



BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

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MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

April 30, 2019

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.

CSX Railroad Crossing on Old Hook Road

The Closter Governing Body and the Closter Police Department have been trying to get CSX Railroad to make the repairs of the deplorable condition of the intersection for an infinitely long time. Most recently, Closter brought in Inspector August Greiner from the U.S. Federal Railroad Administration who inspected the intersection and has indicated that CSX has been fined and will continue to be fined until the repairs are made. It is our understanding that shortly the entire intersection will be closed with traffic detoured through Harrington Park for a minimum three day period. During this shutdown, the railroad crossing will be completely replaced including all pavement, support heads and crossing signals. Please be further assured that everyone in Closter and everyone who uses the RR crossings want this fixed ASAP.

~IMPORTANT NOTICE~

"Operation Take Back New Jersey"

Turn in your UNUSED or EXPIRED medication for safe disposal

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Closter Police Dept. ~ Garage/Parking Lot
295 Closter Dock Road, Closter**

2018 Memorial Day Parade and Memorial Service – Monday, May 27th

In honor of the 18 Closter residents who gave the ultimate sacrifice during World War I, World War II and Vietnam, as well as our countrymen currently serving, it is with respect the 2019 Memorial Day Parade and Memorial Service will be held on Monday, May 28^h.

Following tradition, the Memorial Day Parade assembles in the parking lot of St. Mary's church. The parade steps off *promptly at 10:00 am*. It concludes at the Veterans' Memorial (located in Veterans Memorial Park). The Memorial Day Service begins immediately at the conclusion of the parade. *Everyone* is encouraged to attend the Memorial Service in honor of our fallen servicemen and women. Following the Memorial Service, participants and spectators are invited to the Closter Elks Lodge for refreshments.

Please join the community's spirit and commitment in paying tribute to our Armed Forces by participating in the 2019 Memorial Day events. During the parade, the group with the best display of red, white and blue could receive the Mayor's Trophy. Help get the word out to neighbors and friends, line up along the streets of the parade route, fly the American flag from homes and businesses, and attend the Memorial Day service. Interested in participating in the parade? Please call the Borough offices at 201-784-0600 x 304. *All are welcome to join!*

Closter Police Department

Warmer weather brings new opportunities for crime. Again, the Closter Police Department is requesting the assistance of the community to exercise measures that are known to assist in deterring thefts of property and vehicles. **Remove the key fobs from vehicles, lock all vehicles and remove valuables from vehicles even if the vehicle is parked in your driveway.** *Outdoor lighting, referred to as dusk to dawn or motion sensor lighting, use of indoor lights on timers, keeping newspapers and mail from accumulating when the house is vacant and utilizing alarm systems are all examples of measures to deter criminal activity.* Burglary is a crime of convenience. Don't make it convenient for criminals. Remove the opportunities of becoming a victim. Report any suspicious activity to the Closter Police Department.

Belskie Museum of Art & Science

May is student art month at the Belskie Museum!

The Martin Hicks Gallery at the Belskie Museum is pleased to be hosting the 19th Annual exhibit of art by the students of Northern Valley Regional High School at Demarest. Meet some of the talented artists in this exhibit at the opening reception which is Thursday, May 2nd from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

The Belskie Museum of Art & Science is pleased to be hosting the Tenakill Middle School's 17th Annual Art Exhibit. This delightful exhibit opens to the public on **Thursday, May 16th** with an opening reception between 7:00- 9:00 pm. Under the guidance of Tenakill Middle School's art director, Joann Puleo, the Tenakill students have created a wonderful exhibit of sculpture, drawing and paintings.

Museum hours are Saturdays and Sundays 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Hours by appointment can be arranged by email- belskiemuseum@hotmail.com or calling 201-768-0286. Free Admission! www.belskiemuseum.com.

Closter Public Library

The Closter Library is a "happening place", chock full of activities and programs designed to meet an array of interests for residents both young and older. The Library is committed to providing the best materials, reference assistance, programs, classes and events to all. Volunteers make a difference, and the Closter Public Library is a prime example of volunteerism. Last month's Library Book Sale (run by volunteers) brought in \$3,524.05 in sales!

On Saturday, May 11th at 2:00 pm, enjoy the piano music of Jahn Gavalchin. New to the library is a service for those patrons who are home-bound and unable to come to the library to pick up materials. Contact the library for information about home delivery.

Getting your student ready for college admissions will take place on Tuesday, May 7th at 7:00 pm and, of course, there is the technology assistance, knitting group, Mah Jongg, Blood Pressure Nurse, Yoga, Meditation, ESL Classes and Adult Book Clubs! The list of interests is quite comprehensive so it is best to visit the library or its website at www.closter.bccls.org for the upcoming calendar of events.

First & Third Friday Flicks are another way to spend some time with friends while catching up on current films. This popular program will feature *Can You Ever Forgive Me* on Friday, May 3rd at 1:00 pm and *If Beale Street Could Talk* on Friday, May 17th at 1:00 pm All are invited!

Closter – Harold Hess Lustron House

The “Friends of the Lustron” are excited to be featuring an exhibit from the Orlando Tobia Collection of Closter’s history. Due to the popularity of the “Know Your Town”, the exhibit will be repeated during the Saturday, May 11th Lustron Open House from noon to 2:00 pm. 1920’s to 1970’s newspapers, photographs, Closter High School Bulletins, theatre programs and much more will be on view. This collection was donated to the Closter Historic Society by lifelong Closter resident, Orlando Tobia.

The all-steel Lustron house was delivered on one truck and erected in 3 days in 1950. Now refurbished and filled with furnishings, gadgets and toys from the 1950s thru 1970’s it is open to the public on the second Saturday of each month from noon to 2 pm. Area residents with an avid interest in the midcentury art, architecture, music or design are invited to join the “Friends of the Lustron”, which meets at 11 am on the 2nd Saturday of each month at the House. Admission is free and there are no dues to join.

Closter – “Tree City USA”... *Arbor Day*

Closter is proud to once again receive the distinguished recognition from the National Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA. To maintain this status, the Borough must meet certain criteria, such as devoting a certain portion of its budget to tree planting and care and following its adopted tree ordinance.

The Closter Shade Tree Commission will be honoring **Arbor Day** with the annual tree planting at both of our schools during the week of April 29th. Students assisted the Shade Tree Commission with planting while learning about the species of trees being planted. The traditional Arbor Day event is just a part of Closter’s commitment to being a Tree City USA community.

Closter Nature Center

The activities and educational classes continue this spring with after-school programs on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays, depending age groups. Learn about who lives in the pond and why...as much time will be spent outside as weather permits! Registration is required, so call Marc at (201) 750-2778 to reserve a place in class. Monday, April 29th at 7 pm is an interesting presentation by the River Keeper, “From High Tor Mountain to River Bay; the Hackensack River and Its Water keeper”. Saturday, May 4th at 8:00 am join Naturalist Nancy Slowik for a Spring Birding adventure and on Tuesday, May 14th at 7:00 pm Marc Gussen will present “Forest Stewardship”.

The Closter Nature Center Photography Contest is on exhibit at the Closter Public Library. There are some stunning photographs!

The Nature Center has an impressive summer program scheduled for 2019 which begins on June 24th through August 22nd. Registration information is available on the CNC’s website. Please visit the website, www.closternaturecenter.org, for more details or email the CNC at admin@closternaturecenter.org.

The Northern Valley Annual Earth Fair is being held on **Saturday, April 27, 2019** from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm 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.com.

Closter Recreation

The spring is buzzing with activities for all ages throughout the town. From the opening of baseball and softball, to the annual fishing contest, Closter Recreation offers a variety of sports and activities for all age groups and abilities. The Little League/Girls Softball Parade takes place Sunday, April 28th. Line-up by 12:30 pm behind the Closter Borough Hall. Opening Day Ceremony is 1:00 pm at the George Potterton Little League Field.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28th
Closter Opening Day Parade
Little League Day/Girls Softball
Parade starts 12:30 pm from the Closter Borough Hall

Saturday May 11th is the date of the Annual Joe Accordino Jr. Memorial Fishing Contest beginning at 9 am and concluding at noon. The pond is at the Closter Nature Center, Ruckman Road.

On Saturday, June 1st at 7:30 pm 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, 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.

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.

June's calendar is filling up with events following the Wounded Warriors Softball Game. The Summer Concert series begins on Friday, June 14th followed by a Food Truck Festival at Memorial Park on Saturday, June 15th. Visit the Closter Recreation website, www.closterrec.com, for all of the latest information on this and other programs.

An Invitation from Temple Beth El

Temple Beth El invites the community to a very special Guest Artist Shabbat on Friday, May 3rd at 7:30 pm, with world renowned musician to entertain us on the piano and organ. The min-concert begins at 6:30 pm, followed by a wine, fruit and cheese Pre-Neg at 7:00 pm, with the Guest Artist Shabbat service beginning at

7:30 pm. James Rensink has performed in over 25 countries and each of the fifty United States. He has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and many other famous venues. Mr. Rensink is one of the few artists ever to be heard at Lincoln Center as a leading baritone, pianist, composer and conductor. The entire community is invited to enjoy the unique Guest Artist Shabbat. Temple Beth El is located at 221 Schraalenburgh Rd. in Closter. For further information, visit www.tbenv.org.

NJ STARS – A Bergen Community College Opportunity

The NJ STARS program provides New Jersey's highest achieving students with free tuition at their home county college. If you are in the top 15% of your high school class at the end of your junior or senior year, you may be interested in receiving information about this program. Details on this program, including information workshops can be found at www.bergen.edu/njstars or on the Bergen Community College Facebook page at www.facebook.com/bccnjstars.

All the Best,



Mayor