



November 6, 2025

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 about the latest news in our community!

CHIEF DAVID HARKINS RETIRES AFTER MORE THAN 30 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP



After more than 30 years of distinguished service, Chief David Harkins has retired from the Gloucester Township Police Department, effective November 1, 2025.

Chief Harkins began his career with GTPD in 1995, serving in various roles including Patrol Officer, School Programs Officer, Field Training Officer, and Narcotics Investigator. Over the years, he rose through the ranks — from Sergeant to Lieutenant, Captain, Deputy Chief, and ultimately Chief of Police in 2019.

A graduate of the FBI National Academy, Chief Harkins also served as Commander of the Special Response Team and was recognized as Gloucester Township's 2001 Police Officer of the Year. His career has been defined by integrity, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to public safety.

Mayor David R. Mayer, Township Council, and the Gloucester Township community thank Chief Harkins for his decades of leadership and service. We wish him a long, healthy, and happy retirement surrounded by family and friends.



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Autumn Ridge Fire

Read to find out ways to support the families at Autumn Ridge who were affected by this fire.



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Photos from Halloween 2025
Check out photos from Halloween!



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Hider Lane Senior Meeting
Enjoy photos from the Hider Lane Thanksgiving Senior Meeting.



GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP
JOIN THE EXCITEMENT

Gloucester Township Responds to Autumn Ridge Fire with Community Support



On Saturday, November 1st, Gloucester Township Police and Fire Departments responded to a devastating fire at the Autumn Ridge Apartments that displaced residents and left several injured.

Mayor David R. Mayer joined first responders at the scene, sharing: "Our thoughts are with all those affected by this tragic fire. I want to thank our first responders and neighboring towns for their quick and courageous response in keeping our community safe." Residents of the "C" Building are receiving assistance from the Office of Emergency Management and the Red Cross.

The Unforgotten Haven is collecting Walmart gift cards to support the families affected by the fire. For more information on how to help, please [CLICK HERE](#). We are deeply grateful to the firefighters, police officers, EMS crews, and volunteers who worked tirelessly through the night.

Thanksgiving Food Drive 2025



The Rotary Club of Gloucester Township - Pine Hill
P.O. Box 244, Blackwood NJ 08012

Thanksgiving Food Distribution Registration

Join us in spreading love and joy this Thanksgiving by registering for our food distribution program!

Date of Distribution: November 22, 2025

Time: 1pm – 3pm

Location: Clementon Section of Gloucester Township
(details will be provided in a confirmation email)
Who Can Register?

- Gloucester Township Families & Individuals facing food insecurity
- Pine Hill Families & Individuals facing food insecurity

Registration Details:

October 1, 2025 – November 15, 2025

- Online Registration:** <https://gtrotary.org>
- Contact:** GTROTARYCLUB@gmail.com

What to Bring:

- Proof of Gloucester Township or Pine Hill residency.
- Proper government-issued identification and must be 18 years old or over.
 - Limit of one registration per household.
 - Limit of one registration per email address.

Due to the high demand and limited supplies available, any unverifiable and/or incomplete registration will be voided. In addition, any recipient who receives a confirmation and does not pick up their donation (without communicating to us in advance of a schedule conflict) will be banned from participating in future food distributions.

🌟 Let's come together to share the spirit of Thanksgiving! 🌟



COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

8:00 AM – NOON

CAMDEN COUNTY COLLEGE

GT RESIDENTS ONLY



Press Conference: BHP Resurfacing Project



Halloween Fun with GTPD!



Gloucester Township Police Department patrols, bicycle officers, community relations officers, volunteers, and special police officers had a great time visiting neighborhoods throughout Gloucester Township on Halloween night—keeping our kids safe and joining in the fun!

Thank you to all the residents who stopped to say hello and shared smiles (and candy!) with our officers. Check out some of the great moments captured above!



Healthy Kids Run Pajama Event



Mayor David R. Mayer and Members of Township Council joined families and young athletes for the final meet of this season's Healthy Kids Running Series.

The event celebrated fitness, fun, and community spirit as children from across Gloucester Township crossed the finish line with pride.

The Gloucester Township Recreation Department extends its gratitude to all the participants, families, and volunteers who made the series such a success — and for inspiring our youngest residents to stay active, healthy, and engaged in the community.

First Presbyterian Church of Blackwood Celebrates 275 Years of Faith and Community



Mayor David R. Mayer and Councilman Ciri Castro, Jr. joined the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Blackwood to celebrate an extraordinary milestone—275 years of faith, fellowship, and service.

Founded in 1750 as “the congregation at the head of Timber Creek,” the church has been a cornerstone of the Blackwood community for generations. From its humble beginnings in a log cabin to the historic structure that stands today, the church’s story reflects the perseverance and devotion of those who built and sustained it.

Gloucester Township congratulates the First Presbyterian Church of Blackwood on 275 remarkable years and thanks them for their enduring contributions to our community’s history and spirit.

Christmas in Gloucester Township



CAROUSEL SCHEDULE
DECEMBER 13, 14, 15

Sponsored by Mayor Mayer and Council

FRI	12.13	FROM 5:00 - 8:00 PM
SAT	12.14	FROM 2:00 - 9:00 PM
SUN	12.15	FROM 3:00 - 8:00 PM

RIDES ARE FREE!



MAYOR MAYER PRESENTS

For toy pick-up appointments
CALL (856) 374-3514

Mayor's TOY DRIVE

BRING NEW, UNUSED TOYS
STARTING NOVEMBER 10
TO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE



2025 GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP

Christmas Village
at Veterans Park

SATURDAY, DEC. 13 | 3pm-9pm
Raindate SUNDAY, DEC. 14

JOIN MAYOR DAVID MAYER & TOWNSHIP COUNCIL FOR THIS SECOND ANNUAL EVENT

Vendor Application
available at GloTwp.com

CHRISTMAS DECOR, GIFTS, CHRISTMAS TREES, FOOD TRUCKS, LIVE MUSIC, CAROUSEL, PHOTOS WITH SANTA & PLENTY OF HOLIDAY CHEER!

The holiday season is officially here in Gloucester Township! Mayor David R. Mayer and Township Council invite you to join in the festivities with our annual Mayor's Toy Drive, Christmas Village, and Carousel at Veterans Park.

The Mayor's Toy Drive kicks off on November 10th, collecting new, unwrapped toys for children in need throughout our community. Donations can be dropped off at the Mayor's Office in the Municipal Building (1261 Chews Landing Road).

Then, don't miss the magic of our Christmas Village on Saturday, December 13th from 3 PM-9 PM (rain date December 14th). Enjoy live music, food trucks, holiday shopping, free carousel rides for the kids and a cup of free hot chocolate at the GT tent! Santa will be there for photos, and the evening will feature performances by the Mainstage choir at 6:00 PM, followed by the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6:30 PM.

The Carousel at Veterans Park will run December 12th-14th, so be sure to stop by for a spin. Let's make this holiday season merry and bright together!

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 as your home and for making our community a great place to live, work and play!

David R. Mayer



GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP
JOIN THE EXCITEMENT

