

# TERRACE TALK

www.tiogaterrace.org

Civic Association

APRIL, 2010

Saturday, May 15, 2010 at 8:00 am



Garage Sale time will be here sooner than you think. The annual Tioga Terrace Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. This annual event is a great opportunity to clean out those overstuffed garages, attics, and basements. Every year people come from all over to participate in this annual event, bringing a little taste of big city traffic to our neighborhood. As in years past, TTCA will hire Tioga County Sheriff's Department Deputies to direct traffic, keep the peace, ensure orderly traffic flow, and provide safe access for emergency vehicles. Your Tioga Terrace Civic Association will also provide two porta-potties on Highland Drive between Frederick and Overbrook.

## Day of the Sale

**Traffic Flow:** We are working with local officials to find ways to improve traffic flow. As in years past, parking on Frederick Drive and Glann Road will be limited to one side to facilitate one-way traffic on those roads. Additional restrictions may be in place based upon input from local officials. Directional signs will be placed on the affected streets the night before and removed after the event. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Finally, please give yourself a few extra minutes leaving and entering the Terrace on Garage Sale day.

**Food Vendors:** Food Vendors must have permits from the Town of Owego and are reminded that they must comply with permit conditions. The permit ONLY allows stops in the street for 10-15 minutes before moving on.

**Food/Beverages:** Food and beverages should be pre-packaged. Food handlers of non-pre-packaged items must have access to running water for hand washing. Be aware that the Tioga County Health Department may do spot inspections.

## Let us advertise your Sale

Due to escalating costs associated with organizing the Garage Sale, the TTCA will be conducting fundraising activities. This year, we will be selling maps of Tioga Terrace for a nominal cost. We will be selling advertising space on the back of the maps, listing the address and major categories or items for sale. Ads can be approximately 100 characters in length and will be sold for \$5 each, on a space available basis. Ads and payment must be received by May 1, 2010 and should be sent to Jeff and Wendy Wood, 66 Frederick Drive. Checks should be made payable to "Tioga Terrace Civic Association". Ads should be e-mailed to [j-wood@stny.rr.com](mailto:j-wood@stny.rr.com).

## Commercial Vendors

Many commercial vendors are drawn to the Terrace by the number of people present during the Garage Sale. If you are hosting a commercial vendor, please ask them to consider a donation to the TTCA to help offset the cost of organizing the Garage Sale. Vendors making donations by May 1<sup>st</sup> will be listed on the maps described above. Please contact Jeff and Wendy Wood with any questions.

So start cleaning out those attics and basements, and have a fun and successful Garage Sale!

By: Sarah Consolazio

The TTCA would like to extend a warm welcome to the following newcomers:

The Ruhm Family - Owego  
Matthew and Melissa Sills - Endicott  
April Petrick and Nick Solecky - Endicott  
Mike Tunick and Orysia Czebiniak  
The Johnson Family - Kirkwood  
David and Lisa Dudinyak and family - Elmira  
Jeremy and Stephanie Daino and family - Endicott  
Keesler family - Apalachin



### **BIOGRAPHIES**

Introducing our newest volunteers...

**Jeff Stockwin** has taken over the duties of our Website Administrator. A software engineer for Syracuse-based Sensis, he's no stranger to computers! What's more, he's been writing web pages for a long time. Jeff says "I figured this would be a good fit that doesn't involve a huge time commitment." He's lived in the Terrace for 9 years, has 4 children, lived previously in Charlotte, NC and also is a soccer coach.

**Diane Donahue** has volunteered to be our Secretary. She and husband Bill, who've been married 42 years, raised two children who live locally, have two amazing grandchildren, and two golden retrievers. But the "twos" don't stop there. Years ago they reluctantly left their home and great neighbors on Cooper Drive and moved to Vestal. Recently, they decided to return to their roots and had a retirement home built in the Terrace. Diane adds, "Retirement is my favorite time of life--filled with wonderful opportunities and activities!"

**We thank Jeff and Diane for stepping forward and heartily welcome them to the Association Board.**

### **Volunteer(s) Needed!!!**



The TTCA's "Town and Highway Liaison" position recently became vacant. It involves making periodic phone contact with the Owego Town Supervisor and the Highway Superintendent to give and get updates on matters of interest or concern to Terrace residents. This information is then shared as needed at monthly TTCA Board meetings. As you might imagine, such contacts are critical in maintaining an ongoing dialog with these key Town officials.

In the past, one individual served as liaison to both the Town Supervisor and the Highway Superintendent. However, these duties could be split into two separate positions if need be. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact Jim Sprague, TTCA VP, at 625-5476.

**THERE WILL BE NO BRUSH PICK UP THIS SPRING ! This is due to extensive damage caused by January's heavy rains and snow melt. The Highway Dept is dedicating its resources to repairing roads and drainage structures. BRUSH CAN BE DROPPED OFF at the Town of Owego Gravel Pit. DIRECTIONS: Take Route 38 North out of Owego. From the Jct of Route 96 North and Route 38 North the gravel pit is located 1.2 miles on the left. A red sign on the right says Town of Owego Gravel Pit. For more information, go to [www.townofowego.com](http://www.townofowego.com)**

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## SUMMER PROGRAMS AT THE WATERMAN CENTER

### **New York Safe Boating Class - a 4 week course - May 4, 11, 18, and 25 6:30-9PM**

The New York State Safe Boating course at Waterman Conservation Education Center, 403 Hilton Road, Apalachin, prepares you for the Personal Watercraft test. This is required in order to receive a NYS Boat Safety Certificate. Book and materials will be provided. Test for licensing will be the last day of class.



The New York Safe Boating course trains youths and adults with a minimum of eight hours of classroom training. Subjects covered include: required equipment, the rules of the road, buoys, safe operation, seamanship, accidents and special activities.

**Registration Required. \$12.00 per student for building use. Call Waterman Center at 625-2221 to register or for more information. This is a 4-week class.**

### **Father's Day Breakfast on Hiawatha Island June 20<sup>th</sup> 9-11 AM**

Climb aboard the Waterman Center pontoon boat, the *Susquehanna Shuttle*, for a ride to Hiawatha Island, the Jewel of the Susquehanna. Once there, explore this unique historical site and wildlife refuge. Enjoy a big, farm-style breakfast.

Please arrive no later than 10:00 AM at the Waterman Center Boat Dock, Marshland Road (western end), Apalachin, NY.

**Reservations Required by June 16<sup>th</sup> as space is limited.**

**Adults: \$18 single/ \$25 per couple, Children: Ages 5-12 half price; Under 5 free!**

**Call Waterman Center at 625-2221 for details or to register.**





**The Lumberjack Festival joins Waterman Center's Walk Through Time on July 17 and 18.**

This unique double event will be held at the Hiawatha Island Boat Landing – Marshland Rd (western end), Apalachin, NY

- **Lumberjack Festival Saturday Shows at 10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM and 4 PM  
Sunday Shows at 12 PM and 2 PM**

The Lumberjacks will thrill and amaze you by taking you on an exhilarating journey into the bygone days of yesteryear. They will exhibit the skills, strength and courage of the old time lumberjack. See: Underhand Chopping, Crosscut Sawing Races, Springboard Chopping, Axe Throwing and Chain Saw Carving.

**Waterman Center Summer Camps** - Waterman Center Invites Children to Summer Camp. **The Town of Owego Summer Camp**, which is run by Waterman Center, is for children ages 6-11 years who live in the Town of Owego. (Children must have completed one year of kindergarten.) The camp runs for five weeks, July 5– August 6, 2010 from 9 AM – 3 PM, and will be held at the Waterman Center Interpretive Center, 403 Hilton Road, Apalachin. The camp features recreational activities and arts and crafts. There is a lot to do and the activities are lively and fun. Children should bring a packed lunch, drink and a water cup or bottle with their name on it. There is no charge for this camp but children must live in the Town of Owego. Pre-registration is a must. Please register by June 30th.

**Waterman Center Nature Camp will be held for three weeks, August 9 – August 27.**  
**Week 1: August 9-13**  
**Week 2: August 16-20**  
**Week 3: August 23-27**

**Camp hours are 9 AM – 3 PM with the option of early drop off and late pick up for an extra fee. This camp is for children ages 6-12 years. (The child must have completed one year of kindergarten.) The camp will be held at the Waterman Center, 403 Hilton Road, Apalachin. The camp features fun and exciting nature themes and the day is spent learning about the natural world through hikes, arts and crafts, outdoor recreation and special activities. Children should bring a packed lunch, drink and a water cup or bottle with their name on it. The cost is \$125 for members of Waterman Center/\$145 for non-members. Registration closes at 9 AM the Friday before each week of camp. Please call the Center for more information at 625-2221.**

- **Walk Through Time on Hiawatha Island 10 AM to 3 PM on Sat and Sun**

Board the Waterman Center pontoon boat, and travel back in time a short distance across the Susquehanna River to Hiawatha Island. (Last boat leaves for the island at 2 PM.) Take a self-guided tour and watch craftsmen in period dress demonstrate skills from the past. See a thirty-foot traditional eastern woodland longhouse. Observe a flint knapping demonstration. Listen to musicians playing old time music. Other demonstrations include atlatl throwing, old weaponry, a long hunter and more. Take time to explore this unique historical site and wildlife refuge. **Cost to attend this double event is \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors over 62, \$6 for children 5-12, under 5 free.** Call Waterman Center at 625-2221 for more information.

## From the President

Isn't it great to finally see friends and neighbors outside again?! Spring's such a busy time for many families in the Terrace. For your Civic Association, it's our busiest season of all. Preparations are well underway for the annual Garage Sale...followed closely by our annual door-to-door Membership Drive that provides the revenue for yet another year of TTCA programs and activities. In that regard, we have a concern that I need to share with you.

While preparing for the 2010 budget year, we determined that the insurance policy which protects the financial assets of the Association does not provide any liability protection for our Board members or our many other TTCA volunteers. Given the scope of our programs, and the lawsuit-happy society we seem to live in these days, the Board felt it essential that we address this situation. After much discussion, the Board decided to purchase additional insurance that will provide an adequate level of liability coverage for all of our volunteers. Unfortunately, this extra policy comes at a cost of \$900, which represents about 17% of our annual operating budget. As a result, we need to increase our annual membership "dues" by \$2, for a total of \$12 per household.

For years we've been able to keep dues at \$10, hold the line on expenses, and utilize other methods to generate extra income – including the use of paid ads in our newsletters. Even at \$12 a year, I hope most of you would agree that we still deliver a lot for your money.

Since 1961, the TTCA has been an important, positive force within our community and we intend to maintain that tradition. With this added liability coverage, we'll be able to continue our service to Terrace residents without putting our valued volunteers at personal financial risk. As always, thanks for your continued support.

*Fric LaClair*

### **TTCA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: MAY 19 – JUNE 1**

The Civic Association will be conducting its annual door-to-door Membership Drive May 19<sup>th</sup> thru June 1<sup>st</sup>. This Drive provides the funding for all of the Association's activities, programs and services for the upcoming year.

#### **Dues increasing \$2**

As explained in the President's Letter, we are raising the dues by \$2 for a total of \$12 per household. This added revenue will enable us to purchase liability insurance needed to protect our volunteers, officers and Board members from potential risks associated with TTCA activities.

#### **You're already a member!**

All Tioga Terrace residents are automatically considered members of the Civic Association, and our annual "dues" are completely voluntary. While we are requesting a donation of \$12, any amount will be graciously accepted.

#### **Route helpers still needed!**

Even though we have enough volunteers to cover most of our "routes," we still need have a few more volunteers to cover our "unassigned" routes (each typically consists of 15-20 homes). If you can spare a couple of hours on a weekend or evening, we'd really appreciate your help. Just give me a call. It's fun, easy, and a great way to reconnect with your neighbors!

#### **The tradition continues**

Your Civic Association was founded in 1961 by a group of about 30 community-minded residents. Today, with just under 800 households in the Terrace, the TTCA continues that fine tradition of community service. Your financial support makes this all possible.

Thanks, again, for your support. Feel free to call me with any questions.

Kathy Egan, Membership Drive Coordinator (625-2003)

Your voluntary donation helps to support our many services and activities, including:

- Santa visits
- Halloween parade
- the Membership Drive
- the annual garage sale
- *Terrace Talk* newsletters
- our [www.tiogaterrace.com](http://www.tiogaterrace.com) website
- welcome visits to Terrace newcomers
- beautification of Terrace sign and gardens
- liaison with key Town officials (highways, parks, etc.)
- a scholarship to encourage and reward student community service

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### DID YOU KNOW.....LOCAL LAW FILING.....LOCAL LAW NO. 4.....

**SECTION 1. 44-1 Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to provide for a method of enforcement and collection against an owner of property or other responsible party who has endangered the public safety, health, or general welfare by failing to comply with any federal, state, general specific or local law or ordinance or any order of the Town Code Enforcement Officer or Building Inspector which requires said owner or responsible party to perform work, acts, or improvements upon property in the Town of Owego.

The Town Board of the Town of Owego has determined that it is in the interest of the public safety, health and general welfare of the residents of the Town that the Town be empowered to undertake such work, acts or improvements and to collect the costs in the same manner as a real property tax lien.

**SECTION 2. 44-2 Enforcement.** Whenever an owner of real property or other responsible party is required by any federal, state, general, specific or local law or ordinance or order of the Town Code Enforcement Officer or Building Inspector to make improvements, perform any work or to do any act on such property, and such owner or responsible party shall fail to

**make the improvement or perform the work or act required, the Town may enter upon the premises and cause such improvement, work or act to be done on such property, when the public health, safety, or general welfare is endangered by the failure to act.**

## **Marcellus Shale, Tioga Terrace, and You**

As most of you know, the Southern Tier, including Tioga County, has become the focus of natural gas exploration. The Marcellus Shale and other formations beneath us are believed to be among the richest natural gas deposits in the U.S. Drilling advocates point to its potential for reducing America's dependence on foreign oil, minimizing the use of "dirtier" energy sources such as coal, creating jobs, and generating revenues for state and local governments and local landowners. At the same time, opponents point to a long list of economic, public health, environmental and societal concerns which have the potential to significantly alter the quality of life in Tioga County.

Some residents may be under the impression that these issues apply only to large-tract landowners in the rural countryside, and that drilling operations pose no concerns for Tioga Terrace. The fact is that the majority of the Terrace is surrounded by undeveloped land – some of which is suitable for drilling operations. Today, a single drilling site can bore multiple wells extending horizontally for miles, in any direction – including under the Terrace. In certain situations, natural gas can be extracted from your property through a NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) provision called "Compulsory Integration". Common local concerns include "wear and tear" on local roads due to heavy equipment and truck traffic, impact on water supply, and disposal of wastewater. It is important to note that well siting is not controlled by local zoning or permitting.

DEC is currently completing an Environmental Impact Statement ([www.dec.ny.gov/energy/58440.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/58440.html)). Little in the way of drilling activities is expected until DEC completes the EIS and promulgates new regulations. In the meantime, energy companies are actively purchasing leases in anticipation of those regulations being issued. One thing remains quite clear: the Marcellus debate has become increasingly emotional and polarized.



The Civic Association does not claim expertise in these matters, and it's not our intention to take a formal position on the issues. We do, however, urge all Terrace residents to stay abreast of happenings on this topic. Public awareness and education, we believe, are critical to understanding the issues and making informed decisions. If you have strong opinions, we urge you to contact local, state, and federal elected officials.

### **Notable Quotes**

"This is by far the most contentious issue that I've worked on since joining the State Assembly. I'm compelled to do everything possible to protect our environment, while recognizing the enormous economic potential of the Marcellus." Donna Lupardo, NYS Assemblywoman (12/14/09)

"I favor natural gas drilling because of its huge economic benefit to the State and local communities as long as our water is protected, our roads are maintained and our quality of life isn't endangered." Tom Libous, NYS Senator (12/30/09)

"Natural gas development presents New York with a range of potential economic benefits. But those benefits come with some extraordinary environmental and public health risks that we cannot simply ignore and hope for the best." Maurice Hinchey, US Representative (12/30/09)

"Gas extraction from shale is probably a fact of life. There is too much profit to be made, too much gas to be ignored, and the demand for natural gas is expected to grow." Edward Kokkelenberg, School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell Univ. (1/23/10)

"It is our experience that the DEC can only monitor what it has the resources to do so. Currently, neither the DEC nor the health departments have those people or that money." Wanda Hudak, Chair, Western Broome Environmental Stakeholders Coalition (11/10/10)

## Did You Know ?

-Horizontal drilling enables a single well to follow a seam of shale for several miles.

-Hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") involves injecting millions of gallons of water and chemical solutions into the shale under high pressure to stimulate well production.

Natural gas burns cleaner than coal, producing about half the emissions for the same amount of energy.

Cabot Oil & Gas in Dimock (PA) Township paid more than \$200,000 in penalties for environmental violations in 2009.

Even sloped land can be used for drilling sites. Soil removed from uphill areas is used to build up lower areas, creating a level surface for drilling operations.

Among the major beneficiaries of natural gas drilling will be local governments that stand to gain from taxes, increased local business, and possibly royalties and lease payments from land they own.

A typical drilling site contains 6-8 separate wells, lasts 30-50 years, and may be refracked every 5 years.

Each well requires 5-7 million gallons of water, and about 600 truck visits, to develop and frack.

A typical "producing" well generates \$16 million in gas revenues over its lifetime.

The Marcellus is just one of five different deposits of natural gas beneath Tioga County.

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**Wednesday May 5, 2010**

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# ***Terrace Talk Newsletter***

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TTCA Newsletter  
c/o 3 Brookside Avenue W.  
Apalachin, NY 13732

Apalachin, New York  
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PERMIT #20

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Resident  
Apalachin, NY 13732

## **2009 Board Members**

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