

Message from Mayor Kramer

October 2020



COVID-19 cases here in Old Tappan for the past 9 months have reached a total of 110 as of the most recent reading. Sadly, that number includes 4 deaths of elderly persons with pre-existing health conditions. It is important that everyone continues to observe best practices of wearing a face mask, washing hands, and social distancing. Please continue to reach out and support one another while we wend our way through this pandemic. 

On a happier note, we wish a belated **Happy 108th Birthday** to Jeanne Campagna who resides here in Old Tappan with her family. Giovanina Dimina born on September 15, 1912 in Sicily, Italy, came to the United States in 1915. She met her husband, Dominick Compagna, also from Italy, at her father's marble shop in Harlem. They were married on June 5th, 1936 and had three daughters and one son. In addition to them, her extended family today includes 9

Continued bottom of page 2

WEAR A MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY, SOCIALLY DISTANCE, GET YOUR FLU SHOT



Don't waste fall by being sick. Get a flu shot! One way to protect your health is by getting a flu shot. The Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctor's visits, and missed work and school due to flu and prevent flu-related hospitalizations. This year more than ever, the CDC recommends that all individuals six months and older, including pregnant women, receive a yearly flu shot to protect themselves and others from getting the flu. A person sick with the flu can quickly develop a secondary infection such as pneumonia or the coronavirus this year.

Symptoms of the flu include: **Muscle Aches, Headaches, Runny Nose, Tiredness, Fever, Cough and/or Sore Throat**

COVID-19 is caused by infection with a new coronavirus strain (called SARS-CoV-2), which may often "copy" the above symptoms of the flu but adds the loss or change in taste and smell. If a person has COVID-19, it could take them longer to develop symptoms versus the flu. A person with the flu will usually show signs 1-4 days, and someone with COVID-19 can develop symptoms 2 to 14 days after infection.

Both can be prevented by mask-wearing, frequent and thorough hand washing, coughing into the crook of your elbow, staying home when sick, and limiting contact with infected people. Physical distancing limits the spread of flu and COVID-19 in communities.

Please visit your primary doctor or call your local health department/pharmacy (CVS, Walgreens, Rite Aid) for flu clinics' times and locations to receive your annual flu shot. You may also call Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission at (201) 445.7217.

Law and Order: Please make sure to lock your vehicles and remember to take your key fob with you. **DO NOT** leave the key fob in the car. There have been numerous car thefts over the years and most of these thefts were due to owners leaving their key fobs in the vehicles. **Don't let your car be an easy target.**



Recreation: All three of our Old Tappan Playgrounds have been updated and are ready for play. Please follow all guidelines posted.



INFORMATION Remember to visit our website, www.oldtappan.net as it is regularly updated. Sign up for town emails at eepurl.com/gYrVWz, subscribers are limited to one per household. Also, follow us on Facebook.

2020 ELECTION This General Election is by Mail-In Ballot. There is **NO In-Person** voting unless you are disabled. Ballots have been mailed out to all active registered voters. For your convenience there is a drop off box located in the front parking lot of the Borough Hall. Saturday, 10/24, is the deadline to request a Duplicate Ballot be mailed to you. After this deadline Duplicate Ballots must be picked up in person at the Bergen County Clerk's Office in Hackensack. Any questions or to schedule a pickup please call the Bergen County Clerk's Office at 201-336-7020 or by email at electionsclerk@co.bergen.nj.us prior to your arrival so it is ready and waiting for you. The Bergen County Clerk's Office is open Monday-Friday 9:30am-4:00pm along with special hours on Saturdays, 10/24 & 10/31 from 9:00am-1:00pm. For more information visit our website.

HALLOWEEN Due to the pandemic our annual Ragamuffin Parade and Halloween Festival are cancelled. Fortunately though, our wonderful Fire Department and First Aid Corps volunteers have scheduled a Candy Drive By on Saturday, October 31st, from 12-2pm. Check out our website for more information and make sure you listen for the sirens coming your way!

If you are considering letting your children Trick or Treat or if you are going to be giving out candy to Trick or Treaters, please follow the guidelines we have posted on our website. 

SENIOR PROGRAMS: Seniorcise and Line Dancing have resumed. Please check our website calendar for venue and time.

Building Department: Please note that the Building Department now has a separate entrance located on the side of the Borough Hall. **Window hours are from 9:15 - 1pm Monday through Friday.**



PROPERTY TAXES: Due date **11/1/2020**. There is a 10 day grace period until **11/10/2020**.

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. All payments, forms and information on tax rebates can be found on our website.

Public Works: Branch chipping ended the last week of September which brings us to leaf pickup. Leaves may not be placed in the street before 10/8 this is due to local, state and federal stormwater regulations. The department has begun picking up leaves in the street and will continue until the last pickups starting 12/1.



Please do not mix any debris such as branches 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. Thank you for your support in the past and your future cooperation.

As in the past, Christmas tree recycling will be during the month of January 2021. The west side of town (Central Ave. to River Vale) will be picked up on 1/6 & 1/20 and the east side (Central Ave. to the state line including Central Ave.) on 1/13 & 1/27. Branches will also be picked up at this time if time and weather allows.



The recycling center is open Monday thru Friday, 7am until 3pm, and from 9am until 3pm on Saturdays (except holidays). Please bring only those items designated for recycling and place them in the appropriate designated container. Please 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. This now includes consumer electronics effective 2011 you may not dispose of such items as trash. **We do not accept garbage, construction debris, paint or chemicals, fluorescent bulbs ECT.** Violators will be prosecuted. If you have any questions as to what is acceptable or where you may dispose of items, please call 201- 664-4438 or check the borough's website under the recycling section.

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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.



Environmental News: Hooked on Fishing was held Saturday, Oct. 17 and was a huge success. This program provided a great opportunity to get youths involved in positive recreational activities. The winners of the Youth Challenge were: 1st place - Benjamin Malone, 2nd place - Devin Malone, 3rd place - Nash Ferraro and 4th place - Laz Haney. Thank you to Ryan Weaver of the OT Environmental Commission and Barbara and Dino Ditrolio for helping make this event happen.

Message from Mayor Continued...

grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren. Although she retired from work in the late 1980's she continued to cook family meals well into her early 100's.

Don't forget to check our website for timely reminders and updates. If you care to share your email address with us, we can provide you with important information as the case may arise. You can subscribe directly from our website. I assure you that we will not inundate you with matters of unimportance. Why not try it? You can always unsubscribe. Have a great fall season. Stay safe and stay healthy.

John M. Kramer

ORDINANCE: 1172-20 Section 1. Chapter 242 of the Borough Code, titled "Vehicles and Traffic", is hereby amended by adding a new section 242-24, to read as follows: **Temporary Parking Prohibition for Snow Plowing and Snow Removal.**

1. 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 except in conformity with this ordinance.
2. Except as permitted pursuant to these regulations, no vehicle shall be parked or left unattended on any street, right-of-way or thoroughfare, until the street, road, highway, right-of-way or thoroughfare has been plowed.
3. Any unoccupied vehicle parked or standing in violation of this subsection 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.
4. Unless some other penalty is expressly provided by New Jersey statute, every person convicted of a violation of this subsection or any supplement thereto, shall be liable to a penalty of not more than two hundred (\$200.00) dollars.



Thank you to the group of CDW honor society community service girls that volunteered their time to weed, plant and beautify the planters on DeWolf Road. Thank you to Stokes Farm also for donating all the materials and plantings.