

THE GARWOOD GAZETTE

Summer 2013
Volume 1, Issue 2



Editors: Tracey Roland – troland23@aol.com and Karen Sullivan – kasully21@gmail.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Police Department News	2
110 Anniversary of Garwood	2
Senior Programs	3
Garwood D.P.W.	3
Library News	3
Celebration Committee	3
Municipal Budget	3

Mayor's Saturdays

Residents are invited to meet with Mayor Quattrocchi

WHERE: Borough Hall
WHEN: Third Saturday of each month
TIME: 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

No Appointment Necessary



From the Mayor's Office

By Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi

When my older children were young, we would summer at the NJ shore and over the years became friends with some fascinating people, seniors actually. One woman was a math teacher in Long Branch, who in her youth was one of the first woman life guards at the NJ shore and after graduating from college toured with Billy Rose's Aquacade (water ballet) with Esther Williams. Another woman, one of four daughters of a prominent Red Bank businessman related that his primary goal was to marry them off to appropriate males deserving of sharing in the family fortune after his demise. Not many women attended college in those days and she related to me stories of what life was like for a young woman of secure financial means in the 1930's. She found a husband on her own; an Army Colonel, not approved by her waspish father as he felt her choice to be ethnically inappropriate, they were married for over 60 years.

Since becoming Mayor of Garwood I have become more aware of some of the fascinating people we have living right here in the borough as my duties have put me in contact with a broader cross section of our residents. Having had the opportunity of just chatting with them, our seniors have shared a wealth of information about themselves with me simply for the asking. One gentleman Henry H., a south side resident, is well over 90 yrs. old and sharp as a tack, he usually has either some encouraging words or a groaner of a joke to share. After serving in the military in WWII he graduated from NCE (now the NJ Institute of Technology) with a degree in Electrical Engineering. He went on to work for the Singer Corp. on electromechanical projects and I have come to learn that he is the holder of not one but two patents as a result of that work. Being a patent holder is certainly nothing to sneeze at but somehow I doubt that even his fellow seniors are aware of his professional accomplishments.

I hope to be able to share more short bios of interesting neighbors from time to time. I want to stress how important it is for all of us to interact with those who we live alongside as the young ones are our future and the olsters are the links to our past.

Young Entrepreneurs Academy! First of its kind in NJ

By Carol Bevere Kearney, Business and Industry Liason

The Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce, which serves the communities of Westfield, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside and Scotch Plains, is excited to announce the start of The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) coming this fall. For students who will be in 9th through 12th grade during the 2013-2014 academic year, YEA! is a unique opportunity for students to learn entrepreneurial skills that will help them succeed in business throughout their life time. YEA! is a groundbreaking educational program that takes students in grades nine through twelve through the process of starting and running real businesses over the course of a full academic year. High school students from Garwood are eligible to apply. **Students work in close cooperation with local leaders of industry**, community members, and educators to develop ideas and objectives, write business plans, pitch potential investors, obtain funding, register with governmental agencies, develop their brand identity and much more! By the end of the class, students own and operate fully functioning businesses that can be carried on after graduation.

YEA! is currently looking for students who have the desire to make it big in business, and the passion to start their own business or social movement. Applications are accepted and approved on a rolling basis, so students should submit them as soon as possible. Tuition for the year is \$395 (limited financial assistance available) and the class size is limited. The selection process is competitive so we urge students to apply now!

Classes will begin in October of 2013 and finish up in June of 2014. For More information call (908) 233-3021 or email vea@westfieldareachamber.com.

110th Anniversary of Garwood, our "Small Town, Big Heart" Unveiling of our Centennial Banner on March 26, 2013

By Bruce Paterson, Chairman of the Historical Committee

Leading up to our Garwood Centennial in 2003, the Centennial Committee decided to have special banners made to commemorate the event. We already had the old time street lamps installed and with existing attachments to hold the Borough's seasonal banners, it was easy to implement the Centennial banner program.

Ann Leonard contacted the company "All National Banners" who made the seasonal banners for our town. The parameters set up by the Centennial Committee were to have it say 1903-2003, an outline of the borough inside a circle and a special slogan to be determined for the special 100th year anniversary. The size was to be 48" high and 30" wide. Colors were to be blue and gold, our Garwood School colors.

At one of the monthly meetings in 2002, the members put their collective minds to work on the special slogan. All suggested slogans were too long for the banner. It was noted that we needed something quick and sharp. Two residents, Ann Leonard and Bruce Paterson sitting near each other, one said "Small town.....", and then the other finished off with "big heart." Everyone agreed to the great slogan, "Small town, big heart!" This friendly slogan has since been ingrained within our Garwood community.

A company by the name of "All National" submitted 3-4 design samples on paper to the committee, as a whole to vote. The banner design that we have now was unanimously approved. Thirty banners were printed at a cost of \$1,800.

At the completion of 2003, the D.P.W. removed the banners and stored them away. Years later, it would come up as to where the banners disappeared; however, no one really knew their whereabouts. At the end of 2012, Fred Corbett the present D.P.W. Director was cleaning out a loft in the D.P.W. building and found a box of the banners, dusty, musty but intact and in bags. Instead of throwing these banners out, Fred realized their importance and gave them to Jim Boyle, who was the past chairman of the now 10 year old Centennial Committee.

The banners were found at a most propitious time, especially since 2013 was the 110th anniversary of the founding of Garwood. Mayor Quattrocchi then asked resident Bruce Paterson if he would frame one of the banners and hang it on the council chamber wall around March 19th, our town's founding day. With the help of Councilwoman Sara Todisco, the framing work was performed by Michael's Crafts. The cost was \$375. During the council meeting on March 26, 2013, the audience participated in the public unveiling of the Centennial banner to commemorate Garwood's grand Centennial past. With a few words from the Mayor, the saga was over. Posterity!



Garwood Police

By Chief Bruce D. Underhill

As we wind up the school year and start the dog days of summer, I'd like to take the time to remind everyone to be very cautious when driving around the Borough. Please be alert for our kids who will be out and about on their skateboards and bicycles, as well as chasing balls and frisbees into the roadway.

You may be noticing some new faces in the Police Department. The retirement of Captain James Pipala on May 1st and the loss of Officer Andrew Chudy to the Hillsborough Police Department in April, necessitated the hiring of two trained officers to fill the void. We were fortunate to recruit Officers Andrew Horan and Christopher Czachorowski. Officer Horan, a U.S. Army veteran, comes to us from the Union County Sheriff's Office where he had one year of law enforcement experience and he resides in Kenilworth. Officer Czachorowski comes to us from the Hudson County Sheriff's office where he had seven years of experience and he resides in Clark. With the passing of Dispatcher and Retired Officer Joseph Wilds, we also hired Susana Dos Santos to fill the opening in dispatcher. She has completed her state training and brings many assets with her including her language skills. We welcome them all and wish them the best in our department and community.

Shortly you will be seeing our Bicycle Patrol again around town. Officers Joseph Ostrander and Scott Eriksen will be cruising the mean streets and visiting with residents throughout the community. The bicycle patrol is an economical tool to assist officers in quickly responding to incidents and through areas otherwise difficult to get to.

In other news, the new Chevy 4x4 PUV Tahoe is now in service replacing the 2007 Dodge Durango which was retired from police use to the D.P.W. for their use. Unlike the 4x2 (two wheel drive) PPV Tahoes assigned to patrol, the 4x4 has four wheel drive and higher ground clearance. It is equipped with additional emergency equipment and a trailer hitch for transporting the Traffic Trailer to different locations in town. The 4x4 is assigned to the supervisors and is available to respond with emergency equipment in any weather condition, without delay. The two traffic lights on South Avenue have been wired to accept power from the department's portable generators. This was made possible by a grant obtained by the Police Department and will allow operation during power outages which in turn, will leave officers free to respond to emergencies rather than directing traffic at the intersection. Also, recently obtained was an Automatic Plate Recognition System (ALPRS) which has been installed in one of the patrol vehicles. It allows constant reading and processing of multiple license plates at a much faster rate than an officer might process them. This system was purchased through a Homeland Security Grant which offset all costs.

As we once again enter the hurricane season, I'd like to remind all residents to stay informed by following the Garwood Police Department on our website "Garwoodpd.org" for alerts and updates before and after a storm. Residents can also stay informed by following us on Twitter and get additional information by registering with Nixle and the Union County 1st Alert Systems. As always, please feel free to visit us in person at police headquarters with any concerns you might have.

Garwood Senior Programs

By Paulette Drogon, Senior Citizen Director

As part of our Garwood Senior Programs offered this summer, we have bowling every Tuesday at 1p.m. at the Garwood Lanes. In addition, Zumba Gold is offered during the month of July on Mondays at 1p.m. at the Garwood Fire House. There will be no Zumba classes in August; however, in September, there will be classes on Tuesday at 10a.m.

There will be a Craft Class at 1p.m. on August 8th at the Fire House. Registration is required by reaching us at 908-272-1705. In addition, we are having an ICE CREAM SUNDAE PARTY with music on Thursday, August 22nd from 12:30 to 3:30p.m. at the Fire House. Registration is required by calling me at 908-789-0708.

Garwood D.P.W.

By Frederick W. Corbitt, CPWM

All Borough crosswalks and stop bars were recently repainted. Weekly curbside grass collection is at its peak; therefore, please keep containers to a manageable weight. Asphalt hot patching is a frequent task in the warmer months. All repairs will be made as soon as possible. The D.P.W. would like to remind residents that collection of appliances and all scrap metal is done by appointment, just call 908-789-1522 to be placed on the list.

Garwood Celebrations Committee

By Liz Mathieu, Secretary

The Garwood Celebrations Committee is made up of volunteers appointed by the Mayor. The committee is hard at work all year long planning and running the many events you see around town. Planning begins in January for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. This event is traditionally held the week before Easter at the Little League Field. The Easter Bunny hops on by to take pictures with all the kids, courtesy of Walgreens, and candy and prizes are shared with all the children.

Next, the committee sponsors the Memorial Day service held at noon on Memorial Day at the Knights of Columbus. After the ceremony honoring those men and women who gave their lives to secure our freedom, refreshments are served. The Knights of Columbus kindly donates the hall and cooks the hot dogs, served by members of the committee. The honor guard is presented by local scouts and a guest speaker from the military joins us to share his or her reflections on the day.

After a summer break, the committee kicks into high gear planning the last two events of the year: The Pumpkin Decorating Contest and Santa's visit to light the town Christmas Tree at Borough Hall. This year the Pumpkin Decorating Contest will be held in the parking lot at Borough Hall on October 26, 2013 at 4PM. Please bring your already decorated/carved pumpkins for display and judging and join us for refreshments, too. This year, the Christmas Tree lighting and visit from Santa will be at 5PM on Saturday, December 7, 2013. Santa will arrive on the Fire Truck to light the tree, take pictures and hear all the children's wish lists. Holiday music sets the mood and refreshments are served, compliments of local retailers.

Please come out and join us at an event. If you're interested in serving on the committee, please contact the Mayor at Borough Hall at 908-789-0710; we'd love to have you join us.

Library News

By Carol A. Lombardo, MLS, Library Director

The Garwood Public Library has launched its 19th annual Summer Reading program, with this year's theme being "Dig into Reading". Children of all ages are welcome to participate, from pre-reader through eighth grade. The program will run from Monday, June 24th through Monday, August 5th, which is the last day to log in the time read. Adults can also enjoy the benefits of summer reading. Each time they check out a book, their name will be entered into a random drawing to be held on or about September 6th.

E-books can now be downloaded to your favorite device through the Library's subscription to Baker & Taylor's Axis 360. Available only to Garwood residents who hold valid Garwood Library Cards, this project can provide Garwood's readers with fiction, non-fiction and children's books while they are on the go! Instructions and further information and about this program is available at the circulation desk.

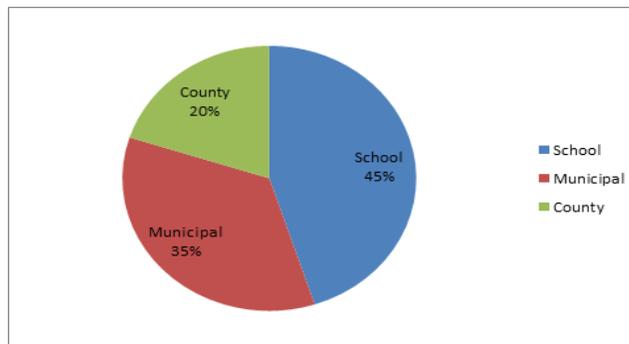
During the summer, for children entering grade 3 in September or older, there will be crafts on Tuesday afternoons at 3:00 PM, and movies for children on Thursday afternoons at 2:00 PM. Registration is required for the craft events and may be done on-line, in person, or by phone 908-789-1670. The Library will keep its weekly schedule the same, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Fridays from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. However, the library will be closed on Saturdays in the summer beginning with June 22nd. The Library will reopen for Saturday business on September 7th.

The Library's interactive calendar page on their website (youseemore.com/garwood) can provide a wealth of information about the above programming as well as additional events that arise during the summer.

Municipal Budget

By Sandra Bruns, CMFO, CTC
CFO/Treasurer

The Borough adopted the 2013 Municipal Budget on April 9th with an increase of \$95 per home assessed at \$100,000. The estimated tax bills were mailed on July 30th and final tax bills will likely be issued in August. Total taxes collected are allocated as follows

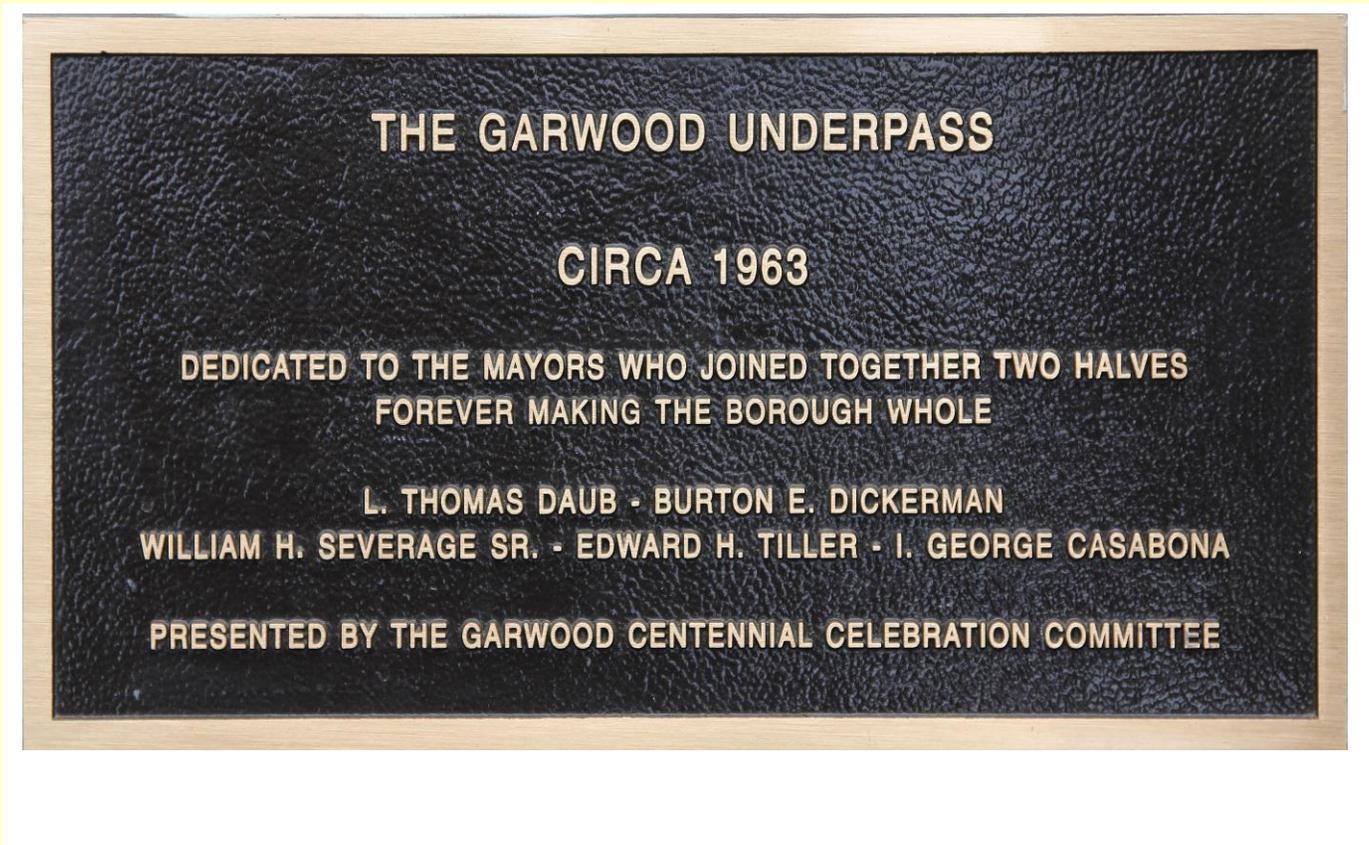


Most budget increases were state mandated or contractual along with a \$60,000 increase from the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority. The Borough added a quarterly newsletter and will be revamping the borough website over the next several months. The finance committee reduced overall operating expenditures by approximately \$150,000 to offset these budget increases. For more information, please visit the Borough Hall where a variety of budget charts are available.

BOROUGH OF GARWOOD
403 SOUTH AVENUE
GARWOOD, NJ 07027

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
US POSTAGE
PAID EDDM
RETAIL

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER GARWOOD, NJ 07027



PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR FUTURE SEASONAL EDITIONS OF

THE GARWOOD GAZETTE!!