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Gloucester County Board
of Chosen Freeholders

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County Working With Schools on H1N1 Prevention

H1N1 is the novel influenza virus that is now in the United States and several cases have been identified in Gloucester County. Federal and State health agencies are closely watching this disease and there are efforts being made to bring immunizations to our citizens. Vaccines are being tested now to determine that they are effective and safe, and when those trials are finished manufacturing will begin.

At present, Gloucester County does NOT expect the Novel Influenza (H1N1-Swine Flu) vaccine to be ready in time to give during our regular seasonal flu immunization clinics. The county does anticipate having its regular flu shots available. When the H1N1 vaccine is available, the county will make schedules available for distribution.

The County follows the Centers for Disease Control (CDC's) guidelines to determine who is at highest risk and should receive the vaccine. The most likely group to be recommended to have this vaccine first will be pregnant women and children.

The Gloucester County Department of Health & Senior Services, and the Office of Emergency Management have partnered with the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mark Stanwood, who has put together a Task Force to assist in the planning process regarding administration of vaccine. The Gloucester County Department of Health & Senior Services recently received a \$20,000 grant from the NJ Health Officers Association to practice working with the schools and their staff as distribution sites for the H1N1 vaccine for our school age population. An exercise drill will be held early in the school year.

It is also anticipated that pediatricians, family/general practitioners, and Federally Qualified Health Centers will receive vaccine, in order to vaccinate the target population at a variety of locations.

According to the CDC Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people.

The Gloucester County Department of Health encourages residents to follow the CDC Guidelines to take everyday actions to stay healthy.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Stay home if you get sick. CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Gloucester County Department of Health & Senior Services at (856) 218-4101 or visit www.gloucestercountynj.gov for updates.

Flood Gate Reconstruction & Levee Repaired as Storm Season Approaches



Freeholder Director Sweeney (center) is joined by Freeholder Joe Chila, US Congressman Robert Andrews and Freeholder Deputy Director Bob Dammingier at the Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the Flood Gates & Levee.

On July 27, 2009 Gloucester County Freeholders, Congressman Andrews and officials from both Logan and Greenwich Township gathered to cut the ribbon and celebrate the completion of Phase I of the reconstruction and repairs of the Repaupo Creek Flood Gate and Levee system.

"Today is a victory for everyone who lives in Logan, Greenwich, Harrison, East Greenwich, Woolwich and as far south as Pitman and Glassboro," said Freeholder Director Stephen M. Sweeney.

"For too many years the threat of a storm has brought about evacuations, teams of public works employees building walls with sand bags and other emergency operations to keep our citizens and our infrastructure safe," said Sweeney.

(continued on page 3)

Inside	Page
<i>Gloucester County Autism Walk</i>	2
<i>Voter Deadline Information</i>	2
<i>Patriot Day Remembrance Ceremony</i>	2
<i>Veterans Military Service Medal</i>	2
<i>Veterans Legislative Seminar</i>	2
<i>Route 322 Improvements keep Moving</i>	3
<i>Riding Trails Update at DREAM Park</i>	3

2009 Gloucester County Autism Walk
Raise Money for Children & Families Affected with Autism
Spectrum Disorder on Saturday, September 26th
Registration at 9 am Walk at 11 am

Put on your walking shoes and join the fun at RiverWinds so you can be a part of a great event that will help raise money to provide outreach, education, and support to those in our region affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder. To register, join a team, start a team, sponsor a walker or learn more visit



www.gloucestercountyautismwalk.kintera.org

Democracy Made Easy

Deadline dates for the Tuesday, November 3, 2009 General Election are as follows:



Last date to Register, change address, name or other changes: **OCTOBER 13, 2009**

Last date to apply for a Vote By Mail Ballot: **OCTOBER 27, 2009**

Register to vote in person:

- Gloucester County Office of Elections 550 Grove Rd., West Deptford, Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.
- The Gloucester County Store at the Deptford Mall, Upper Level next to Boscov's, Monday – Friday 10:00 am to 9:00 pm and Saturday 10:00 am to 5:30 pm.
- Any Local Municipal Building.

Online:

Visit www.gloucestercountynj.gov and print the Voter Registration Form from 'online services', fill out, and mail (no postage required).

To find out if you are registered to vote, where you vote, or for any voting emergencies, call the Gloucester County Office of Elections at 384-4500.

September 11th Remembrance Ceremony

The Gloucester County Patriot Day Remembrance Ceremony will be held at the Gloucester County 9/11 Memorial in the Chestnut Branch Park, Main Street, Mantua Township. The ceremony will take place on Friday, September 11, 8:30 am. All are invited to attend.



The Memorial and Ceremony pay tribute to Gloucester County residents: John Rodak, Nicholas Brandemarti, Perry Thompson and all of those who lost their lives during the tragic events of 9-11-01.

The Gloucester County Military Service Medal



Join in the celebration of our Veterans!

The Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders will hold the Annual Gloucester County Military Service Medal Ceremony on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at 11 AM at the TD Arts Centre, Washington Township High School, 519 Hurffville-Cross Keys Road. The public is invited to attend the ceremony and celebrate the 110 veterans who will be awarded their medals.

The County's Military Service Medal was designed and commissioned by the Board of Freeholders in 2001 for all Gloucester County Veterans who have served on active duty in the military and received an honorable discharge. Since the program began in 2001 over 4,600 Medals have been awarded.

"This medal is a small gesture to say thank you to our veterans for their service to our nation," said Freeholder Giuseppe (Joe) Chila.

"We should thank our veterans and service men and women everyday because they continue to protect the freedoms and values that we cherish," said Chila. Freeholder Chila is the Liaison to the County Office of Veterans Affairs.

VA Medical Clinic in Sewell Gets More Services

Go to www.gloucestercountynj.gov and learn more



Freeholder Director/Senator Stephen M. Sweeney, Senator Madden, Freeholder Chila, Richard Citron, Director, Philadelphia VA Medical Center, Congressman Robert Andrews, Michael Moreland, Network Director, VA Healthcare, Freeholders Wallace, DiMarco and DuBois cut the ribbon on the expanded Gloucester County VA Clinic in Sewell.

Veterans Legislative Seminar

The Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders invite veterans and their families to the Annual Veterans Legislative Seminar to learn about legislative issues, benefits and programs.

October 10, 2009

9:00 A.M. – 12:00 NOON

Gloucester County Institute of Technology
 1360 Tanyard Road, Sewell, NJ 08080

Question and Answer Period to Follow Opening Remarks
 Coffee and Danish will be served from 9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

This year's guest speaker will be Thomas Lastowka, Director of the Philadelphia VA Regional Office who will discuss the Service Connected Disability Claims Process. Congressman Andrews and Congressman LoBiondo have been invited to participate. **ADMISSION IS FREE.** For more information please call 856-401-7660.

Route 322 Projects Getting Motorists Moving Phase I Completed, Phase II Underway

Gloucester County has recently completed the Phase I improvements to Route 322 in the Richwood section of Harrison Twp.

The Phase I improvements included a jug handle road from Route 322 to Lambs Road (CR 635) and a new connector road from Harrisonville Road (CR 618) to Richwood Road (CR609) along with widening at the intersections, signal timing changes, and turning restrictions. These measures have all worked together to significantly improve the operation of the signals at both of the intersections on Route 322 in Richwood.

Phase II of the improvements to Route 322 in the Richwood section are now underway and anticipated to be completed in spring 2010.



Freeholders Damminger, Chila, Mantua Mayor Chell, Assemblywomen Celeste Riley, Harrison Mayor Manzo and Freeholder Director Sweeney cut the ribbon for Phase I Route 322 improvements.

The Phase II construction includes widening Route 322 to a five lane roadway with two lanes in each direction with a center turn lane. This widening will run from the traffic signal at Lambs Road (CR 635) to just west of the traffic signal at Barnsboro Road (CR 609).

Turn lanes will be constructed on Barnsboro Road and Lambs Road to improve the left hand turn movements. This improvement will further increase the efficiency of Route 322 so the road can handle the 27,000 vehicles that travel it on a daily basis.



Freeholders Damminger, Chila, Director Sweeney and Harrison Committeeman Clowney break ground for Phase II improvements to 322 Richwood section.

Riding Trails at DREAM Park Get Underway

Public/Private Partnership Will Create 5 Miles of Scenic Trails Along the Delaware

Soil Safe Inc. of Logan Twp. has committed \$10 million in quality grade soil, permitting and design work allowing the county to construct 5 miles of riding trails at the County DREAM Park.

"We are pleased to be starting on this project and we are grateful for the generosity of Soil Safe. These are difficult economic times and we applaud Soil Safe for keeping their commitment to the public by providing this service so that the riding trails could still move ahead," said Freeholder Director Sweeney.

Without the services and soil provided by Soil Safe the county would have held this project until the economy recovered.

When completed, the trail will have a recreated landscape of grasslands, wild meadows, shrubs and trees. The project will span 172 acres and take several years to complete. It will be opened in sections as it is completed with the first phase section tentatively planned to be opened in two years.

To learn more about Gloucester County DREAM Park visit www.DREAMPARKNJ.com



Former Gov. Florio, Kristen McCann, Freeholders Chila, Damminger, Director Sweeney, GCIA Chairman Brigandi, Mark Smith, President & CEO of Soil Safe Inc., Logan's Mayor Minor and GCIA Vice Chair Fentress dig-in on the new riding trails so construction can begin.

Flood Gate Reconstruction & Levee Repairs *cont.*

"Now we have an operational flood gate and 900 feet of levee that has been raised to the proper elevation of the flood gates," stated Director Sweeney.

Freeholder Deputy Director Robert M. Damminger said that prior to these repairs a floodgate or levee failure could have meant loss of life, property and disruption of critical infrastructure. If the levees were breached, river waters could have impacted parts of I-295 and the New Jersey Turnpike. Estimates of property loss have reached into the billions of dollars because the positioning of the floodgate itself in proximity to homes, businesses and roads.

"In less than one year after the county began construction, the Repaupo Creek Flood Gate has been repaired and 900 feet of levee were raised from 7 feet to 11 feet in height," said Damminger. "Today we are in the design and permitting phase of the next part of this project which includes raising approximately 5000 feet of the levee from 7 feet to 11 feet."



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Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Stephen M. Sweeney, Director 853-3390

Robert M. Damminger, Dep. Director 853-3395

Freeholder Joseph A. Brigandi, Jr. 853-3386

Freeholder Giuseppe (Joe) Chila 853-3382

Freeholder Frank J. DiMarco 853-3384

Freeholder Jean DuBois 853-3383

Freeholder Warren S. Wallace 853-3380

Row Officers

Clerk James N. Hogan 853-3237

Surrogate Helene M. Reed 853-3282

Sheriff Carmel M. Morina 384-4600

Prosecutor Sean Dalton 384-5500

Join the Gloucester County “VIP” List



When you sign up to be on the Gloucester County “VIP” list you will receive emails informing you about free concerts, movies, family activities and other county news and events. Your email address will not be shared with any other entity other than the County of Gloucester.

Go to www.gloucestercountynj.gov and click on the VIP icon to sign up today.

The County of Gloucester complies with all state and federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status or disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. In addition, Gloucester County encourages the participation of people with disabilities in its programs and activities and offers special services to all County residents 60 years of age and older. Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to the Office of Educational and Disability Services at 856-681-6128/New Jersey Relay Service 711 or the EEO office at 856-384-6903.

Federal Stimulus Funding at Work



Freeholder Damminger, David Nordberg, Freeholder Director Sweeney, Matthew DeGirolamo (red shirt), Joseph McGowan, Keith Hickman, Daniel Ake and Jack Olson

Youth from Gloucester County were hard at work this summer as part of the County One-Stop Summer Youth Program. This year’s program was funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The youth worked in disciplines ranging from carpentry, culinary, cosmetology, welding, painting, landscaping and general maintenance. They worked on projects that enhanced the community such as a Habitat for Humanity home, repaired parks and playgrounds, or visited nursing homes to do nail and basic hair styles after learning the basics of cosmetology.

The work the students completed in the Paint Crew Program and the Welding and Steel Fabrication Program (pictured above) saved the county \$12,000.