

OCTOBER 2023

# Gloucester City Newsletter

In the News

by Derek Timm, Council

Gloucester City Mayor and Council were very busy in 2023 working hard for the citizens of the City and doing their best to create equity and quality of life improvements for everyone. It was also the 400th Anniversary of the first European contact with the Lenni Lenape and the first European settlement on the Delaware River in 2023.

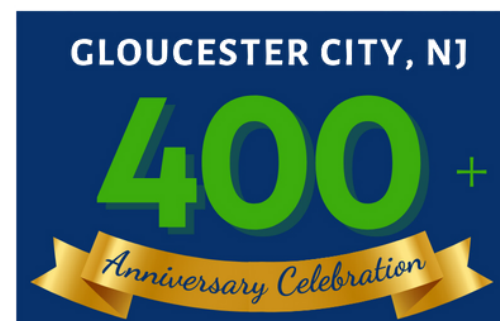
This summer we cut the ribbon at the jogging track. Mayor and Council celebrated the long-awaited walkable surface repairs using Local Recreation Infrastructure Grant funds from 2022 and 2023. If you haven't you had a chance to take a stroll around the park in quite some time, be sure to get out and enjoy the beautiful Fall weather to experience a job well done.

U.S. News & World Report released their 'Best High School Rankings' and Gloucester City High School has been awarded and listed as the #13 Best High Schools in ALL of South Jersey for 2023-2024.

Congratulations Gloucester City School District and keep up the great work preparing the youth of our community with the best education possible.

Gloucester City School District will have Free Breakfast & Lunch for All District Students during the 2023-2024 school year. The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a federal program under the USDA's National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

Seniors of Gloucester City are you aware of New Jersey's 'Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement)' program? New Jersey passed P.L. 2023, c.75 which was signed into law October 30, 2023, expanding the income limit and simplifying the residency requirements for new Senior Freeze program applicants. The Senior Freeze Program reimburses eligible senior citizens and disabled persons for property tax or mobile home park site fee increases on their principal residence (main home). For more information click on the link - <https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/ptr/>



## Mayor's Message From Mayor Baile

The Besty Ross wedding reenactment will take place at the Betsy Ross Pavilion in Proprietors Park on November 4th.

There is NO fee to attend the wedding in the park and you do not have to be a City resident...it is open to all. There will be limited seating....but, there is plenty of room for you to bring a folding chair. You can take all the photos and videos you want and a professional videographer will be there and DVDs will be made available for purchase after the event. The event will take place on Nov. 4th at 1 PM...get there early!!!! I





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Gloucester Town Corner  
by Patrick Ward

Gloucester City - New Jersey is commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the first European contact with the Lenni Lenape and the first European settlement on the Delaware River this year.

Summary of the "Battle of Gloucester -NJ"  
24, 25, 26 & 27 of Nov. 1777

Nearly 4,500 British troops occupied Gloucester Town under the command of General Lord Cornwallis. While in Gloucester Town they would be foraging in the areas around the Newton Creek, Little Timber Creek and Big Timber Creek. Collecting 400 head of Cattle, horses, pigs, chickens and other food stocks to take with them into winter quarters in Philadelphia.

They had just come from destroying Fort Mercer at Red Bank (present day National Park NJ). With the fort now destroyed, the Delaware River is open to the British Navy to supply their army in Philadelphia. The marquis de Lafayette would lead American Troops. The young Frenchman would take a small force of troops against a Hessian outpost guarding the King's Highway bridge that crossed the King's Run branch of the Newton Creek. (continued on page 3)



Sheriff Ellis's House

When you are at Freedom Pier, be sure to check out the new historical sign. Sheriff Ellis was a political and military leader of southern New Jersey fighting for the cause of Liberty during the Revolution. Ellis's house also served as British General Lord Cornwallis's headquarters during the Nov. 1777 occupation of Gloucester Town.

These signs were provided by the CAMDEN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY and CAMDEN COUNTY. Funded by NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM and the CAMDEN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND. Thanks to the Mayor & Council along with the Gloucester City Public Works Department for seeing to the installation of the signs.



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**GLOUCESTER CITY**  
Pack the Park  
**FALL FESTIVAL**

OCTOBER 14  
1:00 - 5:00 PM  
PROPRIETORS PARK  
(225 KING STREET, GLOUCESTER CITY, NJ)

FOOD TRUCKS BEER GARDEN ART MUSIC RIVERFRONT CAR SHOW

Live Music by **SECRET SERVICE BAND**

Sponsored by:  
GLOUCESTER CITY | GLOUCESTER CITY BROOKLAWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION  
GLOUCESTER CITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION | N.J. IRISH SOCIETY

**FUN!** Have a fun-filled fall day in Gloucester City!

**Gloucester City New Jersey**  
Where Great Things Are Happening!™

**Gloucester City 400**

**Secret Service Band**

**VENDOR REGISTRATION**  
CITYOFGLOUCESTER.ORG/2023FALLFESTIVAL

## FEATURING





OCTOBER 2023

# Gloucester City Newsletter

Employee Highlight  
by Administrator Chief Brian Morrell

Ashley Hagan  
Account Clerk, Finance Department

Hello Gloucester City! I am honored and humbled to be this newsletter's spotlight employee. In 2019 I started my career with Gloucester City as the Aide to the Mayor under the Honorable Dan Spencer. Then I moved into the Finance Office as the Account Clerk in 2021. As Account Clerk, I ensure that the vendors and municipal bills are paid on time. This accounts for revenue in and expenditures out for the city.

I have a Master's Degree in Public Health, Summa cum laude, and look forward to continuing my education in Municipal Finance. I spend my free time, with my family and friends watching all Philly Sports, and of course Notre Dame. I enjoy living in the Gloucester Heights section of the city with my husband and daughter as well as working in Gloucester City because of its family-like atmosphere and the great opportunities this city presents to everyone.



(continued from page 2)

Starting in present day Haddon Heights and Audubon into Mt. Ephraim the Hessians would be driven back into what is present day Gloucester City. There are three version maps of the Battle of Gloucester. All three are considered to have been by Michel Capitaine du Chesnoy, the skilled cartographer who served as the Marquis de Lafayette's aide-de-camp during the American Revolutionary War.

To see the actual artifacts about this article click below:

<https://www.gloucestercityhistoricalsociety.org/revolution/BOG1777>



Mayor and Council  
are now on  
Facebook. Follow  
our page for news  
and events

<https://www.facebook.com/gloucestercitynjmayorandcouncil>



Betsy Ross Wedding  
Joseph James · 4h · 🌐

Well, It is almost here, one month from today for the big event. Remember, The wedding party will arrive in the park in a horse drawn carriage. And we hope the ceremony will take place at about 1 PM. But, there will be things happening before that, so get there early. Also, There will be limited seating...but there is plenty of space for you to bring a folding chair and get a good spot. You can take all the photos and video you want, and we hope to have the wedding party available for you to take a photo with them. This is going to be a historic event for Gloucester City....we want to see your face in the place!!!! By the way, if you want to take video or photos of the procession...They will leave the High School about Noon. They will take Greenwood and make a left on Highland and Johnson to Monmouth. Monmouth to King St. and then King to the Parkl.



## Stay Connected

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# Gloucester City Newsletter

Library News  
by Wen Gnu

## NEW MUSEUM PASS-NSA WILDWOOD AVIATION MUSEUM

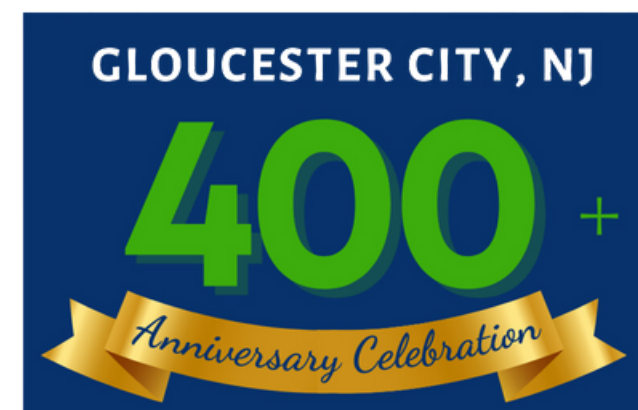
The Gloucester City Library is excited to announce a new museum has been added to our Museum Pass Program! The Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum, located in Cape May, NJ, is housed in a historic World War II-era all-wood hangar which was assembled by the U.S. Navy in 1942 from a kit delivered via railroad!

From 1943 to 1945, the hangar was part of the Naval Air Station Wildwood where bomber squadrons were trained before serving in the Pacific theater. After World War II, the hangar was owned by multiple companies until it was abandoned several decades later.. In 1997, the nonprofit NASW Foundation restored the building and eventually opened the aviation museum to the public. The museum's collection includes over 25 historic airplanes, jets, and helicopters dating back to World War II.

During your visit, sit in the cockpit of a historic plane or enter an authentic air traffic control tower. Visit the 1940s room to view memorabilia and artifacts from life during World War II. For more information on this museum, please visit this website .

The Museum Pass can be borrowed for up to 3 days by an adult cardholder in good standing. The pass allows free admission for 2 adults and 4 children. Please visit the Museum Pass page to learn more.

[www.gloucestercitylibrary.org](http://www.gloucestercitylibrary.org)



## Upcoming NPP Grant Funded Projects



Year 2 of NPP to include

- Safety Security Initiative - Camera Installations in Irishtown - almost completed
- Complete Phase II Electrical Upgrades at Proprietors Park
- Mural on Carr's Hardware wall

## Applications Still Open

- Residential Facade grants
- Commercial Facade grants



## Upcoming UEZ Grant Funded Projects

- New Holiday decorations for Proprietors Park, King Street and Broadway
- Holiday Christmas tree
- New City entrance signs



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# Gloucester City Newsletter

Community News  
by Lori Ryan

The City has received \$25,000 from Camden County Open Space Preservation Program to install fencing around the new playground at Proprietors Park. This fence will be installed this month.

Phase II of the playground installation will begin soon. We are in the engineering phase and completing the environmental review studies. This playground will be installed at the area between the water and the existing playground walkway.

## Green Acres Grant - Johnson Boulevard

The City of Gloucester City was recently awarded \$830,000 (with no match requirement!) from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Green Acres Program to make various improvements at Johnson Park.



This is the first year we were able to provide beautiful planters for the City residents to enjoy. These planters are made possible with a donation by the Riverpoint Community. Thank you to the Water Department employees for spending the day with us and to public works for delivering the materials.



## Hydrant Flushing News



**Hydrant Flushing  
to begin October  
16th**

Donna Domico, Superintendent of Environmental Utilities has announced that hydrant flushing will start the week of October 16th.

"In order to maintain and continue to deliver the best quality water, Gloucester City Dept. of Utilities will be doing our semi-annual hydrant/main flushing

**October 16th - October 27th  
from 11 pm - 7 am**

You may experience low water pressure and/or slight discoloration of the water. If this occurs, please let the faucet run for a short time to allow any residual to clear."



If the problem persists, please contact the Utility Department at 856-456-0169 between the hours of 7:30 am - 3:30 pm.

[cityofgloucester.org](http://cityofgloucester.org)



Mayor and Council  
are now on  
Facebook. Follow  
our page for news  
and events

[https://www.facebook.com/  
gloucestercitynjmayorandcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/gloucestercitynjmayorandcouncil)



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## Be the first to know...



Gloucester City is now participating in CivicReady. The Camden County Board of Commissioners of Emergency Management (OEM) is now using CivicReady to help keep Camden County residents informed during fires, outages, floods, hurricanes, evacuations, road closures and other emergency events. CivicReady will allow us to quickly alert constituents via voice, text, email and CAP/IPAWS.

This system, combined with our other emergency alert methods, is designed to get emergency messages to you, the public, quickly and effectively. This does not preclude you from calling 911 if you need emergency information; it simply provides an opportunity for us to disseminate critical information to you if and when the need arises.

## Leaf Collection Schedule

2023 Leaf Collection Program will be starting on October 30th, 2023 and will continue until, and finish, the week of December 18th, 2023.

SECTION 1: Woods, Francesville, and the area east of Broadway to Johnson Blvd., and north of Monmouth St. to Sherman St. This section will be done during the weeks of: October 30th and November 27th, 2023.

SECTION 2: Highland Park, Riverview Hts., and the area west of Broadway to King St., and south of Market St. to Jersey Ave. This section will be done during the weeks of: November 6th and December 4th, 2023.

SECTION 3: Cypress Gardens, Park Manor, and Gloucester Heights. This section will be done during the weeks of: November 13th and December 11th, 2023.

SECTION 4: The area west of Broadway bounded by Broadway on the east, the City line on the north, Market St. on the south and the Delaware River on west. This section will be done during the weeks of: November 20th and December 18th, 2023.

\*\*\*\*This program is for the collection of LEAVES ONLY. Please do not mix branches or any other yard waste or debris with the leaves. Your Cooperation and Assistance Will Be Greatly Appreciated.

ALEX TEDESCO  
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



## Car Theft Incidents in Gloucester City

Every community has experienced the difficulties of car theft. Please make sure cars are locked, windows are rolled all the way up, valuables stowed away, and money or goods not visible. Due to these bad actors and reports from police departments, New Jersey has strengthened the laws. This was done when Governor Phil Murphy recently signed a series of bills to continue the fight to combat auto theft in New Jersey. The four most recent bills strengthen the criminal penalties associated with auto theft. For more information click on <https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562023/approved/20230707a.shtml>

