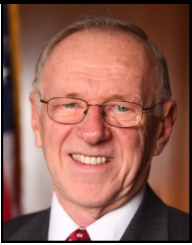




# Town Spotlight

Issue 2

2019



*A message from Mayor John M. Kramer...*

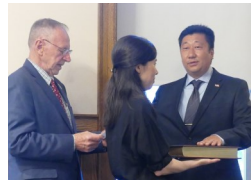
As is the case with seasons, all things change including employees and appointed officials of the borough. Our long time and popular Borough Administrator, Patrick O'Brien, retired after serving our town for over 11 years. A fond farewell party was held at the Old Tappan Manor in Pat's honor where many residents, colleagues, and friends attended to wish Pat well. Subsequently a search was held for



Pat's replacement and among the applicants interviewed was Councilwoman Anna Haverilla. After many candidates were interviewed and vetted, Anna was selected for the position. She resigned her elected position, which she honorably served in for 14 years and accepted the appointment to serve as Borough Administrator. This has proven to be a rather seamless transition.



With the vacancy left by Councilwoman Anna Haverilla, Jin Yhu was selected by the Mayor and Council to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year. Jin, a 16 year resident, was recognized for his efforts in the OT Volunteer Fire Department, his coaching, for his business experience, and his sincere interest in our community.



Also of note is the retirement of OT Police Department Secretary Donna Geitz, a 24 year veteran. Thankfully Donna will continue to serve in her capacity as our Social Services Director. Chuck Batch, our Construction official, Building Inspector, and Fire Marshall for the last 11 years has also retired. And finally, Susan Owens, our Payroll Clerk, retired for what better reason, than to care for her grandchildren.

On behalf of the council and all the residents of Old Tappan, I congratulate and thank all of our retirees that have served us so faithfully and efficiently through the years. We wish all a long, healthy, and happy retirement.

October 19th is coming up quick and I am pleased to announce the historic celebration of our town's 125th Anniversary which will take place at Stone Point Park. The celebration will feature nostalgic entertainment, rides, games, history and food trucks!

I extend my best wishes to all residents and hope to see you at our 125th Anniversary Celebration.

*John M. Kramer*



Chief Reilly and the members of the OT Volunteer Fire Department hope all residents had an enjoyable summer and wish to convey some Fire Prevention Tips and our planned activities for the rest of 2019 and into early 2020.

- We would like emphasize how important it is to keep barbecue grills well away from any buildings and any combustible materials.

- Another important tip is Mulch Fire Prevention. Believe it or not small mulch fires have led to fully involved structure fires. If you have mulch on your property, Google Mulch Fire Prevention for ways to prevent any such disaster.

- As summer turns into autumn we recommend you get your heating system checked by a qualified service technician before the onset of cold weather. The same applies to any fireplaces or woodburning stoves you use to heat your home.

- We'll be returning to Daylight Savings Time on Sunday, November 3, 2019 when you set your clocks back remember to change the batteries in any battery powered smoke alarms too.

- Finally, when winter and its inevitable snowstorms arrive we ask that all residents shovel out the fire hydrant closest to their home. If we need to respond to a fire alarm, our efforts to protect life and property will be significantly delayed if we first need to find a snow-covered fire hydrant and then clear the snow away in order to use it.

The Department looks forward to interacting with the Borough's residents during Fire Prevention week, Oct. 6 through Oct. 12, as we visit TBD School and at our Open House on Tuesday evening of that week.

Finally, please remember your Fire Department is a Volunteer Fire Department; our members work full time jobs for their livelihoods, and perform their firefighting duties and training after work on their own time.

It takes about 2 weeks for the flu shot to begin working in your body so the sooner you get it, the faster you can be protected:

**FLU SHOT CLINIC**  
• **Thursday, September 19, from 11:30am—12:30pm at the Senior Center, 247 Old Tappan Road.** Sponsored by Northwest Regional Health Commission. Please note the only insurance accepted is Medicare Part B, cost is \$25 (regular vaccine) or \$35 (high-dose vaccine). Children 3-17 can be vaccinated only if a parent or guardian is present.

• **Thursday, October 3, from 4:30-6:30pm at the Borough Hall, 231 Old Tappan Road.** Sponsored by the Northvale Shoprite. Accepted insurances: Medicare Part B, Aetna, Cigna, and Horizon BCBS. Without insurance, 64 and under is \$25 and 65 and over is \$50 for higher dose.

*save the date*

**Pizza Bingo:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon of each month at the Senior Ctr. Located at 247 Old Tappan Rd. Doors open at 11:30am

**Blood Pressure Clinic:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. of each month at the Senior Center Noon–1pm

**Zumba Gold:** 9:30am each Mon. & Wed. upstairs at the Firehouse. Sat, 9:15am at the OT Library

**Seniortise:** 1pm each Tue. upstairs at the Firehouse.

**Line Dancing:** 11:00am each Wed. upstairs at the Firehouse (**First class September 4th**)

**Chair Yoga:** 11:30am each Fri. upstairs at the Firehouse

**Flu Shots:** Thurs., 9/19, 11:30am-12:30pm at Senior Ctr

**Flu Shots:** Thurs., 10/3, 4:30-6:30pm at Borough Hall

**Paper Shredding:** Oct 5, 9am-1pm at the DPW yard

**Fire Prevention Week:** October 6-12

**OTFD & OTFAC Open House:** Tuesday, 10/8

**Branch Chipping:** Last scheduled branch chipping - Oct 1st on the west side and Oct 8th on the east side.

**Senior Lunch & Learn:** Thurs, 10/10, at the OT Firehouse at noon.

**Leaf Pick-up:** Oct 15 thru Dec 2

**Superhero 5K:** Saturday, 10/19—more info page 4

**125th Anniversary Celebration:** Stone Point Park on Sat, 10/19, 12-4pm Rain date-Sun, 10/20

**Fireworks:** OT Golf Course on Sat, 10/19 at 8pm Rain date- Sun, 10/20 at 8pm

**Halloween Ragamuffin Parade:** Sat., 10/26, Oakes Park

**Breakfast w/Santa:** Sat. 12/7, 9:30-11am at OT Fire House sponsored by OT Woman's Club

**Holiday Tree Lighting:** Mon., 12/2 at OT Borough Hall

**Senior Holiday Party:** Thursday, 12/12, at the OT Firehouse at noon

**Menorah Lighting:** Sun., 12/22, 6pm at Oakes Park

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
WWW.OLDTAPPAN.NET**



## GENERAL ELECTION: Tuesday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 6 am - 8 pm

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

Absentee ballot applications are available at the Borough Hall. Applications must be received by the **County Clerk** 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:** Watch for your Sample Ballot, which 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.

**POLLING PLACE FOR DISTRICTS 1, 2, & 3:** Charles DeWolf Middle School Gym, 275 Old Tappan Road



### Sewer User fee:

Due date 9/1/19 There is a 10 day grace period until 9/10/19.

**Property Taxes: The FINAL 2019/2020 preliminary tax bill will be mailed at the end of September.**

Due date 11/1/19 There is a 10 day grace period until 11/12/19. For those property owners who qualified for the Homestead Benefit for 2016 an additional credit will be applied to your November 1, 2019 tax bill.

**Annual Special Assessment Benefit bill:** Annual Special Benefit Assessment bills due in October will be mailed in September.

**STATE PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS:** <https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/relief.shtml>

**HOMESTEAD BENEFIT:** Eligible homeowners if you received a benefit earlier this year, you will receive an additional credit or check on or about November 1, 2019, due to the State budget recently signed by Governor Phil Murphy.

You do not need to reapply or take any action to receive this additional benefit. Re-visit the State website in the fall for more information or to check the status of your benefit.

**SENIOR FREEZE:** This program reimburses eligible senior citizens and disabled persons for property tax or mobile home park site fee increases on their principal residence. To qualify, you must meet all the eligibility requirements for each year from the base year through the application year. (The current year is 2018.) Deadline for filing is October 31, 2019. Applicants whose 2018 income did not exceed \$89,013 are eligible to receive reimbursement payment, provided they meet all the other requirements.

**All property tax relief program information provided here is based on current law and is subject to change.**

**LOCAL PROPERTY TAX BENEFITS:** [www.oldtappan.net](http://www.oldtappan.net) on the left side go to forms, Finance/Tax Collection.

**Annual Property Tax Deduction for Senior Citizens, Disabled Persons:** Annual deduction of up to \$250 from property taxes for homeowners 65 or older or disabled who meet certain income and residency requirements. This benefit is administered by the local municipality.

**Annual Deduction for Veterans:** Annual deduction of up to \$250 from property taxes due for qualified war veterans or veterans who served in peacekeeping missions and operations. This deduction also is available to a surviving spouse/civil union/domestic partner who has not remarried. This benefit is administered by the local municipality.

**Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans:** Full exemption from property taxes on a principal residence for certain totally and permanently disabled war veterans and veterans who served in peacekeeping missions and operations. This exemption also is available to a surviving spouse/civil union/domestic partner who has not remarried. This benefit is administered by the local municipality.

**POST-DATED CHECKS:** According to NJ Statute, our office is required to deposit payments as soon as they are received and we cannot accept "post-dated" checks. Therefore, please date your check the day you write it out, just as you would if you were paying in person.

**DIRECT WITHDRAWAL PAYMENTS:** If you are planning to sign-up, discontinue or make changes on your direct withdrawal, you must contact our office at least two weeks before the effective date of scheduled withdrawal.

### Finance Department News...

**Congratulations** to Susan Owens upon her retirement on July 31, 2019 after 11 years working for the Borough of Old Tappan in the Finance/Tax department.

**Welcome** to Laura Bonanno who joined the Borough of Old Tappan on July 1, 2019 in the Finance/Tax department.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS NEWS...

**BRANCH CHIPPING:** Ends the last week of Sept. You must call 201-664-4438 to insure pickup.

**LEAF PICKUP:** Leaves may not be placed in the street before Oct. 8. This is due to local, state and federal stormwater regulations. The DPW will begin picking up leaves in the street on Oct. 15 and continue until the last pickup starting Dec. 2. **Please do not mix any debris such as branches, brush and rocks in the leaf piles.** Rake the leaf piles as close to the curb as possible to insure safe passage of pedestrian and vehicle traffic. Do not place leaves within 10 feet of catch basins or block fire hydrants. If you have a landscape contractor, please inform them of the above-mentioned items, thank you. Residents that have basketball backboards in the street are asked to remove them or turn them around. The borough will not be responsible for any damages that might occur.

**CHRISTMAS TREES:** As in the past Christmas trees will be recycled during Jan. We will pick up the west side of town (Central to River Vale) on Jan. 1 & 15 and the east side (Central to the state line including Central) Jan. 8 & 22. Branches will also be picked up at this time if time and weather allows.

**RECYCLING:** The recycling center is opened Mon. through Fri., 7am until 3pm, and from 9am until 1pm on Saturdays (except holidays). Please bring only those items designated for recycling and place them in the appropriate designated container. Do not place plastic bags in with your items. Please use the curbside pickup whenever possible to prevent an overflow situation at the DPW yard. Effective 2011 consumer electronics may not be disposed of in the trash. **We do not accept garbage, construction debris, paint or chemicals, fluorescent bulbs etc.** Violators will be prosecuted. If you have any questions as to what is acceptable or where you may dispose of items, please refer to your recycling bulletin or call 201- 664-4438.

**PAPER SHREDDING:** At the DPW yard on Oct. 5 from 9am to 1pm. Please bring your papers in manageable sized containers.

**SEWER:** Please dispose of grease properly by putting it out with your garbage. Pouring grease down your drain clogs your pipes and the sewer pipes in the streets. Also, please discard swiffer type fibrous cleaning products with your garbage and not to flush them. Remember it is a violation to dump cooking grease and oils down the drain as well as the connection of sump pumps and roof gutters to the sanitary sewer system.



## Tire Recycling, Computers And Document Shredding Program

Homeowners wishing to dispose of tires, computer and Confidential Document Shredding are invited to bring these materials to the following locations:

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

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

## Household Hazardous Waste Events

Household hazardous waste will be accepted at the locations listed below. To determine accepted materials 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, October 20, 2019

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

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation  
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah  
Saturday, September 14, 2019

Collection Hours 9am-3pm (rain or shine)

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.

 Please be advised that Piazza & Associates is now the AFFORDABLE HOUSING Affordable Housing Administrators for the Borough of Old Tappan. Since 1994 Piazza & Associates, Inc. has been in the forefront in the administration, monitoring and compliance of affordable housing in NJ. Please feel free to contact them with any questions by calling 609-786-1100 or email [OldTappan@HousingQuest.com](mailto:OldTappan@HousingQuest.com). Or visit the Affordable Housing page on the Old Tappan website for more information and to apply.

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION NEWS...

**Disposal of Unused Medication:** The disposal of unused medications and pharmaceuticals in the toilet or in the garbage is environmentally harmful. You can safely dispose of them at any Drop-Box location ([www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/meddrop/Pages/Locations.aspx](http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/meddrop/Pages/Locations.aspx)). River Vale Police Station, located at 334 Rivervale Road, River Vale, has a Drop-Box and is open 24/7. No questions asked.

**Arbor Day at TBD:** Members of the OTEC and Green Team made a presentation on the importance of trees to our environment and to our economy. Students were all given tree saplings to plant at home. Thanks to Wendy King and Melanie Rie for organizing and implementing this annual event.

**Anti-Idling:** A reminder to all residents, anti-idling rules are in effect in Old Tappan. Anti-Idling zones have been established around the schools and the business district. Vehicles that are turned off do not use fuel or emit the air pollutants and greenhouse gases emitted when idling. So that we may all breathe a little easier, please observe this common sense measure.

**Gas Power Equipment:** Remind your landscapers: according to Borough Ordinance, the use of commercial gas powered landscaping equipment is allowed between 8am and 6pm weekdays and 9am to 5pm on Saturdays. No commercial power equipment is allowed to operate on Sundays.

**7th Annual Bi-State Watershed Clean-Up:** On April 27th the OTEC and OT Girl Scout Troop 95535 participated in the 7th Annual Bi-State Watershed Clean-up. Volunteers scoured the Hackensack River woods and riverbanks collected over 500 pounds of litter and debris. With the assistance of the DPW, the majority of material was taken for recycling. Many thanks for the support of the Troop 95535, the DPW and local volunteers for keeping our waterways clean and making the day a great success.

**Hooked On Fishing:** With the support of the OT Municipal Alliance and the NJDEP, the OTEC hosted the 'Hooked on Fishing-Not on Drugs' fishing derby on June 8th at Bonnabel Nature Park. School children from 1<sup>st</sup> grade to 8<sup>th</sup> participated in the tournament and prizes were awarded for the first fish, the biggest fish, the most fish-- and the wildest fish story.

The Borough of Old Tappan is Smoke Free. Smoking is Prohibited in all Borough Buildings and on all Borough Properties



## THE OLD TAPPAN POLICE DEPARTMENT...

The Old Tappan Police Department would like to welcome our residents back from summer vacation and wish our students all the best as they begin a new school year.

We are happy to announce the promotions of Joseph Tracy to Captain and Brett Terjanian to Lieutenant. Captain Tracy was first appointed to the OTPD in 1988 and has been a dedicated hardworking Officer with an excellent work ethic. Joe would go out of his way to help anyone. He was honored to be chosen to take on his new role as second in command of the OTPD and is looking forward to accepting his new administrative responsibilities with the same pride and enthusiasm. ***Congratulations and all the best to Captain Tracy in all his future endeavors.*** Lieutenant Terjanian was appointed to the OTPD in 1995. He has been very successful working within the OTPD traffic division and has been instrumental as a field training officer, training and educating our new officers when they begin their careers. Lt. Terjanian has a new role in an administrative position within the OTPD and is looking forward to his new responsibilities. ***Congratulations and all the best to Lieutenant Terjanian moving forward.***



We welcome Anthony DiPasquale who was appointed to the position of Special Law Enforcement Officer III at the August 2019 Mayor & Council meeting. He is the first SLEO III to serve with the OTPD. He is a retired Detective from the Elmwood Park PD and he will be assigned to the NVRHS OT Campus to provide security for students and staff, at the beginning of the school year. We also welcomed our new Records Administrator, Karen Turner. Karen took over the administrative position Donna Geitz held for 24 years. ***Welcome Karen!!***



Rockland Electric is committed to ensuring that your electric lines are properly maintained. Interference from tree limbs is the single most frequent cause of power outages, therefore periodic tree maintenance along overhead distribution wires is critical in reducing potential power outages. To reduce this danger and inconvenience, our Distribution Line Clearance Program calls for cutting back trees that are touching lines or have the potential to interfere with the wires. At the same time, removing dead trees and underbrush. On or about Aug. 26 and continuing for approximately 3 weeks, Trees, Inc., under O&R supervision, has been contracted for this project. Tree trimming and removal work will be done along: Orangeburgh Rd, Central Ave, Irving St, Washington Ave N, Charles Pl, Lachmund Crt, Greenwoods Rd and associated side streets. Work crews will make every effort to be in and out of the area as quickly as possible.



## HAPPY 50TH OLD TAPPAN GOLF COURSE!!

The Old Tappan Golf Course celebrated its 50th Anniversary on Saturday, June 8, 2019. Mayor Kramer along with original OT Golf Course members Virginia (Ginny) Row and Dr.



Ronald Fortgang were on hand for the ribbon cutting. The Course was constructed in 1969 under designed by Hal C. Purdy. It is a nine hole private course that has evolved into a beautifully conditioned course that welcomes not only resident members but also draws golfers from many towns both in New Jersey and New York.



## Borough of Old Tappan

227 Old Tappan Road  
Old Tappan, NJ 07675

PSRT STD  
ECRWSS  
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PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

# POSTAL CUSTOMER OLD TAPPAN, NJ 07675

## NEWSLETTER



The Borough of Old Tappan and The Old Tappan Police Department invite you to join NIXLE. Stay instantly informed and get trusted, neighborhood-level public safety and community information available. You choose the information you want, for the addresses you want, all delivered for free by text message, email and or on the web. Sign up now at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com). Register now—it's free and easy!!



Register now for the 3rd Annual Old Tappan Emergency Services "SUPERHERO 5K". The race will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2019 at 9:00am at Stone Point Park. To register for the race, go to <https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/OldTappan/Superhero5kOldTappan> today. Also held that day will be the "Kid's Dash", a free and fun event for all children under 10. All proceeds from the race will support the work of the Old Tappan Emergency Services. For sponsorship opportunities or more info about the race, please contact [oldtappan5k@gmail.com](mailto:oldtappan5k@gmail.com).

### RECREATION INFORMATION

SPORT	REG. DATES	SEASON RUNS
Outdoor Soccer	May - June	Sept. - Nov.
Flag Football	May - June	Sept. - mid Nov.
Winter Rec. Basketball	Aug. - Sept.	Early Dec. - end of Mar.
Winter Travel Basketball	End of Oct.	Early Jan. through end of Mar.
Indoor Soccer	Oct 1--Oct 31	Jan - mid Mar.
Recreation Baseball/Softball	Dec.- Feb.	Early Mar. into June

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE...

This year's Summer Series at Oakes Park kicked off on July 3rd with South Street Station and continued every Wednesday night ending with the toe-tapping sounds of Skeeter Pantz on July 31. We are grateful to the Kearny Bank, Oritani Bank, Spectrum Physical Therapy,



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and the Old Tappan Chabbad for their support of this program; without their generous donations there would be no Free Summer Concert series!



## 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

(rain date - Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>)

**12:00pm to 4:00pm**

**Stone Point Park**

Opening of our Time Capsule and a full day of nostalgic fun events (Rides, Games, Demonstrations ....and some delicious Food Trucks- (Angry Archie's, Empanadas Lady, Ben & Jerry's and local favorite....MeatHeads BBQ)

#### Scheduled Events

The Hoboken Nine- will play nostalgic baseball game against OT Coaches CDW/TBD band and choir and NVHS Acapella Group will provide music Hay Rides around the Park

### FIREWORKS AT THE OLD TAPPAN GOLF COURSE

**6:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

The Golf Course will open at 6:00pm—Reservations suggested.  
Park along DeWolf Rd or walk to the course.

**Enjoy the music and the Fireworks!**

Check out our 125th Anniversary Merchandise.....ON SALE NOW!!!

Short and long sleeve T-Shirts/Baseball Caps/Car Magnet/Commemorative Glass

All available for purchase through Community Pass

Visit [www.OldTappan.net](http://www.OldTappan.net) for more information

Order early while supplies last!

