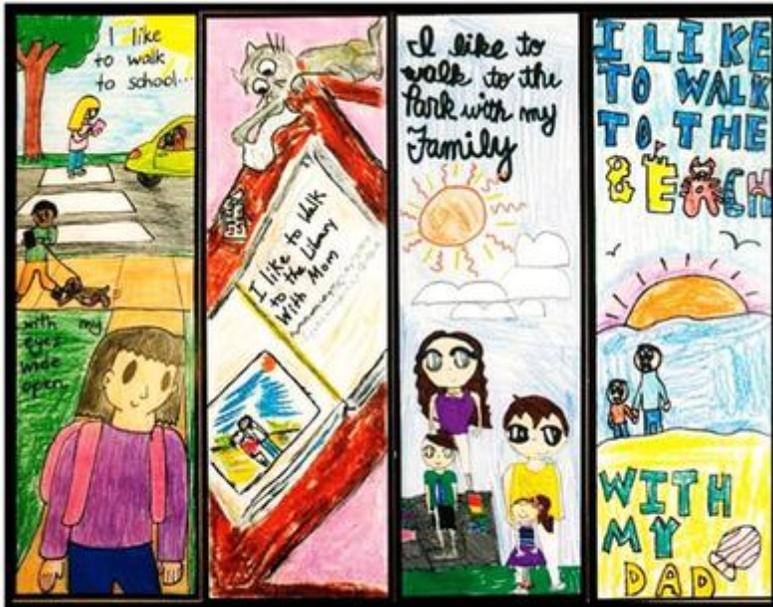


GMTMA Announces SRTS Bookmark Contest Winners!

In celebration of NJ Bike and Walk to School Month, Greater Mercer TMA (GMTMA) announced the winners of its Safe Routes to School Bookmark Design Contest. Third through fifth graders in Ocean and Mercer County were asked to create a bookmark design that incorporated the phrase, "I like to walk to....with..."



Maia Ionescu Eva Middleton JoAnn Wang Collin Najdzinowicz

"The students did a wonderful job illustrating places they enjoy walking to and the people they enjoy walking with," said Cheryl Kastrenakes, Executive Director of GMTMA. "We encourage students to walk with others for both fun and safety and there were some very creative entries reflecting this."

The **Ocean County** winners are JoAnn Wang a 5th grade student at Berkley Township Elementary and Collin Najdzinowicz, a 4th grade student at Ocean Road Elementary School, Point Pleasant, NJ.

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The **Mercer County** winners are Eva Middleton, a 4th grade homeschooled student from Hightstown, and Maia Ionescu, a 4th grade student at Lawrence Intermediate School, Lawrenceville, NJ.

Each winner received a \$50 gift card and had their bookmarks professionally printed. The winning bookmarks are being distributed at many Ocean and Mercer County schools and libraries.

GMTMA Celebrates Earth Day with Local Businesses

Greater Mercer TMA celebrated Earth Day this year by participating in fairs at local businesses. We would like to thank Albridge, Bloomberg, BMS, Janssen, and Rider University for having us over to talk about sustainable transportation options and reducing traffic congestion in our area.

GMTMA is out at local community events too! Come visit us at St. Lawrence Bike Rodeo on May 13, Lawrence Health Fair on May 16, and Pennington Day on May 20.

Officials Celebrate New Bike Tool in Hamilton



Left to right: Jerry Foster, GMTMA; Martin Flynn, Hamilton Director of Technology and Economic Development; Hamilton Mayor Kelly Yaede; Cheryl Kastrenakes Executive Director GMTMA; Jennifer Buisson and Mike Viscardi, NJ Transit.

Fixing your bike in Hamilton just got little easier thanks to a new bike tool station purchased by Greater Mercer Transportation Management Association (GMTMA) and recently installed by NJ Transit at the Hamilton Rail Station.

Conveniently located at the station near the bike lockers and racks, the tool station enables cyclists to easily fill their tires and make quick fixes to their bikes, such as changing a flat tire or adjusting the brakes.

“Hamilton Township adopted a Complete Streets policy in recent years, which encourages bike and pedestrian friendly infrastructure be included in road design,” said Cheryl Kastrenakes, Executive Director of GMTMA. “We wanted to show our support for Hamilton’s policy and encourage more people to choose biking as a way to access the train.”

Kastrenakes added that the presence of bicycling infrastructure makes it easier for people to choose biking as a way to get around.

“We are delighted that Greater Mercer TMA was able to use its resources for the tool station and are looking forward to working together to make Hamilton a better biking community,” said Mayor Kelly Yaede.

Street Smart Campaign Phase Two Complete

Greater Mercer TMA, Princeton Police Department, and Princeton University Safety Department rolled out phase two of the Street Smart effort during April 10 -14, 2017, in



Sgt. Murray, Princeton Police Department talking to pedestrians and bicyclists during Complete Streets Phase II

Princeton.

The first phase was conducted in October 2016 with a street level pedestrian safety initiative focusing on outreach and education designed to change unsafe behavior by pedestrians and drivers on our streets.

In the second phase, GMTMA, Princeton Police, and Princeton University Safety were back with outreach and education and enforcement.

In both phase one and two of the campaign, the weather was beautiful, filling the sidewalks and streets of Princeton with pedestrians, cyclists and drivers, enabling the partners to collectively distribute thousands of tip cards and speak directly to people about the safety laws. Additional Street

Smart messaging in the form of banners, street signs, posters, Garden Theatre pre-show programming, and Tiger Transit bus destination marquees also helped spread the safety message throughout the Princeton Community.

NJ Transit Spring Rail Schedule Changes

NJ Transit announced modifications to the spring rail schedule. The new plan goes in effect on May 7th, and it includes additional seating capacity, adjusting the schedules on certain trains, and an additional weekday evening stop at Newark Airport for the North Jersey Coast Line customers.

The following is a summary of some of the improvements:

North Jersey Coast Line

NJCL train #3269, the 5:34 p.m. departure from PSNY to Long Branch will no longer stop at Secaucus .

NJCL train #3271, the 5:52 p.m. departure from PSNY to Long Branch will depart PSNY 3 minutes later at 5:55 p.m. NJCL train #3283, the 8:22 p.m. departure from PSNY to Long Branch, will make a stop at Newark Airport at 8:46 p.m

NorthEast Corridor

MORNING REVERSE PEAK

NEC train #3815 the 6:09 a.m. departure from PSNY to Trenton will depart PSNY 2 minutes later at 6:11 a.m.

NEC train #3817, the 6:34 a.m. departure from PSNY to Trenton will depart PSNY 5 minutes later at 6:39 a.m.

PM PEAK AND EVENING

3953 (Princeton express) departs NYP 2 minutes later, runs 3 minutes later to Trenton

Dinky Trains: 4160, 4161, 4162, 4163, 4164, 4165, 4166, 4167, 4168 and 4169 all operate 1 minute later

- 3869 (Metropark express to Trenton) runs 2 minutes later
- 3171 (Metropark express to New Brunswick) runs 1 minute late
- 3957 (Princeton express) runs 1 minute later to Trenton

Commuter Benefits Changes Alert

The Congress is considering changing the tax code that would eliminate tax provisions such as the transit benefit. If you would like to learn more about this change, please go to <http://actweb.org/help-save-the-commuter-benefit/>

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