

September 21, 2017



Drive-In's Making a Come Back in GT!

Learn more about the history of Drive-In Movie Theaters.



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7 Zip Codes= One Identity Crisis

Check out the article published by *The* 





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Star Party!

Join us for the biggest stargazing party in the region on October 13th!

GTWorks is Mayor David R. Mayer's weekly newsletter that informs residents of the current projects and events happening in Gloucester Township.

From the Police Department to Public Works to the Department of Recreation, we want you to stay In the Know of the latest news in our community!



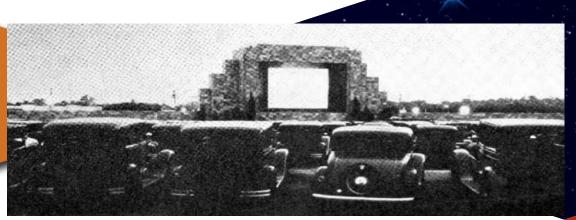


# GT BRINGS BACK DRIVE-IN MOVIES

Mayor David R. Mayer and Council are excited to bring back the tradition of drive-in movies for the very first time on October 7th!

Eager motorists parked their automobiles on the grounds of Park-In Theaters for first time in Camden, New Jersey on June 6th, 1933. Reportedly inspired by his mother's struggle to sit comfortably in traditional movie theater seats, Hollingshead came up with the idea of an open-air theater where patrons watched movies in the comfort of their own automobiles. He then experimented in the driveway of his own house with different projection and sound techniques, mounting a 1928 Kodak projector on the hood of his car, pinning a screen to some trees, and placing a radio behind the screen for sound.





First drive-in theater in Camden, New Jersey, 1933.

The young entrepreneur received a patent for the concept in May of 1933 and opened Park-In Theaters, Inc. less than a month later, with an initial investment of \$30,000. Advertising it as entertainment for the whole family, Hollingshead charged 25 cents per car and 25 cents per person, with no group paying more than one dollar. The idea caught on, and after Hollingshead's patent was overturned in 1949, drive-in theaters began popping up all over the country. One of the largest was the All-Weather Drive-In of Copiague, New York, which featured parking space for 2,500 cars, a kid's playground and a full service restaurant, all on a 28acre lot.

Drive-in theaters showed mostly B-movies—that is, not Hollywood's finest fare—but some theaters featured the same movies that played in regular theaters.

The initially poor sound quality-Hollingshead had mounted three speakers manufactured by RCA Victor near the screen-improved, and later technology made it possible for each car to play the movie's soundtrack through its FM radio. The popularity of the drive-in spiked after World War II and reached its heyday in the late 1950s to mid-60s, with some 5,000 theaters across the country. Drive-ins became an icon of American culture, and a typical weekend destination not just for parents and children but also for teenage couples seeking some privacy.

Since then, however, the rising price of real estate, especially in suburban areas, combined with the growing numbers of walk-in theaters and the rise of video rentals to curb the growth of the drive-in industry. Today, fewer than 500 drive-in theaters survive in the United States.



The Mayor and Council are thrilled to bring back this famous staple of American culture that was once enjoyed by millions. Jumanji will mark the beginning of Gloucester Township Annual Drive-In Movie Series and will take place at Timber Creek High School Parking Lot. The event begins at 5 pm. The movie will begin at dusk. Food trucks and games available. Admission is free! Donations will be gratefully received to benefit JDRF. If weather is not permitting, event will take place on Friday, October 13th.

For more information please call 856-374-3514.

#### **CAMDEN COUNTY FAIR**

The Camden County Fair will be held at the Lakeland Complex located at 508 Lakeland Road on September 23rd and 24th. There will be rides, games, live music, pony rides, carnival food, and more! Admission and parking are free. For more information visit camdencounty.com/2017fair.





# 7 Zip Codes= One Identity Crisis



Melanie Bernie, a writer from *The Inquirer*, published an article this past month that disussed the difficult identity crisis that Gloucester Township faces.

"For those who don't live in Gloucester Township, navigating the sprawling Camden County community can be confusing.

Whether putting an address in the GPS or mailing a letter, Gloucester Township is identified mostly by the seven zip codes for the post offices that serve its distinct hamlets, spread out over 24 square miles, rather than

by where people actually live," says Melanie. "Mayer calls it an identity crisis, a strange phenomenon for a colonial-era town that traces its roots to the 1600s and has a rich history and distinct neighborhoods that include Blackwood, Blenheim, Hilltop, and Erial."

To read the full article, click below.



## Do you have an interest in a **GREEN TOWNSHIP?**

Join the Gloucester Township Green Team! The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 2nd at 7:00 PM in the Mayor's Office. Agenda for this meeting will include the Community Garden and ideas for Winter 2018. The GT Green Team hopes to see you there!



#### **CRAFT FAIR**

Come out for a Craft Fair at Senior Campus 1 in Turnersville on Saturday, October 14th from 10 AM- 3 PM. There will be delicious food, home-made crafts and more! To reserve a table, crafters may call Dorothy at (352) 804-4422.



## Drink for a Good Cause!

Join us on Wednesday, October 11th from 6:00-8:00 PM for cocktails served by Mayor Mayer! All money raised will be donated to JDRF. To join our team, The GTCrusaders, and participate in the JDRF One walk, please visit glotwp.com.



## TALENT SHOW!

Does your child, grandchild, niece or nephew have a talent they should share with the world? If so, then the Talent Contest sponsored by GVC Productions at the 26th Annual Blackwood Pumpkin Festival offers the perfect opportunity!

The event takes place Sunday, October 1st, in the parking lot behind Academy Hall, 27 S. Black Horse

Pike. Performances will be assigned between 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. For rules and registration, visit mainstage.org. Registration due by September 27. Trophies and cash prizes for those in the 5-10 year-old category and in the 11-18 year old category.



### STAR PARTY

Join the biggest stargazing party in the region on October 13th at Timber Creek Park as local astronomers provide a tour of the cosmos! No gear? No problem! We'll have telescopes and binoculars on site!



#### Help Us Recycle!

Public Works accepts car batteries, used oil, eye glasses, ink cartridges, metal and concrete. All items must be delivered to the Public Works Building during office hours:

Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM Saturday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

#### Let's Keep In Touch!

As your Mayor, I'm eager to hear from you should you have questions or concerns; so please do not hesitate to call my office at (856) 374-3514 or email me at dmayer@glotwp.com

I'd like to thank you for choosing our beautiful Gloucester Township your residence and for making our community a great place to live, work and play!

Sincerely,











