

‘Our Clark’ Hometown News

FROM THE MAYOR’S DESK

Spring has arrived in the township.

With it comes the return of many seasonal services residents have grown to appreciate. Branch, grass and bulky pick-ups are all available. Residents should visit

www.ourclark.com for a list of days and dates for pick up in their ward. Please refrain from putting items at curb

more than a week in advance of any pick up.



The Recreation Department is gearing up for their annual Summer Recreation Camp and the pool is making preparations for a great season too.

Clark’s municipal budget has been submitted to the state for 2022. I am proud to report our total budget comes in \$400K less than the 2% cap permitted by the state.

Home revaluations will continue in the township through early autumn. Please work cooperatively with inspectors to either let them into your home or to set up a date for a virtual tour. This process is mandated by the Union County Board of Taxation and the State Division of Taxation. It is meant to bring about tax equalization whereby property owners pay their fair share of taxes based on the true market value of their property.

Regards,

Mayor Salvatore Bonaccorso



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

DPW and You	2
Election Updates	3
Inside Story	3
New Memorial Day Parade	4
Summer Camp/Pool	5
Health News	6
L’Oréal R&D Center	8

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Grass Pick Up Begins in May
- Clark PD Has Moved
- Senior Citizens’ Corner
- Get Creative with the Library
- Give and Share Program

GRASS PICK-UP BEGINS THIS MONTH



Grass Pick-Up - Begins Tuesday, May 4. Grass must be placed curbside in biodegradable bags. We encourage residents to mulch grass to maintain lawn health.

Branch Pick-Up - Pick up is the fourth week of the month from April through September only. Branches may be placed curbside starting on the third week only.

Appliance/Metal pick up - Mondays by appointment only. Call 732-428-8402 no later than 3 p.m. the Friday before.

Electronic Drop-off - Equipment can be dropped off at the DPW Garage behind the Police Department on the last Saturday of each month between

the hours of 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Motor Oil Pick-Ups - Used motor oil can be dropped off at the DPW yard located behind Clark Police Department, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Leaf Pick-Up - starts in October with final pick-up of the season on December 15. Leaves should be in street in front of your home and one foot from the curb to allow water to flow to catch basins.

[Check here for a list of acceptable items for pick-up.](#)

“Be a Neighbor to a Neighbor”... Please print a copy of this newsletter for those in town you know do not use or have access to electronic media.

DID YOU KNOW?

There is a recycling app that holds all the local and county recycling dates and events.

Get the App and never miss a pick-up again.

You can search for your Zone’s pick-up date and special Union County recycling events like Shredding, Hazardous Waste and more.

Visit www.recyclecoach.com or Search ‘Recycle Coach’ in Apple and Android Stores.



CLARK PD NEW HEADQUARTERS

The Clark Police Department has moved into their new facility. However, construction continues at the site on the Council Chambers/Court Room. During this time there is no access to the building through the front lobby.

Those with urgent business should call the Police Desk administrative line at 732-388-

3434 first. Upon arrival, go to the double doors in the rear of the building, call the desk again and someone will come out to assist you. Thank you for your patience as construction wraps up.



CLERK'S CORNER: ELECTION UPDATE

Governor Murphy announced that New Jersey's June 8th Primary Election will be conducted "primarily in-person," which is a welcome change from last year's mail-in elections. The regular polling places will be open for all registered voters who want to cast their ballots on the voting machines.



New to the Election process, the Governor signed a new law enacting Early Voting in New Jersey. The County Board of Elections will select the polling locations. For early voting, a registered voter is not restricted to his or her own town but may cast their ballot at any one of the Union County drop boxes starting Friday, April 23 or at early voting sites, which have not yet been announced.

May 18th is the last day to register to vote in the June Primary Election. Registration forms must be postmarked or received by the Municipal Clerk by this date. If you are not sure if you are registered, call the Clerk's office at 732-388-3669. If you are currently a registered voter, no action is necessary.

Want news updates from the Township? Visit ourclark.com, scroll down and click on "Notify Me" on the left side of the page. Sign up for News Flashes and more.

FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR

The Homestead Rebate for tax year 2017 was applied to the 2nd Quarter, May 1, 2021, Property Taxes. Homeowners who have already paid 2nd Quarter taxes will see their rebate applied to the 3rd Quarter, August 1, 2021, Property Taxes.

The Property Tax Reimbursement (PTR) booklets have been mailed by the State of New Jersey. The Tax Collector's Office is hoping to have them by May 2021. Citizens that have not received a booklet can call the State of New Jersey directly at 1-800-882-6597.

Second Quarter taxes are due May 1st, 2021, there is a 10-day grace period, interest will begin to accrue on May 11th,

CLARK EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

As we move forward through the pandemic and one of the most active winters in many years, thoughts are moving to picnics, swimming, warmer weather and hopefully vacation travel. Residents should prepare themselves for all the season ushers in and what the last one left behind.

It is critical to check around your home as well as that of your neighbors for hidden damage due to the harsh winter weather. Hanging tree limbs, damaged exterior electrical wiring and loose or damaged siding are just a few of the areas to inspect. These problems whether on your property or that of your neighbor are critical to correct and may help avoid future damage or injury.

In recent years we have seen an increase in power interruptions due to extreme heat of the summer with severe thunderstorms. It is wise to prepare an emergency kit in case a quick evacuation is necessary. [Here is excellent information on such a kit.](#)

You should have a plan in place in case a relocation is needed. It is better to arrange to stay with family and friends now and hope you never have to use it.

Clark OEM is always available to answer any questions you may have and can be reached at clarkoem@ourclark.com.



IMPORTANT MAY DATES

RECREATION:

5/31—Memorial Day Parade

GOVERNMENT:

5/3 - Council Workshop Meeting

5/3—BOE Meeting

5/17— Council Meeting

5/31—Town Hall Closed

BULKY PICK-UP

5/3—Ward 1

5/10—Ward 2

5/17—Ward 3

5/24—Ward 4

RECYCLE

5/1 & 5/15—Zone 2

5/8 & 5/22—Zone 1

GRASS PICK-UP

5/4

5/11

5/18

5/25

BRANCH PICK-UP

5/17—Place Curbside

5/24—Pick-up Begins

**ALL-NEW
MEMORIAL DAY
PARADE
COMING!!!!**



Want to know what is so exciting and new about this year's parade? One word... EVERYTHING. Grab the kids, the extended family, neighbors, and friends and get yourself to Westfield Avenue this year to see a Clark Memorial Day Parade like none before.

This year's parade will include:

- A Special Grand Marshal
- Over 20 Classic Cars
- Stilt walker and Characters
- The Blue Knights Motorcycle Club
- Color Guards
- and other special surprises!

Do not miss a chance to show your support for Clark and America's Fallen Heroes.

IMPORTANT JUNE DATES

GOVERNMENT:

6/7 - Council Workshop Meeting

6/7—BOE Meeting

6/21— Council Meeting

BULKY PICK-UP

6/7—Ward 1

6/14—Ward 2

6/21—Ward 3

6/28—Ward 4

RECYCLE

6/5 & 6/19 Zone 1

6/12 & 6/26—Zone 2

GRASS PICK-UP

6/1

6/8

6/15

6/22

6/29

BRANCH PICK-UP

6/21—Place Curbside

6/28—Pick-up Begins

SENIOR CITIZEN CORNER

The Senior Fitness Center at Clark Recreation Center is open Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Tai Chi (Mondays – 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) and Chair Yoga (Fridays 9:15 a.m.-10:00a.m. and Line Dancing (Fridays 10:00-11:00 a.m. and Zumba Gold (Wednesdays 9:30-10:15 a.m.) classes are underway too.

If games are more to your liking Mahjongg (Mondays 11:00 a.m. - 3:00p.m.) and Rumikub (Tuesdays 1:00-3:00p.m.) groups are underway.

For more information about these and other senior activities call the Recreation Department at 732-428-8400.



SUMMER'S COMING TO CLARK RECREATION

Applications are now available for the Clark Pool online or in person.

Residents looking to stay cool and have fun this summer are invited to [register online](#) .

We are looking forward to another fun and safe season and bringing back all your favorite amenities!



Summer Recreation Camp Registration is Open

The Recreation Center is preparing for summer camp. [Register online now.](#)

[Sign up for Clark News](#) from township to hear about other events and more.

CLARK HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The New Jersey Environmental Health Association acknowledged Clark's Health Department for their tireless efforts to serve the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health Officer Nancy Raymond and David DeRosa, Registered Environmental Health Specialist, and Assistant to Health Officer have been Clark's frontline healthcare champions throughout the pandemic.

They have provided guidance to the community, local township officials as well as individuals and families throughout the health crisis. They have also performed intensive contact tracing, and statistical reporting to other government agencies.

All of these duties were added to the everyday duties of the office prior to the pandemic such as investigating communicable diseases, food inspections, nuisance complaints, animal licensing and rabies clinics, public pool investigations and maintaining vital statistics such as births, deaths and marriages.



MOBILE MEALS AVAILABLE TO CLARK RESIDENTS



Clark residents that cannot provide meals for themselves can reach out to Mobile meals of Westfield for help. This non-profit organization has been delivering nutritious meals along with vital and caring contact to their neighbors in need since 1968.

Meals are delivered directly to each client's doorstep. Mobile Meals serves the communities of Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield. Those in need or know someone in need of the service are encouraged to contact the organization at 908-233-6146 or [visit their website](#).

MOSQUITO CONTROL REMINDERS

Summer is around the corner and with it comes mosquitos. More than just a seasonal nuisance these insects can carry disease.

They rely on stagnant water to reproduce so residents are reminded to survey their property for areas of standing water including flower pots, wheelbarrows, clogged downspouts or gutters, old tires, lids, sunken pool covers, unmaintained pools and more.



Unmaintained pools must be remedied in one of three ways according to the Health Department:

- Remove Pool
- Equip with operational filter and pump
- Use spring loaded or other non-sag pool cover, stretched as tightly as possible. (No filled milk jugs)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Clark Health Department has been participating in the **"Give and Share Program"** with St. John the Apostle Food Pantry for the last 10 years.

Through this partnership food is collected and distributed to those in need on the third Tuesday and Thursday of the month.

Donations can be dropped at the Health Office in town hall, please call to prearrange since the building remains closed to the public.

Those in need of food pantry items can also call for more information.



732-428-8405

MAY EVENTS AT CLARK LIBRARY

Children's Programs

[Virtual] Baby Bookworms
Tuesday, May 4, 11, 18, 25 at
10:00am

[Virtual] May the Fourth Be with
You!
Tuesday, May 4 at 4:00pm

[Virtual] Cinco de Mayo Story &
Craft
Wednesday, May 5 at 4:00pm

[Virtual] Pajama Time Storytime
Wednesday, May 5 at 7:00pm

[Virtual] 8 Minute Lego Challenge
Thursday, May 6 at 4:00pm

[Virtual] Preschool Story & Craft
Friday, May 7, 14, 21 at 10:00am

Pick Up & Zoom
Tuesday, May 11 and 25 at
4:00pm

[Virtual] Who Was...Book Club
Wednesday, May 19 at 4:00pm

[Virtual] Family Game Night
Thursday, May 20 at 6:30pm

Adult Programs

Protect Yourself from Consumer
Fraud
Thursday, May 6 at 1:00pm

[Virtual] Adult Coloring Club
Friday, May 7, 14, 21 at 11:00am

[Virtual] Afternoon Book Club
Tuesday, May 11 at 1:00pm

[Virtual] Evening Book Club
Monday, May 17 at 7:00pm

Teen Programs

May Teen Take-Out Craft: Hang-
ing Paper Flower Craft Kit. Re-
serve a kit beginning May 3.

Teen Take & Make: DIY Yarn
Wrapped Tin Can Container
Monday, May 24 at 4:00pm



*Need a new library card?
Call the circulation desk.*



GET CREATIVE WITH THE CLARK LIBRARY

Looking for some inspiration to
get your creative juices flowing?
The Clark Public Library is
pleased to offer a new database
and adult virtual art programs to
help keep you engaged.

Creative Bug Database

Creative Bug has thousands of
award-winning art & craft video
classes taught by recognized de-
sign experts and artists. From
sewing and knitting patterns to
painting and more, Creative Bug
lets novice and expert crafters try
their hand at new projects.

Adult DIY: Paint by Sticker: Masterpieces

The May Adult DIY Craft is
sticker painting. We will be us-
ing the book, "Paint by Sticker:
Masterpieces" which includes
stickers and templates for 12
classic artworks. This take-out
craft will include simple instruc-
tions so you can complete the
craft at home on your own.

Mod Podge Terra Cotta Pots Wednesday, May 12 at 11:00am

We will be making Mod Podge
terra cotta pots with flower pat-
terns together over Zoom.

Paper Roses

Wednesday, May 19 at 11am

Learn how to make paper roses
in various colors together over
Zoom.

Cherry Blossom Painting

Wednesday, May 26 at 11am

We will be painting cherry blos-
soms on acrylic paper together
over Zoom.

To register for the above pro-
grams or for more information,
please go to clarklibrary.org or
call 732-388-5999.

CLARK TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL OFFICES

Township offices remain closed to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact the proper department for help with services.

Administration – 732-388-3600

Clark Volunteer – 732-381-1150

Construction - 732-428-8401

Emergency Management - 732-388-3600

Finance Department - 732-428-8404

Health Department - 732-428-8405

Municipal Clerk - 732-388-3669

Municipal Court - 732-381-5395

Police Department – 732-388-3434

Public Works – 732-428-8402

Recreation – 732-428-8400

Senior Citizens – 732-428-8400

Swim Pool Utility – 848-467-4209

Tax Assessor – 732-388-1943

Tax/Sewer Collection – 732-428-8404

Clark Township Municipal Offices

430 Westfield Avenue
Clark, NJ 07066

Phone: 732-388-3600

Stay Connected to the Clark Community

[Sign Up for notifications and Clark News.](#)

Get SOCIAL on Facebook:

[@ClarkTwp](#)

[Find answers to your questions](#)



NEW IN THE COMMUNITY...

CLARK, NJ - Mayor Salvatore Bonaccorso announced the unanimous approval by the Clark Planning Board of L'Oréal's request to add an approximate 100K square foot building adjacent to their current site on Terminal Avenue.

Bonaccorso welcomed the April 1 approval and sees the project as a win for the entire township.

“We are happy to have L'Oréal continue to invest in their business and in this town,” said Bonaccorso. “This ensures Terminal Avenue remains an area of industry in town instead of becoming a place to develop more shopping centers and apartments. L'Oréal's development brings jobs and people which is great as they spur the local economy.”

The new building will include a Research and Development center complete with parking and a traffic light to help with the flow of vehicles. The site will be constructed so it envelops the current site located at the corner of Central and Terminal Avenues.



“This street has always been industry,” said Bonaccorso.” The site they are developing was the site of a manufacturing firm for many years before, so rush hour commuters in and out of the workplace there is business as usual on the street and is still significantly less than shopping centers would bring in the same area.”

L'Oréal has strived to make the site environmentally responsible including the addition of a solar farm above the parking facility and a pond that recycles and cleans storm water runoff.

Bonaccorso said the L'Oréal project is something all residents should be happy about because it helps the town continue to provide the same services to the public without additional cost to taxpayers.

“Let's face it, New Jersey isn't built in a way that we can expect taxes to go down so having projects like this in town help to stabilize the tax bill for residents, which is what my administration strives to do,” said Bonaccorso.

BE A NEIGHBOR TO YOUR NEIGHBOR

Please consider helping us reach the greater Clark Community! Here is how you can help spread the word:

- *Please forward this newsletter to your neighbors, friends and family.*
- *If receiving electronically, print a copy of the newsletter for folks in your community that might not have access or ability to receive or manage electronic communications.*