

# Mysterious Creature Spotted in Farmington Loch

*Thousands Flock to Wood-n-Tap to Catch a Glimpse of "Tappie"*

FARMINGTON – There is a lot of talk about monsters at the Wood-n-Tap in Farmington these days. And they're not referring to the monster nachos on the menu. Dozens of guests claim to have seen a mysterious creature lurking in the loch behind the restaurant. And, recently, one fortuitous diner snapped the only known photo of the beast when it lifted its head from the water for a split second.

"Tappie," as the creature is affectionately known, has captured the imagination of thousands throughout Greater Hartford, while confounding members of the scientific community worldwide. On a recent visit, acclaimed anthropologist Scott Nessman concluded that Tappie could be a holdover from prehistoric times. "Judging by the bony cranial protuberance in the photo, I would say we are looking at a serpent-like creature of more than 30 meters in length," said Nessman. "She's quite possibly a relative of the pliosaurus."

But many scientists dismiss Nessman's theory as irresponsible and scientifically impossible. "Old Scotty reads too many science fiction books," says biologist Gladys Piper. "That is clearly an ichthysaurus. Or a stick."

According to Wood-n-Tap co-owner, Wil Quijano, Tappie is a welcome guest. "When we say 'Come as you are,' we mean everybody, including enormous, scary reptiles," says Quijano. "We put out a plate of food for her every night. She really seems to like the creamed spinach and artichoke dip. Plus, Tappie is great for business. At least until she starts eating people."

Despite the popularity of the restaurant's unofficial mascot, authorities are quick to warn guests to stay clear of the loch until the sightings are confirmed or disproved. "I wouldn't provoke Tappie," says Coast Guard Captain Robert Kilty. "We don't know if she's friendly like Barney, or evil like that monster from *Clash of the Titans*."



"Tappie Fever" is spreading throughout Greater Hartford!



ABOVE: This unretouched photograph of Tappie surfacing to sneak a peak at patio-goers is causing quite a stir.

RIGHT: Biologists believe Tappie may look something like this.



Keep small children clear of the shoreline and don't dangle bar bites over the patio railing."

Kilty recommends that guests enjoy hunting for Tappie from the safety of the Wood-n-Tap's patio or loch-view dining room. Most eyewitnesses claim Tappie likes to pop her head up about 200 feet out from the patio on the right hand side of the loch. If you see her surface, please refrain from flash photography. Pliosaurus hate the light," adds Nessman.

While Tappie's existence may still be in question, one recent discovery is beyond any reasonable argument – the creamed spinach and artichoke dip is so good, it transcends interspecies boundaries.

## News Tap

### Ancient Wood-n-Tap Discovered in Rocky Hill

*Researchers Uncover Fully-Functioning Restaurant – Owners Plan to Reopen*

ROCKY HILL – It's being called one of the most important archaeological finds of the 21st century. A group of 7th grade students on a fossil dig in Rocky Hill uncovered an almost perfectly-preserved Wood-n-Tap restaurant believed to be more than 40 million years old. The students were taking part in an educational outreach program called, "Archaeology. Can You Dig It?!" sponsored by nearby Dinosaur State Park.



One of the dig's organizer's carefully uncovers a Wood-n-Tap takeout menu believed to be more than 40 million years old.

"We believe the structure is from the Tapazoic era," said Ohio Jones, one of the dig's organizers. "That was quite a violent time. Thunder lizards ruled the Earth, hunting, fighting and, I suppose, meeting up with fellow dinosaurs at the local Tap for a few frosty pints and a plate of Teriyaki wings."

Most notable was the near-perfect condition the restaurant was found in. Owners of the modern Wood-n-Tap restaurant, after quickly laying claim to the site, expended little effort in reviving the ancient Tap and getting it ready for business again.

"We're excited to re-open this once great Wood-n-Tap for a whole new era of carnivores and herbivores," said co-owner and head chef Ken McAvoy. "It was one of our easier openings," added co-owner and construction specialist Mike Hamlin. "It should be ready in October. Everything was pretty much already in place. We just had to do a lot of vacuuming."



Boobytraps often made the dig treacherous. A fossilized meatball nearly killed one novice archaeologist.

## What's on Tap

### Gift Cards, Now Online

The perfect holiday gift for anyone on your list with a stomach. Get 'em online or ask your server.

### Hi-Brow Brews

Try our new fancy-dancy Boutique Beers: carefully-selected premium beers from around the world. Available at Hartford location only.

### Kids Rule

Check out the Lil' Tapsters' Menu – filled with food and fun stuff for cool people 12 and under.

### Party on Down

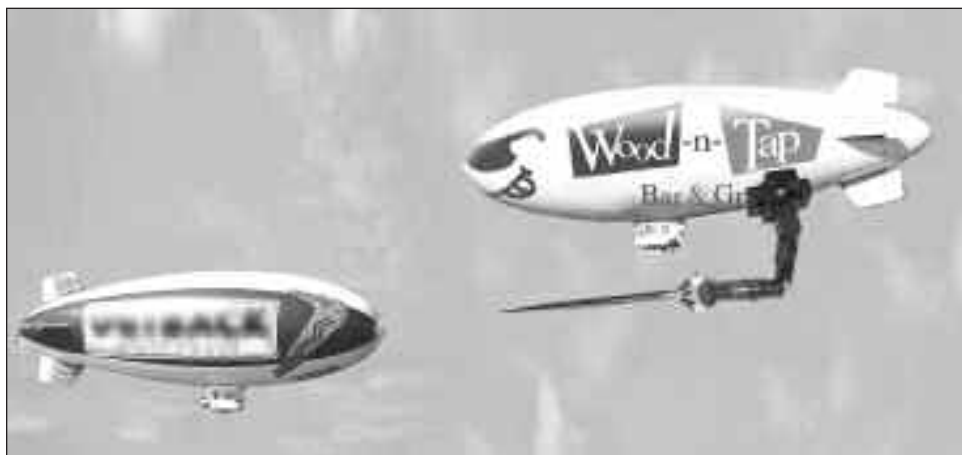
Statistically, parties at the Tap are 64% jollier. Call a party planner before we're booked solid.

### Get Tapped In

Join our email list. No junk, just cool info on events and promotions, free stuff and a great monthly giveaway.

# Aggressive P.R. Tactic Deflates Competition

*“Woody” the Blimp is More Than Just a Lot of Hot Air*



**DREAD ZEPPELIN:** “Woody” the terrible dirigible, intercepts the Bloomin’ Onion 1.

**OH, THE HUMANITY!:** The Onion gets fried and tumbles to the ground, ironically landing on a local steak house. Mission accomplished, Woody lands for refueling at Brainard Airport before heading back out to “negotiate” milk prices with the Hood blimp.



HARTFORD – Enjoying elevated success and recent expansion, the Wood-n-Tap Bar & Grill did what any other self-respecting company would do. “We bought a blimp,” says co-owner and co-pilot Phil Barnett. “Well, technically it’s a 200-foot, gas-propelled manned dirigible, but that’s hard to say.”

The Wood-n-Tap will primarily utilize their new blimp, nicknamed “Woody,” as a P.R. tool and good will ambassador. “We plan on flying over sports venues and outdoor events to drop stuff,” says Barnett. “For instance, we’re gonna drop tailgating supplies to UConn fans at The Rent. You know, bratwurst, bottles of beer, carving knives, maybe those little propane grill tanks. You always run out of those.” Woody will also be used in emergencies. Recently, the blimp’s crew was the first to respond during the devastating burger drought in Unionville. Even before FEMA arrived, Woody was overhead, air-dropping more than 8,000 hickory burgers to the hungry victims below.



But Woody is no ordinary blimp. It’s specially-equipped to “fly the unfriendly skies,” boasting puncture resistant body armor, a rocket launcher and a mechanical arm holding a razor sharp, oversized knitting needle. “It can be dangerous up there. Even MetLife’s Snoopy 2 has machine guns,” says Barnett.

Woody’s arsenal was recently put to the test when a blimp from a rival casual dining restaurant entered restricted air space over the Wood-n-Tap in Southington. Eyewitnesses say the “pop” and subsequent “whoosh” of escaping air could be heard and felt as far away as Cheshire.

“We may have overreacted on that one,” says Barnett. “We weren’t exactly thinking straight. You see, we had just come from a mid-air refueling with the Budweiser blimp, if you know what I mean.”

## Sport-n-Wood

### NFL Gives T.O. a T.O.

DALLAS, TX – In response to the disruptive, child-like antics of Dallas Cowboy wide receiver Terrell Owens, the NFL has doled out unprecedented disciplinary action in the form of a timeout. For the next two games, Owens will not be allowed to play, but will instead be ordered to sit quietly in the corner of the stadium with his back to the game. If he can do so without further incident, the league will allow him to rejoin the adults on the playing field.

For brand new NFL commissioner Roger Goodell, the last straw came late in the fourth quarter of last Sunday’s game. Owens grabbed the game ball out of the referee’s hands and stormed off the field shouting, “I’m going home and I’m taking my ball with me.” The game was delayed for two hours until coach Bill Parcells managed to get the ball back by saying to Owens, “C’mon. Let me just see it for a second. Pleeeeease. I swear I’ll give it right back.”



Of T.O.’s punishment, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell says, “If he’s gonna act like a child, we’ll treat him like child.”

### Red Sox Win Pennant!

(Editor’s note: at press time, Boston was up 3 games on the Yankees. What could go wrong?)

### Floyd Landis Barred from Cycling, Thinks He Might Try Baseball

### Manning Football Family Enjoys Dinner at Wood-n-Tap Southington

**Here are the highlights:** From his seat at the kid’s table, Eli passes the ketchup to Mom at the grown-up table, but it lands two feet short in the garlic mashed potatoes. Peyton picks it up, but instead of making the easy hand-off to Mom, steps back and throws it to her. Peyton then immediately calls his agent, securing an endorsement deal with Heinz. Archie yells at both sons, saying “Back in my day, ketchup didn’t come in a squeeze bottle. We had to tap the sides with our bare hands, you softies!” Cooper, the third brother, shyly asks dad for a sweet potato fry before disappearing back underneath the table.

## Tap-arazzi

Yup, we’ve sold our soul to the devil. Well, actually, we sold it to Access Hollywood. Our cameras caught these celebs out and about in Greater Hartford over the last few months.



### Gentle Bennifer!

Has Jen ousted Affleck for a grizzly new beau? We caught the cuddly couple out of hibernation with their claws all over each other at the Irish Fest in Glastonbury. Rumor has it, Jen is with cub.



### K-FedX

Britney demanded that her hip-hop hubby quit free-loading and learn responsibility. We ordered from Amazon every day for 3 months just to get this shot.



### Cruisin’ for Meds?

Is that Tom-Kat leaving a Canton CVS prescription counter with a bottle of Paxil? Brooke Shields has already offered us a cool million for this shot!



### Moore Younger!

Has Demi traded in hunky Ashton for wholesome Haley Joel? The 44-year old Moore made the scene at the Wood-n-Tap Rocky Hill grand opening with 21-year-old Osment in tow. Ex-hubby Bruce Willis, who starred with Osment in *The Sixth Sense*, countered by showing up with dreamy Dakota Fanning.

### Kiss of Death

Wood-n-Tap owners hope this exclusive photo of the President kissing a bar bite doesn’t hurt sales of the beloved mini-burgers among Democrat diners.



### Duck Season!

Vice President Dick Cheney takes aim in the “Plunk a Duckie” carnival game at the Berlin Fair last week. After injuring a carnie, Cheney was asked to leave the midway.

## Excuses, Excuses...

Match the celebrity to their lame-o excuse. The first one is done for you.

- E 1. Adam on tasting forbidden fruit
- \_\_\_ 2. Floyd Landis on testing positive for steroids
- \_\_\_ 3. Barry Bonds on testing positive for steroids
- \_\_\_ 4. Rafael Palmeiro on testing positive for steroids
- \_\_\_ 5. Whitney Houston on her alleged drug abuse
- \_\_\_ 6. Winona Ryder on shoplifting at Saks
- \_\_\_ 7. REM's Peter Buck on his alleged air-rage incident
- \_\_\_ 8. Mariah Carey on her hospitalization for exhaustion
- \_\_\_ 9. Michael Jackson on the dangling baby incident
- \_\_\_ 10. Britney Spears on letting her baby drive
- \_\_\_ 11. Ashlee Simpson on lip-out-of-synching
- \_\_\_ 12. Eddie Murphy on soliciting she-males

- A) "I was researching a role. The director told me to do it."
- B) "Crack is cheap. I make too much money to use crack. Crack is wack."
- C) "It was the drummer's fault, I lost my voice and I got struck with severe acid reflux."
- D) "Must have been the two beers and at least four whiskeys."
- E) "It was the woman's fault... and the snake."
- F) "I was escaping the paparazzi. Plus, I'm country."
- G) "All I needed was, like, five hours' sleep."
- H) "I was just giving her a ride home. I always help them."
- I) "I made a terrible mistake. I got caught up in the excitement of the moment."
- J) "Must have been the B-12 shot."
- K) "All I know is that I woke up covered with ice cream."
- L) "Must have been the flaxseed oil."



## Know Your Wood

Test your Wood-n-Tap IQ by determining if the following is true of the Wood-n-Tap in Hartford (H), Farmington (F), Southington (S) or Rocky Hill (R). Some may have more than one answer. If none apply, write (N). The first one is done for you.

- 1) Has a liquor license HFSR
- 2) Has a patio \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Has Tibor \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Has a fireplace \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Has a disco ball \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Has flat screen TVs \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Is next to a grocery store \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) Joaquin Phoenix works there \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) Was the third Tap to open \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) In a building that used to be The Keg \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) In a building that used to be a Ground Round \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) Kitchen is open late night \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) Hosted Paris Hilton's album release party \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) In eyeshot of a Walmart \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) Has a loch \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) Has a drive-thru window \_\_\_\_\_
- 17) Has apartments above it \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) Is not within 1,000 yards of a highway off-ramp \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) Is the newest \_\_\_\_\_
- 20) Has two bars \_\_\_\_\_
- 21) Has a champagne fountain in the lobby \_\_\_\_\_
- 22) Has the smallest bathroom \_\_\_\_\_
- 23) Has the largest bathroom \_\_\_\_\_
- 24) Is the original \_\_\_\_\_
- 25) Has valet parking \_\_\_\_\_
- 26) Has murals of itself on the walls \_\_\_\_\_



### ANSWER KEY

EXCUSES: 1E, 2D, 3L, 4L, 5B, 6A, 7K, 8G, 9L, 10E, 11C, 12H, 13R, 14R, 15F, 16N, 17H, 18F, 19R, 20H, 21N, 22F, 23S, 24H, 25F, 26H

Read past issues online at [www.woodntap.com](http://www.woodntap.com)

## The Tap Tattler

VOLUME 1, NO. 9  
9/06

**Publisher**  
Wood-n-Tap Bar & Grill  
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## TAP LIBS!

Pick one person at your table to be the TapMaster. He/she then picks a story, and without reading it yet, asks the table to provide the missing words, writing them in the corresponding blanks. When all the blanks have been filled in, read the title and the story aloud and watch hilarity ensue!

**Warning:** Yes, it's true that Tap Libs can be a lot funnier when you use dirty words. But this is a family place, so try to keep it PG. Or at least PG-13. Here's a safer way to add some spice to your Tap Libs. Use real names, places and objects associated with the people at your table.

### Tap Libs #1 – "Table Manners"

(Try reading the completed story with a sophisticated British accent, like Madonna.)

Going to a restaurant can really be \_\_\_\_\_, as long as you mind your  
adjective  
manners. When you walk in, always \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ for your guest.  
verb part of a building  
And before you \_\_\_\_\_, pull out the \_\_\_\_\_ for them. Once sitting, take  
verb piece of furniture  
the \_\_\_\_\_ off the table and place it \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_. Then,  
noun preposition part of the body  
wait for the \_\_\_\_\_ to bring a \_\_\_\_\_ so you can \_\_\_\_\_ your  
occupation something you read verb  
\_\_\_\_\_. Remember, don't \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ in your  
noun verb something you eat  
\_\_\_\_\_. Never slurp your \_\_\_\_\_. Always be \_\_\_\_\_ to your  
part of the body noun adjective  
\_\_\_\_\_. And never, ever \_\_\_\_\_ at the table!  
occupation verb

### Tap Libs #2 – "Shatner"

(Try reading the completed story like Captain Kirk for extra yucks!)

Captain's log: Stardate \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ crew of the \_\_\_\_\_  
year in the future adjective vehicle  
\_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ around a \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ galaxy,  
famous name verb ending in "ing" celestial body noun  
searching for \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. We hope we don't encounter any  
noun plural verb  
\_\_\_\_\_ or we'll have to \_\_\_\_\_ them with our  
adjective nouns plural verb  
\_\_\_\_\_ guns. I am sending a/an \_\_\_\_\_ team to the \_\_\_\_\_ to  
adjective preposition noun  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and report back to me with their \_\_\_\_\_.  
verb verb noun plural  
We must not \_\_\_\_\_. The fate of planet \_\_\_\_\_ is at stake.  
verb person at the table