

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!









#### **Gloucester Township Takes Great Pride in our High Schools**



The Black Horse Pike Regional School District is a New Jersey Department of Edu-

cation recognized Lighthouse District for illuminating the pathway toward academic growth and student success with diverse student groups. They are only one of seven school districts in the entire State to receive this award. Additionally, the School District has been recognized as a "High Performing" school system by the New Jersey Department of Education's monitoring system for four years. Gloucester Township is home to three New Jersey and National Green Ribbon High Schools for excellence in environmental stewardship. Additionally, all three schools are Sustainable Jersey Bronze certified and the District has been awarded a \$10,000 wellness grant to care for staff and students.

Each school offers 22 competitive, varsity-level athletic teams in the Tri-County and Olympic Conferences. Home to South Jersey Group 4 Champion Football Team; Girls Winter Track State Record holders; Olympic Conference titles in Football, Track, Golf and Boys and Girls Track; South Jersey Group 3 Baseball Champions; Boys Soccer Tri-County Champions; over 70 student athletes were awarded All Conference honors.

August 16, 2018



PAGE 2 **BHP** Regional

Gloucester Township home of three National Green Ribbon Schools



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#### Mayor for the Day!

Meet Alaina Ritz - Your Mayor For The Day!

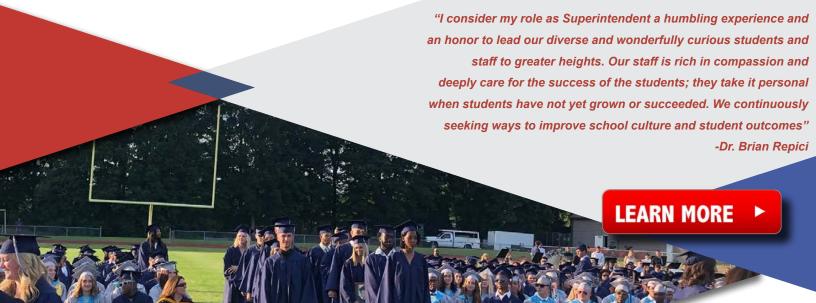


#### PAGE 4 JamRock comes

to Town!

A new restaurant is opening on Blackwood Clementon Road!





Fourteen Advanced Placement Courses are being offered in our high schools as well as all four major Fine and Performing Arts Classes: Dance, Music, Visual Art and Dramatic Studies. Innovative programs like STEAM Academy focuses on preparing students towards careers in Science, Math, Engineering and Technology with an emphasis in art design. A Career Exploration Program allows students to explore careers, participate in a Union Hall pre-apprenticeship program and take courses at Camden County College while attending high school.

BHP Regional School District offer 48 co-curricular clubs that serve a diverse student popula-

tion. Those clubs include: Academic Challenge, African American Club, Art, Broadcasting and Television, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band, Be The Change (HERO), Brass Ensemble, Chess, Dance, Environmental, Dramatic Productions (Fall & Spring), Gay/Straight Alliance, STEAM, Student Council, Interact, Key, World Language Clubs, Yearbook, Literary Magazine, National Honor Society, and Renaissance.

The district offers the full continuum of special education services for students with disabilities. We have a complete CST and team of school counselors in each school, as well as two special services supervisors. We have a full-time BCBA within the district to support students with autism spectrum disorders, and to consult with staff and parents. Our aides and teachers are trained in verbal de-escalation techniques to assist our

**GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP** 

students with challenging behaviors and emotionality.

We are continuously upgrading our facilities in order to provide the best learning environment for our students. Among the many things that have been upgraded in the past 5 years are a culinary kitchen; all athletic field surfaces; 4 science labs; a dance studio; engineering & robotics labs; all self-contained special needs classrooms; over 30,000 lights were replaced with LED; second floor HVAC system was installed.

Over 90% of our students graduate from our high schools and around 85% of those graduates go on to a two or four-year college or university. We have students attending every major university, like Harvard, Penn, United States Naval Academy, NYU, Universities of Delaware, Florida, Michigan, Maryland, North Carolina and many other performing and visual art schools across the country. Additionally, we are extremely proud of our graduates who decided to serve in our Armed Forces.

# NEW PLAYGROUND OPEN IN WYE OAK!

Residents of Wye Oak have been enjoying a brand new playground that was recently installed by the basketball, baseball and lacrosse fields in the above-mentioned development. Department of Public Works is working on finishing touches now: putting topsoil around the unit and installing new benches for residents to relax and watch their children at play!



## Meet Alaina Ritz - Your Mayor for the Day!









Alaina Ritz, a second grader at Chews Elementary, was chosen to be Mayor For The Day on August 16, 2018. Alaina won this honor by submitting a poster to her school regarding what she would do if she was mayor. Her goal was to build a historical museum so children could learn more about their Township.

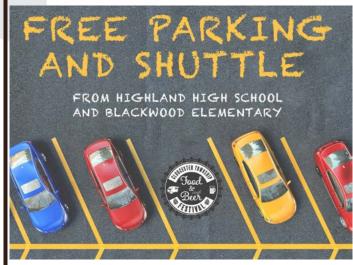
The Mayor for the Day program starts with a swearing in ceremony and follows with a tour of the Municipal Building. The Mayor had two ribbon cutting ceremonies that Alaina got to attend (and was even able to cut the ribbons)! Alaina was accompanied by her mother, grandparents and brother Robbie. Her and her brother's favorite part of the tour was when they were able to ride in the various police vehicles.

When Alaina grows up, she wants to be a veterinarian and her brother Robbie wants to operate heavy equipment. In their spare time they like to play with Legos, go down the shore, find sharks teeth and enjoy their weekly family dinner called Sunday Funday.

by Janna MacPherson



# GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP FESTIVAL



We hope that you join us for Gloucester Township's first ever Food & Craft Beer Festival on September 9, 2018 along the Black Horse Pike in the downtown Blackwood section of our Township. Over 20 food trucks will serve up food and fun, rain or shine! Stop by the beer garden located at the Gloucester Township Library (15 S Black Horse Pike) and enjoy live music and entertainment in the streets. There will be free parking along with a shuttle to the event at *Highland High School and Blackwood Elementary School*. For more information, please click here.

### **CONGRATS SJEB RUSH!**

Mayor David Mayer would like to extend his congratulations to local soccer team, SJEB RUSH U16, who won a National title this summer. SJEB Rush's girls won States, Regions, and then went on to the US Youth Soccer National Championship where they took first place. Gloucester Township is proud of this great achievement of one of their home teams! Thank you for helping us put Gloucester Township on the map.



## LOCALBUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Local Business Spotlight is a new section in GTWorks that highlights local businesses throughout Gloucester Township. Its primary purpose is to promote local small businesses by giving the readers opportunity to get to know more about local eateries and services available to them in our beautiful Gloucester Township!

#### Mayor cuts the Ribbon for JamRock, a New Restaurant in Town!

Mayor Mayer and Mayor For The Day Alaina Ritz were invited to the ribbon cutting of JamRock Reggae Soul Restaurant this Thursday. JamRock is a new restaurant in town located at 1269 Blackwood Clementon Road that will serve a great selection of Caribbean cuisines: delicious jerk chicken, curry shrimp, and fried snapper among many other dishes.

Be sure to stop by on August 19th from 12 pm to 7 pm for the grand opening and give a try to their signature dishes! (Free hot dogs for kids and Live DJ Music)



## DANCE CLASS celebrates their 26th season!



## 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,





Jain R. Mayer





