

THE GARWOOD GAZETTE

Winter 2013/2014
Volume 1, Issue 4



Editors: Tracey Roland and Karen Sullivan – newsletter@garwood.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Police Department News	2
Discount for Seniors	2
Dept. of Public Works	2
Historical Committee	2
Senior Programs	3
Celebration Committee	3
Library News	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

Since becoming mayor in 2011 people frequently inquire, "How are you doing?". "What is new in Garwood?" and "Do you get a lot of complaints from people?" Now, I would like to think that they are genuinely concerned about my health, which BTW is just fine but I do believe that they want me to critique my own job performance. I prefer to do as the late Mayor Ed Koch and ask in return "how am I doin'?" As for the "what is new in Garwood" question, I do suggest that they come to a council meeting to hear updates first hand from those individuals that they personally elected, but, actually the best place to get the real "skinny" is to drop into a Planning Board Meeting because that is where the true action takes place. And finally the last question is a resounding "No" not a lot of complaints rather I get unsolicited compliments on the borough.

I like to give credit where credit is actually due and this newsletter is just the place for just that. The other day I received a message in my borough office voice mail that was a real day brightener. A Cranford resident, who passes through the borough frequently, called and left the following: "I just had to call and congratulate your town on doing one great job on the streets and with your garbage." I do have to say that after a snow storm one knows exactly where Garwood ends and where the next municipalities do actually begin as the blacktop frequently disappears. Just this past spring I received an email from an out of town woman who caught the light on North Avenue in front of Kennedy Plaza and felt compelled to reach out and let us know how lovely the profusion of bright pink mini-roses looked and how the bushes lifted her spirits. Another was a letter from a parent of a Westfield youth who had a car accident here in the borough. They felt compelled to comment on the performance of our Police Dept. The son was a new driver and understandably petrified as a pedestrian had walked into the path of his car. It seemed the officers were quite reassuring and willing to assist him in any way that they could which considerably lessened the trauma. And another from a Garwood resident who sent a copy of a letter to the local newspapers thanking our Fire Dept. for bringing Santa on a tour of the borough during the holidays as his youngsters were thrilled.

So kudos go out to our Dept. of Public Works, our Police Dept. and our Firefighters for a job well done and though it seems to be thankless at times you can all be assured that your extra efforts do not go unnoticed or are not unappreciated.

Business and Industry

Liaison to the borough council, Carol Kearney, has reported that several new businesses are now calling Garwood home. On Saturday, February 22 there were several ribbon cuttings heralding the openings such as "Jenif Studios" at 345 South Ave. and "Orange Theory Fitness" at 502 North Ave. Borough Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi was on hand to support these new endeavors. "Small businesses are the backbone of any successful downtown and our borough is no exception. The re-creation of the Garwood Chamber of Commerce joining forces with the Greater Westfield Area Chamber is bringing new life to our town center. I urge our residents to be vigilant as new and exciting things are being planned," the mayor said. Garwood residents are urged to greet the new businesses with a warm welcome by patronizing the new establishments.

Mark Your Calendars!!

As a member of the Chamber of Commerce the borough will be the site of a June street fair and car show which will be featuring vendors, local eateries and other businesses, with music, classic cars and children's activities.



Garwood Police

By Chief Bruce D. Underhill

Experience has shown us that being able to get vital information to the public during an emergency incident is paramount to the safety of the residents of Garwood. Each incident brings its own unique set of hazards. As the adage goes: "forewarned is forearmed."

Residents are encouraged to register with Nixle.com and UCfirstalert.com to receive critical alerts before, during and after emergency incidents. Create an account and receive texts to your cell phone, voice messages to your home phone and e-mails to your registered accounts. These also include follow up information on where to obtain aid if needed.

Additionally, we post alerts, updates and other interesting information on the Police Departments website "Garwoodpd.org", go to the alerts page for all the latest. Many forms are also available on our site which can be downloaded and filled out prior to coming to headquarters. Residents can obtain Firearms application forms, block party / street closing request forms or register your home to be checked when you're going to be out of town.

The Borough has been fortunate to have weathered the recent winter storms without sustaining any major incidents. All seasons require taking safety precautions. We would remind residents to only drive when necessary during a storm. Gear down to operate at half the normal speed to allow for adequate stopping time. Snow tires, and "go bags" with essential items you might need are a good idea as well. Remember to dress for the weather.

We have recently undertaken a bit of "urban renewal" at Police Headquarters. In order to optimize our small headquarters to our growing needs, interior changes had to take place. Last year members of the department began a DYI project to consolidate and maximize the space available which has included re-designating the old darkroom as a processing room, expanding the Detective Bureau, creating a Shift Supervisors office and establishing a separate and secure room for all files. This was accomplished voluntarily by members of the department at no cost to the Borough and I thank them all for their efforts and initiative.

While we often run tours of Police Headquarters for school groups and the Cub, Boy and Girl Scouts, residents are also invited to come visit with Chief Underhill and tour your Police Department.

Discounts on NJ Transit for Seniors

By Kathy Villaggio

For a senior over 62 years of age or a person with a disability, NJ Transit offers a wonderful benefit of reduced fares on its railroads, buses and light rail. Tickets can be purchased from an agent or vending machine.

To take advantage of this cost saving option, apply for a NJ Transit Reduced Fare ID Card. For more details, you can contact the NJ Transit Reduced Fare Program at 973-491-7112 on weekdays between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

Applications are also available online through the NJ Transit website at: [http://www.njtransit.com/pdf/sf tr fo reduced seniors RF application.pdf](http://www.njtransit.com/pdf/sf_tr fo reduced seniors RF application.pdf)

Department of Public Works (D.P.W.)

By Frederick W. Corbitt CPWM CRP

In the coming weeks, as weather permits, the D.P.W. will continue hot patching of potholes throughout the Borough that have occurred so far this winter. To report potholes in need of repair please call 908-789-1522. Scheduled Christmas tree collections for the year have been completed.

The D.P.W. would like to remind residents to remove vehicles from the street during a snow storm when 3 or more inches of snow accumulates in order for our plows to do the best job possible.

Garwood Historical Committee

By Chair-Linda Koenig and Vice Chair -Bruce Paterson

"History in the Making"

For those of you who lead busy lives, the Garwood Historical Committee would like to list the news media outlets that cover Garwood to have you aware of all the myriad venues offering Garwood-centric information. These outlets in and of themselves are actually daily chronicling the history of our Garwood. Plus, technology has made great advances and much news on Garwood is now covered by this new product.

There are the usual hard copy editions of newspapers that have been around for many years. These can be bought at the local stores such as Kings Supermarket, or by subscription. The Westfield Leader is a wonderful source of information and news, covering our council meetings, board of education and even planning board meetings. The Cranford Chronicle and the Star Ledger sporadically covers Garwood on major news-breaks. The Suburban news has many press releases and community events listed there-in. We also have yours truly, this newsletter, The Garwood Gazette distributed to each household. Note most of these venues are not only found as hard copies but do have internet links as well. The Garwood Gazette can also be found on our official borough website online. There are also news channels that cover our Garwood found strictly on the internet and free to view.

These are all great sources to understand our borough, its operations, its community events, its "happenings". We recommend everyone to either buy the newspapers or visit the online sites listed below to keep up with "history in the making".

(Garwood official website) <http://www.garwood.org/>

(Garwood official facebook site)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Borough-of-Garwood/381516375294551>

(Garwood Insight)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEx2bmlApWRIBXPHGirajT w>

(nj.com provides access to online editions of local newspapers that cover Garwood happenings) <http://www.nj.com/garwood/>

(Westfield leader online) <http://www.goleader.com/>

Garwood Senior Programs

By Paulette Drogon, Senior Citizen Director

The senior department offers free programs for all Garwood senior residents 62 years of age or older.

Exercise class on Wednesday @ 9a.m., line dancing on Monday @ 9:30a.m., Zumba Gold on Tuesday @10 a.m., craft and ceramic classes are offered monthly; please call for more information about craft and ceramic classes. We also have bowling every week on Tuesday @1p.m. These are healthy, fun activities to help our seniors stay active. All activities are held in the Fire House with the exception of bowling which is at the Garwood Lanes.

If you are not receiving the 3 month calendar of events please call and leave your name, address, and telephone number and I will add you to the mailing list.

If you have an interest or activity you would like us to provide please give me a call.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER TO CONTACT ME. 908-789-0710 ext. 3027 the old number is no longer active

Garwood Celebrations Committee

By Liz Mathieu, Secretary

The Garwood Celebrations Committee would like to thank the community for making last year's events such a success! All of our events, the Easter Egg Hunt, Memorial Day Service, Pumpkin Decorating Contest, and Christmas Tree Lighting, were attended by many people, young and old. We had the second annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest the Saturday before Halloween and we saw a lot of really great pumpkins. Garwood is home to some very creative and talented people! The committee would also like to thank all of the volunteers and sponsors that donated refreshments, time, tables, services and help with coordinating all of the events. This year, the committee is already hard at work planning the Spring events. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2014 at 12 Noon at Hartmann Park on the 400 block of 2nd Avenue. The rain date is April 6, 2014 at 12 Noon. The Easter Bunny will hop on by to take pictures with all the kids, courtesy of Walgreens, and candy and prizes will be shared with all the children. Please come out and celebrate with us!

Next, the committee sponsors the Memorial Day service held on Monday, May 26, 2014 at Noon at the Knights of Columbus. After the ceremony honoring those men and women who gave their lives to secure our freedom, refreshments will be served. The Knights of Columbus kindly donates the hall and cooks the hot dogs, served by members of the committee. The honor guard will be presented by local scouts and a guest speaker from the military will join us to share his or her reflections on the day.

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; we'd love to have you join us.



Library News

By Carol A. Lombardo, MLS, Library Director

FIZZ! BOOM! READ! is the theme for the 2014 annual Summer Reading program at the Garwood Public Library. Open to all children and adults, this program is sure to have something for everyone. The program will run for seven weeks, from Monday, June 23rd through Friday, August 8th. There are four categories: Pre-readers, who can be read to; independent readers in Grades 1 to 5; Middle School students in grades 6 to 8, and adults. (The Middle School students have required reading to do anyway during the summer, why not participate in the program and possibly win a prize?)

The rules are simple: Sign up for the program starting June 16th, and begin logging in your reading on June 23rd. On the calendar you receive when you sign up, you will record the amount of time spent reading each day, and have your parent initial the date. Each time you come to the Library, a staff member will record your time spent reading. The top three readers each will win a prize for their efforts. The student who reads the most in each grade will also win a prize. Complete details and the Official Rules will be available the first week in June. Adults – don't feel left out – each time you check out a book, you are entered into our random prize drawing to be held at the end of the summer. The more you read, the better your chances are.

During those seven weeks, there will be crafts for kids on Tuesdays at 3:00 PM, and movies for kids on Thursdays at 2:00 PM. There will also be programs for children (dates as yet to be determined) during the summer as well. Please check the Library's website for further details as the summer comes closer. As usual, there will be an ice-cream social held at the close of the program on Tuesday, August 12th. Only those children who participated in the program will be invited and be eligible to win a prize.

At the Garwood Library Board of Trustees re-organization meeting held on Wednesday, January 8th, the following slate of officers was selected: Maria Nierstedt, President; Christine DiGiacomo, Treasurer; Christine Guerriero, Secretary. Other members of the Board are: Mary Ann Severage, Carolyn Warchol, Sarah Waverka, and Carol White. Mayor Patricia Quatrocchi will be representing the Borough and Dr. Theresa Quigley will be representing the Board of Education. Library Board meeting dates for the remainder of 2014 are: February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, September 10, October 1, November 5 and December 3. The Library Board does not meet in July or August. The Board will meet in the Library at 8:00 PM on those dates.

The Garwood Library is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM; Fridays from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, and Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The Library is closed on Saturdays during the summer from Mid-June through Labor Day.

Contacting the Library is easy: Our phone is 908-789-1670; and our email is garwoodlibrary@gmail.com. Information about the Library, its on-line catalog, interlibrary loans, its monthly programs and much more can be found on the Library's website at youseemore.com/garwood. You can also "like us" on our Facebook page at facebook.com/garwoodlibrary.

The Garwood Library is still collecting bits of Garwood History and memorabilia. If you have old photos of Garwood, or memorabilia, please bring them to the Library for safekeeping. If you don't want to part with your treasures of Garwood, the staff will scan them into the computer and return them to you. So much of Garwood's history is lost when the older residents move away or pass on, and the Library would like to do its part to preserve the great heritage that is Garwood.

BOROUGH OF GARWOOD
403 SOUTH AVENUE
GARWOOD, NJ 07027

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
US POSTAGE
PAID EDDM
RETAIL

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER GARWOOD, NJ 07027



Top left to right: Councilman Lou Petruzzelli, Councilman Mike Martin, Councilman Bill Nierstedt, Councilman Jim Mathieu
Bottom left to right: Council President Ann Palmer, Mayor Patricia Quattrocchi, Councilwoman Sara Todisco

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR FUTURE SEASONAL EDITIONS OF
THE GARWOOD GAZETTE!!