



BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

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MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

June 27, 2019

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The Mayor's Newsletter provides announcements and details on the numerous events taking place throughout the community. My office is open to discuss any issue concerning the Borough.

A new beginning for Closter's Police Chief ~ Chief Dennis Kaine

Please join the governing body, staff and members of the Closter Police Department in wishing Closter Police Chief Dennis Kaine a warm farewell as he begins his retirement on July 1st. Chief Kaine is recognized for 34 years of unsurpassed, loyal and dedicated service to the Borough of Closter and its residents. He has worked through the ranks of the police department, as a patrolman, Sargeant, Detective Sargeant and Deputy Chief before becoming Chief of Police in January of 2012. Chief Kaine led the department through the CALEA certification process, setting a new standard to Closter's law enforcement policies. Our residents have benefited greatly from Dennis' commitment and allegiance to our community.

Effective July 1st, Lt. John McTigue will officially hold the position of Closter Police Chief. Jack is a long time member of the Closter Police Department, beginning his career in 1995 as an Interboro Dispatcher, Patrolman, Detective, Detective Sargeant and Patrol Lieutenant. Jack's experience in all areas of the police department, combined with his deep understanding of our community, brings a wealth of knowledge to this position.

Many thanks, Chief Kaine, for all of the years of service you have provided to Closter!

"MOVE! THE BAND"

**A concert sponsored by
Closter's Recreation Commission**

Back by popular request is MOVE! THE BAND. Join friends and neighbors on Sunday, June 30th at 2:00 p.m. as the MOVE! THE BAND, celebrates summer with an array of well-liked music. This "good time" rock band is the #1 dance engine on the scene today and features a variety of popular music. Led by Closter resident Joel Zelnik, MOVE! THE BAND features Richard Frank, the NYC metro area Country/Western expert, plus music for all ages. This concert will be held in the Band Shell at Veterans Memorial Field (Tenakill Middle School Auditorium if it rains).

2019 Summer Concert Series at Veterans Memorial Park

Summer is here and with it are the “*sounds of music*” filling the air from the bandstand at Veterans Memorial Park. The 2019 Summer Concert series opened last week with Willie Wilson and “The Willies”. Friday, June 28th features “The Thieves”, with P.J. Delia. On Sunday, June 30th at 2:00 p.m. MOVE! THE BAND will be performing their popular variety of assorted music.

Friday July 12th is an amazing night with “*Tina Walker*”, Friday, July 19th is the *Claudia Gaard Band* and Friday, July 26th is a fabulous concert with the *My Anxiety Band*. Gather a group of your neighbors and come down to the park to enjoy an evening filled with music under the stars. Concerts will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Closter Lions Band shell. All are welcome! Please see the complete schedule posted on the Borough’s website, www.closternj.us.

Belskie Museum of Art & Science

“*Scandinavian Roots*” an exhibit and sale of stunning Norwegian Art and Crafts opens at the Belskie Museum, 280 High St., Closter, on Sunday, July 12th – August 25th. This exhibit features the fine art and crafts by eight artists of Norwegian ancestry who reside in the Tri-State area and Maryland. The array of work includes paints, quilts, wood carving, pottery, stained glass and Rosemaling. Odd and Doris Andersen have curated a diverse collection of intriguing works.

Museum hours starting July 12th are Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 1-5 p.m. (hours by appointment can be arranged). The artist reception is Saturday, July 20th beginning at 1:00 p.m. Admission is free. www.belskiemuseum.com contact @belskiemuseum.com or call 201-768-0286.

Closter Tax Collector

The Third Quarter ESTIMATED tax bills are in the process of being mailed during the week of June 24th. The Third Quarter taxes are due August 1st.

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission –Mobile Agency Unit

Save the date. The NJMVC Mobile Agency Unit is scheduled to be in Closter on July 18th from 10 am-2 pm. This “Agency on Wheels” offers an opportunity for drivers to renew their license, obtain a duplicate license, provides residents with photo identification (non-driver ID cards), registration renewal, or surrender license plates. Drivers may obtain a “Persons with a Disability”, Purple Heart or Disabled Veteran placard. The NJMVC Unit will be set up in the parking lot at Borough Hall.

Closter’s Borough Codes

We are all proud of our community and work hard to keep our properties maintained. This creates attractive neighborhoods and generates a welcoming atmosphere within Closter. The Borough’s codes were designed to maintain Closter’s attractiveness as a community, but this requires everyone’s assistance in upholding property standards.

Simple “upkeep” will assist our community’s appearance. For example, ***Household trash*** (i.e. table, chair, lamp, etc. up to 5 items) ***may be placed at the curb at 6:00 p.m. the night before the regularly scheduled 2nd garbage pickup of the week – not before.*** Call the DPW, 201-784-0753 to make arrangements for the pick-up of white goods *before* the item(s) are placed curbside. All televisions and computers must be recycled.

The Borough requires that all properties shall be maintained free from plant growth in excess of 8 inches. **Garage Sales** require obtaining a permit which clarifies the permissible signage, number of sales per year, the hours of operation and the *prompt* removal of signs. Some maintenance items, such as tree removal, driveway repairs, and fences require permits which are available from the Closter Building Department.

Being aware of requirements and adhering to Closter's Borough Codes will aid in keeping Closter an attractive community.

Closter Police Department

Summertime is vacation time for many folks. The Closter Police Department is reminding all residents to keep lights on timers, stop the accumulation of mail, packages, newspapers, etc. as well as lock vehicles left in driveways. Residents can always notify the Police Department when a house is going to be vacant. Overnight parking is prohibited between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday and between 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on Sunday **on any street** in the Borough of Closter.

The Closter Police Department announced a Safe Exchange Zone for conducting in-person internet transactions. Residents wary of transactions via the internet with an unknown buyer or seller will now be able to do so in the parking lot of the Closter Police headquarters located at 295 Closter Dock Rd. There is a Safe Exchange Zone sign in the parking lot denoting the area that is under surveillance. *The Closter Police will not have a hand in any transactions, act as witnesses or be involved in authentication of any item.*

Closter Recreation: Summer Half-Day Camp at Veterans Memorial Park

The Closter half-day summer recreation program has been enjoyed by hundreds of youngsters. This program is open to Closter residents in Grades K-8th. There are arts and crafts, sports and weekly special events. The sprinkler pool is open daily, weather permitting. The Closter Half-Day Summer Recreation Program begins on Wednesday, June 26th, and runs to Friday, July 26th between 9:30 a.m. and noon at Veterans Memorial Field. While there is no fee for this program, pre-registration is required. Please visit <http://www.closterrec.com/free-half-day-summer-rec.html> for more information.

Closter Public Library

Looking for some interesting and cultural things to do this summer, while staying close to home? Visit the Closter Public Library, the nucleus of recreational and educational activities for our community. With your library card you can access books, audiobooks, DVDs, music CDs and downloadable e-books, audiobooks, movies and music. And it's not just reading... yoga, Mah Jongg, Relax, De-Stress, Color and Knit to name a few.

New this summer ... Senior Healthy Lifestyle: Keep The Mind Sharp on Monday, July 22nd at 1:00 p.m.= Library is offering a new service to home-bound patrons who are unable to pick up materials. Please contact the library for information about home delivery. (201-768-4197).

Enjoy a cool, comfortable afternoon at the movies! First and Third Friday Flicks are increasingly popular. *The Public* is the feature film on Friday, July 5th and *Shazam!* is the film on Friday, July 21st. Movies begin at 1:00 p.m. The library's array of services, classes and events are filled with activity this summer. Please visit the library's website at www.bccls.org for a current calendar of events.

Closter Nature Center

The Closter Nature Center is abounding with activities, classes, summer camps, hiking trails, and special events. Summer at the Nature Center is an opportunity to participate in numerous activities and educational classes. The CNC has programs for all age groups and interests. In addition to class and camp information, the CNC website has a reference section on injured or abandoned animals.

The Nature Center has an impressive summer program scheduled for 2019 which began on June 24th. Registration forms and information can be found on the CNC website or in person by stopping in at the cabin located by Ruckman Pond. Please visit the Nature Center's website at www.closternaturecenter.org. You won't be disappointed!!

Closter Environmental Commission

The Closter Environmental Commission is offering a tip to all gardeners in an effort to help save the pollinators. Bees, Butterflies, Bats, Birds are responsible for pollinating more than two thirds of global food crops. Please help save our pollinators by eliminating glyphosates, the chemical agents found in pesticides used for weed control in gardens and yards. The pollinators cannot survive glyphosates, which is toxic to children as well.

There are ways to help save bees and pollinators by planting flowers such as Aster, Black-eyed Susans, Lupine, Purple Coneflower, Sunflowers, Rhododendron, Eder Flower, Penstemon and Blazing Star, to name a few. Use alternate pest control methods, like landscaping to attract beneficial insects and eco-friendly pest-control products.

Closter Shade Tree Commission

July is almost here, with long days and abundant sunshine. Trees planted last fall will need extra care the first year. Periodic watering during the first summer will insure that the tree flourishes for future generations. Newly planted/young trees require more frequent watering than older, well-established trees. For the first several months after planting, the root ball and surrounding soil should be kept evenly moist to encourage healthy root growth. After a few months, expand the watering zone to cover the entire area under the canopy.

It's vital to provide supplemental moisture in the early years, if nature doesn't provide regular soaking rains. During hot, dry weather, new trees may require water as often as three times per week to ensure that the root ball doesn't dry out.

Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in volunteering? The Borough has an array of boards and commissions, as well as a working farm in which to volunteer. No formal experience is necessary except for an interest to serve in enhancing the services offered by and to community. To inquire about these positions please contact my office.

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.

All the Best,



Mayor