

Town of Clinton

Newsletter



DECEMBER
2022



TOWN
OF
CLINTON

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www.clintonnj.gov

FROM THE MAYOR

Janice Kovach, Mayor

Where to begin? Another election season is behind us, and the holidays are right around the corner.

Let me start by thanking Council Members Sherry Dineen and Mike Humphrey for their seven and four years respectively on council. Sherry and Mike gave so much of their time and did so willingly without fanfare. Clinton is better because of their service.

I also thank Will Miska and Jen Frolich, who both stepped up to run for council. We hope they continue to stay involved.

Next, congratulations go to Ross Traphagen, Molly Padmos and John Kashwick – Ross was re-elected and Molly and John were

elected to Council. We look forward to working together to continue moving Clinton forward. The strength of our community is our ability to put aside partisan politics (after the election) and get to work for our residents and business community.

Finally, we have a great deal of work ahead of us – our water and sewer infrastructure continues to be a priority; providing the services that residents expect while dealing with unprecedented inflationary cost increases; and moving forward with our grant monies to provide a new HQ for our Police Department. We will continue to host town halls and our open council meetings – we encourage residents and business owners to participate and share



thoughts and concerns. I can always be reached on my cell 908-399-8921 or email jkovach@clintonnj.gov.

Wishing everyone a safe, happy and healthy holiday season and prosperous New Year.



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WATER SERVICE LINE SURVEY

In accordance with New Jersey P.L. 2021, Chapter 183, signed into law July 2021, all public water systems are required to fully inventory their customer service lines and develop a replacement program to remove all identified lead or galvanized service lines in the system. While the Town of Clinton Water Department (CWD) has no known or identified lead services lines in its entire distribution system based upon historical records, as-built drawings and observations during service line replacement or repairs (on the public water system side), the State of New Jersey is requiring that we identify all galvanized service lines on the property owner's side as well.

All water customers are being asked to complete and submit an online "Water Service Line Survey" to properly identify the customers type of water service line. The survey, which should take less than five (5) minutes can be accessed by visiting the Town's website at www.clintonnj.gov and clicking the "Water Service Line Survey" icon on the home page.



LEARN MORE

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 e-mail updates:

Town of Clinton
www.clintonnj.gov

Clinton Police Department
www.clintonjpolice.com

South Branch Emergency Services
www.clintonems.org

Clinton Fire Department
www.clintonfd.org

Hunterdon County
www.co.hunterdon.nj.us

Hunterdon County Department of Public Safety
www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/911

Additionally, several of the entities above have separate Facebook pages as well, so feel free to "Like" them for additional updates.

Galvanized

A dull, silver-gray color. Use a magnet - strong magnets will typically cling to galvanized pipes.



Copper

The color of a copper penny.



Plastic

White, rigid pipe that is joined to water supply piping with a clamp.



Lead

A dull, silver-gray color that is easily scratched with a coin. Use a magnet - strong magnets will not cling to lead pipes.



SNOW REMOVAL

The primary goal of snow plowing is to get as much as the snow off the road as possible in order to allow safe passage of vehicular traffic, especially emergency vehicles. The Town has a long-standing policy of plowing from "curb to curb," which ensures that the maximum amount of the road is cleared for vehicles, preventing the melting and re-freezing of snow on the streets.

Within 12 hours after snowfall ends, property owners are required to remove snow from sidewalks, streets and right-of-ways used by the public, and apply sand or ash to areas where slippery surfaces remain. Please do not shovel or blow snow back into the streets and sidewalks

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

June - October, 2022

JUNE 22, 2022

Bear Wonderings

Bears have been wandering through Town and Mayor Kovach encouraged residents to take down bird feeders and secure garbage cans.

New Police Officer

Alex Jaszyn, Patrolman 10th Class was sworn in. Accompanied by his parents and his girlfriend.

Park & Recreation Month

Mayor Kovach read a proclamation sent by NJ Recreation and Park Association to make July National Park and Recreation Month.

Town Logo

The Economic Development Commission is the town logo and gathering stories from residents as to why they love Clinton, and why they chose to live and shop here!

Grill Night

Clinton Fire Department grill night set for June 24. Please support our volunteer fire department!

2022 NJUCF Stewardship Grant

Shade Tree Commission discussed applying for a \$20,000 grant to tree planting or inventories, not for removal or maintenance. The grant requires a 25% match.

JULY 27, 2022

WWTP Resignation

Barbara Hartsell after 34 years as laboratory manager and supervisor is retiring November 1, 2022. Mayor and Council wish her all the best!

New Police Building

There is a line item on the State budget, \$3,000,000 for a new police building for the Town. Thanks to Councilman Bruno for reaching out

to Senator Mike Doherty for his support and the support of Senator Zwicker and Governor Murphy.

Summer Rec Program

This year has been an outstanding success! Thanks to Samantha LeStrange who did an awesome job!

AUGUST 24, 2022

"The Other Side of Jersey"

Senator Booker visited the Red Mill and met with business owners, Mayors, Commissioners and Marc Saluk, Director of the Hunterdon County Economic Development to promote tourism.

Hunterdon Games

Mayor Kovach announced this was a huge success!! Clinton came in second place, Union Township took first. Mayor Kovach thanked everyone who participated in this awesome day!!

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SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

New Appointment

Resident Denice Birmingham was appointed to the Shade Tree Commission.

International Champion Award

A proclamation was presented to Liam James Rogan for his fantastic accomplishments.

Anniversary Awards

Mayor Kovach presented gift cards to several employees for their years of service. Detective Alberto Bonilla, Sgt. Anthony Robbins 5 years; Tax Assessor Fran Kuczynski, Rich Phelan 10 years; Karen Cruse, Kathy Olsen, Patrolman Pete Tilstra 15 years; Cecilia Covino 20 years; Suzanne Ocello 25 years and Bob Neizgoda 35 years. Mayor Kovach also presented Barbara Hartsell with a bouquet of flowers, a check and good wishes for her retirement as of November 1, 2022. Mayor Kovach also celebrated other employees unable to attend: Steve Higgins, Eli Peretti 5 years; Lisa Kubinak 10 years; Bob Hoffman 15 years; Jim Crilly, Tim McGuire and Allison Witt 20 years; Art Dysart 25 years and Joy Wilson 30 years. Congratulations to everyone!

Senate Bill No 713

A resolution was passed in support or require school districts to include information on events of September 11, 2001, as part of NJ Student Learning Standards in Social Studies and requiring public schools to hold annual events commemorating September 11th.

Annual Town Picnic

Great turnout and a wonderful job of Laura Burr, Kristina Tuxhorn and all the volunteers. The town picnic was awesome!!!

The Hunterdon Black Hawks

Their first game will be on September 17th at Gebhardt Field and will continue through the fall.

Swan Benches at Municipal Bldg.

Matt Garfein, our building maintenance employee, spruced up the benches on the porch of the municipal building. They are beautiful!!!

New Generator

A permanent generator is being installed at the North Branch of the Hunterdon County library on Halstead Street, to be used as a cooling station, charging station or a heat shelter.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

"Go Hunterdon"

GoHunterdon held their annual meeting and awards breakfast. Clinton was given a bronze award for the New Jersey Safe Routes to School Program.

CCYA Proclamation

Mayor Kovach presented a proclamation to Bill Colantano for his years of dedication to Clinton Community Youth Athletics.

Playground Discussion

A lengthy discussion addressed the playground and the concerns and comments of all interested parties. An large number of residents where in attendance.

Hooper Canoe Races

Took place on September 25th. In spite of the drizzly weather, everyone had a good time!

Cost of Trash Collection

Environmental Commission is focusing on a 2023 educational program for residents to help everyone understand the cost of trash disposal and the impact on our environment. A "pickers weekend", where residents put out bulk items for others to take, such as a couch or a desk for example.

October 12, 2022

Haunted Mill

Begins October 14th and runs through October 29th.

FEMA Grant

Chief Kubinak reported the town has been fully reimbursed for \$90,734.18.

Superhero Race and Marathon

200 little Superheroes ran the race and had a great time! Proceeds from Base Camp are going back to the Booster Club for the playground.

Rabies Clinic

October 22nd at the municipal barn from 8:00-11:00 am. Same drive thru process, and pre-registration is recommended.

Clinton Fire Department

October 14th is the safety presentation at Clinton Public School. December 10th is the Fire Department banquet and awards.

October 26, 2022

Clinton Police Department

Officer Andrew Lerner has been recognized for his efforts supporting Autism Month. Coffee with a Cop will be held on October 27 at Designer Dawgs and JJ Scoops. A grant application has been submitted for an automatic license plate reader.

New Crossing Guards

Holly Smith and Tara Fioto were hired to as crossing guards.

Garbage Utility

An ordinance was introduced to create a solid waste utility for the Town.

Pumpkin Fest

Pumpkinfest was held last weekend! Wonderful entries garnered several prizes in many categories.

Tennis and Pickle Ball Courts

Courts are now open for all to enjoy.

Graveyard Tour

The Historic Commission raised \$1,500 for the façade grant program.

Halloween Parade

Clinton Public School Halloween Parade will be held on October 31st.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

John Creech, Chairperson, creechjohn6@gmail.com

TOURISM GRANT

The Economic Development Committee (EDC) is proud to have partnered with Main Street Marathon and Friends of the Town of Clinton Parks and Events, contributing to the success of the Superhero Sprint and Main Street Half Marathon of Hunterdon on October 8th. The EDC secured a

\$5,000 Hunterdon County tourism grant to revitalize community events post-Covid, which was used for the Superhero Sprint event. Main Street was packed with residents and nearly 200 children participated in the event, which raised \$3,000 for the Halstead Street playground project.

RIBBON CUTTING EVENTS

The EDC celebrated several of the Town's newest businesses including Nourish to Heal and Thomson's Specialty Foods. After participating in the Hunterdon County EDC Tourism Summit, the EDC will be looking at Old Route 22 as an opportunity zone; as well as leveraging the new year-round Farmer's Market location in the Community Center for agritourism, the 579 trail tourism success, the Beer Trail passport success, and more. Looking to the future, the EDC is rolling out its new Clinton branding initiative, Fall in Love with Clinton, with a new logo and communications campaign. Share the story of how you fell in love with Clinton at loveclinton@clintonnj.gov.



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AVOIDING SCAMS – DON'T BE A TARGET!

Americans over age fifty now hold approximately 83 percent of U.S. assets. As a result, they are prime targets. Far too many older adults fall prey to scammers who are looking to make a quick buck or get your personal information. Here are some scams that are all too frequent.

HOME REPAIR OR CONTRACTOR FRAUD

This can be from someone knocking at your door as well as a phone call or email. Be an informed consumer. Take the time to call and shop around before making a purchase. Carefully read all contracts and agreements before signing and make certain that all of your requirements have been put in writing, including cancellation and refund terms.

GRANDPARENT SCAM

A call or email to the grandparent posing as law enforcement or medical professionals claiming to represent a family member in distress (overdue rent, payment for car repairs, etc.). They might also pose as the “grandchild”. Scammers ask for money to be wired to pay for medical bills or legal fees.

FAKE VIRUS OR RANSOMWARE

Pop-up browser windows simulating virus-scanning software will fool victims into either downloading a fake anti-virus program (at a substantial cost) or an actual virus that will allow scammers direct access to the computer. Also, popups claim that the computer has been locked and requires payment within a very short time or the files will be deleted.

TECH SUPPORT SCAM

Scammers claiming to be from legitimate companies demand payment for unnecessary tech support services, or to fix a problem that doesn't exist. Sometimes scammers will create fake websites with a number to call to receive support.

EMAIL/PHISHING

A senior receives email messages that appear to be from a legitimate company or institution, asking them to “update” or “verify” their personal information.

FALSE INVOICES

Scammers will email a fake invoice for services or an item claimed to have been sent. It may even claim to have been billed to a bank account.

FAKE CHARITY

Money is solicited for fake charities. This often occurs after natural disasters or major events. Before giving money away, research charities on sites like Charity Navigator and CharityWatch.

SOCIAL SECURITY SCAM

Scammers pretend they represent Social Security Administration (SSA) and need money to adjust a senior's Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA).

IRS SCAM

A senior receives a phone call or voice message claiming to be the IRS. The scammer will say that the senior owes taxes and could be sent to jail if they don't receive payment right away.

MEDICARE IMPERSONATOR

Scammers try to steal personal information and identity by calling and asking for information in order to issue the senior a new Medicare card or offer you discounted additional coverage.

TIPS TO PREVENT BEING SCAMMED

DON'T ACT QUICKLY

Scams are based on fear and urgency. Always take a little extra time to think it through and evaluate the legitimacy of what you are being asked to do.

AVOID ODD PAYMENT TYPES

Scammers will ask you to send them money with a wire transfer, money order, payment app, or gift card. Legitimate businesses will accept credit cards. Be suspicious of alternative forms of payment.

DO NOT REVEAL PERSONAL INFORMATION

Con artists try to get your personal information like your Social Security number, account numbers, passwords, credit cards, or other identifying information which can be sold to fraudsters.

AVOID SUSPICIOUS LINKS

Don't click on links in unsolicited emails, texts, or social media messages.

NEVER SAY THE WORD “YES”

“Can you hear me?” That is often the first words you hear when answering an unsolicited call. Never say “YES”. Scammers have a way of extracting only the word YES from your call and use it as a confirmation that you verbally agreed to buy something.



The Town of Clinton invites you to

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

- ◆ Recreation
- ◆ Seniors
- ◆ Communications
- ◆ Land Use
- ◆ Historic
- ◆ Economic Stability
- ◆ Shade Tree
- ◆ Environmental
- ◆ Fire and Rescue

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WHAT IS SAFE TO THROW IN YOUR GARBAGE?

The holidays are here and we will be exchanging all kinds of new items with each other. That means that we throw away more items over the next coming weeks and we don't want to see you get a big fat ticket!

"The average household generates more than 20 pounds of household hazardous waste a year, and Americans generate 1.6 million tons of household hazardous waste a year. The proper way to dispose of items that should not be thrown in the trash is to either schedule a home-pickup service or locate a local drop-off facility or event that will properly dispose of that waste for you.

So, what should you be on the lookout for, and how can you avoid a \$500 state fine? We're so glad you asked!

Household Batteries

Some batteries you can throw away in the regular trash and some you will get fined out the wazoo for. There is a big difference between disposable and rechargeable batteries and their lawful disposal.

You CAN THROW AWAY the following:

- Alkaline batteries (AA, AAA, 9 volts)
- Button cell batteries from calculators or small items

You CANNOT THROW AWAY Rechargeables:

- Lithium-ion
- Nickel-cadmium (from cell phones, laptops)

These batteries must be processed as hazardous waste at a collection center.

Car Batteries

Car batteries are illegal to throw away in the normal trash. In fact, you should never have to handle them yourself if you work with a major auto repair shop. They will take them off your hands for you because by law they have a protocol for removal and disposal.

Smartphones/Tablets

Never throw these items in your regular garbage. These items can cause a fire so seek out electronic waste events.

Reusable Lighters

Reusable lighters can't be thrown away, they must be processed. The long fire-starters or the high-end Zappos have to be taken to a facility when they are ready to be thrown out.

Housepaint

Even if there is no lead in it, it is still flammable. You have to bring it to your recycling center.

Thermometers

Remember we used to have old-school mercury thermometers? Well, if you still have one you have to bring that to a hazardous waste facility.

Medication

So many people think they can just flush the leftover pain meds but that poisons our water in the worst possible way. Drug takeback events are typically hosted once or twice a year and that is the best way to get rid of unwanted medication. They incinerate the medication so it is disposed of without infecting any of our vital resources.

Aerosol Cans

The problem with an aerosol can isn't the can itself—it's what might be inside of it. There could be chemicals or propellants still in there, which could cause it to explode inside of a trash compactor. If you've completely emptied all of the contents from the can, you can recycle it. (Check with your local recycling service or waste-collection agency.) And an important FYI: Never try to pierce an aerosol can—to get rid of its contents or for any other reason—as this can be very dangerous.

Food Scraps

Wait—what? Doesn't everyone throw old food in the trash? Yes...but experts advise against it, or at least throwing so much of it in there. Food scraps make up a significant portion of many households' trash output and end up posing problems for the environment. Food scraps should not be sent to the landfill, because in that environment, they generate methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas. These materials should be diverted from the landfill and converted into valuable resources such as animal feed, renewable natural gas, fuel, electricity, and compost.

Listen, no one needs a \$500 fine right now so please be diligent not only for your pocketbook but also for our planet. Happy holidays!



CLINTON CONSERVANCY

Denise Birmingham, Chair, dbquilts184@gmail.com

HOW TO PREPARE FOR NEXT YEAR

Plant maintenance practices have shifted in recent years as we learn how to create better habitats for insects and wildlife. The principles of horticulture that I learned years ago as I earned a degree in Plant Science have changed dramatically. These changes include how we should be preparing our gardens for winter.

While a little pruning of taller plants for aesthetic purposes is okay, it is recommended that you let as many dry leaves and flowers fall to the ground and as many dead stems stand over the winter as possible.

Spent plant material is essential in providing native insects and wildlife food and shelter during the cold winter months. Leaves and flowers left on the ground create a layer of warmth and safety that many species will hibernate amongst, their seeds providing a vital food source for overwintering birds and small mammals, and the dead stems will play a major role in the spring when solitary bees utilize them for laying their eggs and raising the next generation of pollinators.

Leaving these materials and fallen leaves on your gardens will not inhibit plant growth next spring. In fact, it will actually help to protect your investment from harsh conditions in the cold weather. Over the winter, fallen leaves work to keep your plants' roots insulated and protected against extreme cold temperatures. In the spring, native plants have no trouble growing up through this layer which will break down over the summer, returning many nutrients to your soil. And lastly, the dead stems will act as natural support for rapid new spring growth, helping to reduce flopping and lessen the need for heavy pruning or extra maintenance throughout the year. Feeding insects all summer is moot if we take away their habitat in the winter, so please make it a point to leave the leaves.

The Clinton Conservancy is trying to balance making our gardens aesthetically pleasing while protecting wildlife. The dead vegetation is brimming with life so it is better to leave it alone!



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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

36th Annual Christmas Parade
7:00 pm, East Main, Main & Center Streets
Celebrating one of Clinton's most beloved traditions!

EVERY WEEKEND

NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 18

**13th Annual Red Mill Village
Festival of Trees**

12:00 noon - 6:00 pm, Red Mill Village

Featured Christmas trees, designed and decorated by community members, local businesses and organizations, will be displayed on the grounds of the Red Mill Museum Village, amid the historic buildings.

NOVEMBER 25 THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

Santa's Workshop

Art Museum Terrace, Lower Center Street

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

**Art for Art's Sake Professional
Development Workshop**

9:00 am - 2:30 pm, Hunterdon Art Museum

An enhanced professional development workshop designed to combine the National Core Arts Standards (NCAS) and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) framework with mindfulness-based teaching

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Candle Light Night

6:00 - 9:00 pm, Downtown Clinton

A night for strolling the streets of Clinton by the warm glow of candlelight. Find a special gift or two for friends, family or even yourself!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

5th Annual Santa Con 8K
8:00 am, Red Mill Village

Family-friendly 8k run focused on fun and the spirit of the season. Holiday attire required!
Register at www.santaconrun.com

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Santa Comes To Town

1:00 - 3:00 pm, Santa's Workshop, Art
Museum Terrace

DECEMBER - MARCH

Exhibits at Hunterdon Art Museum

- 2022 Members Exhibition -
 - Amie Adelman: Moving Lines -
 - Fran Shalom: Duck/Rabbit -
- Thread Hijack -
 - Tricia Zimic: Sins & Virtues -
- Cristina de Gennaro -
 - Member Highlight: Liz Mitchell -
- Info at www.hunterdonartmuseum.org

FEBRUARY 7 - 14

Sweetheart Week
Downtown Clinton

Enjoy Valentines related festivities in town

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

Clinton St. Patrick's Day Parade
3:00 - 4:00 PM, Main Street

Fun event for the entire family, sponsored by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Hunterdon County

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

Town of Clinton Cleanup Day
9:00 AM, Main Street by the Red Mill

We invite you to volunteer to help keep Clinton clean and beautiful. Sponsored by the Clinton Environmental Commission and Raritan Headwaters Association.

EVERY SUNDAY MORNING

Clinton Community Farmers Market
9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Clinton Community
Center, 63 Halstead Street

Organic food and hand-crafted gifts!

NORTH HUNTERDON - VOORHEES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Though the weather may keep us mostly inside this winter, there are plenty of activities happening in the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District.

In December, the annual dual winter concerts will be held, which are free and open to the public. Please join us for winter concerts on Thursdays, December 8 & 15, at 7:00 pm in the North Hunterdon High School auditorium or, at Voorhees High School, on December 13 for instrumental winter concert and December 15 for choral winter concert, both at 7:00 pm in the auditorium.

Winter sports season kicks off for most sports on December 15, 2022. Please check the sports schedules on the high school websites to attend a game or match. Admission for basketball and wrestling events is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students, senior citizens are free; cash only.

January is a busy month as scheduling for the next

school year takes place. Students will enter their course requests between January 11 – 20. School counselors are there to help if students and parents have any concerns or questions. 8th graders will visit the high schools in early January and 8th grade parent orientation night is scheduled at Voorhees on January 4 and at North Hunterdon on January 11. We look forward to welcoming the incoming Class of 2027!

A sincere thank you to the residents who voted in favor of the bond referendum, which will complete much needed maintenance projects at both high schools! Voter support means the district will receive \$2.6 million in state aid to cover 40% of the total project costs. Projects will begin in the summer of 2023. Again, thank you for supporting upgrades to your local high schools!

Please continue to visit our websites to learn more news from the district and any upcoming events!



New American Flag Raised at Clinton Public School

The Girl Scouts of Clinton Public School are proud to have worked with community representatives to retire a well-loved flag outside their school with one that has been flown at the United States Capital. The girls participated in a flag etiquette program learning the history and meaning to the American Flag, practiced how to fold it with a local Navy Veteran and Councilman Nick Bruno, then presented the new flag and certificate of authenticity to Principal Dr. Seth Cohen.

SOUTH BRANCH EMERGENCY SERVICES

Frank Setnicky, SBES Chief, chief@sbes365.org

DANIEL DIX

Desire to Serve His Community Motivates SBES Volunteer

Daniel Dix enjoys the energy and motivation he was raised to have and has turned it into a desire to serve his community as a South Branch Emergency Services Rescue Associate.

"It exhilarates me to take a piece of all of that and introduce it back into this organization and the great members that it has," Daniel, 35, said.

He grew up in an urban area, with family and friends that had careers in emergency services. Their experiences, including his father's 25 years as a police officer, influenced him to become interested in various types of technical rescue.

"Just seeing his commitment to the community was something that I



wanted to take part in as well," Daniel said.

Daniel has been involved in emergency services since he was 16 years old. Having received his EMT certification in 2005, Daniel now holds certifications in water rescue, confined space, trench rescue, vehicle extrication, rope rescue, firefighter I and II, structural collapse, as well as various ICS training, OSHA training, and HAZMAT training. In 2009, Daniel became a volunteer

firefighter as another means of serving his community.

He moved to Hunterdon County in 2015 where he currently lives with his supportive wife and two daughters, ages 4 and 6. Daniel joined South Branch in May of 2022 and has been enjoying the teamwork and opportunity to give back.

"We each have different motivations on why we do what we do," he said. "Together we all have one common goal, which is to have the ability to save life and property, and educate the thousands that live, work, and commute throughout our community."

South Branch Emergency Services is looking for volunteers like you! No experience is necessary, and training and gear are provided for members. Visit sbes365.org to sign up or learn more.

CLINTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Jeffrey Hedden, Fire Department Chief, jhedden@clintonfd.org

PASSING OF FORMER CHIEF

Former Clinton Fire Department Chief James "Jim" Colognato passed away in October. Chief Colognato was a member of the Clinton Fire Department for 51 years, serving as Chief from 1981 to 1985. Chief Colognato was a dedicated member and helped shape the department into what we are today.

FIREFIGHTERS RECOGNIZED

On November 7th at the annual Hunterdon County Fire Chiefs Association meeting, CFD Lieutenant Bailey Pyle and Firefighter Jeffrey Hedden were recognized for actions taken during the Union Hill Fire earlier this year. Also recognized was High Bridge Fire Chief Sean Smith, Lebanon Borough Fire Chief Kevin Saharic, and New Jersey State Troopers from the Perryville Barracks. All these individuals directly assisted in removal of victims from the fire building and no fatalities occurred thanks to their actions.



DRIVER TRAINING

CFD volunteers spent two days in November taking a driver training/safety class hosted by SBES, Inc. This 12 hour class consists of classroom and behind-the-wheel training and is only one part to becoming an operator of our trucks. Drivers must also go through pump school and our in-house driver training program.

FALL IN LOVE WITH CLINTON

Sponsored by the Economic Development Committee

When did you fall in love with Clinton?

We want to know. In fact, we want to share these stories with the world and let everyone know what a special place the Town of Clinton is. Email your story to LoveClinton@clintonnj.gov, and you might find it in our next newsletter, like these two below:



"On a snowy January day we drove across an old yellow truss bridge and came to a dead stop. Geese in the road. Not a traffic jam (our familiar traffic obstruction), but geese.

We were on a one week hunt for our new home, coming from the bay area of California where it took an hour to drive 10 miles. A place where cookie-cutter houses formed an endless vista. Where a trip to the post office took two hours out of your day. Where just a parking place at the grocery store was worth its weight in gold.

While slowing nudging our way through the geese, I took in the town. Did I really just land in a Norman Rockwell painting? I was in awe.

37 years later, we're still here. And I never drive home without driving across that old yellow truss bridge. I'm still in awe."

- TOBY PRESTON

"I fell in love with Clinton when my children went wading at the waterfall with their sitter. They were so excited when they got home that I looked into the town. We were living in Union Twp. at the time.

A walking school district was another plus, as we felt it would foster independence. The Victorian architecture was another attraction. We bought one!

Now that I've been here 45 years, I still love this town. It's still the best kind of living in my opinion."

- MARY-ANN SALVATORE

How Strategic Volunteering Can Positively Impact Your Career

Work experience is critical to moving forward in your career. But did you know that you can also gain many valuable job skills through volunteering? As an agent for social change, volunteering allows you to impact communities while also accelerating your career. Strategic volunteering enables you to learn more about what activities and fields you enjoy, identify your strengths, build connections, and gain important skills and experiences.

According to a report by the Corporation for National and Community Service, candidates with volunteer experience have a 27% better chance of finding employment than non-volunteer counterparts. Furthermore, in a Deloitte survey of human resources executives, 81% felt skilled volunteering should be considered in a hiring decision and 76% felt volunteering made a candidate more desirable—with the desirability factor even higher for volunteer experience among college graduates.

Some skills you might gain during strategic volunteering include:

- Public speaking
- Presentation skills
- Technology skills
- Communications
- Social media
- Project management
- Training
- Leadership

These skills aren't just worthwhile for volunteering; They prepare you to excel in your career. They help you become a better employee in any profession. The skills, experience, and education gained impress socially conscious companies long after your volunteer period.



Volunteering can help you reinforce abilities you're already learning at work, develop new skills and possibilities, and give you another venue to build leadership skills. All of these opportunities make you a more qualified and desirable candidate for your next job.

In addition to introducing new talents, strategic volunteering can provide you with valuable networking prospects and opportunities to connect with like-minded people. You never know when the connections you cultivate might lead to future career or growth opportunities. Perhaps it could lead to connecting with a social entrepreneur on a future project. Maybe you'll interview for and gain employment in your ideal role at a company that align with your increased experiences.

Volunteerism unites people from differing industries and backgrounds for a common goal. This creates a unique network for volunteers, and one completely unlike those that you develop in your job field. Not only does volunteering provide uncommon connections, it may also initiate rare opportunities.

The Town of Clinton provides a number of excellent volunteer opportunities. Enhance your skills, build new friends, and give back to your community. Learn more by visiting www.clintonnj.gov/volunteer-opportunities.

2023 ANIMAL LICENSE RENEWAL

Animal license renewals will be mailed in January. NJ State statute requires that all dogs and cats 6 months or older be licensed and have proof of a current rabies vaccination (contact the clerk's office at 908-735-8616 about free rabies clinics). Apply to register your pet at www.clintonnj.gov, and applications are also available from the town clerk's office.

LEASH REMINDER

All animals must be on a leash and have a current license. No dogs are permitted to run at large—owners will be subject to a fine. Owner is responsible for any incidents caused by their animal.





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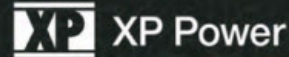
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SEVEN TIPS FOR WINTER HEALTH

It's wintertime once again! And whether you're looking forward to the season ahead or not, there are plenty of preparations to help you stay healthy this time of year. Here are seven tips to help you stay healthy this winter and into the warmer weather months ahead.

Get Up to Date on Vaccinations

Flu season peaks in January, so if you haven't already done so, be sure to get your flu shot. Everyone six months and older should receive the flu shot. Health experts warn it's especially important this year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and a potentially difficult flu season. For adults 65 and older, or anyone with a chronic health condition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also recommend the pneumonia vaccine.

Practice Proper Hygiene

With viruses such as the common cold, RSV, influenza and COVID-19 circulating this winter, it's important to be vigilant about proper hygiene. Protect yourself and reduce the spread of these viruses by washing your hands regularly with soap water, and staying home if you're not feeling well.

Protect Your Heart

Studies show when temperatures drop, the rates of heart attacks, stroke and other heart-related conditions go up, according to the American Heart Association. Cold weather makes your heart work harder to keep your body warm. Take these steps this winter to protect your heart:

- **Make nutritious choices.** Continue to eat a heart-healthy diet full of fruits, vegetables, low-fat dairy and lean proteins. Limit saturated fats and excess sugar.
- **Exercise.** Shorter days and colder weather can translate to less frequent exercise. Be sure you're still getting at least 150 minutes of moderate exercise weekly. If you must exercise outdoors, don't overexert yourself and move indoors on the most frigid days.



Drink in moderation. Don't let the season of celebrations cause you to drink more alcohol. Men should have no more than two drinks a day and women no more than one a day.

Reduce stress. It's a busy and stressful time of year. Be sure to take time for meditation, breathing exercises or practicing other stress-relieving activities.

Stay Hydrated

Getting hot and sweaty in the summertime is a trigger to drink water, but it's just as important to stay hydrated when it's cold, too. A good goal is to drink about eight glasses or more of water each day. Mix it up with herbal teas, fruit-infused water or 100% juice. Even broth-based soups count toward your fluid intake.

Get Vitamin D

More time spent indoors and less sunlight on your skin can lead to a Vitamin D deficiency. Getting adequate amounts of Vitamin D is crucial for bone health. Good sources of vitamin D include fortified cereals and low-fat dairy, such as yogurt and cheese, fish and eggs. If diet alone isn't enough, consider a Vitamin D supplement.

TOWN PROFILE

It is our custom to share a message from our dedicated Council Members as they step down from their elected positions.

SHERRY DINEEN *Council Member 2015-2022*

To the residents of Clinton,

Living in this community is the best. I have made great friends in town. I've raised my kids here. I've run miles on these streets. This is my happy place. This Town will always be part of the fabric of my life.

When I filled a Council seat for Dan Shea in March of 2015, I had no idea what I was getting into. I thought I'd wrap up in December and move on with my life. Little did I know I would be saying goodbye seven-plus years later.

I've learned many lessons sitting in this seat. Listening is important, as most people just want to be heard. Disagreement is part of the job. We can argue differing points of view in meetings and still go out for drinks at the Clinton House after.

I also learned that sometimes, when an outsider disrespects the people



who work for our Town, you have to put them in their place. ;)

I'd like to thank our Mayor, Janice Kovach, for teaching me what devotion looks like. Whether it is getting the power back on or picking up trash early Saturday morning, she always puts Clinton first.

Thank you also to my fellow council members, both past and present, who display dedication every day. Even with families, full-time jobs,

and personal commitments, they show up for meetings and put in the work. They love it here too and are driven to do what's best for our Town.

I'm going to miss sitting in this seat. I'm going to miss the people I work with. I'm going to miss serving this wonderful Town. Sitting in this seat hasn't always been easy. It has its thankless moments. It can also be very rewarding.

For whomever sits here in the future, this is my advice:

Listen to our residents – and each other.

Have healthy debates while working together.

Do it because you love it.

I did and that's what made the experience so great. Thank you. It has been my honor and my privilege to serve you.

Sherry

MICHAEL HUMPHREY *Council Member 2018-2022*

To the Clinton community,

THANK YOU!

I love this job! By allowing me to serve you on Council, you have literally changed my life. How?

First are all of the friendships, which have consistently warmed my heart. Thank you my friends!

Secondly, I have the honor of working with the most amazing municipal staff anywhere in the state. Thank you for being awesome!

Thank you for letting me create this newsletter for the last three years. It has been a labor of love.



Next, the bond created with my fellow Council Members and the passionate members of our commissions and committees (past and present) has been deeply inspiring. We did some really cool

things together for the town. Thank you for lifting me up every day for the past four years!

A special thank you to Mayor Kovach, a good friend who helped me envision how to selflessly help others thru local government service. Her encouragement led me to a new career in municipal management, where I get to regularly serve the needs of others in meaningful ways.

Thank you to my family, who put up with the constant stream of meetings, countless hours of council work, and early morning trash runs.

And finally, thank you to every member of this amazing community, for the privilege of being part of your lives. You have changed my life in the process, and I am forever grateful.

Mike

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To find out more, stop in and see us at 5 Leigh Street in downtown Clinton, or visit us online at: www.RiegelFCU.org.

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Allison Witt *awitt@clintonnj.gov*

MEETINGS

COUNCIL MEETING

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

RECREATION COMMITTEE

7:30 PM 3rd Thursday of each month

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

7:30 PM 3rd Monday of each month

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

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

PLATINUM CLUB (Seniors Committee)

4:00 PM 1st Friday of each month

TRASH PICKUP: EVERY TUESDAY

RECYCLING PICKUP: EVERY FRIDAY