

BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

295 Closter Dock Road, Closter, New Jersey 07624



John C. Glidden, Jr.
Mayor

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Alissa Latner

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Chris Cho
Anna Maroules

Jannie Chung
Joseph Yammarino

MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER



March 30, 2024

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The March 2024 issue of the Mayor's Newsletter brings some important messages, news and events in town. Please feel free to call my office at 201-784-0600, x 500 to discuss any issue concerning the Borough.

Celebrating Greek Independence Day in Closter

Music filled the air during the celebration of the 203rd Anniversary of Greek Independence Day, March 25th as Mayor Glidden, Councilwoman Maroules, dignitaries and guests remembered the Greek War of Independence and the commitment of the Greek people to fight for freedom.



The Closter Greek Americans



Mayor Glidden
Welcomes the Group



Dean Paltos, Mayor Glidden &
Councilwoman Anna Maroules



Greek Dance Performers

Photos by Tsun Tam

Closter's Public Schools – 3rd Grade Wax Museum

I was honored to be invited to an innovative and informative lesson given by Ms. Lee's 3rd Grade. The *3rd Lee Wax Museum Famous People Exhibit* at Hillside Elementary School was wonderful. Students, dressed as their famous person, presented a brief history of their person in their own "Wax Museum"!



The Mayor's Committee for the Arts

The Mayor's Committee for the Arts, with the unwavering support of EDENS, has assembled an array of entertaining "pop-up" musical performances which are being held at the Closter Plaza. The performances are free and are scheduled as follows:

On Friday, *May 3rd* enjoy the music of *The Purple Glove Band*, Friday, June 7th, the music of Denise & Ashley Pettet will fill the air! *Wednesday, July 3rd* hosts the music of the *Stephen Fuller Trio* and Fridays in September fill the air with performances on - *Friday, September 6th* ~ *Flip Peters* and *Friday, September 13th* ~ *David Scance*

Join friends and neighbors as these talented artists entertain audiences of all ages! Enjoy a delightful experience in the Closter Plaza while shopping and dining!

Closter Environmental Commission

Closter's Environmental Commission is hosting **Closter Cleanup Day** on Saturday, April 6th beginning at 10am. This event is open to all, including families! Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Join the Environmental Commission members in the annual Cleanup Day, meet new people, see old friends and participate in this volunteering activity! Supplies and a map will be available at the sign up table located in the front of the Senior Center, 4 Lewis St.



Belskie Museum of Arts & Science

"Sculpture Affiliates of the Art Center of Northern New Jersey", April 7th – 28th, is the featured exhibition at the Belskie Museum of Art & Science. This exhibit offers new sculptures created by twelve Sculpture Affiliates members of the Art Center of Northern NJ, located in New Milford. Its mission is to educate the public about the creation of three-dimensional art by showing their work in groups and solo exhibitions. The

exhibit offers a wide range of materials from traditional stone and bronze to fiber, paper and recycled products. Artists will be available to speak about their work at the reception.

The Exhibit Opening Reception is Sunday, April 7th from 1-4pm. Museum hours after opening reception are Saturdays & Sundays from 2-4pm. Hours by appointment can be arranged. The Belskie Museum is located at 280 High St, adjacent to the Library. 201-768-0286 or www.belskiemuseum.com

Closter Nature Center

Spring offers a wide assortment of activities, classes and events at the CNC.

Sunday, April 7th *Introduction to Birding* class is planned in the afternoon

Monday, April 2nd *After-School Nature Program – Spring Session I* is a 5- week session. This program is for PreK-4 to 6th Grade.

Monday, April 15th – Thursday, April 18th *Spring Break Nature Program* on. The Spring Break Nature Program offers four days of nature exploration and discovery!

Wednesday, April 25th at 7pm *Primitive Technology: A Hands-on Lecture* is being held on. All of the CNC's programs and activities are open to members and non-members and all require registration using <https://register.communitypass.net/Closter>

The Annual Soup Supper is being held on Sunday, April 28th, from 5-7pm. The Soup Supper is one of the CNC's most popular fundraising events. All of the soups are donated by our favorite local restaurants. Come hike on a trail and then join in at the cabin for dinner and Music by the Pond. Pay at the door! Proceeds support the Nature Center's educational programs. Email admin@closternaturecenter.org

Closter Public Library

The Closter Library will be hosting an assortment of special programs this April.

Saturday, April 6th ~ 2pm: The Joel Zelnik Trio & Tony Corrao perform a tribute to jazz. Enjoy some of the legendary recordings by Tony Bennet & Bill Evans

Saturday, April 13th ~ 12:00: Self Defense Seminar for Women with Guy Velella. An overview of situational awareness in avoiding hostile encounters is being offered.

Talk by Jessica Max Stein, Author of Funny Boy: Tuesday, April 16th at 6pm: Jessica will read from and talk about her biography of Closter resident and Muppet performer, Richard Hunt, who was an integral part of Sesame Street, Fraggle Rock, The Muppet Show and more.

Regular Programs and services include First Friday Flicks on April 5th, the Short Story Club, Adult Health and Wellness Program, Adult Book Club, Technology Help, Yoga & Meditation, Zumba via Zoom, ESL, and of course a vast offering of Youth Service Programs.

Visit closterpubliclibrary.org for details!

Closter Food & Assistance Board

Should you know of anyone in Closter who may be in need and is hesitant to come forward for assistance, or just might not know how to ask for help, please email us at fabofcloster@gmail.com or call (201) 784-0600 x 429. All inquiries are kept in complete confidence.

Closter Recreation Commission

Registration for spring baseball and softball is now open for children in grades k-8. In addition registration for Closter's FULL DAY Summer Recreation program is also open for children entering 1st grade -8th grade in the fall school year 2023. You can find all registration information on the Closter Rec website at closterrec.com

Save The Dates:

Saturday, March 30th at 11:00am *Easter Egg Hunt* at Memorial Park (weather permitting).

Sunday, April 28th ~ Opening Day Parade for Little League and Girls Softball – Assemble at 12:30 behind Borough Hall; the parade starts at 12:50pm sharp.

Saturday, May 11th 9am-12noon ~ *Joe Accordino Jr. Memorial Fishing* contest at Ruckman Pond. This great annual event is co-sponsored with Closter PBA Local 233.

The Closter Recreation Commission offers a host of varied sports programs. Information on these programs can be found on the closterec.com website.

Closter Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Corps

The Closter Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Corps (CVARC) has been serving the residents of Closter & the Northern Valley community since 1936. We answer close to 800 emergency calls per year and spend over 4,000 man hours per year. Our active members responding to your emergency calls 24/7/365 are your neighbors. To become a Volunteer EMT, training is approximately 275 hours. Ongoing training is required to maintain certification. Some of our members are trained in motor vehicle extrication and cliff rappelling. We are truly “professional volunteers”. This is a 100% *VOLUNTEER* full service organization.



You can help support this invaluable emergency service organization. The 2024 Fund Drive has been mailed out to all residents. To make a donation you can use the envelope in our mailing or visit our CVARC's web site at www.CVARCNJ.org . For additional information you can “like” our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CVARCNJ>. 100% of your donation is used to support the services we provide

Closter Fire Department

There is currently a CRITICAL NEED for Volunteer Firefighters in Closter.

If you are 16 years or older, YOU can make a difference in our community, learn new skills and become part of a team.

PLEASE consider joining us today.

Visit on web at www.closterfd.org

OR

Email secretary@closterfd.org for more information

EMERGENCY

The Closter Volunteer Fire Department is in DIRE NEED of NEW MEMBERS

Our membership ranks are at an **ALL TIME LOW** - WE NEED VOLUNTEERS like YOU !!

You Can Have All The Trucks & Awesome Tools In The World But You Can't Have A Fire Department WITHOUT PEOPLE !

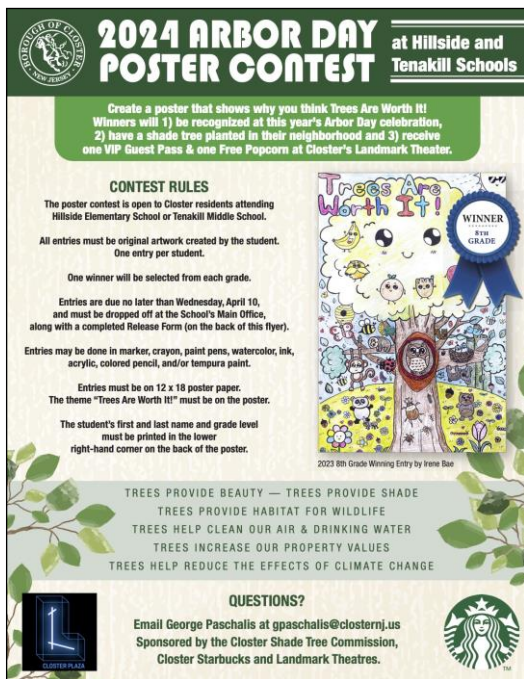
Please consider joining us for a unique opportunity like no other.... All while becoming part of an extended family and helping your neighbors and community !

 <http://www.closterfd.org>
FB, IG, Twitter @closterfd

Closter Shade Tree Commission Arbor Day 2024

For more than 22 years, the Borough of Closter under the auspices of the Shade Tree Commission has consistently met the Arbor Day Foundation’s standards to be awarded the “Tree City USA” status. This year, as in keeping with a longtime Closter tradition, the Closter Shade Tree Commission will be hosting the Arbor Day celebration at the newly established “*Closter Grove*”.

Closter’s 2024 Arbor Day celebration will highlight the “*Trees for School*” project, a unique collaborative project between the Closter Public Schools and the Shade Tree Commission. This project received a \$47,939.00 award to plant up to 47 trees at two sites near Tenakill School. The “*Closter Grove*” which is located on Harrington Avenue, is within walking distance to Tenakill Middle School. It will provide an area for outdoor classroom activities for our students. The fifth annual “*Trees Are Worth It*” Poster Contest is a highlight of the Arbor Day Celebration being held on Friday, April 26th.



2024 ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST at Hillside and Tenakill Schools

Create a poster that shows why you think *Trees Are Worth It!*
Winners will 1) be recognized at this year's Arbor Day celebration, 2) have a shade tree planted in their neighborhood and 3) receive one VIP Guest Pass & one Free Popcorn at Closter's Landmark Theater.

CONTEST RULES
The poster contest is open to Closter residents attending Hillside Elementary School or Tenakill Middle School.
All entries must be original artwork created by the student. One entry per student.
One winner will be selected from each grade.
Entries are due no later than Wednesday, April 10, and must be dropped off at the School's Main Office, along with a completed Release Form (on the back of this flyer).
Entries may be done in marker, crayon, paint pens, watercolor, ink, acrylic, colored pencil, and/or tempera paint.
Entries must be on 12 x 18 poster paper. The theme "Trees Are Worth It!" must be on the poster.
The student's first and last name and grade level must be printed in the lower right-hand corner on the back of the poster.

Trees Are Worth It! WINNER 8TH GRADE

2023 8th Grade Winning Entry by Irene Bao

TREES PROVIDE BEAUTY — TREES PROVIDE SHADE
TREES PROVIDE HABITAT FOR WILDLIFE
TREES HELP CLEAN OUR AIR & DRINKING WATER
TREES INCREASE OUR PROPERTY VALUES
TREES HELP REDUCE THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

QUESTIONS?
Email George Paschalis at gpaschalis@closternj.us
Sponsored by the Closter Shade Tree Commission, Closter Starbucks and Landmark Theatres.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Name/Photo Release Form

I hereby assign and grant to the Shade Tree Commission and the Borough of Closter the right and permission to use and publish the photographs/video tapes/electronic representations and/or sound recordings made for the 2024 Arbor Day Poster Contest.

I also hereby release the Shade Tree Commission and the Borough of Closter from any and all liability from such use and publication.

I hereby authorize the reproduction, sale, copyright, exhibit, broadcast, electronic storage and/or distribution of said photographs/video tapes/electronic representations and/or recordings without limitation at the discretion of the Shade Tree Commission and the Borough of Closter and I specifically waive any right to any compensation I may have for any of the foregoing.

Print Student's Name _____

Grade _____

Parent's signature _____ Date _____

Print Parent's Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Closter Lions Club

Closter Lions Pancake Breakfast
Sunday April 7, 2024 8am-12pm
Elks Club
148 Railroad Ave Closter



Tricky Tray Baskets
Pancakes served with sausage, fruit, coffee, tea, juice and milk

Tickets: \$12 adult/ \$6 child
At the door: \$15 adult/\$10 child

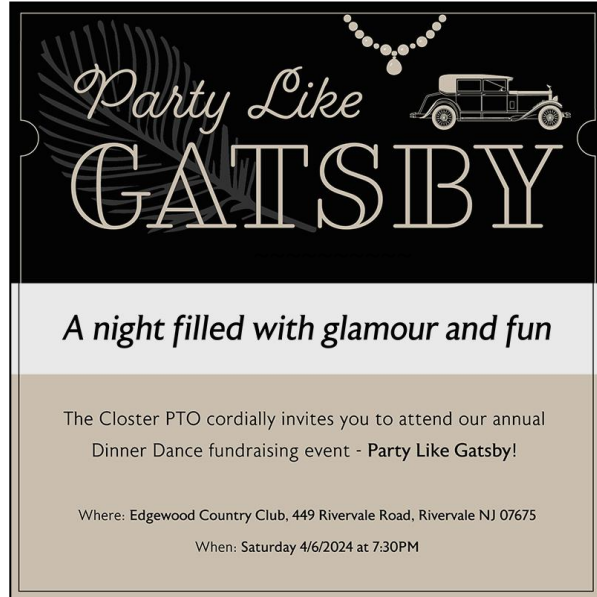
Purchase Tickets at www.Closterrec.com

For Questions
Contact: Karenegaard@gmail.com
cell: 201-390-0184

Sunday, April 7th is the date for the Closter Lions Pancake Breakfast 8am-11am at the Closter Elks Lodge on Railroad Avenue. Come enjoy the traditional breakfast of pancakes served with sausage, fruit, coffee, tea, juice or milk! It’s a community event. Tickets are available online at www.closterrec.com. Bring the family and enjoy time with friends and neighbors!

PTO Dinner Dance 2024

You're invited to a Great Gatsby-themed extravaganza that promises an evening of elegance and revelry. Dust off your flapper dresses and sharp suits, and get ready to dance the night away. Indulge in the opulence of the Jazz Age with dazzling decor, classic cocktails, and a night of extraordinary memories. Don't miss the chance to be part of this Gatsby-style soirée on April 6th beginning at 7:30pm at the Edgewood Country Club in River Vale. Early Bird Tickets Sale is now open! [Buy Tickets Here](#)



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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'John Blidden'.

Mayor