

Oak Hill Association Newsletter



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

...and so we begin a new year in Oak Hill. This is the newsletter that is mailed to every home. In it, we present a brief overview of the Association and its goals as well as information about our events and interest groups. An envelope is provided for you to return with your dues—still only \$25. per family per year. For that bargain price you will receive the newsletter approximately three times a year, and timely e-mails to remind you of events and any neighborhood news you need to know.

The Oak Hill Association is a casual, loose-knit group formed to provide some social settings at which our neighbors –talented, intelligent, and above all, **busy** people-can meet. Most of our events are family-oriented because that seems to be what our members prefer and they are the best attended. Be sure to note the dates for The Egg Hunt, the Block Party, the Halloween Parade and the Holiday Brunch, and the neighborhood Garage Sale—fun for the whole family! Read on to learn more about the Book Club, Garden Club, Active Men’s Group, Civic Watch Committee, and Playgroup.

In the Spring and Fall, a General Membership Meeting is held. We usually have someone from the Township (e.g. Police Dept) or Township Committee to speak and address topical issues. Association Officers are elected at the Fall Meeting. AND since we are on the subject, we encourage and need members to step up and join our leadership. Some of us have been holding office since Howdy Doody was a pup and if you don’t recognize his name that definitely means we need you with your young blood and fresh ideas! The Social Committee could use some help and new input as could all of our groups.

Vivian Breen, President

Winter 2008
Volume 39

Inside this issue:

Civic Watch	2
Property Re-Evaluations	3
Suspicious Activity	4
Events/Clubs	5-8
Event Calendar	9

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2008

Place: Middletown United Methodist Church, 924 Middletown Lincroft Road.

Time: 7:30 pm

One of our speakers for the evening will be Mayor Gerard P. Scharfenberger, Ph. D. He will discuss early colonists that have left pieces of history in Middletown. Dr. Scharfenberger an archaeologist, has made interesting discoveries here. He will share his findings and also leave time for questions and answers regarding our Township’s government.

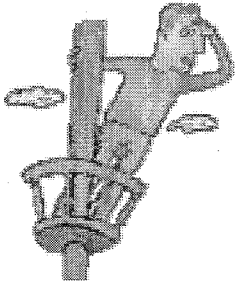
Our other speaker will be Neil Coleman, a resident of Oak Hill. Neil will speak about the formation of Monmouth County chapter of NJ Tax payer association, which is a non-partisan group leading the fight to lower property taxes in NJ. For Additional information go to page 3.



The Easter Bunny is Coming!

The Easter Bunny is Coming!

Details on Page 5

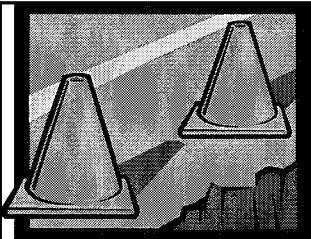


CIVIC WATCH COMMITTEE

Many of you are receiving this News Letter for the first time and are not aware of what this committee does for the Association. So to fill you in – Our members strive to stay abreast of any activity in and around Oak Hill and for that matter the entire Township which ultimately affects our quality of life. To do this we monitor meeting agendas for Zoning and Planning Boards and attend those where subject matter appears to be appropriate.

We have in the past taken an active part in opposition to a zoning change from residential to commercial in a near-by piece of property. A portion of the dues collected annually are set aside for legal counsel and representation should something come up that the Association wishes to support or oppose.

If you are at all civic minded and want to see our local government first hand, please join us by calling Helen Duthie at 732-706-3486.



CR/CR 12 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

MIDDLETOWN/HOLMDEL TOWNSHIPS

The following is description of the work being accomplished at intersection of Dwight, Red Hill and Van Schoick Roads. This information is provided by the Monmouth County Division of Engineering.

This project consists of the realignment of the existing intersection of County Route 52 (Van Schoick/Red Hill) and County Route 12 (Dwight Road) near the Garden State Parkway Interchange 114 in the Township of Middletown.

Due to increased traffic using Van Schoick Road to access Laurel Avenue and ultimately Route 35 and 36, Van Schoick will be realigned to allow for a two lane through movement north toward Laurel Avenue. The new alignment allows for a smoother flow of traffic on Van Schoick and elimination of the existing dual left turn lanes. Red Hill Road will move to the south to create a T intersection with Dwight Road. Dwight will continue north and form an additional T intersection with Van Schoick. A new traffic signal will be installed at the Dwight and Van Schoick intersection.

In addition, the existing signal at the Interchange 114 NB will be upgraded and the intersection widened to accommodate a dedicated right turn onto the parkway ramp.

Van Schoick Road will also be widened on the east side to provide for a dedicated left turn lane into the side streets from the south.



The New Jersey Taxpayers' Association (NJTA)

The New Jersey Taxpayer's Association (NJTA) a non-partisan, grass-roots organization dedicated to achieving real and sustainable tax reform in New Jersey. Our goal is improve the quality of life in New Jersey, for all its citizens, by holding our elected officials and administrators personally accountable for sound fiscal management.

In 2007 we continued to focus on the **fiscal mess** in the state. See our **NJTA 10-Point Legislative Proposals Platform** on the website (www.njtaxes.org) aimed at positive changes that would set New Jersey's fiscal house in order. Interestingly, in the State of the State Address, **Governor Corzine specifically supported three of our ten points;** a freeze on spending, elimination (real) of pay-to-play and voter approval of all (new) borrowing.

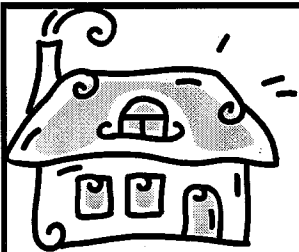
We designed and developed a **Legislator's Report Card** initiative for all the NJ Legislature incumbents this past August. Taxpayer Advocate certificates were given to 11 legislators (3 Republican and 8 Democratic members). **All other incumbents received failing grades.**

We have a **Statewide Tax Summit** tentatively scheduled for March.

Monmouth Chapter - As of this writing we are now represented in **14 of New Jersey's 21 counties**. Locally, we would like to start an **active Monmouth County chapter**. We are looking for individuals to identify and analyze issues, along with proposing solutions. We need people who can discuss these topics in an intelligent, thoughtful and respectful manner (not an easy task). If you are interested in joining, feel free to contact me.

I look forward to providing further information and discussing the New Jersey Taxpayers Association at the Oak Hill Association meeting in May.

Neil Coleman

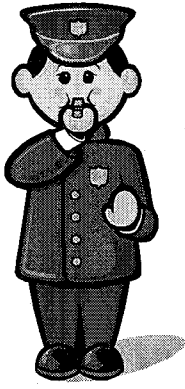


PROPERTY RE-EVALUATIONS AND NEW ASSESSMENT DATE

Property re-evaluations and when new assessments will show up in our tax bills - In response to a request for an update on this at the last General Membership Meeting Deputy Mayor Pam Brightbill sends the following email:

We have hired a consultant to look into the situation to see if we have a strong enough case to have it delayed. As we are all too aware of the current market, our belief is that there are not enough comparables as of Oct 2007 to complete a fair revaluation. We are cautiously optimistic and should know in early February. We feel strongly that another year would give the market a chance to settle down and a much more "fair" value would be able to be assigned to each of our homes. I will keep you informed of the situation as we hear more."

Pam Brightbill



A Follow Up To The Suspicious Activity Going On In Oak Hill

Recently there has been some concern about a man who has been knocking on doors and inquiring about doing some work for residents in Oak Hill. This man has not yet been identified and therefore I do not know his background nor can I vouch for his work. However, it is not uncommon for handymen, landscapers, odd jobbers, paving companies or others to go door to door soliciting work, especially if they are doing other work in the area. Persons who go door to door to sell or solicit are required by Township Ordinance to apply for a Solicitors Permit prior to soliciting.

Many of these people are legitimate and will do the work as specified. Some are not and residents should be cautious about who they choose to contract with. It is my suggestion that unless you are sure of the contractor who comes to your door, the risk to save a few dollars may not be prudent. I often tell people to trust their intuition, if they feel something is not right it probably isn't.

I can tell you that at this time we have no recent open burglary cases in Oak Hill or surrounding areas. I have also checked with the Holmdel Township Police Department and they have not had any residential burglaries recently. We work closely with our neighboring communities as criminals do not turn around at the border and what affects them affects us also. The burglary arrest mentioned in a previous email by Mr. Cashion of Crawford Road on Harbor Green Circle in Lincroft, was committed by a house guest of a Harbor Green Circle resident and was a crime of convenient opportunity rather than a person who set out that day to commit a burglary.

With all that being said I do want to let residents know that it is a common method of operation for would be burglars to search for homes that appear to be unoccupied and to knock on the door to see if someone answers. If they receive no answer they can feel comfortable no one is home. If someone does answer the door the usually will ask an innocuous question such as if "so and so" lives there. Common entry points for burglars are unlocked doors, sliding glass doors and basement windows. Some simple, inexpensive prevention measures include installing "jimmy bars" on sliders, "pegging" double hung windows and lights with timers.

I would urge everyone to lock their homes when away and remove valuables from vehicles and lock car doors at night. Locks or latches on sliding glass doors are easily defeated. Installing a "jimmy bar" will create another obstacle for a burglar that may cause him or her to look elsewhere. "Pegging" windows involves drilling a hole through the lower window frame and partially into the upper frame. Window latches also require very little effort to force open and inserting a peg into the drilled holes will prevent the window from being opened. A second hole a little higher in the upper window could also be made to allow the window to be left open slightly. Although most burglaries occur during the day when no one is home, some occur at twilight when lack of interior lighting is an indication of an empty house. Putting timers on lights will give the impression that someone is home and exterior lighting is also an excellent deterrent. More radical prevention measures such as alarm systems and burglar bars on basement windows are also available.

By far the best crime prevention assets are the people who live in the neighborhood. They know what cars belong, what people belong and when something looks out of the ordinary in the community. The Middletown Twp. Police Department is open 24 hours a day. Residents are encouraged to report any suspicious activity and we will send an officer to investigate. In an emergency, dial 9-1-1 to reach an emergency operator. Instruct children and babysitters to give the location where they are and where they need assistance. Non emergency calls can be made to 732 615-2100 to reach Police Headquarters. Both lines are answered by Middletown Communication Operators, but priority is given to the 9-1-1 lines and should only be used for true emergencies.

We look forward to excellent cooperative relationship with the Oak Hill Association to keep Middletown as one of the safest communities in the country.

Sincerely,

Joe Capriotti

Detective Lieutenant

Middletown Twp. Police Department

To ensure you continue to receive timely alerts, return your 2008 Oak Hill Membership . Make sure you include your email address and return to us the membership card, as soon as possible.

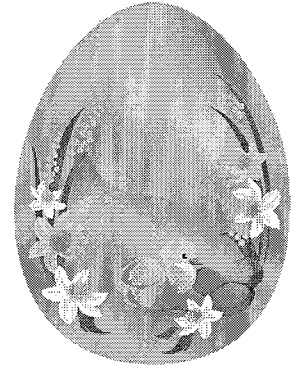
PLAYGROUP



Meets weekly,
on Wednes-
days at noon
at Tatum Park, Red Hill Road.
For babies, toddlers and pre-
schoolers.

Bring your child's lunch if you
wish, let them play while you
get a chance to talk to other
moms. For information or for
inclement weather call Laura
Campbell (732)275-1676.

EASTER EGG HUNT



Oak Hill's Annual Easter Egg
Hunt will be held on **Saturday,
March 15, 2008** at Vivian and
Jack Breen's house at 10 Quail
Drive. Bring your children and
some baskets for collecting
eggs. This year we will break
up the yard into two groups,
preschoolers and school-age,
so that every child finds some
eggs. We will also have great
entertainment for the children
from Entertainment by Dylan.
We may even get a visit from
the Easter Bunny!!

Date: Saturday, March 15,
2008

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: 10 Quail Drive

Rain Date: Sunday March 16,
2008 at 1:00 PM

**Call Vivian Breen at 732-671-
4638 if the weather is "iffy"**

OAK HILL ANNUAL GARAGE SALE



We had another great response to our
annual Oak Hill Garage Sale, last spring.

"We are all set to do Spring 2008". Please
mark your calendar for **May 16, 2008 and
May 17, 2008 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.**

We need a few Volunteers to make some
"Great Signs" for us all, this year.

For further information or to participate, please call Ronnie
Lander 732-671-9395 or by email r.j.lander@comcast.net

2008 SOCIAL EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Contact Laura Campbell 732-275-1676 for more information about these events.

Block Party

The Block Party has officially become one of our annual events. There will be entertainment for the kids and barbeque style food for all. The date has been set, so please mark your calendars.



Date: Saturday, September 13, 2008 (Rain date: Sunday, September 14 at noon pm)

Place: TBD

Time: noon — 4:00 PM

Cost: \$0 for OHA members and will be hosted by the Association again

Finally, like last year, we will have a kid's area where little entrepreneurs can set up tables to sell arts/crafts, set up carnival style games or provide services (e.g. nail station, etc.). The best part is that they can charge (\$.25) and keep all the profits! So start thinking of a creative idea with your kids.

Halloween Parade

Our annual Halloween parade will be held on **Saturday, October 18th**. Come dressed in your favorite costume and follow the fire engine to the parade finish where the kids can climb aboard the fire truck, participate in some



fun activities and enjoy the refreshments. We will have inflatable (e.g. moon walks, mazes,

etc.) so make sure your kids are dressed appropriately. Don't miss out on this most popular event.

Date: Saturday, October 18, 2008 (Rain Date: Saturday, October 25, 2008 at 1:00 pm)

Place: Starts at Borden & Lionel, goes down Borden & cross over Pelican and finish on Borden

Time: 1:00 p.m. sharp

Cost: \$0

Any questions, please contact Allison LaRosa at 732-957-0335.

Brunch with Santa

Our 4th annual brunch will be held on **Saturday, December 6, 2008**. There will be a DJ to keep the kids entertained while you relax and catch up with your neighbors. And of course, Santa will be there to hear all about your child's Christmas list and pose for that special picture!



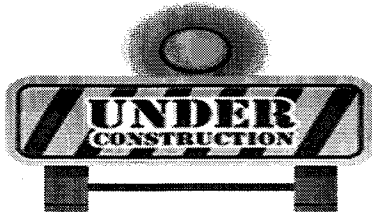
Date: Saturday, December 6, 2008

Place: Gibbs Hall

Time: 12:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Cost: TBD

Any questions, please contact Laura Campbell at 732-275-1676



To bring you up to date with current events and news in the Oak Hill area we are proud to announce that Oak

Hill Association is in the process of putting together a website for all to view. Once it is completed we will forward everyone an email giving you more details. If you would like to contribute any information, please contact Allison LaRosa at peterandally611@aol.com.

OAK HILL ACTIVE MEN'S GROUP



Oak Hill men and wives participate, once or twice per month, in a wide variety of fun activities. We run local trips and visits to NY City. Local dinners and shows are always popular. Come to our monthly breakfast, and/or join our email list for current activities (open to any

OHA member). Contact Steve Miller (732-671-5917) or stevemiller@comcast.net

www.oakhill.org
 732-671-5917

HELP WANTED

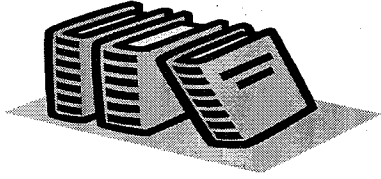
www.oakhill.org
 732-671-5917

Oak Hill residents needed to serve The Hill Association as officers and/or members of various committees and clubs. If you have a few hours a year to spare, would love to serve the Oak Hill community, meet your neighbors and have pleasurable experiences, call Laura Campbell at 732-275-1676 or email at dutchcampbells@yahoo.com

Association Officers And Committee Heads

PRESIDENT	Vivian Breen	671-4638	NEW COMERS:	Helen Duthie	706-3486
VICE PRESIDENT	Laura Campbell	275-1676	GARDEN CLUB	Marie Logioco	671-7042
TREASURER	Allison LaRosa	957-0335	BOOK CLUB	Karen Sabella	671-5706
SECRETARY	Steve Miller	671-5917	NEWSLETTER:	Steve Miller	671-5917
CIVIC WATCH	Don Duthie	706-3486	SOCIAL COMMITTEE	Allison LaRosa	957-0335
	Helen Duthie	706-3486		Rita McKinney	671-7404
	Charla Tewksbury	275-6794		Bill Butler	671-3438
ACTIVE MEN'S GROUP	Steve Miller	671-5917	PRESERVATION	Patrice Nybro	615-9245
				Laura Campbell	275-1676
				Bill Butler	671 - 3438

BOOK CLUB



The Oak Hill Book Club meets monthly in members' home to discuss the latest books, fiction and nonfiction. In February, we are reading "Swimming Toward the Ocean, by Carol Glickfield.

If you are interested in joining, call Karen Sabella 732-672-5706.

GARDEN CLUB



SHOW at Dearborn Farms in Holmdel in early February.

The Garden Club meets once a month (usually fourth Friday of each month) unless otherwise noted. Some special events planned are a Spring Trip to Rare Find Nursery on May 16th. On June 20th, a Verdant Lunch Box will be @ Deep Cut Park. We also plan to do some "Garden Hopping". New members welcome! Please call Marie Logioco @ 732-671-7042 or Virginia Hickey @ 732-671-2604. BRING A FRIEND!

GET A JUMP START ON YOUR GARDEN: The Oak Hill Garden Club has some exciting events planned for the 2007-2008 season. Just recently we went to the ORCHID

NEWCOMERS

We welcome our newcomers to Oak Hill!

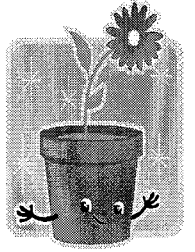
33 Borden Road
Pam and Rob Adams

2 Bunker Hill Drive
Bill and Maryann Korth, son Alex 2

10 Gull Road Jerry and Elena Imbro, son Michael 9

192 Borden Road Michael and Jeannette, sons Mike 25 and Joe 19

Please call Helen at (732)706-3486 if you are aware of any new residents in the area.



NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION - OAK HILL

Oak Hill is a beautiful area of Middletown and all of us can remember why we chose to live here. Many remember the way it looked years ago and all of us know the way it looks now and want to keep it that way. And while we can't stand in the way of progress, we do want to protect our area from any unwise encroachment or deterioration in the future – to protect the character and quality of life in Oak Hill.

Increasingly heavy traffic volume on our roads. Leaves and/or brush piled up on our streets twice yearly for inordinate periods of time creating unsightly and unsafe conditions for drivers and pedestrians. Unnecessary and indiscriminate cutting down trees without replanting tree for tree to protect and beautify our environment. Remodeling or new construction of homes that are out of character or oversized for the immediate neighborhood. Deterioration of paving on some roads in Oak Hill. Also proliferation of commercial signs for landscapers, roofers, builders, etc springing up on our lawns.

These are just a few of the problems /conditions that exist in Oak Hill now and will only get worse as time passes. We have a choice to make – we can just sit back and watch the problems grow in size and complexity or we can get active in protecting Oak Hill, our neighborhood. Your Oak Hill Association is considering forming a committee to monitor changes in our community that will impact and adversely affect our quality of life and develop ways to lessen or prevent uncontrolled or unplanned growth or neglect.

If you would like to serve your community and be part of this committee, please call Bill Butler at telephone (732) 671 - 3438 or email butler377@comcast.net.



Entering Oak Hill

by Randall Gabrielan

Red Hill Road, a main “entrance” to Oak Hill, is undergoing a vast transformation in early 2008. Future travelers at the Dwight Road intersection may see one wide three-quarters of a circle and not realize that formerly significant farms met here. The northwest arc, now in Holmdel, was part of the ancient Golden Farm, which retained a Middletown piece after the 1848 municipal separation. The northeast section, intact as part of Tatum Park, reached into the neighboring, now nearly effaced Holland section, was owned by Luysters. Parts on the southeast were owned by notables, including William W. Conover, in his time perhaps Monmouth’s largest owner of property, who sold a 180 acre farm in 1860. An Ezra Osborn parcel became Deepdale. In later years, Victor McClosky bought a smaller piece, it descending to Harmyks and the De-Felices. Nearby roadways were changed over 50 years ago to accommodate construction of the Garden State Parkway. Nut Swamp Road, which once extended in an unbroken line to Crawfords Corner-Everett Road, was broken-up and connected with a new northern stem, with the entire part beyond Middletown-Lincroft Road named Dwight Road.

2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event	Date Time	Location	Time
Easter Egg Hunt	Saturday, March 15th	The Breen's'- 10 Quail Drive	Noon - 4:00pm
Spring General Meeting	Tuesday, May 20th	Middletown United Methodist Church – Middletown Lincroft Road	7:30pm
Garage Sale	Friday and Saturday May 16th and May 17th	Throughout the Neighborhood	9am – 3:00pm
Block Party	Saturday, September 13th	TBD	4:00pm – 8:00pm
Fall General Meeting and Officer Election	Tuesday, October 14th	Middletown United Methodist Church – Middletown Lincroft Road	7:30pm
Halloween Parade	Saturday, October 18th	Starts at Borden & Lionel	1:00pm
Brunch with Santa	Saturday, December 6th	Gibbs Hall, Forth Monmouth	12:00pm

Oak Hill Association

12 Cormorant Drive
Middletown, NJ 07748

Newsletter Contributions
Phone: 732-957-0335
Email: alichooch@aol.com

<p>PRESTR. STD US POSTAGE PAID MIDDLETOWN, NJ PERMIT NO. 60</p>



OR CURRENT RESIDENT

TIME VALUE DATED MATERIAL

Upcoming Events (complete list on page 7)

- Easter Egg Hunt, March 15, 2008
- General Membership Meeting, May 20, 2008
- Garage Sale, May 16 and May 17, 2008
- Block Party, September 13, 2008
- Fall General Meeting, October 14, 2008
- Halloween Parade, October 18, 2008
- Holiday Brunch, December 6, 2008

Please return your 2008 Dues using the enclosed form and
addressed envelope!