BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

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Borough Council

Victoria Roti Amitai **Chris Cho** **Jannie Chung**
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MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

October 28, 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The Mayor's Newsletter provides announcements and details on the numerous events taking place throughout the community. Please feel free to call my office at 201-784-0600, x500 to discuss any matter concerning our Borough. This month's newsletter highlights the array of activities and community events we all enjoyed.

MacBain Farm Fall Festival & *"Farmer John"* Garden Dedication









Mayor John Glidden



Shelagh McCaffrey,
Chairperson MacBain Farm Committee



Patrick, James & John McCaffrey



Tsun Tam, Photographer & Mayor Glidden



It was a beautiful fall day as hundreds of Closter's families enjoyed the bountiful pumpkin picking, the fall photo booth, s'mores, apple cider and arts & crafts, music while taking in the scenic beauty of the **MacBain Farm**. It was an honor to pay tribute to John McCaffrey and to dedicate "Farmer John's" Garden in his memory. As many families know, John tended to these fields, creating the gardening master piece that Closter's residents have enjoyed since 1999.

Celebrating Halloween ~ A "*Spook-tacular*" Day









Closter's Annual Halloween Parade & Costume Contest was a lot of fun! There were astronauts, dinosaurs, ghosts and goblins, even a police officer riding in his car to award winning Sponge Bob. Mayor Glidden proudly awarded the trophies for a *"spook-tacular"* Halloween event! It was an extraordinary day filled with activities and interests for all ages. The participant's entry fee for this incredible array of vehicles is for the The Tunnel to Towers Foundation.



1956 Packard



1953 Chevrolet



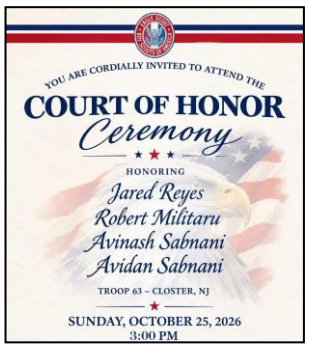


1961 Cadillac



Food trucks, crafts, rides and games were plentiful as the Closter PTO hosted it annual Fall Extravaganza. Pictured is one of the "*rides*" the younger crowd enjoyed!!

Troop 63 ~ Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony







It is an honor to celebrate the accomplishments of these fine young men during the Troop 63 Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Their dedication and commitment to service is admirable. Congratulations and best wishes for continued success, Jared, Robert, Avinash and Aridan; your community is proud of your success

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I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of the volunteers, Borough staff and public safety agencies that worked tirelessly to deliver these incredible programs while insuring the enjoyment of activities and the safety of our residents. Their dedication to our community is commendable.

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Ribbon Cuttings – A Closter Tradition

Ribbon Cuttings and Grand Opening Celebrations have become a Closter tradition. It was a pleasure to welcome *Tru Fit*, a state-of-the-art gym, to Closter on Saturday, Oct. 24th. *Tru Fit* is located 84 Herbert Avenue.





Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening - from left to right - Councilwoman Vicky Amitai, Councilman Chris Cho, Mayor John Glidden, Council Candidate Monica Jethani, Improvement Commission member Gloria Burns and Rita Anaker of Tru Fit.

Closter Police Department ~ Cabbage Night and Halloween Safety Reminder



As we approach Cabbage Night (October 30th) and Halloween (October 31st), the Closter Police Department reminds all residents to celebrate responsibly and help keep our community safe. Officers will be conducting increased patrols throughout the evenings.

Cabbage Night – Friday, October 30th

The Borough-wide **curfew is 8:00 PM** for all persons under 18 years of age, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

- Residents are encouraged to report any suspicious or destructive activity immediately by calling 201-768-5000 or 9-1-1 in an emergency
- Parents are asked to know their children's plans and whereabouts for the night
- Acts of vandalism, including throwing eggs, damaging property or tampering with vehicles, will be strictly enforced

Halloween Night – Saturday, October 31st

- Residents are encouraged to report any suspicious or destructive activity immediately by calling 201-768-5000 or 9-1-1 in an emergency
- Parents are asked to know their children's plans and whereabouts for the night.
- Acts of vandalism, including throwing eggs, damaging property, or tampering with vehicles, will be strictly enforced.
- Trick-or-Treating is generally recommended between 4:00pm and 8:00pmTrick-or-treating is generally recommended between 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM.
- The 8:00 PM curfew will again be in effect for all minors.
- Motorists should slow down and remain alert for children crossing streets.
- Parents should ensure costumes are bright or reflective, and that children carry a flashlight or glow stick.
- Residents who wish to participate in trick-or-treating are encouraged to keep porch lights on.
- Those not participating may leave exterior lights off.

Let's all do our part to ensure a safe, respectful, and enjoyable Halloween season in Closter.

Veterans Day – Closter Salutes Our Veterans –

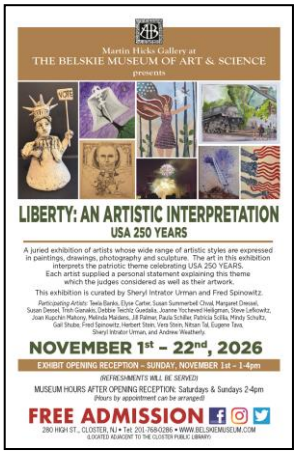


Join neighbors on **Wednesday, November 11th** in Closter's Veterans Park located on Herbert Avenue as Closter honors our veterans. The Closter Veterans Day **begins promptly at 10:45am.**

"*The Great War*" – World War I- official ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28th, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles, outside of Versailles, France. The fighting, however, ceased seven months prior when the temporary cessation of hostilities between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the *eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month*. Thus, November 11, 1918 "Armistice Day" was recognized as the end of "the war to end all wars". In 1954 following World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day to honor all those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Veterans Day, November 11, preserves the historical significance of the end of World War I while recognizing the importance of honoring America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for their nation.

As a veteran who served in the U.S. Air Force, I proudly thank and acknowledge the commitment of all those who have served our Country. It is an honor to recognize the sacrifices that were made for the defense of our liberties. *~ Mayor John Glidden*

Belskie Museum of Art & Science



The Belskie Museum of Art & Science is pleased to present ***"Liberty: An Artistic Interpretation USA 250 Years"***. "Liberty" is a juried exhibition of artists whose wide range of artistic styles is expressed in paintings, drawings, photography and sculpture. The art in this exhibition interprets the patriotic theme celebration the USA's 250 Years. Each artist supplied a personal statement explain this theme which the judges considered as well as their artwork. It is a fascinating artistic interpretation of "Liberty".

The Exhibit Opening Reception is **Sunday, November 1st from 1-4pm**. Refreshments will be served and admission is free. This exhibit runs from November 1st through November 22nd. The Belskie Museum hours after the are Saturdays & Sundays 2-4 pm. (weekdays by appointment: 201-768-0286) www.belskiemuseum.com The Belskie Museum is located at 280 High St.

Celebrating Diwali

Celebrate Diwali with friends and family! The Diwali Festival of Lights is being held on Thursday, **Nov. 5th at 5:30 pm** at 2 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, NJ. At the October 28th Mayor & Council meeting Mayor Glidden recognized November 8th as the official date of Diwali and invited all residents to take a moment and join together and recognize this observance for the rich religious, cultural and historical significance of the festival.

Mayors Committee For The Arts

The summer concert series presented by the Mayor's Committee For The Arts featured a wide range of musical venues which were enjoyed throughout the season at *Concert Corner* in the Closter Plaza. This fall and winter the "sounds of music" will continue as the Committee presents the *1st Saturday of the Month Concert Series* at the Closter Public Library beginning **November 7th at 2pm**. *"Les Bohemiennes Flue Trio*

with Piano Accompaniment" will fill the Community with delightful sounds from La'Boheme. On December 5th enjoy the folk music of Robbie Horowitz, Amy and Larry Ghiorsi and on January 2nd local legend Mark Wright will entertain with New Orleans Jazz. It's a season of live music ~ all are welcome!

Closter Shade Tree Commission



The Closter Shade Tree Commission announces the ***2026 Fall Foliage* Photo Contest.** The photo contest (click the link) https://www.closterboro.com/article/3209300 is open to all Closter residents; young and old! Three winners will be awarded various amount Gift Certificates. The STC's 2026 Fall Photo Contest will run the following dates in order to capture the beauty of Closter's fall foliage: **October 12th-November 13rd**.

Winners will be announced the weekend following Thanksgiving (Nov. 28th/29th). Email your photo with the completed Photo Release Form to joettinger@closternj.us. The Photo Release Form is available on the Shade Tree Commission page of the Borough's website, www.closternj.us

Shade Tree Commission – *Tree Maintenance*: The Shade Tree Commission suggests residents consider installing deer guards on the young trees on your property to protect them from deer rubbing- which can severely damage or even kill your young trees. Deer rub their antlers against trees to scrape off the velvet cover and/or mark their territory, causing extensive damage. Deer guards are a mesh-like covering that effectively protects young trees.

Deer guards are required for each shade tree planted in the Borough and are ***highly recommended for any new tree planting, you won't regret placing these on young trees and anyone who has seen the damage that the deer do to the trees can attest to this.*** Deer guards should:

• Be installed on all new tree plantings where the length of the trunk—free of branches—is greater than 18 inches;
• Cover at least 75% of length of trunk from the ground to the first branch—not required to exceed a maximum height of 48 inches;
• Be secured at 3 points using 3 ply organic BIODEGRADABLE twine or rope—NO WIRE OR ZIP TIES (this would restrict trunk growth);
• Be of rigid construction but flexible, allowing expansion, and formed to stay in place regardless of presence of twine/rope;
• Be 4- or 6-inch diameter for trees between 2 and 6-inch caliper;
• Be of open mesh design, with not more that 50% opacity; and
• Be maintained in place for at least 5 years and until tree is at least 8 inch caliper DBH (diameter at breast height).

Closter Food & Assistance Board

The ***16th Annual Neighbor-To-Neighbor Holiday Gift Program*** is underway. The Neighbor-to-Neighbor Holiday Gift Program provides holiday gifts to households who use the Closter Food Pantry. Those who use the food pantry come from the surrounding communities as ass as from Closter.

Donors are matched with local families and provided gifts chosen from their recipient's wish list (preserving each family's anonymity). Gift cards are also welcome in lieu of gift items. Please contact Jodee Fink by emailing fabofcloster@gmail.com; **Sign up by Friday, Nov. 6th to participate**.



"Sponsor A Holiday Meal" and help our pantry families with their Thanksgiving dinners by donating through Venmo.

A $25 donation helps provide a family's holiday meal.
Scan the QR code or find us on Venmo at @ClosterFoodPantry.
Please add 'Food Pantry Thanksgiving" in the payment note.
Now through November 11th.

The outpouring of support from our community is very much appreciated.

Closter Public Library

The Public Library will close at 5pm on Wednesday, November 25th and will be closed on Thursday, November 26th in celebration of Thanksgiving.

Sat., November 7th at 2pm: The Mayor's Committee For The Arts concert series begins with "Les Bohemiennes" an ensemble of flutists who play in the Met's production of La'Boheme.

Adult Watercolor Workshop: First Wednesday of the month at 1:30-2:30pm. Study watercolor techniques with award winning artist Barry Shiff. Participants must provide their own supplies. Registration is required; open to Closter residents only. Registration link https://bccls.libcal.com/event/17808485

Libby/Kanopy Registration: You may have noticed Kanopy and Libby are asking for you to sign in again with your library card and password. This is for added account security and you only have to do it once. We're available to assist if you need it.

The Queens of Potluck (An International Cookbook Club) meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:15pm.

Regular Programs at the Closter Public Library include "First Friday Flicks" on November 6th at 1pm featuring "Young Washington". Advanced ESL Conversation, Technology Help Short Story Club via Zoom, Yoga and Meditation on alternating Wednesdays at 6pm, Knitting & Craft Group, Zumba via Zoom and ESL Intermediate Class are all scheduled in November. . There are so many programs, visiting the library's website is suggested. Be sure to look at the library's calendar of programs and events by visiting the Library's website at www.ClosterPublicLibrary.org. Sign up for the kids' newsletter.

Closter Nature Center

CNC Community Hike-a-Thon 2026: Nov. 7th at 10:00 am Capping off our annual Hike-A-Thon, Nature Marc will lead an easy 1-hour hike over a flat trail at the Nature Center. You are not going to want to miss this! Educational and entertaining, this hike can also count towards your RallyUp tracking (if you registered as a fundraiser). Join us by the pond after the hike for a celebration including raffles, merchandise and vendors. 154 Ruckman Rd., Closter – www.closternaturecenter.org

Closter Recreation

Winter Sports registration is now open for K-8 grade boys and girls for all winter sports which include Basketball, Indoor Soccer and Wrestling. Registration information can be found on www.Closterrec.com

A Reminder from the Tax Collector's Office

4th Quarter Property Taxes are due November 1, 2026 If you received an additional *Added Assessment Bill;* please pay that along with your regular Tax Bill. The last day to pay 4th Quarter 2026 Taxes is Tuesday, November 10th by 3pm. Property tax payments can be made online through the Borough's website at www.closternj.us. Tax payments may be left in the ***silver TAX Drop Box*** located on the wall in the Lewis St. vestibule of Borough Hall.

Closter Department of Public Works



Curbside leaf pickup began October 1st. ***The last day to place leaves curbside is December 7th***. The DPW is reminding *everyone* that leaf piles containing branches, twigs, garbage, vines, or stones will not be picked up until the debris is removed. NJ DEP Regulations require leaves be placed at least 14 feet from a storm drain. Please assist us during the leaf collection season by providing this information to landscapers and by keeping the streets clear of parked cars as the DPW *cannot pick up leaves obstructed by vehicles parked on the street.*

Election Day – Tuesday, November 3rd



Polling Locations: District 1 & 5 - Vote at the Closter Public Library, 280 High Street

Districts 2, 3, 4 & 6 - Vote at the Closter Senior Center, 4 Lewis Street

Closter Polling Locations are open from 6:00am to 8:00pm.

Northern Valley Regional High School Demarest – *"The Play That Goes Wrong"*

Anything that can go wrong will go wrong! "The Play That Goes Wrong" is a hilarious, non-stop comedy disaster, unstoppable laugh-out-loud chaos for the whole family! You don't want to miss it, so grab your tickets before the set completely falls apart! There will be a Free Open Dress Rehearsal for Seniors (65+) on Thursday, Nov 12th @ 6pm. To register please email - marconid@nvnet.org
Showdates -
Friday Nov. 13 @ 7:00pm
Saturday Nov. 14 @ 2:00pm and 7:00pm
Sunday, Nov. 15 at 2:00pm
Tickets are available at NVD.BOOKTIX.COM

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The Borough is moving forward in many positive directions. Volunteers comprise the backbone of any community, and I encourage each of you to think of ways in which you can volunteer and make a difference in Closter.

All the Best,

John Glidden

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Mayor
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