



BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

295 Closter Dock Road, Closter, New Jersey 07624

John C. Glidden, Jr.
Mayor

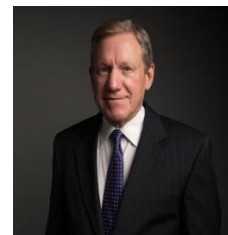
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MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER



March 29, 2019

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

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

Closter's Newest Addition to its Merchants

The middle of March is a time for welcoming the *Tao Haus*, located on Closter Dock Road & Perry Street to Closter as they opened their doors for business. The traditional Closter ribbon cutting took place on Thursday, March 28th. *Tao Haus*, has its roots in classical Hong Kong Cantonese with management having previous restaurant experience in Chinatown, NYC spanning 32 years. Featured in Zagat's, the Tao Haus menu is versatile, offering a modern twist to classical flavor and dishes, where they "Put the Yin to the Yang". *Hip, Hip, Hurray* and welcome to Closter!

Closter Public Library

Spring is blossoming at the Closter Public Library. Yoga, meditation, play Mah Jongg, Meet the Author, *The Belskie Gallery Wall Exhibit*, featuring the work of local resident Andrew Weatherly; Technology Help on Mondays and Wednesdays; a fabulous array of activities for all interests and ages. Saturday, April 6th at 2:00 features Vicki & Cliff, Act II – a lively arrangement of vocals, piano and electric violin. This month Peter Wood hosts "Author Talk" on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00 p.m. Homebound? If you are home-bound and unable to come to the library to pick up materials, please contact the library for information about home delivery. Visit the library's website at www.closterlibrary.org for a comprehensive list of activities, programs and information.

A unique book reading & signing is taking place! On Friday, March 29th at 3:45 to 4:30 p.m., author *Margaret Winslow* will be visiting the Closter Public Library with her favorite donkey, Caleb! Margaret's book, *Smart Ass*, is a heartwarming story of "how a donkey challenged me to accept his true nature and rediscover my own". Join us in this delightful meet and greet!

First Friday Flicks are another way to spend some time with friends while catching up on current films. April's feature films, *Vice* will be shown on Friday, April 5th and *The Favourite* will be shown on Friday, April 19th. Both films begin at 1:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Library. All are invited!

Lions Pancake Breakfast ... Sunday, March 31st

The Closter Lions Club proudly announces their spring “Family Pancake Breakfast” on Sunday, March 31st from 8:00 a.m. to noon. This community favorite event is being held at Northern Valley Regional High School, 150 Knickerbocker Rd., Demarest, NJ. Tickets are \$8.00 and children under four are free. The net proceeds of the Closter Lions Club’s “Family Pancake Breakfast” will benefit the USA Patriots WOUNDED WARRIORS Amputee Softball Team’s Softball Camps for Kids, as well as other charities. For information and tickets please contact: strep52@gmail.com.

The mission of the Lions Club Int’l. is to serve. The Lions Clubs are places where individuals join together to give their valuable time and effort to improving their communities, and the world. All are welcome!

Closter Tax Office

The Closter Tax Office mailed the New Jersey Homestead Rebate tax bill to Closter property owners during the week of March 25th.

Belskie Museum of Art & Science

Marble Jam Kids opens at the Belskie Museum of Art & Science on Sunday, April 7th at 1:00 p.m. This exhibit features the works of children and young adults with special needs who attend Marble Jam Kids (MJK) Center for Creative Arts Therapies, a non-profit organization located in Hackensack. On exhibit will be painting and other forms of art created by those who attend MJK. April 7th – 28th. After the opening reception, museum hours are Saturdays and Sundays 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Admission is free. The Belskie Museum is located at 280 High Street adjacent to the Public Library. www.belskiemuseum.com

Closter’s Lustron House

Closter’s restored all-steel 1950’s “House of Tomorrow” located at 421 Durie Avenue, will be open for viewing on April 12th from noon to 2 p.m. The house is open on the second Saturday of every month with special exhibits and enjoyable events with a mid-century theme.

On April 12th 1950’s photographs and newspaper articles from a special collection gifted to the Closter Historic Society by lifelong resident Orlando Tobia will be displayed. The articles chronicle the social and civic life of Closter at that time. Hundreds of photos are in the collection and many need identification. So if you or your relatives lived in Closter in the fifties, please stop by to enjoy the stories and help us identify some of the people in the photos. All are welcome to come by and see what life was like in this amazing all-metal house with the first built-in dishwasher/washing machine and other innovation of home life in the 1950’s. Admission is free.

Environmental Commission ~ Clean Up Closter & Earth Day

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 6th** 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!

The Northern Valley Annual Earth Fair is being held 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.

Closter Nature Center

April's after-school programs begin on April 2nd. The CNC has programs on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for students in P-K and K through 6th grade. Registration can be made on line at www.register.communitypass.net/Closter or if you prefer to register in person, call Marc Gussen at 201-750-2778. Spring break is coming up and the CNC is offering programs from Monday, April 15th – Thursday, April 18th. There is a variety of programs scheduled during the week. The Riverkeeper Program takes place on Monday, April 29th at 7 p.m.

The Annual Soup Supper is back!! Mark your calendar for Sunday, April 7th from 7-9 p.m. The Soup Supper has brought members and friends together for more than 30 years. A great variety of homemade soups and breads is our specialty. You get a bowl and spoon to sample as many soups as you like. The charge is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 10 years old. For an extra \$5, ceramic, re-usable mugs with the CNC logo are available. Contact Adri Turrell at 201-768-3550 if you would like to contribute!

The 3rd annual Closter Nature Center Photo Exhibition and Contest is on display at the Closter Public Library, 280 High Street, throughout the month of April. Join us as contest winners are announced at a Reception on Saturday, April 27th at 2 p.m.

Registration has begun for the CNC 2019 Summer Program. Please send inquiries to CNCsummer@closternaturecenter.org, or visit the CNC's website at www.closternaturecenter.org for a schedule.

Closter Recreation

The spring is filled with extra activities for all ages throughout the town. Saturday, April 20th is the Annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Memorial Park playground, beginning promptly at 10:00 a.m. (weather permitting). The Girls Softball/Little League Parade takes place Sunday, April 28th. Line-up at 12:30 p.m. behind Borough Hall. Opening Day Ceremony is 1:00 p.m. at the George Potterton Little League Field. There are so many activities taking place this spring, you will need to visit the Closter Recreation Commission's website, www.closterrec.com, to keep up with **all** of the latest information on programs and events. All information for sports registration, dates and clinics are posted on the Closter Recreation website, www.closterrecom.

2019 Memorial Day Parade and Memorial Service

Closter's 2019 Memorial Day Parade and Memorial Service are scheduled for Monday, May 27th. The parade steps off promptly at 10:00 a.m. and concludes at Veteran's Memorial Park where the Memorial Day Ceremony begins. Following the service, parade participants and spectators are invited to the Closter Elks Lodge for complimentary refreshments.

The 2019 American Legion Post 111 Grand Marshall is Frank Benz. Frank is celebrating his 60th anniversary as a member of the American Legion. Please join the community in honoring our service men and women of the Armed Forces by participating in the 2019 Memorial Day events. Help us get the word out to line the streets along the parade route, fly the American flag from Closter's homes and businesses, and attend the Memorial Day Service.

The Mayor's Trophy will be awarded to the parade group that displays *the most innovative use of Red, White & Blue!* Creativity is important to enhance the parade...floats, banners, etc. will all add to the community spirit of saluting our service men and women.

If you are interested in participating in the parade, please call the Borough offices at 201-784-0600 x 304 or email Leslie Weatherly at lweatherly@closternj.us. We welcome you!

Closter Shade Tree Commission

The Closter Shade Tree Commission will be celebrating its 18th year as a Tree City USA community by holding the annual Arbor Day tree plantings at both Hillside Elementary and Tenakill Middle schools on Friday, April 26th. This year, a beautiful Cooper Beech tree is being planted at Hillside Elementary School. The commission is proud to be dedicating the Copper Beech in memory of Mr. Al Baffa, Hillside Elementary School's Principal. The Shade Tree Commission is very grateful for the many years, Mr. Baffa supported the commission's educational, student-based Arbor Day celebration and tree planting.

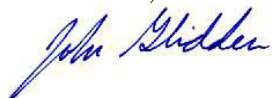
The Shade Tree Commission is continuing to follow the problem of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and to develop a plan for the successful management of this deadly infestation. Following the inspections of the ash trees in Closter, the commission will be notifying Closter's homeowners where infected ash trees have been located. Additional information on the Emerald Ash Borer will be available on the Borough's website.

NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency

The NJHMFA has programs that can assist homeowners in our community who are facing foreclosure or first-time homebuyers looking to purchase a home. A new state housing council initiative can assist residents in danger of losing their homes, as well as protect property values in our town. The NJHMFA offers \$10,000 in down payment and closing cost assistance, for example, which can provide the resources buyers need to complete the purchase and open the door to their new home. Visit the website for more detailed information on this program, www.njhousing.gov.

The Borough of Closter 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