



# Haddon Press

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF HADDON · WHERE COMMUNITY THRIVES · WWW.HADDONTWP.COM · SPRING, 2011

## A CLOSER LOOK AT YOUR TAX DOLLARS

In March, our administration had the privilege of introducing the 2011 Municipal Budget that called for **a decrease in municipal taxes for the second consecutive year and the third consecutive year without a tax increase.** Our \$12,085,000 budget plan reduces spending by \$1,020,000 over last year. The reduction in the amount to be raised by taxation is attributable to many factors including pursuing additional shared service agreements with neighboring communities, prudent planning and no further cuts in state aid.

Pursuing shared services with other towns is strongly encouraged as a way to bring relief to New Jersey's already over-burdened tax payers. In February, the Mayor and Commissioners signed an inter-local agreement with the neighboring Borough of Audubon Park to share Tax Collector services. This new agreement will approximately **save \$60,000 in staff salaries and benefits.** Haddon Township already provides police protection to Audubon Park using a similar shared service agreement that was signed in 2009. The governing bodies of both municipalities consider these arrangements to be enormously successful and regard them as a model for sharing other services such as Municipal Clerk and Chief Financial Officer sometime during 2011.

Long term planning decisions continue to yield benefits to our residents. For example, in 2010 we voted to switch to an Accelerated Tax Sale as yet another way to reduce spending. This decision

*continued on page 3*



### SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING REAPS REWARDS!

In 2010, our residents recycled over **1,917** tons of materials in the curb side program, generating over **\$28,000** in commodity sales and nearly **\$121,000** in "avoidance" costs! Keep up the good work!

# GET FRESH!

Haddon Township's "Green Team" for Sustainability invites you to a local community screening of **FRESH**, a new feature documentary film by **Ana Sofia Joanes**.

**FRESH** is a reflection of a rising movement of people and communities across America who are re-inventing our food system. **FRESH** celebrates the food architects who offer a practical vision of a new food paradigm and consumer access to it. Encouraging individuals to take matters into their own hands, **FRESH** is a guide that empowers people to take an array of actions as energetic as planting urban gardens and creating warm composts from food waste, and as simple as buying locally-grown products and preserving or freezing seasonal produce to eat later in the year.

Among several main characters, **FRESH** features urban farmer and activist, Will Allen, the recipient of MacArthur's 2008 Genius Award; sustainable farmer and entrepreneur, Joel Salatin, made famous by Michael Pollan's book, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*; and supermarket owner, David Ball, challenging our Wal-Mart dominated economy.

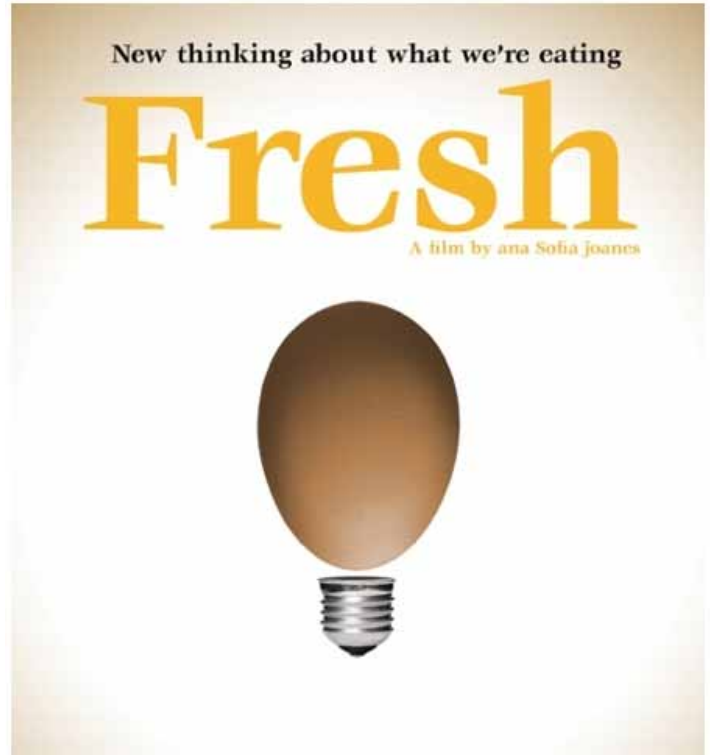
**FRESH** will screen at Camden County Rohrer Library on Monday, May 16th at 7:00 PM. To register, please contact Barb Prince at **856-854-1825** or [BPrince@HaddonTwp.com](mailto:BPrince@HaddonTwp.com). Seating is limited to the first 50 registrants and the event is **FREE!**

# GREEN CHALLENGE

**THINK IT'S HARD TO BE "GREEN"? THINK AGAIN!**

Small lifestyle changes can make a big difference. Pledge to make "green changes" for a sustainable community and help Haddon Township achieve Sustainable Jersey certification.

Just go online at [www.haddontwp.com](http://www.haddontwp.com) and fill out the pledge for a greener future! One pledge will be selected to win a free "eco-goodie" bag.



**EVERY WEDNESDAY 4 - 7PM**  
Haddon & Stratford Ave. in downtown Haddon Twp.  
[www.westmontfarmersmarket.com](http://www.westmontfarmersmarket.com)

**WESTMONT**  
FARMERS MARKET

The logo for Westmont Farmers Market, featuring the words 'WESTMONT' in a large, bold, red font and 'FARMERS MARKET' in a smaller, black font below it. Underneath the text is a stylized illustration of a yellow corn cob with green leaves.

**OPENS**  
**May 4**

The Westmont Farmers Market is the best venue around for purchasing locally grown produce and prepared products and foods. It is all available to you direct from farmers, artisans and local businesses. And each year the list of vendors continue to grow!

Every Wednesday, the market becomes a gathering place for the community. Plenty are intent on getting that perfect "Jersey" tomato, but if you take a second look around, you'll see people chatting with friends and neighbors.

It's time to add a stop at the corner "Haddon & Stratford Avenues to your Wednesday "to do" list!

For more information, log onto [www.westmontfarmersmarket.com](http://www.westmontfarmersmarket.com).

enabled us to reduce the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes significantly for the 2011 budget year. In 2011, Haddon Township will be reserving \$250,000 compared to nearly \$600,000 in 2010. This reduced amount will be used to cover obligations that may arise due to tax appeals resulting from last year's property revaluation.

Finally State Aid, which was expected to decrease in 2011, remained flat at \$1,262,215, allowing the Township to pass along savings to our residents while maintaining many services at their current level.

As previously stated, much of our ability to reduce taxes in 2011 was the result of decisions made since we took office in May of 2007. As we come to the end of our first term, I'd like to share with you some of the more significant changes in Haddon Township's budget over the past four years.

**State Aid:** While receiving the same level of state aid as in 2010, Haddon Township hasn't always been so fortunate. In 2007, Haddon Township received over \$1.8 million in State Aid. However during the past four years we've seen that number **reduced by nearly \$550,000 to \$1.2 million.** Despite this decrease, we have been successful in lowering taxes.

**Health Insurance:** The cost of health insurance is typically one of the largest expenses facing any business and Haddon Township is no exception. However not long after we were elected, the Township switched from a conventional health insurance plan to a self insured plan. As a



result, the municipality only saw a 23% increase over the past four years vs. an overall 42% industry increase in health care costs.

**Salary and Wages:** Embracing shared service arrangements, attrition and reducing staff where appropriate, has helped the Township's bottom line by reducing spending. **Staff salaries and wages decreased \$197,000 from \$983,000 in 2007 to \$786,000 in 2011.** Most of these savings were found in the Tax and Construction Offices. Savings in Water and Sewer combined with reductions in Public Works salaries have generated over \$110,000 in savings since 2007. These savings were largely the result of reducing management positions in these departments from three supervisors to one.

**Solid Waste /Recycling and Disposal Fees:** Like other services, trash collection and disposal was regarded an area of opportunity to save money for the tax payers. Our efforts to "shop around" for the best price have been successful. Over the past four years our trash collection and disposal costs have decreased from \$660,000 annually to \$618,000 annually — **a savings of \$40,000.**

These past four years have been filled with challenges for us but they have been filled with many rewards as well. While everyone appreciates the efforts we've made to manage our finances — watching the Phillies on the turf, enjoying music, food and rides at the Block Party and the lights along Haddon Ave. during the holidays are what many of you have told us you appreciated the most.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your elected officials. As always, we welcome your questions or comments. Please contact us at MayorTeague@Haddontwp.com; PDougherty@Haddontwp.com or at JFoley@Haddontwp.com.

## TAX OFFICE EXTENDED MAY HOURS

The Crystal Lake Pool at the Richard C. Hardenbergh Recreation Center will officially kick off the 2011 summer season on Saturday, May 28th. Pool tags can be purchased Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM beginning May 16th. On Thursday, May 19th and Thursday, May 26th, the Tax Office will remain open until 7:30 PM in an effort to accommodate more residents.

Pool Membership Applications are available at [www.HaddonTwp.com](http://www.HaddonTwp.com) under the Resources/Permits + Forms page. Residents are reminded to bring proof of residency. For more information, please contact Darlene Alfonsi at 856-854-1176 ext. 4118 or [DAlfonsi@HaddonTwp.com](mailto:DAlfonsi@HaddonTwp.com).

# GET GREEN, GOING GREEN

## CLEAN COMMUNITIES MINI-GRANTS

Is your organization looking to raise funds? The Township of Haddon is pleased to announce grant opportunities for local organizations to assist the Township's Environmental Commission with scheduled monthly clean ups! Your organization can earn \$250 to \$500 keeping the Township clean and green! Funding is limited and is on a "first come" basis. For details, contact Clean Communities Coordinator Barbara Prince, at [BPrince@HaddonTwp.com](mailto:BPrince@HaddonTwp.com) or 856-854-1825.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO VAN SCIVER SCHOOL

Twenty students, six teachers, and nine parents collected 19 bags of trash, 11 cans of recyclables, 1 can of concrete, other assorted junk, lumber and "treasures," earning the Township's first mini-grant in the amount of five-hundred dollars last November. The students were awarded a check from the Township, along with Clean Communities t-shirts this past February during the Township's recycling/responsibility assembly. Van Sciver's principal, Don Pullano accepted the check on behalf of the students and indicated the grant would be used for further recycling and cleanup efforts at Van Sciver school.



## COME CLEAN

The Haddon Township Environmental Commission is again sponsoring a series of monthly neighborhood cleanups in the Township's natural areas and parks. All clean-ups begin at 9:00 AM and are "rain or shine". Volunteers are asked to dress accordingly and to bring gloves.

**May 14** West Collingswood Heights Woods /Ball fields

**June 11** Lees Lane Woods

**July 9** Newton Creek (Band strip to culvert downstream of Acme)

**August** Open Date

**Sept 10** Cooper River Riparian Zone (NJ Transit bridge to Cuthbert Blvd.)

**Oct 8** Bettlewood

**Nov 12** Edison Woods

For details (where to meet or any other questions) send an email to [EnviroComm@HaddonTwp.com](mailto:EnviroComm@HaddonTwp.com) or call 856-854-1176 ext. 4303.



# 22ND ANNUAL COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

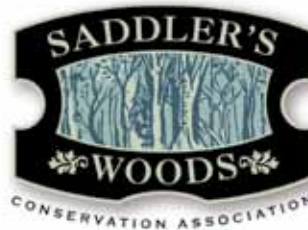
The 22nd Annual Haddon Township Community Breakfast will be held on Sunday, May 15, 2011, from 8:00 am until 12 pm at the Haddon Township High School cafeteria located at 406 Memorial Avenue.

The menu includes: scrambled eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, fresh fruit, pastries and more. Coffee, tea, and fresh orange juice will also be served.

All Haddon Township residents and their extended families are welcome. Residents and guests, 60 years of age and over, attend the breakfast free of charge. Adults are \$3.00 per person and children, 12 years of age and under are \$1.50. No family cost will exceed \$9.00.

Transportation will be provided for senior citizens and disabled residents to the breakfast by contacting Betty Band, Senior Citizen Coordinator at **856-854-1176**, ext. 4125 or [BBand@HaddonTwp.com](mailto:BBand@HaddonTwp.com). The Community Breakfast is sponsored by Mayor Randy Teague, Commissioner Paul Dougherty and Commissioner John Foley.

# TREE TROT 5K & 1 M FUN RUN/WALK



Saddler's Woods Conservation Association (SWCA) will hold its 2nd annual Tree Trot 5K race and 1 mile walk/fun run on **Saturday, May 21, 2011.**

The starting times for the race are 8:45 am for the 1 mile and 9:00 am for the 5K. This event is rain or shine. Pre-registration is strongly recommended. Applications can be downloaded at the Township website at [www.HaddonTwp.com](http://www.HaddonTwp.com) under the Special Events page. Pre-registration fee is \$20 and \$25 race day at the Saddler's Woods Volunteer Area. T-shirts for the first 150 registrants and refreshments will be provided at the end of the race.

SWCA's aim is to promote the natural and cultural resources of the wooded parcel. They accomplish their mission through programs such as hands on restoration projects, field studies, public tours, educational classes for children and environmental research.

For more information, please contact **Chuck Sellers** at [cisellers@verizon.net](mailto:cisellers@verizon.net).

# TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE



If you are looking for a bargain, Haddon Township will be the place to be on Saturday, May 7th, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm as the community kicks off its 3rd Annual Town -Wide Yard Sale. A charge of \$10.00 covers advertising costs, places your home address on our Township map and secures a permit for the day of the event. Applications must be received by April 29th in order to be included in newspaper advertisements. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held on Saturday, May 14th.

Applications are available at the Haddon Township Municipal Building located at 135 Haddon Avenue or online at [www.HaddonTwp.com](http://www.HaddonTwp.com). For more information, contact Kate Burns at **856-854-1176**, ext. 4194 or e-mail [KBurns@HaddonTwp.com](mailto:KBurns@HaddonTwp.com).



# HTBID NEWS

## *New Businesses on the Avenue!*

### ■ **W. T. Jones Insurance Agency**

47 Haddon Avenue | 800-773-5967  
www.wtjinsurance.com



Whether it's protecting your auto, home, business or family, the W. T. Jones Insurance Agency, works continuously to provide the best total insurance solution for all of your needs.

### ■ **Rockstar Tanning**

29 Haddon Avenue | 856-858-0868  
www.rockstartanningnj.com



Come in and experience Rockstar Tanning today! Specializing in safe indoor tanning and air brush tans. Open 7 days a week for your convenience.

### ■ **Chandler Upholstery**

16 Haddon Avenue | 856-854-8800  
www.chandlerupholstery.com



Chandler Upholstery specializes in one of a kind, hand-made furniture, furniture restoration, custom upholstery and draperies. A family owned and operated business that prides itself on quality craftsmanship.

### ■ **EXP Mixed Martial Arts**

146 Haddon Avenue | 856-470-6872  
www.expmma.com



EXP MMA develops well rounded mixed martial artists with skills transferable to sport, self defense and life. Everyone is welcome, from beginner to black belt!

### **OPENING IN APRIL!**

■ **Sea-lect Seafood** 41 Haddon Avenue

■ **Haddon Pub "Home of the Irish Mile"**

350 Haddon Avenue

# LIVE, WORK, SAVE



The Township of Haddon in partnership with the New Jersey Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency is pleased to offer the Haddon Township Live Where You Work

Program. This program provides incentives for people who work in Haddon Township—to live in Haddon Township. This program is open to all professions in private business, non-profits and government.

The LWYW program is a home mortgage incentive program that provides low-interest mortgage loans to homebuyers purchasing homes in towns where they are employed. The goal is to build stronger communities by promoting homeownership and encouraging people to live closer to their jobs. This, in turn, will reduce the need for cars and increase the use of alternative transportation such as walking, biking and public transit.

For more information, contact Nick Mink at **856-465-7389** or [nick@boulevardnj.com](mailto:nick@boulevardnj.com)



Boulevard Mortgage Company of NJ is approved by the NJ Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency to offer this home mortgage incentive program..

*Green House under construction on Rhoades Avenue, Haddon Township*



## COMPOSTING NOT JUST FOR GARDENERS!

What you need to know about MSW

Our trash, also referred to as municipal solid waste (MSW), consists of items we use and then discard for curbside garbage collection. These materials typically consist of food waste, grass clippings, furniture, and packaging. Did you know that food waste which is **100%** renewable makes up approximately **14%** of our waste stream? Yard trimmings account for an additional 14 per cent of the renewable waste stream. Last year, Haddon Township households generated **5830.89** tons of trash. If only half of our households composted these organic materials, we could save over **46,000 dollars!**

Not only does keeping grass and food waste out of our MSW save tax dollars, but also generates valuable environmental benefits. These benefits include the reduction of landfill by-products, methane gas and leachate. Leachate is the liquid produced as land filled materials break down. This liquid is highly toxic and must be collected and processed to avoid ground water contamination. Methane gas is produced when bacteria decomposes material without access to oxygen (anaerobic decomposition.) Methane is often captured and burned at landfills because it is a potent greenhouse gas.

**REDUCE YOUR TAXES! REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT!**





where community thrives

135 Haddon Avenue  
Haddon Twp., NJ 08108

PRSR STD  
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Permit No. 1138

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Steven's Walk to Drum Out SMA**  
Saturday, May 14th, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
Newton Lake Park
- Crystal Lake Pool Opens**  
Saturday, May 28th from 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM
- Relay for Life**  
Saturday, June 4th at 12:00 PM to Sunday, June 5th at 8:00 AM,  
Haddon Township High School

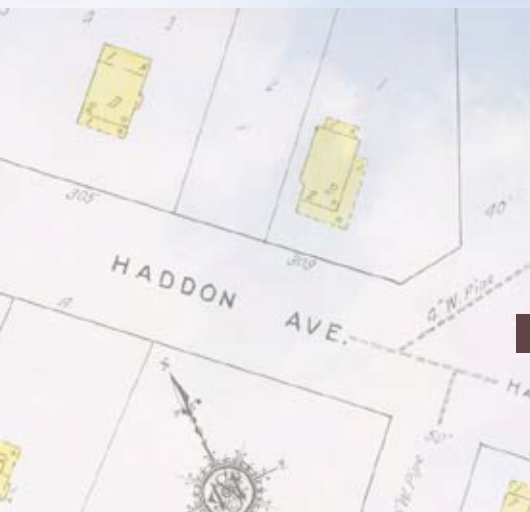
## PRESERVING OUR PAST, PROTECTING OUR FUTURE

Mayor Randall W. Teague, Commissioner John C. Foley and Commissioner Paul Dougherty are pleased to announce the opening of the newly designed Environmental and Historical Center of Haddon Township. The Center, located at 143 E. Ormond Avenue in the Township's Bettlemood section, will serve as a central location with offices and educational meeting space dedicated to the mission of the Environmental Commission, Shade Tree Commission, Saddler's Woods Conservation Association and the Haddon Township Historical Society.

The Center will provide unique, year-round environmental and historical educational experiences for families, school groups, scouts, history buffs and nature enthusiasts of all ages.



143 E. ORMOND AVENUE ■ HADDON TOWNSHIP ■ NEW JERSEY ■ 08107



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