

ANDOVER TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

134 Newton Sparta Road
973-383-4280

SPRING/SUMMER 2011

GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Phil Boyce

Deputy Mayor Mike Lensak

**Committee Members: Gail Phoebus, Bob Smith,
Tom Walsh**

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PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.andovertwp.org

Message from the Mayor

Greetings Andover Township:

What a privilege it is to serve Andover as your mayor. I am always truly amazed and impressed with the sense of community I feel here in our town. Everywhere I go, I see people who love this place and want to make it better. Many of them work tirelessly to do so. I want to personally thank the members of all of our boards and commissions who give of their time, study tirelessly, and do their best to help Andover be all that it can be.

Some of the most dedicated servants in our community volunteer in our emergency services area (Police, Fire, and Lakeland Emergency). Almost every month an activity fills the second floor of Firehouse #1 on Limecrest Road with a fundraiser for either our volunteer fire department or the police department. Maybe I should call it a "funraiser" because these events are always fun, and give our residents a chance to support a great cause while building camaraderie and community. The Andover Volunteer Fire Department raises so much money each year doing these events that they gave back thousands of dollars to the town last year that taxpayers did not need to send over.

On St. Patrick's Day, the Fraternal Order of Police held their 13th annual dinner, feeding over 200 people with corned beef and cabbage. Everybody loves St. Patrick's Day because on this day we are all Irish. Several thousand dollars was raised, which the FOP will donate to children of slain New Jersey police officers, plus a \$1,000 scholarship for a student whose parent was killed in the line of duty – I can't think of a more worthy cause. Our police officers, both current and past, helped serve the meal. This makes Andover a special place.

A few weeks ago, Diana and I attended a fundraiser for the Vozza family who has racked up some big medical bills. The family owns the Bagel Bistro on Newton-Sparta Road, and it looked like the entire town came out to help raise money for this worthy cause. The concert put on by local band Snake Oil Willy was top notch. Many of the musicians live right here in Andover. Their version of "Ramblin' Man" was as close to the original as I have heard (next to the Allman Brothers of course). The dinner was catered by Casa Bellissima, another Andover Township business, and was held at the barn across the street from our own Perona Farms. Over 500 local residents helped raise thousands of dollars to help this family in need. It's another reason why Andover is a special place.

Soon, flowers will be in bloom again at Lentini's on Newton Sparta Road. The annual tradition of finding the best potted flowers and making our gardens beautiful will start all over again. After you choose your flowers, you soon will be able to go across the street to Pezzo Pizza for our newest Township eatery in the Andover Plaza. And don't forget to get your taxes done right down the block at our new H and R Block, which is doing great business.

I mention these businesses because every business that comes in to Andover Township helps pay our taxes. They contribute to paying for the great services that our Andover employees provide to our residents. If you do business with an Andover businessperson, it helps pay your own taxes because they are helping pay for the services we all expect from our town.

Lastly, I want to thank all of our employees in Andover Township who work so hard to get the job done. In these tough economic times, we have asked these employees to do more with less, and I really can't remember anybody complaining. We will get through the tough times and live to enjoy better times because of everybody in our town is contributing.

In the spring, one of my favorite things to do is to get in my little black smart car and drive around town (with the top down in good weather) and take in this great place to live and work. If you see me, don't hesitate to wave, or ask me how a big guy like me fits into such a small car. If you are lucky I will tell you my secret. It's a joy to serve as Mayor this year, and do not hesitate to contact me if you have a great idea that will help Andover be even better.

The five members of the Andover Town Committee are dedicated public servants who work tirelessly to make this a great place to live and work. I want to thank them for their support, and on their behalf wish everybody in Andover:

Happy Spring!

Phil Boyce, Mayor

TOWN HALL HOLIDAY CLOSING	Town hall will be closed in observance of upcoming holidays on the following dates: April 22, May 30, July 4; September 5; October 10; November 11; November 24 and 25; and December 26.
NOTICE REGARDING HILLSIDE PARK & GOODALE FIELDS	As most of the coaches who use Hillside and Goodale Parks' various recreation facilities know, the Road Department uses a RED flag system. If the red flag is out, all the sport fields are closed due to weather. If you use the fields at those times you are subject to actions that may result in losing the privilege of use.
LEAVES	Leaves will be picked up during the month of November only . All leaves <i>must</i> be put in large paper (recyclable) leaf bags. <u>Plastic bags are not acceptable.</u>
BRUSH PICK UP <i>PLEASE NOTE: This service may be reduced due to the governor's pending budget cuts.</i>	Brush pick up continue through April 15, 2011 , weather permitting. The cut end of the brush must be facing the roadway and be neatly piled, not crossed. The maximum diameter of limbs is 3 inches. <i>Please note: For safety reasons, thorn and briar bushes will not be picked up. DPW will not separate thorny brush from regular brush; therefore nothing at the curb will be collected.</i> Brush pick up is for our <i>residents' convenience</i> when clearing away overgrown trees and bushes, or when storm damage occurs. We do not have the man power or large machinery to pick up huge amounts of brush. Any commercially cut trees or bushes causing an abundance of brush can not be picked up by our D.P.W. crew. The SCMUA Recycling Center located on Rte. 94 in Lafayette is available to all residents. Their phone number is 973-579-6998.
OBSTRUCTION TO STREETS	No person shall deposit, throw, spill or dump dirt, ashes or other material upon any street or highway in the Township. No person shall divert, obstruct or interfere with the normal flow of surface waters in any gutter, drain or ditch along any street or highway of the Township, nor in any way cause the normal flow of water to be stopped, diverted from or overflow the gutters, drains or ditches. The Department of Public Works appreciates your cooperation.
ANIMAL CONTROL	Please call the police department at 973-383-5544 regarding animal control issues.
REMINDER – AFTER HOURS PAYMENT DROP BOX	As a convenience to our residents, we have installed an outdoor payment "drop box" on the pillar near the front entrance to the Municipal Building. This secure receptacle can be used at any time to leave payments or correspondence for any Andover Township Department. Payments left after 3:30 PM will be credited to the next business day.
WELCOME TO ANDOVER TWP PACKETS	Have a new neighbor? Are you new to town? Contact Town Hall for a packet of information pertinent to living in Andover Township.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

CONSTRUCTION/ZONING OFFICE NOTE REGARDING SWIMMING POOLS:

The current building codes define a swimming pool as any pool with a water depth of 24 inches or more, including portable pools and inflatable pools. All swimming pools are required to be enclosed by a four foot high barrier with a self closing, self latching gate, and electric connections that meet the electric code. In the case of the portable or inflatable pool, the cost of the fencing and underground electric will far exceed the cost of the pool. Homeowners with pools that do not have barriers and electric connections that meet the codes will receive Notices to address these code violations.

REMINDER - DOG LICENSING:

New Jersey mandates all dogs must be licensed by seven months of age. If a new dog is acquired during the year, a license must be obtained within 10 days. Proof of rabies and neutering are required. The rabies shot cannot expire before November 1st of the licensing year. Neutered/Spayed fee is \$8; non-neutered/spayed fee is \$11. There is a late fee of \$5 per month, per dog added for each month after January 31st. To replace a lost license, the fee is \$2. For further information, please call Robyn at 973-383-4280, ext. 224. ***Owners with unlicensed dogs are subject to a summons issued by the Animal Control Officer. Please avoid a summons and fine and license your dog.***

COUNTYWIDE PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPOSAL – SATURDAY, APRIL 30 from 10AM TO 2PM

A safe and responsible way to dispose of unwanted or outdated medications while protecting your family, community and the environment! **Local Collection Sites:** Andover Township Police Station; Hardyston Municipal Building; Hopatcong Medicine Shoppe; Lafayette SCMUA; Newton ShopRite and High Street Pharmacies; Ogdensburg Police Station and Vernon A&P. **You may bring the following:** Expired or unwanted prescriptions or over-the-counter medications; drugs that didn't work for you, a family member or pet; drugs that are no longer used or from deceased family members; unknown tablets and capsules.

MOSQUITO CONTROL:

The Sussex County Division of Health, Office of Mosquito Control, as well as the Andover Township Board of Health, is urging people to protect themselves from mosquitoes by reducing mosquito habitats. Under the right environmental conditions, certain species of mosquitoes can develop and emerge as adults in as little as one week becoming quite a nuisance. More importantly, some species of adult mosquitoes carry and transmit diseases such as West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis. Small amounts of stagnant water provide an ideal location for mosquitoes to lay their eggs. Residents can play a primary role in mosquito control by eliminating habitats where mosquitoes breed by following these tips:

- Clean roof gutters at least annually
- Aerate and/or stock ornamental ponds with fish
- Remove any unnecessary containers from the property
- Configure tarps to drain any incident rainwater
- Drain and rinse birdbaths twice a week
- Close pools when not in use.
- Pool covers can collect rainwater and provide a habitat for mosquitoes

For more information on how to protect yourself, your home or the daily spray schedule for truck-mounted ultra low volume mosquito control effort, call the Office of Mosquito Control at 973-948-4545 or visit www.sussex.nj.us/mosquito.

APRIL 9TH - CLEANER, GREENER ANDOVER TOWNSHIP NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN UP:

The NJDEP funds a Clean Communities Program whereby municipalities are given a sum of money to be used to provide trash bags, gloves and other protective clothing to encourage volunteers to clean up solid waste in their localities. Andover Township participates with this program by organizing volunteer groups such as Student Council, Boy and Girl Scout Troops, etc. to clean debris from alongside various township roads. The day begins at 9 AM when the participants meet at Hillside Park for a light breakfast and then out to the roads and neighborhoods. After the cleanup is completed, participants return to the park for a pizza lunch between 12 noon and 1 PM. If you are a non-profit group, a donation from the grant will be made to your organization.

If you are interested in forming a clean-up crew for your neighborhood, or to be included in one of the volunteer groups, please contact the Clean Communities Coordinator, Jackie Huelbig, at 973-383-4280, X234. **Pre-registration is mandatory** for all who want to participate. Last date to register is April 1st.

This year we are expanding our clean up by accepting car and truck tires w/wo rims, up to 16", must be free of debris. We have also arranged for electronic waste collection – computers, printers, televisions, VCR's, copiers, etc. Tire container will be in the lower parking lot at Hillside Park and Ewaste container will be in the upper parking lot at Hillside Park next to the Hillside House. Tires and Ewaste can be dropped off between 9 AM and 1 PM on April 9th only.

INFORMATION FOR SENIORS

THE SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB OF GREATER ANDOVER:

This is a wonderful organization; it sponsors group trips (at great rates!), holiday celebrations, and has games and interesting guest speakers at their meetings, which are held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 1 PM. Cake and coffee are served after each meeting. Annual dues are only \$10, and a \$1 donation is requested at the door for each meeting. If you are not already a member, or need further information on the Senior Club, please call Lois McCue, President (973-383-3783) or Bob Smith, Vice-President (973-300-1142). Come join the club and make some new friends!

ATTENTION SENIOR/DISABLED HOMEOWNERS- Property Tax Reimbursement Forms:

(Also known as "The Freeze" or "Blue Book") for 1st time applicants are available at the Tax Collector's office or by calling 800-882-6597. The 2009 & 2010 income limit for both single and married is now \$80,000. Please note that you must have been at least 65 years old or receiving Social Security Disability in 2009; lived in New Jersey continuously since December 31, 1999, and lived in and owned your home since December 31, 2006 to be eligible for the program. The deadline to apply for this program is currently June 1, 2011. Applications are also available in the Tax office for Senior Citizen/Disabled deduction and Veteran/Widow of a Veteran deduction; please call Daryn or Gail at 973-383-4280, ext 228 to see if you qualify for either deduction, as income limits and time periods of military service will determine your eligibility.

SENIOR CITIZENS' LUNCHEON – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16TH:

The annual senior citizens' (55 and older) luncheon sponsored by the Andover Township Recreation Department will be held at the Hillside Park Hall. Doors open at 1 PM. All senior citizens who reside in Andover are invited to come and enjoy a complementary buffet lunch with dessert and beverages. Please RSVP to Jackie at 973-383-4280, X234 by October 11th.

RECREATION ACTIVITIES
ANNUAL CONTESTS - SUMMER RECREATION - SPORTS CAMPS

EASTER EGG HUNT – APRIL 16TH:

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is planned for Saturday, April 16th at 12 NOON SHARP at Hillside Park. Bring your camera and take your child's picture with the Easter Bunny. There will be candy-filled eggs with secret specials and each child will receive a goodie bag. Adult supervision is required. Children, from toddlers through 4th grade are welcome.

SCRAPBOOKING:

Open crop sessions sponsored by the Andover Township Recreation Committee under the direction of Committee member, Jodi Halteman continue to meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 7 pm -10 pm at the Hillside House. Anyone interested in scrapbooking or learning to scrap is welcome. Scrappers of all levels are encouraged to participate. All members will bring their own supplies. Scrap space will be provided. Call Jodi at (973) 786-7646 to register.

LITTLE MISS AND MR. ANDOVER TOWNSHIP PAGEANT – JUNE 5TH:

Will be held at the Hillside Park Hall at 1 PM. Andover Township Children between the ages of 3 and 6 are invited to participate. The winners of the title will represent our Township at the Little Royalty and Sweetheart's Presentation held during the 2011 NJ State Fair in August. Gift bags are presented to each contestant. The completed application must be received at the Municipal Building by May 23rd.

MISS ANDOVER TOWNSHIP PAGEANT- JUNE 5TH:

Held at the Hillside Park Hall at 2 PM, immediately following the Little Miss and Mr. Andover Pageant. We invite women who are Andover Township residents between the ages of 17 and 21 to participate. The winner represents the Township at the Queen of the Fair Contest held during the 2010 New Jersey State Fair in August. Cash awards, gift certificates, etc. are part of the "prize package" given to the winner and runners-up. The completed application must be received at the Municipal Building by May 23rd.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM - JUNE 27th – JULY 8th :

We begin on Monday, June 27th and end on Friday, July 8th. The program runs for 2 weeks, with the first week Monday-Thursday from 9 to 11:30 AM and the second week Tuesday-Friday. We will once again open the program to children 4 years of age and up to 12 years of age. We will have two age groups - 7 and under and 8 and older. The day will be divided into three categories: 9 to 9:45 AM - 7 and under will have Fun and Games while 8 and older will have Arts and Crafts. At 9:45 AM the children will have a break for snacks and some form of entertainment. Then at 10:45 to 11:30 AM, the 7 and under group will have Arts and Crafts while the 8 and older will have Fun and Games. The program takes place, rain or shine, at Hillside Park with the use of the Barn and the Hillside House. The closing day activities will include entertainment and hot dogs and make your own sundaes.

We will be asking for some parents to pitch in and help us with the sign in and sign out process so we can keep better control of the comings and goings of the kids! If you would like to help, please check off that area on the registration form. Use a separate form for each child. Registration will be limited to the first 125 applications received. The fee is \$40 per child not to exceed \$75 per family. Even with the increase the fee is still a bargain at averaging out at \$5 per day for 1 child and even less per family. The check should be made out to Andover Township for the appropriate amount and sent to the attention of the Recreation Office. The cutoff date for receipt of registrations is June 13th.

Go to the township website at www.andovertwp.org to print out the appropriate registration forms and applications for the above mentioned programs and activities. Also, you may come to the municipal building at 134 Newton-Sparta Road, Monday - Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM to register or apply. For more information, call the Recreation office at 973-383-4280, x 234.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMP - JULY 11TH – 15TH :

In association with the Recreation Committee, US Sports will be hosting our annual Summer Sports Camp at Hillside Park. The camp is open to children ages 3-5 from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM at a fee of \$79. Children ages 5-14 from 9 AM to 12:30 PM at a fee of \$169; ages 5-14 from 1 PM to 4 PM at a fee of \$139 and 6-14 from 9 AM to 4 PM at a fee of \$199. The goal of this camp is to introduce as many different sports as time allows. Children will receive technical instruction and then experience the sport in a realistic game situation. This camp is non-competitive, promotes integrity, self-esteem, positive values and good sportsmanship.

SUMMER TENNIS CAMP – JULY 18TH – 22ND:

This will be the fourth year we are offering a tennis camp by the US Sports Institute. The session from 4 to 5:30 PM is for 7 to 10 year olds. The session from 5:30 to 7 PM is for 10 to 14 year olds. The fee for both sessions is \$119.

To register for either of these camps, call the Sports Institute at 732-563-2520 or go to their website (www.UsportsInstitute.com).

LABOR DAY WEEKEND FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD:

A fun way to transition from summer to fall...come join your friends and neighbors for a late afternoon to evening of music, dancing fun, food and a movie at Hillside Park beginning at 3:00 pm with a Square Dance in the barn. Families are welcome to come and learn how to do-si-do! There will be fun activities for the kids, live music, hamburgers and hot dogs and snack foods. We will close the evening with a family movie on a large screen on the athletic field. Bring a blanket or chair and come and enjoy the last weekend of summer. Rain date if needed is Sunday, September 4TH.

NYC HOLIDAY DROP OFF BUS TRIP - DECEMBER 3RD

Mark your calendars now for our annual trip into the Big Apple for shopping, theater, museum visits, etc. The bus fee is \$15 for Andover Township residents and \$30 for non-residents. Departure time is 8 AM. We depart NYC at 6 PM. The Township will be under no obligation if the trip is cancelled due to inclement weather.

Andover Township Newsletter

Stormwater Management

A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: You name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it's dirty.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.

As a resident, business, or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water.

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides.

- Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

- Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.
- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local bodies of water and the water is not treated.
- If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.
- Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.
- Recycle used motor oil.

Keep pollution out of storm drains

- Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local bodies of water.
- Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.

Clean up after your pet

- Clean and plentiful water is important to our families, our environment, our economy and our quality of life. Did you know that animal waste from pets can pollute our waters? When left on the

ground, pet waste is washed by rain and melting snow and ice into storm drains that carry it to our rivers, lakes, bays, the ocean and drinking water. Animal waste contains a high concentration of nutrients as well as bacteria and disease-causing microorganisms that can cause problems.

- Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or people's property.
- Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
- Dispose of the wrapped pet waste in a toilet.
- Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

Don't litter

- Place litter in trash receptacles.
- Participate in community cleanups.
- Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.

Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.
- Follow Andover Township's yard waste collection rules.
- Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost.
- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.