Gloucester City had great things happening in 2022 with Mayor Dayl Baile, Councilman Robert Page, Councilman Derek Timm, Councilwoman Nancy Baus, Councilman George Berglund, Councilman John Hutchinson, and Councilman James “Bowie” Johnson. Here are just a few highlights:

- Gloucester City’s budget was presented with NO TAX INCREASE to the residents.
- Gloucester City is working on receiving a $150,000 Grant to place surveillance cameras in strategic locations throughout the city providing a live video stream to our police department and also recording capabilities to enhance in the prevention of illegal activity as well as assist in the detection and apprehension of offenders. To complement this installation, the NPP team will be offering grants for doorbell cameras in Year 2 of the program, beginning January 2023.
- Johnson Blvd walking and jogging trail upgrades approved.
- International investment groups and builders have presented multi-million dollar proposals. Mayor and Council with architectural designs to create jobs, infrastructure, and return industrial activities in the Southport area of Gloucester City.
- Meridia on the Pier is still a positive development at Freedom Pier moving forward in the positive direction and construction timetables should begin to become clearer in the near future.
- A builder has received approval for a 15 unit LUXURY apartment building planned for Gloucester City’s former Annex Building to occupy a building that has been vacant and a blight in the neighborhood for years.
- New and additional special court sessions implemented to have a judge work on close to 900 violations and cases dealing with housing issues negatively impacting Gloucester City’s home values, safety, and our environment.
- Minimum fines for violations have been increased and Gloucester City is working on a program where liens will be assessed on properties and individuals that are chronic offenders.
- A police offer has been assigned to assist the housing department for quicker responses and promoting community involvement.
- Created a “trash ordinance” to improve the appearance of Gloucester City’s neighborhoods and businesses. This also created a more efficient practice for collection and more reflective of the current needs of Gloucester City.
- Every child needs and deserves a safe space to learn. Through a successful partnership between the Gloucester City Police Department and Gloucester City School District, police officers are now present in each school in Gloucester City.

I would like to thank all who worked on Pack the Park Arts and Music Fall Festival and Riverfront Car Show. It was a great success and showed off our beautiful park on the river. Over 2,000 visitors attended this event!

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped out. The celebrations committee spent many hours planning this event, and we look forward to it growing every year.

Lori Ryan is doing a great job with the Irishtown NPP program and managing the grant programs for local businesses. Proprietors Park playground should be installed next month, and there’s more to come from the NPP.

Freedom Pier is moving forward as they start to work out the redevelopment terms and wait for the NJ State Historic Preservation Office to give the go ahead.

Take notice please that the Council Meeting for November is moved to Tuesday, November 22 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

We look forward to our Winter Wonderland on December 10th and a decorated fire truck parade on December 8th. We hope to see you there!

Members of City Council and I wish you and your family a healthy, happy, and peaceful holiday season.

Dayl Baile
Mayor, Gloucester City
In 2023, Gloucester City - New Jersey will be commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the first European contact with the Lenni Lenape and the first European settlement on the Delaware River.

**Lenni Lenape at ARWAMUS**

The first people along the Delaware River call themselves "Lenni Lenape". In the 1620’s when the Dutch arrived in the Delaware River, the Lenni Lenape located in present day Gloucester City along the Timber Creek were known as the ARMEWAMEX and their village was known as ARWAMUS.

A 1983 archaeological study at a construction site along the Delaware River Market and King Streets in Gloucester City resulted in the discovery of nearly 16,000 artifacts. Some Lenni Lenape, some Dutch and other English Colonial. These artifacts indicated human habitation first occurring during the Archaic period (8000 B.C to 1000 B.C.). Artifacts of a more expansive human occupation appear during the Early/Middle Woodland period (c.a. 500 BC – A.D. 700). A ossuary or communal grave discovered at the site, indicates habitation continuing into the Late Woodland period (c.a. 700 – 1700 ). Within 100 years of the Dutch arrival in the 1620’s, nearly all of the Lenni Lenape in the area were gone. After the British took control of New Jersey (1664 ) from the Dutch, the London Commissioners purchased the area above Timber Creek to Rancocas Creek from the remaining Lenni Lenape people on September 10, 1677.

To see the actual artifacts about this article click below: https://www.smore.com/wrzbc-gloucester-city-400

**GLOUCESTER-TOWN CORNER**

Gloucester City Historical Society- Patrick Ward

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**Kathy Reddy at Sunshine Florist** was one of five businesses to receive a Neighborhood Preservation Program Grant for Commercial Facade projects. She is pictured here receiving her check with Mayor Baile, Council Berglund, and Lori Ryan, Irishtown NPP Coordinator.

Mayor Baile and City Council are pleased to announce that we have installed free public WiFi at Proprietors Park. This project is completed as part of our Community Development Block Grant COVID funding. Other projects will include installing video and recording technology in the Courtroom to record public meetings and providing monitors in senior buildings for improved public engagement. The funding of $370,764 will also provide grants to City businesses who were negatively impacted by the pandemic.

**Upcoming Events**

- Nov 8 Election Day Offices closed
- Nov 24 Thanksgiving Offices closed
- Dec 8 Firetruck delivers Santa to the Park
- Dec 10 Winter Wonderland at Park

**2023 Gloucester City Community Calendar**

DEADLINE is November 15.

Email lryan@cityofgloucester.org to sponsor a page, advertise, or have an event included in the calendar.
Grants to businesses

Monitors in senior buildings so they can be included in City activities

Recording devices and system to record public meetings for future viewing.

**DID YOUR BUSINESS SUFFER DURING COVID? NEED HELP RECOVERING?**

Community Development Block Grant COVID-CV1 grants ARE BEING AWARDED NOW - GET YOURS!!!

The City received $370,684 to be used for business assistance grants for affected businesses who qualify under the Gloucester City Small Business Grants Program. A business registered with a Mercantile License in the City can receive up to a ceiling award of $7,500.

- Grants to businesses
- Monitors in senior buildings so they can be included in City activities
- Recording devices and system to record public meetings for future viewing.

**FOR TAX AND UTILITY PAYMENT DUE REMINDERS**

www.cityofgloucester.org/subscribe

**EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT**

Brian Morrell, Chief of Police and Acting City Administrator

A community cannot thrive without law and order. Gloucester City is uniquely positioned to have the Gloucester City Police Department (GCPD). GCPD is an amazingly devoted police department with everyone maintaining a high level of camaraderie, morale, and resolute commitment to protect and serve Gloucester City. Under the direction of Chief of Police / City Administrator Brian Morrell, GCPD was presented an award in 2022 for achieving Accredited status by The New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission in 2021. This was a huge undertaking with enormous benefits. It has facilitated greater professionalism resulting in modernized training, accountability as well as financial savings in insurance costs to Gloucester City.

Chief of Police / City Administrator Brian Morrell has worked for GCPD for 22 years. He became Chief of Police in January of 2016 and oversees 37 police officers and 2 clerks. As Chief of Police he is directly responsible for the efficiency and routine day-to-day operations pursuant to policies of the GCPD prioritizing public safety for every citizen in Gloucester City. He also supervises approximately 100 employees as Gloucester City’s City Administrator. As City Administrator he is responsible to make day-to-day business and administrative decisions for the efficient operations of the City, negotiate contracts for provisions of City services, act as liaison with various departments and offices of the City, review and recommend all bills and vouchers, study and make recommendations regarding the administrative procedures and personnel organization and policies of the City, and much much more!

Chief Morrell always puts the best interest of Gloucester City and its residents first and foremost. He has been a significant reason for the positive direction and initiatives seen and being planned around town. With his leadership only better and greater things are on the horizon for everyone.

**GET TO KNOW US**

Council Robert J. Page, Council At Large

1. How long have you lived in Gloucester City? 11 years
2. How long have you been a Councilman? 1 year
3. Your favorite place in Gloucester City? The Riverfront
4. Fondest memory of Gloucester City? Gloucester High vs. Gloucester Catholic athletic events
5. Favorite Ice Cream Flavor? Choc Chip Cookie Dough
6. Favorite hobby? Golf
7. Favorite musical artist or group? The Rolling Stones
8. Favorite Restaurant? La Famiglia
9. Favorite Sport? Basketball
10. Favorite Politician of all time? Franklin D. Roosevelt

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Gloucester City Library receives nearly $20,000 to resume its Labor and Literacy Lab after successful completion of last year’s literacy project.

On Friday, September 30, 2022, Gloucester City Library joined a celebration hosted by New Jersey State Library to mark the successful conclusion of the 2021-2022 NJSL+Partners Literacy Project, funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the American Rescue Plan Act. With nearly $25,000 from the grant, Gloucester City Library started a Labor and Literacy Lab to help local residents with their digital literacy, job seeking skills, ESL, and other general adult literacy.

The library would like to thank Gloucester City Senior Citizens’ Association, Gloucester City Anxiety and Depression Support Group, St. Mary’s Church Gloucester City, and other community groups for their support. The Labor and Literacy Lab was able to offer 168 one-on-one help sessions and one virtual Internet Core Competency Certification (IC3) Bootcamp.

The success of the Labor and Literacy Lab earns the library a new grant of $20,000 from LSTA 2022-2023, which is also administered by the NJ State Library, to resume the lab services for a second year.

The library plans to continue one-on-one lessons and small group classes on a variety of topics at a varied range of skill levels. Students can learn how to write resumes, apply for jobs, fill out online forms, study a foreign language, or use a computer or cell phone.

Beginning in 2023, the library will offer two IC3 (Internet Core Competency Certification) Bootcamps, where students can quickly become proficient in computer skills for home, school, or the workplace. At the end of this course, students can earn a certificate that is widely recognized by employers. Lab services are free and open to any adult at any literacy level. To sign up for one-on-one help or IC3 Bootcamp, please contact the library at 856-456-4181x107 or email laborandliteracy@gcpl.us.

The Labor and Literacy Lab at Gloucester City Library

IC3 Computer Bootcamps
- Earn an IC3 certificate (Internet Core Competency Certification), proof of your computer knowledge
- 9 hours a week for 14 weeks
- Bootcamp 1 — January 9-April 15
- Bootcamp 2 — May 1-August 5
- Register by calling or at www.bit.ly/ic3registration

Lab Appointments
- Apply for your new job
- Build your computer skills
- Learn a language
- One-on-one help
- We teach any skill level
- Available Tuesday-Friday

Contact us at 856-456-4181x107 or laborandliteracy@gcpl.us.

FREE and OPEN to everyone.

Don’t forget to drop your letters in box at Municipal Building.

or mail to:
Santa at the North Pole
PO Box 150
Gloucester City, NJ 08030

Love, peace, and joy this holiday season

From Mayor Baile and Members of Gloucester City Council

Children are made readers in the laps of their parents.

Mayor and Council are now on Facebook. Follow our page for news and events https://www.facebook.com/glocestercitynjmayorandcouncil

Wen Gu (left), Director of Gloucester City Library receiving Certificate of Appreciation to Gloucester City Library in the NJSL+Partners Literacy Project from Jen Nelson (right), the State Librarian

https://www.gloucestercitylibrary.org