

**COUNCIL
CONNECTION
NOVEMBER 2009**



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
20 ROAD C, 2ND FLOOR
AUDUBON PARK, NJ 08106
www.audubonparknj.org
(856) 547-5236**

*Lawrence E. Pennock,
Mayor*

Fax #856-546-5143

November 13, 2009

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

It has been a few months since I've had a chance to address you. As always we have been very busy here in the borough offices and I would like to take a few minutes to bring you up to speed on a few issues that may concern you.

SCHOOL BOARD

As many of you know, the State of New Jersey forced all sending school districts to be absorbed within the district the children attend. As of now, Camden County Superintendent of Education, Peg Nicolosi has yet to appoint our school board member we have been promised. I am very disappointed with the lack of action of the State and County and promise to pursue this with vigilance until our representative is selected and seated on the Audubon Board of Education.

AUDUBON VS. AUDUBON PARK

Many of you have read in the paper that the Borough of Audubon filed a lawsuit against our town trying to stop the changing of our police protection. On August 28th, the initial injunction was heard by Judge Meloni in Camden Court. In attendance were Chief Cavallo, Mayor Randy Teague of Haddon Township, and myself. In the end, Judge Meloni threw out the emergency request from Audubon and also advised them to drop the lawsuit. In late September, we received notice that Audubon wisely dropped the remainder of the suit. I would personally like to thank our Solicitor, Stuart Platt, his partner Eric Riso, and Dawn Pennock. We received 12 hours notice of the emergency hearing to defend ourselves and these three worked together late into the night as well as morning preparing our case.

HADDON TOWNSHIP POLICE

On September 1st, the Township of Haddon began protecting our town and we also reopened our police station on the second floor of the Community Hall. Since then, so many of you have thanked me personally and complimented the protection being provided by the Haddon Township Police Department. I have passed on these messages to our police department as we work together to work out the kinks and growing pains (not many) we expect to have in the beginning.

2010 BUDGET

Next year's budget for Borough Council will be the most daunting challenge in years. The word of Trenton is that the State is 8 to 10 billion dollars in debt before they even start their own budget. I am very confident that Governor-Elect Christie is up to the challenge. We are planning for the worst and hoping for the best. At this time we are unsure of how the new school arrangement (mandated by the State) will effect us but, we are working closely with our auditor to protect our borough. Rest assured that the safety and quality of life of the residents of Audubon Park will never be compromised in the preparation of our operating budget.

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to thank all of you for the support and input you have given me during the year. As always, I am proud to be your Mayor and look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,



Lawrence E. Pennock,
Mayor

AUDUBON PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY
18 Road C
Audubon Park, NJ 08106
856-546-6134 phone
856-546-4810 fax
Kim Young Secretary

To all our residents, we would like to thank all of you that came out to support our fire prevention week and participate in the town Halloween parade it was a great success. We would like to also let you all know that we previously tried a midnight bingo, we herad such great feed back from all of you that we will continue to have midnight bingos starting in January 2010. We will schedule one Friday every other month for this fun evening. Flyers will be sent out a few weeks before so you can all mark your calendars. We will still be having ourregular bingo night on Thursday starting at 7:00pm. Thank you again for all your support.

Some Tips to stay safe:

PLEASE do not **BURN LEAVES** this is against the law, and we do not want to have to come to your home if it should become out of control.

Make sure to **CHANGE THE BATTERIES** in your smoke detector.

CHANGE THE AIR FILTER in your heaters **MONTHLY** and while you are at it Vacuum the dirt that accumulates in it yearly.

Every Home also should have a **CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR** in it, with our heaters always on the detector could save your life.

And whenever you have an Emergency do not hesitate to call **911**. It starts help coming immediately and the **911** operators will help you by phone to get a handle on the situation. If the emergency is a fire, get out of the building and call **911** from a safe distance, **DO NOT RE-ENTER THE BUILDING.**

The Fire Department would like for you to know their newly elected officers:

Chief: Richard Pritchard
Asst. Chief: Dave Laird
Captain: John Terruso
First Lieutenant: Scott Beswick
Second Lieutenant: Kim Young

President: Rudy Young
Vice President: Nick Lepone
Treasurer: Scott Young
Secretary: Kim Young
Trustees: John Terruso, Scott Beswick and Dennis Stanton

Sincerely,

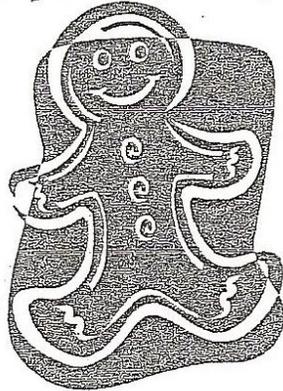
Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Holiday book, refreshments and craft at the
LIBRARY

6:00 p.m. Come in your holiday pj's if you'd like!

Please RSVP by December 9th to Kate at
(856) 952-9958 or

librarian@audubonparknj.org



MESSAGE FROM THE HADDON TOWNSHIP POLICE

Seasons Greetings from Chief Mark Cavallo and the Haddon Township Police Department. With all of the excitement and distractions that the holidays offer lets not forget taking the proper measures of keeping ourselves, our loved ones, and our property safe. Always keep your residences locked and secured, even the second floor windows. Never keep gifts in your vehicles and always keep the doors locked. Report any suspicious people or incidents to the police department. If anyone has any questions about the Neighborhood Watch Program or home security, please contact P.O. Kirk Earney at (856) 854-1176 ext. 4134 or at Kearney@HaddonTwpPolice.com.

QUICK NEWS

3-WAY STOP SIGNS HAVE BEEN
ERECTED AT THE INTERSECTION OF
"A" AND "C" ROADS

PARENTS REMIND YOUR TEENAGE CHILDREN:
PLAYGROUND IS CLOSED WHEN IT GETS
DARK – PLAYGROUND IS FOR CHILDREN
12 YEARS AND UNDER.

NO LOITERING IN OR AROUND THE
COMMUNITY BUILDING.

NOVEMBER 26TH & 27TH
BOROUGH OFFICES/LIBRARY CLOSED

TRASH SCHEDULE:
THANKSGIVING – REGULAR PICK-UP
CHRISTMAS – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD
NEW YEARS – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

DECEMBER 20, 2009
SANTA CLAUS WILL BE AT THE FIRE HOUSE

JANUARY 16, 2010
CEREMONIAL BONFIRE

THE BOROUGH HAS BEEN APPROVED
TO RECEIVE A \$145,000.00 GRANT TO FINISH
REPAVING ROAD "A". YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED
WHEN WE RECEIVE MORE DETAILS.

PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTIONS

The State of New Jersey, administered through the local municipal Assessor's Office, makes available property tax deductions to qualifying property owners. Each deduction has specific qualifications and requires the filing of an application.

SENIOR CITIZEN DEDUCTION AND SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A SENIOR CITIZEN - \$250.00

QUALIFICATIONS: 65 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER AS OF DECEMBER 31 OF THE PRETAX YEAR.
OWN AND RESIDE IN THE PROPERTY APPLYING FOR ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 OF THE PRETAX YEAR.
INCOME NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000 OVER AND ABOVE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS AND/OR GOVERNMENT PENSIONS.
PROOF OF AGE IS REQUIRED.
SURVIVING SPOUSE MUST BE 55 YEARS OF AGE

DISABLED PERSON DEDUCTION AND SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A DISABLED PERSON - \$250.00

QUALIFICATIONS: OWN AND RESIDE IN THE PROPERTY APPLYING FOR ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 OF THE PRETAX YEAR.
PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED AS OF DECEMBER 1 OF THE PRETAX YEAR.
INCOME NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000 OVER AND ABOVE DISABILITY BENEFITS.
PROOF OF PERMANENT DISABILITY – SOCIAL SECURITY AWARD CERTIFICATE OR DOCTOR'S NOTE.

CONTINUANCE OF THESE DEDUCTIONS –MUST RETURN AN ANNUAL POST TAX YEAR STATEMENT TO THE TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1ST OF EACH TAX YEAR.

VETERANS OR SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A VETERAN DEDUCTION - \$250.00

QUALIFICATIONS: OWN PROPERTY ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 OF THE PRETAX YEAR
POSSESS AN HONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE SERVICE IN TIME OF WAR.
**Peacekeeping Missions require actual service in a combat zone for a total of 14 days, unless a service injury was received in a combat zone.
SUPPLY COPY OF DISCHARGE PAPERS WITH APPLICATION
Surviving Spouse must attach copy of death certificate with application

APPLICATION: FILE WITH THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31ST.

CONTINUANCE OF THIS DEDUCTION – CONTINUES IN FORCE FROM YEAR TO YEAR WITHOUT THE NECESSITY FOR FURTHER CLAIM SO LONG AS A CLAIMANT IS ENTITLED TO THE DEDUCTION.

TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS AND SURVIVING SPOUSES – EXEMPT

QUALIFICATIONS: OWN AND RESIDE IN PROPERTY ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 OF THE PRETAX YEAR
POSSESS AN HONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE SERVICE IN TIME OF WAR.
HAVE AN U.S. VETERANS ADMINISTRATION CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY-100%
SUPPLY COPY OF DISCHARGE PAPERS WITH APPLICATION

CONTINUANCE OF THIS DEDUCTION – CONTINUES IN FORCE FROM YEAR TO YEAR WITHOUT THE NECESSITY FOR FURTHER CLAIM SO LONG AS A CLAIMANT IS ENTITLED TO THE DEDUCTION.

THE BOROUGH CLERK WILL BE MAILING OUT PAPERWORK TO THOSE RESIDENTS ALREADY ON THE LIST IN JANUARY, 2010. ANY OTHER RESIDENTS THAT THINK THEY QUALIFY MAY CONTACT THE BOROUGH CLERK'S OFFICE AT 856-547-5236 BETWEEN 9 AM AND 3 PM.

**THE MAYOR, BOROUGH COUNCIL, AND
STAFF WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR
FRIENDS AND NEIGHTBORS HERE IN
AUDUBON PARK A HAPPY THANKSGIVING
AND A SAFE AND PROSPEROUS HOLIDAY
SEASON.**

SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL!!!!