

**MAIL LIST**  
**April 3, 2026**

|    | <b>Date</b> | <b>From</b>                          | <b>Pertains to:</b>  | <b>Agenda/Committee/<br/>Liaison</b>       |
|----|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. | 3/30/2026   | Closter Public Library               | Library news March 30, 2026  | Mayor and Council<br>Borough Administrator |
| 2. | 3/30/2026   | Closter resident<br>Adrienne Isacoff | 250 <sup>th</sup> celebration  | Mayor and Council<br>Borough Administrator |
| 3. | 3/30/2026   | Mayor John C.<br>Glidden, Jr.        | Mayor's Newsletter   | Mayor and Council<br>Borough Administrator |
| 4. | 3/25/2026   | NJLM                                 | <p>Weekly Roundup</p> <p><b><u>State Issues</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State Health Benefits Program Mid-Year Report</li> <li>• PERS Board Actuary Update</li> <li>• Election Legislation Advances</li> <li>• Governor Signs Immigration Bills</li> <li>• LFN 2026-07 Issued for 2026 FDS Filing Information</li> <li>• Executive Order Signed for NJ Transit Improvement Plan</li> <li>• Lunch &amp; Learn – Intoxicating Hemp-Derived Products Overview</li> <li>• OSC Housing Procurement Webinar for Government Officials</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Federal Issues</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FEMA BRIC Funding Opportunity</li> <li>• President Trump Issues EO Extending FEMA Review Council</li> <li>• NLC 250<sup>th</sup> Toolkit Released</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Also of Interest</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Galloway Township Selected Winner of Show Off Your City 2026</li> <li>• The Management Series Restarts</li> <li>• New Jersey Digital Government Summit Set for May 5</li> <li>• NJ-GMIS Technology Education Conference</li> <li>• Rutgers Center for Government Services Public Purchasing Forum</li> </ul> | Mayor and Council<br>Borough Administrator |



1 ML 4.3.2026

Laura Rametta <lrametta@closternj.us>

## Library news March 30, 2026

1 message

Closter Public Library <circulation@closter.bccls.org>

Reply-To: cltrcirc@bccls.org

To: lrametta@closternj.us

Mon, Mar 30, 2026 at 8:04 AM



CLOSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY  
the anchor of the community

**March 30, 2026**

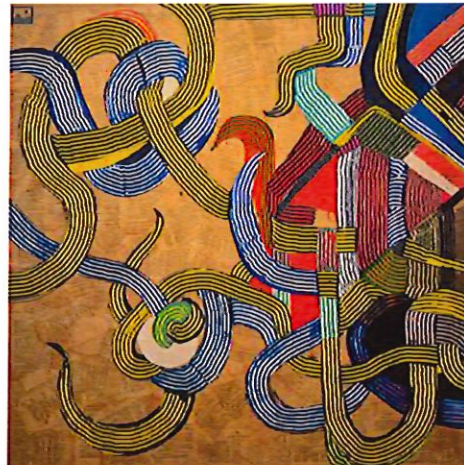
## BELSKIE LIBRARY ART WALL

### Landscapes of Color by Jong Rim Song

April 4-May 2

Landscapes of Color, a solo exhibition by artist Jong Rim Song, features a selection of Song's experimental paintings that explore the emotional and structural power of color through abstracted landscapes.

Visit the library to see this exhibit. [Click on the image to play it as an electronic jigsaw puzzle.](#)



## RESOURCES

**Museum Passes**

## Visit the Frick Collection



The Frick Collection is an internationally recognized premier museum and research center, that is known for its distinguished Old Master paintings and outstanding examples of European sculpture and decorative arts. Borrow the Frick pass from the library to visit for free. Contact the library for more information.

### Don't Have Time to Visit the Museum?

You can experience the Frick paintings by downloading, printing, and coloring their collection of [coloring pages](#). There's even one you can [color online!](#)



We have a wide range of museum passes that you can borrow with your Closter library card, including the Children's Museum of Manhattan, MoMA, and the Yogi Berra Museum.

[Visit our website for more information about our museum pass program.](#)

**There's still time to grab a  
March Bonus Borrow**

## March 25-31

Enjoy Bonus Borrows more often! Hoopla's Bonus Borrows will be available the last seven days of each month. Choose from these select titles without using your monthly borrows!

[Visit the collection.](#)

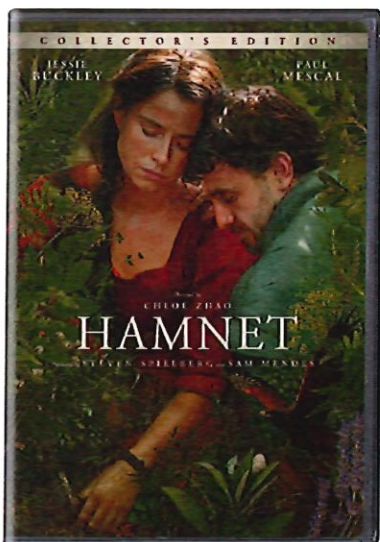


## Remember you can read the Wall Street Journal through our website

- Simply **click here**. Use the first 6 digits of your Library Card number.
- Follow the instructions to create your account, and you can start using [wsj.com](http://wsj.com) immediately
- Your access will be available for the next 3 days
- After 3 days, simply come back and click the above link again and login as an existing user with the same username and password you originally created
- **IMPORTANT** - You are not permitted to share your sign-on credentials with any other person whatsoever. Any violation of this clause will result in Dow Jones terminating our access.



## Regular Program



### First Friday Flicks

Friday, April 3 1pm

#### Hamnet

After losing their son Hamnet to plague, Agnes and William Shakespeare grapple with grief in 16th-century England. A healer, Agnes must find strength to care for her surviving children while processing her devastating loss. Jessie Buckley won the Oscar for Best Actress as Agnes.



**Monday**

10-11:30am- Advanced ESL

Conversation

7-8pm - Tech Help

**Wednesday**

1-2:30pm - Advanced ESL

Conversation

6-7 pm Yoga/Meditation

**Thursday**

10-11:30am - 1to1 ESL tutoring

12:30-2pm - Knitting and Craft

4:30pm - Zumba on Zoom

**Friday**

10-11:30am - 1to1 ESL tutoring

**Saturday**

1:30-2:30 - Intermediate ESL *This class is full. Contact the library to get on the waiting list*

2-3pm - Tech Help

**Download the BCCLS App**

Always have your library card with you; check your account and request books from your phone. Scan the QRcode or visit the [App store](#) or the [Google Play store](#).



**THE LIBRARY IS ALWAYS OPEN ONLINE**

As ever, please contact the library:

**Ruth** and **Deborah** for general questions

**Vida** for Kids N Young Adults question

**Tim** for Reference questions and issues with electronic media

**Julia** for the short story club

**ClosterPublicLibrary.org**





2 ML 4.3.2026

Mari Margiotta <mmargiotta@closternj.us>

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**Re: 250th celebration**

1 message

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**Alissa Latner** <alatner@closternj.us>

Mon, Mar 30, 2026 at 12:10 PM

To: Adrienne Isacoff , Mari Margiotta <mmargiotta@closternj.us>, James Winters

<jwinters@closternj.us>

Cc: John Glidden <jglidden@closternj.us>, "V. Amitai" <vamitai@closternj.us>, Jannie Chung <jchung@closternj.us>, jyamarrino@closternj.us, "amaroules@closternj.us" <amaroules@closternj.us>, ccho@closternj.us

Dear Adrienne,

Definitely a lovely idea! I am not on the committee planning the events, so I can't answer about all the activities occurring that day.

However, I am resending your request, and copying the Borough Clerk, to ask her to place your email on the Mail List for our next meeting. This way, the Mayor and Council can discuss it at that time. You are welcome to attend the meeting as well to be included in the discussion.

Sincerely,

*Alissa Latner*



*Closter Councilwoman*

*295 Closter Dock Road*

*Closter, NJ 07624*

*Tel.: 201 784-0600 Ext. 432*

*cell: 201 970-0352*

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On Mon, Mar 30, 2026 at 11:07 AM Adrienne Isacoff <

wrote:

Mayor and Council -

Thank you for planning the 250th anniversary celebration of the beginning of our nation. I don't see any time slotted for reading the Declaration of Independence. The parade and fun events are all important, but so is the reason that we are celebrating. The Declaration of Independence is not only the foundation of our democracy, but one of the most extraordinary expressions of the values that a nation should be founded on ever written. And yet, most people have never read it. Why not give a little time to have it read out loud? It would only take a few minutes.

If you like, I'd be happy to assist in circulating invites to various civic organizations -- the borough government, police, fire department, ambulance corp, library, girls/boys scouts, one or two of the churches, the synagogue, the Hindu temple. Each person could read one section.

It would provide a wonderful opportunity to reflect core American principles in our own community today.

Thanks,

~ Adrienne Isacoff  
227 Demarest Avenue  
Closter NJ



# BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

295 Closter Dock Road, Closter, New Jersey 07624

**John C. Glidden, Jr.**  
Mayor

Office 201-784-0600 x 500  
Fax 201-784-9727

Victoria Roti Amitai  
Alissa Latner

Borough Council  
Chris Cho  
Anna Maroules

Jannie Chung  
Joseph Yammarino



## MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

March 30, 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The March 2026 issue of the Mayor's Newsletter brings some important messages, news and events in town. My office is open to discuss any issue concerning the Borough. I can also be reached at 201-784-0600, x 500 or by email, [jglidden@closternj.us](mailto:jglidden@closternj.us)



### CLOSTER'S CELEBRATION OF AMERICA'S 250<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13<sup>th</sup>**

*The Countdown to America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary begins NOW!*

The Borough of Closter is thrilled to announce *Closter's Celebration of America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* is planned for Saturday, June 13th with a rain date of Sunday, June 14th.

*Closter's America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration* is being held in Memorial Park and Tenakill School. The town wide event will kick off with *Closter's America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade* beginning at 11:30 am which will conclude at Memorial Park/Tenakill School and launch the celebration at noon! An amazing display of fireworks, set to begin around 9pm, will close the celebration. A huge array of events, food and drink, free kids' rides and activities for all ages are being planned. It is a true celebration of our country and community.

**ALL** of Closter's organizations are invited (and encouraged) to participate in the parade by marching or by viewing the parade from the recommended location in the center of town and are invited to participate in *Closter's America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration* festivities.

Closter's organizations are being offered a spot at Memorial Park/Tenakill School, following the parade, to set up a table and share information about their group or organization. Brochures, handouts and demonstrations are welcome. While *Closter's Celebration of America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* is planned from noon until the fireworks around 9pm, the length of time your group chooses to participate is up to each group.

If your group wishes to participate in *Closter's America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade* or set up a table for the event at Memorial Park/Tenakill School, or be a part of both activities, please email Jim Oettinger at [joettinger@closternj.us](mailto:joettinger@closternj.us) to reserve a place. Details regarding the parade, set-up and more will be forthcoming.

This is an exciting time for the Borough. I am looking forward to celebrating *America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* with all of you in true "Closter tradition".

### **Closter Police Department – *Coffee With Cops***

March 19<sup>th</sup> was a terrific example of community as officers from the Closter Police Department met with members of the community at the Closter Target. Target's team hosted a wonderful open house providing an informal venue for our CPD to interact with the public. The comradery, conversation and interaction defined cooperation and support from a terrific business and our own police department. Stay tuned, another "Coffee With Cops" will be scheduled soon! Shout Out to Closter Target for their interest is bringing this event front and center to the public.



Mayor Glidden, Officers of the CPD & the Target Team

### **Celebrating Our History**

A time honored tradition in Closter is the celebration and recognition of multi-cultural celebrations. As such, I would be remiss in not recognizing Black History Month, and while there is no group organizing a celebration, Closter does have a lot to celebrate.

The history of enslaved Africans that helped build Closter and the surrounding areas is quite remarkable. Skunk Hollow, for example was founded by freed African Americans, the Pareslls/Vanderbeck Tenant House on Piermont Road was referred to as the "Vanderbeck Slave House, and most familiar to all residents is the Centennial AME Zion Church on Lewis St near Closter Plaza. This historic site, built in 1896 by descendants of freed slaves, is significant for its direct association with the 19<sup>th</sup> Century African-American freed slave community of "the Mountain" or "Skunk Hallow" and its association with the famous civil right leader, Bishop Alexander Walters. Closter is proud to be the home of the Centennial AME Zion Church as well as recognizing the significance of Black History in our community.

### **Closter's Challenger Program**

It was another banner year for Closter's Challenger Program. Students, young adults and volunteers of all ages share engage in this multifaceted -recreational sports program. The spirit of inclusivity as students and coaches join together on Closter's ball fields and basketball courts is inspirational. Our athletes in the Challenger Program offer our middle and high school students the opportunity to earn community service credits while experiencing activities with neighbors of all abilities.



Closter Recreation Challenger Basketball ~ 2026

### Closter PTO Dinner Dance

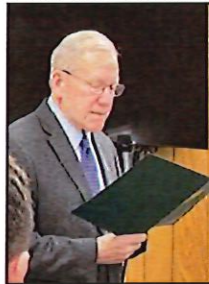
A fabulous night as more than 150 people danced the night away at the Edgewood CC while supporting the numerous projects of the Closter PTO.



Top center: Mayor John Glidden, Councilman Chris Cho & Superintendent Vincent McHale

### Greek Independence Day

March 25<sup>th</sup> marked the 205<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Greek Independence, known as the Greek War of Independence in 1821. It is a privilege to recognize Greek Independence Day with our constituents, friends and neighbors and to honor the legacy of those courage men and women who valiantly fought freedom and democracy for the people of Greece.



Celebration of Green Independence Day with Mayor Glidden presentig Proclamation

### Town Hall Information Seminar

Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm Closter residents are invited to learn more about deer management. The Mayor & Council are hosting a seminar given by NJ DEP Fish & Wildlife biologists, Brian Schumm and Megan Mills for Closter residents. The seminar will provide information and possible approaches to address the impact of the local deer population on public safety, property and the environmental as well as the health of the deer population. This Seminar will be held in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall (295 Closter Dock Rd., Closter) in person, or via ZOOM (link available on [www.closterboro.com](http://www.closterboro.com)).

### Belskie Museum of Art & Science



The eighth annual art exhibit by students of Bergen County Technical High School – Teterboro is proudly presented April 12<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. On display will be works from the Automotive Engineering, Commercial Art & Graphic Design, Digital Media and Art majors. Artists will be available to speak about their work at the reception. This is a “must-see” exhibit!

Exhibit Opening Reception is Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 1pm-4pm. Light refreshments will be served. 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](http://www.belskiemuseum.com)

## Closter's MacBain Farm

Spring is just around the corner and the 2026 growing season at the MacBain Farm is underway. As volunteers prepare for the seasonal planting and summer events, the *Friends of the MacBain Farm* are planning their support too. The *Friends of the MacBain Farm*, a 501-3c nonprofit, is launching the Second Annual **Sponsor-A-Row Fundraiser** for the 2026 growing season. Sponsorship is a meaningful way to support the farm while helping to sustain this invaluable resource which is only found in Closter.

Community members are invited to sponsor a row at the MacBain Farm for \$150. Each sponsored row will feature a custom sign placed at the end of the row that can include your family name, business name, or a memory tribute/dedication. All donations are tax deductible. This season promises to be one of abundant vegetables, herbs and flowers for Closter's residents combined with events and activities. Opening day information will be forthcoming!



### *How to Sponsor a Row:*

Fill out the quick form : [CLICK HERE FOR FORM](#)

Send your \$150 donation via Zelle or check

Zelle: [FriendsofMacBain@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofMacBain@gmail.com)

Check: Friends of MacBain, PO BOX 68, Closter, NJ 07624

## Environmental Commission

### Closter Town Wide Cleanup 2026

Friends, neighbors, community working together!

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm. (Rain Date May 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Meet at either starting location:

Closter Senior Center or Closter Nature Center.

Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Supplies and map of cleanup sites will be provided.



## Green Challenge

**Join the Closter Green Challenge!** The Environmental Commission is supporting a new “*Green Initiative Challenge*” for households and businesses to adopt more sustainable habits, reduce waste and promote environmental stewardship throughout our community.

The month of April is the “*Energy Saver Challenge*”. This month between April 1<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> join your community and challenge yourself and your family to lowering energy use in your home by switching to LEDs, unplugging electronics and taking shorter showers. Then, join the Environmental Commission Challenge and share your energy saving by either posting a pic of how you met the challenge and share it using hashtag #ClosterGreenChallenge or email to [gc@sustainablecloster.org](mailto:gc@sustainablecloster.org) by April 30<sup>th</sup>. The winner will be announced on SustainableCloster.org. If you have any questions or would like to contribute to the work of the Closter Environmental Commission, please email [gc@sustainablecloster.org](mailto:gc@sustainablecloster.org).

Mayor Glidden announces a new *Mayor's Award*, the “**Green Challenge Sustainable Closter**”. There will be six bi-monthly challenges; these winners will receive Environmental Commission prizes. The overall Green Challenge winner will receive the *Mayor's Award* in early January 2027. This recipient will be selected from all of the 2026 bi-monthly winners based on originality and environmental impact.

## Closter Public Library

The Closter Library is now offering access to the Wall Street Journal through the library website with the first 6 digits of your library card number. Visit [Closterpubliclibrary.org/wall-street-journal](http://Closterpubliclibrary.org/wall-street-journal) to begin. Don't have a library card? Visit the library and get one!

Belskie Library Art Wall – Landscapes of Color by Jong Rim Song beginning April 4<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup>. This solo exhibit features a selection of paintings that explore color through abstracted landscapes.

Mayor's Committee For The Arts is pleased to host two concerts in the Library's Community room. Join friends and neighbors at 3pm on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> as the *Ronen Mikay Duet* fills the room with the sounds of jazz and at 3pm on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 3pm as *Music Friends* join together in an array of music.

The Library's regular programs for both adults and youth are too numerous to list! Check out the First Friday Flicks on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm featuring *Hamnet*. Please visit the library's website for program offerings, details and schedules. [www.closterpubliclibrary.org](http://www.closterpubliclibrary.org) or call 201-768-4917

## Closter Shade Tree Commission

**Arbor Day 2026** -For more than 25 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 celebrations at both Hillside Elementary and Tenakill Middle Schools.

What has now become a tradition in celebration of Arbor Day students are invited to participate in the "*Why Trees Are Important*" Poster Contest. It's a highlight of the Closter's Arbor Day celebration that is being held on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

### *Spring Suggestions from the STC*

#### *Deer Guards:*



As spring approaches and residents begin their cleanups, plantings and tree maintenance please take the time to follow some important guidelines for tree care and mulching. If you see scrapes on your young trees, male deer caused them by rubbing their antlers against the trees. The damage this causes can eventually kill the tree. The Shade Tree Commission recommends installing "deer guards" on all young trees to help save them from inevitable damage.

#### *Mulch:*



Most folks don't realize there is a proper way to mulch trees. Mulch should never be piled up into a cone around a tree. These "mulch volcanoes" can actually kill trees. Instead, place mulch in a donut shape around the tree trunk, leaving 6 inches from the trunk. Proper mulching is simple and enriches the health of the tree while saving money on excess mulch material. Feel free to speak with your landscaper to ensure the mulch is placed correctly. The Shade Tree Commission has a host of information on the Borough's website, <https://www.closterboro.com/page/shade-tree-commission>

If you have any questions about either one of these suggestions or questions about shade trees, please send an email to [shadetree@clostermj.us](mailto:shadetree@clostermj.us)

## Mayor's Committee For The Arts

Mark your calendars for a summer filled with a fabulous lineup of music in Closter Plaza's "*Concert Corner*". Opening the 2026 Summer Concert Series is the *Magnolia String Band* on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Please spread the word, bring a chair, and enjoy summer evenings filled with music. The *Mayor's Committee For The Arts* is grateful for the generosity EDENS offers to Closter's residents and businesses.

## Closter Recreation Commission

**Easter Egg Hunt** – Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am sharp – Tenakill School Field.

**Opening day Parade for Girls Softball and Little League Baseball** will be held on Sunday, April 26th. The parade will form at 12:30pm and kick off at 12:50pm sharp - walking through downtown Closter to the George Potterton LL field for the opening day ceremonies.

*Save the Dates:*

**The Annual Joe Accordino Jr. Memorial Fishing Contest** Co-Sponsored by Police Unit 233 will be held on Saturday, May 9th at Ruckman Pond. Contest runs from 9am-12 noon. Registration form can be found on [Closterrec.com](http://Closterrec.com)

**Monday, May 25th- The annual Memorial Day Parade** will start at 10am and march through the center of town to Memorial Park for the Memorial Day Ceremony where Closter's Heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice defending our freedoms are recognized along with our nation's heroes who did the same. The 2026 Grand Marshall is Lenny Albanese, United States Air Force, Retired. Please consider marching with one of the many organizations that will be in the parade and or watching this event from the streets of Closter.

The Closter Recreation Commission offers a host of varied sports programs. Information on programs can be found on the [closterrec.com](http://closterrec.com) website.

## Closter Nature Center

Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> - **Annual Soup Supper**, 5-7pm at the Cabin. Support the CNC by enjoying delicious soups, breads and other dishes donated by local restaurants and residents! Come with family and friends; local musicians will be on hand too. Food to go and merchandise will be available for purchase. Interested in volunteering? Email [adri.lindgren@closternaturecenter.org](mailto:adri.lindgren@closternaturecenter.org). Pay at the door: \$15 for adults and \$5 for children.

Spring Semester of After-School Nature Classes – March 24<sup>th</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup> (Pre-K4 to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade) Get the kids outside to experience the reemergence of our natural world amidst a blooming forest. A 10-week full semester and 5-week session are available. <https://register.communitypass.net/Closter>

Summer Program Registration Opens April 1<sup>st</sup> – Weekly sessions run July 6<sup>th</sup> to August 27<sup>th</sup>. Get ready for the ultimate outdoor adventure. Our famous summer program offers eight weeks of exploration across 136 acres of ponds, streams, meadows and forests. Each week is 4 days of half-day sessions, serving ages 4-14. Visit: [www.closternaturecenter.org/summer\\_program](http://www.closternaturecenter.org/summer_program)

Questions? Email [info@closternaturecenter.org](mailto:info@closternaturecenter.org) or call 201-800-2008

## Closter Lions Club

*Mark your Calendars* for Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> as the Closter Lions serve up their delicious pancakes. The Lions Club is a 100% volunteer organization with a mission of assisting persons with The Closter Lions Pancake Breakfast is 8am-12pm 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 with a strong mission of offering year round service to our community. Tickets are available by emailing the time Lions Club at [closterlions@gmail.com](mailto:closterlions@gmail.com). Bring the family and enjoy with friends and neighbors!

**CLOSTER LIONS PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
Sunday, April 26, 2026 8am - 12pm  
Elk's Club  
148 Railroad Ave, Closter NJ



Pancakes served with sausage, fruit,  
coffee, tea, juice and milk

**Tricky Tray Baskets**

Tickets: \$15 Adults / \$6 Child / under 6 free

For tickets Contact:  Proceeds to benefit  
Closterlions@gmail.com Community Support

## Closter Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Corps



The 2026 Fund Drive has been mailed out to all residents. The CVAC Fund Drive notice is included on the last page of the newsletter, so please take a minute to check it out! To make a donation you can use the envelope that is included in our mailing or visit our CVARC's web site at [www.CVARNJ.org](http://www.CVARNJ.org) . 100% of your donation is used to support the services

## Closter Troop 63

Closter Scout Troop 63 is hosting two special events to learn more about scouting activities and service opportunities. Join the scouts of Troop 63 at an Open House on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm in the Closter Senior Center and learn about activities such as overnight camping, hiking, camp, swimming, cooking, learning new skills and volunteering and community service opportunities. Can't make it on 4/17? An information Zoom session is being held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8pm. Visit [www.closter troop63.org](http://www.closter troop63.org) or email [clostertroop@gmail.com](mailto:clostertroop@gmail.com). Scouting offers students ages 11-17 with amazing opportunities .Find the ZOOM link below:  
:<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7233441214?pwd=aZM4GrOtFKIHHind59qBILWinM9xjj.1&omn=72925869626> .

## A Notice from Bergen County

### United We Serve: A Week of Service ~ April 18<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

One Week. Hundreds of Ways to Serve! Bergen County is proud to host “*United We Serve*”, a weeklong series of volunteer opportunities designed to strengthen our community and support those in need. Please visit the website, <https://share.google/DBNq4JRyse4rayJdf> to explore all of the ways to participate in the “United We Serve” volunteer program

## Closter Fire Prevention Bureau

**SPRING CLEANING  
FIRE PREVENTION**

- **Reduces Fire Hazards**  
Paper, cardboard, and other flammable materials can build up in basements, garages, closets, or near heating appliances. Spring cleaning helps remove these fire hazards before they become dangerous.
- **Helps Spot Electrical Issues**  
Check behind furniture and appliances, where dust can collect on outlets and cords. Frayed wires, overloaded power strips, or outdated extension cords can all pose fire risks.
- **Clean Out Dryer Vents**  
Lint buildup in dryers is a common cause of house fires. During spring cleaning, deep clean the dryer vent and lint trap to prevent ignition.
- **Proper Storage of Flammable Products**  
Many households accumulate cleaning chemicals, paints, and sprays. Spring cleaning helps identify and store these items safely, away from heat sources and out of children's reach.
- **Kitchen Safety Refresh**  
Decluttering and cleaning the kitchen, including the stove, oven, and exhaust hood, reduces grease buildup that could ignite while cooking.

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

Closter Volunteer Ambulance Corps

**CLOSTER  
VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE  
& RESCUE CORPS**

1936



2026

**2026  
Fund Drive**



We are celebrating our 90th year of continuous VOLUNTEER services, and

# WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Closter Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Corps, Inc. is a 40 active member organization (comprised of YOUR neighbors) who services the emergency medical needs of Closter and Alpine in addition to supporting our surrounding communities 24 | 7 | 365. We answer approximately 800 emergency calls per year; 2025 showing the 2nd highest call volume in our history. In addition to that, we were named 2025 NJ Squad of the Year by the NJ EMS Council! That's #1 of over 250 squads.

**Our funding is NOT part of your county or state taxes.** It does not come from the hospitals. It comes from good people like you who want to do what they can to support our services. And you will be pleased to know that 100% of your donation is used to support the services above. We do not charge for our services; our volunteers do not get paid.

Our fleet consists of two NJ State certified ambulances, an E-ONE Rescue Truck equipped to handle vehicle extrication and ropes/rappel rescues, a first response SUV, a UTV, and a boat. We take great care of our vehicles, however most are aging. The ambulances were new in 2008 and 2014, the Rescue truck new in 2000. As you can imagine, to maintain these vehicles takes a lot of financial help.

In addition to vehicle maintenance and medical supplies, some of the equipment within those vehicles is very costly. We own three LUCAS automated CPR units. The lifespan of these units is only 8 years! We recently purchased the third unit which cost \$24,000. It is now placed in rotation with the older units which have 4 years to go before they need replacement. We all know how important automatic defibrillators are to saving a life. An AED has a lifespan of about 5 years, and the units are approximately \$2000 to replace. **Long story short, we count on YOUR donations more than ever.**

Any sized donation is welcomed. To make a donation, please use the enclosed envelope, or go to [www.cvarcnj.org](http://www.cvarcnj.org) and click on the "donate" button or use the QR code below to use the PayPal app OR Venmo.

Should you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Closter Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Corps please feel free to contact us at 201-768-3339 or send a message through our Facebook page.

Sincerely,

*M Buchanan*

Margaret Buchanan, Captain

*A Lupardi*

Anthony Lupardi, Jr., President



Scan. Pay. Go.



venmo

*Thank you for donating*



4 ML 4.3.2026

Mari Margiotta <mmargiotta@closternj.us>

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## PERS Actuary Update, Election Legislation Moves, Immigration Bills Signed

1 message

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NJLM Weekly Roundup <noreply@civicplus.com>

Wed, Apr 1, 2026 at 3:16 PM

Reply-To: noreply@civicplus.com

To: mmargiotta@closternj.us



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April 1, 2026

## State Issues

### State Health Benefits Program Mid-Year Report

On March 30, the State Health Benefits Commission held a special meeting for the Mid-Year Report from actuary AON, which included a discussion of 2027 rate-setting expectations.

[Read more: State Health Benefits Program Mid-Year Report](#)

**Contact:** Lori Buckelew, Deputy Executive Director, [lbuckelew@njlm.org](mailto:lbuckelew@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x112.

### PERS Board Actuary Update

On Monday, the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) Board held a meeting to hear testimony from Cherion, the actuary.

[Read more: PERS Board Actuary Update](#)

**Contact:** Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, [eknoedler@njlm.org](mailto:eknoedler@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x116.

## Election Legislation Advances

Legislation concerning voter protections and extending the early voting period for regular May municipal elections moved forward on Monday.

[Read more: Election Legislation Advances](#)

**Contact:** Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, [eknoedler@njlm.org](mailto:eknoedler@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x116.

## **Governor Signs Immigration Bills**

Governor Sherrill signed into law three bills, codifying the Immigrant Trust Directive, banning masks for law enforcement, and protecting personal data.

[Read more: Governor Signs Immigration Bills](#)

**Contacts:** Mike Cerra, Executive Director, [mcerra@njlm.org](mailto:mcerra@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x120, and Lori Buckelew, Deputy Executive Director, [lbuckelew@njlm.org](mailto:lbuckelew@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x112.

## **LFN 2026-07 Issued for 2026 FDS Filing Information**

The Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services (DLGS), issued Local Finance Notice (LFN) 2026-07 concerning the 2026 Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS) filings.

[Read more: LFN 2026-07 Issued for 2026 FDS Filing Information](#)

**Contact:** Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, [eknoedler@njlm.org](mailto:eknoedler@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x116.

## **Executive Order Signed for NJ Transit Improvement Plan**

Governor Sherrill signed Executive Order 16, directing the DOT Commissioner, in her capacity as NJ Transit Board of Directors Chair, to develop a plan by NJ Transit to initiate improvements to the rider experience and customer service delivery. The plan must be delivered to the Governor within 45 days.

[Read more: Executive Order Signed for NJ Transit Improvement Plan](#)

**Contact:** Lori Buckelew, Deputy Executive Director, [lbuckelew@njlm.org](mailto:lbuckelew@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x112.

## **Lunch & Learn – Intoxicating Hemp-Derived Products Overview**

Join the League for a Lunch & Learn on the new Intoxicating Hemp-Derived Product law on April 22.

[Read more: Lunch & Learn – Intoxicating Hemp-Derived Products Overview](#)

**Contact:** Ciara Bradley, Research Associate, [cbradley@njlm.org](mailto:cbradley@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x128.

## **OSC Hosting Procurement Webinar for Government Officials**

The Office of the State Comptroller (OSC), Public Contracting Oversight Division is hosting an introductory webinar for newly elected and appointed officials, officers, and

employees.

[Read more: OSC Hosting Procurement Webinar for Government Officials](#)

**Contact:** Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, [eknoedler@njlm.org](mailto:eknoedler@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x116.

## Federal Issues

### FEMA BRIC Funding Opportunity

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published the funding opportunity for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program. Deadline to submit applications is July 23, 2026.

[Read more: FEMA BRIC Funding Opportunity](#)

**Contact:** Paul Penna, Director of Government Affairs, [ppenna@njlm.org](mailto:ppenna@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x110.

### President Trump Issues EO Extending FEMA Review Council

President Trump has issued an Executive Order extending the FEMA Review Council timeline.

[Read more: President Trump Issues EO Extending FEMA Review Council](#)

**Contact:** Paul Penna, Director of Government Affairs, [ppenna@njlm.org](mailto:ppenna@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x110.

### NLC 250th Toolkit Released

The League's federal partners, the National League of Cities (NLC), has released the America 250 Celebration Toolkit.

[Read more: NLC 250th Toolkit Released](#)

**Contact:** Paul Penna, Director of Government Affairs, [ppenna@njlm.org](mailto:ppenna@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x110.

## Also of Interest

[Galloway Township Selected Winner of Show Off Your City 2026](#)

Galloway Township is the winner of the 2026 Show Off Your City Contest. The image, taken by Marie DiGiovanni Loch, features the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge located in Galloway. Galloway Mayor Tony Coppola notes: "Our wildlife refuge is more than just a scenic treasure—it's a living reminder of our responsibility to protect what makes our town so special. Every sunrise over the marsh and every bird in flight tells the story of a community that values nature, beauty, and the legacy we leave for future generations. We have a great relationship with the US Fish and Wildlife that extends beyond the limits of the Refuge." Read more about it in this week's [NJ Municipalities blog post](#).

Please remember to capture your moments during Local Government Week, April 12-18, for Show Off Your City 2027 entries!

We invite you to join municipalities across the Garden State during NJ Local Government Week to engage citizens while celebrating the work of local government. It's not too late to participate. Visit our [Ideas for Celebrating webpage](#) for inspiration.

Please let us know about your plans for inclusion in our social media, in the NJ Municipalities magazine, and more. Use the NJ Local Government Week hashtag #NJLocalGovt when promoting on social media.

Want to share your local story in the blog or print magazine? Please send in your 300- to 1,200-word items and photos.

**Contact:** Amy Spiezio, Editor, [aspiezio@njlm.org](mailto:aspiezio@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x123.

### **[The Management Series Restarts](#)**

The Management Workshop Series Program is restarting. This practical Management Workshop Series provides small group instruction and hands-on learning to educate those working in key local government positions.

**[Read more: The Management Series Restarts](#)**

**Contact:** Danielle Holland, Senior Manager, Continuing Education, [dholland@njlm.org](mailto:dholland@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x118.

### **[New Jersey Digital Government Summit Set for May 5](#)**

The New Jersey Digital Government Summer, a free educational event for municipal and state technology staff, will be held on Tuesday, May 5. Preregistration is required.

**[Read more: New Jersey Digital Government Summit Set for May 5](#)**

**Contact:** Taran Samhammer, Director, Communications, Marketing & Technology, [tsamhammer@njlm.org](mailto:tsamhammer@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x124.

### **[NJ-GMIS Technology Education Conference](#)**

The New Jersey-GMIS Technology Education Conference (TEC 2026) returns for technology professionals on April 14 and 15.

[Read more: NJ-GMIS Technology Education Conference](#)

**Contact:** Ciara Bradley, Research Associate, [cbradley@njlm.org](mailto:cbradley@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x128.

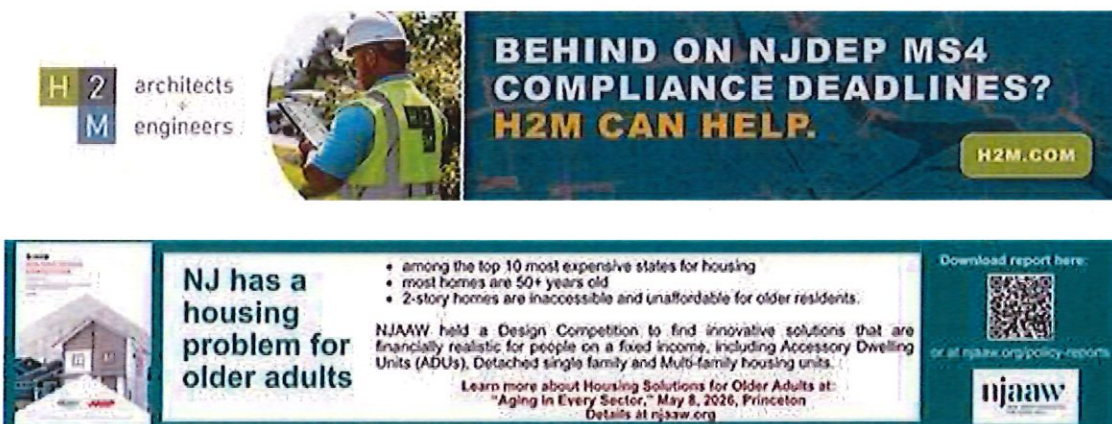
## Rutgers Center for Government Services Public Purchasing Forum

The Rutgers University Center for Government Services 56th Annual Public Purchasing Educational Forum is scheduled for April 28-30.

[Read more: Rutgers Center for Government Services Public Purchasing Forum](#)

**Contact:** Erin Knoedler, Legislative Analyst, [eknoedler@njlm.org](mailto:eknoedler@njlm.org), 609-695-3481, x116.

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**NJ has a housing problem for older adults**

- among the top 10 most expensive states for housing
- most homes are 50+ years old
- 2-story homes are inaccessible and unaffordable for older residents.

NJAAW held a Design Competition to find innovative solutions that are financially realistic for people on a fixed income, including Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), Detached single family and Multi-family housing units.


Learn more about Housing Solutions for Older Adults at: "Aging in Every Sector," May 8, 2026, Princeton Details at [njaaw.org](http://njaaw.org)


Download report here: [njaaw.org/policy-reports](http://njaaw.org/policy-reports)


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