



BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

295 Closter Dock Road, Closter, New Jersey 07624

John C. Glidden, Jr.
Mayor

Office 201-784-0600 x 500
Fax 201-784-9727

Victoria Roti Amitai
Alissa Latner

Borough Council
Jannie Chung
Dolores Witko

Scott Devlin
Joseph Yammarino



MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

June 28, 2018

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The Mayor's Newsletter provides announcements and details on the numerous events taking place throughout the community. Please feel free to call my office at 201-784-0600, x500 to discuss any issue concerning the Borough.

"THIS IS MY COUNTRY"

**A patriotic concert sponsored by
Closter's Recreation Commission**

Begin the Independence Day celebrations by joining with friends and neighbors on Sunday, July 1st at 2:00 p.m. as Joel Zelnik and Francine Evans fill the air with music performing "*This Is My Country*", a new concert commemorating the American spirit! Come celebrate America with this uplifting show, featuring the music of *Irving Berlin, Lee Greenwood, Woody Guthrie, Elton John, the Armed Forces and more!* This timely program highlights our American ideals and values featuring significant songs from the wide swath of our collective experience. Please note that due to forecast extreme heat, the location of the concert has been changed to the [Tenakill School Auditorium](#). All are invited!

2018 Summer Concert Series at Veterans Memorial Park

Summer is here and with it are the "*sounds of music*" filling the air from the bandstand at Veterans Memorial Park. The 2018 Summer Concert series opened last week with Tina & Tommy Walker's *Shaved Ham Band*. On Sunday, July 1st at 2:00 p.m., Joel Zelnik and Francine Evans will be performing their newest work, "*This Is My Country*".

Friday July 13th is an amazing night with "*The Willies*", Thursday, July 19th is the *New Beginnings Band*, July 27th is a featured performance by *Joe Delia and the Thieves*, followed on August 3rd with a performance by *My Anxiety Band*. Gather a group of your neighbors and enjoy an evening filled with music under the stars. Concerts will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Closter Lions Band shell. All are welcome!

Closter Road Construction and Traffic Issues

There are several road closures the Borough will be dealing with throughout the summer months due to road improvement projects. These include the Bergen County project to repair the culverts at Knickerbocker Road and Harrington Avenue, the PSE&G gas line replacement on Demarest Avenue and Closter Dock Road, and the Borough's resurfacing projects on Homans Avenue and Cedar Lane.

The Bergen County project at Knickerbocker Road and Harrington Avenue, which is already in progress, will have this intersection closed until November 1, 2018. The PSE&G project on Demarest Avenue and Closter Dock Road, also currently in progress, will have both Demarest Avenue from Durie Avenue to Closter Dock Road, and Closter Dock Road to Piermont Road, closed intermittently over the next two months to complete the PSE&G gas line work. The Borough's resurfacing project will require the closures of Homans Avenue, from Piermont Road to Anderson Avenue, and Cedar Lane from Knickerbocker Road to Poplar Street, sometime during the months of July and August. The exact dates are yet to be determined by the contractor. Although road closures pose an inconvenience, they are a necessity in order to maintain and improve the infrastructure of the community.

Closter's Borough Codes

We are all proud of our community and work hard to keep our properties maintained. This creates attractive neighborhoods and generates a welcoming atmosphere within Closter. The Borough's codes were designed to maintain Closter's attractiveness as a community, but this requires everyone's assistance in upholding property standards.

Simple "housekeeping" will assist our community's appearance. For example, **Household trash** (i.e. table, chair, lamp, etc. up to 5 items) may be placed at the curb at 6:00 p.m. the night before the regularly scheduled **2nd garbage pickup of the week – not before**. Call the DPW, 201-784-0753 to make arrangements for the pick-up of white goods *before* the item(s) are placed curbside. All televisions and computers must be recycled. The Borough requires that all properties shall be maintained free from plant growth in excess of 8 inches. **Garage Sales** require obtaining a permit which clarifies the permissible signage, number of sales a year and hours of operation and the *prompt* removal of signs. Some maintenance items, such as tree removal, driveway repairs, and fences require permits which are available from the Closter Building Department. Being cognizant of requirements and adhering to Closter's codes will aid in keeping Closter an attractive community.

Closter Police Department

Summertime is vacation time for many folks. The Closter Police Department is reminding all residents to keep lights on timers, stop the accumulation of mail, packages, newspapers, etc. as well as lock vehicles left in driveways. Residents can always notify the Police Department when a house is going to be vacant. Overnight parking is prohibited between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday and between 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on Sunday **on any street** in the Borough of Closter.

The Closter Police Department announced a Safe Exchange Zone for conducting in-person internet transactions. Residents wary of transactions via the internet with an unknown buyer or seller will now be able to do so in the parking lot of the Closter Police headquarters located at 295 Closter Dock Rd. There is a Safe Exchange Zone sign in the parking lot denoting the area under surveillance. The Closter Police will not have a hand in any transactions, act as witnesses or be involved in authentication of any item.

Closter Recreation: Summer Half-Day Camp at Veterans Memorial Park

The Closter half-day summer recreation program has been enjoyed by hundreds of youngsters. This program is open to Closter residents in Grades K-8th. There are arts and crafts, sports and weekly special events. The sprinkler pool is open daily, weather permitting. The Closter Half-Day Summer Recreation Program begins on Wednesday, June 27^h, and runs to Friday, July 27th between 9:30 a.m. and noon at Veterans Memorial Field. While there is no fee for this program, pre-registration is required. Please visit <http://www.closterrec.com/free-half-day-summer-rec.html> for more information.

Closter's Annual Labor Day Festivities

Summer is here and so are the plans for Closter's Labor Day weekend activities. Activities begin on Saturday, September 1st with the annual celebration at Veterans' Memorial Field on Monday, September 3rd. From concerts, volley ball tournaments, a 5K Run, carnival rides and fireworks, the Labor Day weekend in Closter is an active time. A time schedule will appear in the July Newsletter.

Closter's MacBain Farm

Closter's MacBain Farm is a unique borough park that is operated as a farm under the guidance of the Closter Environmental Commission. The entrance to this 5.5 acre farm is on the north side of Hickory Lane, just below Anderson Avenue. The MacBain Farm is open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for all visitors, but *only Closter residents* have the privilege of picking a bucket full of the myriad vegetables and herbs growing profusely and organically on the farm. One bucket per day per family is the limit.

To keep the farm in full production, controlling weeds, staking tomatoes, planting and seeding second round crops and to monitor the fields against illegal harvesting, the ***Borough needs farm volunteers***. Enjoy the fresh air, beauty of the farm and teach children how food is grown while performing a community service. Children as well as adults are welcome, but those under age 14 have to be accompanied by an adult. There are a myriad of opportunities to volunteer at the farm, such as hosting, harvesting and field work. Volunteers who wish to act as farm hosts can sign up for specific times and on the days the farm is open to the public. If you are interested in participating on the Farm and you would like to learn more, or volunteer, please get in touch with Closter Environmental Commission member, Sophie Heymann at heymannsophie@gmail.com or call 201-768-4876.

Closter Public Library

Looking for some interesting and cultural things to do this summer, while staying close to home? Visit the Closter Public Library, the nucleus of recreational and educational activities for our community. With your library card you can access books, audiobooks, DVDs, music CDs and downloadable e-books, audiobooks, movies and music. And it's not just reading... yoga, Mah Jongg, Relax, De-Stress, Color and Knit to name a few.

Enjoy a cool, comfortable afternoon at the movies! First and Third Friday Flicks are increasingly popular. *Brad's Status* is the feature film on Friday, July 6th and *The Mountain between Us* is the film on Friday, July 20th. Movies begin at 1:00 p.m. The library's array of services, classes and events are filled with activity this summer. Please visit the library's website at www.bccls.org for a current calendar of events.

Closter Nature Center

The Closter Nature Center is abounding with activities, classes, summer camps, hiking trails, and special events. Summer at the Nature Center is an opportunity to participate in numerous activities and educational classes. The CNC has programs for all age groups and interests. In addition to class and camp information, the CNC website has a reference section on injured or abandoned animals. Please visit the Nature Center's website at www.closternaturecenter.org. You won't be disappointed!!

The Nature Center has an impressive summer program scheduled for 2018 which began on June 25th. Registration forms and information can be found on the CNC website or in person by stopping in at the cabin located by Ruckman Pond.

Closter Shade Tree Commission

July is almost here, with long days and abundant sunshine. Trees planted last fall will need extra care the first year. Periodic watering during the first summer will insure that the tree flourishes for future generations. Newly planted/young trees require more frequent watering than older, well-established trees. For the first several months after planting, the root ball and surrounding soil should be kept evenly moist to encourage healthy root growth. After a few months, expand the watering zone to cover the entire area under the canopy.

It's vital to provide supplemental moisture in the early years, if nature doesn't provide regular soaking rains. During hot, dry weather, new trees may require water as often as three times per week to ensure that the root ball doesn't dry out.

Restaurant Grand-Opening

THE HILL opened in Closter. On June 26th I had the privilege of welcoming and cutting the ribbon for the opening of *The Hill*, located at 252 Schraalenburg Road, the former Harvest Restaurant. Michelin star Chef Ben Pollinger, and Bergen County resident, has extensive experience. Ben was formerly the executive chef of Oceana, a highly regarded restaurant in Manhattan. Ben has created an exciting dining venue here in Closter that offers the community a modern, traditional cuisine. *Hip, hip, hooray!*

Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in volunteering? The Borough has an array of boards and commissions, as well as a working farm in which to volunteer. No formal experience is necessary except for an interest to serve in enhancing the services offered by and to community.

To inquire about these positions please contact my office via email at lweatherly@closternj.us. You will be asked to complete a Citizen Leadership Form (available through the Borough Clerk's office) and to provide a brief letter of interest.

The Borough is moving forward in many positive directions. Volunteers are the backbone of any community, and I encourage each of you to think of ways in which you can, as a volunteer, make a difference.

All the Best,



Mayor