

OUR TOWN

Issue 58

September 2004

From the Mayor's Desk...

Recently the Town of Clinton suffered the worst flood damage in recent years.

Not only was the pure volume of water greater than I can ever remember, but the speed at which the water rose was astounding. Truly a flash flood.

While we are all used to it, I am always amazed at the human spirit.

With a natural disaster such as a flood, we see the good in people arise.

From the unnamed individuals who helped people move their cars from Main Street, to the public works, fire, rescue, and police workers who arrive and do their jobs efficiently and professionally. And, to the

many who simply helped clean up, assisting their neighbors and friends.

We are fortunate to have the benefit of a public safety group within our small borders, which truly represent some of the most well trained, dedicated people in their fields.

Our Police Department currently covers our streets with professionalism, courtesy, and handling a daily and monthly volume that would astound most of the public. Currently, we see almost 30,000 vehicles that travel our busy streets daily, and that is only a small portion of the department's daily work load. The department's success is due to long term planning, and hours of training, and to a Chief and Officers who put Clinton's safety first.

While most residents are not aware of it, the Town of Clinton has a trained Office of Emergency Management. The OEM is made up of various members of the Town, our

Emergency Service Organizations, and is led by the Chief of Police. We train annually, and are prepared to respond to a disaster within the Town should one arise.

We have a superb Fire Department, well equipped and trained to respond at the first sign of a problem. This department is completely run by volunteers who work daily to insure that when they need to respond, they can, and do. It takes a special kind of person to run into a burning building, not from it. This service is available 24/7/365.

Our Rescue Squad also resides within the Town borders, and also provides coverage daily. Our squad has traveled throughout the world competing in Rescue events, and like the Summer Olympics, have made us proud by bringing home the Gold. Like the Fire Department, they not only cover the residents of Clinton, but also respond to accidents on Rt. 78 as well

as Rt. 31. The Squad is currently building a new home, and we all look forward to the grand opening in the early fall.

All three of these organizations function to support the safety of our residents, businesses, and visitors. Their work load is astounding, and far beyond the perception of most of us. While they work to provide the coverage to the community, they also, however, need your support.

When you reach to dial 911, you need them to respond. The time to help them be prepared to respond, is when we do not need them. Although the Town supports these departments, I urge all of you to measure the value of these public safety groups, understand how they improve the quality of life here in Clinton. Remember, additional donations can be made at any time and are always welcome and appreciated by these organizations.

Matthew Holt
Mayor, Town of Clinton

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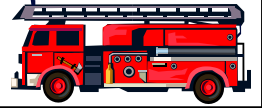
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NO PARKING

on ANY street in the Town of Clinton between the hours of 2 AM and 6 AM *except* Main Street & East Main Street where the hours are 11 PM to 6 AM from November 15th to April 1st.

Department of Fire Protection by Jack Daniels



Welcome Business

Owners! The fall season will be here before

you know it, so please follow these safety tips. Enjoy the upcoming seasons and be fire smart and fire safe.

Still continue to be careful when cooking outdoors. Use of propane grills and charcoal grills can lead to an accidental fire. Keep all cooking materials in an approved container and in a safe location. Propane tanks should not be located too close to buildings that a fire could affect the tank or grill fires affect the building. Never store propane tanks inside of your building, home or garage.

Please be sure to continue to practice fire safety in and around your home and business. Know at least 2 ways out of your home or business in the event of an emergency. Plan for the worst and have a meeting spot for everyone to assemble at once outside. Conduct regular fire drills.

Make sure that your hot water, heating and ventilation systems are still functioning properly. Verify that your chimneys are clear and intact. Improper functioning devices or clogged chimneys can lead to Carbon Monoxide poisoning.

Verify that your smoke/carbon monoxide detectors are functioning properly. These devices should be tested and cleaned regularly. Cleaning can be accomplished with a quick swipe of a vacuum cleaner hose. This will help the device to last longer too.

Please be careful during the upcoming Halloween season. This is a time when candles and decorative lights are frequently used. Candles can lead to an accidental fire if not placed properly or watched over.

As winter approaches, remember to keep those fire hydrants clear and accessible during inclement weather.

Please remember to practice fire safety during the Christmas holiday season. All too often there are articles in the news about families devastated by a fire at this time. Exercise caution regarding the holiday lights and trees. Do not become a statistic.

REMINDER: A Certificate of Smoke Detector/Carbon Monoxide Alarm Compliance is required for the change of tenancy or ownership in all homes and rentals. The State Division of Fire Safety has established the fees associated with this smoke detector/carbon monoxide certificate. This fee is based on the amount of time the application is made before the closing. Please make every effort to make the application to the Town of Clinton Department of Fire Prevention as soon as you know that you are planning on selling or renting a residential type occupancy.

Business Owners: A function of the Uniform Fire Code is to ascertain that there is a minimum level of fire safety in buildings other than one/two family owner occupied residences. With that said, I will be verifying that buildings subject to the Uniform Fire Code are at or

above that minimum level. This will include what is known as "windowless stories/basements". This "basement" and access to the basement is located below the grade line around the building. If your building has this type of space, there are certain minimum requirements that need to be met. Please contact my office to arrange for an appointment to visit your building. Compliance with this State Code is for everyone's safety. Please help me to help you in the effort of maintain our town Fire Safe.

A reminder to the businesses that the use of extension cords when used in place of permanent wiring is not permitted by the Uniform Fire Code. Check your businesses to verify that extension cords are of the correct type (not the residential type), not plugged into other extension cords, are not over loaded and are not used instead of permanent wiring.

During the Christmas season, a business is only permitted to have an artificial or a fully live/balled Christmas tree within their building. Please remember the cut trees are not permitted under the Uniform Fire Code.

If anyone would like to speak to me regarding the above-mentioned items or anything else, please contact my office at 908-735-2275. I would be happy to assist you in any way that I can.

Jack Daniels, Fire Official



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

October 3 through 9



Dept. of Public Works by Robert Cutter



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS UPDATE

Project Status

1. Olsen Lane Improvement Project
Fall - 2004
2. Concrete Paver Repair –Town-wide
Fall - 2004
3. County of Hunterdon Project –
Halstead Street Bridge - 2005
4. State of New Jersey D.O.T. Project –
Rt 173/I-78, Exit 15 - 2005
5. Halstead Street Sewer Re-lining
Summer 2004

6. DeMott Pond Dam 2005

Reminders:

I will be available for appointments in my office in the Municipal Building, every second Tuesday, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to discuss any problems or questions that can't be handled during regular business hours. Please call Mrs. Peterson at the Municipal Office (735-8616) to arrange an appointment.

WOOD CHIPS/MULCH:

Wood chips and mulch are available 7 days a week at our Wastewater

Treatment Plant. Contact this office for details.

TRASH RECEPTACLES:

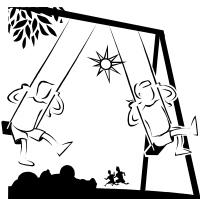
Please take all necessary steps to keep your trash dry.

BRUSH/YARD DEBRIS

Curbside on the **Wednesday, the week following recycling Day.** (See Town Trash & Recycling Card)

Tree Limbs and Branches to be placed at curbside. Raked debris to be in plastic bags **ONLY.** (No buckets or garbage cans.)

Parks & Playgrounds by Rosemary Pendergast



It has been a busy season for our Parks & Playgrounds committee. The Third Annual Town of Clinton Picnic was held on

June 26 at Hunt's Mill Park. Fabulous weather, wonderful volunteers, a great DJ, and a spectacular fireworks display all added to the huge success of the picnic. Special thanks to Frank Hooper for the firetruck rides, Clinton EMS Rescue for the helicopter fly-in, and Rita's Italian Ice of Clinton for the free Italian ice. Also thanks to the Clinton Police Department, the Town of Clinton Public Works Department, Clinton

EMS/Rescue, the Clinton Fire Department and the numerous volunteers who donated their time and energy to make this year's picnic one that many residents will remember.

The Summer Recreation program was one of our most fun-filled programs to date. Mr. Messinger and his counselors did an outstanding job keeping everyone busy this July. The enrollment in the program was the highest ever. Children kindergarten through 8th grade enjoyed trips to miniature golf, bowling, Chuck E. Cheese, swimming, and the movies, among other activities. It is with regret, how-

ever, that we must announce that this was Mr. Messinger's last year as the Summer Recreation coordinator, and his wife Carol Messinger's last year as a counselor. We would like to thank them for all of the time they put in to add to the summer memories of the children of Clinton and Glen Gardner. They will both be missed, but we wish them many relaxing summers to come!

Following the end of Summer Rec, our tennis program began. All spots were filled with future Pete Sampras' & Serena Williams'. The program was capped off with free Italian ice, donated once again by Rita's Italian Ice of Clinton.

Newsletter Committee by Pat Hatalla

Town of Clinton Website is Coming!



The committee is still in the process of evaluating different companies to create and maintain the new website.

While this evaluation is underway, we would like to solicit input from the community as to what information you would like to see on the Town of Clinton web page. We have a wonderful town and want to depict its great qualities and provide information to our residents.

Please contact Pat Hatalla on 908 730-7708 with your suggestions.



Police Department by Chief Matheis

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



The spirit of volunteerism has always been alive and well in Clinton as evidenced by our Fire and Rescue Services and the various other boards and commissions of the Town. For those who are interested, the Police Department has two more opportunities for residents to volunteer their time, talents and experience in our community.

First, residents who have language skills in any foreign language are needed as volunteer interpreters for the police department. We are interested in compiling a list of residents who have skills in any foreign language and wish to make themselves available to the department when the services of an interpreter become necessary. If you wish to become a **VOLUNTEER FOREIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER** for the Police Department, please contact Chief Brett Matheis at 908-735-2665.

Another opportunity to volunteer is as a Crisis Intervention Team Member. The Hunterdon County Women's Crisis Services- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) is a team of specially trained volunteer Advocates who provide immediate crisis intervention assistance for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault at police departments in

Hunterdon County and at the Hunterdon Medical Center. The Clinton Police Department works closely with Women's Crisis Services and CIT volunteers to provide emotional support, legal options and information, advocacy, and resource referrals to survivors of domestic violence during their time of greatest need. CIT volunteers receive training and support and work closely with law enforcement and the health care community of our County. If you are interested in becoming a **CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM MEMBER**, a volunteer experience that will make a real difference in people's lives, please contact Women's Crisis Services directly at 908-788-7666.

SCHOOL ROUTES AND CROSSING GUARDS

The police department asks parents to again remind their children of the "TOP 10 SAFETY RULES" that should be followed on the walk to and from Clinton Public School and after school activities:

1. **OBEY** the directions and instructions of our **SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS** at all times. They are acting under the direction, and with the authority of the Police Department to keep you **SAFE**.
2. **CROSS** streets **ONLY** at designated **CROSSWALKS**.
3. School children **SHOULD NOT WALK** along Old Highway 22 be-

tween the Blue Cactus Restaurant and the Leigh Street traffic light.

4. When crossing the street without a crossing guard, **DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY ASSUME** that a car can see you and that it will stop.
5. **WALK BICYCLES** in crosswalks.
6. Always **WEAR** a **BIKE HELMET**.
7. **DO NOT** go with, or **TALK** to **STRANGERS**.
8. **REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** or **BEHAVIOR IMMEDIATELY** to a School Crossing Guard, a teacher, a Police Officer or a parent.
9. Wear **BRIGHT, LIGHT** or **REFLECTIVE** clothing when walking **AFTER DARK**.
10. If you ever have any **SAFETY QUESTIONS** or you see **SOMETHING** you think may be **UNSAFE**, **TELL** a School Crossing Guard, a teacher, a Police Officer or a parent **IMMEDIATELY**.

SKATEBOARDS

As a general reminder - the operation of skateboards and roller blades is prohibited by Town Ordinance on the streets and sidewalks of Main Street, East Main Street, Lower Center Street and also on Leigh Street from Old Highway 22 to the Halstead Street Bridge.

Environmental Commission by Don Goeh

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

The County Hazardous Waste Clean-Up date is Saturday, September 11, 2004 at the County Complex, Rt. 12, Flemington. For information call 908 788-1110

Additional information may be picked up at the Municipal Building.

CLINTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

Don't forget to help the Clinton Public School Environmental Club. Please turn in your ink cartridges at the Municipal Building, Post Office or Grade School. The Club collects money for the cartridges which is used to help fund their trips and science projects.

WATER NOTICE



New Jersey state mandated **ODD - EVEN** watering schedule is in effect. Brochures and more details are at the Municipal Building.

Clinton Seniors by Lois Terreri

I certainly hope this has been a relaxing summer for everyone. It's hard to imagine, but by the time this newsletter gets to you, fall and winter will be looming on the horizon.

Since the county reps to the office on aging do not meet during July and August, there is not a lot of news to pass on to you.

There is one thing I would like you

to be aware of, and that is the availability of MEALS ON WHEELS.

This service provides a hot mid-day meal, delivered each weekday to the homebound elderly AND seniors finding it difficult to shop and prepare meals. I want to make sure you understand that you can request this service on a regular basis OR on a temporary basis. So if, for instance, you are recovering from

surgery and need the service for a few weeks or just a couple of days a week, please remember that it is available to you. A small meal donation is requested.

For a copy of a sample week's menu (regular or sodium controlled) or more information on the program, call **MEALS ON WHEELS AT 735-8332**.



Leaf Collection

Leaf collection will begin in Mid-October and will continue until approximately Mid-December. There will be multiple trips through all neighborhoods for the duration of the leaf collection program, so if leaves are not out when the crew goes by they will be picked up next time. The schedule is subject to inclement weather and other municipal emergencies. If you have any questions, please call the Dept. of Public Works on 735-8616.

Clinton Community Youth Athletics Basketball League



Hot on the heels of the inaugural and very successful Summer 2004 Open Basketball at the Community Center outdoor basketball court, the CCYA Basketball League is setting its sights on a number of activities for this fall. The summer program included open basketball Tuesday and Thursday evenings for 3rd thru 8th grade CPS students. As many as 50 children showed up on the

biggest nights! Thanks to all the volunteer CCYA coaches and parents, for all of their hard work.

As the upcoming basketball season approaches, parents should keep an eye out for the registration form that is handed out each fall at CPS. In an attempt to improve the quality of the league for all participants (children, coaches, parents, etc.), some new clinics are planned, including those for coaches and referees. Tryouts are scheduled for November 13 for all

boys and girls in grades 3-8.

Any parents who are interested in volunteering their time as a coach, assistant coach, or referee.

Please contact Robert Ragozine at 730-0808.

Also, please see our website at www.NorthHunterdonBasketball.com for additional information and league contacts.



Waste Clean-Up

The County Hazardous Waste Clean-Up date is
Saturday, September 11, 2004
at the County Complex, Rt. 12, Flemington.
For information call 908 788-1110



Free Health Services *It only takes a moment.....*



Hunterdon Regional Cancer Center is offering free Cancer Screening for:

- Breast Cancer
- Cervical Cancer
- Colorectal Cancer
- Prostrate Cancer

For Men and Women:

- Without Adequate Health Insurance
 - Who Meet Eligibility Guidelines
 - Age Restrictions apply
- Services are provided at several

locations throughout Hunterdon County.

For more information, contact the Hunterdon Regional Cancer Center at 908-237-5409.

Council Highlights by Colleen O'Reilly



May 11, 2004

~ Mayor Holt announced that the resignation was received and accepted from Eva Outhwaite, Environmental Commission. Commission Chairman, Don Goehe sent Ms. Outhwaite a letter of thanks for her service on the commission.

~The Planning Board submitted four properties to be rezoned in the updated zoning map. Mayor Holt requested the Council to review the changes and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

~Parks & Playground Committee reported that the Senior Citizens Luncheon was held on May 2, 2004 and was a big success with 50 residents attending.

~Mr. Cutter discussed the bridge at the intersection of Leigh Street and Route 173 regarding the signal modification. Mr. Cutter is continuing to discuss the possibility of an added turning arrow with the DOT.

~ Building & Grounds reported that the Clinton Business Group has asked to adopt the flag pole by the Clinton House and would maintain plantings and display a plaque indicating its efforts. The Committee has agreed to this request.

May 25, 2004

~Scott Smith, President of the Clinton Business Group, thanked the Town for the support in their recent

“Adopt a Road” project which took place on May 23, 2004. Many volunteers came out and cleaned up Route 173 in Town.

~Mayor Holt commended Paul Klitsch, Superintendent of the Wastewater Treatment Plant for celebrating 25 years with the Town of Clinton.

~Patriot Media completed their upgrade to service seven months ahead of schedule.

~ A proclamation was read aloud by Mayor Holt declaring May 29, 2004 World War II Veterans Recognition Day.

~Councilwoman Garber announced that the Clinton Guild is offering anyone interested in purchasing fences around the trees on Main Street at a cost of \$22 each.

~ Councilwoman Kovach reported that the Historical Commission is working on prices for house plaques to be displayed on homes in Clinton.

~Councilman Christenson reported that the Fire Company will be holding a fund raiser, raffling off a Jeep.

June 8, 2004

~ Mayor Holt announced the “Click it or Ticket” campaign that the Clinton Police participated in by focusing on seat belt and child safety seat usage during May.

~ Proposed Zoning Amendments

were discussed on 4 different lots in Clinton; the lots affected are 4 properties that are currently split between commercial and residential zones and will be placed entirely in the residential zone.

~ Councilman DeCleene reported that Mr. Cutter is making recommendations to the NJ DOT regarding the turning arrow and right turn on red at the intersection of Leigh Street & Route 173.

~ Councilman Bahto reported that the new boat is in for the Rescue Squad and the new rescue truck is expected in mid June. The opening date for the new building is expected in early September.

June 22, 2004

~ Mayor Holt read a special Proclamation to the Clinton Public School Lady Bulldogs Softball Team for their success in winning their district.

~Mayor Holt announced appointments of Giedre Riggio and Craig Rogers to the Historic Commission.

~ Mr. Cutter reported on the success of his Stormwater Management Class at Clinton Public School.

~ Councilman Christenson reported that the South Branch Raritan River Clean Up was a huge success with 440 volunteers cleaning up.

~ Mrs. Pender and Mr. Hetzel reported on the success of the Flag Day Celebration.

Around the Town Fall into Autumn with these local events by Ann Holt

(Items for the Dec./Jan./Feb. newsletter should be submitted to Ann Holt [735-0964] by Nov. 12)

Continuing through October 3:

THE PAINTINGS OF CHRISTOPHER KOEP

AMERICAN ABSTRACT ARTISTS

60TH ANNIVERSARY

Hunterdon Museum of Art

Tuesdays through Sundays 11 to 5

Sunday, September 19

BLACKSMITH HAMMER-IN AND TOOL SWAP

Red Mill Museum 10 to 4

Sunday, September 26:

CLASSIC CAR SHOW

A wide variety of makes and models-

Pre-register to show, or come to look

A new event at the Red Mill Museum

10 to 4

Saturday, October 2:

ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW

Sponsored by the Independent

Telecommunications Pioneers Association

Clinton Community Center 9 to 3

BOOK SIGNING: "G" is for Garden State

Illustrator Doris Ettlinger and Eileen Cameron,

author, present their new book about N.J.

Clinton Book Shop 1 to 3

Saturday and Sunday, October 2 and 3:

RED MILL AUTUMN FEST

Fairy Tale Theater- Scarecrows -

Crafts-Music-Food-pumpkins,

and much, much more 10 to 4

Thursday, October 4:

BOOK SIGNING:

The Great Tree of Avalon: Child of the Dark Prophecy

Author T.A. Barron

presents another in the popular

Merlin series for young adults

Clinton Book Shop 11 to 12 noon

Friday, October 8:

SALVATION ARMY NORRIDGE CITADEL BAND

Clinton Presbyterian Church 7:30 p.m.,

Opening Sunday, October 17:

OUTRAGEOUS HOUSE

Unusual, eccentric, "outrageous, but functional furnishings for the home and running through December:

ANNE STEELE MARSH PRINT COLLECTION

Hunterdon Museum of Art

Tuesday through Friday 1-5

Friday and Saturday, October 22 -23:

FALL RUMMAGE SALE

Clinton Presbyterian Church

Friday 9 to 1 Saturday 8 to 1

Friday, October 29:

PUMPKIN FEST IN DOWNTOWN CLINTON

Come judge for yourselves the best

in the pumpkin carving contest!

Fridays and Saturdays,

October 22 and 23, 29 and 30:

THE HAUNTED MILL

The scariest and safest around, with a haunted hay ride at the end

RED MILL MUSEUM

Starting at 6 each night

Saturday and Sunday, November 6 and 7:

CIVIL WAR WINTER ENCAMPMENT

Reenactors show military cold weather activities,

including preparation for the holidays

Red Mill Museum 10 TO 4

Wednesday, November 24:

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Clinton Presbyterian Church 7:30 All welcome!

Friday and Saturday November 26 and 27:

DICKENS' DAYS

Fairy Tale Theater, Museum Tours

and Crafts at the Red Mill

Holiday Shopping, Horse Rides, Entertainment,

Carolers, and other Musicians Downtown



And Coming on Friday, December 3:
CLINTON'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE
 which this year will not be snowed out!





Newsletter
Town of Clinton
43 Leigh Street
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Clinton, NJ 08809

PRESORTED
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RECYCLING DATES FOR 2004

October 5, 19,

November 2, 16, 30

December 14, 28



Calendar of Town Committee Meetings at Municipal Bldg.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING — 7:30 PM Third Wednesday of each month

ASSESSOR — 4:30 to 5:30 PM Second Wednesday of each month

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT — 7:30 PM Fourth Monday of each month (as needed)

BOARD OF HEALTH — 7:30 PM Fourth Monday of each month (as needed)

BUILDING INSPECTOR — 7:00 to 8:00 PM Every Wednesday; 9:00 to 12 Noon Thursdays

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION — 7:30 PM Fourth Monday of each month

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE — 7:00 PM Third Wednesday of each month

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS — 7:30 PM Third Thursday of each month

PLANNING BOARD — 7:30 PM First Tuesday of each month

SHADE TREE COMMISSION — 7:30 PM Third Monday of each month

For information regarding placing articles in this newsletter, contact
Pat Hatalla (730-7708) or Lou Pennucci (735-5641).