

Gloucester County Today

ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED AND MORE FROM GLOUCESTER COUNTY

RCSJ Health Science Center Ribbon-Cutting Held

On Monday, May 1, Inspira Health, Rowan College of South Jersey (RCSJ), Rowan University, and the Gloucester County Board of Commissioners cut the ribbon on the new Inspira Health Sciences Center on the RCSJ-Gloucester Campus.

The result of a partnership between RCSJ, Inspira, and the Gloucester County Board of Commissioners, the new Health Sciences Center will host the first Respiratory Therapy training program in New Jersey, along with the Exercise Science program and two additional programs that are under development. Classes at the new building will be held beginning in September.

“This is a special day, especially in this time of a critical shortage of allied health professionals,” said Commissioner Director Frank J. DiMarco as he addressed the more than 150 in attendance. “We are very proud of this collaboration,” he added. “RCSJ is one of the top-ranked nursing programs in the nation, and this is a premier Eds and Meds campus.”

“We serve the people here in Gloucester County,” RCSJ President Dr. Frederick Keating pointed out. “My focus is connecting education with industry. Over the past several years, I’ve talked with industry leaders asking, ‘What credentials does your current workforce need? Who will you need to hire, and with what skills, for future growth?’”



Former State Senate President Stephen Sweeney remarked that, “This is an amazing day. Years ago, the nursing program was decertified. Now it is one of the best in the Northeast. The County is trying to create a workforce for tomorrow and a pathway for careers.”

“We partnered together to create the economic development that needs to happen,” noted Inspira Health President/CEO Amy Mansue. “There are 193 individuals from Inspira now enrolled at RCSJ. They receive tuition reduction from our partnership with the college and tuition reimbursement from us. The Inspira staff can go to school for free.”

Commissioners Mourn the Death of Officer Shisler

Director Frank J. DiMarco and the entire Board of County Commissioners were greatly saddened to learn of the loss of Deptford Police Officer Robert Shisler, who was shot in the line-of-duty on March 10 and succumbed to his injuries on May 7.



“We extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and fellow officers during this difficult time. Rest assured his sacrifice will always be remembered, and his memory will live on through the valor and commitment of all law enforcement officers,” noted Director DiMarco.

ENVIRONMENTAL UNIT GEARS UP TO KEEP RESIDENTS SAFE THIS SUMMER

The work of the Environmental Unit of the Gloucester County Health Department occurs largely behind the scenes but is critical to keeping residents safe. As summer approaches, the Unit's staff has been quite busy.

The Environmental Unit enforces the New Jersey Department of Health's Public Recreation Bathing Code by performing inspections of public pools. This helps prevent recreational water illnesses and injuries. The Unit's staff also works closely with facility pool managers to ensure adequate maintenance standards are in place.

Summer also means festivals and festivals mean food trucks! The Environmental Unit works to assure that food truck owners and operators adhere to the rules and regulations for the safe preparation of food, helping ensure that residents and visitors have a safe and



pleasant experience when purchasing from these vendors.

HOUSING REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO HOMEOWNERS



The County offers a program to help low- and moderate-income homeowners renovate their homes through a 0% interest deferred payment loan program, Deputy Director Heather Simmons, liaison to the Department of Economic Development, reminds residents. The purpose of the program is to bring owner-occupied dwellings up to local and state building codes, provide a more livable and suitable environment for homeowners, increase property values, and serve as a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization.

For more information about this and other homeowner grant programs offered by the County, please visit www.gloucestercountynj.gov/591/Owner-Occupied-Rehabilitation-Program or scan the QR code.

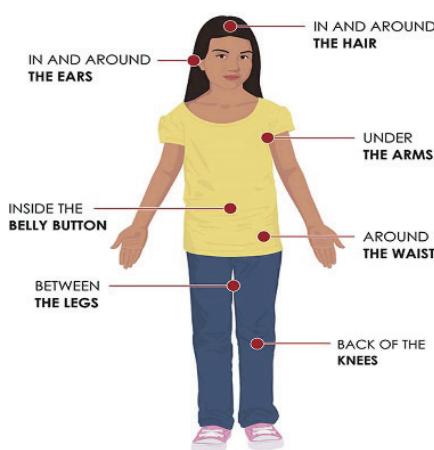


TICK SAFETY TIPS

During warm weather months, ticks are more likely to feed on humans. Ticks can carry various diseases, with Lyme disease being most common.

Here are some tips to keep you and your family safe:

- Ticks prefer dark, damp areas such as long grass and brush and are often carried by pets.
- Apply an EPA-registered insect repellent, ideally with at least 20% DEET.
- Perform a tick check after being outdoors. See the illustration, which notes where ticks are most commonly found.
- If you do find a tick, remove it by the head of the tick with fine-point tweezers. Wash the skin with rubbing alcohol or soap and water and save the tick in rubbing alcohol in a sealed plastic bag in case you need to show a doctor.



- Be on the lookout for signs that may appear, such as a rash or flu-like symptoms, and contact your health care provider.

FREE CPR CLASSES AVAILABLE FROM GCEMS



Commissioner Denice DiCarlo, liaison to the Gloucester County Emergency Medical Service (GCEMS), reminds residents that sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of death in adults. Immediately performing CPR and calling 9-1-1 after someone experiences a heart attack doubles, or even triples, the possibility of the person surviving. GCEMS offers low cost, potentially lifesaving CPR training monthly to members of the public, youth coaches, church groups, employers, service organizations, and anyone interested. Become a potential lifesaver!

For more information, please reach out to the GCEMS office at (856) 307-7120.

LEARN TO STOP THE BLEED

With three quick actions, you can be trained to save a life. The number one cause of preventable death after injury is bleeding. Gloucester County Emergency Medical Service (GCEMS) wants to train you to Stop the Bleed®. A bleeding injury can happen anywhere, at any time, including to victims of serious accidents or disasters. Instead of being a witness, you can become an immediate responder because you know how to Stop the Bleed®. The American College of Surgeons' Stop the Bleed® campaign has trained over one million people including students, teachers, and community groups. GCEMS is committed to training anyone who is old enough to understand what the course teaches and is interested in learning how to Stop the Bleed® and save a life.

Contact the GCEMS office at (856) 307-7120 for more information on this FREE training opportunity.



ENERGY ASSISTANCE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 30

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps low- and moderate-income households with heating bills and medically necessary cooling costs, emergency heating system services, and emergency fuel assistance. Applications for the 2022-2023 season will close on **Friday, June 30**. Due to increases in federal income limits, higher-income families may now apply for assistance and are encouraged to do so. Past-due energy, water, and/or sewer bills can also be submitted for assistance. Households must pay for home energy and heating costs directly or through their rent, and have gross income at or below 60% of the state median income to be eligible for LIHEAP assistance. Residents of public housing or receiving rental assistance are not eligible unless they pay the fuel supplier directly for their energy and

heating costs. LIHEAP benefits are determined by income, household size, fuel type, and heating region.

Those who are over the age of 60 or disabled that qualify for assistance can also contact the Gloucester County Division of Senior Services at (856) 384-6900 or email seniors@co.goucester.nj.us. Please note that applications submitted are reviewed on a rolling basis and assistance is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, so applicants are advised to apply as soon as possible.

To apply for LIHEAP online, please visit www.energyassistance.nj.gov or scan the QR code.



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GCEMS RECEIVES DONATION



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Woodbury recently donated a large supply of stuffed animals to Gloucester County EMS (GCEMS). The stuffed animals are supplied to our pediatric patients as well as special needs patients, bringing them comfort in times of stress. St. Stephen's thoughtfulness will assist countless GCEMS patients throughout the year.

SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS



On Wednesday, May 24, Commissioner Jim Jefferson, liaison to the Division of Senior Services, attended "National Senior Health and Fitness Day" at Riverwinds Community Center in West Deptford.

To learn about all of the services available through the Division, please visit gloucestercountynj.gov/303/Seniors or scan the QR code.



KNOW YOUR HIV STATUS

Knowing your HIV status is a key step in staying healthy. National HIV Testing Day, which encourages people to get tested, know their status, and get linked to care and treatment, is **Tuesday, June 27**. However, Commissioner Jim Jefferson, liaison to the Gloucester County Department of Health, reminds

EVENTS AT PITMAN GOLF COURSE

Pitman Golf Course continues to be an attraction for many. The success of the Rowan College Golf Team brings pride to the County and their accomplishments inspire younger golfers by promoting personal growth, discipline, and teamwork.

On Friday, May 12, Pitman Golf Course once again hosted the annual Honoring Sandrino's Sacrifice Fund's Golf Tournament, bringing together golf enthu-



Commissioner Jim Jefferson was joined by Michael Jones, Mario Marra, and Dianne Hammond at the Honoring Sandrino's Service Golf Tournament

siasts, local businesses, and community members to raise funds for various charitable causes and scholarships.

The tournament was established to honor Sergeant Alessandro "Sandrino" Plutino, a 2001 Pitman High School graduate who died in August 2011 while serving in Afghanistan with the US Army's 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. The goal of the Tournament and the Fund is to honor our fallen hero and give back to our great nation's heroes and their families.

Since its inception, the Fund has had a remarkable

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residents that the County offers free HIV testing every Thursday from 4:00pm to 5:00pm.

To register and schedule an appointment, please visit www.gloucestercountynj.gov/348/Sexual-Transmitted-Diseases or scan the QR code. For additional information, please call (856) 218-4102.



PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING HARD AT WORK

Deputy Director Heather Simmons, liaison to the Department of Public Works, reminds residents that in addition to attending to the County's daily maintenance and infrastructure needs and responding to emergencies, the Department of Public Works carries out projects throughout the County on an ongoing basis.

Listed below are a few projects that were recently completed or are underway:

- Removal of old concrete walking paths and installation of new asphalt walking paths at Greenwich Lake
- Paving a small parking lot for the Prosecutor's Office behind the Shady Lane offices
- Construction of a new parking lot at Pitman Golf Course
- Installation of new drainage inlets to help with drainage in several locations, including Clayton and 32nd Avenues in Elk



The Office of the County Engineer also designs and executes major infrastructure projects. Currently ongoing projects include:

- Construction of a new road to connect Woodbury Glassboro Road with the Rowan University Fossil Park site
- Improvement of the intersection of US 322/CR 655 Fries Mill Road with a new signal, installation of right and left hand turn lanes, new storm water system and repaving the intersection
- Resurfacing of CR 623 Clems Run Road between CR 619 Whig Lane and US 322 in Elk and Harrison Townships
- Resurfacing of CR 553 Woodbury Glassboro Road between Pitman Avenue and Lambs Road in Pitman and Mantua
- Resurfacing and safety improvements to CR 644 Red Bank Avenue from SR 44 Crown Point Road to Mehorter Boulevard in the Township of West Deptford and City of Woodbury
- County-wide drainage and storm water improvement project involving the placement of pipe lining to repair damaged storm sewer pipe in lieu of removal and replacement of storm pipe
- County-wide drainage and storm water manage-

ment project involving pipe replacement, bridge rehabilitation, and drainage structure reconstruction

- Rehabilitation of 10 bridges throughout the County, including the railroad bridge on Billingsport Road in Paulsboro and bridges on Salina Road in Deptford/Washington Township, US 322 in Harrison Township, Clems Run Road in Harrison (two bridges), East Holly Avenue in Washington Township, Woodbury-Turnersville Road in Washington Township, Malaga Park Drive in Franklin, Floodgate Road in Logan and Gibbstown, and Jackson Road in Mantua

Future engineering projects on the horizon include:

- Installation of a roundabout at the intersection of CR 712 College Drive and Alumni Drive at Rowan College of South Jersey in Deptford
- Resurfacing and safety improvements to CR 604 Monroeville Road between Buck Road and the Salem County line as well as CR 611 Dutch Row Road between Buck Road and the Salem County line in the Townships of Franklin and Elk

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Public Works (continued from Page 5)

- Resurfacing and safety improvements to US 322/CR 536 Mullica Hill Road/Swedesboro Road between the Woolwich Township line and SR 55 in Harrison Township
- Resurfacing and safety improvements to Hurffville-Cross Keys Road CR 654 from Bells Lake Road to CR 651 Greentree Road in Washington Township
- Resurfacing and safety improvements to CR 640/534 Delaware/Cooper Street from Bergen to Union and SR 45 to Kelly Drive/NJ Turnpike Overpass
- Resurfacing and safety improvements to CR 668 Harrisonville Road in the Townships of Woolwich and South Harrison
- Rehabilitation of three bridges including two on CR 653 Swedesboro Road in Gibbstown and one on CR 678 Mantua Road in East Greenwich
- Resurfacing and safety improvements to CR 536 SPUR Sicklerville Road from Camden County Line to US 42 in the Township of Monroe

Pitman Golf Course (continued from Page 4)

impact, donating over \$400,000 to various organizations dedicated to supporting veterans and their loved ones. Moreover, the Fund has established a scholarship at Pitman High School, Sandrino's alma mater, to provide educational opportunities for deserving students.



For more information about Pitman Golf Course, please visit www.pitmangolfcourse.com/ or scan the QR code.



TOUR THE WHITALL HOUSE AND RED BANK BATTLEFIELD



Visit the James and Ann Whitall House at Red Bank Battlefield for a tour of these historic sites. Red Bank Battlefield is located at 100 Hessian Avenue in National Park. Tours are available Thursday through Sunday from 11:00am to 3:00pm. Learn about the role James and Ann Whitall and their house played during the Revolutionary War's historic Battle of Red Bank. The Whitall House offers many programs throughout the year for both children and adults.

For more information, please visit www.glocestercountynj.gov/Facilities, scan the QR code, or call (856) 853-5120.



TOURS OFFERED AT THE SCOTLAND RUN PARK NATURE CENTER

The Scotland Run Park Nature Center is open for tours! Located at 980 East Academy Street in Clayton, the Nature Center features live animals such as frogs and snakes, aquatic eco-systems, and more. These free tours are available from 1:00pm to 4:00pm on Thursdays and Fridays and from 10:00am to 3:00pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

The Nature Center is host to many programs throughout the year for both children and adults.

For more information, please visit www.glocestercountynj.gov/Facilities, scan the QR code, or call (856) 881-0845.



FREE NALOXONE TRAINING

Commissioner Jim Jefferson, liaison to the Department of Health and Human Services, reminds residents that FREE naloxone kits and training are offered in collaboration with Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine and the Living Proof Recovery Center at Rowan College of South Jersey. Naloxone reverses an overdose caused by opioids such as heroin and fentanyl. This easy to use nasal spray can stop an opioid overdose and save a life.



Commissioner Jim Jefferson was joined by Hebba Ahmad and Bhaumik Patel at a recent naloxone training session at the Living Proof Recovery Center of RCSJ.

Training sessions will be held on **Monday, June 26** and **Monday, July 31** from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at Rowan College of South Jersey, Gloucester County Campus, 1492 Tanyard Road in Sewell. Kits will be distributed to all training attendees, including family members, friends, professionals, and individuals who are at risk or could potentially be in the presence of someone at risk of overdose. The Overdose Prevention Act eliminates all civil and criminal liability to anyone who administers naloxone.

For more information, please visit www.glocestercountynj.gov/168/Addiction-Services or scan the QR code.



CATCH THE PURELAND EAST-WEST COMMUNITY SHUTTLE



The Pureland East-West Community Shuttle is a quick and reliable way to get to work, access services and go shopping in Gloucester County. The shuttle provides service to Williamstown, Glassboro, Mullica Hill, and Swedesboro, as well as at the Avandale Park and Ride, Pureland Industrial Complex, and Commodore Business Park. It also provides connecting service to various NJ Transit routes. There is no fare to ride the shuttle!

To see the schedule and full details, visit www.driveless.com/pureland-east-west-community-shuttle/ or scan the QR code.



FIND YOUR FIT THIS SUMMER AT RCSJ

Rowan College of South Jersey offers a wide range of summer classes, with sessions beginning June 19, July 10, and July 24. You can also register now for the fall semester, which begins on September 5, and no payment is required until August 9!

For more information, and to get started, visit RCSJ.edu/Enroll or scan the QR code.



Gloucester County Board of Commissioners

Frank J. DiMarco, Director

Heather Simmons, Deputy Director

Lyman Barnes

Nicholas DeSilvio

Denice DiCarlo

Jim Jefferson

Christopher Konawel Jr.

NUTRITION PROGRAM MEAL SITES FOR SENIORS

Gloucester County residents sixty years and older are invited to participate in the Nutrition Program for an enjoyable midday meal from Monday to Friday at any of the six nutrition sites located throughout the county.

Menus are curated by a nutritionist to include the recommended daily nutrients. In addition to the meal, the sites provide recreational activities, foster social interaction, and offer assistance and information about other supportive services for seniors. A voluntary donation of \$1.25 is accepted for each meal, but it is not mandatory. All contributions received are treated with confidentiality and privacy and will be used to expand services and supplement Older Americans Act funds.

To view a listing of meal sites, along with location addresses, serving times, and contact information, please visit www.gloucestercountynj.gov/1167/Nutrition-Program or scan the QR code.

To register for the program, or for more information, please contact the Gloucester County Division of Senior Services by phone at (856)384-6900 or by email at seniors@co.glocester.nj.us



CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Gloucester County offers the Caregiver Support Program to provide assistance and support to caregivers. This program aims to help caregivers access services that cater to their specific needs. Various services are available, including supplemental support to alleviate caregiver stress, guidance on addressing cognitive impairments and providing information about cognitive issues, assistance and support for grandparents raising grandchildren, and individual counseling. The program also offers assistance in navigating available in-home support.

Additionally, the Division of Senior Services organizes the “Circle of Caring” support group and the Grandparent Caregiver support group, both held at their offices in West Deptford.

For more information on these programs, contact the Gloucester County Division of Senior Services at (856) 384-6900, visit their website at www.gloucestercountynj.gov/801/Caregiver-Support-Program, or scan the QR code.



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The County of Gloucester complies with all state and federal rules and regulations against discrimination in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, and activities. In addition, the County encourages participation of people with disabilities in its programs and activities and offers special services to all residents 60 years of age and older. Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to the County's ADA Coordinator at (856) 384-6842/ New Jersey Relay Service 711.