

# Show Off Your City

# 2021

# Evesham Township



This year the NJLM Show Off Your City Contest winner is Evesham Township in Burlington County. This image of Mayor Jaclyn Veasy welcoming a soldier home captures the unique impact of life in the pandemic year and how New Jersey's municipalities were able to find moments of joy and unity in a time of challenge and separation.



### From the desk of Evesham Mayor Jaclyn Veasy

Like all municipalities across New Jersey, the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic brought an abrupt halt to community events in Evesham Township.

Yet as spring shifted into summer, Evesham’s residents and community groups also shifted into creative new ways of thinking that allowed members of the community to once again safely come together and celebrate all things Evesham.

Just one of these community groups was Operation Yellow Ribbon of South Jersey. For more than 15 years, Operation Yellow Ribbon has supported the brave men and women serving the nation’s armed forces in the Middle East by mailing care packages overseas and organizing surprise “welcome home” ceremonies to those returning from deployment.

Excited children, relieved families, cheers from first responders, commendations from local officials, fellow veterans beaming with pride, and rows and rows of American Flags flying freely in the breeze—these ceremonies are the perfect example of the strong sense of community that defines Evesham Township.

In July of 2020, nearly four months after Operation Yellow Ribbon held its last welcome home event before the pandemic, members of the Evesham community safely welcomed home U.S. Air Force Tech Sgt. Jacob Wallace.

Although smiles were covered by masks, everyone was wearing an expression of pure joy. Although there was more physical distance between those in the crowd, the group was closer than ever in purpose.

Literally rubbing elbows with heroes like Tech Sgt. Wallace is one of the greatest honors I get to experience as mayor. Safely holding an event like a welcome home ceremony, even during a pandemic, proves just how much the members of our community care about their friends and neighbors. As long as our residents remain united, I know they can overcome anything.

With that, Evesham Township continues to be #EveshamStrong.

*Congratulations to Evesham and thank you to all of the who participated in this year’s contest. We are proud to share a sampling of images on these pages, on the League website [www.njlm.org](http://www.njlm.org), and on League social media.* 

## About Evesham Township

Established: **1798**

Population: **45,538**

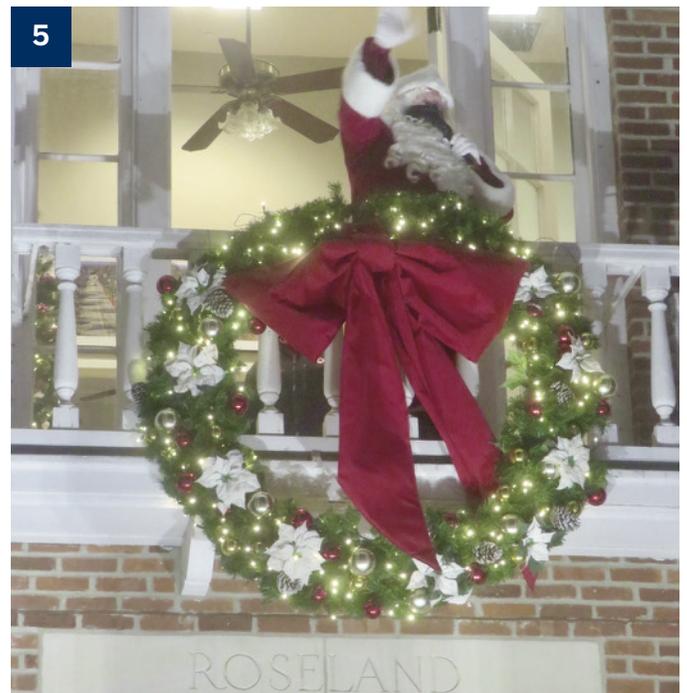
Mayor: **Jaclyn Veasy**

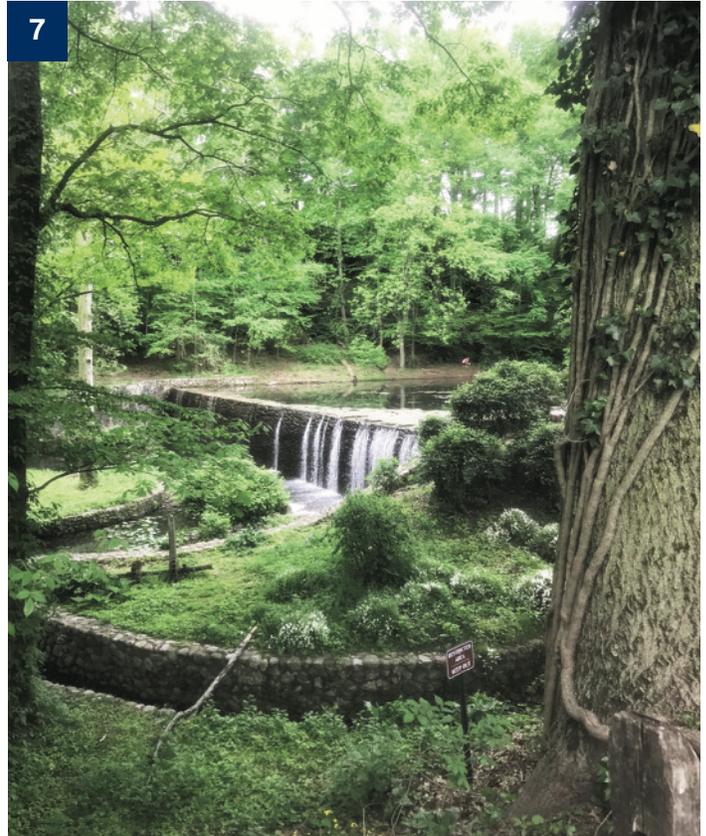
Deputy Mayor: **Heather Cooper**

Councilmembers: **Patricia Hansen,  
Ginamarie Espinoza,  
& Eddie Freeman III**

# Honorable Mentions

**1 Bordertown** makes room for outdoor dining in its downtown. Credit: CJ Mugavero, President of the Downtown Bordertown Association **2** A beautiful moment in **Beach Haven**. Captured by Megan Gaupp **3** Happy children celebrate a rock garden in **Hazlet**. Credit: Danielle Paul-Brosnski **4 Middletown** Mayor Perry with his young counterpart for Middletown Mayor for a Day. **5 Roseland** celebrates a socially distant holiday. Credit: Ryan Schwertferger, Public Information Specialist, Roseland **6 South Brunswick** Senior Center offered outdoor fitness classes for health, safety, and good spirits. **7 Mountainside's** Echo Lake Park offers a peaceful moment at its waterfall. **8** A beautiful day at the **Scotch Plains** Municipal Building.





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# Meaningful Moments

Whether in nature or interacting in the community, this year residents have made the most of a tough year and celebrated beautiful moments.

**1** Paddling through Conine's Millpond in **Allentown**. Credit: Tim Stolzenberger **2** **Glassboro** Mayor John Wallace selling BoroBucks **3** **Hillsborough** balloons in a yard **4** **Kearny**'s food pantry was working despite the weather this winter **5** **Kinnelon** Kids dressed and ready for the "The Greatest Showman" outdoor movie. Credit: Melanie Schuckers, CPSI, Recreation Director

