



## TAXES WILL INCREASE IN 2010!

Real Estate Taxes will rise one mil and the Local Services Tax will change from \$10.00 per year to \$52.00 per year in 2010. Oakdale Borough is the last municipality in the area to raise the LST. These tax increases will add to the Borough coffers \$64,000.00, but will not solve Oakdale's financial problems. We are 117 years old and time has taken its toll. The cost of maintaining and repairing our infrastructure will continue.

Some facts and figures:

The Borough sold the lot at Clef Drive and Clinton Avenue in 2009 for \$85,000.00. We tried to set aside that money for street resurfacing plus \$50,000 was in this year's budget. We still had to borrow \$100,000.00 to pay off the paving cost of \$175,000.00 that improved only the worst areas of our 6.9 mile road system with the balance paying bills in the general fund.

We have 740 water customers with a large portion of our meters over 15 years old which will need replaced in the near future according to the age of the meters. Repair of meters is about \$50.00 and a new meter cost is \$100.00. Oakdale has the lowest water rates in Allegheny County. An Oakdale resident using 3,000 gallons of water pays \$18.35. A PA-American Water Retail resident pays \$36.43.

Last year we cut sewage rates 15% because the borough had a surplus of sewage fees paid by you. Now we have to pass thru a rate increase of 7% to cover Alcosan raising rates county wide. The cost of continually upgrading our sanitary sewer system to comply with the federal EPA will continue indefinitely as it does everywhere else, but sewer funds are totally separate from all other borough funds and will not affect our annual budget.

The borough rental properties net \$60,000 per year. Wage tax receipts are \$125,000. So with a budgeted total revenue of \$653,000 income next year, not allowing for the unforeseen, the budgeted amount will pay for our full time office, year round maintenance operations, our full time police force, our community center and our community functions.

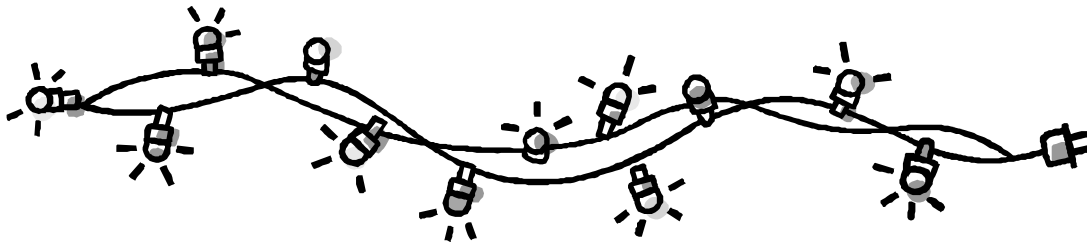
Presently the ten communities around Oakdale pay higher taxes than Oakdale Borough residents which have 746 properties on the tax rolls. The most fair comparison is Heidelberg Borough which has 681 properties on the tax rolls. Their present 2009 tax is \$556.75 per average property. Oakdale is \$216.60! With a one mil increase to 4 mils, Oakdale's average will be \$288.80 per property.

Borough Council has been fiscally responsible over the years. With 14 years of no tax increases and two years of cutting taxes and returning some of your tax dollars those years, this is where we are. The budget is open to your review at the Borough Office.

# ***MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!***

During this special time of year, Oakdale Borough would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. It is because of each and every one of you that Oakdale is such a special place to live. On behalf of the Mayor, Borough Council, Police Department, Volunteer Fire and all Borough employees, have a safe and happy holiday!

Also, get ready to let out your inner Griswold!!!!!!! The Oakdale Volunteer Fire Department & Moore's Hardware will again be sponsoring the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Lights Contest! The house with the best exterior illumination will win a \$25.00 gift certificate to Moore's Hardware to buy even more lights for next year! As always, the VFD wants everyone to practice holiday safety. Inspect all lights, keep your tree watered and be careful when using candles. They do not want to have to visit during the holidays! So, start decorating and GOOD LUCK!



**Holiday Office Hours:** The Oakdale Borough office will be closed Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, we will be closing at noon on Thursday December 31<sup>st</sup> and Closed all day Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

**Message from the Fire Chief Trusnovic:** Fall also signals the start of BINGO! The Oakdale Hose Company will begin hosting BINGO on Saturday, December 5, 2009 with the doors opening at 5:00pm. We look forward to seeing you there!



**Halloween Prize Winners:** The following numbers were winners: 21, 22, 37, 53, 56, 61, 71, 86, 96, & 97. Prizes can be picked up at the Borough office during normal business hours.

**Council Meetings:** The Borough Council meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Community Center at 7:30PM.

**Earned Income Taxes:** Unpaid 2008 Earned Income Taxes will be turned over to Jordan Tax Services, our Delinquent Earned Income Tax Collector, on January 1, 2010 for collection. Penalties and late fees will be applied.

**Leaf Pickup Completed:** Leaf pickup is done for the season...if you still have leaves, please bag and mark the bags so our Maintenance Department knows that there are leaves in them.

**Senior Lunch:** Are you over 60? Have lunch with us at the Oakdale Community Center. For additional information, please call Paul at (724) 693-8540.



## LOOKING FOR A GOOD CAUSE OR CHARITY TO GIVE TO THIS HOLIDAY SEASON?

### 9th Annual Sammy Tennyson Memorial Toy Drive of Oakdale

Our family is getting ready to load up the U-Haul and play Santa once again! We are collecting new toys and donations to be hand delivered to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh before Christmas.

This is our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual toy collection drive in loving memory of our son Sammy Tennyson who passed away 4 days before Christmas in 2001. We decided that year to donate all of his Christmas presents to Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh since he spent so much time there. Each year we will continue this tradition in loving memory of our son.

So, if anyone is interested in donating, we are accepting any kind of **new** toy from: books, videos, board games, puzzles, Barbie's, stuffed animals and toys for teenage kids too! *All toys must be **new** but books, DVD's and video games may be used if they are still in good shape.* We will also accept monetary donations that will be combined to purchase items such as Playstations, XBOX, video games, DVD players, etc for the play rooms Checks can be made payable to Lisa Tennyson and they will be combined together to purchase gifts donated in the name of our son, Sammy Tennyson.

The purpose of our toy drive is to brighten a child's life and let them forget about their pain even if it is only for a little while. Toy donations will be given to the Child Life Department, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh as this department provides activities, toys, movies, and other special projects for the in-house patients. (Any and all donations that are not given out at Christmas will be used throughout the year for prizes such as Bingo or other games, birthdays, etc.) All toys must be "**UNWRAPPED**" due to security reasons and this also gives the opportunity for the staff to give each child an age-appropriate toy.

Toys or donation can be dropped off at the Oakdale Borough Building or can be mailed to:

Lisa Tennyson

25 Fayette Avenue

Oakdale, PA 15071

Email: [douglas.tennyson@verizon.net](mailto:douglas.tennyson@verizon.net)

Phone # (724) 693-2705

We would be more than happy to come pick it up! We are taking donations up to Friday December 18<sup>th</sup> and will be delivering them to Children's on Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.

We'd like to thank everyone in advance and wish all of you a happy and healthy Holiday Season!

Happy Holidays!

Doug, Lisa, Brad & Lucas Tennyson



ROCK FOR FOOD™

FOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30PM at the Oakdale Community Center. Exercise with us as we present our original “Rock N Roll Workout” Aerobic kickboxing program (bring a towel and a water bottle)

Bring a donation of food or money for The Food Pantry, join in the fun or just stay and watch.

For more info contact: Gino Bovo

THE HOUSE OF MARTIAL ARTS KARATE ACADEMY

5015 Noblestown Road

Oakdale, PA 15071

(724) 693-8790 or [www.houseofmartialarts.org](http://www.houseofmartialarts.org)



### Message From Police Chief Lauria:

Hunting too close to occupied structures: For the hunters in the area please stay reminded of hunting too close to occupied structures. This is dangerous and against the law. For homeowners if you feel someone is hunting too close to your property please call 911 and have an officer come to your location.

Speeding: You will soon see the electric speed sign on Union Avenue. This sign displays the speed of the vehicles to help the drivers realize just how fast they are going as they approach the center of Oakdale. What you will see next is enforcement and the issuance of speed citations. We are installing speed bumps on certain side streets in the Borough. We have received a number of complaints of fast moving vehicles around areas where our children are playing. Our hope is that the speed bumps will slow drivers down enough to be safe on our narrow streets.



Oakdale U.P. Church

Presents



CHRISTMAS



at the  
ROCK



Saturday December 12<sup>th</sup>

5:00 West Allegheny Show Choir Performance

6:00 Free Soup and Sandwich Dinner

7:00 Oakdale U.P. Christmas Play, - *The True Gift of Christmas*