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Issue 96 • January 2026



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TREE LIGHTING KICKS OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON

The Borough of Garwood's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting was held on Saturday, November 29th. The event, presented by the Garwood Recreation Committee featured fun and free activities and entertainment for the whole family.

Some highlights were: Free hot chocolate and baked goods, music and entertainment with performances by The Celebration Singers, and the Lincoln School Chorus, DJ and

music by Alan Keith Entertainment, a Ugly Sweater Contest, Food Trucks (food for purchase),

Holiday arts and crafts, and Special Guest, Santa Claus!

The Garwood Police Department and Girl Scout Troop 41290 were collecting donations (unwrapped toys) for Toys for Tots.

After the Tree Lighting residents were invited to a Family Skate Night at Warinanco Park.

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Do you have a community service that you need help publicizing? Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (honor, award, etc.), send us your news! Email: editor@rennamedia.com

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HOURS: Mon, Tues and Thurs 9 am to 8 pm, Wed and 10 am to 8 pm, Fri 9 am to 4:30 pm, Sat 10 am to 1 pm, Sunday Closed

Knitting Club

January 5, 12, 26 - at 10:30 am

Learn how to knit or show others how it's done while enjoying fun conversation. Open to all levels. No Registration required. Yarn and needles provided to newcomers.

Storytime

January 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 10 and 11 am

Join Miss Maryanne for stories and more. Registration is required. Limit 12.

Code Forward

January 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 3:30 PM

this program offers students the opportunity to learn computer programming languages such as Java, Python, and more.

Aging Services Kiosk (ASK)

January 8 from 10 am to noon

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

Virtual Kids Craft

January 13 @ 3pm

Pick up supplies and instructions for a craft. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 15 participants. Sign up on the library's website calendar or by phone.

Adult Game Day Socialize

January 14 and 21 at t 1 pm

with others while playing Rummikub, Sorry, Uno, or cards. No registration needed. Limit 12

Library Board Meeting

January 14, @ 7:30 pm

A meeting of the ibrary Board of Trustees will be held at the Garwood Public Library at 7:30. This meeting is open to the public

Virtual Adult Craft

January 20 @ 3pm

Craft Pick up supplies and instructions for a craft. Registration is required for craft kits and is limited to 15 participants. Sign up on the library's website calendar or by phone.

LEGO CLUB

December 21 at 3 pm

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

Monday Book Club

January 26 at 1 pm

Join us for a lively discussion of this month's book, The Queen of Crime by Marie Benedicts.

Icons of the Revolution

January 28 @ 7pm

The Whole Story

- What caused the duel between Alexander Haminton and Arron Burr?
- Why did Benedict Arnold become a traitor?
- Did all those people really fit in the boat when Washington crossed the Delaware?
- Did Washington have teeth made of wood?
- Joel Farkas will explain the Whole Story.

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BROOK ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES IT 2ND SPEAKEASY SOIREE AND SILENT AUCTION.

The historic Brook Arts Center is proud to announce its Second Annual Speakeasy Soirée & Silent Auction, Friday, January 23, 2026, at 7:00 PM. This Roaring '20s-themed evening promises an unforgettable night of glitz, glamour, entertainment, and support for one of Somerset County New Jersey's, historic landmarks.

Guests will be transported back to the golden age as they enjoy live music, period-inspired entertainment, and a lavish buffet.

The evening's highlight is a silent auction featuring more than 100 exclusive items, including a cruise getaway, a Bradford Portraits gift certificate with a private photo session, a 20-inch framed wall portrait and luxury hotel stay, four VIP tickets to Meadowlands Racing with dinner and winner's circle photos, designer handbags, sports memorabilia, dining and spa packages and so much more.

Tickets are \$50 per person or \$80 per couple and include buffet dining, live music, live

entertainment, and a cash bar.

Attendees are encouraged to dress in their finest 1920s-inspired attire to fully embrace the spirit of the evening.

The Speakeasy Soirée is the Brook Arts Center's largest fundraiser of the year.

As a fully volunteer-run 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Brook Arts Center relies on community support to continue with the preservation and restoration of the facility and its mission of providing high-quality entertainment, inspiring creativity, fostering community partnerships, and nurturing education and growth through the arts.

Tickets are on sale now through January 16, 2026.

To purchase tickets or learn more, visit www.brookarts.org.

Reserve your tickets today and be part of a glamorous night that helps keep the arts alive in our community.

2026
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AND
SILENT AUCTION
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7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Sunday, January 25, 2026

11:00 pm - 1:30 pm

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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- Gold Pendants
- Gold Charms
- Gold Watches

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- Buffalos
- US Silver Coins Pre-64
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- Trays
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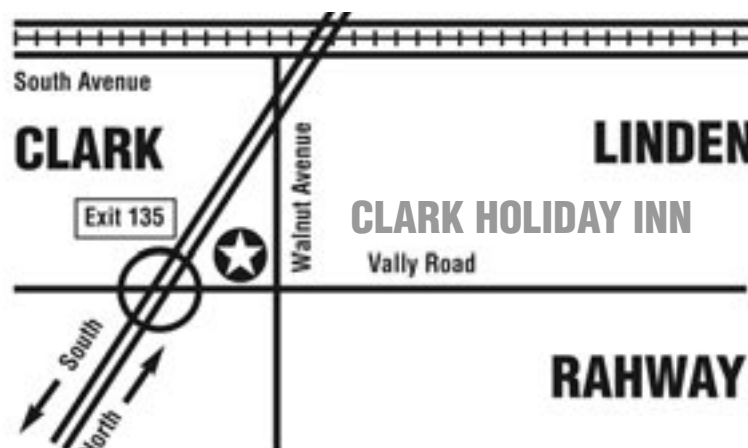
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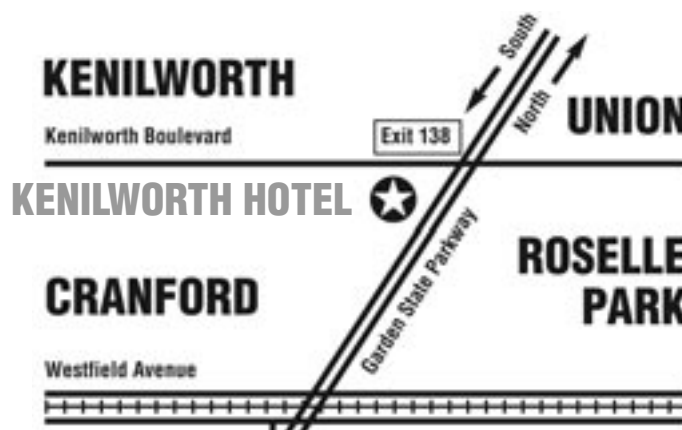
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07946, 07980

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TIMES NJ**

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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
12 Units	6.5"x14"	400	960	1400	1800	2100	2400	2700	3000	3300	3600	3900
18 FULL PAGE	10"x14"	500	1200	1800	2200	2500	2800	3000	3300	3600	3900	4300
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STATE CANCELS LEGAL NOTICE MANDATE

We rarely ever hear about the government reducing taxes but it happened this year when New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy eliminated the mandate that legal notices must be printed in a newspaper.

The antiquated mandate is decades old and the cost for the advertng was paid for by public funds from municipalities, counties, school districts, and independent authorities. It was a lucrative business for the publications and more recently the majority of their revenue. Without the mandate the fear in the newspaper industry was that the publications relying on the legal advertising income will not survive.

In some cases the majority of content in the newspaper had been the legal ads. In question was the criteria for the mandate, i.e., were the publications meeting the required numbers of

paid subscriptions, and circulation.

The idea of doing away with the mandate, though practical, was considered political poison. No lawmaker wanted to be deemed responsible as the cause for newspapers' closures and people losing their jobs. During the Governor Christi administration the Star Ledger warned that doing away with the mandates would cause 250 weekly newspapers to close.

What brought about the change is a successful lawsuit filed by the County of Warren which named the Star Ledger and Daily Record as defendants. The suit may have been the last straw in the Ledger's decision to stop printing the newspaper in January of 2025.

Local governments will now be required to publish their legal notices on their websites.



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