# Garwood Times

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(above) Brownie Troop 41005 helped Garwood get ready for spring by planting flowers around the downtown.

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### NJ FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA PRESENT "MOZART IN THE GARDEN" JUNE 14

A Magical Evening of Music Under the Stars in Westfield



Orchestra's highly acclaimed outdoor concert returns on Saturday, June 14, 2025 with "Mozart in the Garden," a spectacular open-air musical celebration set against the grand backdrop of one of Westfield's finest residences. Concert begins

parking and full accessibility available. Under the direction of Maestro David Wroe,

the NJ Festival Orchestra invites audiences to step into the golden age of European cultural grandeur. From the joyful flair of Mozart's "Prague" Symphony to the toe-tapping rhythms of Kodály's Hungarian folk dances and Elgar's sweeping, romantic elegance, this concert

promises a night of unforgettable charm and

symphonic brilliance under the stars.

The evening opens with the fiery folk rhythms and gypsy spirit of Kodály's Dances of Galánta, a tribute to the Hungarian countryside of the composer's youth. The program continues with the romantic Viennese-sounding elegance of Elgar's Introduction and Allegro, a virtuosic showcase for the NJFO string section.

The evening culminates in a performance of Mozart's joyful and exuberant Symphony No. 38, "Prague," a dazzling work that celebrates the composer's special connection to the city that embraced him.

"Viennese giant Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart East Broad St., Westfield.

Back by popular demand, New Jersey Festival made his home in Vienna but allowed the city of Prague to adopt him, said Maestro Wroe. His "Prague" symphony jumps for joy and displays a bravado and confidence unique amongst his compositions."

"This concert highlights cultural and at 7:30 PM. Gates open at 6 PM. Free on-street geographical empires at the pinnacle of their power, all unified through the power of music," Wroe added.

> Held under the stars with full theatrical lighting, acoustically enhanced sound, and Westfield's historic elegance as the setting, "Mozart in the Garden" promises an unforgettable summer experience.

> "This concert is going to be another phenomenal event," stated NJ Festival Orchestra board member Keith S. Hertell. "We transform my grounds to create a beautiful outdoor performance experience with stage lighting, acoustics, and a fully professional stage. It's a huge undertaking and we are deeply grateful to Ray Catena of Union for their support."

> Admission: \$45 General Lawn Admission (bring your own chairs and refreshments). \$85 VIP Reserved Seating (limited access seating close to the stage with chairs provided)

> Tickets can be purchased online at www.njfestivalorchestra.org, by phone at (908) 232-9400, or in person at the NJFO office, 224



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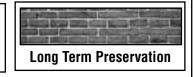




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### GARWOOD ROCKS FESTIVAL - JUNE 1ST

On Sunday June 1st from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Garwood celebrates its 11th Anniversary of its 'Garwood Rocks' Festival, sponsored by Vermella at Garwood Station that attracts over 10,000 people each year from the surrounding communities for a fun day for all ages. Organized by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce [GWACC] and free to all members of the public - Center Street from South Avenue to Unami Park is transformed into an open-air event featuring vendors with merchandise for purchase, live music, Kid Zone rides on Beech Street with inflatable bounce houses, 23 food trucks, and a beer and wine garden for all to enjoy. In addition to the exciting live music and entertainment -Garwood Rocks' highlight is its classic car show with over 175 vehicles.

"With the 11th Anniversary of Garwood Rocks this year, we have been planning an even more special event than in years' past – especially with our continued partnership with Vermella at Garwood Station," said Carol Kearney, Event Director. "All residents from Garwood and the surrounding towns will be able to experience what the whole community has to offer – and after 11 years – it demonstrates our commitment to the region and the success of the event."

Along with the classic car show, the live music featured at the event is also a large draw for the nearly 10,000 people expected to attend Garwood Rocks. The main stage at Center and Willow will feature performances from a variety of local and professional bands including 4 Flight Rock and Marie & the Blue Rats. Exit Eleven will be headliner act and will close out the show.

The Beer and Wine Garden, sponsored by the Crossroads of Garwood, will provide adult beverages throughout the event and the food trucks and vendors will feature everything from empanadas, pizza, burgers, and more.

Garwood Rocks is again sponsored by Vermella at Garwood Station, a highly amenitized resort-style residential rental community located at 450 South Ave. It features 40,000 square feet of amenity spaces for fitness, gathering, and working from home. Vermella at Garwood is located directly adjacent to the New Jersey Transit Train Station for ease of commute into New York City or Newark.

For more information about Vermella at Garwood Station's residential rentals, visit www.vermellani.com.

For more info about the Garwood Rocks event, contact Carol at 908-789-3306 or carol@uniquecruiseandtravel.com or Donna Vella at donnavellastreetfairs@yahoo.com.

# **10TH ANNUAL FEATHERFEST – JUNE 1**

We invite you and your family to The Raptor Trust (TRT) on Sunday, June 1, 2025, for a day of all things bird! Make a difference in one day. FeatherFest is the biggest event of the year, when our community comes together to raise funds to help care for the influx of baby birds we admit each spring/summer. Tour our facilities and participate in games, gifts, auctions, raffles, food, and FUN! Entry times for FeatherFest must be booked online at: theraptortrust.org/featherfest

The Raptor Trust is located at 1390 White Bridge Road, Millington, NJ.

The Raptor Trust is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization which provides free medical care to thousands of orphaned or injured birds each year. Our infirmary staff is available seven days a week during daylight hours to admit injured birds, but we must rely on the people who find them to bring them to us for care. If you find a bird that needs help, please visit our website

theraptortrust.org for instructions. We cannot do what we do without the kindness of many – including our visitors!





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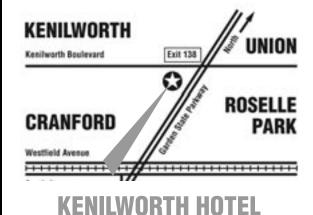
60 S 31st St, Kenilworth, NJ 07033

10am to 5pm

# June 30 thru July 4 THE COURTYARD

8 Rooney Cir, West Orange, NJ 07052

10am to 5pm

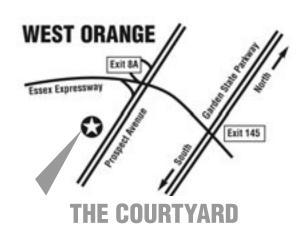


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# CLARK SCHOOLS SCORE IN TOP 3RD IN STATE

#### Clark Public Schools

The Clark Public School District is proud to announce that each of its schools scored roughly in the top third of schools or higher based on the 2023-24 New Jersey School Performance Reports released by the New Jersey Department of Education this past April. The reports from the NJDOE examine proficiency, growth, graduation rate, absenteeism, and progress towards English language proficiency. Each school is given a summative rating, which is the percentile rank of the summative score as compared to other schools across the state. Only high schools were given ranks, and Arthur L. Johnson High School earned 120 out of 358.

The district performed higher than the state, county, and district factor group average for students meeting or exceeding expectations in English Language Arts, Math, and Science on the 23-24 New Jersey Student Learning Assessment. The district factor group refers to a formerly used comparison system that compares students' performance on statewide assessments across demographically similar school districts.

Superintendent Edward Grande stated, "We are thrilled to be in the 'pack' with some strong high schools and even in some cases to have surpassed them. Many thanks to our entire school community and congratulations to Mrs. Oliveira and her team. Please know that we will use these reports to build on our strengths and address our areas for growth.

Information on these reports can be found on the district website.



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### **SEA SCOUT OPEN HOUSE - JUNE 21**

The crews of Liberty Sea Scout Squadron from Patriots' Path Council will host their annual open house at the Carteret Marina, located in the Carteret Waterfront Park, 200 Middlesex Avenue, Carteret, NJ, on Saturday, June 21, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The open house will include tours of our primary training vessel, the Sea Dart II, an introduction to the Sea Scout program, and nautical activities. Our members are from across Northern New Jersey; historically from as far as Warren, Sussex, and Ocean counties.

The Sea Scouting program is open to male and female youth ages 14 to 21. The crews operate a fleet of vessels that include the Sea Dart II, sailboats, powerboats, and paddle craft out of the Liberty Nautical Education Center (libertynautical.org) on the Rahway River in Linden, NJ. Aboard the vessels, young men and women learn nautical skills, including navigation and engine room maintenance, while visiting

The crews of Liberty Sea Scout Squadron from triots' Path Council will host their annual open ouse at the Carteret Marina, located in the aboard!



(above) The scouts will be glad to welcome you aboard during our open house on Saturday, June 21, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Courtesy photo

## **GPD EARNS CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION**

At the May 8th Council meeting, Director Harry Delgado presented the Garwood Police Department with its Certificate of Accreditation from the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police.

The two-year long accreditation process confirms that the GPD is working at NJ's highest ethical and procedural standards. Congratulations to all of the officers in the Garwood Police Department!



(above) Garwood Police Chief Stoffer, NJSACOP Director Harry Delgado, Mayor Jen Blumenstock

### **GARWOOD LIBRARY JUNE EVENTS**

The Garwood Public Library is located at 411 Third Avenue, Garwood, New Jersey. Visit the website at: youseemore.com/garwood.

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

June 2 and 9, at 3 pm

Informal chess games for children of all ages. Note this is non-instructional supervised play. No registration required. Limit 12.

#### **Storytime**

June 3, at 10 am and 11 am
Join Miss Maryanne for stories and more.
Registration is required. Limit 12.
Registration is required

#### **Steam Sharks at the Library**

June 4 at 3:30 pm

Join the crew from Union County Magnet School for another fun Steam Program. Registration suggested. Limit 10.

#### **Library Board Meeting**

June 4, at 7:30 pm

A meeting of the Garwood Library Board of Trustees will take place at 7:30 pm in the Library. This meeting is open to the public.

#### **The Summer Reading Program**

June 9 – Officially begins

Our Summer Events include: ice cream parties, scavenger hunts, and fun programs. You could also have a chance to win 4 tickets to Great Adventure, the American Dream Mall's Legoland Discovery Center, or the Sea Life New Jersey Aquarium. Pick up your summer reading packet today.

#### **Primary Election**

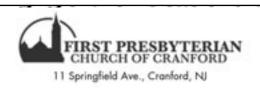
June 10 6 am to 8pm

Library is a polling location. The Library will be open; the children's section will be closed. Our computers and seating are not available. Browsing and check out are permitted

#### **Grab and Go Kid's Craft**

June 10 at 3pm

Pick up supplies and instructions for a seasonal craft. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 15 participants



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#### Lego Club

June 12 at 3 pm

Build something amazing. Registration required. Limit 12 For ages 4 -12.

#### **Collor our Community Storytime**

June 24 at 11 am

Enjoy a story and bubbles, then help color and create part of a collaborative cardboard community!

#### **Magic Show**

June 25 at 1 pm

Join Muscle Man Mike for a Space Adventure and some non-stop magic. Registration required. Limit 30.

#### **Summer Reading Opening Party**

June 26 at 2 pm

Join us for a Summer Reading Kick Off event in the library parking lot with giveaways and ice cream from the SCREAM TRUCK. This event is open to those who are registered for summer reading. Registration required. Limit

#### **Scavenger Hunt**

June 27, July 11, 18, 25

August 1 from 10 am to 3 pm

Check out a photo of the elusive Artist on the Library's Facebook and Instagram pages at 10:00 AM this Friday. Then, search for the Artist hidden somewhere in Garwood! Important: Please leave the Artist where you

find it so others can join the fun.

Return to the Library by 3:00 PM to report its location and claim your prize!

#### **Mismatched Masterpiece**

The Week of June 30, July 7, 14, 21, and 28 Each week, check out the famous painting on our whiteboard as you enter the Library. Can you spot all the differences between the TWO versions? Submit your correct guess to be entered into a random prize drawing. One winner will be selected every Friday.



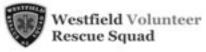
#### Celebrating 100 Years Of God's Grace 1925-2025

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#### **Centennial Year Fundraiser Information**

Redeemer Lutheran Church is honoring its centennial by supporting the



A 100% volunteer-run organization that depends on donations to provide lifesaving care. As Christians, we are called to look after our neighbors, join us in showing love and support to those who serve our community in times of crisis.

#### Here's How You Can Support This Milestone Fundraiser:

By Mail: Send a check made payable to Redeemer Lutheran Church with "Westfield Rescue Squad" written in the memo line. Mail to: Redeemer Lutheran Church 229 Cowperthwaite Place, Westfield, NJ 07090 Online: Scan the QR code to donate directly

through the Rescue Squad's Square link.



Online: Scan the QR code to donate directly through the Rescue Squad's Square link.

For more detailed information about the rescue squad and their specific needs, please visit our website at

www.redeemerwest field.com.

# SMALL TOWN BIG HEART WALK JUNE 7TH

CPR & AED Awareness Week takes place the first week of June. We couldn't think of a better way to end this important week than spending the afternoon of Saturday, June 7th celebrating Garwood's commitment to saving lives with a free family fun day in our small town with a big heart.

Garwood Borough, in partnership with The Aliver Foundation, will host Small Town Big Heart Wellness Walk: From AED to AED and Interactive Activities for the Entire Family from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Participants will meet at the outdoor AED located at the Sports and Recreation Complex for a quick kickoff, then walk 0.7 miles to the outdoor AED at Hartman Park.

After this short walk, attendees can participate in a variety of activities including a touch-a-truck featuring members of the Garwood First Aid Squad, Garwood Police Department, and Garwood Fire Department, an interactive CPR/AED demonstration, a stethoscope craft, and more.

Anyone interested in attending should register through the Borough of Garwood's website.

The direct link to the event is: bit.ly/smalltownbigheart For more information, please email info@thealiverfoundation.org.

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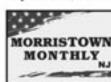
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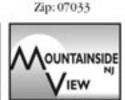
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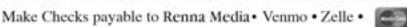
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4 Units 3.25"x8" or 6.5"x4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
6 Units 6.5"x6.25" or 10"x4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE 6.5"x9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
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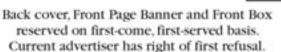
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## **MEMORIAL DAY:** A TIME FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION

Michael Boll, New Jersey Veterans Network

Every Memorial Day, millions of Americans attend parades, fire up their grills, and host large backyard BBQs for friends and family. As a veteran, I look forward to marching in a parade and attending a BBQ. However, before the festivities begin, I make it a point to check in on fellow veterans and ensure they are in a good place. For some veterans, Memorial Day is a difficult day, and they could use some reassurance from a friend or comrade.

For too long, our military members and veterans have been facing a heartbreaking crisis. A new study suggests that 44 veterans and servicemembers take their lives every day. This has become a nationwide epidemic, and countless families are struggling with this issue alone. Fortunately, there are many organizations working tirelessly to help our uniformed heroes get through these difficult times.

In 2017, the New Jersey Veterans Network (501(c)3) was created with a focus on the wellbeing of military members, veterans, and their families. The NJVN is a volunteer-driven mobile outreach team that actively seeks out veterans in need, providing them with free, life-saving resources and services. As a grassroots organization, we have a unique perspective on the needs of our uniformed heroes.

collaborate with other organizations that share our mission, has allowed us to save lives and help veterans live a better quality of life. Recently, the NJVN has ramped up our mentorship and peer support programs. However, our recreational therapy events and functions have produced the most impactful results.

The NJVN has had great success hosting social events such as: movie nights, group hiking, paintball, professional sporting games, fishing trips, hunting, and other outdoor activities. Additionally, every year, the NJVN sends veterans to Camp Patriot (a PTSD retreat) for a week of healing.

Each week, the NJVN provides veterans with food, clothing, housing assistance, VA benefits information, and mental health support. By partnering with numerous other groups and organizations, we can offer our uniformed heroes a better way of life.

We are always looking for volunteers that can both assist with upcoming events and help mentor veterans so they can live better productive lives. Volunteers are the most important NJVN resource, and we would love to have more people help us save lives. If you need assistance, or are interested in joining our team of volunteers, please send us your name, email, and phone number to NJVN1775@gmail.com or call 973-Our approach, combined with the ability to 332-1556. For more information visit NJVN.org.



(above) Memorial Day parade march

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To apply online as a blood drive volunteer, please go to: volgistics.com





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