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November 8, 2022

Good morning friends and neighbors,

Inflation, fuel prices, supply shortages, taxes, the war in Ukraine and the list goes on in the news that we read and hear about daily. Today is Election Day and local, county, and federal races will be decided. The future of your town, county, and federal government will be decided. It is of great importance that you exercise your right to vote. Please remember that the polling place is at the Old Tappan FIREHOUSE on Old Tappan Road, next to the Borough Hall. Polls are open from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

The closure date of the Old Tappan Bridge is tentatively set for Monday November 21, 2022. The County is continuing to work with the utility companies to determine scheduling and start of work. Due to foreseen electrical line clearance issues during sheeting installation, utility relocations were proposed which are causing delays. The bridge closure date will be confirmed or updated once we have more information.

The Borough Hall will be closed on Veterans Day, Friday, November 11th (a federal holiday) in honor of all military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. Veterans Day was originally named Armistice Day which marked the end of hostilities in World War I which occurred at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. The name was changed in 1954 to honor all veterans. Presently one of our council members is working on designing a monument that will be included at our military memorial at Oakes Park. The architecturally designed monument will include the names of veterans who have served and live or have lived in Old Tappan. As your mayor, I will be representing the residents of Old Tappan at a ceremony to be held at the Northern Valley Regional High School honoring all veterans. So, on Friday the 11th please remember to thank a veteran for his service.

The 244 Old Tappan Road Planning Board application regarding the construction of a senior assisted living facility is nearing the end of its presentation process. Testimony from the applicant's professionals has taken place at many meetings during the past 7 months. Transcripts of the meetings can be found on our website. During the applicant's presentation stage, residents have been restricted to questions directed to the professional and the testimony given at that meeting only. Once all testimony has been heard and the applicant rests its case the planning board members will begin their deliberations. It is at this stage that the public will be invited to express their opinions as to whether this application should be approved or denied. For those who are interested in this application, it is of utmost importance that you attend any future meetings and let your voice be heard.

The Mayors Wellness Campaign (MWC) is a statewide community health initiative that assists residents achieve healthier lifestyles and improve overall health and wellness in our communities. I am happy to announce that we now have a Mayors Wellness Committee. Headed by Rubina and Eesha Bhatia I am confident that you will be seeing a lot of new health programs and speakers on the horizon.

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As always please feel free to let me know how the Council and I can make your Old Tappan even better. Send me an email (mayor@oldtappan.net) or send in your comments through the website (www.oldtappan.net) to any of the Borough's many departments or boards, committees, and commissions. You are always welcome to attend our meetings and witness how your elected officials manage the affairs of the borough. If you cannot make the meeting, you can always watch the meeting video posted on our website the next day.

I wish you all Happy Thanksgiving for we do have much to be thankful for.

Sincerely,

John M. Kramer

Mayor
Borough of Old Tappan