# Garwood Times

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Issue 26 • February 2020

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## **CELEBRATION'S COMMITTEE GIVES THANKS**

Submitted by Vanessa Schubring

The Garwood Celebration's Committee is proud of the many events organized in 2019, including the town's 1st annual Santa Mailbox, 1st annual Santa Brunch, 2nd annual Menorah lighting and our annual Christmas tree lighting.

Santa's mailbox received 38 letters from children in town, and Santa responded to all of them to spread holiday cheer.

The tree lighting held on Saturday, November 30, 2019, was one of the largest gatherings in the community. This year the event featured live entertainment courtesy of the Y-Dance Academy of Westfield, Lincoln School Select Choir, and the Girls Scouts troop #41290.

A number of our local businesses generously provided sponsorships and giveaways to help us make these events extraordinary. We would like to extend our gratitude to: Garwood Fire Department, Garwood PTA, Garwood Historical Committee, Garwood Green Team, Garwood Library, Samsel Associates, King's Supermarket, Biena Snacks, Blaze Pizza, Census 2020, Home Depot, Karma Salon Studio, Dunkin Donuts - Garwood, Garwood Lanes, Schuster Family Orthodontics, The Hot Dog Lady, Quick Check-Garwood, Malky and Avrahom Blesofsky,



(above, l-r) A few of the volunteers from the Celebrations Committee with Santa: Jennifer D'Elia, Krystal McCormack Zawoysky, Celebrations Chair-Jennyfer Guerrero, Vanessa Schubring, and Mayor Sara Todisco.

Mayor Sara Todisco, and Councilman Richard McCormack.

A special huge thank you to Garwood Fire Department Chief Tweedle and his wife Barbara who helped tremendously throughout the brunch with Santa event.



(above) Garwood Christmas tree lighting

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## **OFFICER IAN RIVERA SWORN-IN**

was sworn-in on January 6, 2020 as the newest member of the Garwood Police Department. Officer Rivera is a graduate of the Camden County Police Academy where he attended as an

Congratulations to Officer Ian Rivera, who alternate route recruit. Prior to the academy Officer Rivera served our country in the United States Marine Corps on several overseas deployments throughout his 5 year career.



(above, l-r) Officer Ian Rivera pictured with Chief James Wright.



(above, l-r) Sergeant John Wright and Officer Scott Eriksen during the "No Shave" November and "Double Down" December campaign.

## **KIDS FISHING SEMINAR SET FOR MARCH 3**

The Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club was founded in 1907 and remains one of the oldest fishing clubs in the nation. We are listed on Amazon Smile and are a recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit. We provide outings to support veterans, adults and children as well as people with disabilities which focus on environmental education, fishing knowledge and practice. A complete list of our upcoming events can be found at www.nbfcc.org.

We are always looking for new members, donations, and volunteers if anyone would like to get involved.

Our monthly meetings are held at the 908-272-3545

Kenilworth VFW, located at 33 S. 21st St., Kenilworth, NJ, on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (except July and August).

Our Annual Kids Seminar will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., at the Kenilworth Veterans Center, V.F.W.33 South 21st street Kenilworth, NJ. A Guest speaker to be announced and topics of discussion will be safety while fishing, fish identification, and practice casting. Prizes will be awarded and snacks will be served.

For more information visit www.nbfcc.org, or contact Bob Jones, BJonesJRNJ@hotmail.com,

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www2.youseemore.com/garwood/ Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Closed on Sunday

#### **Knitting Club**

Mondays and Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. No registration required. Learn how to knit or show others how it's done while enjoying fun conversation. Needles and yarn are provided.

#### **Kid's Chess**

Mondays, 3:00 p.m.

No registration required. Limit 12. Informal chess game for children of all ages. This is a non-instructional, supervised program. Six boards provided.

#### **Monday Afternoon Book Club**

Monday, February 24, 1:00 p.m. No registration required. Discussing The Buccaneer's by Edith Wharton.

#### **Kid's Craft**

Tuesday, February 11, 3:00 p.m.

Make a snow globe craft. Registration required.

For children 2nd grade and up, Limit 20.

#### **Adult Craft**

Tuesday, February 11, 6:00 p.m. Make a winter craft. Limit 10. Registration required.

#### **Toddler Story Time**

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

No registration required. For children from birth to age 4; Stories, songs, bubbles and more. The Pipsqueak Players join us on February 19.

#### **Library Board Meeting**

Wednesday, February 5, 8:00 p.m.
The meeting of the Library Board of Trustees is open to the public.

#### Brixology

Wednesdays, 3:00 p.m.

Kids 2nd grade through 6th grade. Registration required, limit 15, 8 classes, Wednesdays February 5 through March 25. Using LEGO bricks kids build a different engineering project in each class.

#### **Thursday Evening Book Club**

Thursday, February 6, 7:00 p.m.

No registration required. Discussing The Book
Women of Troublesome Creek,
by Kim Michele Richardson.

#### **LEGO Club**

Thursday, February 13, 27, 3:00 p.m. Be inspired by this month's theme and build whatever comes to mind. Then share your creation with others. Some will be displayed in our showcase. Registration required by phone or in person. Registration will open the Monday after the last Lego club for the month.

Limit 15 children ages 4-12.

#### **Aging Services Kiosk (ASK)**

Thursday, February 20, 10:00 a.m. - Noon Union County Division of Aging Staff will be on hand to assist seniors (age 60+) or their caregivers with information on services, such as meal delivery, respite care, adult day care and support services for caregivers.

## **ATLAS-PYTHAGORAS LODGE #10**

Submitted by Christopher Sands

Atlas-Pythagoras Lodge #10 Free and Accepted Masons, which meets at 1011 Central Ave, Westfield, recently held our annual Charity Night. We donated to eight worthy groups in our community.

The Masonic Services Association, which supports Veterans in the three NJ State Veterans home and both VA Veterans homes.

Tree of Hope, which the Sheriff of Union County runs, which collects toys for needy children in Union County.

Keystone Community Living, which helps people with developmental disabilities to lead fulfilling lives. It runs a group home in South Plainfield.

Bonds of Courage, which supports Veterans and the 1st Squadron, 102nd Cavalry from the Westfield Armory.

Union County Meals on Wheels, which provides meals to the housebound or those who cannot cook themselves.

Every 15 Minutes, from Kenilworth High School, which teaches Juniors and Seniors about the consequences of drinking and driving.

The Children's Dyslexia Center, Scotch Plains, which uses the Orton-Gillingham curriculum to help children with dyslexia read and flourish.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial, A museum which is used to tell the world about George Washington, a Mason, General of the Armies and our First President!

Atlas-Pythagoras Lodge #10 meets the first and third Fridays every month except during the summer.

If you are interested in joining us, or would like more information about Freemasony, visit atlaspythagoras.com, or call (908) 233-7349.



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10:30 am to 3:00 pm Sign-in/setup starts at 10:00 am Registration Closes 2-21-20

## **Cranford Community Center**

220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ • 908.709.7283

Registration is \$15 • Note: this is a non-rated tournament.

Limited to 40 players who must know how to play chess, age 11 and older.

For More Information: Email Jim Parlapiano at jim.parlapiano@hotmail.com

Or Will Adams at will.adams@scouting.org or 973-765-9322 x234

Scouts can use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link

to register on-line at ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/2583007

Scouts can email Will Adams at Will.adams@scouting.org for more info.

Trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers. Lunch will be provided for all players.

This tournament meets the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

### **ALJ MARCHING BAND WINS SECTION 10 CHAMPS**



(above) The ALJ Marching Band won their Section 10 Championship, finished 3rd in the State Finals and came in 9th in the Atlantic Coast Championiship.

## **NO SHAVE NOVEMBER AND DOUBLE DOWN DECEMBER**

Submitted by Chief James Wright

PBA Local 117 took part in the annual No-Shave November campaign to raise awareness and money for cancer research. The event was so

successful that they continued to forgo the razor Once again members of the Garwood Police and "Doubled-Down" in December. In total the scruffy boys in blue raised over \$6,000 dollars for the cause. Thank you to all that support this worthwhile cause.

## **VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED**

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## THE 25TH ANNUAL **PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE IS COMING TO CDC**

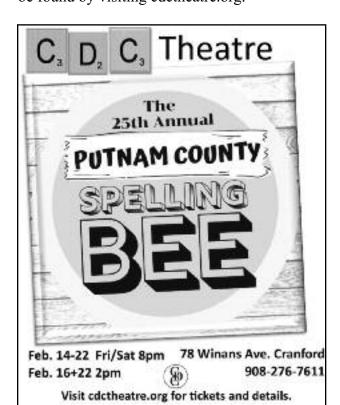
Running from February 14th through the 22nd and winner of the Tony and the Drama Desk Awards for Best Book, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee has charmed audiences across the country with its effortless wit and humor. Featuring a fast-paced, wildly funny and touching book by Rachel Sheinkin and a truly fresh and vibrant score by William Finn (Falsettos, A New Brain), this bee is one unforgettable experience.

An eclectic group of six mid-pubescents vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives, the tweens spell their way through a series of (potentially made-up) words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, poutinducing, life un-affirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Part of the fun of the show is that no two performances are ever the same. Audience volunteers are selected at each show to participate onstage in scenes, songs and choreography.

The cast features some familiar faces at CDC Theatre and some new ones: Sean Lynch-Littlejohn as Chip Tolentino, E. Rachel Valovcin as Logainne Schwartzandgrubenier, Zach Mazouat as Leaf Coneybear, Zach Love as William Barfee, Mallory Ann Wu as Marcy Parks, Patrina Caruana as Olive Ostrovsky, Alexa Teebo as Rona Lisa Peretti, Ian Federgreen as Vice Principle Panch and Brendan Lynch-Littlejohn as Mitch Mahoney. The show is directed by Nevil Schwartz with choreography by Michelle Massa and musical direction by John Brzozowski.

Six spellers enter: one speller leaves! They learn that winning or losing isn't everything and at least the losers get a juice box.

Links to tickets and additional information can be found by visiting cdctheatre.org.



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## **ALJ FALL ATHLETIC AWARDS**

Johnson Athletic Department held their 2019 Fall Athletic Awards. The evening, sponsored by the Crusader Athletic Booster Club, was held in the Arthur L. Johnson Auditorium.

All the Fall Athletic Teams and their seasons were highlighted by their coaches while handing out letters and awards to the student athletes. Over 205 varsity athletic letters were handed out throughout the evening, as participation in athletics at Arthur L. Johnson High School continues to grow.

The program continued with the Student Athlete Award, which was presented by the Principal of Arthur L. Johnson High School, Mrs. Jennifer Feeley. The Student Athlete Award is given out each athletic season to a student athlete that is not only a champion on the field, but in the classroom as well. The 2019 Fall Student Athlete award recipient was Heidi Compton, with a 4.9119 G.P.A.

In addition, the Crusader G.P.A. Challenge was awarded to the team that finishes with the highest overall G.P.A. amongst athletic teams for the fall season. The recipients were presented with certificates, will have their team memorialized on a plaque, and will be invited for a "Breakfast with the A.D." to celebrate their actions both in the classrooms and on the fields. The winner of the 2019 Fall Seasonal G.P.A. Challenge was the Field Hockey Team with a G.P.A. of 4.039. Members of the Field Hockey Team include: Heidi Compton, Emma Hilton, Nicole Randazza, Tara Starita, Taylor Turek, Devyn Calas, Gianna Caldiero, Gia Colicchio, Michelle Kukan, Courtney Marano, Victoria Venezio, Peyton Collings, Tatum Dobbins, Angela Aromando and Grace Warnick.

The Best Teammate Award will be given out seasonally to one member from each athletic team that best fits the characteristics of a good teammate. The individuals that receive these awards exhibit upbeat attitudes and outstanding character. They helped influence the team's culture in a positive manner, while always supporting teammates and promoting team unity. The Best Teammate Award Winners were: Cross



(above) The 2019 Fall MVPs.

On Tuesday, December 3, 2019, the Arthur L. Country – Nicholas Deloretto, Field Hockey – Nicole Randazza, Football - Joseph Kaulfers, Boys' Soccer – Augustine Puentes, Girls' Soccer - Dominka Kosiek, Girls' Tennis - Mary Nadolsky, Volleyball - Isabella Venezio, and Cheerleading – Amanda Grasso.

> evening culminated with announcement of the Team Most Valuable Players. The MVPs were: Cross Country Matthew Kowalenko, Field Hockey - Emma Hilton, Football - Patrick Brennan, Boys' Soccer Anthony diaz, Girls' Soccer – Lily Gull, Girls' Tennis – America Renteria, Volleyball – Shailynn Rapp, and Cheerleading – Caileigh O'Donnell.

> Athletic Director Gus Kalikas, had this to say about the event, "Once again, our Fall Athletic Awards Program was a successful evening as it allows the District, Administration, and Coaches the opportunity to acknowledge a wonderful Fall Sports Season as well as recognize both student athletes and their parents alike for all that they have accomplished this past fall athletic season.'



(above) Heidi Compton, 2019 Fall Student Athlete Award Winner.



(above) The 2019 Fall Best Teammate Award recipients.



(above) 2019 Fall G.P.A. Winners, the ALJ Field Hockey Program.



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