

**~NORTHERN VALLEY MAYORS ~**  
**CLOSTER - DEMAREST - HARRINGTON PARK - HAWORTH**  
**NORWOOD - NORTHVALE - OLD TAPPAN**

*An Important **COVID-19** Message*

July 2020

Dear Residents and Business Owners of the Northern Valley,

As we remain in the midst of a dangerous public health emergency due to COVID-19, we as your elected officials are reinforcing our commitment to keeping our communities safe for all residents and visitors.

We are all hopeful the worst of this dangerous virus is behind us, yet the need to remain diligent in protecting our families, businesses, communities, first responders and medical facilities cannot be overly emphasized. Containing the spread of this virus is extremely important for *all* citizens and it is the only way we will begin to emerge safely into a “new normal”. It is important to remember that we need to be prepared, be informed and be proactive in prevention measures.

Please take time to speak with your family members and employees, even friends and neighbors, about the basic practices to help keep them safe. Heed the advice of public health experts who agree that the most effective ways to slow the spread of the virus are: *practice social distancing (6 feet apart), wash hands often and for at least 20 seconds, avoid physical contact like handshakes and hugs, and above all, wear a face covering whenever you are out in public.*

Those who are at an increased risk for illness will need to take additional precautions, as will the persons who are around them. Being sure to have access to several weeks of medications and supplies, cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces and limiting access to outside activities will help insure a measure of safety.

Staying informed and in-touch with current information from public health officials and creating an emergency plan such as a contact list and information on resources should you or a family member become ill may ease some of the anxiety associated with this emergency.

The recent news is highlighting areas of increased pockets of COVID-19. These outbreaks are being attributed to the absence of social distancing and wearing of face coverings. Your assistance in taking extra precautions, limiting group gatherings, only going out for essential services, and staying home when you or a family member are sick is requested.

The Northern Valley Mayors believe that working together we can help to control the spread of COVID-19 and keep our communities safe for all.

Stay safe and stay well,

**Northern Valley Mayors**

**John Glidden (Closter), Melinda Iannuzzi (Demarest), Paul Hoelscher (Harrington Park),  
Thomas Ference (Haworth), James Barsa (Norwood), Patrick Marana (Northvale), and  
John Kramer (Old Tappan)**