

WORKS

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

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

August 20, 2020



Mayor Mayer Cuts the Ribbon for Two Brand New Playgrounds in GT

On Monday, August 17th, Mayor David Mayer joined Gloucester Township Police, Gloucester Township Public Works, and Assemblywoman Gabriela Mosquera at the ribbon cuttings for the Laurel Hills and Woods Edge neighborhoods' tot lots - two brand new playgrounds here in Gloucester Township.

We ask that you please follow the CDC's social distancing guidelines when visiting these new playgrounds and enjoy!



PAGE 2

Have You Responded to the 2020 Census?

Do your part by visiting

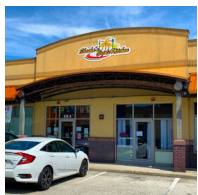
<https://my2020census.gov>



PAGE 3

GTPD Expanding Community Relations

Read the full article from Gloucester Township Patch.



PAGE 4

Local Business Spotlight

Learn more about new Caribbean restaurant: Shasha's Creole Kitchen!



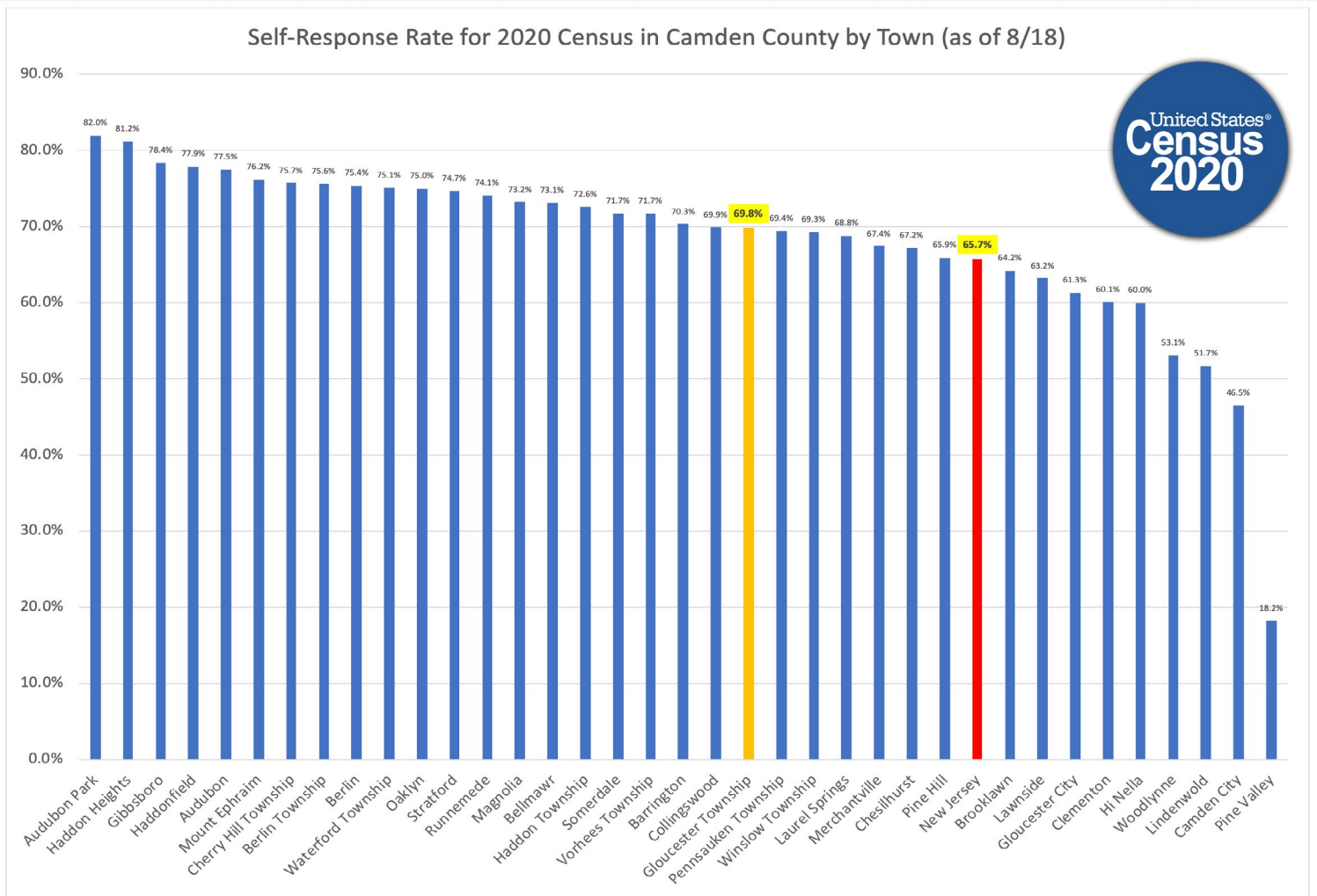
GLoucester TOWNSHIP
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Do Your Part & Help Gloucester Township Boost Their Self-Response Rate for 2020 Census

As of Tuesday (8/18/2020), Gloucester Township had a 69.8% self-response rate for the 2020 Census. We still need 30.2% of our community to respond. See how Gloucester Township's participation compares to other towns in Camden County as well as the state of New Jersey as a whole below.

For the next ten years the federal government will rely on 2020 Census data to help guide the distribution of billions of dollars in spending across many federal programs including Medicaid, direct student loans, highway construction grants, and low income tax credits and loans. This year's count is especially important since the Census will help determine communities' needs for a successful recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Please help us boost our response rate by visiting <https://my2020census.gov> or by phone at 844-330-2020 (English) or 844-468-2020 (Spanish). Census Takers started going door-to-door in Gloucester Township last week. If you did not respond to the Census online, by phone, or by mail you can expect a visit from them in the coming weeks.

"If we were to be under-counted, it could mean less resources for Gloucester Township and we don't want that to happen. Look out for Census Takers in your neighborhood and please take the time to answer your door and respond to the 2020 Census. You can also fill the Census out online or over the phone. Your replies are completely confidential and it is important to our Gloucester Township community," says Mayor David Mayer.



Gloucester Township Police Expanding Community Relations

Patch Article by Anthony Bellano



Gloucester Township police are looking to hire a social worker to work side-by-side with officers to provide juvenile diversion and family services, police announced this week.

The social worker will be stationed at the Gloucester Township Violence in Society Initiative Operational Network (GT VISION) and Family Resource Center. Anyone interested in the position should visit: <https://glotwp.com/job/social-worker-family-social-worker-trainee/>.

The position was advertised in a week in which Gloucester Township Police Chief David Harkins announced the police department is in the preliminary stages of procuring a juvenile diversion grant. Money from the grant will go to the resource center to expand programs, Harkins said.

GT VISION is the police department's approach to addressing crime through an understanding that social disorder and substance abuse fuels crime especially among young people, according to the police department's website. The program acknowledges that effective long term crime fighting goals must include community wide crime prevention effort and assertive policing. It recognizes that fighting crime is critical to attacking substance abuse and crime, but that must be supported by community wide interventions and prevention strategies to make such police activity successful in the long term, police said.

The Gloucester Township Police Department is praised across the country for its National Night Out events. National Night Out is an initiative in which people in towns across the country gather at their homes, on their streets and at their local community centers in recognition of their support of the community.

Gloucester Township police also participate in the national Coffee With a Cop program, host an end of the summer barbecue and have had special events in which they share ice cream with children in the community.

The Gloucester Township Police Department was also the driving force behind Project SAVE, in which low level drug offenders are connected with advocates in the court room to find the help they need rather than serve a long prison sentence. The program has been adopted across Camden County.

Read the full article from Gloucester Township Patch, [here](#).

SEE WHEN THE GTPD COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEAM IS COMING TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| August 24 | Autumn Ridge Apartments @ the Pool |
| August 25 | Cherrywood Apartments @ the Pool |
| August 26 | Community Park @ Zimmerman Baseball Field |

Come out from 4:00-7:00 pm for some fun playing outdoor games like corn hole and Frisbee toss, just to name a few! Please remember to utilize social distancing when coming out to join us. Officers will have sanitizing products on site. Be on the lookout for our COT officers coming to a neighborhood near you!

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AVAILABLE AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to dramatically alter our day-to-day activities. From small adjustments like mandatory mask wearing, to life-changing events like lost loved ones or prolonged unemployment, the pandemic can be a serious strain on mental health. For some, managing comes easy, but for those struggling to cope, support is available.

For a full list of resources please visit Camden County's website:



LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Shasha's Creole Kitchen

The COVID-19 pandemic didn't stop Shasha's Creole Kitchen from opening their doors for business in the Sicklerville section of Gloucester Township last month. "Our Mission Is To Provide Our Patrons a different type of experience. We are bringing you to the Caribbean by providing genuine tastes of its first republic," Shasha's states on their website.

Shasha's Creole Kitchen offers take-out with curbside service Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00 am to 8:00 pm. Be sure to check them out!



[CLICK HERE](#)



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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David R. Mayer".



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