BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

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John C. Glidden, Jr.
Mayor

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MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

June 30, 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I am pleased to provide the Mayor's Newsletter designed to highlight and inform our residents with information on the activities and events taking place in Closter. My door is always open, so please feel free to call me at 201-784-0600 x 500 with concerns or suggestions.

Closter Celebrates America's 250 Anniversary

Closter's *Celebration of America's 250th Anniversary* was an extraordinary event which showcased our history while celebrating our community. I would personally like to thank all of the event committee's *volunteers* and all of our Borough professionals, the Dept. of Public Works, Police Dept., Recreation Commission, Fire Dept., Fire Prevention Bureau, Ambulance & Rescue Corps, Office of Emergency Mgmt., Board of Health and Borough Hall staff whose dedication and hard work brought this event to fruition. The support for this event does not end here.



The sponsorship of our *generous partners* allowed us to enhance the array of event activities. Please find a minute to join me in thanking these generous partners. A huge shout out of appreciation to:

EDENS Closter Plaza, First Commerce Bank, NVE/ION Bank, STERN & BOW, Closter Coaches Association, Alpha Corp. Luxury Construction, Vista Engineering Corp., Rudy's Ristorante & Pizzeria, Gary's Wine & Marketplace Victoria's Nursery, Closter Commons, SEAR House, , Heidenberg Closter Assoc. LLC, , Closter Elks B.P.O.E. 2304, AM Graphics Inc., Minuteman Press in HoHoKus

and…

the businesses at *The Powder Works Factory on Herbert Ave.*~ Gotta Guy, Amplify Holistic Healing, Odj Jiu Jitsu, Humble Yoga, Handy Benny, Erica Sabag Luxury Consignments, True Fit, Dr Shade, The Muse Arthouse, Exotic Woods, Roots Café, Soldados Coffee and The Tailored Studio



Mayor's Committee of the Arts



Mark your calendar and put on your dancing shoes! On **July 17th beginning at 7:00 pm**, the *Reflections Swing Band* will fill the air in Closter Plaza's Concert Corner with the sounds of the big band era! Bring friends, neighbors, dancing shoes or a chair! or a folding chair! Come out to enjoy an evening under the stars while listening to delightful music.

Calling All Artists & Performers

The Mayor's Committee for the Arts was established to bring the arts to Closter by having its residents participate in pop-up exhibits of music and visual arts. The Mayor's Committee for the Arts is interested in showcasing artists and performers of all ages to participate in Closter's Arts Events. Please contact mayorscommitteearts@gmail.com if you are interested in performing.

Hip, Hip, Hooray!!! CONGRATULATIONS to *All* of Closter's Graduates

Whether graduating from Northern Valley Regional High School – Demarest, Tenakill Middle School or Hillside Elementary School, CONGRATULATIONS to all of Closter's students. Closter is proud of your accomplishments and sends all of you best wishes ~ Mayor *John Glidden*

Closter's MacBain Farm Park

While preparing for an abundant season of vegetables and flowers, the MacBain Farm Park, located at 203 Hickory Lane, was the site for creative workshops led by two of Closter's talented residents. Bill Angresano taught an outdoor drawing workshop for Closter's students and Tsun Tam taught a photography workshop









On June 27th the MacBain Farm Committee opened the season with a "*Volunteers Welcome*" signup and greeting. *Volunteering* is a great way to support the mission of the MacBain Farm Park. The Farm is alw*ays* looking for volunteers to keep up with the abundance of weeds—just let a greeter know if you'd like to help! Volunteer greeters are also needed to keep the farm open and operational during opening hours. Families are welcome (and encouraged), keeping in mind children 16 years and younger *need to be accompanied by an adult.*

Closter residents will need to bring ID and proof of residency to register and pick produce once a week on **Wednesdays, Saturdays, or Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.** Parking is on Hickory Lane.

Shade Tree Commission

Please visit the Borough's website for valuable information on the planting and care of the trees on your property. Important guides and tips are available on the Borough's website under Shade Tree Commission, "Trees and Planting Tips" located at https://www.closterboro.com/page/shade-tree-commission. You will find information on the species of trees, deer guards, mulching and more. Mulching trees properly is critical for the health of the tree. Mulch should be placed 6 inches from the tree trunk at ground level, in a "donut shape"; never piled up against the trunk. Standard practice is 2-4 inches deep starting 6 inches from the trunk. A "Tree Donut- Mulching Recommendations" brochure is available on the website.

Mark your calendars for an exciting Fall Photo Contest which will start in mid-September and run through October. This contest will be open to all Closter residents, young and old. Should you have any questions on Shade Trees, please send an email to shadetree@closternj.us.

Closter Public Library

Celebration America's 250th Anniversary ~
This Is My Country: **Friday, July 3rd at 1:00 p.m**. A special Celebration of American Patriotic Music! **"This Is My County"** featuring Francine Evans, vocalist, Joel Zelnik, pianist, David Cox, drums, Rick Crane, Base. Join friends and neighbors in the Community Room for an uplifting show!

Betsy Ross: July 21st at 6:00 p.m. Betsy Ross, aka Elizabeth Claypoole, was a flag maker, seamstress, upholsterer, wife, mother and Quaker. Learn about her contributions to American independence and her connections to America's Founding Fathers with character re-creator Alisa Dupuy

The Belskie Museum's Art Wall in the Closter Public Library is exhibiting "Solitary Moments: The Quiet Brilliance of Jay Ruhren" beginning on July 12th through August 30th.

This month's First Friday Flicks will be held on Friday, July 10th at 1pm featuring the film *Sentimental Value*. Regular programs at the library are listed on the library's website, www.closterpubliclibrary.org. The library's summer programs for our youth are also posted. Visit the website and sign up for the newsletter to receive the kid's newsletter that is loaded with information about summer activities. Summer is in full swing at our library!

Closter Recreation

Fall soccer registration for children in grades k-8 (fall 2026) will open in late July. Please visit www.closterRec.com for registration information and take advantage of the early bird rate fee and save $50.00.

The *free* half day Summer Rec program begins on Wednesday, July 1st at 9:30am to 12 noon. The free program takes place at Memorial Park located on Harrington Ave., Monday through Friday from 9:30am to 12. It's canceled if it rains. You can always check the Rec Weatherline at 201-750-9507 mailbox 6 for information as to the status of the camp due to inclement weather. This free program is for Closter residents in grades K through 8. You can register for the camp on the first day that you bring your child to the program.

The Steven Potterton Memorial Concert series is held at Memorial Park and will resume on Friday July 10th at the Closter Lions band shell. Each concert begins at 7:30pm; it's a great night of family entertainment!

Closter Nature Center

The CNC Children's Summer Program begins on July 6th and runs through August 27th. Campers hike scenic trails, wade into freshwater habitats, meet our animal ambassadors, investigate the wonders of nature and more all in a supportive group setting led by a trained naturalist and assistant. Sessions are limited to 15 participants. Become a member to receive the discounted rates for all youth programs, as well as other benefits. Limited scholarships are available. For scholarship inquiries and general questions contact cncsummer@closternaturecenter.org. A full schedule and information is available on our website, www.closternaturecenter.org. Email info@closternaturecenter.org or call 201-800-2008.

Closter Environmental Commission



Join the Closter Green Challenge! June/July is Plant Native Challenge. This month challenge yourself to add one native plant to your yard, patio or window box. Some native NJ wildflowers include Goldenrod, Bee Balm, Joe-pye-weed, Cardinal Flower, Common Milkweed and many more! Enter to win by sharing your actions by emailing gc@sustainablecloster.org by July 31.

Bi-monthly winners receive prizes like gift cards to local businesses. The overall winner earns the Mayor's Award at year-end celebration. If you would like a native plant to get started, email gc@sustainablecloster.org. If you have any questions or would like to contribute to the work of the Closter Environmental Commission, please contact us at hello@sustainablecloster.org.

Closter Fire Prevention Bureau



Closter Office of Emergency Management

The Closter Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is available to assist Closter residents who, because of special medical needs may require additional assistance during severe storms, power outages or natural disasters. If you would like to be added to the OEM "check list" contact Leslie Weatherly at 201-784-0600 x 304. Residents will need to provide their name, address, home and cell numbers, the type of assistance they made need and an alternative emergency contact. All information is strictly confidential.

Rockland Electric (O&R) has a Life-Support Equipment Program. It doesn't guarantee uninterrupted electric service, but when unavoidable power outages occur; the program provides information and notifications to help you stay informed, prepared, and safe. Call Rockland Electric's Customer Assistance at 1-877-434-4100 between 8am. and 7pm on weekdays, except holidays.

Closter Lions Club

A fun time was had by all who attended the 2026 Closter Lions Duck Derby held at the Closter Nature Center. The volunteer members of the Lions Club proudly donated $2500 to the CNC!



Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary: 1776 ~ 2026

Happy 4th of July!



July 4th, or Independence Day, commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, which declared the 13 American colonies free from British rule. The first official celebration with fireworks was in Philadelphia in 1777. While the vote for independence occurred on July 2nd, July 4th became the Day of Celebration and in 1870 Independence Day became a federal holiday.

In celebration of America's 250th Anniversary, below are links to some history videos as well as a link to the full history of the Declaration found in the National Archives. Happy 250th America!!

https://youtu.be/xPzmuYxMRO0?si=pWTVvvMR85vffCMs

https://youtu.be/5TT6R_Xps7w?si=yR1iBvzTkS5CpU8t

https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-history

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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 in Closter.

Wishing everyone a very Happy 4th of July!

All the Best,

John Glidden

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Mayor
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