



Borough of Old Tappan

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Old Tappan, NJ 07675

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NEWSLETTER



The Borough of Old Tappan and The Old Tappan Police Department invite you to join NIXLE. Stay instantly informed and 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. Register now—it's free and easy!!

The Old Tappan Recreation Commission presents

TOWN DAY & NIGHT 2018

Saturday, September 8th

(rain date – Sunday, September 9th)

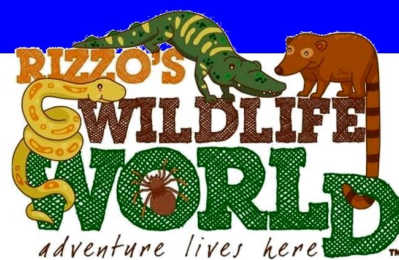
1:00pm to 6:00pm

Stone Point Park

A Great Day of Events

1:00pm to 6:00pm

Stone Point Park



Attractions/Rides & Refreshments During the Day

Bungee Trampoline, Jurassic Adventure, 24' Climbing Wall, Obstacle Course, Giant Slide, Dixie Twister, Trackless Train, Carnival Games, and Much, Much More...

Refreshments Available: Hot Dogs, Burgers, Heroes, Chicken Wings, Pasta, Sausage and Peppers, Pizza, Pretzels, Fruit, Ice Cream, Sno Cones, Cotton Candy, Beverages and More

FIREWORKS AT THE OLD TAPPAN GOLF COURSE

Don't miss the fireworks and music show planned for the evening.

The Golf Course will open at 7:00pm. Park along DeWolf Rd or walk to the course. Bring your blanket or beach chair and find a seat along the fairway.

Reservations suggested for dining at DeWolf Inn.

Enjoy the music and the fireworks!

WOMAN'S CLUB OF OLD TAPPAN...

Guests are invited to our meetings, which are generally held the 3rd Tues of the month, Sept. through May, at 7 PM at the OT Fire House. Sept.18 will be a poetry reading by our member, Anita Dadaian. Our annual Member/Guest Pot Luck Dinner Mtg is on Oct. 16; Nov. 20 will be a holiday craft workshop and; Jan. 15 will be held at 1PM followed by games. Thank You for Your Generous Support of our Spring Rummage Sale which benefits our charitable endeavors and scholarships.

The GFWC/NJSFWC congratulates all the recipients of the 2018 awards. NVOT High School graduate, Aaron Rhee, received a \$1,000 Scholarship. Daniel Feeney received the \$500 Theater Arts Award. Eight 8th grade students at the Charles DeWolf School received \$50 awards at their graduation ceremony: the Alice Gaffney Memorial Math Awards went to Ishan Ghandi and Katie Klein; Science to Max Caunedo; Spanish to Meilin Sharma; Physical Education to Olivia Cataldo; Stem to Samantha Kosmark; Athletic to Jola Olutiola; and Academic Achievement to Alexandra Whalen.

We were honored to attend a Girl Scout Gold Award Ceremony for Christina Haverilla, Brielle Lumia and Michele Szegda and an Eagle Scout Ceremony for Richard Sunden who each received a congratulatory letter along with a \$50 check.

Lastly, we are saddened by the passing of our beloved Communications Chairman, Patricia Royall. We remember her fondly for all of the previous articles she has written in this newsletter as well as all of her diligence in promoting the good works of our club. By Diana Savadjian, WCOT Communications Chairman

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE...

This year's Summer Series at Oakes Park kicked off on June 27 with Tim O'Donohue and the TMU Band and continued every Wednesday night ending with The NY Hitmen on August 8. Even rain did not deter South Street Station, Beauty and the Grease, Nash East and Outside the Lines from giving a fantastic show that everyone in attendance enjoyed. We are grateful to the Kearny Bank for their support of this program; without their generous donation there would be no Free Summer Concert series!



Town Spotlight

Issue 3
2018



A message from Mayor John M. Kramer...

Lacking comprehensive newspaper coverage, allow me to bring you up to date on our Affordable Housing Court approved settlement. At a fairness hearing held on February 15th, the NJ Superior Court approved our housing plan. This plan in effect satisfied our state mandated affordable housing 3rd round obligation and will protect the borough from the Builders Remedy through 2025. For a more in-depth explanation please read the Affordable Housing Presentation on the Old Tappan website.

One factor in our housing plan satisfies a law suit filed by a developer in 2017 resulting in the rezoning of a 3 acre parcel on Central Avenue opposite the high school allowing for a 26 unit town home development. Including in those 26 units are 6 affordable (low & moderate income) units. To date, no development application has been submitted to the planning board. Another factor is the designation of the Pearson Education Company property on Old Tappan Road with an overlay zone allowing for either continued current office use but also allowing for a town home or a mixed-use development. This office building and warehouse is situated on 19 acres adjacent to the Bi-State Plaza opposite Charlie Brown's Restaurant and is currently vacant. The property was for sale and is presently under contract. In the likely event that the purchaser seeks to develop the property in the alternative, public hearings by both the planning board and mayor and council would be held regarding the zone change. Then upon submission of an application the planning board would review all plans to ensure conformance of state and local standards.

On a personal note, aside from some health issues that we have experienced this past summer, we have much to be thankful for. Our grandson graduated from Coastal Carolina College and our granddaughter became engaged. I wish you all good health and happiness as we enter the fall season and look forward to seeing you around town and at our community events.

John M. Kramer



The OT Board of Health will host a flu vaccination program on **Wednesday, September 26, from 6—7:30pm at the OT Firehouse, 231 Old Tappan Road.** Please note, we will not accept any insurance, including Medicare HMO/Advantage. Cash or check only. If you do not have Medicare Part B, cost is \$25 (regular vaccine) or \$35 (high-dose vaccine). Medicare Part B participants must bring their Medicare Part B card for us to bill Medicare. Children 3-17 can be vaccinated only if a parent or guardian is present. Some children aged 3-8 may need to receive a second dose. The vaccine for children is preservative-free.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS - OLD TAPPAN SOCIAL SERVICES...

A Big Thank You to our "resident chef," Karen Kierce, along with all the Girl and Boy Scouts and community volunteers that continue to delight our neighbors with well balanced meals throughout the year! Our residents deeply appreciate these bi-weekly meals which provide nutrition along with a cheery visit. Interested in helping with our "Nutrition to Neighbors" program (Old Tappan Meals on Wheels)? We are looking for a CCD Class, Boy Scout Den, Girl Scout Troop, OT Club or Organization and/or Community Residents to volunteer in preparing and/or delivering 10 to 12 meals on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Meals can be simple and do not need to be delivered hot. Go to www.signupgenius.com, search under the email: dgeitz.otpd@oldtappan.net. Please Sign Up Today!

•Thank you to NVOT High School student, Kaileigh Lumia, who has continued to oversee our supply/food pantry for another year!
•Stokes Farm once again generously contributes "unclaimed" weekly produce boxes from their "Thyme Saver" program to our neighbors from June to November. In addition, the Environment commission donates their home grown vegetables from the new Community Garden. The fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs are a delightful and a welcomed addition to healthy meal planning for our families and seniors. Many, Many Thanks!
•The OT Foodtown has a "Shop and Drop" box to collect donations for OTSS Pantry located in the front of the store. You can shop and conveniently drop off your donations at the same time. Items always appreciated: paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, decaf and regular coffee, cold cereals, juice, Kraft macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, jelly, shampoo, conditioner and laundry detergent. Thanks Foodtown for Helping Our Neighbors!
OT Seniors Citizens are invited to catch a movie and light lunch (provided by OTSS) offered at the OT Library two Fridays of each month. OT residents can pick up their tickets prior to each Friday Flix to ensure a spot. Please call the Library for specific dates and movie selections. Mark your calendars for the 3rd Annual International Luncheon co-sponsored by OT Social Services and the Senior Social Society on Thursday, 10/11, at noon, upstairs in the Firehouse, for an introduction to Armenian history, culture and a delicious Armenian lunch. Please watch for our Annual Fund Raising Letter this Fall in your mail. Your contributions allow us to provide programs, services and emergency financial assistance to our residents. Additionally, Holiday Wish Trees will again be located in our local businesses: Bank of America, Butterworth's Bagels, Starbucks, and Bi-State Shipping 'N More. Your donations go directly to our neighbors experiencing difficult times and truly make a difference. Neighbors Helping Neighbors, the foundation of our mission, is continuously evident throughout our town. **We Thank You!**

Donna Geitz, Old Tappan Local Assistance Board - 201-664-1849 x25.

save the date

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

Blood Pressure Clinic: 3rd Thurs of each month at the Senior Center Noon–1pm

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

Chair Yoga: Held at 11:30am on Fridays upstairs at the Firehouse

Town Day: Stone Point Park on Sat, 9/8, 1-6pm Rain date-Sun, 9/9, 1-6pm

Fireworks: OT Golf Course on Sat, 9/8 at 9pm Rain date - Sun, 9/9 at 9pm

Fire Prevention Week: October 7-13

FD & OTFAC Open House: Tuesday, 10/8

Leaf Pick-up: Oct 15 thru Dec 2

Senior Lunch & Learn: Thurs, 10/11, at the OT Firehouse at noon

Flu Vaccination Program: Wed., 9/26, 6-7:30pm at OT Firehouse

Paper Shredding: Oct 6, 9am-1pm at the DPW yard

Northern Valley Fire Chiefs Parade: Sun, 10/7—more info page 2

Superhero 5K: Sunday, 10/14—more info page 3

Halloween Festival & Ragamuffin Parade: At Oakes Park on Sat., 10/27

Breakfast w/Santa: Sat. 12/1, 9:30-11am at OT Fire House sponsored by OT Woman's Club

Tree Lighting: Mon., 12/3 at OT Borough Hall

Senior Holiday Party: Thursday, 12/13 at the OT Firehouse at noon

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.OLDTAPPAN.NET



IMPORTANT INFORMATION
FOR THE 2018 ELECTION
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
BOROUGH CLERK

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

Last day to register to vote in the General Election is Tue., October 16. Municipal Clerk’s office will remain open on Tue., Oct. 16 until 9 pm. The Bergen County Board of Elections issues voter Registration Cards.

If you are going to be out of town on Election Day, you may pick up an absentee ballot application 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: 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 9/1/18 There is a 10 day grace period until 9/10/18.

Property Taxes: The FINAL 2018/2019 preliminary tax bill will be mailed at the end of September.

Due date 11/1/18 There is a 10 day grace period until 11/13/18. For those property owners who qualified for the Homestead Benefit for 2015 an additional credit will be applied to your November 1, 2018 tax bill.

Annual Special Assessment Benefit bill: 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/about Nov 1, 2018, 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 our website in the fall for more information or to check the status of your benefit.

PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION/CREDIT: Homeowners and tenants who pay property taxes, either directly or through rent, on a principal residence in New Jersey may qualify for either a deduction or a refundable credit.

The property tax deduction reduces your taxable income. The amount of the benefit depends on the amount of your taxable income, the amount of your property taxes or rent, and your filing status. You may be able to deduct up to 100% of your property taxes or \$15,000, whichever is less. For tenants, 18% of rent paid during the year is considered property taxes paid.

The property tax credit reduces your tax due because it is subtracted directly from your tax liability. The benefit is a refundable credit of \$50.

For more information on the property tax deduction or credit, see the New Jersey Resident Income Tax Return instructions.

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 2017.)

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 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 a change on your direct withdrawal, you must contact our office at least two weeks before the effective date of scheduled withdrawal.



Presents
The 64th Annual
**NORTHERN VALLEY
FIRE CHIEFS PARADE**
SUNDAY OCTOBER 7TH, 2018

This year, the Old Tappan Fire Department will be hosting the **64th Annual Northern Valley Fire Chiefs Parade on Sunday, October 7, 2018.**

Fire Departments from all around will be marching through the streets of Old Tappan, proudly showcasing their fire trucks. We hope to hear the loudest cheers from our residents as we march by. The celebration will continue at our fire house at the conclusion of the parade, and all are welcome. At or around 1 PM, there will be several road closures while the trucks are in route. The parade will be departing the parking lot at the T. Baldwin Demarest Elementary School, travelling west on Herrick Drive, north onto Washington Avenue, east onto Old Tappan Road, south onto Central Avenue, and concluding at the Northern Valley Regional High School at Old Tappan parking lot. We expect the roads to be re-opened to normal traffic at 2:00PM.

We apologize in advance for the inconvenience.

In case of an EMERGENCY during the parade, please dial 911, or find an officer – police-men and fire policemen will be on post at all the major intersections along the parade route.

Following the conclusion of the parade, please plan on joining us for food, drinks and entertainment at the Old Tappan Fire House on Russell Avenue. Hope to see everyone there.

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 21, 2018

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 14, 2018

Bergen County Utilities Authority
Foot of Empire Boulevard, Moonachie
Saturday, November 17, 2018

Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah
Saturday, September 8, 2018

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.

something. The OTPD encourages our residents to be alert with regard to the safety of our community, and appreciates everyone’s assistance in helping us, help you!

Congratulations to Captain James Butler on his May 1, 2018 retirement. Captain Butler served over 30 years with the OTPD. His commitment to our community and dedicated service will surely be missed. We wish Jim the best of luck in retirement and in all his future endeavors. The OTPD welcomes our newest member Patrol Officer Thomas DeVita. At the July 16 meeting of the Borough Council, the Mayor and Council appointed Thomas DeVita to the position of Patrol Officer. Tom is an Alternate Route graduate of the Cape May County Police Academy and the University of Virginia with a BA degree in Psychology.



Congratulations again to both Officers.



Register now for the 2nd Annual Old Tappan Emergency Services "SUPERHERO 5K". The race will be held on Sunday, October 14, 2018 at 9:00am at Stone Point Park. To register for the race, go to <http://www.rockracetiming.com/> 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

Hooked On Fishing... The OT Environmental Commission and the OT Municipal Alliance once again held the ‘Hooked on Fishing-Not on Drugs’ fishing derby on June 8th. This year it was held at Bonnabel Park. School children from grades 1 through 8 participated in the tournament and prizes were awarded for the 1st fish and biggest fish.



THE OLD TAPPAN POLICE DEPARTMENT...

The Old Tappan Police Department welcomes our residents back from summer vacation and wish our students all the best as they begin a new school year. We would like to remind all motorists to use extra caution in and around the area of our schools. Complaints regarding speeding vehicles, stopping/standing and parking related offenses appear to be the most frequent violation reported around the residential streets adjacent to the schools. In many instances, the drivers are our own neighbors. Kindly make every effort to comply with the 25MPH speed limit and parking regulations in all residential areas, especially in and around our schools. Please be aware of the presence of our School Crossing Guards and their very important role for keeping the students safe.

Important reminder: Many communities within northern New Jersey, including Bergen County, have experienced a series of stolen vehicles. Old Tappan has had nine cars stolen from residents’ driveways since November 2017. All but one vehicle has been returned intact to their respective owners. OTPD Lt. Joseph Tracy has been working with the New Jersey State Police Auto Theft Task Force, Interstate Theft North Unit on locating the stolen vehicles since the beginning of the thefts. On August 1, 2018 at about 6:30 am, Old Tappan Police Detective Robert Wacht and PO Eugene Wilkins worked with the NJSP Auto Theft Task Force to execute search warrants at six residences in Newark, NJ. The search warrants yielded the arrest of four suspects responsible for thefts of expensive vehicles in affluent communities throughout Bergen County inclusive of Old Tappan. A video camera from a residence in OT assisted in identifying one of the suspects, and an ongoing continuing investigation led to the arrests. In most of these theft cases, the keys or key fob for the car have been left inside the unlocked vehicle. This was the circumstance with the cars taken in OT. The suspects observe the outward extended side view mirrors of the car, indicating the key/fob is possibly inside the vehicle. The suspects simply enter the unlocked vehicle and drive away with the key/fob that has been provided for them. Residents should make every effort to lock their personal vehicles and remove the key/fob from the car.

It will be getting darker earlier and leaving lights on around your home or on timers is an ounce of prevention worth a pound of cure. In the past, the OTPD has distributed yellow Courtesy Security Awareness cards to select homes. While on patrol in your neighborhood, an Officer may have noticed a condition that might pose a threat to your safety and property. Persons with unlawful intent often look for inviting conditions in selecting a target of opportunity for unlawful purposes. OTPD Officers may provide this card should they observe a condition of this nature. Residents are reminded to contact the OTPD as soon as reasonably possible when observing suspicious persons or activity. If you see something, say



RECREATION DATES TO REMEMBER

SPORT/EVENT	REGISTRATION	SEASON RUNS/EVENT DATE
Outdoor Soccer	May - Jun	Sept through Nov
Flag Football	May - Jun	Sept through mid Nov
Winter Rec. Basketball	Aug - Sept	Early Dec. through end of Mar
Winter Travel Basketball	End of Oct	Early Jan. through end of Mar
Indoor Soccer	Oct 1- Oct 31	Jan through Mid Mar
Recreation Baseball/Softball	Dec - Feb	Early Mar into Jun
Town Day/Fireworks	n/a	Sept 8
Town Day/Fireworks - RAINDATE	n/a	Sept 9
Halloween Fstvl/Ragamuffin Prde	n/a	Oct 27
Tree Lighting Ceremony	n/a	Dec 3