



## Office of the Mayor

City of Woodbury  
Woodbury, NJ

June 1, 2022

Dear Residents,

Thank you for subscribing to my newsletter. We have a lot going on this month. We are also going to share with you some past events that we as a city are very proud of. Within the different highlighted events you will find many links that will take you to the different businesses, non-profits or deeper into the stories we are highlighting.

The City of Woodbury hosts many Non-profits, one of which is [The FAF Coalition](#).

They will be kicking off their summer schedule on LOT 323 on June 10<sup>th</sup> you can find the entire schedule as well as more information about how [The FAF Coalition](#) got its start. You can also donate directly on their website. The support from our local businesses and residents for The FAF's 2022 season, is nothing short of amazing!

Woodbury is truly becoming a City of The Arts! Aaron Weber and [The South Jersey Artists Collective](#) received a grant from [Inside Out Project](#). They will be installing the temporary mural on our city library.

You might have remembered Aaron and several other artists [gathering photographs](#) last season 2021 at Lot 323, well it is now coming to fruition. Please check out other global initiatives of The Inside Out Project, it is about teaching our children that Black Lives Matter! The City of Woodbury now is joining the global roster.

[Bethlehem Baptist](#) will be performing "They Slice The Air" on Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 p.m.

It is inspired by Juneteenth, bring the family, and celebrate.

Also, I want to personally thank the [RodFather](#) and his crew of volunteers for cleaning up Stewart Lake and Broad Street Lake. Last week they also had a Bass Tournament in the lakes as well. Vince does this to honor his late father.

Please be sure to come join us for some summer fun. We have lots of great new businesses open around town. New [restaurants](#) on Broad Street, [hair salons](#), nail salons and small boutiques that have opened. So, take a walk and shop. Then visit [Evergreen Ave. Martin's Plaza](#), lots of new stores there as well.

If you are a history buff, don't miss [The Gloucester County Historical Society](#), it is a hidden gem located in Woodbury.

Don't forget, [Woodbury High School](#) Senior Class Graduates on Wednesday June 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the Football stadium.

Congratulations to The Class of 2022!

Sincerely yours,

Mayor Peg Sicke



## World War II D-Day Invasion



*This solemn event is recognized on June 6<sup>th</sup>*

On this historic day in 1944, Allied troops invaded the beaches of Normandy, France. It is the largest amphibious assault in world history. This massive, bloody battle was the turning point of the war in the European theater.

On this day, 156,000 troops from the United States, Great Britain and Canada stormed five beaches. American troops landed on Omaha and Utah beach. At the same time, British troops landed on Gold and Sword beach. Canadian forces landed on Juno Beach. 4,000 Allied troops died on these beaches on D-Day, 2,000 of them were American.

Please take a moment of silence today and thank the many soldiers who fought and died for our country on D-Day.

*"I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can,  
only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity."*

Dwight D. Eisenhower



# Early History of African Americans in Woodbury

## *“Say Our Names”*

In November,, 2021 the Woodbury Library gathered a group of interested “stakeholders” to begin the research on the Library’s Project, **“SAY OUR NAMES: Early African American Life in Historic Woodbury,”** a part of Deptford Township, 1770-1830.

As a result of that meeting, the Woodbury Library Project Working Final Report final report on this research endeavor was completed and submitted on April 27, 2022.

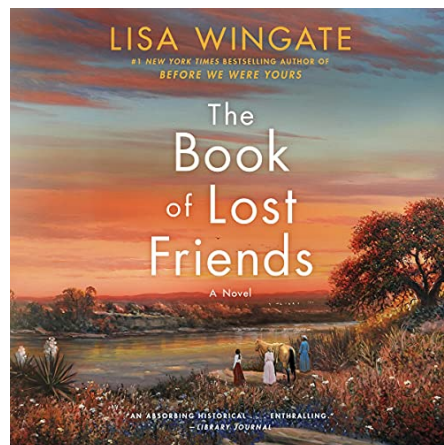
**A list of 615 named and unnamed African Americans from a variety of primary and secondary sources, “including images of manumission records, birth records and tax ratables.”**

The research uncovered “horrific discussions of lynching cases and incidents involving a skeleton.”

Detailed research, such as these endeavors by the Project and their Stakeholders, will help individuals who are seeking to create their family genealogy trails.

Project Historian Sue Kozel, the new Library Director Renee Pistone and Christine Meagher, the Library Board President, would welcome any additional input from our community to enhance this project’s research.

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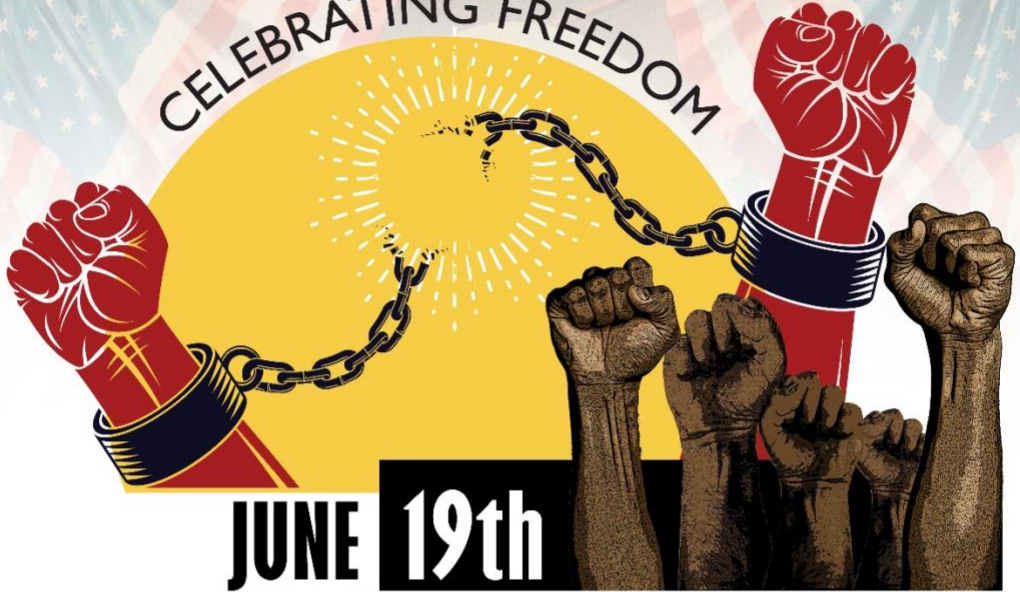


*Lisa Wingate’s New York Times Best Seller book, “The Book of Lost Friends” is a dramatic historical novel of three young women searching for family amid the destruction of the post-Civil War South, and of a modern-day teacher who learns of their story and its vital connection to her students’ lives.*



The heroines of the story, create a manuscript of the names of their missing family (sold to slavery) and those of people they have met in their travels in an attempt to reunite them with their loved ones.

# JUNETEENTH

CELEBRATING FREEDOM



## JUNE 19th FREEDOM DAY



Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Cel-Liberation Day or the Black Fourth of July, is an American holiday that commemorates June 19, 1865. Texas was the most remote of the slave states, and the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863, was not enforced there until after the Civil War had ended.

**dodea**  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY

**THEY SLICE THE AIR**  
*Juneteenth Inspired Program of African American  
Spirituals, Narratives and Poetry*  
**Saturday June 25, 2022; 2:00 PM**

**Bethlehem Baptist Church**  
414 Mantua Pike (RT 45), Woodbury NJ 08096

**WOODBURY JUNETEENTH**  
Free Will Donation to the Church  
All Are Invited to Attend: A Family Friendly Event

**Pastor Glenn DeShields**

This program is made possible in part by funding from the Gloucester County Cultural & Heritage Commission at Rowan College of Gloucester County, a partner of the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State City of Woodbury, New Jersey


## Juneteenth Celebration Cast Members



**James Osby-Gwathney**

Vocal artist, frequent collaborator with Dr. Plant.

## **Dr. Lourin Plant**



Vocal & Choral Music, Baritone  
Baritone, Music Appreciation, Assistant  
Professor Rowan University

Bachelor of Music Wittenburg University,  
Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts  
degrees in Choral Conducting-from the  
College-Conservatory of Music at the  
University of Cincinnati

Has served on the voice faculties of Sinclair  
College and Humboldt State University of  
California

Performs frequently with Opera Philadelphia

## **Dr. Alexander Timofeev**



Double degree in Piano and music  
composition from Rowan Professor

Master's degree in music from Eastman  
School

Doctorate studies completed in piano  
performance University of Maryland

Member of Rowan Faculty Department,  
Doctorate in piano performance Rowan,  
Studied composition under Zlata Tkac



## Nyzania McDonald

Percussion, reader and vocal artist-"They Slice the Air"

Rowan graduate-percussion



## Quinton Lewis

Vocal artist-reader and tenor-"They Slice the Air".

Graduate of Rowan-music



**Noah Avis**

Imagery projectionist-"They Slice the Air"  
Saxophone major, Rowan University

## CREATING AWARENESS FOR ANTI-BULLYING INSPIRED SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER'S 5 K RUN



**FIFTY SHADES OF PURPLE AGAINST BULLYING** President, Kati Jazzy Gray-Sadler and Mayor Peg Sickel

share in their support against bullying behavior.



Mayor Sickel, School Resource Officer Ryan Alcott and Kati Jazzy Gray-Sadler at the event

Woodbury School Resource Officer, Ryan Alcott, decided to create awareness about the national issue of bullying by organizing the first **“Woodbury PD 5K and 1 Mile Run, Walk and Roll Against Bullying”** that was held at Lot 323, Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>.

When asked what inspired him to create this event, he detailed the following:

*“Many students, parents, school districts, and even many in law enforcement feel hopeless at times when dealing with bullying. Schools can document the issue through HIB reporting (Harassment Intimidation & Bullying), but many students and parents feel as though the documentation does not solve the issue. Schools can issue discipline or police can sign criminal complaints against a bully, but many times punitive action only worsens the issue.*

*Many people are unaware of the free services/programs offered by the many great organizations/agencies in Gloucester County and surrounding counties. Many of these services/programs help people who are dealing with mental health issues brought on by the effects of bullying. Also, many of these agencies have programs designed to rehabilitate bullies, by addressing the root causes of their behavior.*

*In years past, there was a Youth Services Commission (YSC) Summit that was held at Rowan University and showcased all the programs/services offered in the county and surrounding counties. The summit has not occurred in several years and this event hopes to become the new YSC Summit in a way.*

*Bullying is a national issue, and you would be hard-pressed to find another police department in the nation holding an entire community outreach event on this issue.*

*While October is “National Bully Prevention Month”, this event occurred just 2 days before the start of “Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week” (1<sup>st</sup> week of May) and “National Mental Health Month” (May). Since mental health issues can arise from the effects of bullying, we wanted to provide our community with an event that shines a light on all the free mental health programs/services available in the area.”*

Thank you, Officer Alcott and the Woodbury Police Department for creating awareness and concern to stem the sting of bullying.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Officer Alcott’s passion for his profession is evident in his career history. [SOUTH JERSEY MAGAZINE](#) identified him as a **“HOMETOWN HERO** as they honored first responders. He also is the only bilingual speaking officer. He saw the need to be able to effectively communicate on the job and with the school students. He took the initiative to go back to school and be a certified translator.



The Gloucester County Board Commissioners joined the 129 participants as a show of their support.

Pictured left to right are: Commissioner Denice DiCarlo, Director Frank DiMarco and Deputy Director Heather Simmons.

## WOODBURY SOCCER CLUB UPCOMING EVENTS!



CAR WASH: June 4; 11-3

At the Soccer Fields (430 Tacoma Blvd.)

\$10 donation ( VENMO @woodburyscnj )

# WOODBURY SOCCER CLUB CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

430 Tacoma Blvd



Come out and support the kids!



## WOODBURY SOCCER CLUB CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY JUNE 18TH

1:00 P.M.- 5:00 P.M.

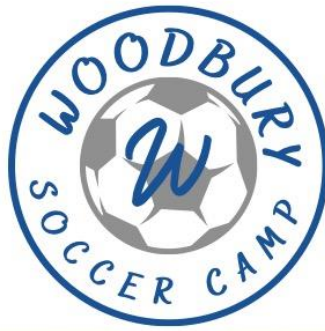
at Woodbury Soccer Fields: 430 Tacoma Blvd.



Registration is \$40.00 per team

Register at Snack Stand or at  
<https://forms.gle/Pc9eYjyjGd6mtSqG7>

Food will be available for purchase



JUNE 20TH - 23RD  
6:30P.M - 8:00P.M.

OPEN TO BOYS AND GIRLS  
AGES 4-14 - ALL SKILL LEVELS

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**TRAINING**

- FOOT SKILLS
- BALL MASTERY
- TURNS
- GOALIE TRAINING

**\$20**

Register at <https://forms.gle/PPqauogwTK3vpRhu8>

Payment thru Venmo @woodburyscnj or at snack stand

## WHAT IS WOODBURY'S LOT 323!

LOT 323 is a POP-UP PARK in the heart of Woodbury!

What used to be a forgotten parking lot has transformed into a multi-purpose community gathering space.

Began in 2016, LOT 323 is a semi-permanent venue that hosts events all summer long. These venues are filled with performances of all kinds, youth and teen games and play equipment, artistic activities and refreshments.



THE SPACE is an urban garden with an industrial motif that is an inviting area to gather, play, remotely work, relax and enjoy light fare and entertainment. The park provides a free venue for the public, as well as a space that can be reserved and used by emerging artists and musicians, other arts and cultural organizations, schools and educational groups.

LOT 323 events are free to all with food trucks on site and craft beer and wine are available for purchase.



## LOT 323 SUMMER CONCERT SCHEDULE

Location: 115 S. Broad Street, Woodbury

Time: 6:00PM -9:30 PM

June 10

June 17

June 24 [Woodbury Pride Night](#)

July 8

July 15

July 22

Rain Date: July 29

## LOT 323 UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS: CLOTHESLINE ART SALE

*Back by popular demand!!!*

July 22<sup>nd</sup>: Incredible LOCAL ART & ARTISANS GOODS just hanging on the LOT 323 Clothesline...just waiting for you to take it home!!!



LEARN MORE ABOUT [THE FAF](#)

## WHITE PARTY: JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>



Only the date and time are yet revealed for the annual [WHITE TABLE GALA](#)! The *location* is a well contained *secret* and will be announced one hour before the event begins at 6 p.m.!

This ‘pop-up dinner’ will be at a surprise location at a “picture perfect” spot in the city limits of Woodbury.

Bring a table, chairs, white tablecloth, wear white and either bring your own food or pick up a White Table special from one of the local eateries in town.

Music and entertainment will be provided as well as prizes.

Proceeds for the event go to **Main Street Woodbury** projects such as business grants and downtown beautification.

Tickets are available at PayPal or on the website [www.mainstreetwoodbury.org](http://www.mainstreetwoodbury.org) or at [Edwards Hair Styling](#). For questions, contact chairwoman Jenna Even, at 716-536-5794 or [info@mainstreetwoodbury.org](mailto:info@mainstreetwoodbury.org).



## JUNE IS LGBTQ+ NATIONAL PRIDE MONTH

Every year, during the month of June, the LGBTQ+ community celebrates in several different ways. Across the globe, various events are held during this special month as a way of recognizing the influence LGBTQ+ people have had around the world. Why was June chosen? Because it is when the Stonewall Riots took place, way back in 1969.

As well as being a month-long celebration, Pride month is also an opportunity to peacefully protest and raise political awareness of current issues facing the community. Parades are a prominent feature of Pride month, and there are many street parties, community events, poetry readings, public speaking, street festivals and educational sessions all of which are covered by mainstream media and attracting millions of participants.

The New York Pride Parade is one of the largest and most well-known parades to take place, with an estimated 500,000 people participating in it by the time it had reached its 25th anniversary.

Pride Month is so important because it marks the start of huge change within the LGBTQ+ community, as well as the wider societal implications. Although attitudes and injustice remain, we have come a long way since the riots of 1969 and by continuing in this long-standing tradition we continue to raise awareness, improve the attitudes of society, and encourage inclusiveness.

### **What were the Stonewall Riots?**

The riots were prompted by a raid that took place during the early morning, at the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, Manhattan. The LGBTQ+ community held a series of spontaneous, often violent demonstrations to protest the raid and calling for the establishment of places that gays and lesbians could go and be open about their sexual orientation. In such places there should be no fears of [being](#) arrested. The riots served as a catalyst for the rights of LGBTQ+ people, and within 6 months, 2 gay activist groups had formed in New York. Over the years since the event, many gay rights organizations have been formed. Not just in the US but around the world.

### **What is LGBTQ+ or Gay Pride?**

It is a movement that celebrates sexual diversity. For lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBTQ+) people it is a way of protesting about discrimination and violence. It promotes their dignity, equal rights, self-affirmation and is a way of increasing society's awareness of the issues they face.

### **Who Started the June Celebration?**

Known as the "Mother of Pride", it was Brenda Howard who coordinated the first LGBTQ+ Pride march. As well as sparking the idea for a week of events around Pride Day. These events then developed into the annual LGBTQ+ celebrations held every June.

Reprinted from [Awarenessdays.com](https://www.Awarenessdays.com)



For Vincent Santroni, Father's Day is another poignant day when he pays tribute to his father's memory with his organization's belief that, *"Responsibility, accountability & volunteerism are what make great citizens, great role models & great leaders in our community."*

As a child, Vincent's father, Vincent Santroni Sr., would take his son and neighborhood children fishing. When he passed in 2013, Vincent Jr. dusted off his rods and vowed to reawaken his passion for angling.

In honor of his father, he established the non-profit [The Rod Father](#) and through their sales of merchandise they can financially contribute to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

In addition, the organization and its volunteers make it their mission to clean up local lakes, annually.

Woodbury's Stewart Lake became their destination on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> when their ambitious crews loaded a mountain of industrial strength waste bags with garbage that they collected in the lake and along the water's edges.

Our city is grateful for your attention to this "earth day is every day" project and we want to join you in wishing your namesake, Vincent Santroni a very happy Father's Day.





# WOODBURY FIREFIGHTERS

## BEAUTIFY THE CITY'S GREEN SPACES

Woodbury's firefighters, under the capable direction of Chief Haas, are "ALL IN." They have been enhancing the landscape around city hall and the firehouse in addition to their routine and emergency firefighting duties.



*"I shall participate, I shall contribute, and in so doing,  
I will be the gainer."*

Walter Annenberg



## WOODBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO EXCEL IN NJ STATE ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE OPERATING AND ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

*The devil is in the details!* Police departments all over the State will attest that, “in order to meet top method of assisting law enforcement agencies to calculate and improve their overall performance” it takes a full time, detail oriented and committed leader.

In Woodbury, that leader was identified by Chief Thomas Ryan as Lt. Brian Boucher. He is tasked with keeping the police department in a “constant state of compliance” by maintaining the 112 identified standards (and hundreds of related bullet points!) that the professional association feels will, “if implemented and adhered to, will raise the standard of law enforcement agencies and executives.”

*“Perfection is not attainable, but if we  
chase perfection we can catch excellence.”*



*Pictured (l to r) with a framed accreditation certificate from the NJSACOP is Chief Thomas Ryan, Lt. Brian Boucher, Det. Corrine Byerley and Accreditation Program Director Harry Delgado.*

The accreditation process is so rigorous (less than 50% of departments will step up to the challenge) that some precincts spend a princely sum to hire outside consulting groups.

Woodbury has done such an outstanding job of maintaining their accreditation (the first, always the hardest, was in 2005) that they now rank in the *top 1% of the law enforcement agencies in the state* that can boast that they have sustained the high standards.

Upholding the strict standards only begins with the written policies and procedures.

Every three years there is an intensive two-day audit of all reports that include an on-site assessment that evaluates items such as the levels of security, file reviews, examination of the communications system, evidence handling procedures and, often, a ride-along to see what the jurisdiction looks like.

The NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) admired Lt. Brian Boucher's consistent implementation of their high standards that they asked him to be an assessor to evaluate other law enforcement agencies accreditation applications.

In addition, Chief Ryan was honored by NJSACOP when they asked him to serve on the NJ State Accreditation Committee.

When it comes to Woodbury Police Department's interaction with other NJSACOP members, they clearly *lead by example*.

**JUNE 2022**  
*Holidays & Observances*



*Wednesday June 1<sup>st</sup>*

Global Running Day



*Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup>*

Love Conquers All Day



*Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup>*

Donut Day



*Wednesday June 8<sup>th</sup>*

World Oceans Day



*Monday June 13<sup>th</sup>*

Sewing Machine Day



*Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>*

Sushi Day



*Sunday June 19<sup>th</sup>*

Father's Day



*Tuesday June 21<sup>st</sup>*

Go Skateboarding Day



*Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup>*

Please Take My Children  
to Work Day



*Thursday June 30<sup>th</sup>*

Meteor Watch Day

**woman's day**



Gloucester County YMCA

## Stewart Park Clean Up

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you!

**Date:** 06/03/2022 (Fri.)

**Time:** 2:00pm - 4:00pm EDT

**Location:** Gloucester County YMCA

235 E Red Bank Ave., Woodbury, NJ

08096 📍

## Stewart Park Clean Up

Join the YMCA in cleaning up Stewart Lake Park on Friday, June 3 from 2 – 4 pm. Sign up for timeslots [online](#).

Thank you for reading!

Mayor Peg Sickel