



# BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

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**John C. Glidden, Jr.**

Mayor

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## MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER



February 28, 2019

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The February 2019 issue of the Mayor's Newsletter brings some important messages, news and events in town. Please feel free to call my office at 201-784-0600, x500 to discuss any issue concerning the Borough.

### **An important message from the Closter Police Department**

The Closter Police Department has an important message for all residents and visitors:

**Lock your car doors and bring your key fobs inside!!!!**

### **Closter's Newest Merchants in Closter Plaza**

Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:15 p.m. is an exciting day in Closter as we welcome the newest retailer in the Closter Plaza, *Lululemon*. Join in the traditional ribbon cutting followed by the *Hip, Hip Hurray!* Shoppers and visitors alike will enjoy a wide selection of comfort and performance apparel in this lovely store. Refreshments follow. EDENS continues to secure new retailers for the few available shops.

EDENS is pleased to announce celebrated Chef Thomas Cizak and his partners of Silk Road Restaurants LLC will be opening their newest project, *Brasserie Memere*, in Closter Plaza. The concept for the brasserie is a classic French restaurant experience, bringing the cozy French-neighborhood-restaurant concept to life. This traditional 140 seat restaurant, inclusive of an outdoor patio area is scheduled to open in September 2019.

### **Update on Village School**

Closter's state-mandated plan for Affordable Housing was approved by the courts last month. Now we have immunity from developer remedy lawsuits through 2025. We are working with the Bergen County Housing Authority to design and build the project which will provide housing for at least 35 families. Due to the

lengthy process of obtaining Federal grants, which are required to make the project financially viable, it is expected that construction will commence in about 2 years.

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

The Belskie Museum is pleased to present *“Themes Behind The Scenes”; the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Bergen County Technical High School Exhibit* in the Martin Hicks Gallery at the Belskie Museum of Art & Science. This outstanding collection of work from the Fashion Design & Merchandising, Commercial Art & Graphic Design and Digital & Media Arts majors includes over one hundred and fifty participating students. refers to reflection on the artist’s past works and its impact on the ideas of their current works.

Exhibit Opening: Sunday, March 3rd between 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Museum hours are Saturdays and Sundays 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The exhibit closes March 24, 2019. Admission is free; hours by appointment can be arranged by calling the Belskie at 201-768-0286. Visit the Belskie Museum’s website at [www.belskiemuseum.com](http://www.belskiemuseum.com)

### **Louis Bay 2<sup>nd</sup> Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition**

Once again the New Jersey League of Municipalities is proud to announce the Louis Bay 2<sup>nd</sup> Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition for high school juniors and seniors planning to continue their education after high school. The scholarship information has been sent to the guidance office at NVRHS – Demarest, and is open for all Closter juniors and senior students. Completed applications and essays must be submitted in a sealed envelope on or before March 11<sup>th</sup> to Mayor John Glidden’s office at the Closter Borough Hall.

### **Northern Valley Regional HS Demarest... MAMMA MIA!**

Mark your calendars for the NVRHS – Theatre Department’s all-school musical production, MAMMA MIA! On March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and March 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available at [www.nvdtickets.com](http://www.nvdtickets.com). A fabulous production that is sure to please all who attend.

### **An Evening of Classical Music – Temple Beth El of Northern Valley**

Temple Beth El of Northern Valley welcomes classical guitarist Scott Kuney at their guest artist Shabbat Service on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Scott has been referred to as “the den of Broadway guitarists”, having played in more than 45 Broadway shows, including such shows as “Shenandoah”, “Big River” and the revival of “42<sup>nd</sup> Street”. Mr. Kuney has played on well over 100 recordings, including Mahler and “west Side Story” with Leonard Bernstein and with such artists as Dawn Upshaw, Placido Domingo, Marilyn Horne and Harry Belafonte.

Join friends for a special evening beginning with a mini-concert from 6:30 -7:00 p.m. followed by a wine, fruit and cheese Pre-Neg at 7:00 p.m. The entire community is invited to enjoy this very special guest artist. [www.tbenv.org](http://www.tbenv.org)

### **Closter PTO Annual Dinner Dance**

Save the Date!! The Closter PTO cordially invites you to a Moonlight Masquerade on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at *The Rockleigh Country Club* in Rockleigh, NJ. Join friends and neighbors for a mysterious evening of dancing, dining, and fundraising. During the evening, the Closter PTO will be honoring Superintendent Joanne Newberry for her extraordinary service to Closter’s schools. Tickets and information are available on the PTO’s website, [www.closterpto.org](http://www.closterpto.org).

## **Closter Shade Tree Commission**

The Borough of Closter's Shade Tree Commission has been following the problem of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in an effort to assist with the management of this deadly infestation affecting the beautiful ash trees located within our community. Members of the Closter Shade Tree Commission have inspected the ash trees and have found a significant infestation here.

The Emerald Ash Borer first infests the top of the tree's crown, which results in crown die-back. This makes the top of the tree brittle and likely to break off, resulting in a potentially dangerous situation. Trees will only live an average of 3 to 4 years after infestation; 99% of ash trees will die.

In the following weeks, the Shade Tree Commission will be sending a letter to Closter's homeowners who are known to have ash trees, infected or not. The trees located on properties owned by the Borough will be addressed accordingly. Additional information on the Emerald Ash Borer will be available on the Borough's website.

## **Environmental Commission ~Earth Day Activities 2019!**

*Tired of winter? Ready to get outside?* Join friends, neighbors, Scout troops or meet new neighbors and the members of the Closter Environmental Commission in "**CLEAN UP CLOSTER**", an annual event to clean up our roadsides, parks and other public areas. On Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 a.m., meet at the historic Lustron House (421 Durie Avenue) or the Closter Nature Center (154 Ruckman Road). Refreshments and supplies will be provided – all you need to bring is yourself! Students, don't forget to count these hours toward community service. As the weather warms, take this opportunity to spend a beautiful day outside helping your neighbors keep Closter the clean, green borough we all enjoy. Families are encouraged to participate; children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. The members of the Environment Commission look forward to seeing you there!

*Wanted:* vendors, sponsors, clubs, exhibitors, not-for-profits...environmentally friendly or sustainable products or services, educational information or activities for the **Northern Valley Annual Earth Fair** on Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Tenafly Middle School on Sunset Lane in Tenafly. The Northern Valley Earth Fair is organized and supported by volunteers from Closter, Cresskill, Demarest, Harrington Park, Haworth, Norwood, Old Tappan and Tenafly. Visit [www.nvearthfair](http://www.nvearthfair).

Closter's Environmental Commission invites all of Closter's residents, from high school students to our seniors, to participate in its activities and monthly meetings. The Environmental Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month. Residents are welcome to come!

## **RECYCLING Reminder!**

The Borough is very proud of its commitment to recycling. Comingled recycling (blue barrel) is picked up on Wednesdays; paper/cardboard is picked up on Thursdays, document shredding is held twice a year for residents (April 6<sup>th</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup>); yard debris and vegetative waste are collected twice a month and curbside leaf pickup takes place from October through December. Both Whole Foods and Stop & Shop have plastic bag recycle bins in their stores. The bins are for all plastic bags drop off and is not restricted to customers...drop-in's are welcome! ShopRite stores have plastic bag recycle bins near the entrances and exits. There are ShopRite stores in Emerson and Northvale. Additionally, there is a plastic bag recycle bin at the Closter DPW building. Together, by practicing every day recycling, we can all keep *Closter Green*. Recycling is not an option; it is the law!

## **Northern Valley Greenway**

The Northern Valley Greenway committee is hosting the NJDOT Public Information Center Session on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This informative session is being held at Northern Valley Regional HS– Demarest. The event will offer an opportunity to review draft exhibits of the planning level study findings, ask questions, discuss concerns with the project team, NJDOT representatives and planning contractor NV5. Snow date: Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> – same time.

## **Closter Public Library**

The activities and classes planned in March continue to expand. The Closter library is committed to providing the best materials, reference assistance, programs, classes and events to all. Your Closter Library card will be honored in all 76 member libraries of the Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS). With your library card, you have access to: Kanopy (borrowing classic films, PBS programs, Great Courses), A to Z Travel, Consumer Reports, Technology Help on Monday evenings and Wednesday afternoons, Mah Jongg on Tuesdays, Yoga and Meditation, ESL Classes, Relax, De-Stress, Color!!, the Adult Book Club, and First and Third Friday Flicks. A Star is Born is the feature film on Friday, March 1, at 1:00 p.m.; Green Book will be shown on Friday, March 15 at 1:00 p.m.

Check out the Children’s programs offered at the library. There is something for children of all ages. [www.closterpubliclibrary.org](http://www.closterpubliclibrary.org); phone (201) 768-4197 or visit the library in person!

## **Closter Nature Center**

The list of activities and classes sponsored by and taking place at the Closter Nature Center are endless! Come one, come all; layer up your warm clothes and join the folks at the nature Center for an afternoon forest adventure! The month of March will have an after-school program, “Pets, Pets and More Pets”, a Welcome Spring Hike planned for Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. to name just a few of the happenings.

All of this information is available on the Nature Center’s website, [www.closternaturecenter.org](http://www.closternaturecenter.org) or by calling the Nature Center at 201-750-2778; ask for Marc.

## **Closter Recreation**

Mark your calendars!!! On Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Closter will proudly host the USA Patriots (Wounded Warriors Amputee Softball Team- WWAST) Softball Game at Veterans Memorial Park. This is the first time the USA Patriots Team will be playing in Bergen County! It’s an honor to be the host town for this incredible event of baseball while honoring those who have served our Country and are committed to continued service to our Country’s veterans and children with amputations.

Find a moment and visit the Closter Recreation website at [www.closterrec.com](http://www.closterrec.com), for links to the USA PATRIOTS/WWAST organization and some of their inspiring stories. The incredible power of putting our Veteran Amputees on a baseball field with children who are experiencing life without limbs can be found on the Closter recreation site, including a video on the Wounded Warriors Softball Amputee Alumni Kids Camp.

Learn more about sponsorship of this game or purchasing tickets for this historic event.

*The USA Patriots/WWAST is a 501c3 public charity whose mission is to bring athletic and like-minded veteran amputees together to promote the benefits of inclusive sport and therapeutic recreational activities,*

*to inspire and motivate communities of people, to support children with physical challenges and to operate as a vehicle that offers national opportunities for continued service to our country.*

Visit the Closter Recreation website, [www.closterrec.com](http://www.closterrec.com), for all of the latest information on this and other programs.

### **Closter Senior Shared Transportation Service**

In cooperation with Harington Park and Haworth, the Borough offers a shared transportation van for use by our senior residents. Please keep in mind this is a shared service, not to be confused with an “on demand” service. The service consists of trained and caring individuals who work to meet the needs of the participants. Following an inquiry for this service, residents can be registered. An instruction letter is mailed to the residents. Medical appointments take preference in the schedule. Patience is asked as you may need to arrive early to an appointment or wait for the van to return to pick you up. For residents interested in door to door service, my office can provide information about the Ryde4Life transportation service, which is an on-demand, fee-for-service transportation service.

Should you have questions about this opportunity, please contact the Borough of Closter, Administrator’s office, Leslie Weatherly at 201-784-0600 x 304.

All the Best,



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Mayor