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Published by Renna Media

Issue 39 • March 2021

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## FAMILY ICE SKATING NIGHT 2021

Garwood residents gathered for an evening of fun on Saturday, January 30, 2021, as the Garwood Recreation Department rented Westfield Rink in Westfield, NJ.

The outdoor rink only allows 100 skaters due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and tickets for the event sold out.

"Thank you to everyone who came out to our 2021 Garwood Family Ice Skating Night at the Westfield Rink," said Garwood Recreation Director Ralph Bernardo. "We had a great turnout and hope all the residents of Garwood enjoyed it as well!"

For more information about Garwood Recreation's programs and activities, please visit [garwood.org/recreation](http://garwood.org/recreation).



Photos by Garwood Recreation Department.

### MARKET REPORT

GARWOOD, NJ

Avg List Price - \$461,600

Avg Sale Price - \$463,200

LP/SP % - 100.3%



**6**

HOMES CURRENTLY  
ON THE MARKET



**3**

HOMES LISTED IN  
THE LAST 30 DAYS



**5**

HOMES SOLD IN  
THE LAST 30 DAYS



**28**

AVERAGE DAYS  
ON THE MARKET

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## VIRTUAL 2021 MLK DAY OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES

The Borough of Garwood is excited to announce that residents and businesses throughout the Borough donated more than 1,100 hygiene kits and over 100 sandwiches on the 2021 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, which was held virtually on January 18, 2021, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The activities celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and focused on his community-building efforts and service to others.

“It’s been a challenging year for everyone, but there’s so much we can still give,” said Garwood Council President Jennifer Blumenstock. “While

we can’t be together, we can always show Garwood’s community spirit.”

The activities included making sandwiches for the Elizabeth Coalition for the Homeless, cards for active military and veterans at Operation Gratitude, and hygiene kits for homeless teens at Visions and Pathways.

Residents were encouraged to do one activity or do them all from the safety of their homes and then dropped them off outside Borough Hall on January 18 from 1-3 p.m.

For more information, please visit [garwood.org/mlkday](http://garwood.org/mlkday).



## ANNOUNCING THE NEW OFFICE OF DR. EDWARD SOMMA IN BERKELEY HEIGHTS

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Edward Anthony Somma, MD  
Internal Medicine

After graduating from medical school, Dr Somma served his internship in Internal Medicine at Trinitas Regional Medical Center. He then completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Seton Hall Post Graduate School of Medicine, where he was elected Chief Resident of Internal Medicine in his final year.

Dr. Somma has been in practice in Union and Middlesex counties for over 20 years, with an emphasis on excellence and compassion for his patients. He has served as the physician for the Elizabeth Fire Department, the Board of Health of Hillside and has served the Board of Education for Woodbridge NJ. He was granted the Humanitarian of the Year Award by Trinitas Health Foundation in May 2014, for his dedication to the community and his outstanding service to the goals of the Foundation.

Dr. Somma has special interests in various fields of Internal Medicine, including diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular diseases and arthritis/rheumatology. He has represented to major pharmaceutical companies, such as Schering-Plough and Pfizer, in a consulting and educational role for his peers. Dr. Somma has been a clinical educator for Seton Hall’s Physician Assistant Program as an Associate Professor of Medicine for their Internal Medicine program.



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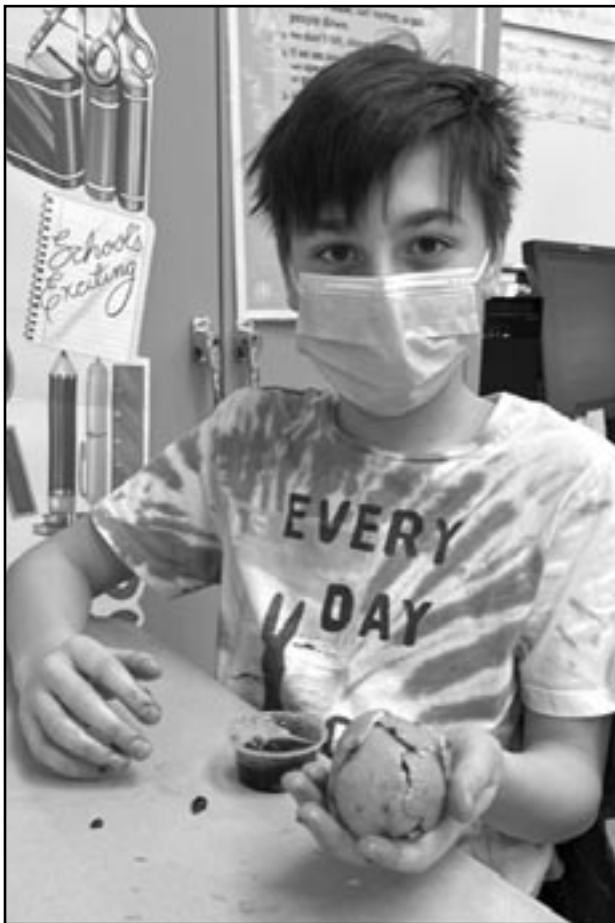
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Follow Garwood First Aid Squad on Facebook



## STUDENTS MODEL PLATE TECTONICS

Students in Mrs. Bree's 6th grade Earth Science class enjoyed a hands-on lab modeling plate tectonics. Clementines were used to represent Earth. Students could see how rigid peels of the lithosphere floated on the moveable solid jelly of the asthenosphere.



Photos by Garwood Public Schools

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## A DREAM COME TRUE WEDDING FOR COUPLE WITH DISABILITIES

*Submitted by Erin Jerome, CAU*

After six months of physical separation during COVID-19 lockdown, Megan and Maurice Stephens couldn't wait to be together and say their vows.

"COVID-19 wasn't going to stop our wedding," Megan said. It was meant to be, according to Maurice.

From the time they met at a Halloween party held by Community Access Unlimited (CAU), the two instantly connected and took things slowly to make the relationship a lasting one, Megan said. CAU is a Union County-based, statewide nonprofit that strives to integrate people with disabilities and youth at risk into the general community through comprehensive supports.

Maurice proposed to Megan on her birthday in June of 2019 at one of her favorite places to eat, the Rainforest Cafe.

"I was scared and nervous but I knew Megan would be happy no matter what," he said.

A few months into planning their nuptials, the couple realized that their plans to have a large wedding wouldn't be possible due to the pandemic. To make matters worse, they were separated while quarantined at different CAU residential programs.

"We couldn't see each other and it was very hard," Megan said. "It did make our wedding day more special."

Thankfully, their family and support system at CAU stepped up to make their special day possible and find the couple the perfect apartment in Fanwood, where they moved just in time for the wedding. On October 17, the couple were married before their closest family members and friends in a garden at Warinanco Park in Roselle.

"It was important for us to invite CAU members and staff because they really are a second family for both Megan and Maurice - we really wanted to share the day with them," said Marguerite Modero, Megan's mother. Rolando Zorrilla, managing assistant executive director of youth services at the agency, served as the best man.

Modero teaches music and theater classes at the CAU Academy of Continuing Education and is the founder and director of the CAU Community Players, an inclusive theatre group made up of performers with and without disabilities.

Maurice has brought his talents in painting and visual arts to CAU productions to share in the family's love of musical theater. He said Megan's passion for the shows convinced him to join in.

"Maurice is a very creative person and he fits in perfectly with our family," Modero said. "It meant so much to have everyone at CAU at the wedding, because without the staff at CAU they would not have made this journey into adulthood and found this love."

Through employment supports at CAU, both Megan and Maurice are working part-time to help finance their independence.

"Maurice is one of a kind - he loves me a lot and he cares for me," Megan said. "We share a lot of happiness and ups and downs. We have a lot of togetherness and we understand each other...We were very excited to move in together. I want to be on my own and independent."

Many people discount that people with disabilities want to find love and companionship, according to Modero.

"I think as advocates of people with disabilities we need to say that they deserve love and a

relationship and their happily ever after if it's possible," she said. "I'm grateful to CAU for having an enlightened perspective on marriage. They treated them as two adults with dignity and understood they were in love."

Megan agreed that finding love can mean taking chances to connect with others in your community.

"I would definitely tell people with disabilities to not be afraid to get out there and do things," she said.

Maurice added that they have already started asking other CAU couples when they plan to tie the knot.

To learn more about CAU, visit [caunj.org](http://caunj.org) or follow the agency on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Learn more about supporting the agency and become a monthly donor at [caunj.org/support-us/](http://caunj.org/support-us/).

### ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), celebrating more than 40 years in 2020, supports people with special needs in achieving real lives in the community. CAU provides support and gives voice to adults and youth who traditionally have little support and no voice in society. CAU helps people with housing, life skills, employment, money management, socialization and civic activities. CAU also supports opportunities for advocacy through training in assertiveness, decision-making and civil rights. CAU currently serves more than 4,000 individuals and families, with the number served growing each year. For more information about CAU and its services, contact us by phone at 908-354-3040, online at [caunj.org](http://caunj.org) or by mail at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.



(above) Mr. and Mrs. Stephens at their wedding in Warinanco Park.



## GARWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY MARCH EVENTS

411 3rd Ave, Garwood, NJ • (908) 789-1670 • [www2.youseemore.com/garwood/](http://www2.youseemore.com/garwood/)  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am to 4 pm, Tuesday, Thursday from 9 am to 7 pm.  
and Saturday 10 am to 1 pm

Please register by phone or on the Garwood Library's events calendar. Once registered a Zoom link will be provided. For more information and to register for programs, call 908-789-1670 or email [garwoodlibrary@garwood.org](mailto:garwoodlibrary@garwood.org).

### Library Board Meeting

March 3 at 7:30 p.m.

A meeting of the Garwood Library Board of Trustees will take place in the Library. This meeting is open to the public. Masks and social distancing are required.

### Virtual Red-Hot Robotics

March 4 at 3 p.m.

Kids will explore the basic and complex technology used to design and build robots. Each participant will pick up a robot kit before the start of the program. The program is open to children in grades 2 to 6. The class is limited to 20 participants.

### Book Discussion Group via Zoom

March 15 at 1 p.m.

Join us for a lively discussion of this month's book. Check with the Library for their latest book selection.

### Virtual Kid's Craft

March 16, at 3 p.m.

Pick up craft supplies from 10 am to 7 pm on the 16th and follow the Facebook tutorial at 3 pm. Registration is required and is limited to 15 participants.

### Declutter with Jamie Novak

March 16 at 7 p.m.

Join bestselling author and organizing humorist Jamie Novak for a virtual program where she will reveal 10 organizing projects you can do while you're stuck at home! These tasks will help you calm the chaos, and feel more accomplished and connected while you have more time at home.

### Mission: Code

March 17, 24, and 31 at 3 p.m.

Learn essential coding skills while also engaging in active games and hands-on learning. Each of the 8 coding sessions provides kids with a fundamental skill set including algorithms, functions, relative directions and sequences. The program will run through May 12. There is no class April 7. Limit 15. For kids' in 2nd through 6th grade.

### Virtual Adult Craft

March 23 at 3 p.m.

Pick up your craft supplies from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and watch the Facebook tutorial at 3 pm. Registration is required and is limited to 10 participants.

### Cartooning with Doug Baron

March 25 at 3:30 p.m.

Join professional cartoonist and graphic artist Doug Bowen and learn how to draw your favorite Japanese Anime characters and improve your artistic skills. Program is open to children ages 8 and up, teens and adults.

## JOIN THE GARWOOD GREEN TEAM

The Garwood Green Team has launched a call for new members.

The Garwood Green Team has launched a call for new members to join the Borough's non-partisan group of volunteers working to beautify Garwood and make it a more environmentally sustainable place to live. The Garwood Green Team develops plans, implements programs, and assists with educational opportunities that support creating a sustainable community.

The Garwood Green Team organizes and participates in a variety of activities and events in our community, including:

- Spring Planting and Weeding of JFK Plaza and Georgiana Park
- Fall Decorating of Borough Hall & JFK Plaza
- Clean Communities Day
- Trick-Or-Trunk for Garwood PTA

- Adopt-A-Pot Fundraiser
  - Planting and Maintenance of the Rain Garden at the Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex
  - Adopt-A-Park Butterfly Garden at Unami Park
- The Garwood Green Team is part of the Borough's requirements participating in the Sustainable Jersey certification program, which supports efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, improve public health, stimulate local economies, increase resiliency, and progress toward an equitable society.

The Sustainable Jersey program includes nearly 400 Green Teams. Each Green Team represents a municipality in New Jersey that is registered with Sustainable Jersey.

To learn more about the Garwood Green Team, contact Council President Jen Blumenstock at [jblumenstock@garwood.org](mailto:jblumenstock@garwood.org).

## WESTFIELD AREA YMCA SPRING T-BALL LEAGUES

Submitted by Bonnie Cohen

The Westfield Area YMCA is pleased to offer T-Ball Leagues for Preschool (ages 4-5) and Kindergarten (ages 5-6) children this spring. Leagues will meet in the T-ball fields at the Garwood Family Center YMCA, 500 East St. in Garwood. Practices will be held once a week for one hour between 5:30-7:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Games will be held on Saturday mornings. The season runs for 10 weeks from April 5 – June 12. All players will receive a jersey and a hat.

The three fields at the Garwood Family Center Y feature a full perimeter fence, shade tents, and access to the Y's outdoor playgrounds and indoor bathrooms. The fields have a "home run" fence, with the newest field having painted lines and dirt base paths.

To register for the Spring T-Ball Leagues, visit [westfieldynj.org](http://westfieldynj.org). Questions? Please contact Mike Eagan at [meagan@westfieldynj.org](mailto:meagan@westfieldynj.org) or call 908-301-YMCA (9622) x239.



(above) The Westfield Area YMCA has opened registration for T-Ball Leagues for Preschool (ages 4-5) and Kindergarten (ages 5-6) children this spring.

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# MAKING MAGICAL MEMORIES AT CAMP FATIMA

Submitted by Sue Baldani

Like most nonprofit organizations, Camp Fatima of New Jersey is experiencing major challenges due to COVID-19. Founded in 1968 by four Seton Hall seminary students, the camp offers free sleep-away programs for disabled children and adults. And it's determined to continue doing so. Seeing the smiles on the faces of those it serves, and providing a respite to their families, is not something that can be sacrificed due to a pandemic.

And smile they do. It's not called FATIMAGIC for nothing. The campers, regardless of their disabilities, get to do things that most able-bodied children and adults take for granted. They splash around in pools, sing songs, eat s'mores, dance, and take part in arts and crafts. Every child has his or her own dedicated counselor to ensure the utmost care, so each activity can be individually tailored according to the camper's ability.

Its mission statement, "Camp Fatima provides free, life enriching camp experiences for children and adults with developmental disabilities," says it all. Some of the campers are in wheelchairs, while others have neurological, sensory or other serious issues. Camp Fatima and its volunteers open their hearts to all who come. It truly is a magical place.

The volunteers come from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. Most have experience working directly with the disabled,

and include teachers, nurses, police officers, firefighters, college students and other professionals. For these selfless individuals, the sounds of laughter and the looks of pure joy on the campers' faces are all the payment they need.

Many of these volunteers live locally. Billy Malone, a Scotch Plains firefighter and Fanwood resident, became a volunteer in 1994 and has been the chairperson for the past 13 years. Scotch Plains resident and former Scotch Plains police officer, Jamie Denman, has been a volunteer since 1979, and is the current director.

Even though no one at the camp is paid, all this magic requires funding. It costs several hundred thousand dollars to operate the two children's summer sessions and the four adult weekends each year. Funding to support and host the more

than 200 campers and over 450 on site-volunteers comes from generous benefactors, corporate matching gifts, private giving, and fundraising. Because of COVID-19, many of the usual fundraisers are not able to take place. So this year, Camp Fatima is looking for individuals to sponsor a camper. The cost to feed, house, and supply materials to each camper is more than \$1,000.

To find out more about Camp Fatima, or to volunteer, make a donation, or sponsor a camper, please go to [campfatimanj.org/](http://campfatimanj.org/). Since the camp is a designated 501(c) (3) organization, all donations may be tax-deductible.

Camp Fatima of New Jersey: Changing Lives, Enriching Hearts - One Camper, One Volunteer at a Time.



Photos by Camp Fatima

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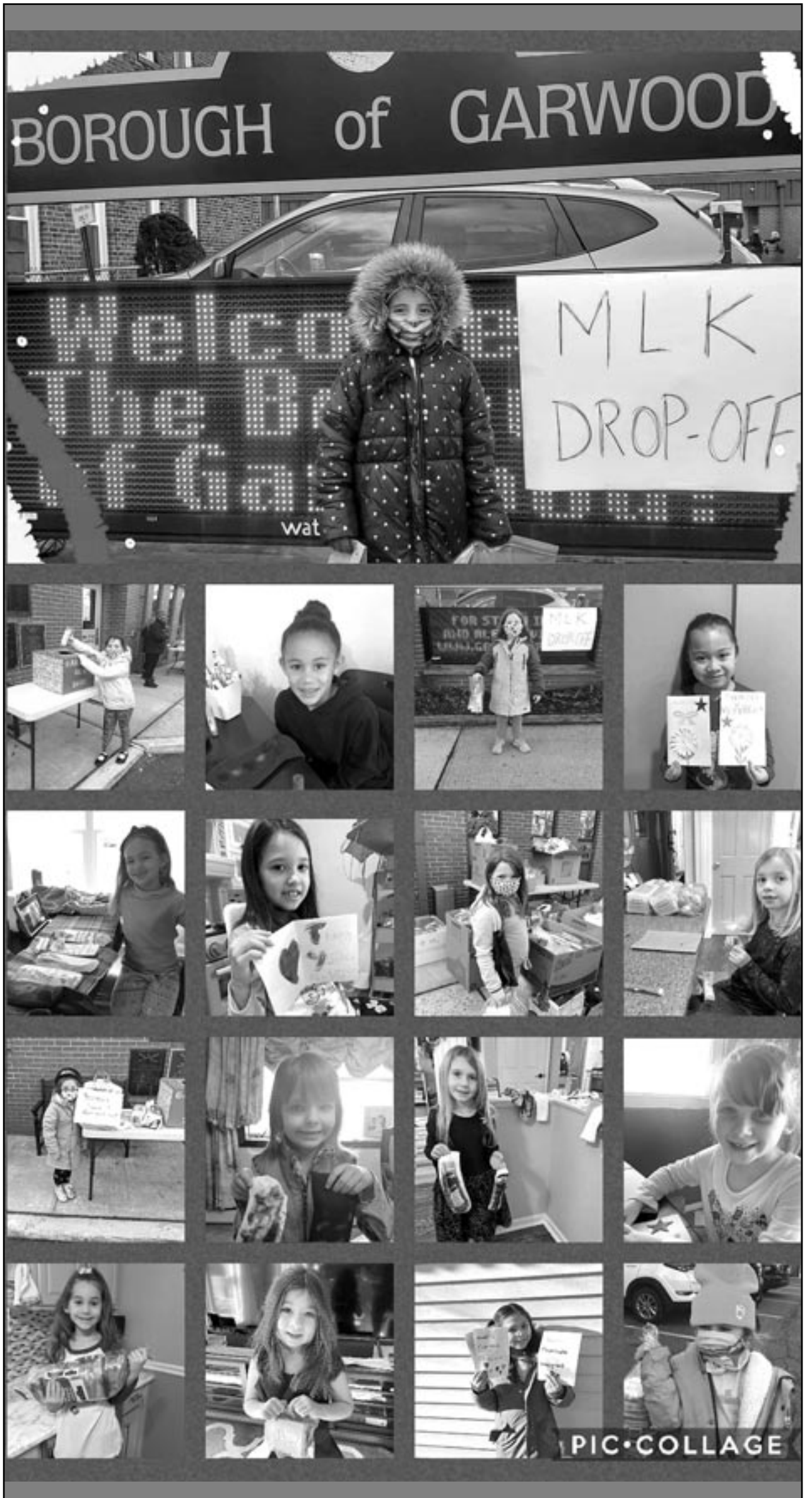


## DAISYS GIVE BACK TO COMMUNITY

On Monday, January 18, 2020, Garwood Daisy Troop #41108 participated in their first virtual community service event, "Garwood MLK Jr. Day". The girls made cards for Veterans, made hygiene kits for the homeless teens at Vision and Pathways, made sandwiches for the Elizabeth Coalition for the homeless and decorated socks with grippers for local nursing homes.

"This has been a tough year for this Troop with not being able to do things together, but they come together virtually to accomplish their goals," Troop Leader Vanessa Schubring said.

The girls were also able to earn their "Good Neighbor" and "Democracy" badges during the month of January thanks to our very own Garwood Police Chief, James Wright, Hoboken Fire Chief Brian Crimmins, Mayor Sara Todisco and Councilwoman President Jennifer Blumenstock. Chief Wright, Fire Chief Crimmins and Mayor Todisco graciously answered questions via videos and zoom meetings for the girls. The girls were given a virtual tour of the police station and the firehouse. Councilwoman Blumenstock told the girls about her background, and read them a book about Ruth Bader Ginsburg. The girls all wrote cards and/or made videos to express their gratitude.



(above) Garwood Daisy Troop 41108 was busy in the month of January with service activities and earning badges.

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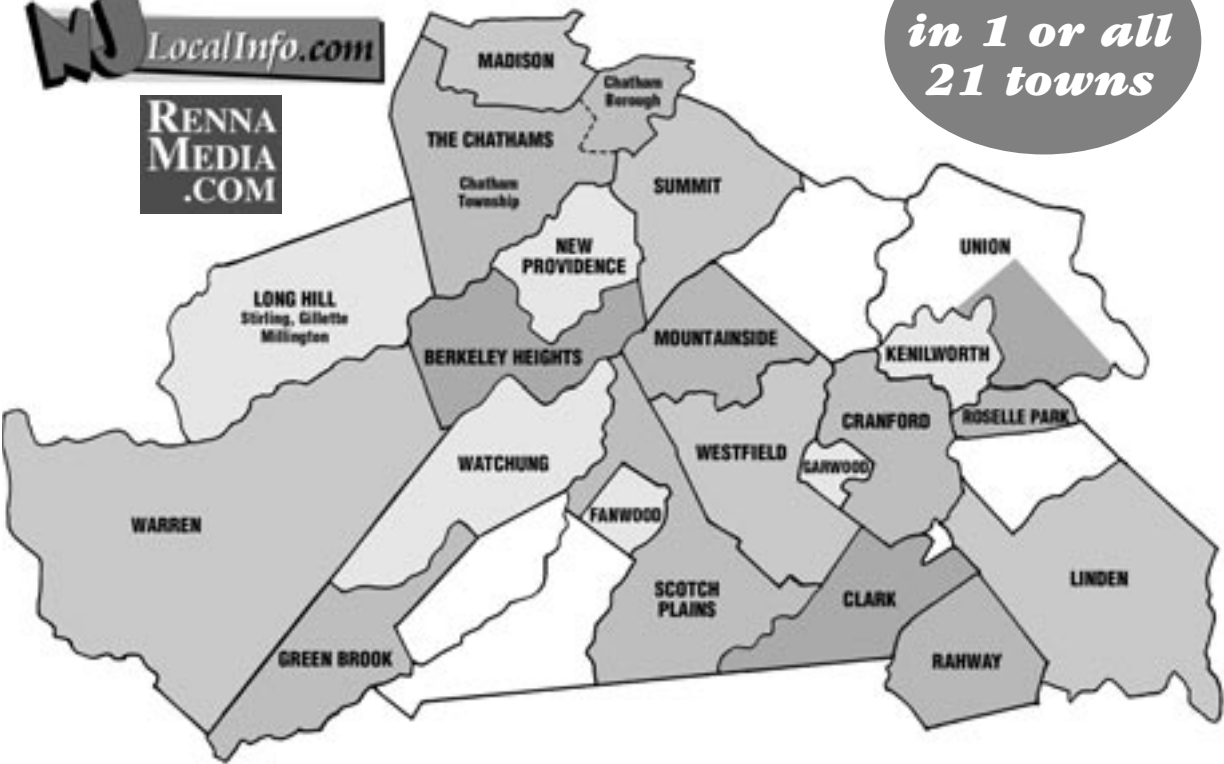
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Qty: 9,600  
Mailed to every home and business.  
Zip: 07901



Qty: 5,500  
5,000 mailed to homes and businesses.  
Zip: 07083



Qty: 6,200  
Mailed to every home and business.  
Zip: 07059



Qty: 2,800  
Mailed to every home and business.  
Zip: 07069



Qty: 11,800  
Mailed to every home and business.  
Zip: 07090

### NEWSPAPER AD RATES

Rates are per month. Artwork included in price. Newspapers are black on white.

| Units                  | Size                     | RATE FOR ANY 1 NEWSPAPER | RATE FOR ANY 3 NEWSPAPERS | RATE FOR ANY 6 NEWSPAPERS | RATE FOR ANY 9 NEWSPAPERS | RATE FOR ANY 12 NEWSPAPERS | RATE FOR ANY 15 NEWSPAPERS | RATE FOR ANY 18 NEWSPAPERS | RATE FOR ALL 21 NEWSPAPERS |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Unit (Business card) | 3.25" x 2"               | \$60                     | \$150                     | \$250                     | \$350                     | \$400                      | \$450                      | \$500                      | \$550                      |
| 2 Units                | 6.5" x 2" or 3.25" x 4"  | \$100                    | \$250                     | \$400                     | \$500                     | \$600                      | \$700                      | \$800                      | \$900                      |
| 4 Units                | 3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"  | \$180                    | \$450                     | \$700                     | \$900                     | \$1100                     | \$1300                     | \$1500                     | \$1700                     |
| 6 Units                | 6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4" | \$240                    | \$600                     | \$900                     | \$1200                    | \$1400                     | \$1600                     | \$1800                     | \$2000                     |
| 9 HALF PAGE            | 6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"    | \$320                    | \$800                     | \$1000                    | \$1300                    | \$1600                     | \$1900                     | \$2200                     | \$2400                     |
| 12 Units               | 10" x 8"                 | \$360                    | \$900                     | \$1200                    | \$1500                    | \$1800                     | \$2100                     | \$2400                     | \$2700                     |
| 18 FULL PAGE           | 10" x 14"                | \$400                    | \$1000                    | \$1400                    | \$1800                    | \$2200                     | \$2500                     | \$2800                     | \$3000                     |
| 2 PAGE SPREAD          | 21" x 14"                | \$700                    |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| BACK PAGE              | 10" x 14"                | \$500                    |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| FRONT PAGE BANNER      | 8.25" x 2"               | \$320                    |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| FRONT PAGE BOX         | 1.5" x 4.5"              | \$240                    |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                            |                            |

Back cover, front page banner and front box reserved on first come, first served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

**PREPAY 6 MONTHS AND GET 1 MORE FREE  
PREPAY 12 MONTHS AND GET 3 MORE FREE**

Make Checks payable to Renna Media, 202 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016

# Full Service Online Marketing

## ONLINE ADS & PRESS RELEASES DRIVE LOCAL TRAFFIC TO YOUR WEBSITE

- **Get unlimited clicks**

An alternative to expensive pay-per-click programs

- **Free ad design and copywriting**

Advertising webpage includes many features including write-up, images, video, Google map, etc.

- **Paid search engine promotions**

Posts are promoted by industry, key words and location.

- **Posts are shared through social media**

Posts shared on multiple Facebook pages and twitter.

- **Trackable results**

All ads include a live view counter.

RENNA  
MEDIA  
.COM

**NJ** LocalInfo.com

**\$20  
PER POST  
Block of 20  
for \$200**

**Joe Renna at 908-447-1295**

email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com

## WEBSITE AUDIT/ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION PLAN

- **See what is working and not working**

Know where your web traffic is coming from and why.

- **Eliminate / avoid costly schemes**

Evaluate the return you are getting from your online marketing costs.

- **Increase online marketing results**

Recommendations include ways to increase traffic to your website

- **No obligation**

This service is recommended even if you have an existing web management contract. Use it to tune up your marketing plan.

**Joe Renna at 908-447-1295**

email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com

**Call for a consultation if you do not have a website or need a new one.**

**ONE TIME  
FLAT FEE  
\$250**

## WEBSITE / SEO SERVICES

- **Starter Website: \$500**

Basic static site that can be developed further

- **Website creation/update: \$2,400**

Cost for average website: 12 pages, contact form, SEO friendly, responsive design

- **Website Hosting: \$300 per year**

Includes website hosting, software updates, monthly website content updates

- **SEO Services: Average cost \$1,000 - \$2,000 per month**

Custom tailored solutions: Google Ranking, Local SEO, Social Marketing

**STARTER  
WEBSITE  
\$500**

**Call for free a consultation if you need  
help developing an online marketing plan.**


**Joe Renna at 908-447-1295**

email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com



Call Today for a Free Estimate!  855.624.6655



AS SEEN ON  
**GEORGE TO THE RESCUE**  


*Magnolia*<sup>TM</sup>  
HOME REMODELING GROUP

ROOFING | SIDING | WINDOWS  
KITCHENS | BATHROOMS | BASEMENTS  
MASONRY | DECKS | PORCHES



#### Payment Plans

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| WINDOWS \$209  | BASEMENTS \$395     |
| KITCHENS \$389 | BATHROOMS \$199     |
| ROOFING \$249  | DECKS/PATIOS \$189  |
| SIDING \$289   | PORCHES/STEPS \$185 |

0% Plans Available!

Estimated monthly payments.  
Rates & payments based on credit approval.

**VIRTUAL MEETINGS ALSO AVAILABLE**

**Interior & Exterior Remodeling | Family Owned & Operated**

**100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | 30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE**

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