



# BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

295 Closter Dock Road, Closter, New Jersey 07624

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Mayor

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## MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

October 30, 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.

### Important Dates in November

**October 30<sup>th</sup> – Trunk or Treat at NV Regional HS Demarest Campus  
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**November 6<sup>th</sup> – ELECTION DAY  
Polls Open 6:00 AM – 8:00 PM**

**November 13<sup>th</sup> - Veterans Service at NV Regional HS Demarest Campus  
11:00 AM**

**November 14 – St. Mary's Church Closter Fall Wine Tasting  
7:00 PM at St. Mary's Church**

**Sunday, November 18th - CIC Closter Story telling Contest  
5:00 p.m., at Closter Borough Hall**

**December 6<sup>th</sup> – Closter Annual Tree Lighting at Borough Hall  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

### Election Day is November 6<sup>th</sup> – PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE

Election Day is next week, November 6, 2018. Closter's Polling places are open from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Remember where you vote: Residents of Closter Districts ONE and FIVE vote at the Closter Library. Residents of Districts TWO, THREE, FOUR, AND SIX vote at the Senior Center.

## **Affordable Housing Update – Borough of Closter**

The Borough of Closter's affordable housing settlement was approved at a Fairness Hearing held before Judge Toskos on July 24<sup>th</sup>. The next step is for the Borough's Planning Board to adopt a new Housing Element and Fair Share Plan. The Planning Board has held several informal hearings attended by many members of the public and will begin its final public hearing on November 1. Then, the Governing Body will adopt the necessary ordinances to complete the process. Finally, Closter's approval of the Settlement Agreement and upcoming plan and ordinance adoption will protect the Borough from potential litigation by developers, known as "Builders' Remedy Lawsuits" until 2025. The Borough is looking forward to completing the affordable housing process. The affordable housing Settlement Agreement is available on the Borough's website, [www.closternj.us](http://www.closternj.us).

### ***Hip, Hip, Hooray!***

The Borough of Closter welcomed two new businesses in October. The Gold Fish Swim School located on Ruckman Road and a cluster of assorted businesses located in the newly renovated 200 Closter Dock Road building. Welcome to Closter!!

### **Closter Police Department**

*Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>*. Darkness falls an hour earlier with the clocks being set back an hour. The Closter Police Department is reminding all residents and businesses to reset the timers on both interior and exterior lighting. Utilizing lighting is one way of deterring opportunities for criminal acts. Drivers and pedestrians alike should increase their diligence when driving or walking during the earlier dusk hours. Closter's Fire Department reminds everyone that this is the perfect time to replace the batteries in smoke and carbon dioxide (Co2) detectors.

### **Belskie Museum of Art & Science**

Join the members of the Belskie Museum of Art & Science as they welcome the artists from Studio Montclair for the opening of "*Studio Montclair Board Members*". This dynamic group of artists will be exhibiting a variety of works during the last exhibit of 2018. The opening reception is November 11<sup>th</sup> between 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. This diversified collection of work will be featured at the Belskie through December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Museum hours are weekends, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. We are available to meet special requests for visiting by calling 201-768-0286. In addition to the exhibits housed in the Belskie Museum, patrons are invited and encouraged to visit the Art Walk located in the Closter Library. Exhibits are rotated monthly, so be sure to take a look when you are at the library. Visit [www.belskiemuseum.com](http://www.belskiemuseum.com) for more information.

### **Han Moory Church Celebrates 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Han Moory Church is a relatively new member of Closter community. The Korean church purchased the building at 221 Schraalenburgh Road last year. The church will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the evening at 5:00 PM on Sunday November 18. This event will begin with a concert of professional musicians and member of the church including youth group dance team who won the first place at Korean Moon Festival in September. After the concert a banquet will be served at the Social Hall. Any resident of Closter is invited regardless of their national origin. Visit [www.hanmoory.org](http://www.hanmoory.org)

### **Tenakill School Trep\$ Marketplace**

Tenakill Middle School is proud to be offering the TREP\$ Marketplace this year, the entrepreneurship education program for youth . From delectable delights to stunning jewelry to handmade soaps, crayons and

so much more, this will be the perfect time and place to do all of your holiday shopping! The Marketplace will be held on Thursday, November 29, 2018 at the Tenakill Middle School (275 High Street, Closter) from 6:30pm-8:30pm. The event is free and open to the public. Help our kids reach success with your support!

### **Closter Public Library**

November is a busy time at the Closter Public Library. Plan a visit to the Library and enjoy the First (and Third) Friday Flicks at 1:00 p.m. So find a friend and come on down on Friday, November 2nd to enjoy the screening of *Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again*. Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> will feature Silver Linings Playbook.

If a movie isn't your thing, relax, de-stress, color on Wednesday November 21 at 11:00 a.m. and/or 6:30 p.m. The Blood Pressure Nurse is available on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> between 10:30-11:30 a.m. We are excited to host a Meet the Author on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. Georgia Hunter, author of *We Were the Lucky Ones* will be here.

The Northwest Wind Quintet will be playing classical pieces on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. This is just a sample of the activities that are taking place at the Library this month. A complete calendar of activities is available at [www.closter.bccls.org](http://www.closter.bccls.org) The Library will close at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

### **St. Mary's Church – Closter Fall Wine Tasting**

Come and sample a brilliant array of wines, delicious hors d'oeuvres and fine wines for auction. Sponsored by St. Mary's Church, a portion of the proceeds benefits the Closter Fire Department. The event will take place on November 14 at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$10 per person. Reservations and information: [gditzel@stmarycloster.org](mailto:gditzel@stmarycloster.org) or 201-768-7565. Let's get a little "Closter" over a glass of wine!

### **2018 Closter Food and Assistance Board**

Many thanks to all who participated in the FAB Town-wide Yard Sale. It was a terrific event. The holiday season is rapidly approaching and the Closter Food Pantry is seeking donations to assist our community families who are in need.

Closter is fortunate to have volunteers who work tirelessly to assist our residents in need. We have families who are in need of turkeys for Thanksgiving. Turkey drop-off will be Monday, November 19th from 7am-6pm. Fresh or frozen, we will have volunteers stopping in throughout the day to transport the birds to refrigeration and they will be distributed that night. So nothing should be left in the cart after 6pm on Monday or else it won't make it to a family.

The Food & Assistance Board maintains a list of items that are needed to stock their shelves. Please visit the Borough's website ([www.closternj.us](http://www.closternj.us)) and click on the link to the Food & Assistance Board.

### **Please Use Caution: DEER on our Roadways**

The NJ DEP is urging drivers to be cautious on our roadways as deer mating season begins along with daylight savings time. White-tailed deer become more active during mating season, also known as the fall rut. During this time of year deer are more apt to suddenly run onto roadways as bucks pursue does, creating the increased risk of collisions. Being cautious will become even more important when daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> causing commuters to align with the periods when deer are most active and lighting conditions may be most difficult for driving.

#### Tips for drivers:

- If traveling after dark, use high beams when there is no oncoming traffic or vehicles ahead.

- Remember: The driver in front of you might have to stop suddenly; don't tailgate.
- Report any deer-vehicle collision to a local law enforcement agency immediately

## **Closter Nature Center**

The November After-School Program "Survival Skills" features an interesting learning experience for PreK-6<sup>th</sup> grade to learn how Native Americans used nature to survive and thrive. Detailed information and registration information is available on [www.closternaturecenter.org](http://www.closternaturecenter.org). A "Hello Autumn Hike" is taking place on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00. Meet at the cabin by Ruckman Pond. Adults can enjoy a focus on "Primitive Technology" on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30 p.m. There are so many wonderful programs taking place at the CNC this month. Visit the nature center website at [www.closternaturecenter.org](http://www.closternaturecenter.org) or call Marc Gussen at 201-750-2778 for more information.

## **Closter Improvement Commission: Story Telling Contest and Annual Tree Lighting**

*Story Telling:* Before print and social media, the tradition of storytelling was a frequent mode of communication widely used in most cultures so that history and/or traditions of one generation were passed down to the next. Although not commonly practiced today, The Closter Improvement Commission (CIC) believes that this sharing of culture and information is not something solely relevant to the past. In our fast-paced, ever changing world, it is a reminder for us to slow down, breathe and take the time to listen to others because after all, we can learn a thing or two by simply listening.

Hence, the CIC is hosting a storytelling contest on **Sunday, November 18th at 5:00 p.m.** at the Closter Borough Hall, and it invites all New Jersey residents to submit a story. The title of this year's storytelling contest is, "An Important Story I Want to Tell."

Please submit the story by November 1st to the Closter Borough Hall to be considered for the grand prize of \$100. (The address is: 295 Closter Dock Road, Closter, NJ. Attn: CIC). The top ten storytellers will be invited to share his or her story live with audience members on November 18th. More than one story can be submitted. For questions regarding the contest, please contact CIC Chairperson, Maria Kim at [maria\\_kim1@outlook.com](mailto:maria_kim1@outlook.com) or at 201-660-7708.

*Annual Tree Lighting:* Save the Date!!! The Annual Tree Lighting will be held on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. on the front lawn of the Borough Hall. All are invited to join in the merriment as we sing carols, enjoy the sounds of choral groups and music groups. The "big man himself" will be arriving (*weather permitting*) in the Wells Fargo stagecoach, a sight the kids will not want to miss.

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 in Closter.

All the Best,



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**Mayor**