



BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

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John C. Glidden, Jr.
Mayor

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MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER



June 30, 2021

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I am pleased to be providing the Mayor's Newsletter designed to highlight and inform our residents with information on the activities and events taking place in Closter. My door is always open, so please feel free to contact me at 201-784-0600 x 500 with concerns or suggestions.

Closter Police Department Welcomes New officers

Closter Mayor John Glidden and Councilwoman/Police Commissioner Alissa Latner had the honor of swearing in Closter's three new police officers at the Mayor & Council Meeting held on June 23, 2021. Please welcome Tae Han, Shana Bohus and Austin Willock to Closter !



(L to R): Chief John McTigue, Mayor John Glidden, New Officer Tae Han, Ms. Han, New Officer Shana Bohus, Ms. Bohus, New Officer Austin Willock, Ms. Willock, and Councilwoman/Police Commissioner Alissa Latner

Closter's Annual Labor Day Town Celebration is back on for Labor Day weekend 2021!!

Plans are underway to host the **60th Annual Labor Day Town Celebration** on **Monday, September 6th**. Details are still being worked out, so stay tuned for more information as it becomes available for the 2021 Annual Labor Day weekend of events. Early details are listed here:

Friday, September 3rd at 7:00 pm: Annual Coaches BBQ softball game ~ for all Closter coaches & their families

Saturday, September 4th at 10:00 am: 2nd Annual Corn Hole Tournament

Saturday, September 4th at 7:30 pm: The Waldwick Band at the Closter Lions Band Shell

Sunday, September 5th at 9:30 am: **39th annual Dom Mircovich Memorial 5k run (Kids Fun Run 9am)**

Monday, September 6th at 1:00 pm: **60th Annual Labor Day** Town Celebration. The day will include a magic show, kids' races, Recreation Awards, 2 band performances, kiddy rides, food and drink sales throughout the day, culminating with fireworks at dark.

ALL events start and take place at Closter Memorial Park located on Harrington Ave. in Closter. Please consider coming to the field for the Annual Labor Day weekend of fun events for the entire family. Catch up with old and new friends alike and prepare for the end of summer and the return to school!! The Labor Day weekend of events are a great Closter tradition that young and old will remember for the rest of their lives!!

Any questions on Closter Recreation events or programs please email Jim Oettinger at joettinger@closternj.us.

Closter Recreation

The free half day Summer Recreation program starts on Monday June 28th at Memorial Park. The program runs from 9:30-12 noon and is canceled if it rains. (if there is ever a question to the status of the program running due to inclement weather, please call the Rec weather line at 201-750-9507- mailbox 6).

The free program is open to children in kindergarten thru 8th grade. The fun filled days include arts and crafts, sports games, special events and use of the water spray park during camp hours located in the playground. Registration for the camp takes place when you bring your child to camp on their first day of camp-whenver that may be. (no pre-registration is needed). The program runs from June 28-July 30 and there is no program on Monday July 5th. Again, it is canceled if it rains.

Steve Potterton Memorial Concert series ~ The summer concert series named in memory of life-long Closter resident and true friend to all who knew him, continues on the following dates with free concerts at the Closter Lions band shell at Memorial Park in Closter. All concerts start at 7:30pm. Please consider coming to these family fun nights with friends and neighbors, bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy some great music by local musicians.

The Steven Potterton Concerts series line up of concerts include:

July 9- Jam Straight

July 16 TK Walker Band

July 23 Joe Delia the Thieves

Check the Rec weather line at 201-750-9507, mail box 6, if there is ever a question to the concerts taking place due to inclement weather.

Fall soccer registration will open for all children in grades k-8 starting on Monday July 5th. Please check the Recreation website at closterrec.com for information on fall sports and other recreation camps, clinics and important information. This website is updated often with information, so please check back often.

Closter Fire Department



Interested in joining an invaluable rescue and emergency service organization? The Closter Fire Department is seeking volunteers who are committed to becoming members of the Closter Fire Department. Closter's Fire Department stands ready, willing and able, around the clock, to meet the needs of Closter's citizens and businesses. The CFD is a 100% all-volunteer fire department serving Closter for more than 128 years. Always available - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year through storms, holidays and pandemics. New members receive training, equipment and an opportunity to serve the community while developing comradery with fellow firefighters.

This irreplaceable emergency service needs members who will join us in our commitment to respond to the emergency calls during times of need. Contact the Closter Fire Department at firedept@closternj.us.

Bergen County Emergency Rental & Utility Assistance Program

The County of Bergen is providing financial relief to eligible Bergen County residents who experienced a financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. Tenants who have been unable to pay their rent and/or utility payments since March 2020 are encouraged to apply for funding. Bergen County's program information call center is 855-203-6952 which is open Monday through Friday, 9am-6pm until July 23, 2021 or on the Bergen County website, www.bergencountynjgov.org/EmergencyRentalReliefProgram/. The key date for application submissions is on or before the closing date of July 23rd.

Closter Senior Citizens Club

Join us! The Closter Senior Citizens Club will have an informal get-together on Wednesday, July 21st beginning at 2 o'clock in the afternoon at the Closter Senior Center. All are invited to enjoy coffee, tea and a sweet (or two), as we get re-acquainted. To insure everyone's safety, Covid-19 vaccination cards must be presented to attend.

Mark your calendars...A formal luncheon for the re-opening is being planned for 1 o'clock on Wednesday, October 6th. We will ask each of you to bring a friend or two, to enlarge the club's membership and provide for more activities. We're planning on exercise classes, musical entertainment, speakers on many topics, trips to all sorts of wonder places and the joy of being together once again. More details will follow!

Closter “Just Seniors Call List”

The Borough is working to enhance the delivery of important information that pertains to our senior residents, realizing not all senior households have access to, or use email and social media. To bridge this gap, the Borough is maintaining a list of “Just Seniors Call List” that want to receive important information using the “reverse 911” telephone message system. To be added to the “Just Seniors Call List, please call my office, (Leslie Weatherly 201-784-0600 x 304), and leave your name, address and the telephone number. Please note, members of the Closter Seniors Club have already been added to this list.

Senior Van Transportation Service

The Borough of Closter offers a joint service for Senior Van Transportation to Closter residents who are non-driving seniors in need of transportation to medical appointments, grocery stores, senior activities and more within a ten mile radius of Closter. Together with Haworth and Harrington Park, the shared service program is helping to meet the needs of our residents. Medical appointments take preference during scheduling of transportation, and patience is asked as you may need to arrive early to an appointment or wait for the van to return to pick you up. The service consists of trained and caring individuals who work to meet the needs of the participants.

To participate in this programs, persons *must be seniors who are non-drivers (or temporarily unable to drive), independent to walk to the vehicle and depart the vehicle unassisted and who are flexible in the pick-up, drop-off times for medical appointments.* The Senior Van service operates Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Reservations must be made 48 hours in advance.

If you, or a neighbor or family member, are interested in learning more about the program, or would like to sign up, please contact the Administrator’s office, Leslie Weatherly at 201-784-0600 x 304.

Closter Public Library

Friday Flicks return on Friday, July 2 at 1:00 p.m. First Friday Flicks will feature the Oscar-winning film, Nomad Land, a story of a modern day nomad. Attendance will be limited to 15 people (please contact the library to sign up). Please continue to wear your mask in the library. Mah Jongg will be held on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Library’s Community Room. The Library now has a pass to the Storm King Art Center which is located in Cornwall , New York. Yoga, Meditation, Zumba and the Short Story Club are being offered via Zoom. Please refer to the Library’s monthly calendar on the website, www.closterpubliclibrary.org for class times and registrations. Youth programs are also available on the library’s calendar. It’s sure to be a fun filled month for our children! Patrons are welcome to drop off donations of books in good condition. Please remember masks are required for all patrons when visiting the library. We appreciate your cooperation!

Closter Environment Commission Event at Buzzoni Farm

Closter residents are invited to join the members of the Closter Environmental Commission on Saturday, July 10th (rain date July 11th) as the Commission holds an event at the Buzzoni Farm Park on Blanch Avenue. The program begins at 3:00 p.m. with a dedication of the north-south trail which runs from the Buzzoni Farm Park through the Conservation easement terminating at Ruckman Park in memory of Dr. Arthur Goldberg, an environmentalist and historian. Following the trail dedication at 3:30 p.m., residents are invited to explore and learn about the pollinator garden, while young children will be invited to paint birdhouses and listen to farm stories. The Buzzoni Farm Park is located on Blanche Avenue. The event is limited to Closter residents.

Closter’s Shade Tree Commission

The Closter Shade Tree Commission is one of the Borough’s boards and commissions designed to oversee and enhance the quality of life we all enjoy. The STC has an opening for a resident to serve as a member of the commission. The commission is comprised of up to nine appointed residents who serve as the custodians of the shade trees along or roadways. The goal of the commission is to maintain the health and diversity of

our tree resources. The commission provides educational events to Closter's students at the annual Arbor Day celebrations. Projects can include planting, pruning, inspection and protection of all shade trees. To

serve on the commission, candidates must be Closter residents who are 18 years of age or older. No prior experience is necessary and fellow commission member will help train new members. The Commission meets on the second Monday of every month at 8:00 p.m. (except August).

Interested? Please complete a Citizen Leadership Form (available on the Borough's website, www.closternj.us) and return it with a brief resume to Mayor Glidden at jglidden@closternj.us. The Shade Tree Commission is a diverse group of volunteers working to enhance Closter's streetscapes and property values through the enhancement of trees.

Closter Public Schools

A message from Vincent McHale, Superintendent of Closter Public Schools

"Congratulations to the Closter students, parents, teachers, administrators, staff and Board of Education for their determination, perseverance and dedication throughout the entire year. It was a challenging journey but the students received instruction safely. The school year was filled with lots of learning this year as teachers learned new ways to deliver instruction and teachers and students learned new technologies. The Closter Public Schools are now a stronger school community as a result of all that has been learned. The fourth grade moving-on ceremony and eighth grade graduation took place at Memorial Field on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 and the Board of Education extended gratitude to the Mayor and Council for granting permission to use the field. Over 200 students are participating in summer programs – learning never stops in Closter Public Schools! Schools will reopen on September 2, 2021 for the new school year and will be offered only in-person using a full day schedule".

Juneteenth

Juneteenth, June 19, 1865 was declared a federal holiday earlier this month. Juneteenth has officially been added to Closter's calendar as a federal holiday. During the June 23rd meeting of the Mayor and Council, the governing body voted unanimously to recognize and add Juneteenth to the Borough's calendar.

Covid-19 Updates

With the decline in Covid related cases and the availability of vaccines, Closter will be reopening its public buildings on July 6th. Masks are required in *all* public areas of *all* public buildings and social distancing in group meetings is encouraged. Many thanks to the Closter Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Corps for their work and support of Holy Name Medical Center in providing vaccines to our residents last month.

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Volunteering enriches our communities in numerous ways. Closter has in incredible core of dedicated volunteers in a wide range of activities... including emergency services, scout leaders as well as boards and commissions. I urge each and every one of you to consider ways in which you can make a difference. Our Fire Department and Ambulance Corps are just two of the incredible organizations needing volunteers!

All the Best,



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**Mayor**