

October 11, 2018

HISPANIC

HERITAGE

MONTH

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!

# **CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE**





## PAGE 2 Citizens Appreciation Ceremony

Join us to congratulate your friends, family members and neighbors at the 5th annual Citizens Appreciation Ceremony.



## **PAGE 3** Proud Pink Cart Community

Read *The Pink Cart's* article about Gloucester Township.



## PAGE 4

# Local Business Spotlight

Learn more about our Local Business of the week: E R Holding Sign & Design.

On Wednesday, October 10th, Mayor David Mayer and Council honored nine outstanding Latino members of our community at the council meeting in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. These individuals were nominated by their teachers, principals, co-workers and peers for being exemplary citizens of Gloucester Township. The nominees all demonstrated significant contributions in the area of community service, personal or professional achievements, or general good deeds that have impacted favorably on our citizens.

Congratulations to Father René Canales, Angelica Gonzalez Mejia, Paul Sanchez, Chelsea Melendez, Mario Ortiz, Fernando Medrano, Deiby Ballen-Rodriguez, Carmen Williams and Kesia Lantigua.

## Meet the 2018 Nominees



### Father René Canales

Father René was born in El Salvador. As the youngest of 6 children, he spent most of his early years working and helping his mother. Father René made the decision to come to the United States when he was just 16 years old. Today, he serves seven different parishes in South Jersey, celebrating the sacraments in both English and Spanish. Father René is described as a "warrior of faith." One that always puts others before himself.







### Angelica Gonzalez Mejia

Angelica is a senior at Timber Creek High School. There she is involved in The Buddy Club, Interact Club, Girls Soccer, Softball, and Winter Track. Outside of school, she volunteers her time at the Ronald McDonald House. Angelina is described as confident and caring, being able to relate to anyone on anv level.

### **Chelsea Melendez**

Chelsea is a student from Timber Creek High School. She is involved in Student Government and the World Language Club. She is also the manager of the Baseball and Field Hockey teams. She loves to volunteer her time working with those who are not as fortunate as her. Chelsea is described as having a smile that simply lights up the world.

### Fernando Medrano

Fernando is an 8th grader at Ann A. Mullen Middle School. He is described as a cheerful, respectful, dedicated and hard-working young man. His principals say that he is a breath of fresh air, always helping and thinking of others before himself. Fernando is a member of the Mullen Soccer Team and also maintains a straight A academic record.





Carmen is the Administrative Assistant at St. Jude's Church in Blackwood. Carmen is a proud Hispanic Puerto Rican who was born in San Lorenzo, Purerto Rico. She came to the U.S. when she was a young girl. Today, Carmen works tirelessly for the Hispanic Community and often goes way beyond her line of duty. Her love for her community is clearly expressed in her work ethic.









### **Paul Sanchez**

Paul has been a member of the Black Horse Pike Regional School Distract Maintenance Department since 2013. He was promoted to the position of Master mechanic shortly after his arrival to the district. Paul is dedicated. hard-working, and described as one of the most positive individuals to ever enter the doors of Timber Creek.

### Mario Ortiz

Mario is another student from Timber Creek. Mario is involved in Teen Pep, History Club, Transition Project, World Language Club, National Honor Society, World Language Honor Society, the Baseball team, and the Basketball team. He is an all around well-rounded leader who "just gets things done." On top of all of his extracurricular activies, Mario maintains a 4.75 GPA.

### **Deiby Ballen-Rodriguez**

Deiby is a student from Triton Regional High School. He is described as posessing a level of kindness and confidence that is unusual in a person of his age. Regardless of any obstacle in his path, Deiby manages to overcome and find a way not only to survive but thrive. No matter what is going on at school, he is always willing to get involved and does so with great enthusiasm.

### Kesia Lantigua

Kesia is the Food Services Manager at JW Lillley Elementary. She started in the Gloucester Township School District six years ago. From day one, she showed initiative and excellent work ethic. As a bilingual staff member, she serves as a liaison between home and school. She also helps families in need navigate through the free and reduced lunch program.

## CITIZENS APPRECIATION CEREMONY

This Saturday, October 13th at 10:00 am, the 5th Annual Citizens Appreciation Ceremony will be held here in Gloucester Township at Citizens Appreciation Park. Mayor David Mayer and Council will be honoring over 30 outstanding resident volunteers who have been nominated by their respective organizations. Come out to support your friends, family members and neighbors as they receive this great honor!





## Touring The Pink Cart Community: Gloucester Tourship, N. By Jo-Anne from The Pink Cart



This week we would like to introduce you to the wonderful Mayor of Gloucester Township in sunny New Jersey. Mayor David Mayer was elected into office in 2010 and one of his first initiatives was to help the township lower costs and become more environmentally sustainable. A great way to do that is to get valuable recyclables out of the solid waste stream and into a recycling cart, which can then be picked up and taken to a recycling center and turned into money for the township and reduce trash at the same time!

Like we have seen so many other Pink Cart partners do, the Mayor combined his civic duty with his personal experience of his Mother-in-Law being a cancer survivor. Gloucester Township made the single LARGEST Pink Cart purchase of over 20,000 carts and delivered them to their residents, who loved the carts and embraced the recycling initiative. Their program was so successful they have experienced a 43% increase in recycling and are pulling 2,000 tons of recyclables out of the waste stream each year. Now that is a win/win that continues to pay dividends year over year!

To read the full story, please click below.

Click here!





People tend to fall into the old habit of holding onto documents longer than they need to, or instead of keeping documents at all, they simply toss them in the trash.

As the risk of identity theft increases, document security and information protection has become a priority in many communities.

Here in Gloucester Township we host a Community Shred Day as an opportunity for residents to come together and securely shred their documents while also promoting a safer and greener community.

Bring your paper to the Public Works Building (1729 Erial Road) to be shredded on October 13th. An operator will move your bins of paper to a mobile shredding unit where your material will be destroyed before your eyes. 100% of shredded paper is recycled!



Camden County 4-H and Camden County present the 2018 Haunted Walk through Lakeland. This family friendly event is for ages 8+. Tickets are \$10 a person or 4/\$35. For more information, call 856-216-7130 x2.



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!

## YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR ALL OF YOUR MARKETING NEEDS

E R Holding Sign & Design is located in the heart of downtown Blackwood. They have been operating out of Gloucester Township for 25 years. Sign & Design is a family owned business which specializes in the manufacturing of interior and exterior signage, and similar marketing materials.

Sign & Design has provided signage for several events here in Gloucester Township including the Pumpkin Festival, the GT Food & Beer Fest, and Relay for Life.



## THE BELOVED "PEANUTS" GANG COMES TO LIFE AS MAINSTAGE PRESENTS YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN



Mainstage Center for the Arts presents **You're a Good Man, Char***lie Brown* on October 12th and 13th at 7:00 pm and October 14th at 2:00 pm at the newly-renovated Dennis Flyer Theatre at Camden County College. Ticket prices are \$13 for seniors and students and \$16 for adults. Group tickets are also available. To purchase tickets, please click below or call (855) 936-2467, ext 3.

Use code GOODGRIEF for 10% off when ordering online



# 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,

Jan R. Mayer





