

# Town of Clinton Newsletter



JUNE

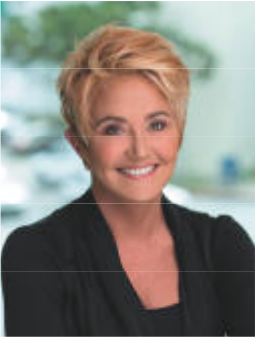
2020

Summer  
Rebirth in  
Town of Clinton

## TAKE A LOOK INSIDE

<b>02</b>	MAYOR'S LETTER	<b>10</b>	ACTIVITIES
<b>03</b>	COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS	<b>10</b>	ELDERS
<b>05</b>	TOWN UPDATES	<b>11</b>	ENVIRONMENTAL
<b>06</b>	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	<b>11</b>	SHADE TREE
<b>07</b>	PRIMARY ELECTIONS	<b>12</b>	EMERGENCY SERVICES
<b>08</b>	CPS	<b>14</b>	POLICE
<b>09</b>	N/V HIGH SCHOOLS		

## FROM THE MAYOR



**JANICE  
KOVACH**

On March 8, 2020 our world changed practically overnight. We collided with a worldwide pandemic that impacted all of us and forever changed our lives. We are now learning how to navigate our new "normal".

We are into our Re-start and Re-open in New Jersey as well as here in town. I hope that you will shop and eat local and encourage friends and family to do the same.

We can't help but reflect on the changes to our students— home-schooling has brought out the inner-teacher for many of us. Our graduates were hardest hit, impacting the eighth grade trip and dinner dance, the Senior Prom and Jersey Shore afterwards, as well as the spring musical and all of the spring sports. And online

Something I have noticed over the last three months is the bonding happening among our families,

walking together on the trail or downtown, or even sitting in the park for a picnic on a blanket - it reminds me that so much of what we need is right in front of us. I hope that we can look back on this time and remember how we enjoyed the quiet time, caught up on some movies, TV shows or books, had family puzzle and game night, adopted a new pet, rediscovered outdoor activities such as running or bike riding, explored the deeper pages of our cookbooks...and took the time to relax.

Many of you have been impacted by the loss of a job. If you need assistance don't hesitate to ask - we are a community that is here for one another. Anyone who lost a loved one during this time, we feel your loss deeply, and you have our sincere condolences.

Finally I want to take a moment to say thank you to everyone in this unprecedented time - we are deeply grateful and humbled by your caring efforts and commitment.

Please feel free to reach out to me 908-399-8921 and [jkovach@clintonnj.gov](mailto:jkovach@clintonnj.gov), or any of the other council members with questions or concerns.



**Louis Tranquilli**  
Investment Advisor Representative

*Working alongside Clinton families to navigate their financial paths since 2003.*



35 Leigh Street, Clinton, NJ 08809  
908-730-6234 | [Lou@TranquilliFA.com](mailto:Lou@TranquilliFA.com)  
[www.louistranquilli.com](http://www.louistranquilli.com)

Investment advisory services offered through Tranquilli Financial Advisor, LLC, a registered investment advisor



# TOWN COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

**JANUARY 28, 2020**

## ELDERS OF CLINTON COMMITTEE

The Town Council unanimously passed a resolution to establish the Elders of Clinton Committee, which will seek to benefit the Town's seniors by identifying and helping to implement services and programs to address home maintenance needs, transportation needs, recreation programs, housing needs, business discounts, and other community support programs. If you are interested in participating in the committee, please contact Councilman Mike Humphrey at (908) 399-0698 or via email at [mhumphrey@clintonnj.gov](mailto:mhumphrey@clintonnj.gov)

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

In honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment, which enabled women to vote, the Town will light the municipal building in purple, one of the colors of the New Jersey Suffrage movement, for the week of February 10, 2020.

## REDEVELOPMENT OF FORMER A&P PROPERTY

Ingerman Developers presented plans for 111 apartments and 6,000 square feet of retail space on the former A&P property. The first phase will be a site plan application, followed by a redevelopment plan.

**FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

## HIRING OF TWO NEW DPW EMPLOYEES

Congratulations to Kevin Gonzalez and Ryan Maszczak who have been hired for the Water and Roads department.

## GRANT APPLICATION

The Town Council approved the submission of a grant application with the New Jersey Highlands Council for a central business district marketing study and strategic economic development plan. The Town will seek up to \$50,000.

**MARCH 11, 2020**

## REDEVELOPMENT OF A&P PROPERTY

Ingerman Developers had a representative at the meeting again to answer questions from Council

and the public. The current plan provides for two buildings. Each building will have a retail suite on the first floor, and one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments above the retail space. Mr. Long, development principal from Ingerman, stated that he is meeting with the Historic Commission to present architectural designs and get input. Council asked that the Environmental and Shade Tree Commissions be included in the meeting.

## COVID-19 INFORMATION

A red banner has been set up across the [clintonnj.gov](http://clintonnj.gov) homepage regarding information concerning the Covid-19 pandemic. This information will be updated as necessary.

**MARCH 25, 2020**

## ONLINE PRESENTATION SCHEDULED

Town Council scheduled a presentation via Zoom and Facebook Live for Thursday, March 26, 2020 by Shauna Springer, MD, a specialist in PTSD, who will share some ideas for dealing with the stress of the pandemic.

**APRIL 8, 2020**

## EXTENSION OF GRACE PERIOD ON UTILITY BILLS

Town Council passed a resolution allowing a sixty-day grace period for the payment of water and sewer bills due between March 9, 2020 and May 9, 2020 due to the pandemic. Interest, fees or penalties associated with bills due at this time will be waived.

## FISHING SEASON OPENING DAY

Opening day of fishing season is April 11. The South Branch will be open to fishing, but social distancing restrictions will be strictly enforced.

**APRIL 22, 2020**

## OUR LIVING HISTORY

The Elders of Clinton Committee hosted a zoom meeting on April 28, 2020 titled "Our Living History: Clinton Residents Share Their Stories". All of our neighbors were invited to share their favorite 3-4 minute moment of their Clinton past. The Committee recorded this as a living historic album for the town.



# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

**MAY 6 2020**

## SEEDLINGS FOR CPS 3RD GRADERS

The Shade Tree Commission has the seedlings for the Clinton Public School 3rd graders to plant in celebration of Arbor Day. They can pick them up from the porch of the municipal building. There will be a virtual event on May 28, 2020.

## SPONSOR A TREE

The Guild of Clinton had great success with their "Sponsor A Tree" initiative. The money will go toward beautifying the town by planting around the cherry trees on Main Street. The sponsors will have their names on a plaque placed in the box as well.

## EXTENSION OF GRACE PERIOD ON PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Town Council passed a resolution extending the grace period for the payment of second quarter property taxes to June 1, 2020.

**MAY 13, 2020**

## PROCLAMATION OF THANKS

Mayor Kovach read an excerpt from the proclamation thanking individuals on the frontlines during this unprecedented time of the Coronavirus.

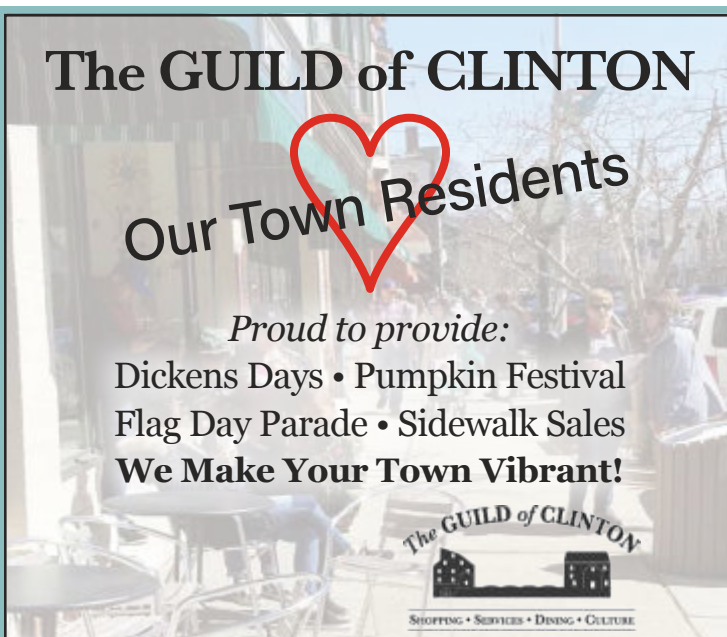
## NATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH MONTH

Mayor Kovach proclaimed May 2020 as National Cancer Research Month, and May 10-16, 2020 as National Women's Health Week.

## BRUSH COLLECTION

The town will begin brush collection this week. This year there is a significant increase in the limbs and branches put out at the curb. Please be patient, our crew is working as quickly as possible. See the calendar on our website [www.clintonnj.gov](http://www.clintonnj.gov) for the dates of pickups in your zone.

**Council Meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.**



**The GUILD of CLINTON**

Our Town Residents

*Proud to provide:*

Dickens Days • Pumpkin Festival  
Flag Day Parade • Sidewalk Sales

**We Make Your Town Vibrant!**

**The GUILD of CLINTON**

SHOPPING • SERVICES • DINING • CULTURE



**Ameriprise Financial**

*Feel confident and secure about your financial future.*

**Michelle L. Heide, CFP®, CRPC®, BFA**  
Private Wealth Advisor

**Michelle Heide & Associates**  
A private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.

**908.713.6600**  
CA Insurance #0K51985

Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. owns the certification marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and CFP (with flame design) in the U.S.  
Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC.  
© 2019 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.



**Amy DeVita** Realtor-Associate

mobile 973-809-0445

office 908-200-7413

email [Amy@VikkiHealey.com](mailto:Amy@VikkiHealey.com)

**VIKKI HEALEY**  
PROPERTIES



THE HEALEY GROUP • 27 CENTER STREET • CLINTON, NJ 08809



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • [www.4lpi.com](http://www.4lpi.com)

Town of Clinton, NJ

06-5343

# TOWN ADMINISTRATION

## BRUSH COLLECTION

The 2020 Brush Collection Schedule is active now thru the Fall. Small debris can be placed curbside in a bucket or garbage can. All brush, including any off season clean-up, will be picked up during your scheduled brush collection zone.

## SIDEWALK CLEARANCE

For residents with shrubs/plants that overhang into the sidewalks, we ask that you please trim them accordingly. The last thing we want is for a pedestrian to be forced into the street due to an overgrown shrub.

## GARBAGE

The garbage collection services that are provided by the Town are for residential customers only, not commercial entities. Commercial entities are required to arrange for private collection.

**NOTE:** *The trash cans, located throughout the Town are for trash generated by pedestrians, not for commercial or residential use.*

## RECYCLING

Residents are invited to take advantage of free scrap metal recycling offered by the Town. Recycling dumpsters are located at the Town's Waste Water Treatment Plant (2 Ramsey Road), and are open Monday through Friday from 7AM – 3PM.

Rich Phelan  
Business Administrator  
(p) 908-735-8616  
(e) rphelan@clintonnj.gov

## TAX AND UTILITY BILLS

The Town of Clinton will now accept tax, water and sewer payments via our website. If you pay your utility bills via your bank's online bill pay, PLEASE CHANGE THE ACCOUNT NUMBERS to correspond with the new account numbers assigned in January 2020. Please see important information about this at [www.clintonnj.gov/billpayFAQ](http://www.clintonnj.gov/billpayFAQ).

## 2020 WEST MAIN STREET WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Sometime during the summer months, the replacement of the aged water main located on West Main Street from Exit 15 to the Clinton House will be replaced. This is part of the Town's ongoing infrastructure maintenance and replacement. By replacing the existing line with a new, larger one ensure that all residents and businesses in this area are receiving the highest quality water.

## GRASS CLIPPINGS

While the Town does collect grass clippings each week, we strongly encourage residents to mow their lawns with a lawnmower that is equipped with a mulching blade. First, the clippings actually help to improve the strength and health of your lawn. Second, by not bagging the grass clippings, the Town does not have to pay the trash hauler to dispose of them. For more information on our trash, recycling, brush and leaf collection schedules, please visit our website at [www.clintonnj.gov/sites/clintonnj/files/uploads/recycling\\_brochure\\_2020\\_for\\_website\\_0.pdf](http://www.clintonnj.gov/sites/clintonnj/files/uploads/recycling_brochure_2020_for_website_0.pdf).

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

If you know anyone who may be eligible to qualify for affordable housing, please visit the Clerk's Office to fill out an application, or download one directly from our website at [www.clintonnj.gov/forms.html](http://www.clintonnj.gov/forms.html).

## TOWN INFORMATION

There are many different ways to learn about what is going on in the Town of Clinton as well as the entire County. We recommend visiting the following websites and signing up for e-mail updates:

- ◆ Town of Clinton:
  - \* Website – [www.clintonnj.gov](http://www.clintonnj.gov)
  - \* Facebook – [www.facebook.com/clintonnjgov](https://www.facebook.com/clintonnjgov)
  - \* Twitter – [twitter.com/clintonnj](https://twitter.com/clintonnj)
  - \* YouTube – <https://bit.ly/2P8uINh>
- ◆ Town of Clinton Police Department – <https://bit.ly/3bTpijK>
- ◆ Clinton First Aid and Rescue Squad – [www.clintonems.org](http://www.clintonems.org)
- ◆ Clinton Fire Department – [www.clintonfd.org](http://www.clintonfd.org)
- ◆ Hunterdon County – [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us)
- ◆ Hunterdon County Department of Public Safety – [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/911](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/911)

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## SUSTAINING OUR BUSINESS DISTRICT

The Economic Development Committee (EDC) is committed to the sustainability of the economy here in the Town of Clinton. In these trying times we are working hard to ensure that our Main Street businesses have access to the resources and information necessary to succeed. We recognize that the realities of COVID-19, and the steps taken to help flatten the curve and save lives, have deeply effected local business and residents alike.

For the past few months the EDC has implemented a communications plan to keep businesses and residents up-to-date on local, state, and federal funding programs, webinars, online training programs, state directives, and other resources meant to help people adapt to our new reality. We partnered with local and county organizations to provide additional resources and collect on-the-ground feedback from businesses. In addition, we fostered new and lasting relationships around the state, county and locally that will serve to assist us as we look to the future.

In the coming months the EDC will continue efforts to create a town-wide economic sustainability plan to help us set the long term strategy for the entire community. This plan will incorporate the downtown area, redevelopment areas, and every section in our community in order to create a holistic and sustainable view of our incredible town. We will also seek out partnership opportunities to create appropriate branding and marketing efforts to modernize and energize the our economic efforts.

With all of these thoughts in mind we encourage business owners and residents to reach out with ideas, thoughts, and concerns at any time. The EDC is here to help and will continue supporting our business community.

Rielly Karsh  
Economic Development Chair  
(e) [rkarsh@clintonnj.gov](mailto:rkarsh@clintonnj.gov)  
(p) 917-478-8699



Providing skilled legal expertise  
to Hunterdon County since 1884.

Divorce/Family Law \* Wills, Trusts & Estates  
Personal Injury \* Employment Law  
Business Contracts \* General Civil Litigation  
Tax Planning & IRS Disputes \* Real Estate  
Traffic Court/DWI \* Municipal Law

*Founded 1884*

**GEBHARDT  
& KIEFER**  
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
LAW OFFICES

**908-735-5161**

1318 Route 31  
P.O. Box 4001  
Clinton, NJ 08809  
[www.gklegal.com](http://www.gklegal.com)

CELEBRATING OUR 40TH  
ANNIVERSARY SERVING CLINTON

*THE Towne* RESTAURANT

*Where Clinton Eats!!!*

31 Main Street | 908-735-7559

**Laura Segal, Psy.D.**  
**Psychotherapist**



908-730-9339 | [DrLauraSegal.com](http://DrLauraSegal.com)

42 Main Street, Suite #7

Clinton, NJ 08809

New Jersey Licensed Psychologist #3498



**WE'RE HIRING**  
**AD SALES EXECUTIVES**



- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT

[careers@4LPi.com](mailto:careers@4LPi.com) • [www.4LPi.com/careers](http://www.4LPi.com/careers)





# PRIMARY ELECTIONS FAQs

## EXECUTIVE ORDER #144 VOTE BY MAIL PRIMARY JULY 7, 2020

### **Q. Who is getting a Vote by Mail Ballot?**

A. Under Executive Order #144 the County Clerk will automatically be mailing all active registered Republican and Democratic Voters a Mail-in Ballot. Unaffiliated Voters and Inactive Voters will be receiving a Vote by Mail Application specific to the July 7, 2020 Primary that must be completed and returned to the County Clerk in order to receive a ballot.

### **Q. Will I continue to get Vote by Mail ballots for future elections after this Primary?**

A. Voters that have requested to receive all ballots by mail will continue to receive ballots. Voters that did not submit an application for the July 7, 2020 Primary will receive the July 7, 2020 Primary Ballot only.

### **Q. I am an Unaffiliated Voter who sent in an application for All Future Elections- do I need to reapply?**

A. Yes- you will be receiving an application specific to the July 7, 2020 Primary. If you choose to return the application and vote in the Primary- you will need to select the party you wish to be affiliated with and you will receive that party's ballot. You may return to an unaffiliated status following the Primary Election by completing and returning a Party Declaration Form to the Hunterdon County Board of Elections.

### **Q. Will I be able to go to my polling place and vote on a machine?**

A. The Board of Elections may reassign your polling place. You will receive notification of where

your polling place will be. There will be no voting machines at the polls. Voters will be voting by Provisional Ballots. Voters with disabilities that sign a certification will have access to and may vote on an ADA-accessible machine.

### **Q. What do I do if I lose my Vote by Mail Ballot or did not receive a Ballot?**

A. If you lose your ballot or did not receive a ballot, please contact the County Clerk's office at (908) 788-1214 or (908) 788-1378 and we will assist you with obtaining a duplicate.

### **Q. The deadline to walk into your office in person for a ballot was 3pm on the Monday before the election- has that changed?**

A. Yes- you may walk into my office up until 8pm the night of the Election and request a ballot. But please remember – the ballot must be received by the Board of Elections by 8pm- so try not to cut it that close!

### **Q. How do I return my Vote by Mail Ballot?**

A. Your ballot will include a postage paid envelope. You may mail your ballot through the US Postal Service, deposit the ballot in one of 5 drop boxes located throughout the county (locations are posted on County Clerk website [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/countyclerk.htm](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/countyclerk.htm)). Please note: if using the USPS, the ballot must be postmarked on or before July 7, 2020 and received by the Board of Elections on or before 8:00pm July 14th, 2020 to be considered valid and to be canvassed.

### **Q. Do all Vote by Mail Ballots get counted?**

A. All ballots that are properly cast are canvassed and counted. Two common errors that cause a ballot to be rejected are the tampering with the Certificate of Election (Do not detach the Certificate and attempt to tape-

please request a new Certificate) and neglecting to sign the Certificate. Please contact our office if you require a new Certificate. Should your ballot be rejected- the Board of Elections will notify you following the Election with the reason why your ballot was not counted.

### **Q. When will we know the results of the Election?**

A. Due to the challenges of this election, the investigation of the provisional ballots and the time allotted to receive ballots, official results may not be available until the end of July. Efforts will be made to provide results as quickly as possible. Our goal is to be accurate- not fast!

It is suggested if you wish to vote in this election, you take advantage and use the Vote by Mail Ballot and avoid the polling location. A Provisional Ballot is a paper ballot that is similar to a Vote by Mail Ballot but requires the additional step of an Affirmation Statement. It is best if it can be avoided.

During these difficult times, all of us at the County Clerk's Office and the Board of Elections are doing our best to make sure you have the ability to vote and have confidence in the process.

The deadline to register to vote is Tuesday, June 16, 2020.

Registration must be mailed and postmarked June 16th, 2020, or delivered to your Municipal Clerk or delivered to Hunterdon County Board of Elections by 9pm on June 16th.

Mary Melfi  
Hunterdon County Clerk  
71 Main Street, PO Box 2900  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
(p) 908-788-1214  
(e) [countyclerk@co.hunterdon.nj.us](mailto:countyclerk@co.hunterdon.nj.us)

# CLINTON PUBLIC SCHOOL



## CONGRATULATIONS CLIN

### Classes of 2020 • Clinton Public School • North

Gregory Adair	Madison DeRemer	Andre Hudson	Aiden Meyer	Grace Rogan
Shan Ahmed-Rana	Alexander Doscher	Latashia Huff	Emma Miller	Maggie Rudeau
Jorge Arce	Chloe Evans	Dylan Jordan	Charlotte Monks	Jennifer Sabatino
Baylee Banek	Alejandro Findikli	Mehakdeep Kaur	Madeline Moore	Natasha Sahni
Robert Busch	Kyan Franco	Gianna Lauricella	Evan O'Dell	Anthony Santos
Julia Cutarelli	Sebastian Gonzalez	Ysabella Fiona	Madeline O'Neal	Daniel Singh
Abby Damboise	Marcela Gorsky-Ortiz	Margarithe Leonelli	Lance Obay	Eleanor Stentz
Daan de Jong	Natalie Gutsick	Joanna Mata-Rivera	Zoey Pipher	Grace Webster
	Olivia Hayes	Megan McIsaac	Karina Ramirez	Joseph Wegener
	Cole Hekler	Lucas Mendez	Aryana Ramos	Navel Williams
	Ashly Herlihy	Hope Menichillo	Sophia Roberts	

## CPS CELEBRATES GRADUATING EIGHTH GRADE CLASS

To the Clinton Public School Class of 2020: While this year ended in a strange and unforeseen manner, it should not detract from the almost 9 years you attended CPS.

Our wish is that you take the hope, caring and love all around you and continue to change our world for the better. You are capable of so much and the

foundation you have is strong. Dig deep, work hard and know that you always have a home at CPS. Once a Bulldog, always a Bulldog!

Best of luck in high school!!

Seth Cohen  
Superintendent/Principal  
Clinton-Glen Gardner Board of Education  
(p) (908) 735-8512  
(e) [scohen@cpsnj.org](mailto:scohen@cpsnj.org)

# THANK YOU





**THE CLINTON HOUSE.**  
Serving travelers and neighbors since 1743.  
2 West Main Street, Clinton, NJ  
908-730-9300 | [TheClintonHouse.com](http://TheClintonHouse.com)





# NORTH/VOORHEES HIGH SCHOOLS

## CLINTON TOWN GRADUATES

Hunterdon High School • Voorhees High School



Robert Alparone  
Julia Apsel  
Alaina Boutillier  
Claire Brownell  
Elizabeth Callari

Meredith Frank  
Cal Harris  
Dylan Harrison  
Jack Hermann  
Lauren Humphrey  
Maura Iazzetta  
Annalise Kelly  
Emily Klein

Zachary Kovach  
Ryan McKeever  
Hailey Ochs  
Grace Palahnuk  
Olivia Ramirez  
Nicholas Rizzi  
Jessica Roberts  
Logan Rogers

Jack Schaffer  
Jackson Tranquilli  
Juliette Warren  
Tessa Wood  
Estelle Yeung  
José Zarate-Diaz  
Kenny Hoffman



Evan Stoker  
Jacob Miller



### PARENT'S REFLECTION ON THE 2020 GRADUATION CLASS

If I'm being completely honest, I have been dreading the Spring of 2020 since my daughter, a Senior at North Hunterdon High School, was born. Little did I know that the Spring of 2020 would be much more tumultuous and unnerving than I anticipated. I figured I'd be crying non-stop for two straight months while experiencing all of my daughter's "Lasts" with her. Last Lacrosse season. Last Prom. Last sports banquet. Last day of high school. Funny how the COVID-19 pandemic seems to have taken away my anxiety over living through all of those "Lasts" by completely erasing them from my calendar. But how do I feel now?

After being asked to write an article on how it feels to be a parent of a Senior in high school during this world-wide pandemic, I spent some time reflecting on our experiences and I asked my fellow Senior Parent friends to do the same. Our overwhelming feeling is Pride. We are so proud of how our children have responded to such disappointment and

uncertainty. Of course there have been moments of stress, anger, sadness and frustration. The letdown of not returning to school for their final high school days was profound. But, overall, they have risen above those emotions and have learned that they are stronger and more capable than they ever thought they were. They are Resilient. They are Patient. And they have Hope.

I suppose we shouldn't be surprised. This group of graduates were born in the months following September 11, 2001. Perhaps, as parents, we protected and sheltered them a little more than previous generations because of that. Living in Hunterdon County, and especially in our quaint Town of Clinton, our children have had few experiences with real-world hardships. For many Seniors, this is the first real example of how life works. There are so many lessons that have been learned. You don't always get what you want, when you want it. And sometimes, you won't get what you want at all. Most have also learned that time spent with family is invaluable, and time spent with friends who feel like family should never be taken for granted.

We didn't need a pandemic to convince us that this Senior Class of 2020 is special, after all, they are 9/11 babies! They may be experiencing many disappointments but they have much to celebrate. Graduating high school is a marked achievement in their lives. The support that they are receiving from their school, and the entire community, is so special and unique to them. As parents, we are more confident that they are better prepared to be our future leaders because they are witnessing first-hand the importance of altruism and community support.

As graduation approaches, I am no longer feeling sad about all of the "Lasts". I'm overwhelmingly grateful for the bonus time we have been given with our daughter this Spring and I am so excited for hers and the rest of the Senior Class of 2020's future.

Laura Ochs  
Parent of a 2020 Graduate  
North Hunterdon High School

# ACTIVITIES REPORT

## EGGS, HEARTS, AND BEARS, OH MY!

Residents young and old bonded – from a safe distance – this spring via three community-building events spearheaded by Councilwoman Megan Johnson.

### Teddy Bear Hunt, March 24-April 3

Residents, business owners and local museums were asked early on during the quarantine to place teddy bears in their windows – stuffed or drawn. Response to the request was positive with bears spotted in windows across town. The teddy bear hunt provided a fun diversion for families, especially with stir-crazy young children, on their more frequent walks.

### Egg Hunt April 9-April 13

Councilwoman Johnson shared printable egg templates on social media for children in town to

color and tack to their windows. The project was a welcome Spring Break activity for children and gave residents another opportunity to stretch their legs while in search of eggs.

### Hearts Campaign April 22-May 8

Town also participated in The World of Hearts Campaign, an international campaign spreading throughout the world trying to share hope during the pandemic.

"A resident shared the idea with me and I thought it would a great way to share love and hope during these challenging times," said Councilwoman Johnson. "I think these hearts bring joy to people. We hear so much sad news these days and hopefully this can bring some happiness. It also is great for the kids to see something different on our walks around the neighborhood."

Councilwoman Megan Johnson  
(p) 908-208-6536  
(e) [mjohnson@clintonnj.gov](mailto:mjohnson@clintonnj.gov)

## HISTORY AND TRIVIA

### Trivia Pursuit in Hunts Mill Park March 15-April 5

Members of the Council created a social-distancing walking trivia game around the fields at Hunts Mill Park. Questions were created around themes, ranging from Presidential history to odd facts about the states. (i.e. Which state is the birthplace of the hamburger?)

### Clinton's Living History April 28

Long-standing Clinton residents shared vibrant personal stories about Clinton's past. The Zoom Meeting organized by the Elders Committee in partnership with the Historic Commission. A recording is available to all residents. Thanks to Councilmen Ross Traphagen and Michael Humphrey for organizing this.

# ELDERS OF CLINTON

## COVID-19

After a rousing start to our Elders Committee, COVID-19 swept in and delayed the development of the committee for the past three months. During our first meeting in February, more than a dozen volunteers showed up to offer wonderful ideas, including wellness checkups, low-impact recreation activities, history curating, and increased communications.

Some encouraging updates: 1) Plans for a weekly Mayor's Walk will start as soon as this summer. 2) The renderings for the former A&P property includes a proposed eighteen affordable housing units, providing our seniors a few additional affordable housing options in the near future.

The Elders will hold the next meeting once we

believe it is safe, which we hope is soon.

In previous newsletters we have highlighted the County's Mr. Fix-it Program, which keeps seniors in their own homes by providing health and safety related repairs. To be eligible, you must be a Hunterdon County resident, age 60 and over, or a person with a disability. The only cost involved are for materials (if necessary). Please contact Jane Griffith for more info at [jgriffith@co.hunterdon.nj.us](mailto:jgriffith@co.hunterdon.nj.us) and 908-788-1361. The County offers plethora of information, programs and services. Please visit their website at [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/aging](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/aging).

Councilman Michael Humphrey  
(p) 908-399-0698  
(e) [mhumphrey@clintonnj.gov](mailto:mhumphrey@clintonnj.gov)

# SHADE TREE COMMISSION

## AN ARBOR DAY LIKE NO OTHER

Typically, Arbor Day in Clinton involves the gathering of our third-grade schoolchildren around a hole in the dirt. The Shade Tree Commission then ceremoniously plants a tree and adorns it with a plaque celebrating an individual or group who contributed to our community. After a reading of the Arbor Day proclamation and a poem, each of the schoolchildren then receive a sapling to plant and to care for on their own.

With Covid-19 impacting so many aspects of our lives, we had originally thought to cancel Arbor Day. Then Shade Commission Member Dan Shea suggested we have a Virtual Arbor Day! Let's plant a tree, he said, to commemorate all the essential workers helping us through this crisis. There are so many people in town that all the leaves on a tree couldn't amount to all the good things they have done. This is our symbol of thanks to our healthcare workers, emergency services professionals, teachers, grocery clerks, mail carriers, garbage collectors and maintenance workers--amongst a multitude of other professionals and service providers--who get on the move each day to ensure we get through this pandemic.

On Arbor Day 2020, our Mayor still read the Arbor Day Proclamation and Dan read his poem dedicating the tree, which was recorded for posting on social media.

Schoolchildren were instead asked to fetch their seedlings at town hall along with a ribbon to commemorate their favorite essential worker to be placed on the Arbor Day tree.

Even though Shade Tree Commission did not meet in person, we pulled it off. In addition to the Mayor Kovach and Dan, many thanks to Councilmen Ross Traphagen and Michael Humphrey for recording the video, Town Administrator Rich Phelan for arranging for the planting of the tree by the DPW, Town Clerk Ceil Covino for caring for the seedlings, and Shade Tree Member Pat Daley for arranging for the pickup of the seedlings with the school.

We may wish to forget some of the troubles of this time, but we will not forget how our community has pulled together and how appreciative we are of those who kept us safe and provided food for our tables. Bring the kids down to East Main Street, to see the flowering cherry tree that will remind us of our mutual appreciation and goodwill for the years to come.

John Kashwick  
Chair, Shade Tree Commission  
(p) 908-735-8616  
(e) [jkashwick@gmail.com](mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com)

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

## MAKING STRIDES TOWARDS A CLEAN CLINTON

We are proud of how much progress Clinton residents have made in eliminating recycling contamination. More residents are taking time to rinse their recyclables, throw away their soiled pizza boxes, and use their recycling bins instead of the harmful plastic bags for Friday recycling collections.

Yet we have a growing problem. And increasing amount of litter is flowing out of spilled trash cans

and torn garbage bags, and into our wooded areas and water runoff zones in town. This is not only an eyesore, but is a threat to our wildlife, indigenous vegetation, and environmental safety.

While the town is active in removing harmful litter from our public spaces, the same cannot be said about several private properties.

The Environmental Commission is in the process of assessing the town's needs and reviewing our current ordinances, in order to find a solution to this problem.

## GREEN TEAM

We are seeking volunteers to make Clinton a better place to live.

Sustainable Jersey is a program that encourages towns to adopt best practices and sustainable initiatives that create long term improvements to our community.

Contact Chairwoman Veronique Lambert to learn more.

Veronique Lambert  
Chairwoman, EC  
(e) [vtlambert@gmail.com](mailto:vtlambert@gmail.com)



## INTRODUCING SOUTH BRANCH EMERGENCY SERVICES

### **Clinton First Aid & Rescue Squad & High Bridge Emergency Squad Proudly Announce a New Name and Details of Their July 1st Merger**

By working together as a single organization, the same dedicated group of EMTs and Rescue Associates will bring faster and better emergency care to both communities. Throughout each of their decades-long histories, Clinton First Aid & Rescue Squad and High Bridge Emergency Squad have pursued the same goal: Serving their communities by protecting the health and safety of the people who live in, work in, or visit their communities. Now, with the guidance of local residents, business owners, government officials, they are joining together to create one new organization to serve those communities better.

South Branch Emergency Services (SBES) will officially launch on July 1. ([www.sbes365.org](http://www.sbes365.org))

Discussions that led to this important and necessary step began nearly two years ago. In the face of shifting populations, growing demands on limited resources, and a decline in the number of volunteer EMTs and rescue associates nationwide, the leadership of both organizations knew something had to be done to insure they could continue to provide high quality emergency services for many decades to come. In January 2019, a Steering Committee comprised of community residents, local business leaders, elected and appointed officials, and representatives from both emergency service organizations was formed. After reviewing current conditions and considering ways to improve them, the committee concluded that a merger was the best option. The committee, Clinton First Aid & Rescue, and High Bridge Emergency Squad, began forming a new organization that will build on the strengths of its two predecessors and seamlessly serve both communities.

SBES will bring together the skills and dedication of High Bridge's 20 volunteers, Clinton's 90 volunteers, and Clinton's 40 paid full- and part-time EMTs and instructors. During emergencies, residents of both municipalities will continue to be helped by their first-responder neighbors. Both the current Clinton building at 48 Old Highway 22 in the Town of Clinton and the High Bridge building at 95 West Main Street in High Bridge will remain open. High Bridge station's evening staffing is currently on-call, but after the merger, staff will be on-site in the evenings, as will remain the case in Clinton. While they will sport new decals with the new organization's name,

High Bridge's white ambulances and Clinton's red ones will remain in service.

### **Strength in Numbers and Experience**

"High Bridge residents will see many benefits – more staff, more specialty equipment at our disposal, and improved response times," said High Bridge Chief John "JT" Silliman.

The strength of those additional numbers will benefit Clinton residents, too, agreed Clinton First Aid & Rescue Chief Frank Setnick. "We will also be streamlining operations by having one administrative group instead of two. And, since we will reduce any equipment or vehicles that are redundant, we will also reduce the cost for all."

"I know the merger is the right move for both organizations and the towns they serve," said High Bridge Resident and Merger Steering Committee Vice-Chairman James Harris, a retired Union Township firefighter and EMT who now works as a Union County 911 dispatcher. "More EMTs will allow for longer rest periods between shifts," he said. This will lead to better retention of personnel while helping them to achieve a better balance of family/work/volunteer duties."

"I have worked with both rescue squads for over 30 years, and they are very similar," Merger Steering Committee Chairman and Clinton representative Dan "Doctor D" Torrone, said. "Clinton and High Bridge share the same mission. Both are built on a tradition of volunteerism that often includes multiple generations of local families. Both provide excellent emergency care, yet wanted to improve the services they offer our community. This merger does just that."

SBES will be led by a mix of current leaders from both organizations. Setnick will be the first chief of the new organization. Silliman will be one of the first two battalion chiefs. Clinton President Sharon Burham will be South Branch's first president. High Bridge President Melanie Ikenson Sloyer will be it's first president-elect.

### **Building Upon an Existing Relationship**

The Clinton and High Bridge squads have always worked together: When one organization responds to a call for help, the other stands ready to step in if more hands are needed or a second emergency occurs. High Bridge is a 100 percent volunteer organization. Clinton is also mostly staffed by volunteers, but also has paid EMTs who cover the hours when volunteers aren't available both in Clinton and in High Bridge.

(continued on page 13)

## EMERGENCY SERVICES (cont.)

Since January, members of the two squads have trained and drilled together, too. Clinton Deputy Chief for EMS Bucky Buchanan, who will retain that role with South Branch, invited High Bridge volunteers to join Clinton at Clinton's training center. EMS squad members form friendships that feel more like family, and training together has helped to start forging those bonds among members of the two squads, Sloyer said.

Since January, members of the two squads have trained and drilled together, too. Clinton Deputy Chief for EMS Bucky Buchanan, who will retain that role with South Branch, invited High Bridge volunteers to join Clinton at Clinton's training center. EMS squad members form friendships that feel more like family, and training together has helped to start forging those bonds among members of the two squads, Sloyer said.

That training center and the varied types of training it provides offers big benefits for current High Bridge volunteers, Silliman noted. "They can take advanced training there, and take on additional roles, such as becoming part of a rescue team."

That training center and the varied types of training it provides offers big benefits for current High Bridge

volunteers, Silliman noted. "They can take advanced training there, and take on additional roles, such as becoming part of a rescue team."

### What's In A Name?

Members of both organizations worked hard to choose a name that would represent both communities. The South Branch in South Branch Emergency Services refers to the South Branch of the Raritan River, which connects the two towns. The new organization's logo features that river, along with an image of the Clinton's iconic Red Mill and the graceful arches from which High Bridge takes its name.

### Honoring the High Bridge and Clinton Traditions While Making History Together

High Bridge was incorporated in 1953, and Clinton in 1968, both by people who saw a need in their community, wanted to help, and were willing to work hard to make it happen. Each has saved many lives. And each has created its own community, one where multiple generations of the same families volunteer, and unrelated volunteers become family. "We still have some of the sons of the founders who are active members."

**TM**  
**TROPEANO McGRADY, PC**  
CPA'S • CONSULTING • WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING

908.534.5043 | Whitehouse Station, NJ  
www.tropeanomcgrady.com

## MATTRESS SALE!

We Have Sealy Posturepedic and Simmons Beautyrest Mattresses On Sale!

### SLEEP SHOP OF CLINTON

Twin Mattress	Reg. \$199	SALE \$89
Full Mattress	Reg. \$299	SALE \$99
Queen Mattress	Reg. \$399	SALE \$110
King Mattress	Reg. \$499	SALE \$150

**FREE FRAME!\***  
**FREE SETUP!\***  
**FREE SHEETS!\***  
**FREE PILLOW!\***  
\*With purchase of any  
premier set. In stock and  
delivery available

908-735-4666 • 20 Leigh Street, Clinton NJ

High  
Bridge  
Dental

Dr. David A. Orlans DMD

908-617-9161  
65 MAIN STREET  
HIGH BRIDGE, NJ



WWW.HIGHBRIDGEDENTAL.COM



**JEFFREY BUCK** Sales Associate

C: 518-368-3103

O: 908-735-5900 x6507

E: JBuck@weidel.com

W: jbuck.agent.weidel.com

**W** **WEIDEL**  
REAL ESTATE

## Curious about Today's Market Value of your home?

**Call for your FREE Virtual Real Estate Market Value Review Report**

Your personalized report will provide you access, on-line and real-time, to the updated marketing information used by real estate agents to help sellers and buyers have a successful and stress-free real estate sales experience.

**Call or Text me (518) 368-3103 for your Free  
On-Line Market Value Real Estate Review report**



# POLICE

## BEWARE OF SCAMS

Across the state there has been an increase in scams designed to trick you into handing over your hard earned money. Scammers use tricks and often times are very convincing. The scammers may impersonate your loved ones, they play on your emotions, and they insist that you send money or other forms of payment right away. In some instances, the scammers may even come to your house!

Never give cash, checks, gift cards, or any personal information to a stranger. Do not act impulsively and be sure to verify who you are talking to and what they are telling you.

Be aware that this is not a complete list of the tactics scammers use to steal your money.

**Call us if you are not sure!!**  
**Clinton Police Dept. 24/7**

## HEALTHY WAYS TO COPE WITH STRESS IN FAMILIES

Feeling emotional and nervous, or having trouble sleeping and eating can all be normal reactions to stress. Don't take it out on your family. It's hard feeling limited, no break and the financial strains of today. Many families are having the same issues. Here are some healthy ways you can deal with stress:

- **Take care of yourself.**
  - ◇ Eat healthy, well-balanced meals
  - ◇ Exercise on a regular basis
  - ◇ Get plenty of sleep
  - ◇ Give yourself a break if you feel stressed out
- **Talk to others.** Share your problems and how you are feeling and coping with a parent, friend, counselor, doctor, or pastor.

- **Avoid drugs & alcohol.** These may seem to help, but they can create additional problems and increase the stress you are already feeling.
- **Take a break.** If news events are causing your stress, take a break from listening or watching the news. Go for a walk or run.

**Recognize when you need more help.** If problems continue or you are thinking about suicide, talk to a psychologist, social worker, or professional counselor. Get help before you get to a bad place.

This is from the CDC please refer to their site for additional helpful information. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/suicide/copingwith-stresstips.html>

**Do not hesitate to call the Town of Clinton Police Department 24/7 at (908)735-8611.**

# HISTORIC COMMISSION

## VIRTUAL HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

The Clinton Historic Preservation Commission hopes everyone has been staying safe and healthy during this difficult time.

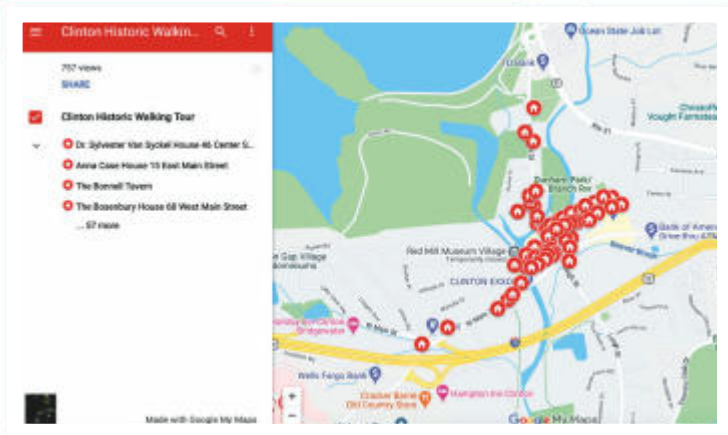
To provide for at home and/or safe social distanced recreation, the Commission launched the Town of

Clinton Virtual Historic Walking Tour! This takes our printed tour and brings it online for you and your family to explore from the comfort of your own home, or to explore on your phone as you walk through town.

To view the tour, head over to the Historic Commission section of our municipal website.

The Commission also recently reviewed a potential project that is being brought before the Land Use Board. The project abuts the historic district, giving the Commission the right to comment.

We hope to provide constructive feedback more often like this moving forward to ensure our town remains looking like the charming historic community it is!



Councilman Ross Traphagen  
CHPC Council Liaison  
(p) 908-894-9026  
(e) [rtraphagen@clintonnj.org](mailto:rtraphagen@clintonnj.org)



## MORTGAGE PEOPLE MOVE TOO!



I'm bringing my **20+ years** of local lending experience to CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC.

**With more loans for more borrowers, great rates & faster closings,** I can provide clients in Hunterdon County with better service than ever before!

**Contact me today to buy or refi.**

**Francis Gallagher**, Loan Officer  
D 609.467.4941 | M 908.500.2476 | F 609.467.4940  
Francis.Gallagher@myccmortgage.com  
[CrossCountryMortgage.com/Francis-Gallagher](http://CrossCountryMortgage.com/Francis-Gallagher)

**CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC**  
12 East Main Street Clinton, NJ 08809  
Company NMLS 3029 Branch NMLS 2539  
Individual NMLS 146205



All loans subject to underwriting approval. Certain restrictions apply. Call for details. CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC. NMLS3029 ([www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org](http://www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org))



## JK FINANCIAL SERVICES



**Jeffrey R. Kenyon**

732-735-6893

12 Lower Center St., Suite 9, Clinton, NJ  
jkenyon@jk-financialservices.com  
[www.jk-financialservices.com](http://www.jk-financialservices.com)

Securities and Advisory Services offered through GWN SECURITIES, Inc.  
A Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC  
11440 N Jog Road, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 - 561-472-2700  
JK Financial Services, LLC and GWN SECURITIES, Inc.  
are non-affiliated companies.



**INDEPENDENT  
LOCAL  
PERSONAL**

**BrightStar Care**  
HOME CARE | MEDICAL STAFFING  
A Higher Standard

Your loved one deserves *a higher standard.*

- RN oversight
- No minimum hours
- 24/7 availability
- Now hiring: CHHAs, LPNs, and RNs

**908-627-4600**

[brightstarcare.com/hunterdon](http://brightstarcare.com/hunterdon)

©BrightStar Care Independently Owned and Operated

## 69<sup>th</sup> Season - Ages 4-13

June 22 - August 14, 2020

In the ♥ of Hunterdon County



9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Extended Hrs. 7 - 6

**Open Houses:** March 15, April 19, May 3

21 Cratetown Road, Lebanon, NJ 08833

908-735-8336 • [winneday@ptd.net](mailto:winneday@ptd.net)

**Visit [winnewald.com](http://winnewald.com)**



## Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner • Bakery • Liquor Bar • Salad Bar

# Clinton Station Diner

**Home of the Smallest & Largest Burgers in the Country!**

0.4 Oz., 1, 2, 3, 7, 50, 105 & 256 Lbs!

**2 Bank Street, Clinton**

78 West Exit 13, Quick Right or 78 East Exit 12

**908-713-0012**



**ALWAYS  
OPEN!**

365 Days A Year!  
24 Hours A Day!

**Buy One  
Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner,  
Get One  
1/2 PRICE**

Customer pays full price for higher priced dish. Sides & Beverages not included. One coupon per table. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on Holidays. Exp. 08/31/20.

TCN

**Buy One  
Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner,  
Get One  
1/2 PRICE**

Customer pays full price for higher priced dish. Sides & Beverages not included. One coupon per table. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on Holidays. Exp. 08/31/20.

TCN

**Buy One  
Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner,  
Get One  
1/2 PRICE**

Customer pays full price for higher priced dish. Sides & Beverages not included. One coupon per table. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on Holidays. Exp. 08/31/20.

TCN

**Buy One  
Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner,  
Get One  
1/2 PRICE**

Customer pays full price for higher priced dish. Sides & Beverages not included. One coupon per table. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on Holidays. Exp. 08/31/20.

TCN

**10% OFF  
Any Catering Order  
Great for All Your Parties  
& Events!**

Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on Holidays. Expires 08/31/20.

## CLINTON PHARMACY

Since 1963

30 Main Street, Clinton

OPEN M-F 9-8, SAT. 9-4, SUN. 10-2

**FREE DELIVERY**  
MONDAY | TUESDAY | THURSDAY

**908-735-5316**

Fax 908-735-7945

DME Supplier | Wigs  
Post-Mastectomy & Compression Garments  
**WE ACCEPT ALL PRESCRIPTION PLANS**



**Anju D. Jessani, MBA, APM**  
Accredited Professional Mediator  
42 Main Street, Clinton, NJ  
[www.dwdmediation.org](http://www.dwdmediation.org)  
Free consult; 1:40 Court Roster  
**908-303-0396**



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • [www.4lpi.com](http://www.4lpi.com)

Town of Clinton, NJ

06-5343

## TOWN OF CLINTON NEWSLETTER

Town of Clinton  
43 Leigh Street  
P.O. Box 5194  
Clinton, NJ 08809

MARKETING MAIL  
PRE-SORTED

US POSTAGE PAID  
FLEMINGTON, NJ  
Permit 626

## STAFF & MEETINGS

### IMPORTANT CONTACTS

**MAYOR |** Janice Kovach

**COUNCIL |** Sherry Dineen  
Michael Humphrey  
Lisa Intrabartola  
Megan Johnson  
Rielly Karsh  
Ross Traphagen

**CLERK |** Cecilia Covino

**ADMINISTRATOR |** Richard Phelan

**TAX ASSESSOR |** Fran Kuczynski

**CFO |** Kathy Olsen

**ZONING OFFICER |** Allison Witt

908.735.8616

[contactus@clintonnj.gov](mailto:contactus@clintonnj.gov)

### MEETINGS

#### COUNCIL MEETING

- ◆ 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month

#### BOARD OF RECREATION

- ◆ 7:30 PM 3rd Thursday of each month

#### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

- ◆ 7:30 PM 2nd Monday of each month

#### HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

- ◆ 6:30 PM 3rd Wednesday of each month

#### LAND USE BOARD

- ◆ 7:00 PM 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month

#### SHADE TREE COMMISSION

- ◆ 7:00 PM 2nd Monday of each month

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

- ◆ 7:30 PM 2nd Tuesday of each month

**PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR ZOOM MEETING ATTENDANCE**



RECYCLE PICKUP: EVERY FRIDAY



TRASH PICKUP: EVERY TUESDAY



[www.facebook.com/clintonnjgov/](https://www.facebook.com/clintonnjgov/)



[www.youtube.com/channel/UCAVvQTo7InKHTKXKzO71IUw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAVvQTo7InKHTKXKzO71IUw)