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LINCOLN SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Garwood Public Schools

The Student Council at Lincoln School coordinated the collection of over 800 items for the annual "Souper Bowl of Caring" food drive. Families were encouraged to donate soup and crackers, but any non-perishable food items were welcome and appreciated.

This year's initiative resulted in over 800 items being divided between the Five Loaves Food Pantry in Garwood and the Saint Joseph Social Center in Elizabeth.

The endeavor would not be possible without the assistance of the members of the Knights of Columbus who have generously offered their time (and their wheels!) for over two decades to deliver donations.

Over forty bags and boxes were freely shared by families of Lincoln School students. Of note was the first-grade homeroom of Mrs. O'Dell whose students donated, on average, over 14 items each! They will receive a pretzel party, compliments of the Student Council. The advisor of the group is Tamara Benc.



(above) Student Council Secretary
Gabriel Bellomo with the K of C volunteers loading one truck.

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GarwoodTimes_{NJ}

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ALJ GRADUATE SHARES LIFE EXPERIENCE WITH STUDENTS

Clark Public Schools

Matthew Gallo, 2017 class president and graduate of Arthur L. Johnson High School, visited his alma mater to share his experiences as a nursing major. Gallo, who graduated from Mount Saint Mary College with a BSN in nursing in 2021, visited Mrs. Bernadette Jacobi's Premedical studies and Anatomy students. Gallo shared his experiences with his coursework, his clinicals and rotations as well as the rigor, sacrifices, and dedication it took to successfully complete his program. In addition, as a former student of the Premed program at ALJ, Gallo pointed out that he had first-hand experience in realizing the opportunity he had to build a solid foundation in basic medical studies prior to attending nursing school, which put him at a great advantage over others in his class. He has been working as an ER nurse at RWJ Rahway for the last two and a half years.

Through sharing his experience, Premed and Anatomy students were able to gain an invaluable, practical understanding of what is required in the field helping them to see how what they learn in the classroom extends to future careers.

Matt's passion for his calling and his hard work have been recognized by his administrators at the hospital, and he was just promoted to "Clinical Coordinator" which gives him more responsibilities, while maintaining a patient base.

Mrs. Jacobi stated, "I am so excited to see how Matthew has grown as a medical professional,

and so honored to have been a part of his journey. His experiences seem to have defined him, and his love of his career and the passion he has for caring for people goes above and beyond. He has an amazingly warm heart, which pulls people in and allows his patients to feel comfortable around him, which is such an important part of his character. My students connected with him instantly as he shared his stories."



(above) ALJ Graduate Matthew Gallo recently shared his experience with Premedical Studies and Anatomy class students.



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WEBINAR ON TALKING TO KIDS ABOUT DEATH AND DYING



(above) Scan QR Code for Webinar on Talking to Kids about Death and Dying

Imagine

“A child can live with anything as long as he or she is told the truth and is allowed to share with loved ones the natural feelings people have when they are suffering.” – Eda LeShan

We often struggle to find the words to talk to kids about life changing diagnoses, illness and death. Sometimes, we feel so unsure of what to say that we don’t say anything at all. But our kids need to be given the opportunity to engage in honest conversations about these life changing events.

The staff at Imagine are offering a free webinar to help community members navigate these difficult conversations. On Thursday, March 14th from 7-8:30 p.m., Imagine will offer a webinar on Talking to Kids about Death and Dying. Those attending the webinar will learn to:

- Recognize that grief begins at diagnosis
- Describe how children grieve at different developmental stages
- Develop tools for creating a safe space where children can share their feelings
- Discover ways to navigate conversations about diagnosis, illness and death

If you’d like to join us for this webinar, please visit our website at imagine-nj.org or scan the QR code below to register. Once you register, you’ll receive a zoom link to join us on March 14th. Please contact Imagine’s Training and Education Director, Veronica C Ortiz, LPC at veronica@imagine-nj.org with any questions.

Because loss is inevitable, it’s so important that we have open conversations with our kids in these difficult moments. We hope that you can join us as we work to create a world where no child grieves alone.

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LIBRARY EVENTS

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or email garwoodlibrary@garwood.org.

Monday and Tuesday 9 am to 8 pm,

Wednesday and Thursday 10 am to 8 pm,

Friday 10 am to 4:30 pm,

Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm;

Sunday Closed. The Library will be closed

March 29 and 30 for Easter.

Knitting Club

March 4, 11, 18, and 25 6 at 10:30 a.m.

Join our Knitting Club. Open to all levels. Whether you're a beginner or you want to share your vast knowledge of knitting. Spend an hour being creative and socializing. No Registration required. Yarn and needles provided to newcomers.

Storytime

March 5, 12, 19, and 26

at 10 am and 11 am

Join Miss Maryanne for stories, bubbles and more. Registration required.

Virtual Kid's Craft

March 5 at 3 p.m.

Pick up your craft supplies at 3 pm and then watch the Facebook tutorial. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 15 participants. Sign up on the Library website's events calendar or by phone.

Library Board Meeting

March 6 at 7:30 pm at the Library

A meeting of the Garwood Library Board of Trustees will take place in the Library. This meeting is open to the public.

Brixology

March 7, 14, 21 and 22

Using Legos kids will build engineering themed projects each week. They will explore mechanical, structural, and nautical engineering. For kids in 2nd grade and older. Registration required.

LEGO CLUB

March 13 and 27 at 3 pm

Be inspired by this month's theme or build whatever comes to mind. Some will be displayed in our showcase. Registration required Limit 12

Virtual Adult Craft

March 12, at 3 p.m.

Pick up your craft supplies and instructions from the Library. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 10 participants. Sign up on the Library website's events calendar or by phone.

Book Discussion Group

March 18, 21, at 1:00 p.m.

Join us in the library for a lively discussion of this month's book, "Trust" by Herman Diaz.

DRIVER'S ED. PRESENTATION FOR SOPHOMORES

Clark Public Schools

Students in Laura Bundy's Driver Education class at ALJ High School met Judge Gary Bundy on January 31st. Judge Bundy has served as the Municipal Court Judge for over fifteen years in Roselle Park and Garwood, NJ. He spoke about many essential topics dealing

with teen driving and the law. There are many different laws drivers have to abide by, especially new drivers. Judge Bundy spoke about provisional license, underage DUI, DWI and illegal drug use in a vehicle. The students were very engaged in each topic and asked some excellent questions.



(above, l-r) John Brown, Max Fernandez, Brayden Severini, Mostaffa El Hady Lucas Rojas, Raphael Da Rocha, Matthew Robertazzi, Chase Polak, Eric Torres, Madison Firestone, Avery Forfa, Frank Mentzel, Mia DePinho, Nick Carlucci, Grant Stisi, Ella Rishko, and Briana Dreher.

Courtesy photos

GIRL SCOUTS HOST FIRST CANSTRUCTION EVENT

Submitted by Lucia Triolo WGS

Westfield Girl Scouts successfully hosted its first Canstruction Jr. event on Saturday, Feb. 10. Seven teams of Junior, Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Scouts took on the challenge of using canned goods to build various structures. The 4th-12th graders had up to six hours to complete the designs, with the goal of bringing attention to food insecurity in our area.

On Sunday, the same teams returned to the Presbyterian Church in Westfield to sort and distribute the near 2,500 shelf-stable items. Recipient organizations included:

- Presbyterian Church in Westfield, Westfield
- Church of the Immaculate Heart Food Pantry, Scotch Plains
- Valerie's Soup Kitchen, Plainfield
- Little Flower Church Food Pantry, Berkeley Heights
- David Brearley High School Care Closet, Kenilworth
- St. Anne's Food Pantry, Garwood
- St. Joseph's Social Services, Elizabeth
- Osceola Presbyterian Church Food Pantry, Clark
- El Centro Hispano Americano, Plainfield

Canstruction® is an international campaign that raises awareness about hunger while facilitating the donation of thousands of pounds of canned food to those in need. Participants incorporate engineering, visual arts, mathematics, project management, and 3D

rendering principles all while learning the importance of community service.

Congratulations to the participating Girl Scouts on their hard work and creative approach to the design challenge.



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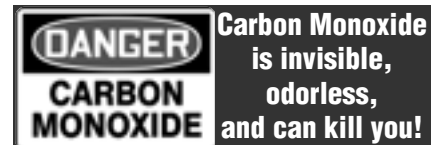
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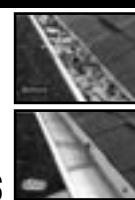
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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WOMEN VOLUNTEERS

The Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield (JLEP) is pleased to announce that in 2024 we will be awarding three \$4,000 scholarships to college bound women who reside in Union County and demonstrate a passion for volunteerism.

The JLEP believes that volunteerism is a vital force in our community, and we support young women who share our passion by awarding scholarships to college-bound high school seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to volunteer activities. The scholarships will be awarded in May 2024.

To be considered for a scholarship, applicants are asked to complete the application form, write a 300-to-400-word essay about their volunteer experiences, and provide two letters of recommendation. The application form is available on our website, jlepnj.org, or can also be obtained by sending a request via email to scholarship@jlepnj.org or by leaving a message with your address and/or email address at 908-709-1177.

The deadline for submitting applications is April 5, 2024. There will be a formal presentation of the scholarships to the recipients at the JLEP's Annual Dinner on May 22, 2024.

To find out more about the League's scholarship program or about how to join as a member, please contact the League at 908-709-1177, via email at scholarship@jlepnj.org, or visit our website at jlepnj.org.

ABOUT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ELIZABETH PLAINFIELD

The Junior League of Elizabeth Plainfield is a chapter of the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. and is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Learn more: jlepnj.org.

ALJ HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS MEAN GIRLS

The hit musical based on the immensely popular movie, Mean Girls, will be performed on the ALJ stage in March. The halls of ALJ have been bristling and buzzing with excitement in anticipation for these girls to hit the stage.

Director Peter Nevargic says he has never experienced such early enthusiasm for an ALJ production since he announced it back in December. "Many staff and so many students have expressed their excitement and all say they cannot wait to see this show!"

Seniors who have made the ALJ stage their second home and will be taking their final bows are Isa Moreira (Stage Manager), Jason Conrad, Taylor Normann, Maya Soares, and Isabel Cortese. They are giving their all for their last performances in Mean Girls. Other seniors who will be making their first and last appearances on the ALJ stage are Jordan Nieves and Grace Wright.

Nevargic is especially pleased to have the

entire creative team of Mean Girls to be made up entirely of ALJ Alumni: Director-Nevargic ('80), Technical Director-Ryan Kowalenkob ('16), Vocal Music Director-Rebecca (Dias) Pacella ('12), Choreographer-Lauren Newby ('01), Hair & Makeup-Lisa (Marconi) Appuzio & Stacy Costabile ('82), and set builders Roy George ('93) and Ty Dobbins ('19).

This wonderful cast and crew hope you all will come out to see what promises to be one of ALJ's most dynamic and exciting shows. Tickets will be available at the door.

PG-13 Some material may be inappropriate for very young audiences.

PERFORMANCE DATES:

March 21ST, 22ND, & 23RD - 7 p.m.
Tickets: \$5.00 for Students & Senior Citizens
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MEAN GIRLS

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FROM THE ARCHIVES – GARWOOD HISTORY

Submitted by Carol Lombardo, Historical Committee Chair

DID YOU KNOW...

Although Garwood will turn a mere 121 years old in March, there is a lot of history in the borough if you just look around. Our tiny borough was once the “Industrial Hub of Union County” as indicated by the Great Seal of the Borough which hangs in the Garwood Council Chambers. Many internationally known manufacturing companies had a facility in this town, notably because of the railroad tracks that ran through its center. Now replaced by commuter trains, freight trains were a common sight crossing over Center Street. One notable business is the Aeolian Company whose castle-like façade is all that remains of a once burgeoning business. Many Aeolian Organs are still in use today such as the one at the Longwood Gardens Conservatory and on Royal Street in the French Quarter of New Orleans.

Other notable industries, now long gone, are: Diamond Expansion Bolt which stood across from the Garwood Shop-Rite on North Avenue, and Beckley Perforating Company is now the site of the CVS at the corner of Cedar Street and North Avenue. Once a vital industrial center, Garwood was home to Wadell Equipment Company which manufactured automotive and aeronautical maintenance equipment, Magnus Chemical Company which produced cleaners for home and industry and National Gypsum Company that manufactured wallboard and building lath, acoustical products, shingles and siding as well as plaster and insulation materials.

Two of our more famous claims to fame are: Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) which stood where Vermella is now located and the Thatcher Furnace Company which pioneered warm air heating since the 1930s and was a leader in their field. The Kings Shopping Mall was built on the site of Thatcher Furnace.

This is only a sampling of Garwood’s rich industrial history. Housing sprang up in the early 1900s to house the workers for these many industries that provided materials throughout Union County, the east coast and other parts of

the country, leading to the creation of our town.

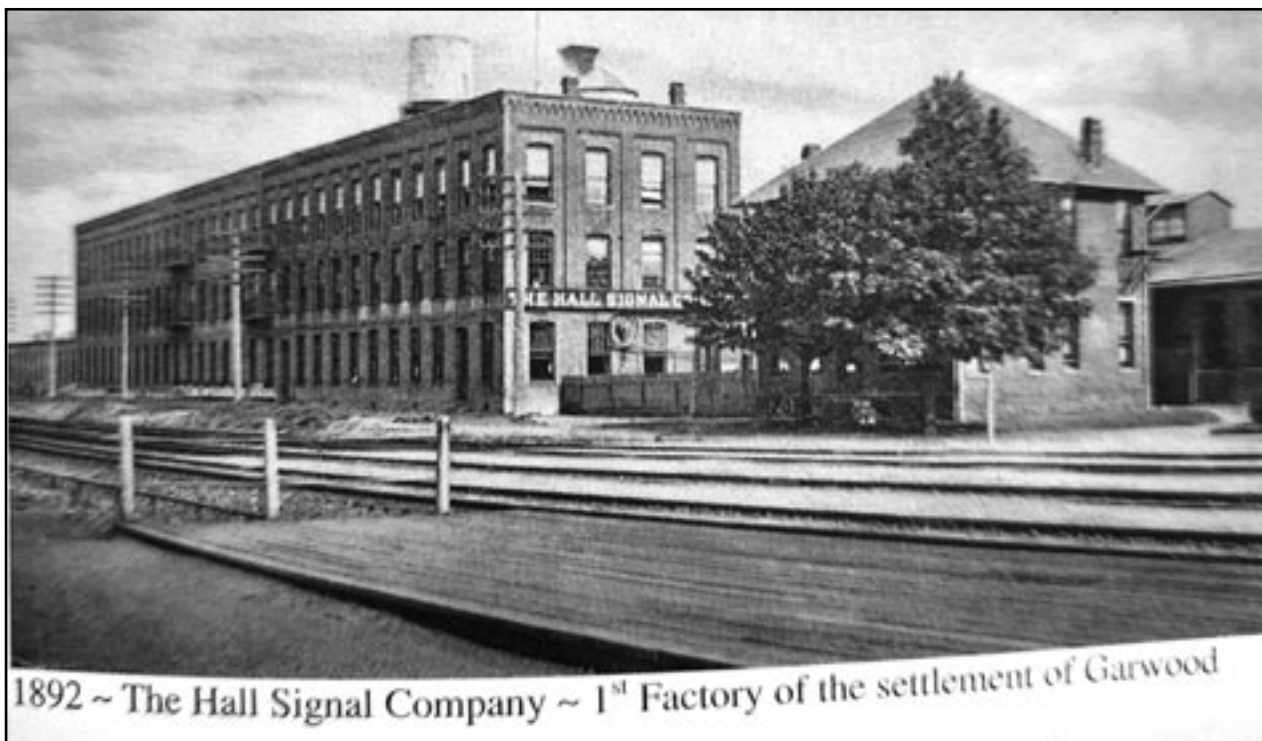
The Garwood Historical Committee is the repository of Garwood’s historical memorabilia and artifacts. If you have photos or artifacts from Garwood’s past, the Committee would like to hear from you. If you don’t want to part with your items, we can photograph and scan the item and return it to you, otherwise, we would be pleased to retain it for safekeeping for generations to come. You can reach Garwood’s Historical Committee at garwoodhistory@garwood.org or you can attend one of our meetings, usually held on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in Garwood’s Council Chambers. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Garwood Historical Committee, please contact the Borough Office at 908-789-0710.



(left) Seal of Garwood, still in use today.



(above) the Aeolian Organ Company showing the huge size of the pipes being manufactured. (Note there are no floors between the window arrangement, being three stories tall.)



(above) Hall Signal Company, manufacturer of railroad signaling equipment.

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| Florham Park Press NJ Qty: 5,500 Zip: 07932 | Garwood NJ Times Qty: 2,500 Zip: 07027 | Green Brook NJ Gazette Qty: 3,000 Zip: 08812 | BUSINESS • LIFE KENILWORTH NJ Qty: 3,500 Zip: 07033 | NJ LIFE in LINDEN Qty: 17,900 Zip: 07036 | Long Hill LEADER NJ Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980 |
| MADISON MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,300 Zip: 07940 | MOUNTAINVIEW NJ Qty: 2,900 Zip: 07092 | New Providence NEWS NJ Qty: 5,100 Zip: 07974 | OUR TOWN Rahway, NJ Qty: 13,000 Zip: 07065 | ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY Qty: 5,600 Zip: 07204 | Scotch Plains NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY Qty: 9,400 Zip: 07076 |
| Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 8,200 Zips: 07041, 07078 | Summit NJ & Times Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07901 | Spirit of UNION NJ Qty: 6,800 Zip: 07083 (partial) | WARREN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,200 Zip: 07059 | Watchung Post NJ Qty: 2,700 Zip: 07069 | Westfield NJ MONTHLY Qty: 11,800 Zip: 07090 |

NEWSPAPER AD RATES

| Units | Size | 1 TOWN | 3 TOWNS | 6 TOWNS | 9 TOWNS | 12 TOWNS | 15 TOWNS | 18 TOWNS | 21 TOWNS | 24 TOWNS |
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| 1 Unit (Business card) | 3.25" x 2" | \$60 | \$150 | \$250 | \$350 | \$400 | \$450 | \$500 | \$550 | \$600 |
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| 9 HALF PAGE | 6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7" | \$320 | \$800 | \$1000 | \$1300 | \$1600 | \$1900 | \$2200 | \$2400 | \$2700 |
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| 2-PAGE SPREAD | 21" x 14" | \$700 | | | | | | | | |
| BACK PAGE | 10" x 14" | \$500 | | | | | | | | |
| FRONT PAGE BANNER | 8.25" x 2" | \$320 | | | | | | | | |
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Back cover, front page banner and front box reserved on first-come, first-served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

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THE WONDER BAND TO PLAY MARCH 9

The Salem Roadhouse Café presents The Wonder Band – a Tribute to Stevie Wonder’s Music, Saturday, March 9, 2024. The doors open at 7:15 p.m., the show starts at 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 and includes show, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert. The venue is located in the basement of Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities.

The Wonder Band is made up of three extremely talented performers who are well known to the Metro NY/NJ area music scene. Ed Alstrom, leader, is the organist for Yankee Stadium, as well as keyboard player for many famous performers such as Bette Midler, Chuck Berry, Leonard Bernstein, Herbie Hancock and others. The list goes on and on.

Accompanying Ed will be guitarist Al Orlo. Al has recorded with the legendary Ben E. King and was his musical director for 25 years. Al also held the #1 chair at Broadway shows, such as Kinky Boots, Carol King Musical, Hairspray and Smokey Joe’s Café, to name a few.

Bobby Deitch on drums rounds out the trio. Bobby has performed on several recordings such as Richard Sorce’s Latin album “A Place I’ve Never Been” and Richie Hart’s “33 1/3” album.

States Ed Alstrom, “Obviously, Stevie’s music is even more fun to play than it is to listen to. This group does a mix of the hits and some lesser-

known things, without the vocals, and it doesn’t hurt the music one bit not to have them, because they’ll be playing in your mind!

Original artwork by local artist James Spath will be on display at the Roadhouse Gallery of Fine Art for all to enjoy before, during and after the show.

As always, the Salem Roadhouse Café is live, intimate, up front, and personal. All ages are welcome.

ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

It’s not “church music.” It’s music music. Folks who’ve come to the Salem Roadhouse Café know that it’s a clean, safe place for people who enjoy listening to live music — in a world otherwise filled with clubs and bars. The Roadhouse has always offered its stage to local and independent mainstream musicians. Jazz, rock, folk, and other groups have performed.

The Salem Roadhouse Café has raised funds for many carefully chosen charities. They include: The Presbytery of Elizabeth E-port Center, Center For Hope Hospice, Community Food Bank, Monarch Housing, Angel Paws Animal Rescue, National MS Society, Haiti Disaster Relief, Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Program, Making It Possible To End Homelessness, Camp Johnsonburg, The Music Institute, and others. Many thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.



RENNA MEDIA LAUNCHES YOUTUBE PODCAST

Joe Renna

Renna Media has posted its first episode of “Mind Your Own Local Business,” a podcast that gives advice on how to run a successful local business.

This is my 40th year in business and I draw from my experience and expertise to give advice. I have received so much help in my career from mentors and seasoned business owners, and this is a way to pay it forward.

I already offer free one-on-one consultation on putting together business plans and marketing plans. The show would be a way to reach many more people.

I started in business in 1984 as a graphic designer and grew into a full-service marketing and advertising company. Now, along with my wife Tina, we publish twenty-four community newspapers mailing out 160,000 to homes and businesses monthly.

Like the newspapers, the show will serve as a venue to support local community service organizations and events and production costs will be covered by advertisers. There are several marketing and advertising opportunities for businesses to be included with the freedom to be unique and creative.

I am looking forward to having a lot of fun doing the show. It is another application of my Do-What-You-Love mentality. The show is a free-form magazine format production that is flexible. I welcome business owners to join in the fun.

To learn more call me, 908-447-1295, or email joerenna@rennamedia.com.



Scan for First Episode of Mind Your Own Local Business on YouTube.



It would be a tremendous help if viewers Subscribe, Comment, Like & Share the shows.

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