

WORKS

October 8, 2020

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!

Angel Santiago



Gloucester Township Teacher Named New Jersey State Teacher of the Year

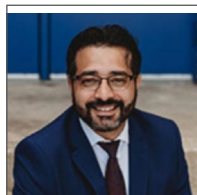
The New Jersey Department of Education announced yesterday that Angel Santiago, a fifth-grade teacher in the Gloucester Township School District, Camden County, has been named the 2020-2021 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year.

"New Jersey is known for having the best public school system in the nation, which is due in large part to the strength of our teaching workforce," said Governor Phil Murphy. "Angel Santiago exemplifies the kind of commitment and professionalism that we see in classrooms throughout New Jersey. I want to congratulate Angel for all that he has done to prepare our children to succeed and thrive."

"Angel's story is one of dedication, character, and service to the community," said Interim Education Commissioner Kevin Dehmer. "I commend him for serving as a role model, not only for his students, but for all of New Jersey."

Santiago grew up in Vineland, where his single mother worked long hours to support her children, instilling in him the importance of a strong work ethic. For Santiago, school became a place that opened new worlds, and it helped mold his commitment to community service.

One person who made a profound impact on Santiago's life was his sixth-grade teacher, Mark Melamed, who taught his students about the importance of service and how it impacts a community. Mr. Melamed had established a nonprofit called The Gabriel Project to provide critically ill children from Africa, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti the medical services they need to survive. As a child, Santiago took part in a readathon to raise money for the charity. Today, The Gabriel Project lives on even after the passing of Mr. Melamed, and it has raised more than \$1 million over the years with help from people like Santiago, who has volunteered as vice president of the organization (2014-2016). After earning an associate degree from Rowan University, – taking evening classes while working full time – Santiago then went on to earn his bachelor's degree and then a master's in education from Fairleigh Dickinson University, where he was a member of both the Phi Theta Kappa and Kappa Delta Pi honor societies.



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Congratulations, Angelo!

Get to know Angel Santiago and what it takes to become a New Jersey State Teacher of the Year!



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Trick-or-Treat Guidance

Gloucester Township urges residents to celebrate Halloween safely



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Leaf Collection Schedule

Check out the dates when Public Works will be in your area



GLoucester TOWNSHIP
JOIN THE EXCITEMENT

Gloucester Township Teacher Named New Jersey State Teacher of the Year *continued*

Santiago began his teaching career in Lindenwold schools in 2012 before establishing his professional roots in the Gloucester Township School District the following year. For the past two years, Santiago has facilitated a group of fourth and fifth-grade students called Young People of Character, or YPOC. YPOC brings together students from all walks of life to serve the communities in which they live. The YPOC members have participated in activities such as writing letters to veterans for Veterans Day, cleaning the school grounds for Earth Day, and volunteering during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

Santiago believes that one key to closing equity gaps in New Jersey is through promoting a diverse teaching workforce – a challenge in a state where 58 percent of the state’s students are children of color, but teachers of color represent only 16 percent of educators. Research has linked a diverse teaching workforce to greater academic achievement among students of color. A diverse workforce fosters positive perceptions among all children and helps prepare them for future success.

Santiago is often asked to provide professional development training for his colleagues on issues ranging from positive behavioral interventions for students to a curriculum institute for teachers of science and social studies.

“Congratulations to Angel Santiago for earning the designation of New Jersey State Teacher of the Year,” said Kathy Goldenberg, President of the State Board of Education. “His story serves as a true inspiration, and we’re fortunate to have him among our teaching workforce.”

“Considering the significant talent that exists within our state’s teacher workforce, for Angel Santiago to be selected as the 2020-2021 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year is a well-deserved honor,” said John Bilodeau, Superintendent of the Gloucester Township School District. “His selfless demeanor and humility are offset by an insatiable professional drive to develop and advance all students both academically and socially. I could not be prouder of Angel for this most deserved recognition.”

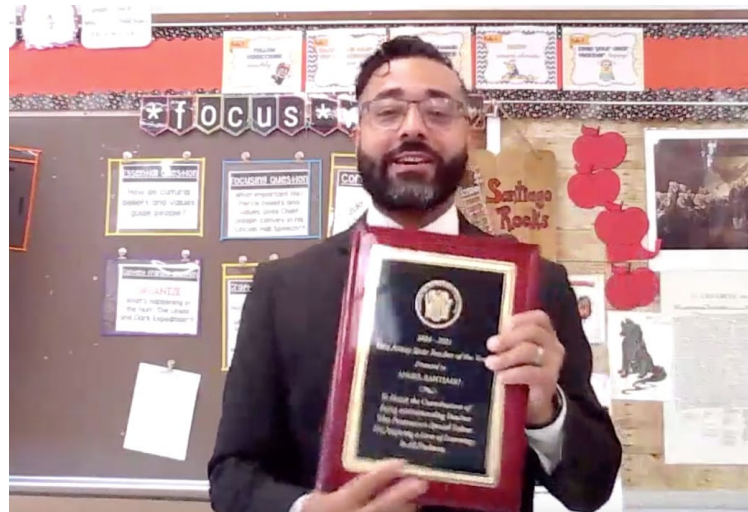
“Angel Santiago stands out because of his character,” said Aaron J. Rose, Principal of Loring Flemming Elementary School in Blackwood, where Santiago teaches. “He treats all students with mutual respect, celebrates their differences, and inspires students of varying backgrounds and abilities to succeed academically and socially. The impact of Angel Santiago’s work is so fulfilling and significant, as it is all focused on the most important person in the classroom, the student. He makes Gloucester Township schools proud and is truly deserving of the title, 2020-2021 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year.”

“I teach because I get to participate in cultivating the most precious resource this world has to offer: our future, our children,” said Santiago, who lives in Elmer with his wife Kourtney, a special education teacher in the Bridgeton Public School District, and their son. “Teaching is my passion,” he said. “It is the reason why I get up every day with a positive outlook on life and the reason why I can fall asleep each night feeling fulfilled with my worldly duties.”

In his role as State Teacher of the Year, Santiago will work with the New Jersey State Department of Education, meet with fellow educators around the State, and take part in national conferences with other State Teachers of the Year.

The other four New Jersey State Teacher of the Year finalists will be recognized at a State Board of Education recognition ceremony in December. The finalists received the highest scores on their applications and their interviews with a distinguished panel of representatives from the state’s education associations and other stakeholder groups. The finalists are: Michael Dunlea, third-grade teacher at Tabernacle Elementary School, Tabernacle Township School District, Burlington County; Christina Gauss, Spanish teacher at Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School, Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School District, Monmouth County; Megan Graziano, Science Teacher at Clifton High School, Clifton School District, Passaic County; and Rachel Kremenz, 5th & 6th grade special education teacher at Ocean Academy, Cape May County Special Services District, Cape May.

“Congratulations to Mr. Santiago, one of our very own 5th grade teachers here in Gloucester Township, on the outstanding accomplishment of being named New Jersey State Teacher of the Year. Your hard work and dedication to the youth of Gloucester Township does not go unnoticed. We are proud to be the home of so many amazing educators like Mr. Santiago. Our school district’s success would not be possible without the close-knit partnership that exists between our teachers, parents, and staff. Thank you for representing Gloucester Township Public Schools with not only excellence, but with pride. Once again on behalf of myself and Council, I’d like to congratulate Mr. Santiago on this outstanding recognition of his merits,” said Mayor David Mayer.



Angel Santiago, fifth-grade teacher in Loring Fleming Elementary School in Camden County, accepts the 2020 New Jersey Teacher of the Year from his classroom in Gloucester Township on Wednesday via live online video.



GTPD Drive By For the 2020-2021 NJ State Teacher Of The Year!



GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP URGES RESIDENTS TO CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN SAFELY !

Gloucester Township is asking residents to follow safety precautions with respect to celebrating Halloween this year.

While Gloucester Township is not banning trick-or-treaters going door to door, the Township strongly encourages residents to use their best judgment and practice the recommended safety measures like wearing a cloth or surgical masks under Halloween masks and maintaining social distancing while walking the neighborhoods between the hours of 2pm and 6pm on Saturday, October 31, 2020.

Please use your own discretion when evaluating risks associated with your child trick-or-treating this year; and if you are worried about possible COVID-19 exposure, please refrain from participating and opening your door to trick-or-treaters.

For those who do not want to participate, a sign is available for downloading and printing on the municipal website (glotwp.com). Gloucester Township suggests placing the sign on your door or any other visible areas on your property.

Additional guidelines are available from New Jersey Department of Health:

Outdoor Door to Door Trick or Treating

a. Those who plan to trick-or-treat should limit their groups to current household members, consider staying local, and limit the number of houses on their route.

Social

distancing should be practiced between all who are not in the same household.

b. For those putting out treats:

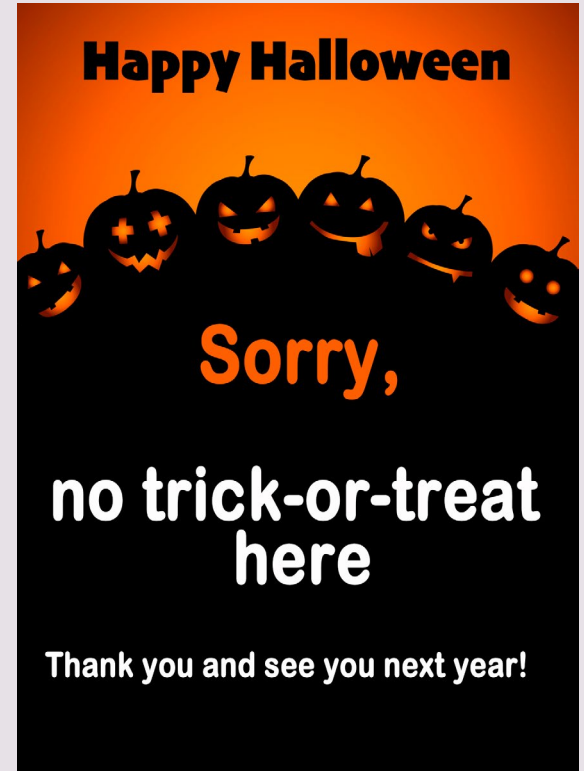
- **Good option:** Limit interaction or contact with trick-or-treaters, wear a mask when individuals come to the door, and regularly wash hands.

- **Better option:** Leave a treat bowl on a porch or table or in a place where it may be easily accessed while adhering to social distancing requirements.

- **Best option:** Arrange individually packaged candy so that trick or treaters can grab and go without accessing a shared bowl.

Please click [here](#) for more guidelines on how to safely celebrate Halloween this year!

Celebrate safely and smart!



[Click here to download and print the sign.](#)

MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK

October 4 through 10, 2020 is Mental Illness Awareness Week, and the Gloucester Township Police Department proudly supports the New Jersey Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) model and training to be responsive to individuals with mental illness and their families.

Here are some facts about mental health:

- Nearly 1 in 5 American adults will have a diagnosable mental health condition in any given year.
- 46 percent of Americans will meet the criteria for a diagnosable mental health condition sometime in their life, and half of those people will develop conditions by the age of 14.

Learn more about mental health and Mental Illness Awareness Week [here](#):



FALL LEAF COLLECTION

Public Works will begin Leaf Collection on November 2, 2020. Look for signs on the road. **Don't Worry! If you miss your round, we will continue to collect until all leaves are picked up during the fall schedule which ends 12/31/20. After this date, all leaves must be bagged.**

To make this program a success, please adhere to the following:

Try to keep all leaves unbagged at curbside. If you must use bags, **please use paper bags only.**

Have all leaves out the weekend prior to your week.

Rake all leaves curbside. Do not rake leaves into the street if it will block traffic.

Do not mix trash and broken branches with leaves. This dogs the machines and **your leaves will not be picked up.**

Do not park any vehicles in front of leaves during your pick-up week. **They will not be picked up.**

GLOUCESTER TWP IS GOING GREEN

Please use large paper bags.

Help Us Help You:

Please mark your bags: grass, brush, leaves, etc.



1st Week: Autumn Ct, Ballantree, Broadmoor, Catalina Hills, Chews Wyck, Evers Place, Fernwood, Glendora on the East side of the Black Horse Pike, All streets off of Somerdale Rd, Somer Hill Place, Timberline, White Birch, Wilson Tract, Morgan Estates, Sterling Estates.

Pick Up Dates: November 2, 3, 4, 5

2nd Week: Blenheim, Blackwood on West side of Blackhorse Pike & North side of E. & W. Church Street, to Little Gloucester Rd, Chews Village, Coles Hill, Echo Park, Foxboro, Glendora on West side of Black Horse Pike, All of Hilltop, Oxen Hill, Pine Run, Pristine Farms, Peter's Walk, Valleybrook, Players Place, The Links, St. James Place.

Pick Up Dates: November 9, 10, 12

3rd Week: Cameron Circle, Cherrywood, Glen Oaks, Highland Park, Highland Village, Kingwood Estates, Laurel Hill, Millbridge, Rosegate, Tall Oaks Dr., West Gate Woods, Wood Mill Pond, Broadmoor West

Pick Up Dates: November 16, 17, 18, 19

4th Week: Blackwood, South of Church St. and West of Black Horse Pike, Blackwood Estates, Blackwood Manor, Briar Lake, Cherrywood Hills, Deer Park, Dunleigh, Fox Chase, Garwood Rd, and all streets off Garwood Rd and Peter Cheeseman Rd, Grenloch, Hickstown Rd, Lambs Terrace, Raintree, Revere Run II, Stonebridge Run, Amber Ct, Terrestria, Timber Glen, Woodshire, Quail Hollow.

Pick Up Dates: November 23, 24, 25

5th Week: Albion Terrace, Asten Woods, Breckenridge, Brittany Woods, Brookwood, Clementona, Country Aire, Country Oaks, Cobblestone Farms, Dresden Downs, Forest Ridge, Forest Woods, Kearsley Road, Kings Gate, Mayfair Meadows, Mayfair Woods, Mulberry Station, New Brooklyn Rd, Point Pleasant Farms, Quail Pointe, Revere Run I, Senators Walk, Sicklerville Rd, Spring Hollow, Sturbridge Oaks, Sweet Briar Woods, The Fields, Twin Streams, Williamstown Rd, Woods Edge, Woods Hill, Wye Oak, Spring Valley, Meadowbrook, Jarvis Rd., Johnson Rd.

Pick Up Dates: November 30, December 1, 2, 3

We will keep to the schedule as much as possible. Please allow for inclement weather, vehicle breakdowns, etc. **If we are ahead of schedule, we may go into heavier areas, but will return on your scheduled week.**



Become a volunteer

Save a life

Do you want to help victims of Domestic Violence?

We need volunteer crisis advocates.

Evening class/training starts this October.

Visit camdencountywomenscenter.org

Questions? Contact Danielle - ccwcdvrt@njaconline.org



DVRT

National Coffee with a Cop Day

"Thank you to all who joined the Gloucester Township Police Community Relations Unit, Patrol Unit, K-9 Unit, Special Officers, and Volunteers at the Lamp Post Diner for this year's National Coffee With A Cop Day! It was great seeing our residents, and a big THANK YOU to the Lamp Post Diner for hosting us!" *GTPD*



October - National Bullying Prevention Month

Bullying is unwanted, abuse or mistreatment of an individual or group by someone or other people. Some examples of bullying are:

- Physical: hitting, kicking, pinching, tripping
- Verbal: name calling, insults, teasing
- Social: spreading rumors, isolation, playing nasty jokes to embarrass
- Cyber: abusive or harmful texts, emails, or images, Internet rumors

As a parent or guardian, talk to your child about bullying and listen when they talk to you about it. Look for changes in your child's behavior, eating habits or even explainable injuries. Technology is a large part of everyone's life now and parents need to embrace this and teach our children to use the technology responsibly and safely. Not all children seek help or exhibit signs when they are being bullied.

It is important for caregivers to be aware of changes to help prevent other negative effects of bullying in the long run.



HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOUR FLU SHOT?

Tuesday, Oct. 13th, and Saturday, Nov. 17th, there will be a flu shot clinic available for residents from 10am-2pm at Camden County Regional Emergency Training Center (420 Woodbury-Turnersville Road).



FOR MORE DATES AND TIMES, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CAMDENCOUNTY.COM

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,



GLoucester TOWNSHIP
JOIN THE EXCITEMENT

