



BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

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MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER



December 27, 2019

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

With the arrival of the New Year, I would like to extend good wishes to all of you for a year filled with good health, joy and prosperity. My door is always open, so please call my office to discuss any issue concerning the Borough.

This month's newsletter is one of reflection and moving forward. *"Accomplishment will prove to be a journey, not a destination"* ~ Dwight D. Eisenhower

2020 Closter Council Inaugurations

On Thursday January 2, 2020, the annual Sine Die Meeting will be held in the Closter Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. The Borough's Re-Organization Meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Please join the governing body at 7:30 p.m. as Councilwoman Victoria Amitai and Councilman Joseph Yammarino are sworn into their next terms. These meetings are held in the Council Chambers, located on the second floor of the Borough Hall. Refreshments will be served. *All are welcome!*

Volunteerism: Closter's Emergency Services

The strong spirit of volunteerism is ever present within our community. We should all be proud of the volunteer emergency service organizations that call Closter, "home". The Closter Fire Department and the Closter Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Corps are two organizations that are prime examples of what dedicated commitment and unyielding service are provided to a Borough. The members devote endless hours of dedication to providing services, maintain training and attending required drills in order to provide exemplary 24/7 fire, ambulance and rescue services. The commitment and dedication of the group of steadfast men and women are the very backbone of our thriving community. Without them, Closter would feel a significant absence of necessary emergency services.

Office of Emergency Management – Residents with Special Needs

Closter's *Office of Emergency Management* (OEM) is working to identify Closter residents, who because of special medical or physical needs may require additional assistance from Emergency Management personnel during severe storms, power outages or natural disasters.

Resident's medical or special needs may include, but are not limited to, life support equipment or other medical equipment. Residents will need to provide their name, address, telephone number, type of medical or physical need as well as an alternative telephone number and emergency contact. Closter residents who would like to be listed on the Office of Emergency Management's checklist should contact Leslie Weatherly at 201-784-0600 x 304.

All information is strictly confidential and will be kept in OEM's files to be used in emergency situations only.

Belskie Museum of Art & Science

The 2020 exhibition season at the Martin Hicks Gallery of the Belskie Museum opens on Sunday, January 5th with a compelling exhibit, "*OMA Art From Jewish Home Families*". The OMA Exhibit features diversified works by residents and participants of the Jewish Home at Rockleigh, Jewish Home Assisted Living and Gallen Day Center, all of whom are artists in *OPENING MINDS through ART (OMA)*. The exhibition features over 45 original works of mixed media.

All are welcome to enjoy this delightful exhibit which runs January 5th – 26th. The opening is Sunday, January 5th beginning at 1:00 p.m. The Belskie Museum hours are Saturdays and Sundays 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Admission is free; hours by appointment can be arranged by calling the Belskie at 201-768-0286. www.belskiemuseum.com

Closter Stigma Free Committee

Happy New Year wishes from the Closter Stigma Free Committee. The Committee is hosting a Community Potluck Supper on January 5th from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the Closter Senior Center, 4 Lewis St. Closter. Guests are requested to bring a dish to share. RSVP to either Jannie Chung (jchung@closternj.us) or Dolores Witko (dwitko@closternj.us). *Everyone is invited!*

Brasserie Memere ~ Closter Plaza's Newest Addition

A big "*hip, hip hooray*" as the Brasserie Memere, Closter Plaza's newest restaurant, opened its doors! Mayor John Glidden and members of the Council were on hand for a "Ribbon Cutting" last week. Brasserie Memere is located in the northeastern corner of the Plaza, near Harmon and Orange Theory. Brasserie Memere is a new French-style brasserie from restaurateur/chef Thomas Ciszak, offering an "authentic experience" with classic French fare.

Closter Nature Center

January is a month filled with great events at the Closter Nature Center. Afterschool programs will focus on *Dinosaurs, Fossils and the Ancient World* beginning on Tuesday, January 14th. This afterschool program is by grades and will begin at 3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 15th from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Marc Gussen will present "Primitive Technology", a program for adults and teens covering the history of primitive

technology from the first stone tools! This program is free, but donations to the CNC will be gratefully accepted! As always, the events calendar at the CNC is quite busy. Registration is available in person, calling Marc Gussen at (201) 750-2778 or registering online at register.community.pass.net/Closter.

Closter Environmental Commission

A tip from the Closter Environmental Commission...check the recycling number on the bottom of plastic bottles and containers. Avoid #3, 6 and 7. Numbers 1, 2 4 and 5 are safe to use. Better yet, instead of throwing out sizeable glass containers, use them for storage!

Closter Public Library

Happy New Year from the staff and volunteers of the Closter Library! The schedule of First and Third Friday Flicks ~ January 3rd, the feature film is *Downton Abbey* and on January 17th, *The Goldfinch* premieres. Film time is 1:00 p.m. The Closter Library has the best educational and cultural programs, with a vast selection of materials, reference assistance, programs, classes and events. From *Come Knit With Us*, *Mah Jongg*, *Blood Pressure Nurse*, *Yoga and Meditation*, to presentations, the Closter Library has it all. The U.S. 2020 Census Taker Recruiting Event is scheduled for January 15th and 16th from 10am-12pm and January 24th from 10am-1pm. Moms' Night Out Book Club is January 27th at 7 pm; *Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes is the featured book. The Blood Pressure Nurse is available from 10:30-11:30am on January 8th. Trying to clean up around the house... then "*What's It Worth & How Do You Sell It?*" may be the lecture for you on January 14th at 7pm.

Many of you are familiar with the BCCLS Boycott of MacMillian EBooks. Your libraries need your help in protecting the availability of Ebooks. The Closter Library joined this boycott on November 20th. Please support the library by requesting EBooks remain available to all and that these new ebook terms designed to drive consumer demand on MacMillian titles by inflating library hold queues be removed. Visit closterpubliclibrary.org for details, dates and times for all these outstanding opportunities.

Closter Reflections

Closter has experienced tremendous milestones this year through years of planning, negotiating and preparing, which have brought improvements to our residential areas, commercial business districts and our infrastructure. The municipal upgrades, completion of several key road projects and the continued recognition as one of the top towns in which to live, are just some of the milestones that Closter realized in 2019. We are extremely proud of the quality of education delivered in Closter schools and the ongoing success of our students.

On behalf of the members of the Closter Council: Victoria Amitai, Jannie Chung, Alissa Latner, Delores Witko, Scott Devlin, Joe Yammarino, I wish each and every one of you warm wishes for a happy, healthy and a prosperous New Year in 2020. The Council and I fervently acknowledge the Borough's hardworking staff and the volunteers who work tirelessly for the betterment of our community
Happy New Year!

All the best,



Mayor