point Park, Stanaland Park, the DPW Leaf Dump and Bonnabel Park. Armed with heavy duty gloves and trash bags provided by the DPW, the highly motivated scouts scoured each property and collected an assortment of litter, trash and debris that had accumulated over the years. One onlooker observed that almost two hundred bags of garbage were collected. Many thanks to the scouts for the "kid-power" used to make Old Tappan a cleaner place.

Solar Power Project: The panels are up and by the time you read this, they'll be operational on Phase I, the Borough Hall and the Fire House. Final tests on Phase II (Police Station and DPW) are scheduled for mid August and if everything goes as planned, all buildings will be running on solar power. It's expected the panels will generate enough energy to not-only power these buildings, but also to generate surplus energy that the Borough will "sell-back" to PSE&G and Rockland Electric. Capital funding for the project was made possible through a State grant.



Bonnabel Park Dedication: Located at Lachmund's Bend on Old Tappan Road, this newest Borough Park will be dedicated this fall. Dedication ceremonies and activities are still being planned.

Old Tappan applies for Sustainable Jersey Certification: With Environmental Commission support, the Old Tappan Green Team submitted an application to *Sustainable Jersey* seeking an upgrade from our current status as 'registered' to 'certified'. To submit the required documentation, Green Team members worked feverishly over the past months to record and document all Borough initiatives, resolutions and policies that have goals of improving the quality of our environment. The formal application was submitted in late May. The Green Team expects the results of the application to be released sometime this summer.

The Commission also takes this opportunity to remind all residents to think and practice "Green" this summer. Look to the Borough website to see a list of monthly "Green Tips" that you can adopt for home, school and office. And remember to recycle, compost, conserve, walk.....little things we all can do to help our community, our wallets and ourselves.

Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission

Lyme disease

Lyme disease is caused by a bacterium that is transmitted to humans through tick bites. Typically in our area, ticks that carry Lyme disease are known as black-legged ticks or deer ticks. Reducing exposure to ticks is the best defense against Lyme disease, and there are precautions that can be taken to stay protected. Avoiding areas where there are a lot of ticks is a good place to start. Wooded, bushy areas are where ticks are most commonly found; especially during the months of May, June and July, when Lyme disease carrying ticks are most active. If faced with a tick infested area, be sure to stay in the center of a clear path or trail, and avoid any contact of overgrown grass, brush or leaves. To keep ticks off of skin, the use of insect repellent containing DEET should be applied on any exposed skin or clothing. It is also helpful to cover up as much as possible with long pants, sleeves and socks. Be sure to check your skin and clothing for ticks every day, especially after being outside.



If a tick is found attached to the skin, be sure to monitor your health closely, and be alert of any symptoms of tick-borne illness. Symptoms can vary from one person to another, but one of the first and most common signs of Lyme disease is circular rash which occurs around the site of the tick bite. The rash often appears 3 to 30 days after the bite. A few other common symptoms are fatigue, chills, fever, headache, muscle and joint pain, and swollen lymph nodes. If any of these symptoms develop, it is important to immediately consult with a health care provider for proper diagnoses and treatment. Early treatment of the disease can result in a full recovery. If left untreated, the disease can progress and spread to other parts of the body, causing more serious complications.

In most cases, Lyme disease, if treated early, can be cured within a few weeks using an antibiotic. Few people, usually who are treated later, may suffer from more persistent and recurrent symptoms, which require longer treatment. Ultimately, it is important to be aware of surroundings, regularly check for ticks, and to monitor your health and seek medical attention if faced with a tick bite.

For more information on Lyme disease, please visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov, or contact your local Health Department and ask to speak with the Health Educator at 201-445-7217.



The Borough of Old Tappan and The Old Tappan Police Department invite you to join NIXLE. Stay instantly Informed and trusted, neighborhood-level public safety and community information available. You choose the information you want, for the addresses you want all delivered for free by text message, email and or on the web. Sign up now at www.nixle.com. Register now—its free and easy!!



Memorial Day 2011 The day started off with some rain but quickly turned into a beautiful day for a parade. Everyone gathered at the Northern Valley High School parking lot to prepare for the annual parade. The parade kicked off at 9:30 and as the Northern Valley Old Tappan band played, all the service organizations, social organizations and civic groups once again marched in honor of our military personnel past and present. After the parade everyone participated in ceremonies at Oakes Park placing wreaths at the Memorial Stones. Both solemn and festive at the same time, the Parade and Ceremony commemorated the sacrifice and service of our brave men and women in uniform who have given up their civilian pursuits throughout our history to preserve our freedom. The proud tradition that was once called "Decoration Day" continued in the Borough.



LOCAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

grams throughout the spring. A well-stocked food/supply pantry, Friday Flix refreshments, nutritional meals and spring clean up for seniors were all made possible through volunteer efforts.

- Girl Scout, Paige Sunden, held a pantry drive and collected from over 350 houses in Old Tappan! Additionally, she shelved the items to successfully complete her Silver Award in scouting. Congratulations Paige! Taylor Parcels initiated this town wide drive in Fall 2010. Is there another scout who would like to continue with this project? .
- Girl Scout Troop #1426, lead by Melissa Driscoll, held the Annual Have-A-Heart Pantry Collection in our elementary schools. It was the most successful collection in the history of the event! Check out the pictures of the two winning classes in TBD: Mrs. Straubinger and Mrs. DeGregory!
- Girl Scout Troop #1462 led by Barbara DiTrollo and Janice Gilliam prepared soups for seniors (Insert



DiTrollo Flight Deck #2), and along with Girl Scout



Troop #1461, led by Rhonda Margolin, held collections at the two Father/Daughter Annual Events.

The Local Assistance Board would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the scouts, leaders, teachers, parents, residents, and the youth group of the Presbyterian Church of the Palisades who supported these local efforts.

A very special thanks to Lauren Alberti, Matthew Simone and Dennis Reilly who continue to make the bi-weekly Nutrition to Neighbors Program possible.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Thanks to very enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers, Old Tappan Social Services was well prepared to offer numerous services and pro-



The Local Assistance Board, Old Tappan Social Services

LIBRARY NEWS...

2011 is the library's 70th birthday! We will be celebrating this event starting with our summer reading program for children and adults of all ages. Encourage your children to turn off the computer and TV and read this summer! We have programs for children Pre-K through tweens. Further information will be available mid-June. The final birthday party will be Saturday October 1. Details to follow.



FREE Downloadable ebooks and audiobooks are available on the BCCLS (Bergen County Cooperative Library System) website. Go to www.bccls.org and click on DigitalLibraryNJ/Naxos. A library is required to set up an account.

The library is offering FREE online courses with Universal Class. Over 500 courses are offered ranging from word processing to medical billing to dog grooming. You need to create an account and have a valid e-mail address to sign up for courses. An Old Tappan library card is required to register for classes. To access the library's account with Universal Class go to <http://oldtappannj.universalclass.com/register.htm>

For further information about all programs please call the library at 201 664-3499. Summer Hours will begin June 26th and end September 2nd. Our hours are:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday :	9am-4pm
Tuesday & Thursday :	9am-9pm
Saturday :	9am-1pm
Sunday :	Closed

THE OLD TAPPAN FIRST AID CORPS...

is looking for some individuals who would be interested in serving their community with the ambulance corps. We are especially in need of people who are often in town during the day time. After training and certification, you would help Old Tappan between the hours of 7 AM and 7 PM. You WILL NOT be required to be available every hour of every day but any time you do supply would be beneficial to the ambulance corps ability to supply fast help to people in medical need. You can make a difference by joining the Old Tappan First Aide Corps at 201-666-9030.



LIONS CLUB NEWS...

The Old Tappan Lions Club is proud to announce the recipients of the club's 2011 Scholarship Awards. These awards are based on scholastic achievement, leadership, community service, citizenship and financial need. Each scholarship award is in the amount of \$2,000.

The 2011 Henry Fuller Memorial Scholarship, in memory of a dedicated Lion and educator, is awarded to Joshua Wonwoo Lee, a student at Bergen Academies-Academy for the Advancement of Science and Technology.

The Louis Giordano Memorial Scholarship, in memory of a Lion and active community member who dedicated himself to the best humanitarian principles Lionism, is awarded to Meredith Lynn Eldridge, a student at Northern Valley Old Tappan. We wish these fine young people a wonderful future.

RECREATION ACTIVITY	REGISTRATION	SEASON RUNS
Outdoor Soccer	May and June	Sept through Nov
Flag Football	May 1st-end Jun	Sept through mid Nov
Winter Rec Basketball	Oct 1 thru Nov 30	Dec 4 through Mar 26
Winter Travel Basketball	Nov 1 thru Nov 30	Jan 2 through Mar 25
Indoor Soccer	Oct 1- Oct 31	Jan through Mid Mar
Baseball/Softball	Nov- Dec	Early Mar into Jun
Spring Travel Baseball/Softball	March	Early Mar into Jun- Tryout reqr'd
Summer Travel Baseball/Softball	June	Early Jun thru late Jul-Tryout reqr'd
Youth Golf	April thru May	July
Summer Travel Basketball	April 1 thru Jun 15	Jun 20 thru Jul 31
Camp Serendipity	Mid Mar to Mid Jun	Jul 12-28- Tue/Wed/Thur
Ragamuffin Parade	n/a	Oct 29th
Town Day	n/a	September
Easter Egg Hunt	n/a	April 23rd

WOMAN'S CLUB OF OLD TAPPAN NEWS...

Woman's Club Thanks Supporters for Successful Spring House Tour Fundraiser

On May 15, the Woman's Club of Old Tappan sponsored a very successful first Spring House Tour of five magnificent homes in Old Tappan. The proceeds from this, the Woman's Club's major fundraiser for the year, will support Gilda's Club, Shelter Our Sisters, other charities, and local scholarships.

The Woman's Club members would like to acknowledge and thank all who made the Spring House Tour possible, including the gracious homeowners who opened up their beautiful homes for the tour and the creative design consultants, florists, caterers, and various donors for the homes. Many thanks are also extended to the generous monetary donors, the numerous tour booklet advertisers, the many who enthusiastically volunteered their services, and everyone who supported the event by purchasing tickets to attend the tour. The Woman's Club of Old Tappan, a volunteer service organization founded over 50 years ago, is a member of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs and the worldwide General Federation of Women's Clubs. As such, the Woman's Club of Old Tappan looks forward to many more years of service to the community and beyond. We welcome new members. Meetings are held September through June on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at the Old Tappan Firehouse. For information, please call Diana at 201-750-7365.



Woman's Club of Old Tappan's new member Jean Powers (left) and Barbara Zabowski welcomed visitors to the beautiful Zabowski home.

Student Award Recipients

The Woman's Club of Old Tappan congratulates the students who were recipients of its awards in 2011. Graduating seniors from Northern Valley Regional High School at Old Tappan, Sungbae Park won the \$1,000 Woman's Club of Old Tappan Scholarship and Sean Lofgren received the \$250 Theater Arts Award. The six eighth grade graduates of the Charles DeWolf School who were presented with \$100 Bonds will be named in the next newsletter, as the Bonds were awarded after the Old Tappan News deadline.

Visit our Booth at Town Day on September 10th

Enter our annual free raffles for hanging pots of Chrysanthemums, and pick up information about the Woman's Club and its upcoming events.

Guests are Welcome to our Meetings

Our opening fall meeting is on September 20th at 7 PM at the Firehouse. It will feature a speaker on Gilda's Club, which is the NJSFWC state project. Our annual Member/Guest Pot Luck Supper is on October 18th. For information call Diana at 201-750-7365

Article Submitted by:

Pat Royall, Communications Chairman, Phone: 201-768-8128 Email: kmroys@aol.com



Woman's Club President Diana Savadjian and her son Andre are pictured in the fabulous kitchen of an Old Tappan home featured in the Spring House Tour.



911 Memorial Service

The tenth anniversary of the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001 will be marked in the Borough of Old Tappan on Sunday, September 11, 2011. The Memorial will be solemn and formal marking the great loss to the United States and will also remember the commitment to Liberty and Freedom inspired by this tragic assault on our nation.

All residents and friends are invited to participate.

The public is asked to convene at the firehouse parking lot. The memorial will start at 8:30 AM. A brief and solemn agenda will follow and at 8:46 AM, participants will march silently to Oakes Park, the location of the

Old Tappan 911 Memorial. The solemn procession will end at 9:03 AM followed by a brief Benediction, ending our service.

We hope you will be able to join us.

The Old Tappan Recreation Commission presents

Town Day & Night

2011

Saturday, September 10th

(rain date – Saturday, September 17th)

A Fun-Filled Day of Events for the Entire Family

1:00pm to 6:00pm

Stone Point Park

1:00-5:00

*****New Rides/Attractions*****

Stilt Walker

Carnival Games

Bingo – (Adults)

Balloon Twister

Face Painter & Tattoo Artist

Baking Contest

Competitions from Old Tappan:

**Baseball/Softball, Soccer, Football Golf and
Basketball Rec. Programs**

*****Talent Contest*****

5:00- 6:00

Free Raffle

Pie Eating Contest

Fireworks

at the

Old Tappan Golf Course

Once again, don't miss the Fireworks show planned for the evening. The Golf Course will open at 7:00pm.

Park along DeWolf Road or walk to the course. Bring your blanket or beach chair and find a seat along the fairway. Drinks and snacks will be available for purchase.

**Enjoy the music and the
Fireworks!**

Baking Contest

Join the competition by entering the Baking contest in either the Cake or Cookies category. Entry forms and rules are available on the Borough website. Enter by Sept. 7th.

**Have your baked goods at Stone Point
by 2pm with judging at 3pm.**

Attractions & Refreshments During the Day

Attractions: 24' Climbing Wall with Bungee Trampoline, 24' Wild Rapids Slide, 62' Mega Thrill Obstacle Course, Wrecking Ball... "Cars" - 5 in 1 Combo Bouncer, Mini-Tea Cups, FacePainter, Balloon Twister, Tatto Artist, Trackless Train, Carnival Games, Bounces and Much More!

Refreshments: Hot Dogs, Heroes, Chicken Wings, Pasta, Pizza, Pretzels, Fruit, Ice Cream, Snow Cones, Beverages and More