



BOROUGH OF CLOSTER

295 Closter Dock Road, Closter, New Jersey 07624

John C. Glidden, Jr.
Mayor

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MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER



September 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.

IMPORTANT NOTICES ~ CLOSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Old Hook Road Gas Improvement Project

PSE&G will begin upgrading aging underground gas pipes along Old Hook Road near the Closter/Harrington Park border **beginning the week of October 1, 2026**. Work is expected to continue intermittently through mid-November. The project will require temporary lane closures on Old Hook Road between Bogert Mill Road and Schraalenburgh Road. Motorists should expect traffic pattern changes, lengthy detours, construction activity, and additional travel time. Work will generally take place Monday through Friday, with possible weekend work, and schedules may change due to weather and construction conditions.

High Street & Perry Street - Intersection Improvements

During the month of September, upgrades were made to the intersection of High Street and Perry Street to improve driver awareness. Working in coordination with our Department of Public Works, solar powered LED stop signs were installed on Perry Street. LEDs make the STOP sign more noticeable, especially at night, during rain, fog, or other low-visibility conditions. They can also provide a relatively energy-efficient, low-maintenance way to enhance existing traffic signage.

Traffic Signal Update: Closter Dock Road & Piermont Road

A recent traffic study at the Closter Dock Road and Piermont Road intersection, including traffic counts conducted on May 7, 2026, identified an opportunity to improve traffic flow and intersection operations. As a result, an eastbound leading left-turn signal phase will be added to the traffic signal. The updated signal timing has been provided to the County's signal crew and is expected to be installed as soon as possible. This adjustment is intended to improve the operation of the intersection, particularly for eastbound left-turning traffic.

Traffic Detours – West Street & Herbert Avenue

PSE&G will be continuing gas main replacement work in the area of West Street and Herbert Avenue. As construction progresses, motorists should expect temporary road closures, lane restrictions, and detours. Drivers are encouraged to follow posted detour signs, use alternate routes when possible, and allow additional travel time while work is underway. Construction schedules are subject to change based on weather and site conditions. The Borough appreciates residents' patience and cooperation as this important infrastructure work is continues.

Korean-Speaking Officers Serving Our Community

The Borough is pleased to have two Korean-speaking police officers serving the community. Their language skills provide an important resource not only for law enforcement and public safety, but also for helping strengthen communication and connections between the Borough and our Korean-speaking residents, families, and businesses. Their ability to communicate directly in Korean can help other Borough departments and local businesses better connect with Korean-speaking members of our community, assist with outreach and community events, and help make Borough services more accessible. This resource reflects the Borough's commitment to strong communication, community engagement, and serving all residents and businesses.

CLOSTER RECREATION

Winter sports registration for Recreation Basketball, Indoor Soccer and Wrestling will open on **October 5th**. Please register prior to November 1st to take advantage of the early bird rate and save \$50.00 per child. Detailed information on Winter sports and registration information can be found on www.Closterrec.com.



Mark your calendars for some spooky fun!!!! On **Sunday, October 25th**, the Closter Recreation Halloween Parade will kick off at **10:45am** and march to Tenakill School where the Tunnel to Towers Car show will be held (Harrington Ave will be closed) and the PTO Fall Festival Extravaganza will be taking place at Tenakill Field and Memorial Park. Bring the entire family as there will be something for everyone!!!

NJ MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION – MOBILE VEHICLE INSPECTION TEAM

The NJ MVC's Mobile Vehicle *Inspection* Team is bringing its onsite vehicle inspection service to the Borough on **Thursday, October 22nd between 9:00am – 2pm**. Inspections are conducted at the **Memorial Field parking lot located on Old Closter Dock Rd. (near the band shell)** on a **first-come, first-serve basis**, so no appointments are required. Vehicles are lined up and processed in the order they arrive. Inspections can be performed only up to 2 months in advance.

- Passing vehicles will receive a 2-year inspection sticker
- New car dealer vehicles receive a 5- year inspection sticker
- Failing vehicles will receive a rejection sticker along with a 30-day report, allowing the owner time to address the issue and return to an inspection facility for re-inspection

CLOSTER SHADE TREE COMMISSION



The Closter Shade Tree Commission is pleased to announce the 2026 Fall Foliage Photo Contest. The Commission is looking for photos personally taken by a resident this fall (2026) that includes a tree (or trees) within the Borough of Closter that best captures the spectacular colors of the season and includes the identification of the Closter location of the photo. Three winners will be awarded Visa Gift Cards. The STC's Photo Contest runs from October 12th through November 13th. Winners will be announced the weekend of November 28th. Email your photo and a completed Photo Release form to joettinger@closternj.us. Be sure to identify the location in the Borough where the photo was taken. Finalists will have their photographs displayed in the Closter Library. The contest is limited to one submission per entrant. Contest ends on November 13th. Release forms are available on the Closter website – <https://www.closterboro.com/documents/boards-%26-commissions/shade-tree-commission/news-%26-information/565794>.

Should you have any questions on Shade Trees, please send an email to shadetree@closternj.us.

THE BELSKIE MUSEUM OF ART & SCIENCE

The Opening Reception for the upcoming exhibit, “*Salute to Women in the Arts*”, an exhibit by 34 members of Salute to Women in The Art is Sunday, October 4th from 1-4pm. This exciting exhibit runs from October 4th – 25th and includes a wide range of art, including painting, mixed media, assemblages, ceramics and more.

Following the exhibit opening on October 4th museum hours for the Belskie return to Saturdays & Sundays from 2-4pm. Hours by appointment can be arranged. Admission is always free. The Belskie Museum is conveniently located adjacent to the Closter Public Library at 280 High St.; 201-768-0286 or www.belskiemuseum.com,

CLOSTER’S MACBAIN FARM

As tradition has it, October at the MacBain Farm includes the ***Annual Fall Festival***; an event filled with pumpkin picking and decorating, s’mores by the fire pit, crafts, a scavenger hunt, refreshments and more. Families are invited to take pics in the fall photo “booth” and the join in the dedication of “***Farmer John’s Garden***”. Join the volunteers on Saturday, October 24th from 2pm to 4pm. with the special ***dedication of “Farmer John’s Garden” at 3pm***. (The rain date is Oct. 25th from 2 to 4pm). Parking is on Hickory Lane.



There is a large variety of cherry tomatoes, eggplants, basil, parsley, cilantro, kale, mint and various other vegetables that are ready for picking. Gentle reminder, Closter residents will need 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.** Residents may stop by the farm on non-picking days to pick up ripe produce which will be left on the table outside the gate. Please park on Hickory Lane.

There is still time to volunteer at the farm. As picking season unwinds, there are many other opportunities to help prepare the farm for the coming winter. The Farm Committee is *always* looking for volunteers to assist with tasks on the farm —email friendsofMacBain@gmail.com. Families are welcome (and encouraged), keeping in mind children 16 years and younger *need to be accompanied by an adult*.

CLOSTER DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



Curbside leaf pickup begins **October 1st**. The last day to place leaves curbside is **December 7th**. 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.

Note – the DPW *cannot pick up leaves obstructed by vehicles parked on the street*.

Saturday, November 7th from 9am-1pm is the ***Residents Only*** Shredding Event at the DPW located at 130 Ruckman Rd.

Borough of Closter

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Closter New Jersey

CLOSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Saturday, October 3rd at 2pm: *Closter: Rich In History* presented by well-recognized historian and a past president of the Bergen County Historical Society, Tim Adriance.

Saturday, October 17th at 9am-4pm: *Fall Book Sale*

Advanced ESL Conversation is offered on Mondays from 10-11:30am. The class will focus on conversation about topics of general interest, movies, articles and vocabulary expansion. The Queens of Potluck (An International Cookbook Club) takes place on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:15pm; Blood Pressure Screening is offered the first Wednesday of the month at 1:30pm.

First Friday Flicks is October 2nd at 1pm featuring “*The Sheep Detectives*”. The Library offers a full range of programs and services, inclusive of activities for students. Please visit the library’s website, www.closterpubliclibrary.org, for the comprehensive calendar and extensive list of the Library’s regular programming, including the services and programs for children. Please visit the library in person or online to benefit from all the programs the library.

CLOSTER NATURE CENTER

October is “fundraising month” at the Closter Nature Center. It’s a beautiful time of year to join friends and neighbors while supporting the Closter Nature Center in the 3rd Annual Hike-A-Thon. The *Community Hike* is scheduled for **November 7th at 10am**. Participate in the third annual Hike-A-Thon to help fundraise for the CNC! You can register as a fundraiser, contribute donations and hike with our community. Prizes will be awarded for three categories; the most money raised; highest number of donations received and most miles hiked. Register now to join the fun! www.closternaturecenter.org

CLOSTER ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Join the Closter Green Challenge! The October/November WALK/BIKE CHALLENGE begins October 1st! Challenge yourself to swap short car trips for walking or biking. Explore Closter’s neighborhoods, downtown and the Closter Nature Center. Enter to Win by sharing your actions & tag @closterEnvironmentalCommission or email to gc@sustainablecloster.org by November 30th. Bi-monthly winners receive gift cards to Closter businesses. Overall winner earns Mayor’s Award at year-end celebration.

MAYOR’S COMMITTEE FOR THE ARTS

As summer fades into fall, I would like extend sincere appreciation to Councilwoman Vicky Amitai for her diligence in coordinating the musicians who brought “the sounds of music” to Edens Closter Plaza. The Summer 2026 Concerts have been enjoyed by all who have attended them. Friday nights in “Closter Plaza’s Concert Corner” were delightful!

The Mayor’s Committee for the Arts was established to bring the arts to Closter by having artists provide 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 the committee, mayorscommitteearts@gmail.com, if you are interested in performing.

CLOSTER FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU



As we rapidly approach October and National Fire Prevention Week this year's theme and message across the USA is "**Safe Charging**". With the ever increasing use and importance of the wide range of portable/battery powered devices in our daily life, please follow these few key points below. For additional safety recommendations there are many resources to be found via a quick Google search. As always, if any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us anytime at fireprev@closternj.us

SEPTEMBER 11th MEMORIAL SERVICE

Our community joined together in remembrance, fulfilling the promise “*we will never forget*”. It is with gratitude and appreciation to the volunteers and employees who continue our September 11th Service.



Closter's Vaswani Church celebrates the week-long festival of Maha Ganesh Utsav where families and neighbors come together. Lord Ganesh is the remover of obstacles and the patron of wisdom, arts and new beginnings.



Mayor Glidden celebrates Maha Ganesh Utsav with members of Closter's Vaswani Church

Volunteering is the backbone to a strong, vibrant community. Please consider ways in which you can participate and make a difference. Closter offers invaluable services for our residents in a safe environment in which to raise our families, participate in activities for all age groups and move forward in many positive directions.

Closter's emergency operations, ambulance and fire, are two prime examples of volunteering. These dedicated first responders are available to meet the needs of our community 24/7, 365 days of the year. Both the Closter Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Corps and the Closter Fire Department have mailed their 2026 Fundraising Campaigns. Consider supporting these invaluable agencies who are readily available to meet our needs regardless of the time of day, weather conditions,

All the Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Glidden".

Mayor