

# CROSS ROADS



## NEWS FROM THE VALLEY OF "THE PONDS"

SPONSORED BY THE  
BOROUGH OF OAKLAND

### AUTUMN MAYOR'S MESSAGE

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Mayor's Message
- FREE Cruise Night
- Composting Seminar
- Oakland Recreation
- Mental Health
- Halloween Parade
- Fall Safety
- Library Programs
- Flu Season

Good news. Mark your calendars to participate in the Mayor's Wellness Campaign called "Shape Up Oakland." We began the Mayor's Wellness Campaign last Spring with the help of a local gym. Unfortunately, when the gym left Oakland, so did all our materials. We are thrilled to now have interested dedicated sponsors to shape up Oakland.



You are invited to SHAPE UP OAKLAND, a ten-week wellness challenge. The Challenge is open to anyone who lives, works or studies in Oakland. Our mission is to motivate the community to live healthier, more active lives.



Oakland Mayor  
Linda H. Schwager  
*Continued on Page 5*

**Getting involved is simple and it is free!**

## THE OAKLAND COMMUNITY OF COMMERCE *FREE Community Cruise Night*



**Park your ride for free!**

The Board of Directors of the Oakland Community of Commerce is excited to invite the Oakland Community to our completely free, First Annual Community Cruise Night.

On the evening of Wednesday October 8, 2014 starting at 5:30 pm and lasting through 8:00 pm, over 100 cars are expected to rev their way into and around Oakland and end up at the Copper Tree Mall. Look for the giant inflatables!

## OAKLAND COMMUNITY CRUISE NIGHT

Car, truck and bike owners are invited to bring their rides, without a registration fee (Awards will be presented) and the public is being encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item for donation to help fill the food pantry at The Ponds Church as admission to the event.



There will be exciting free giveaways for the car owners who will be in attendance provided by our very charitable local businesses. There will be several local vendors and service groups on hand with special offers and events to help entertain your family and to help enhance this wonderful community event.

Please call Chairman Peter J. Kikot at (201) 556-7412 with any questions or to reserve a table to showcase your business or group at the event.

[www.oaklandcofc.org](http://www.oaklandcofc.org)

[oaklandcofc@gmail.com](mailto:oaklandcofc@gmail.com)



**Show off your RIDE FOR FREE!**

NEW FRIENDS OF  
THE OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

The New Friends of the Oakland Public Library have an active series of concerts planned for the fall:

- World class concerts continue with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet performing on Sunday, October 19th at 4 pm at the Presbyterian Church, 222 Ramapo Valley Road.
- Popular children's group "Debbie Cavalier and Friends" performs two concerts for children on Saturday, November 22 - one at 10:00 am and another at 1:00 pm.

On November 23rd, another Sunday afternoon concert features Schola Cantorum of Hudson - numerous voices accompanied by piano.

The Friends' wildly successful annual book sale runs three days the last weekend in October: Friday, October 24, Saturday the 25th, and Sunday the 26th. All items priced to sell!!!

For details and information, contact the library at [201-337-3742](tel:201-337-3742) or check the Friends' webpage at [www.oaklandnjlibrary.org/friends](http://www.oaklandnjlibrary.org/friends)

## OAKLAND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION



The Green Team has been working on re-certification actions for Bronze Level Sustainable Jersey recognition. Sustainable Jersey is a municipal certification program for NJ towns to go green, save money, and take steps to sustain their quality of life over the long term.

Friday, September 26th was recognized as anti-idling day at

Dogwood Hills, Heights, Manito and Valley Middle Schools. The children brought home information including a parent pledge to commit to reduce idling. Parents were reminded to turn off their cars when waiting at pick-up and at a sporting event or practice. Did you know that in New Jersey it is illegal to idle for more than 3 minutes? Residents should also turn off their cars while in park at places like schools, at a drive-through and also at "Shop from Home" at ShopRite.

Together we can make a difference and reduce emissions



from our cars to provide cleaner air for our community.

If you are interested in joining the Green Team, coming to a meeting or would just like more information please email oaklandec@gmail.com. High school students are encouraged to contact us and get involved.

## OAKLAND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION COMPOSTING SEMINAR

The Green Team, with co-operation from the Oakland Community of Commerce and The Oakland Environmental Commission, has partnered with Oakland's own Riverside Nursery to help promote the use of composting bins in Oakland.



The Educational Seminar will be hosted by **Riverside Nursery at 237 Ramapo Valley Road** on Saturday October 11, 2014 at 11:00 am.

The event is being coordinated to teach Oakland Residents on what items can be put into the bin and how to correctly load and cultivate the compost. More importantly it will also discuss just how much money it can save the Borough by removing a large amount of weight from your weekly trash pick up and how local composting can remove tons of methane gas from our landfills.



For more information please contact Greg or Lenny at (201) 651-0222 or e-mail oaklandec@gmail.com.

## OAKLAND RECREATION

**Big things are happening at the Recreation Complex this winter.**

As soon as the final whistle blows, officially ending the soccer and football seasons, major construction will start taking place at the Alexander Potash Recreation Complex. The entire complex will undergo installation of new energy efficient and computer operated lights and poles. The lights come with a 25-year warranty on labor & parts; and with a 25-year free replacement of any burned out bulbs. We will no longer have problems with bad ballasts, poor circuits, wires over heating, entire boards needing to be replaced, DPW renting high reaching cherry picking machines and the constant renting of outside light towers. The new lighting system will serve recreation, the carnival and Oakland as a whole.

The second project, scheduled to begin in late winter is the long awaited walking path. This approximate  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile track will be a place where ALL of Oakland can visit. Anyone can stroll or exercise on the path with the security of knowing there are no cars behind you and a smooth clear sidewalk in front of you. The walking path has generated a lot of excitement and will be a rousing new addition to an already great recreation complex.

The final project being installed at the complex will be a lightening detection system. This system will be installed by the upcoming baseball and softball seasons. Safety is always the number one priority of the Recreation Commission, and a lightening detection system, which will also be installed at Wells and Truman fields, will be one giant leap in the direction of safety. Enjoy the rest of your autumn Oakland!

**FORE! Happenings at Great Oak Park**

Recently the old Muller's Park miniature golf course has been unearthed. This 18-hole gem was recently discovered while the cleaning much of the over growth of the park. Volunteers and the DPW have been exposing all the impervious surfaces in preparation of the DEP's next site visit. Other artifacts have been discovered such as basketball hoops, foundations of buildings, all kinds of balls and golf hole numbers. Besides being a spectacular 40-acre area of nature, it is a wealth of Oakland's most recent past.

The walking trails are now complete, along with signposts, which will direct hikers to their favorite route. The water walk area is clear and will be a vibrant place for people to sit, fish or just enjoy the mighty Ramapo. There will be so much at Great Oak Park that can be enjoyed once all the governing state agencies give the green light. The Park Committee welcomes all of Oakland to become a part of this revitalization and join the efforts. Meetings are held once a month and you can always follow what is going on by visiting the park's website at [www.NewOaklandPark.com](http://www.NewOaklandPark.com) or "liking" Great Oak Park on Facebook.

*"Oakland is experiencing a true civic event unfold right in front of our eyes."*

**OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**

The Children's Dept. is planning a magical fall schedule that will incorporate music in our baby, toddler, and pre-school programs. Preschool Story Times for children, ages 3 to 5, will be held on Mondays from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. Infants to 24-month-olds, and their caregivers, will meet on Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. On Fridays from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. Oakland 2 to 3-Yr.-Olds, and their caregivers are invited to music programs, as well as traditional story and craft times. Special guest performers, Teri Merliss, and Lisa DeCeglia will offer musical programs for very young children each month.

After-School Programs will be held from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m. for children, ages 6 & up. Shop-Rite Dietician, Nicole Hallissey, will continue her Healthy Eating Series with suggestions for Halloween Snacks on October 27. On October 14, and October 28, the Library's Art Inspiration Series with art enthusiast, Arleen Ritter will focus on artists, Georgia O'Keefe, Marc Chagall, and general art techniques. The Oakland Garden Club Ladies will make autumn scarecrows with the children on October 9. Author, Marguerite Sansone, will visit the Library on October 10 to discuss her book, Sammy and the Wrecking Ball. A Halloween Book Bingo will be held on October 29.

Tweens and Teens are invited to DIY (Do-It-Yourself) Days once each month. Volunteering is also offered for this age group.

The Fall Programming will run from September through December. Oakland residents may register in person, by phone (201-337-5236), or online at [oaklandnjlibrary.org](http://oaklandnjlibrary.org). Please call or visit us for further details on any of our fantastic programs! The Library is located in the Oakland Municipal Plaza.





## THE OAKLAND HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Recent celebrity suicides have shed light on the fact that wealth and social status offer no protection from addiction and mental illness. No one is immune. Hope and help are only a phone call away.

**CALL: 201-262-HELP (24/7, 365 days a year)**

Autumn health and safety tips:

Halloween Health & Safety: <http://www.cdc.gov/family/halloween/index.htm>

Prevent & Recognize Concussions: <http://www.cdc.gov/features/concussion/>

Autumn Games & Health Tips: <http://www.cdc.gov/family/kidautumngames/index.htm>

It's Turkey Time!: <http://www.cdc.gov/features/turkeytime/>

***Protect yourself and your family from the Flu!***

According to the CDC, "Routine annual influenza vaccination is recommended for all persons aged 6 months and older who do not have contraindications." Now is the time to speak to your medical practitioner about getting flu shots for you and your family.

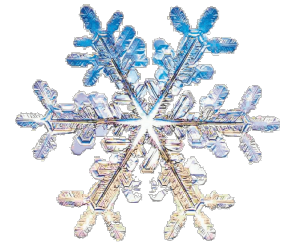
Senior Flu Shot Program: Thursday, October 30th, from 1 PM to 2 PM, at the Oakland Senior Center. For seniors 65+ with Medicare Part B Coverage ONLY (no HMO coverage).

Annual Rabies Clinic - Saturday, November 8th, 1 PM to 3 PM, at the Recreation Storage Facility, 24 Lawlor Drive. Dogs must be on a leash and cats in a carrier. Previous written proof of rabies vaccination is required for a three-year vaccination. All other pets will receive a one-year vaccination.



## OAKLAND SENIOR CENTER

## SNOW OUTREACH PROGRAM



Although memories of the harsh winter of 2013-14 have finally faded...it's already time for the Borough to start planning for the coming winter storms. This past winter demonstrated just how difficult snow removal can be for some of our elderly and disabled residents. Shoveling a walkway to the mailbox, clearing the fire hydrant, and maybe digging out a car can be a real hardship. The Borough is starting a program to assist these residents whereby we connect those in need with those that can help with snow removal. The Oakland Senior Center is reaching out to the community for assistance.

Anyone from the community that may be interested in participating in this outreach program should contact me. Those who contact me will be added to a list that will be shared with those in need of help. We are primarily looking for volunteers but if someone wants to clear snow for money, they can still be added to the list. I can be reached by either calling the Senior Center at 201-405-7731 or e-mailing me at [seniors@oakland-nj.org](mailto:seniors@oakland-nj.org).

## FROM THE OAKLAND FIRST AID SQUAD

Welcome to fall and the requisite Flu season! It is a beautiful time of year and the weather has been thoroughly enjoyable. However, please don't be complacent. Be proactive! The flu season will arrive, snow or no snow! A reminder regarding CDC recommendations:

***Everyone 6 months or older should get the flu shot.***

***Get it early, the longer you wait the more likely you will be exposed.***

High risk individuals include: include young children, pregnant women, people with chronic health conditions like asthma, diabetes or heart and lung disease and people 65 years and older.

On a lighter note, The Oakland Volunteer First Aid Squad, AKA John Robert Walker Memorial Oakland First Aid Squad, is celebrating 60 Years of service to the community of Oakland! The years have gone by so fast. There are several rather costly items that need addressing in the near future. Our ambulances will be 10 years old soon. We need to replace one as it has been having a lot of mechanical issues as of late. Our building is 60 years old! There are numerous updates that we need to make.

In keeping with our towns effort to be green, we need to address our single pane windows and doors, energy efficiency overall, as well as improving the technology capabilities to keep up with the ever advancing field of emergency medicine. We are planning an open house and a dedication of a memorial wall built in memory of Vivian Walker, our founder. The date has not been set yet. Please check our Facebook site <https://www.facebook.com/ofasnj>. We are selling engraved bricks as a fundraiser that will be placed around the wall. If you would like to show your support or remember Vivian in this special way, got to: <https://www.bricksrus.com/order/ofasbricks>. As always, we depend on your support of our 100% volunteer organization. Our service is free and always will be!

## OAKLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

Believe it or not, summer is over and the fall season is upon us and that brings us to one of the most important times of the year – the start of school. Please be aware that the Police Department will be out enforcing speed limits around town. Sometimes around this time of year, it is easy to be distracted, but please be mindful of extra pedestrian traffic in town. The weather is still nice and children will be walking to and from school. Remember, it is the law for a motorist to STOP for pedestrians in crosswalks! It is equally important for motorists to obey crossing guards. Our crossing guards do an excellent job preserving the safety of our children so be aware of their presence.

Another issue the fall brings is that of falling leaves. Not only are they a nuisance to clean up but they also can be hazardous to the motoring public. Wet leaves on the roadway are just as slippery as ice, so please use extra caution when the roadway is wet and covered with leaves.

And just a reminder - winter will soon be here. Please be aware that the sidewalks and hydrants that are on your property are your responsibility. You are required to shovel your walks and clean the snow from around the hydrants. This will make the walkways safer for our children and other pedestrians and help out the fire department in case there is a fire emergency in your area.

## OAKLAND PUBLIC EVENTS



**Oakland's Annual Halloween Parade**

**October 25, 2014**

**10:00 am**

**Valley Middle School**

**Sponsored by the  
Oakland Public Events Committee**



**OAKLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Mayor Linda H. Schwager

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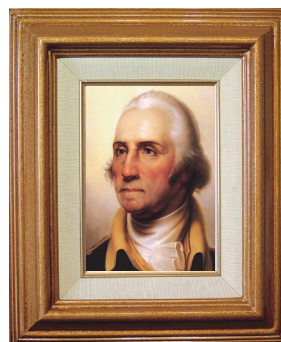
**ONE MUNICIPAL PLAZA**

**OAKLAND, NJ 07436**

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*

**POSTAL PATRON**

**OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY 07436**



**B O R O U G H   O F   O A K L A N D**

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**W W W . O A K L A N D - N J . O R G**



George Washington and his officers stayed at the Van Allen House on July 14, 1777, on their way north to join more of their forces near West Point, when the troops and supply wagons got bogged down on the muddy trail that was the Ramapo Valley Road of those days. The troops camped down along the Valley Road. Washington wrote two letters addressed from the Van Allen House, of which we have copies at the House. History has recorded that General Washington led his troops up and down the 'Valley Road' on other occasions also, and stayed at other Old Dutch Houses in Mahwah, Wayne and Ho-Ho-Kus as well as Morristown. In honor of General Washington's visit in Oakland (The Ponds), we make a point of celebrating his birthday here each year.

EXCERPT COURTESY OF THE OAKLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[www.oaklandhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.oaklandhistoricalsociety.org)



**OAKLAND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**