



Borough of Old Tappan

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NEWSLETTER



STAY INSTANTLY INFORMED! Nixle keeps you up-to-date with relevant information from your local public safety departments & schools. Sign up now at www.nixle.com. Register now—it's free & easy!!

Last Year's Events Round-up...

On Sunday, October 7, 2018, the Old Tappan Fire Department was proud to host the 64th Annual Northern Valley Fire Chiefs Parade. Hundreds of residents lined the streets of Old Tappan. The event featured volunteer firefighters from 20 departments throughout the region, showing off fire apparatus, rescue equipment, and floats highlighting fire prevention themes.



Old Tappan Superhero 5K...

The Old Tappan EMS held their second Superhero 5K and Kiddie Dash on Sunday, October 14, 2018. The course was tough but the weather was perfect, and Captain America made a guest appearance to congratulate all the Kiddie Dashers. Thank you to everyone who participated to support the Old Tappan Volunteer First Aid Corps, the Old Tappan Volunteer Fire Co and the Police Officer's Association.



2018 Tree Lighting...

Old Tappan held their annual tree lighting on Monday, Dec 5, in front of the Borough Hall. Mayor Kramer opened the evening, Pastor Kirsten Shepler-Ross said the blessing and the Girl Scouts were there caroling until Santa arrived on the fire truck.



Winder Wonderland...

Bergen County held their 3rd Annual Winter Wonderland at Van Saun Park. Thank you to our OT Girl Scouts for decorating Old Tappan's tree.

OLD TAPPAN GOLF COURSE



COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

June 8, 2019 at 2:00pm (rain date June 9)

Opening Ceremony - Mayor John Kramer

FREE GOLF

for residents & kids 11 and older
(golf carts available @ regular rates)

FREE refreshments & snacks



Issue 1
2019



A Message from Mayor John M. Kramer

So here it is a late Sunday afternoon in early March and we are awaiting the arrival of a threatened major snowstorm. The saving grace is that spring is just around the corner.

As usual throughout part of January and all of February, you would have found the entire governing body, assisted by our administrative staff, meeting weekly for the sole purpose of creating the town's 2019 municipal budget. We meet with each and every department head and review their needs for the present year. While all has not been finalized it appears that there will be a modest increase in taxes.

The Planning Board's agenda seems to be filling up. You may have read in the newspaper that they are in the early stages of reviewing an application for a planned 73 bed nursing home facility located on Central Avenue opposite our Oakes Park. That property is occupied by an office building. Also under early review are plans submitted for a 26 unit townhouse development opposite the high school on Central Avenue. Three single family homes presently occupy the site. As I reported in our last newsletter, the Pearson Education property located east of the Bi-State Plaza has been sold, however, at this time no application for development has been submitted. 2019 marks the 125th anniversary of the incorporation of our Borough and on October 19th our Time Capsule is due to be opened. We are in the early stages of planning some special festivities to celebrate these occasions. More information will follow. Of interest to the dog lovers out there, my wife and I drove out to Vernon to see a litter of golden retriever puppies, one of which will soon be taking up residence here in Old Tappan.

Please make sure to check out our web-site www.OldTappan.net for up-to-date information on all happenings in town.

I offer my best wishes to all,

John M. Kramer

2019 Old Tappan Reorganization...



Mayor John M. Kramer administering the Oath of Office to Councilman Guy Carnazza and Councilwoman Anna Haverilla



Congratulations to the Old Tappan Golf Commission Past & Present 2018 Volunteer of the Year



Picture left: Mayor John M. Kramer, swearing in Fire Chief Chris Reilly, Deputy Fire Chief Evan Kutzin and Captain Brian Morgan, and Lieutenants Alex Naylis, Jin Yhu, Tommy Shine, and Stephen Cooke



Mayor John M. Kramer swearing in First Aid Corps Captain Mark Geerinck and Lieutenants Rich Apramian and Victoria Walker



"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

- Winston Churchill

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED... If you would like to volunteer for any program, whether Fire, Ambulance, Recreation or any other Board or Commission email us at oldtappan@oldtappan.net or call 201-664-5322

save the date

Pizza Bingo: 2nd Mon of each month at the OT Senior Center. 11:30am-12:30pm

Blood Pressure Clinic: 3rd Thurs of each month at Firehouse - Noon-2pm

Zumba: Mon & Wed, 9:30am, OT Firehouse

Seniorcise Tues, 1pm, OT Firehouse

Chair Yoga: Fri, noon, OT Firehouse

Easter Egg Hunt: Sat, April 13 at Oakes Park

Lunch & Learn: Thurs, Apr 25 at the firehouse

NV Earth Fair: Sat, Apr 27, 11am-4pm, Tenafly Middle School, 10 Sunset Lane, Tenafly at the firehouse

Memorial Day Parade: Mon, May 27

Town Wide Garage Sale: June 7, 8, & 9

Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs: Sat, June 8, Bonnabel Park

Lunch & Learn: Thurs, June 13 at the firehouse

Free Concerts at Oakes Park: Wed evenings at 7pm —July & August

Town Day: Saturday, Sept 7 Stone Point Park

Lunch & Learn: Thurs, October 10 at the firehouse

Halloween Festival/Ragamuffin Parade: Sat, Oct 26

Tree Lighting: Mon, Dec 2, front of OT Borough Hall

Senior Holiday Lunch: Thurs, December 12 at the firehouse

Chief Thomas M. Shine was installed as the 2019 President of the Bergen County Police Chiefs Association at the annual Installation Dinner Gala of the Bergen County Police Chiefs Association held February 2nd at the Venetian. Pictured here is former Chief of Police and Past BCPCA President and current Mayor of Old Tappan John Kramer administering the Oath of Office to Chief Shine as he is officially installed into his positions. At the ceremony were various Chiefs of Police and other law enforcement officials and government dignitaries including NJ Attorney General Gurbir Grewal, Bergen County Prosecutor Dennis Calo, NJ State Chiefs of Police Association President Chief Richard Buzby, Bergen County Sheriff Anthony Cureton and Bergen County Freeholders. **CONGRATULATIONS Chief Shine!!**





IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE 2019 ELECTION FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BOROUGH CLERK

PRIMARY ELECTION: Tuesday, June 4th 6am - 8pm

Last day to register to vote in the Primary Election is Tue., May 14th. The Municipal Clerk's office will remain open on Tue., May 14th until 9pm

GENERAL ELECTION: Tuesday, Nov. 5th 6 am - 8 pm

Last day to register to vote in the General Election is Tue., October 15th. Municipal Clerk's office will remain open on Tue., Oct. 15th until 9 pm. The Bergen County Board of Elections issues voter Registration Cards.

Absentee ballot applications can be picked up at the Borough Clerk's Office. The **County Clerk** must receive applications by mail no later than 7 days prior to Election Day. **After the 7 day deadline all applications must be hand delivered to the County Clerk no later than 3pm the day before the election.**

DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES: Your Sample Ballot indicates your District and Polling Place in the left hand corner. Contact the Municipal Clerks office at 201-664-1849 ext. 14 if you have any questions.

DISTRICTS 1, 2, & 3 POLLING PLACE: Charles DeWolf School Gym, 275 Old Tappan Rd

THE 2019 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE will be held on **Monday, May, 27th**. The Parade will step off from the back of Northern Valley OT High School promptly at 9:30 am. The parade ends in Oakes Park on Central Avenue. The Memorial Ceremony includes parading the colors, the National Anthem, the Invocation, address by the Mayor, placing wreaths at the Memorial, the rifle salute and taps. In the event of inclement weather, the Fire Department siren will be sounded at 8:15 a.m. advising that the Parade is canceled. In that event, the Memorial Day Ceremony will be held in the Charles DeWolf School Gym at 9:30 a.m. We ask you to remind members of your organization, children and adults alike, that Memorial Day is a solemn occasion, dedicated to the memory of our countrymen who have given their lives so that we may enjoy our freedom. Let us treat their memory with dignity and respect, along the Parade route as well as during Memorial Services.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We need you! The OTFAC has a dire need for new members, both EMTs and drivers. No matter your age, experience, or schedule, we have a position for you in our Corps! We hope you will join our team. No prior experience is necessary. Training is completely free, local, and flexible. Please email info@oldtappanems.org for more information and an application

DONATE: Your contributions are tax-deductible. We are a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. We never bill for our services, and depend on your generous donations to remain 100%-volunteer. Our members are not paid and donate thousands of hours of their time each year. You can donate to the Corps online at www.otfac.org. Every little bit helps.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS: We are very proud of two of our active members who are off serving our country. Crew Chief Michele Szegda is having a busy semester at West Point; she is the Battalion Academic Officer for the School and manages the Company tutors and works with the Academic Improvement Program. She is first in her class, is fully trained as a combat medic, and on top of all of these activities and a full course load, she also serves as a medic whenever there is a need for one. Michele's goal is to become a trauma surgeon with the United States Army. Crew Chief Michael Bergman, who served as Lieutenant of the Corps in 2017 and 2018, just finished mobilization training with his unit here in the United States. He is now beginning a term where he will be serving in the Middle East with his unit in the NJ Army National Guard. Mike is bringing with him a US Flag from the Corps that we will proudly fly back here at our headquarters upon his return. We wish Mike and Michele the best and thank them for their service.

Congratulations to our newest National Registry EMT, Chelsea Journett. We would also like to congratulate members Natalie Buzzetti, Ron Fishman, Morgan O'Rourke, and Gaby Betancourt for graduating from EMT School; they will be taking the National Registry EMT test shortly. Way to go Chelsea, Natalie, Ron, Morgan, and Gaby!

CPR CLASSES FOR OLD TAPPAN RESIDENTS: If you aren't sure if becoming an EMS provider is right for you, we encourage you to come take one of our first aid and CPR training sessions. Quarterly CPR classes are being given at the Old Tappan Library. Please contact Captain Mark Geerinck directly at Captain@oldtappanems.org to request a class.



Property Taxes: Due date 5/1/19. There is a 10 day grace period until 5/10/19.

Do we have your correct mailing address: Many tax bills as well as other important notices from the Tax Collector are returned by the Post Office as undeliverable. Please help us to keep our records up to date. Requests to change mailing address must be submitted in writing. Please look for the form on www.oldtappan.net.

Online bill pay from your bank: Please be aware payments that you initiate with your own bank through online bill pay should be scheduled in advance of any due date to allow a sufficient number of mailing days for the Borough to receive, process and apply the payment to your account. Payments from online bill pay are sent through the mail. We do not accept electronic payment for taxes. All payments must be received by 4PM on the 10th day of the grace period. The Borough is not responsible for late payments due to delays in mail service or bank processing. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR BLOCK AND LOT, LAST NAME AND/OR PROPERTY ADDRESS in order for us to apply the payment to the correct account.

Pay with Direct Withdrawal: An alternative to online bill pay is the Direct Withdrawal ACH bank draft program we have in place for both taxes and sewer flow fees. Please check our website for application forms and details or come in person to get an application.

Borough mailbox: In front of the Borough hall for your convenience there is a mailbox to drop payments in when Borough hall is closed. All payments will be posted the following day. Do not use mailbox for regular mail.

MEMORIAL DAY ROUTE



THE FILE OF LIFE PROGRAM IS COMING TO OLD TAPPAN

My name is Emily Klein from OT Girl Scout Troop 679 and I am working towards obtaining my Girl Scout Gold Award. My project is helping our emergency services and our seniors by offering the File of Life program. This is a personal medical file that ensures the health and safety for senior residents of Old Tappan during an emergency. Benefits to Participants

- Peace of mind knowing you will have prompt and quality care.
- Assurance that proper persons will be notified in case of emergency
- Benefits to First Responders
- Easy access to potentially life-saving information
- Instant knowledge of medical history of the participants

The File of Life Program has two important materials:

1. A Magnetic Emergency Information Card which is placed on or in the refrigerator once all of the necessary information is completed
2. A File For Life decal to be placed on all participants front doors which will enable the first responders to easily identify a participant of the program.

Forms can be found on www.oldtappan.net or can be picked up at the OT Borough Hall

Please contact Emily Klein, 551-777-0678, for more information.

TIRE RECYCLING, COMPUTERS AND DOCUMENT SHREDDING PROGRAM

Bergen Community College
400 Paramus Road, Paramus
ENTRY VIA PARAMUS RD ONLY
Sunday, April 7, 2019
Saturday, August 17, 2019

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday, June 8, 2019
Sunday, October 6, 2019

Collection Hours: 9am-2pm (rain or shine)

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENTS

To determine accepted materials go to BCUA.org. Look under Solid Waste recycling and than Household Hazardous Waste for a list of items.

Bergen Community College
400 Paramus Road, Paramus
ENTRY VIA PARAMUS RD ONLY
Sunday, April 14, 2019
Sunday, June 23, 2019
Sunday, October 20, 2019

Bergen County Utilities Authority
Foot of Empire Boulevard, Moonachie
Saturday, March 9, 2019
Saturday, November 16, 2019

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday, May 11, 2019
Saturday, July 20, 2019
Saturday, September 14, 2019

For more information click on to the BCUA web site at <http://www.bcu.org>

The Old Tappan DPW yard will accept and recycle unwanted electronics which contain significant amount of toxic and precious metals. Look for the storage box in the rear of the yard.



OLD TAPPAN GIRL SCOUT TROOP 95535 PROVIDES NUTRITION TO NEIGHBORS

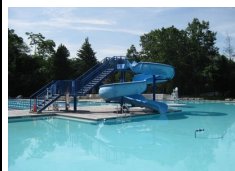
On Thursday, Jan 17, members of OT Girl Scout Troop 95535 gathered to prepare nutritious meals which were soon delivered hot to local aging OT residents or those experiencing unexpected hardship. With the help of a generous donation of delicious meatballs from Piccolo's Gastronomia Italiana in Ridgewood, the girls made tossed salads, rolls, ziti marinara and brownies for dessert. Giving back or paying forward is such a rewarding activity that makes a real difference in the lives of those in need! The meal recipients received a warm meal and many smiles and they reciprocated with gratitude and many warm hugs to the Scouts! Nutrition to Neighbors (Old Tappan Meals on Wheels) was established in 2009 by an Old Tappan Girl Scout to earn her Gold Award and has been thriving ever since.

OLD TAPPAN GETS PLATINUM!

Congratulations to the Borough of Old Tappan on being presented with the "Platinum Certificate of Achievement – 2018 Safety Incentive Program" at the Annual Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund Safety Incentive Awards Ceremony. The Borough was presented with the JIF's highest award: **PLATINUM CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT 2018 SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM AND \$2,500 GRANT.**

The Borough is a member in the consortium of municipalities who have participated in a regionalized program called the Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund to provide a program of cost effective insurance for its member municipalities. The Platinum Safety Award was presented to Old Tappan for its overall safety record, for achieving a low lost time frequency rate and one-hundred percent (100%) completion of JIF's 2018 Safety Incentive Program. Safety is a team effort in Old Tappan and the key ingredient is the participation of all Borough employees.

Pictured left to right; Recycling Coordinator Louis Curcio, DPW Superintendent Andy Brackenbury, Borough Administrator Pat O'Brien, Councilman Guy Carnazza, Mayor John M. Kramer, Golf Course Superintendent Paul Parascondolo, Councilwoman Anna Haverilla and Chief Financial Officer Becky Overgaard.



LOOKING TO JOIN A POOL CLUB THIS SUMMER...

Old Tappan and Woodcliff Lake have continued their recreation shared service again this year. As residents of Old Tappan you can join the Woodcliff Lake Pool, Tennis Program and Summer Camp at Resident Rates. Meanwhile residents of Woodcliff Lake will be permitted to join the Old Tappan Golf Course at the resident rates as well.

Residents can register directly through community pass or go to the Woodcliff Lake Borough Hall, 188 Pascack Road, Woodcliff Lake, to join. Complete details for both programs can be found on the OT website, www.oldtappan.net.

There are a few misconceptions out there about picking up dog poop, and they need to be addressed. Picking up after your dog is an important task that is part of responsible pet ownership. The following are 4 reasons why it is important to clean up after your pet.

Common Courtesy – What's that smell? There are many things that can ruin your day, but stepping in a steaming pile is definitely high on the list. When you take your pet off of your property, you are entering public shared space. It is the duty of pet owners to ensure that they pick up after their pets.

Your dog's waste is your mess, and you need to pick it up yourself.

It's Just Poop, It's Natural Like Cows, It's Fertilizer A common misconception is that poop is natural fertilizer. However, this is not true –not all piles of poop are created equal. Cow manure has a very different make up because their digestive systems, and diets are very different. Cows are herbivores, where as a dog's are omnivores, and their diets are very high in protein. Dog waste is actually so high in nitrogen and phosphorus that it can have the opposite effect of fertilizer. It can actually burn your lawn if you don't pick it up. It also causes all sorts of issues for local watersheds.

Disease Causing Bacteria and Parasites – Harmful For Humans And Dogs Nitrogen and phosphorus isn't the only thing that dog poop has a lot of. Dog waste is even more full of disease causing bacteria and parasites than other types of waste. These bacteria and parasites are harmful to humans and spread disease to other dogs. Dog waste is full of E. coli, salmonella and is a common carrier of the following: Worms (several types), Parvovirus, Coronavirus, Giardiasis, Salmonellosis, Cryptosporidiosis, and Campylobacteriosis. These bacteria and parasites can actually linger in the soil for years. If you don't pick up after your dog, you are putting other people and other dogs at risk of getting sick.

It Will Just Wash Away and Be Gone Soon! Another common misconception is that if you don't pick it up, it will quickly break down or wash away – however this is not the case with dog poop. In fact, dog waste can take as long as a year to naturally break down. Especially since we live in a climate with a colder winter season. The other down side is that the bacteria still lingers in the soil. So even if you leave the poop on the ground and it does eventually break down, all of those bacteria and parasites will be left to linger there for several more years.

