

Proclamation
By Mayor and Council - Township of North Brunswick

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services presents the Scholar/Athlete/Artist Award to North Brunswick students encouraging excellence in Academics, Arts and Athletics; and

WHEREAS, Gianna Meghan Socio has been selected as Scholar / Athlete / Artist for the month of May 2024; and

WHEREAS, Gianna has attended Judd Elementary, Linwood and North Brunswick Middle School from Kindergarten through eighth grade. In 2022, as a seventh grader, Gianna was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society and held the office of President during her eighth grade year. While at North Brunswick Middle School, Gianna was a member of the Aubrey Pappas Club earning a scholarship during her eighth grade. She also attended the North Brunswick Municipal Alliance Leadership Conference in February of 2022; and

WHEREAS, Gianna is currently a Freshman at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. She is enrolled in the Scholars Program and currently has a GPA of a 4.669 out of 4.75. She is also earning college credits in a dual enrollment program at Middlesex County College; and

WHEREAS, Gianna is a Varsity athlete and plays as a defender for St. Thomas Aquinas's Soccer Team. Gianna is also a member of their Varsity Swim Team. During her first year of high school swimming, Gianna placed 3rd in the 50 yard freestyle and 5th in the 100 yard freestyle at the Greater Middlesex Championships held on January 27th 2024. Gianna was also a member of the record breaking 200 free relay team which earned a 1st place finish. Gianna was named All Red Division and All Conference to finish out her Freshman season; and

WHEREAS, Gianna began her interest in soccer and swimming in her hometown of North Brunswick. Gianna played recreation soccer starting at age five for North Brunswick's Soccer Club and was an original member of the North Brunswick Travel Soccer Team at age eight. Gianna began her early interest for swimming with the Township and later joined the North Brunswick Rapids Summer Swim Team at the age of eight, prior to moving to Brookside's Summer Team during COVID; and

WHEREAS, Gianna currently plays Travel Soccer for the Jersey Knights where she is coached by Meghan Carroll (formally Megan Knoth) She just completed her seventh season swimming for the Raritan Valley YMCA Riptide Swim Team coached by Brian Rose. At Riptide, Gianna is a member of the Senior National Team for her third year and travels to Charlotte, NC each March to compete with teams from around the United States; and

WHEREAS, Gianna at the age of thirteen spent countless hours on Sundays and summers volunteering teaching children how to swim at the YMCA. Gianna volunteers, as time allows, at the NJ Special Olympic swim meets and will help coach the younger swimmers of Riptide; and

WHEREAS, Gianna has a pet Guinea Pig named Fred. One unique talent Gianna has is that she used to be able to play the theme to the "Titanic, on the recorder with her nose". In her spare time, Gianna loves to attend the New Jersey Devils games and spend time with her friends and family; and

WHEREAS, Gianna is an outstanding role model for her peer's and the youth of our community and exemplifies strong character, leadership skills and demonstrates a positive attitude which influences the youth of our Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Mayor and Council of the Township of North Brunswick, **DO HEREBY PROCLAIM**, the respect and admiration of the community of North Brunswick to **Gianna Socio** and name her the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, Scholar / Athlete / Artist Award recipient, and wish her continued success in the future.

Francis M. Womack III
Mayor

Mary Hutchinson
Council President

Lisa Russo, Township Clerk
May 6, 2024

Lou Ann Benson
Director
Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

