



Town of Clifton Park

One Town Hall Plaza | Clifton Park, New York 12065 | (518) 371-6651 | Fax: (518) 371-1136

Supervisor Phil Barrett's 2020 August Recap

As Summer in The Town of Clifton Park comes to a close, we reflect on the great programs and activities offered to families in 2020. We have a lot to be proud of this summer due to the tireless execution of COVID-19 standards and protocols in our day camps, pools, Senior Center activities, concert series, senior van services and other programs. While many government agencies and municipalities have pulled back or cancelled regular Summer activities, Clifton Park has developed and executed safety planning enabling our programs to proceed successfully. In addition, we have remained committed to funding for planned infrastructure improvements, road paving and other public enhancements. The Town along with sister agencies, have also assisted local business owners with re-opening efforts and funding for COVID related expenses.

Our Town Full Day Camp concluded their 8- week program of creative and engaging activities. Our campers enjoyed everything from carnival games and obstacle courses to ice skating and clown performances. The popular Clifton Park Adventure Camp finished 4 weeks of programming with 87 registered children and focused on building confidence through team building games, ropes courses, catwalks and tree swings. Our two pools welcomed 8,000 visitors during the abbreviated season that began July 4th. We take pride in the fact that neither our camps nor our pools had any issues that would result in any temporary interruptions in service due to COVID. Our directors and counselors as well as our pool staff successfully executed all Town safety protocols and CDC guidelines to keep campers and staff safe this summer. We commend the on-site management, campers and lifeguards for their hard work under difficult conditions.

The Town of Clifton Park was pleased to be able to bring a portion of our Summer Concert Series to the Common including the Catskill Puppet Theater, Moriah Formica, The Georgie Wonders Band, and Jukebox Rebellion. Bringing our community together to enjoy the arts, dance, and socialize provided relief from the day to day stresses of our lives during these challenging times. We look forward to a full summer concert season next year and bringing the Arts back to the Common.

Gyms and Fitness/Yoga centers have faced more adversity than many other businesses in terms of length of closure due to the Pandemic. The Town's response in July was to allow the Clifton Park businesses to have an outdoor option by reserving space, free of charge, on public property to conduct classes. As of August 24th, when New York State approved Gyms and Fitness centers to open to the public for indoor use, the Town has been dedicated in assisting these businesses. We called every business to ensure management was aware of the NYS guidelines and the process established by County Health to request an inspection. NYS regulations state that businesses are required to have an inspection completed within two weeks of reopening. Due to the very short timeline allowed, Supervisor Barrett worked with County Health to have Town personnel conduct the inspections.

The Town partnership with the Clifton Park Industrial Development Agency to promote the IDA's Grant Funds to Local Businesses program has had a huge response. To date 44 applications have been received from Clifton Park businesses that have incurred expenses related to re-opening during COVID-19. Supervisor Jon Schopf, Chairman of the Clifton Park IDA and the IDA Board have distributed more than \$100,000 so far. Applications will be accepted until October 1st. The grant program has relieved some of the financial pressures experienced by businesses managing the expense of reopening under new COVID guidelines.

Finally, one of the Town's largest infrastructure improvements this year, The Sitterly Road Project, has made progress in August with National Grid completing the power transfer and topping the poles. The communications utilities have almost completed their relocations. Soon a temporary signal will be installed as this phase of the project ends.

Looking ahead, the Town will host our Semi-annual free personal paper shredding day on Sunday, October 4, 2020 from 1pm-3pm at the Clifton Park Center Mall in the parking lot between Boscov's and the DMV. We are partnering with 3N Documents Destruction to offer residents of Clifton Park this convenient drive-thru service. We ask that every participant donate non-perishable items for the Jonesville Food Pantry.

Be sure to visit our Town webpage at CliftonPark.org regularly for more information or "like us" on Facebook to keep up to date on the great happenings in the Town of Clifton Park.

###