

Feeding our neighbors, one plate at a time.



CLOSTER FOOD PANTRY

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2019

This month we gladly share many upcoming opportunities to get involved and help those in need. We welcome participation -- jump right in!

CLEAR OUT THE CLUTTER AND GET READY TO SHOP

Just a reminder that **Closter's 7th Annual Town-Wide Yard Sales, Saturday, Oct. 19** are right around the corner! Registration forms can be found on closterboro.com and must be received, with your \$20 donation, by Thursday, Oct. 17. The map and list of all participants' addresses will be online late in the day on Friday, Oct. 18.



Take advantage of this great opportunity to clean out your closets, connect with neighbors and others in the community, and to do some shopping yourself – there will be lots of treasures looking for new homes.



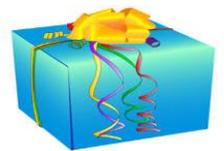
(Also, see “*” on Page 3.)

FREE MARKET COMING TO TOWN

You may recall that last spring, our families browsed the clothing aisles in the Senior Center when CFP hosted its first **Free-Market**. **Christine Arias (Closter)**, the brainchild of Free-Market, launched this event after seeing high quality clothes being tossed in the donation bin outside Borough Hall. Although the proceeds from the bin do benefit the Red Cross, the clothes themselves are generally sold off in bulk to be used as fill or other purpose. Chris is planning another Free-Market in late October. If you have clothes to donate to this great cause and event, please reach out to Chris at Rga3arias@gmail.com by Sunday Oct. 22.

BRING HOLIDAY CHEER TO NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The holidays will be upon us before we know it. Help to bring holiday cheer to households from Closter and surrounding communities who use the Closter Food Pantry by participating in the **Neighbor-to-Neighbor Holiday Gift Program**. Now in its 9th year, the program matches donors with local families and provides gifts chosen from their recipient's wish list (preserving each family's anonymity). Gift cards are also welcome in lieu of gift items. Please contact Hillary Hirschhorn at hill266@gmail.com or (201) 750-2579 by Nov. 16 to participate.



NVD RALLIES TO SUPPORT CFP

Northern Valley Demarest High School's Oct. 4 Community Night will support the Closter Food Pantry by hosting NVD Football's Annual Food Drive. The event, which encourages attendees to bring non-perishable items to the game (with 6 pm pre-game and kick-off at 7 pm), is co-hosted by The NVD PTSO, Norsemen Touchdown Club and NVD Booster Club and celebrates NVD seniors. GO NORSEMEN!!



OUR SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS ROCK!

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS



Our donation cart was empty and **Saint Mary's Church** (Closter) came to the rescue. Having just a reestablished a food collection program, parishioners generously contributed six bags of groceries containing tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, large cereal boxes, condiments, cake mix, frosting, veggies, pancake mix, and peanut butter.



The collection is taken on the fourth Sunday of every month. We sincerely thank Saint Mary's and encourage parishioners to keep the collection in mind while scanning the circulars and shopping the sales.

We thank the **Abram Demaree Homestead** (Closter) for their extremely generous donation. Located at the corner of Old Hook and Schraalenburgh Road, the Homestead features a farm stand, buy-and-sell shop, and pumpkin picking and is a gem in our own back yard. Be sure to stop by – fall is the perfect time to

visit! Hours of operation can be found at: <http://www.abramdemareehomestead.com/id18.htm>.

We much appreciate a donation made by the **Thomas Colwell Family** in memory of Ana Kapelusznik. Thank you, Colwell Family, for thinking of the CFP.

We thank an extremely generous, **anonymous donor** for donating six bags of groceries that contained cereal, pancake mix, pancake syrup, ketchup, mustard, mayo, brown rice, cooking oil, microwave popcorn, potato chips, and cake mix. It wouldn't be possible for us to do what we do without such generosity.



And a great deal of gratitude also goes to another **anonymous donor**, for sharing 18 bottles of Ensure nutritional shakes, a large bottle of food thickener for people who have trouble swallowing liquid, and a multipack box of Ramen noodles. The nutritional supplements are important for those dealing with health issues and are expensive to buy, so this contribution is especially welcome.



Much thanks to the volunteers who helped to keep the pantry in order by sorting, dating, and shelving food donations in September.

Closter

Robert Evelyn
Danny Jakob
Noa Mikay
Marcus Su
Kevin Tong

Cresskill

Aline Arslanian
Morgan Messinger

Demarest

Lori Joseph
Mason Joseph

PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

We especially need the items below, but welcome any donations. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

- Soups (chicken, beef, seafood)
- Mixed vegetables (canned)
- Canned fruits
- Coffee



FOOD DRIVES/FINANCIAL DONATIONS

If your family, employer, religious or other organization would like to **host a food drive** in the upcoming months, please contact us at fabofcloster@gmail.com for more information and let us help you plan a successful event!

If you would like to **make a financial donation** to the Closter Food Pantry, please make your check out to “Food & Assistance Board of Closter” and mail it to 295 Closter Dock Road, Closter, NJ 07624.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

REPURPOSE/RECYCLE/REUSE HELP SOMEONE IN NEED AND SPARE THE LANDFILL

There is a bit of a recurring theme in the newsletter this month – and that is repurposing items that you may not need. We can all do a better job of reusing and recycling items. The Town-Wide Garage Sale presents the opportunity to do so, as does the Free Market.

CFP frequently gets phone calls from people wanting to donate all sorts of things -- clothes, furniture, and books -- and we try to direct people to where they can make the biggest difference.

We thought that in addition to featuring our local events, it would be helpful to mention sites where you can post items for free and drop off items you no longer need to benefit those in need.

On-line posting:

- Facebook Marketplace
- Craigslist.org
- Trashnothing.com (I posted a desk I no longer needed for free on this site, and a mom, clearly in need, picked it up and sent me a photo of her son smiling, sitting behind the desk. It doesn't get much better than that!)

Our Borough Hall parking lot and police station offer a monitored safe-exchange zone.

Drop-off donations:

- Habitat for Humanity ReStore (Westwood) - all proceeds from sales go to building affordable housing in Bergen County
- St. Mary's Church (Closter) - bin is in the parking lot, facing the library
- United Methodist Church (Demarest) for CUMAC/ECHO (Paterson) – clothing donations are picked up monthly to help Paterson, Passaic County, and New Jersey residents in need. Items should be dropped off when the church office (rear door) is open.

* Turning our attention back to the Town-Wide Yard Sales for a moment, perhaps consider having a “Free” table(s) rather than hosting a yard sale. Your registration fee will still help our families, we will include you on the map with your items listed but everything you put out (big or small) could be free! You can clean out without having to be available to collect money. And your discarded items will likely find good homes and bring smiles to many! 😊

Follow us on social media:

 [Closter Food Pantry](#)

 [closterfab](#)

 [@ClosterFab](#)

IMPORTANT: *If you know anyone in Closter who may be in need and is hesitant to come forward or just might not know how, please email us fabofcloster@gmail.com or call (201) 784-0600, extension 429. All inquiries are received in complete confidence. The Closter Food Pantry (CFP) is located on the ground floor level of Borough Hall at 295 Closter Dock Road. On the second Thursday of every month we host "Open Door Night" where families receive the non-perishable food items they need. Our Open Door Night schedule for 2019 is posted on the CFP bulletin board next to the elevator. First-time visitors are welcome with a current form of photo identification and proof of residency.*