

# OLD TAPPAN NEWS

*A TRADITION OF SPIRIT AND FRIENDSHIP*

Official Borough Newsletter of Old Tappan

Summer 2004

Volume 41 No. 2

REPORT

FROM

MAYOR

POLICE



Summertime in Old Tappan – there is no better time... or place. Our beautiful town is at its best. Our residents take great pride in the appearance of their homes with their green lawns and colorful flower beds. Our parks and ball fields are pristine. Our kids flock to the Old Tappan Summer Camp in record numbers. Long days, warm nights, baseball and barbecues make summer special.

Summer is a critical time for the Borough as we work to get some of our smaller projects done before school opens, such as the road and storm water drainage improvements in the elementary school area. Other projects need to get in full swing if they are to be completed by year end, such as the Twin Oaks Park project on Central Avenue, the Borough Hall Park on Russell Avenue, the Hike 'N' Bike project, and the installation of sanitary sewers for the final 71 homes that have not yet been sewered. It is a time to carry through on improving the infrastructure and beautifying the Borough.

The Borough, through our new Social and Cultural Affairs Committee, is planning activities of interest for all our residents. You'll hear more about these activities in the near future. Social and cultural activities and events reinforce our deep sense of community pride. It is this sense of community that makes our Old Tappan extraordinary.

The passing of former Mayor Edward Gallagher on June 3 was a very sad day for our town. Mayor Gallagher served this community as mayor for 16 years, providing very strong leadership during a very dif-

## FORMER MAYOR ED GALLAGHER DIES; SERVED OLD TAPPAN FOR 16 YEARS

*Ed Gallagher –  
A Great Mayor... A Great Man*

Edward J. Gallagher, Mayor of Old Tappan from 1980 to 1995, died on June 3, at the age of 74. Ed is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Lois. Ed was a consummate family man and his legacy will live on through his three children and six grandchildren (so far).

Ed's devotion to the Old Tappan community was extraordinary. Ed was a peerless leader with uncompromising integrity and dignity. Through his four terms as Mayor, he was the unequivocal guiding force behind the shaping of Old Tappan. He led by example – with honor, courtesy and professionalism. Ed was tough and obstinate when the best interests of Old Tappan were at stake. He had uncommon leadership skills which he carried with uncommon grace. He had all the qualities you could ask for in a great Mayor... and more.

Old Tappan thrived under his watch. During his 16 years as Mayor, Old Tappan evolved into the prosperous elite community in which we live today. He was a staunch fiscal conservative. He steadfastly held the line on property taxes which resulted in Old Tappan consistently maintaining the lowest municipal tax rate in the County. With his professional background

difficult era. On behalf of our community, I would like to extend heartfelt sympathies towards his wife Lois, and his beautiful children and grandchildren. Mayor Gallagher was the greatest mayor Old Tappan has ever had and I will miss him terribly.

For our residents, I hope that you are able to take the time to relax and enjoy yourselves this summer. I hope that you are able to live life, enjoy family and have fun with your neighbors and friends.



in finance, he took pride in his work at budget time.

Ed served as president of the New Jersey League of Municipalities, the organization comprised of all 566 New Jersey towns. He served on Governor Florio's Advisory Group on Municipal Issues. He was also president of the Pascack Valley Mayors' Association and president of the Old Tappan Republican Club.

Locally, he was always active with community groups, serving as a Eucharistic minister and member of the Finance Committee at St. Pius X Roman Catholic Church, in several positions with the Old Tappan Lions Club, as Little League Coach and Boy Scout committee member.

Ed Gallagher was a man of impeccable character and we are grateful for all that he did for us in the Old Tappan community. The Mayor and Council, the Borough family and the residents of Old Tappan extend our deepest sympathies to the Gallagher family.

## Fire Department Urges Extra Care this Summer

As the summer season approaches, the members of the Old Tappan Volunteer Fire Department would like to remind all residents to take extra care when using their barbecue. Make sure that you clean and inspect your barbecue before you use it. If you have a gas barbecue, make sure that the hose connection is tight and check carefully for leaks.

Take a moment to familiarize yourself with the fire evacuation plans when staying at hotels during summer vacation. Count the number of doors in the hallway to the nearest emergency exit. It may save your life!! Check and see if that summer rental has smoke detectors that actually work!!

Residents are urged to use extra care when refueling lawn mowers and other power equipment during the hot summer months. Refuel only when the engine is off and has had a chance to cool down.

On behalf of "Old Tappan's Bravest", I would like to wish all residents a happy, healthy and safe summer.

*Kevin S. Dorney, Fire Chief  
Guy Carnazza, Fire Commissioner*

## 2004 MAYOR'S VOLUNTEER AWARD NOMINEES WANTED

In Old Tappan, volunteerism is critical to our quality of life. Without a dedicated corps of volunteers, our many recreational and social programs would cease to exist. The Mayor's Volunteer Award recognizes those groups and individuals who have given so selflessly of their time and talents in service to their fellow residents.

Do you know someone who makes a real difference by their dedication to a volunteer cause? Is there a group that has gone that extra mile to make our community a better place? Please let us know if there is an individual or group you think should be recognized for their outstanding efforts or long-term dedication.

Nomination forms are available on our website [www.oldtappan.net](http://www.oldtappan.net) and at the Borough Hall. The deadline to submit nominations is July 31.

## On-Time Soccer Registration Again Includes Free Camp

As we have done for the past two summers, any child entering grades 1 to 8, who is properly registered for the fall outdoor soccer season will be invited to attend a four day soccer camp (three hours each evening) in August, run by the United Soccer Academy (USA). USA is the professional soccer training organization that ran the camp last year and did a superb job.

### HOW TO REGISTER

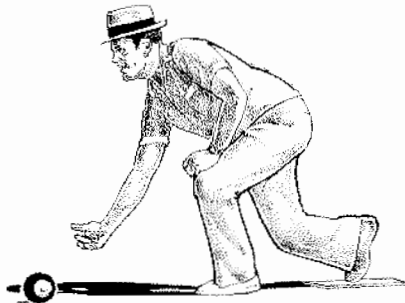
All you need to do is register your child on time (prior to July 1) for fall soccer and you will receive a call with the details. Late registrants will be turned away, so register before July 1. Keep your eyes open for registration forms either in the mail or handed out at school during May and/or June, or you can download the registration form at the Borough website at [www.oldtappan.net](http://www.oldtappan.net) after May 1.

## RECREATION REMINDERS

**SUMMER CAMP:** starts July 6, 9:00 a.m. at T. Baldwin Demarest School.

**TOWN DAY:** Saturday, September 18.

**ANYONE FOR BOCCE?**



Anyone interested in our free program, contact Larry Weil at [lweil@optonline.net](mailto:lweil@optonline.net), 201-666-0690 or Tom Mancini at [tklm2@aol.com](mailto:tklm2@aol.com); 201-768-5260.

## BOROUGH APPOINTS OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER



When Jamie Cohen became a resident of Old Tappan in 2003, she had two goals: one was to help provide a better quality of life for her and her family (they had just moved here from New York City) and the second was to successfully bring her unique style of photography to the people of New Jersey.

So far so good. Jamie was recently named as the official Borough photographer for Old Tappan and she says that, "Life here couldn't be better. When people think of great images I want them to think of me."

Jamie's work has been featured nationally in both print and on television and her list of clients includes: FAO Schwarz, CVS Stores, General Electric, The New York Knicks, The New York Rangers, FOX Sports, E-Entertainment Television, NBA Entertainment, Sanyo, and Hunter Douglas, to name a few.

Having worked with some of the world's most demanding clients, Jamie has consistently demonstrated a special gift for taking the kind of pictures that people truly love.

She says, "Whether I am shooting the NY Knicks, OT Firemen, or a young man at his Bar Mitzvah I take pictures with the same pride and intention; to take photos that blow people away. This is the best town. I've been a New York City girl all my life but I never felt more at home than in Old Tappan. I am so honored to be the Borough Photographer."

To view Jamie's portfolio or to contact her visit <http://www.jamiecohen.tv> or call her at 201-358-8276.



With this issue of the *Old Tappan News* we are introducing a new column called **"Spotlight On . . ."** which will provide an in-depth look at a department, board, commission or other group in the Borough. We are very pleased to kick off this series with the Old Tappan First Aid Corps, whose members provide exceptional services to their fellow residents, often at considerable personal sacrifice.

## Old Tappan First Aid Corps – A Healthy Dose of Skills

by Sue Gallagher

Trauma or medical emergencies touch every person's life at one time or another. When the Old Tappan Ambulance arrives at your door, you can be sure that it arrives with skilled, experienced individuals.

The Old Tappan First Aid Corps (OTFAC) currently has 28 active members. Each of these members must be CPR/AED certified for adults, children, and infants before responding to a call. The CPR/AED course is an eight hour course that teaches the life-saving skills of removing a foreign-body airway obstruction, ventilating for a patient who is not breathing or having difficulty breathing, performing chest compressions when a patient's heart stops, and providing defibrillation to a patient (shocking the heart in an attempt to restore a normal rhythmic beat). These skills must be recertified every two years by taking a refresher course and passing a written and practical test.

In addition to CPR/AED certification, approximately 90% of the OTFAC membership is also EMT-B certified. Some of the additional skills acquired in EMT-B training are: management of respiratory, cardiovascular, neurological, obstetrics/gynecological and diabetic emergencies, treatment for allergic reactions, bites from venomous snakes and spiders, substance abuse and poisoning, and bandaging/splinting soft-tissue and bone injuries.

### 110 HOURS OF TRAINING TO BECOME AN EMT-B

To become an EMT-B, members took a 110 hour course (approximately 5 months, 6 hours per week) and spent 10 hours in a hospital emergency room. Currently, to become an EMT-B in the state of New Jersey, you must pass a practical skills exam and the National Registry written exam, which has a nationwide pass rate of only 50%. Recertification is every three years, with an ongoing training re-



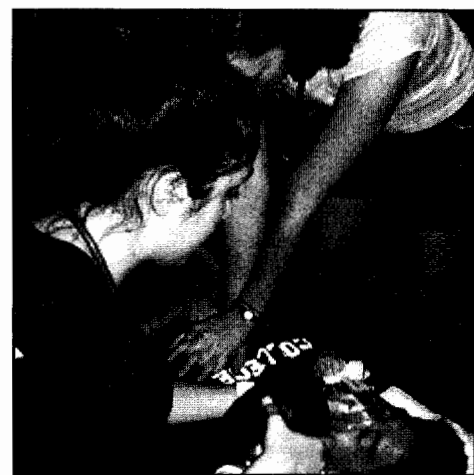
quirement of 48 hours of continuing education and core skills refresher within the three year time frame.

In addition to the OTFAC membership keeping up with their CPR/AED and EMT-B certifications, they keep their skills fresh and enriched by attending monthly drills. The OTFAC training department is led by members Mark Geerinck and Jared Kutzin. Mark has been a member of the OTFAC for seven years, and has been an instructor at the Bergen County EMS Academy in Mahwah. Jared came to the OTFAC with a lot of practical experience. He rode for four years with the Uniondale Fire Department on Long Island, a department that answered over 650 EMS calls per year.

### HOW TO HANDLE EMERGENCIES

When faced with a trauma or medical emergency, it is important for those calling 911 to remain calm, speak with a clear voice, and answer all of the dispatcher's questions as accurately as

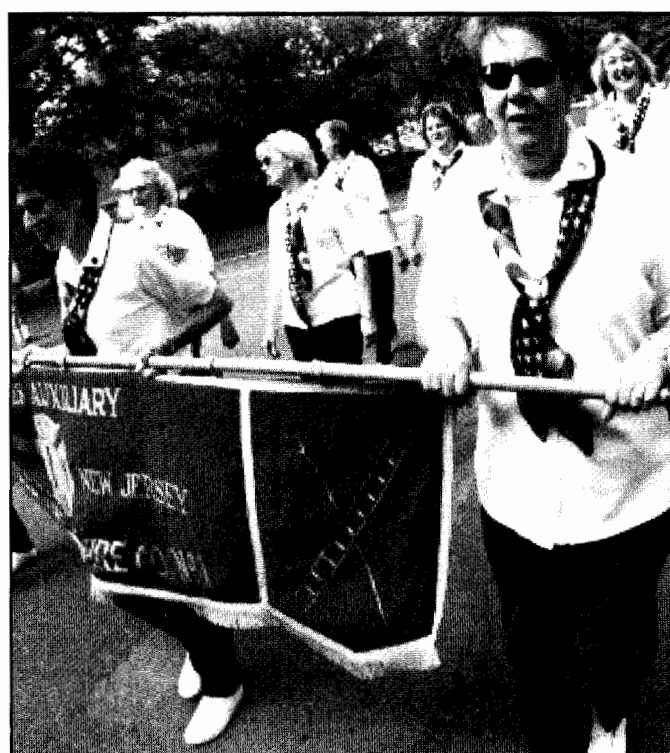
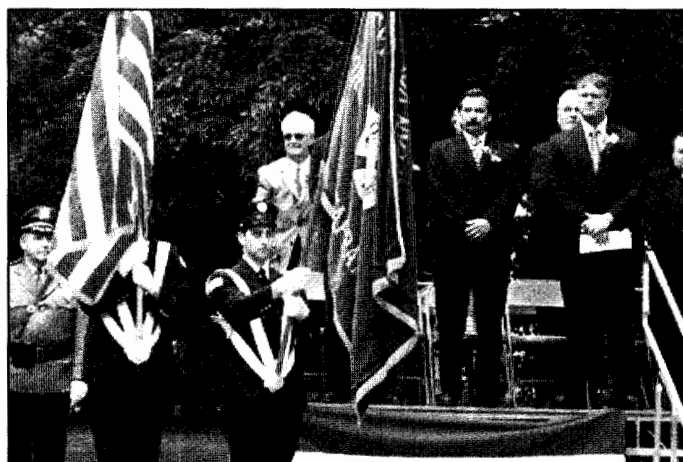
possible. You can then take comfort in knowing that Old Tappan's volunteer First Aid Corps has worked extremely hard enriching and refining their skills so that they can provide Old Tappan residents with the best possible care.



*EMT Marisa Morris simulates ventilating patient (EMT Danny Kim) with bag valve mask while fellow EMT, Corey Esposito, demonstrates proper hand position for chest compressions during their monthly drill.*



# MEMORIAL DAY

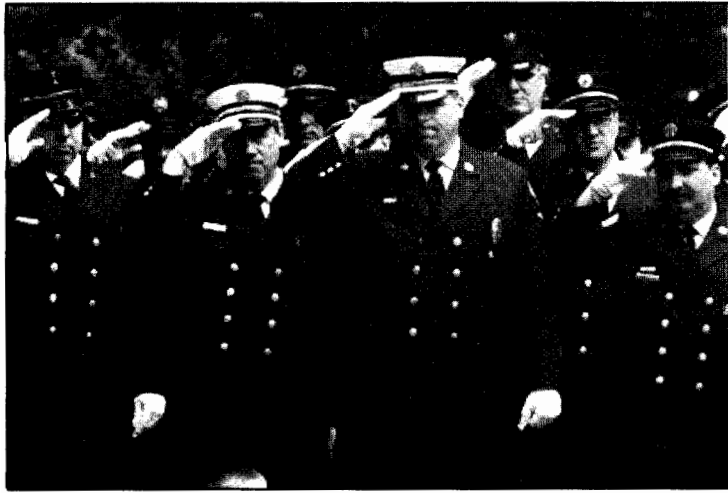




# IN OLD TAPPAN

*Photos by Jamie Cohen  
Borough Photographer*

Visit the "news" section of our website [www.oldtappan.net](http://www.oldtappan.net) to view full-size color photos.



# POLICE SPONSOR SENIOR PICNIC AND OFFER SUMMERTIME SAFETY TIPS TO ALL



(left) A few of the many Old Tappan seniors who enjoyed the picnic sponsored and (right) prepared by our Police Department on a perfect day in June at Stone Point Park.

## VACATION REMINDERS

With school ending and many of us making plans for summer vacations, residents are reminded to properly secure their homes and valuables while they are gone. You may notify the Police Department of your vacation plans and request your home be placed on a watch list. Also notify neighbors and friends of your plans, as they are the ones who would most likely notice something out of order at your home. Timers on lights, stopping of mail and newspapers and trimmed back shrubbery could be the difference in whether or not your home is broken into.

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

While traveling, be alert to your surroundings. Now is the time to make that emergency preparedness kit. You may access several important website addresses with information regarding emergency preparedness either through our website, [www.oldtappanpolice.com](http://www.oldtappanpolice.com) or on the Borough's website, [www.oldtappan.net](http://www.oldtappan.net).

All residents should report any suspicious activity to the Police Department immediately. Residents living around Lake Tappan may notice increased Police Patrols within the reservoir area. Currently the fishing and hiking program is open but will close if our threat level becomes elevated. United Water has several employees checking that people within the gates have the proper passes.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During this past spring the Police Department initiated several programs both within the schools and outside the schools in order to reach as many of the residents as possible. Such programs and events as the Senior Picnic, Internet Safety, Escape School, Child Seat Checks, Home Security Checks and others help to keep an open line of communication between everyone. We are presently in the process of starting a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) and will keep you posted on when it will be initiated.

## UNDERAGE DRINKING

Consumption or possession of alcohol by minors, allowing minors to consume alcohol at your home, or providing alcohol to minors are all crimes. We will prosecute! Do not make your home available!

## CHILD SAFETY

Parking in no parking zones around the recreation fields seems to be flagrant by some. These no parking areas are there for safety reasons. All violators will be issued a summons.

Child booster seats are still available. Contact our Child Seat Technicians before you go on vacation.

Have a safe and fun summer season!

*Joseph Fasulo, Police Chief  
John Kramer, Police Commissioner*

## Golf Course Now Provides Great Food & Golf Equipment For All

Golfers in Old Tappan have long been fortunate to have an excellent golf facility available here in the Borough. The greens, tees, and fairways compare very favorably to the finest courses anywhere. Paul Parascondolo and his staff receive numerous compliments on the condition of the course.

This year, ALL RESIDENTS, not only golfers, can enjoy the golf course by visiting THE CLUB AT OLD TAPPAN, the new restaurant at the golf course which is having great success offering breakfast, lunch, and dinner. THE CLUB is under the direction of Gordon Fraser and Mark O'Grady. These men are experienced in the food business and have shown great skill in providing quality food in the beautiful ambiance of the Golf Course environment.

Gordon and Mark are scheduling some special events to draw people to THE CLUB to share in some fun and food. This will include programming such as "The Club Comedy Series" featuring top comics from across the country. Stop by THE CLUB to experience great food in a great setting.

Also many golfers drive miles looking for new golf equipment and/or golf apparel. You should know that there is fine equipment and apparel right here in the Golf Shop at the Golf Course. Our own Doug Meeks, Golf Pro, is always happy to assist you and discuss the appropriate items for you. ALL OLD TAPPAN RESIDENTS RECEIVE A 10% DISCOUNT ON GOLF CLOTHING! Stop at the Pro Shop and ask for Doug before you run to the highway.

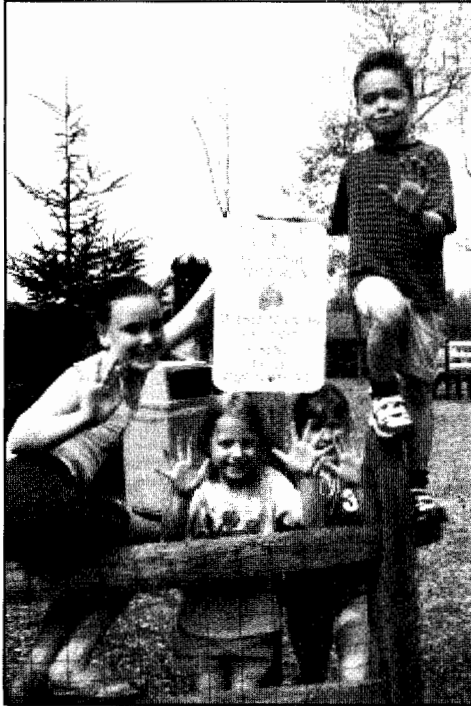
Be reminded that memberships are still available by calling the Borough Hall at 201-664-1849, ext. 238, or by calling Doug at 201-767-1199. Also the opportunity to advertise at specific holes on the Golf Course is still open at the rate of \$500.00 for three years.

**COME ON OVER FOR GREAT GOLF, EQUIPMENT AND DELICIOUS FOOD!**

*Daniel Morro, Chairman  
Guy Carnazza, Council Liaison*

# Be a PAL: Protect A Life

The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN) has designed an awareness program called **Be A PAL: Protect A Life** to educate children on how they can help a friend with food allergies.



**LOOK MOM, CLEAN HANDS!!**

Old Tappan children are proud to be a PAL and clean their hands before playing with friends and on the playground. The new PAL sign reads: "PROTECT FOOD ALLERGIC CHILDREN. WASH HANDS BEFORE USING PLAY EQUIPMENT."

## NEW MEMBERS JOIN WOMAN'S CLUB

The Woman's Club of Old Tappan gained seven new members this year: Susan Huff Dayna Cassandra, Irene Holmgren, Debbie Simunovich, Sue Joshi, Lucille Bisehoff and Eloyce Lang who became members at the May installation dinner.

### WELCOME PACKETS OFFERED

As an ongoing project, the Woman's Club of Old Tappan prepares Welcome Packets for new residents of Old Tappan that provide updated information about the many community services and activities our town offers. Borough of Old Tappan information as well as brochures from local organizations are included. Any organization that would like to be represented in this packet or anyone who would like additional information may call Libby Weidmann at 201-767-1097.

- 1. Never take food allergies lightly.**
- 2. Don't share food with food allergic friends.**
- 3. WASH HANDS AFTER EATING.**
- 4. Ask friends what they are allergic to and help them avoid it.**
- 5. If a friend with food allergy becomes ill, get help immediately!**

The park is a place for friends, fun and foods of all sorts including ice cream, peanut butter sandwiches and candies. Food allergies vary in severity, so the slightest contact with an allergen could cause great harm to an individual. The simple act of washing your hands and mouth after eating greatly reduces the risk of cross contamination.

In September 2003 signs were placed at all Old Tappan parks reminding visitors to wash their hands after eating and prior to using playground equipment. Please make wet wipes a staple in your bag (along with the snacks, drinks, and first aid kit) when you pack up for the park and we'll have a great time.

For more information on food allergy, visit [www.foodallergy.org](http://www.foodallergy.org).

### JOIN THE CLUB

If you are a new resident of Old Tappan who has not received a Welcome Packet, you may obtain one at the Old Tappan Borough Hall.

Guests are encouraged to attend our general meetings which are held usually on the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, at the Old Tappan Fire House at 7:30 p.m.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 21, 2004. For club or membership information, call Pat at 201-768-8128 or Anita at 201-767-1518.

## Lions Sponsor Blood Bank Drive

The semi-annual Old Tappan Blood Bank Drive, sponsored by the Old Tappan Lions Club, will be held in the Firehouse Hall on Wednesday, July 14, 2004 between 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Our donations have decreased as of late so we encourage ALL citizens to support this worthy and life saving cause during this time of national need. Please mark your calendar.

### LIONS AWARD CDW STUDENT

Eighth-grader Chanhon Lee of Charles DeWolf Middle School was presented with the First Runner-up Award in the Annual Lions Peace Poster Contest sponsored by Lions District 16A which is comprised of over 50 Lions Clubs in Bergen, Passaic and Hudson counties.

This year, 32 middle schools participated with thousands of eligible students from these three counties. The award was presented in the art class of teacher Camille Helsey by Old Tappan Lions Dr. Stephen Wiklinski, president and Louis Giordano, past president.

## LIBRARY RAISES \$30,000

Thanks to everyone who bailed out our "Usual Suspects" for the Library Building Fund. The event raised \$30,000! The next fund raising event will be a silent auction/auction on Thursday, October 7 at the Florentine Gardens. ***The committee would love to have additional volunteers to help with the event.*** If interested, please call the library at 201-664-3499 and ask for Susan.

Our children's summer reading program is, "Discover New Trails at Your Library." We also have Mommy & Me, Story Hour, Pajama Time and Story & Crafts programs planned. Information and sign-ups will be available at the library.

Our thanks to the dogs, gecko, guinea pig and turtle that walked in the Pet Walkathon on May 16. It was a beautiful day and the event raised \$4,000 for the building fund.

Susan Meeske, Director  
Ron Binaghi, Jr., Council Liaison

## OPEN SPACE REFERENDUM

On November 2, 1999, a municipal referendum to establish an open space trust fund was overwhelmingly approved by voters in Old Tappan, with the proceeds to be used for the preservation of open space. This created a one cent levy for every \$100 of assessed value of one's home to be annually collected for a period of five years, dedicated solely to the preservation of open space in Old Tappan.

The Open Space Trust Fund has been utilized to help finance the Borough's acquisition of the Washington Woods property on Washington Avenue, the former Davies property on Haring Drive, and the 2002 purchase of the former Oakes property on Central Avenue. The Mayor and Council have been successful in obtaining State Green Acres grants and County Open Space grants, but these grant programs require some municipal contribution, and the Borough's Open Space Trust Fund has been a valuable funding source for the Borough's contribution. Since five years have passed, the Trust Fund levy must now be renewed if the Borough is to be able to obtain Green Acres and County grants. And there is still a substantial amount of open space in Old Tappan available for acquisition.

The referendum will be on the ballot in the November 2 election. With the average assessed value of homes in Old Tappan at \$570,000, the cost to the average home owner is only \$57 a year, far less than the cost of school taxes that would be required if these properties were to be developed.

*Bob Colwell, Chairman  
Mary Carmenini, Council Liaison*

## Planning Board Considering Two Major Applications

The Planning Board continues to hear two major applications, regarding the Colonial Manor and Care One (formerly Ingleside) properties. Anyone interested in attending these hearings is welcome to do so. Planning Board meetings are on the first and third Wednesdays of the month and have been beginning at 7:00 p.m. due to the full agenda.

In addition, many residents in town have submitted applications for variances, subdivisions, or conditional uses. The Planning Board is making every effort to review and hear these in a timely fashion.

If any resident needs assistance filing an application, our Planning Board Secretary, Colleen, is happy to answer your questions. She is available on Monday and Friday from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. and on Wednesday from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. She can be reached at the Borough Hall at 201-664-1849, ext. 235.

*Rea Epstein, Chairman*

## Social and Cultural Affairs Committee Making Plans for Town Events

In March the Mayor and Council established the Social and Cultural Affairs Committee. The purpose of the fledging group is to envision and plan recreational activities, concerts, and other community events for the residents of Old Tappan.

Currently, Marcia Esposito, John Flanagan, Babara Zubowski, Shannon Wiggers, Tina DeNike, Kathy Kroese and Joy Polce are members of the committee.

At present, the group is seeking vendors for an "Old Tyme Street Fair" to be held at Stone Point Park on July 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Proceeds from this event will be used to sponsor fun events in the works for later this year.

If anyone has any ideas they would like to share or would like to be a part of this committee, please call Marcia at 201-768-6797.

*Marcia Esposito, Chairwoman  
Victor Cioce, Council Liaison*

## APARTMENTS RENTED AT WINDING CREEK & DOROTOCKY'S RUN

The Affordable Housing Agency of Old Tappan is happy to announce that all eight of the apartments available at Winding Creek and all four of the apartments available at Dorotocky's Run have been filled. In addition, candidates for the other four apart-

ments at Dorotocky's Run currently under construction and due for completion in June have been identified. We welcome all the new families to Old Tappan.

*John Acken, Chairman  
Victor Cioce, Council Liaison*

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



POSTAL CUSTOMER  
OLD TAPPAN, NJ 07675

NEWSLETTER

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
WESTWOOD, NJ  
PERMIT NO. 147