

Old Tappan Spotlight



Message from Mayor Kramer

January 2022



Last year at this time the number of reported COVID-19 illnesses reported here in Old Tappan totaled 256. As of late December, that number has grown to 488. So much said for wishing and hoping. While there is so much media hype as to what one should do to avoid contracting the disease, I would suggest that you continue to avoid large crowds in indoor places at the very least. Please continue to care for and look after those who live alone and just might appreciate your call.

Site work at the Enclave, residential/business construction site east of Bi-State Plaza, continues with several models open for your inspection. The parcel opposite the Northern Valley Regional High School has been cleared of its' three vacant homes making way for the 26 condominium unit planned for. The Planning Board is, or will soon be, considering an application for a senior assisted living facility on Old Tappan Road adjacent to the Malankara Archdiocese of the Syrian Orthodox Church. Unfortunately, the Bi-State Plaza "Foodtown" store remains vacant as do several stores within the site – speculation abounds as to its' future.



After a number of loss revenue years, save for the last two, the Old Tappan Municipal Golf Course, beginning this season, will be run by a professionally managed company. The pending retirement of two longtime key employees, the expiration of the concessionaire's five year contract, and the expiration of the three year golf cart contract brought us to hiring KemperSports, a nationally recognized golf management company. We look forward to a more profitable operation that will serve the golfing community to a greater degree.

Wishing all a healthy & happy New Year. Stay safe and be well!
Sincerely, *John M. Kramer, Mayor, Borough of Old Tappan*

2022 REORGANIZATION MEETING

In light of the Pandemic the Old Tappan Reorganization Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 4th, quietly and with no fan fair. Congratulations are extended to Guy Carnazza and Jin Yhu on their reelection—respectively pictured below as they were sworn in by Mayor John Kramer.



Also sworn in by Mayor Kramer were OT Fire Department Chief Evan Kutzin, Deputy Chief Brian Morgan, Captain Alex Naylis and OT First Aid Corps Captain Victoria Walker, 1st Lt. Emma Christensen, 2nd Lt. Jesse Hopfer. Congratulations and thank you for all you do for our community!



save the date

Chair Yoga: Wednesday, 1:30pm, OT Firehouse

Pizza Bingo: 3rd Tue of month at OT Senior Ctr - 11:30am

Zumba: Monday, 11:00am, OT Firehouse

Zumba Gold: Saturday, 9:15am, OT Firehouse

Seniorgise: Tuesday, 1:30pm, OT Firehouse

Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic: Tuesday, 2/15 (see below)

Memorial Day Parade: Monday, May 30

Town Wide Garage Sale: June 10, 11, 12

Free Concerts at Oakes Park: Wed evenings at 7pm in July

Shredding Event: Saturday, Oct. 22, OT DPW

Due to COVID it is advisable to check the borough website calendar for last minute cancellations or rescheduling.



Congratulations to Vinod Chada for being recently honored as a 5th District "Hometown Hero" by Congressman Gottheimer. Vinod and her husband, Surindernath, are 50 year residents of Old Tappan. Mrs. Chada is a founding member of the Hindu Sarnaj, a temple in Mahwah and the Coordinator for the Bergen County Chapter of Manavi, an organization that supports abused women and domestic violence victims. She has been a leader in the community for decades by supporting local organizations, helping serve meals to school children, raising funds for cataract surgeries in India, and working to support those less fortunate.

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FREE
RABIES
VACCINE CLINIC



Sponsored by the Old Tappan Board of Health

Date: Tuesday - February 15, 2022

Location: DPW Garage, 35 Russell Ave

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY (starts at 6pm)

Email jforcellati@oldtappan.net to make an appointment

REMINDER - Pet Licenses expire on 02/28/2022

The 2022 renewal and new pet license application is included in the annual mailing packet. The form is also available at Borough Hall and on our website under resident forms. You can also renew your pet license the day of the clinic. Please come prepared with your completed application and licensing fee.

TIRE RECYCLING, ELECTRONICS AND DOCUMENT SHREDDING PROGRAM

Bergen Community College
400 Paramus Road, Paramus
ENTRY VIA PARAMUS RD ONLY
Sunday, April 24, 2022
Saturday, August 6, 2022

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday, June 4, 2022
Sunday, October 2, 2022

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 House-
hold Hazardous Waste for a list of items.

Bergen Community College
400 Paramus Road, Paramus
ENTRY VIA PARAMUS RD ONLY
Sunday, April 3, 2022
Sunday, June 12, 2022
Sunday, October 16, 2022

Bergen County Utilities Authority
Foot of Empire Boulevard, Moonachie
Saturday, March 12, 2022
Saturday, November 19, 2022

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday, May 14, 2022
Saturday, July 16, 2022
Saturday, September 10, 2022

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.



PROPERTY TAXES: Due date 2/1/22. There is a 10 day grace period until 2/10/22.

SEWER USER FEE: Due date 3/1/22. There is a 10-day grace period until 3/10/22.

Bills are mailed out at the end of January for the first HALF of the year. If you are 65 years old or older you may apply to get a discounted rate. Application form is also available at the Tax Office or on the Borough's website. Once applied no need to apply again.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT MAILING ADDRESS? Help us keep our records up to date. Requests to change mailing address must be submitted in writing - the form can be found on our website.

ONLINE PAYMENT OPTIONS FOR TAXES & SEWER:

BILL PAY FROM YOUR BANK: Payments should be scheduled in advance of due date to allow sufficient mailing days for the Borough to receive, process and apply the payment. Electronic payment for taxes are not accepted. 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. **IMPORTANT: INCLUDE YOUR BLOCK AND LOT, LAST NAME AND/OR PROPERTY ADDRESS** so that your payment is applied to the correct account.

ONLINE BILL PAY: www.edmundsgovpay.com/oldtappan is convenient and easy, 24/7 access, to view account information and securely pay online. Accepted payment methods are credit card, debit card or eCheck (please note fees are charged.) Link is on the home page of our website.

PAY WITH DIRECT WITHDRAWAL: ACH bank draft program is in place for both taxes and sewer flow fees. Please visit our website for application forms and details or visit us in person. If you are planning to sign-up, discontinue or make a change on your direct withdrawal, you must contact our office at least two weeks before the effective date of scheduled withdrawal.

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.

BOROUGH MAILBOX: Located in front of the Borough Hall for your convenience when Borough Hall is closed. All payments are posted the following day. Do not use mailbox for regular mail.

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 Veterans with full-time active service and proofs (form dd-214) showing honorable discharge from the military. This deduction is also available to a surviving spouse/civil union/domestic partner who has not remarried. This benefit is administered by the local municipality and audited by the New Jersey Division of Taxation.

Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans: Full exemption from property taxes on a principal residence for Veterans classified as totally and permanently disabled by the Veterans Association as a result of their active & full-time military service. This exemption is also available to a surviving spouse/civil union/domestic partner who has not remarried. This application requires the disability certification letter from the VA and must state that the veterans qualifying affliction was 100% disabling as well as permanent. This benefit is administered by the local municipality and audited by the New Jersey Division of Taxation.

Building Department: Please note that the Building Department now has a separate entrance on the side of the Borough Hall. Hours are from 8:30am-4pm Monday through Friday. Should you need any information, please do not hesitate to email taco@oldtappan.net or call 201-664-1849 ext 19.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS NEWS:

SEWER: Residents are reminded to 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. Residents are also reminded to discard Swiffer type fibrous cleaning products with your garbage and **not to flush** them. Also, residents are reminded that sump pumps are not allowed to be piped into your sanitary sewer line.



STAY INFORMED

Visit our website, www.oldtappan.net as it is regularly updated. In an attempt to be greener and more efficient the Borough will slowly be stepping away from paper notices and newsletters. All information is now posted on our website, on our Facebook page and sent out through our town email system. Remember to sign up for town emails at eepurl.com/gYrVWz, or directly from the link on our website. Also, follow us on Facebook.

RECYCLING: The recycling center is opened Mon. through Fri., 7am to 3pm, and from 9am to 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. Questions as to what is acceptable or where you may dispose, please call 201-664-4438.

PARKING PROHIBITION: Please remember that there is no overnight parking on any Borough street until April 1st. Also, whenever snow has fallen and the accumulation is such that it covers the roadway, an emergency shall exist and no vehicles shall be parked on any Borough street, road, highway, right-of-way or thoroughfare. Any unoccupied vehicle parked or standing in violation shall be deemed a nuisance and a menace to the safe and proper regulation of traffic and any Police Officer may provide for the removal of such vehicle. The owner shall pay the reasonable costs of the removal and storage which may result from such removal before regaining possession of the vehicle.



Law and Order: Last year our Police Department said goodbye to two of our long-time officers; Sgt Peter Mieli and Sgt Jason Rothenburger. We wish them happiness as they start a new chapter in their lives. Later that year the OTPD was proud to welcome the newest members, P.O. Keith Sahraie and P.O. Brandon Moore.

Welcome and congratulations!!



Congratulations to our OTPD Officers Kathryn Weaver and Christopher Reilly on their well-deserved promotions to the rank of Patrol Sergeant.



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION NEWS...

Plans are underway for the establishment of Old Tappan's second community garden. The first garden, located on Old Tappan Road, has been a great success so far. The new garden will be located on Central Avenue west of the intersection of Chestnut and Central. This will accommodate the families on our waiting list, current members who prefer to have a single full plot, and, possibly some new applicants. The construction is planned to proceed in the early Spring, and should be ready by the time the planting season begins. When completed, there will be ample parking spaces on the site. More info will be posted on our website on the Environmental Page.

OLD TAPPAN SUPERHERO 5K...

The annual Superhero 5K and Kiddie Dash was held on Saturday, October 9th, 2021. Captain America, Batman and the Mandalorian made a guest appearance to congratulate all the Kiddie Dash-ers. Thank you to everyone who participated to support the OT Volunteer



First Aid Corps, the OT Volunteer Fire Co and the OT Police Officer's Association.



OT SOCIAL SERVICES LOCAL ASSISTANCE BOARD...

The Local Assistance Board would like to thank all our residents who donated to our "Giving Trees" this holiday season and to Bi-State Shipping Store, Borough Hall, Butterworth's, & The Old Tappan Library for prominently housing the trees. We were able to help many families in need. A special thank you to our Old Tappan Girl Scouts & their Leaders for facilitating our "Adopt a Senior Program," they brought so many smiles to our seniors this holiday with their generous & creative gifts.

We continue to provide approximately 80 bags of groceries a month to families and individuals from our Food Pantry, we deliver an average of 30 meals each month to seniors and the disabled, & we deliver an average of 20 boxes of fresh produce during summer and fall months donated from Stokes Farm. It truly takes a village & we are SO grateful for our compassionate residents & volunteers. The Local Assistance Board greatly appreciates your support as we work together to help our neighbors experiencing difficult times.

Wishing everyone a Happy & Healthy 2022!



Thank you to Daisy Troop 98317

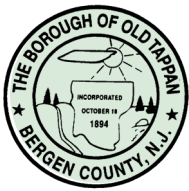
SENIOR PROGRAMS... Due to the COVID-19 uptick concerns Senior programs have been halted for the month of January. We hope to start up again in February. Please make sure to visit our website for updated information on all senior programs.

HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL... On November 6th the OT Woman's Club in conjunction with OT Recreation held their Halloween Festivities at Oakes Park. Starting off the event was the annual Halloween Parade. A great time was had by all. Everyone enjoyed hours of good weather, yummy snacks and fun activities. Many, many thanks to Gloria and Scott Wiesner, our amazing Rec Director and her better half, and, of course, all our volunteers who helped make this happen!!



2021 TREE LIGHTING... Old Tappan held their annual tree lighting on Monday, Dec 4, in front of the Borough Hall. Mayor Kramer opened the evening, Pastor Kirsten Shepler-Ross said the blessing and the Girl Scouts were caroling until Santa arrived on the fire truck.





Borough of Old Tappan

SAVE THE TRIP TO THE BOROUGH HALL

IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING AND DO WHAT WE CAN TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS, WE HAVE PROVIDED YOU WITH A LIST OF SERVICES AND HOW YOU CAN STILL ACCOMPLISH THEM WITHOUT TAKING THE TRIP TO THE BOROUGH HALL.

ALL FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD ON-LINE AT WWW.OLDTAPPAN.NET

SERVICE YOU MAY NEED	HOW YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH WITHOUT VISITING THE BOROUGH HALL
TAX DEPARTMENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAYING YOUR TAXES • MAKING SEWER PAYMENTS 	HOURS: 8:30AM-4:00PM CALL - 201-664-1849 EXT 16 TO PAY TAXES ONLINE VISIT WWW.OLDTAPPAN.NET CLICK "TAX INQUIRY & PAY ONLINE". YOU CAN ALSO DROP YOUR PAYMENT IN OUR MAILBOX LOCATED IN THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING
CLERK'S OFFICE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BINGO & RAFFLE LICENSE • NO KNOCK REGISTRATION • VOTER REGISTRATION • VOTE BY MAIL 	HOURS: 8:30AM-4:00PM CALL - 201-664-1849 EXT 11. EMAIL - JDONCH@OLDTAPPAN.NET
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PET LICENSE • BUSINESS LICENSE 	HOURS: 8:30AM-1:30PM CALL - 201-664-1849 EXT 10 EMAIL - JFORCELLATI@OLDTAPPAN.NET
REGISTRAR'S OFFICE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VITAL RECORDS/CERTIFIED COPIES • DEATH CERTIFICATES • MARRIAGE LICENSE 	HOURS: 8:30AM-4:00PM CALL - 201-664-1849 EXT 12 EMAIL - HAVERILLA@OLDTAPPAN.NET .
OPRA REQUEST	REQUESTS CAN BE MADE THROUGH EMAIL- JDONCH@OLDTAPPAN.NET OR FAX-201-664-3543
BUILDING DEPARTMENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APPLY FOR PERMITS • CODE ENFORCEMENT ISSUE • INSPECTION SCHEDULE • VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRATION 	HOURS: MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:30AM-4:00PM INSPECTIONS DONE DURING THE WEEK BY APPOINTMENT ONLY CALL - 201-664-1849 EXT 19. EMAIL - TACO@OLDTAPPAN.NET VISIT WWW.OLDTAPPAN.NET CLICK THE TAB "FORMS"
ZONING	CALL - 201-664-1849 EXT 20 EMAIL - ZONING@OLDTAPPAN.NET
TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAX ASSESSMENT RECORDS SEARCH • SALES SEARCH (SR1A) • TAX DEDUCTION FORMS (SENIOR DEDUCTION FORMS) • ADDRESS CHANGE FORM • ASSESSMENT APPEALS /DISCUSSIONS 	CALL 201-664-1849 EXT 18 EMAIL - PWILKINS@OLDTAPPAN.NET MORE INFORMATION ON WWW.OLDTAPPAN.NET UNDER THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT
MUNICIPAL COURT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRAFFIC TICKETS • CRIMINAL CITATIONS 	CALL - 201-664-1849 EXT 23 TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS 1PM-4PM CALL - 201-262-60588 EXT 1208 ALL OTHER HOURS EMAIL - LAUREL.CARNAZZA@NJCOURTS.GOV VISIT WWW.OLDTAPPAN.NET CLICK THE TAB "MUNICIPAL COURT DEPARTMENT" *ONLINE TICKET PAYMENTS - WWW.NJMCDIRECT.COM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RECYCLING • BRANCH COLLECTION / CHIPPING • LEAF COLLECTION • STORMWATER MANAGEMENT 	MORE INFORMATION ON WWW.OLDTAPPAN.NET UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CALL 201-664-1849 EXT 40

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.OLDTAPPAN.NET OR CALL 201-664-1849