



BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

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MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER



November 30, 2018

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The holiday season is rapidly approaching with activities, and events throughout the borough are plentiful. The Mayor's Newsletter is filled with information about our town. As always, my door is open; feel free to contact me at 201-784-0600 x 500 with ideas or concerns related to the Borough.

Closter's Annual TREE LIGHTING at the Closter Borough Hall

Friends, families and neighbors are all invited to enjoy the annual Tree Lighting on Thursday, December 6th at 6:00 p.m. in the front of the Closter Borough Hall. Closter's Improvement Commission welcomes all with songs and music. This year's special guest, *Santa Claus*, will be arriving in the Wells Fargo stagecoach, drawn by a team of draft horses. This festive gathering is sure to bring a holiday spirit to town! Once again the Blue Chip Chorus, Tenakill Middle School students and NJ Harvest Church will be singing, the Good Neighbor Ministry Orchestra will be playing (in the Closter Senior Center) and a D.J. will be on hand with music for all. Closter Cub Scouts and Girls Scouts will be leading a few songs and carols in celebration of the Christmas and Hanukkah season. The Borough would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Lupardi Family, who year after year, insures our tree has lights. *No "bah hum bugs" here!*

Annual Menorah Lighting

The Chabad Shul of Closter will be holding its annual public Menorah lighting on the lawn of the Borough Hall on Sunday, December 9th at 5:00 p.m. The Chabad invites all to the festival of lights celebration filled with song and cheer!

Lustron House Open House

Closter's famed Lustron House will be open for residents to view for the first time on Saturday December 8th from noon to 2pm. The "Friends of the Lustron" a committee of Closter Historical Society and Closter Administration have been working diligently over 2 years to get the Borough owned "Lustron House" repaired restored and open for Closter residents to enjoy. Those who may have been curious about the strange yellow house with the blue historic sign out front can learn the history and story of the house and the future planned for it which will include numerous small cultural and civic events for young and old.

Closter PTO Events

TREP\$, a unique marketplace by our Tenakill Middle School 6th graders as they explore the world of entrepreneurship and launch their own businesses in a special marketplace open to the public. It will take place on November 29th between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. in the Tenakill Middle School Gym.

MATH NIGHT... is a fun filled event taking place on Wednesday, December 12th from 5-7 p.m. at the Hillside Elementary School. Students in grades 1-5 are welcome. This event is free, but you must register in advance. Families are welcome and encouraged. Contact Carla Genena at cgenena@gmail.com.

2018 Closter Food Pantry

The holiday season is rapidly approaching and the Closter Food Pantry is seeking donations to assist our community families in need. Please visit the Borough's website (www.closternj.us) and click on the link to the Food and Assistance Board to view the lists of items that are needed to stock their shelves. Closter is fortunate to have volunteers on the Food & Assistant Board who work tirelessly to assist our residents in need.

Closter Police Department

While the holiday season is a joyful time, the hustle and bustle creates opportunities for increased criminal activity. The Closter Police Department is requesting that all residents and businesses be diligent in their efforts to protect properties by setting lights on timers, both interior and exterior, picking up packages, mail and newspapers and removing valuables from vehicles in driveways. Utilizing lighting, setting alarm systems and locking vehicles aids in deterring opportunities for criminals. The holiday season is a prime time for scams, telephone, computer, home, etc. Please, be diligent and be very aware. Carefully read e-mails, review credit card accounts, research home repair offers. Remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is a scam of some type.

Closter Nature Center

The Closter Nature Center has some amazing after-school programs as well as a mini-camp during the school vacation. Interested in geology, classes during the holiday break, counting birds??? The Nature Center has something for everyone. As a special event this year, on Saturday, December 15th 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the CNC is going to participate in the Bergen County Audubon's Annual Christmas Bird Count. We need spotters with binoculars and while learners are very welcome, we hope several experienced folks will join in. Meet at the cabin. To register for the Nature Center Programs, call Marc Gussen at 201-750-2778 or visit <https://register.capturepoint.com/Closter> or visit the Cabin on Ruckman Road. There is *always* an activity or class at the Nature Center.

Closter Public Library

Looking for an activity on a Friday afternoon? Look no further than the first and third Friday Flicks! *Mission Impossible* is the feature film December 7th and *Operation Finale* is the film on December 21st Both films begin at 1:00 p.m. Kanopy provides the opportunity to borrow criterion collection classic films, PBS programs and Great Courses, while Hoopla streams current music and movies. The library is a cultural, mecca that features a multitude of classes, from "*Come Knit With Us*", *Relax, De-Stress, Color!!*, *Yoga and Meditation*, *Violin Studio Students Holiday Recital*, *Piano Students Winter Recital*, and of course, The monthly Blood Pressure nurse visit between 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 5th.

Bergen Community College

Bergen Community College has earned the state's Community College Opportunity Grant to provide a tuition-free college experience to students with household incomes of less than \$45,000. A team of staff and faculty have begun to formalize plans to raise awareness about this opportunity and has created a hotline, 201-879-3733; email address, tuitionfree@bergen.edu; and website, free.bergen.edu.

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. Together we can make a huge difference in our community.

On behalf of the Council and the Borough's employees, I extend warm wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.

All the best,



Mayor