



City of Garfield

2024 First Quarter Newsletter

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Please check out our website for prior and future newsletters, as we are trying to limit our carbon footprint by decreasing our mailings: <https://www.garfieldnj.org/page/newsletters>

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 GARFIELD JUNIOR BOILERMAKER SUPERBOWL CHAMPIONS!



The City of Garfield was awarded a \$10,000 grant to compose a Community Energy Plan. The plan is now complete and will be used as a roadmap to work toward a better environment. For a copy of the plan, please contact the City Manager's Office at 973-340-2000 ext. 4001



Garfield VFW Post 2867 Highlight

Garfield VFW Post 2867 is dedicated to serving veterans and the community. They proudly collaborate with the City of Garfield to extend services through the VFW van, sponsor the Blue Stars Kids Club at GMS, and offer a \$1,000 scholarship through the Voice of Democracy Essay contest at GHS. If you know a veteran in need of camaraderie, assistance with benefits applications, or transportation to medical appointments, contact the VFW at 973-772-4696.



The City of Garfield will be participating in a Veterans Banner campaign. For anyone interested in sponsoring a banner to display on behalf of a loved one, please call 973-340-2000 ext. 4001

Mayor Richard Rigoglioso Deputy Mayor Joseph Delaney Councilwoman Alejandina Banch
Councilman Romi Herrera Councilman Pawel Maslag City Manager/City Clerk Erin Delaney

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

The Garfield Volunteer Fire Department is in need of volunteers!
If you are interested, stop by one of the firehouses at 7:30PM
on their wash night:

- Company 1 - 97 Midland Avenue - Thursdays
- Company 2 - 72 Belmont Avenue - Thursdays
- Company 3 - 143 Gaston Avenue - Thursdays
- Company 4 - 97 Outwater Lane - Fridays
- Company 5 - 33 Plauderville Avenue - Tuesdays



*There is a Jr. Firefighter Program for anyone at least 16 years of age

New Hours at City Hall



Monday-Wednesday: 8:30AM-5PM
Thursday: 8:30AM-5:30PM
Friday: CLOSED

New Recreation Director

Please join us in welcoming our new Recreation Director, Teshawn Warren. Teshawn has several years of experience in Parks & Recreation, coming from both Englewood and Elmwood Park. He is a certified EMT & Pool Operator and has his Master's Degree in Sports Administration.



Grant Corner - Check Here for Updates!

BID AWARDED OR CONSTRUCTION ONGOING

- Columbus Park Improvements
- Recreation Center & Fire Company #4 HVAC
- Midland Avenue Sidewalk Improvements
- Recreation Center Building Facade Improvements

Congress recently announced their FY2023 Appropriation Awards. The City of Garfield is expected to receive \$959,752.00 to address flooding & culvert issues in Zone 3 of the City.

PREPARING TO GO OUT TO BID

- Prospect Street Water Main Upgrades & Road Repaving
- Banta Avenue Sewer Main Upgrades & Road Repaving
- Lead Line Replacements (Harrison Avenue and Section of MacArthur Avenue)



DESIGN PHASE

- Harrison Avenue Road Repaving
- Belmont Oval/Little League Turf Replacement
- Splash Park Feature/Surface Upgrades
- Safe Routes to Schools Phase II Improvements (Schools #6 & #8)

MISCELLANEOUS

- New Electric Shuttle Bus for Senior Citizens - Awaiting State Approval for Purchase

Garfield Police & Fire Department Promotions

Follow the GPD on social media!



Instagram: @GarfieldPolice
X(Twitter): @GarfieldPDNJ
Threads: @GarfieldPolice

The City of Garfield would like to Congratulate newly promoted Sergeants Napolitano & Pizzi and Detectives Martinez & Schmidt

Thank you 2023 Fire Department Chief, Anthony Swistak, for your service!



The City of Garfield would like to Congratulate and Welcome the 2024 Fire Department Chief, Alan Tani

Recycling Updates & Tips

The City has entered into a Shared Services Agreement with the Village of Ridgewood for the recycling of polystyrene, better known as **STYROFOAM**

Only white, clean "block" type foam material. Drop off at the DPW!

- Must be free of tape, ink, and labels
- No packing peanuts
- No egg cartons, cups, or food containers
- No colored foam
- No wet or dirty foam

What is RECYCLABLE:

BOTTLES & CANS

Recycling Collection

includes only



Aluminum Cans



Tin Cans



Clean Aluminum Foil and Pie Tins



Glass Bottles & Jars



Plastic Jugs



Plastic Jars



Plastic Bottles



Wax Coated Cartons

NO PLASTIC BAGS OR ITEMS NOT LISTED ABOVE

Taxes & Finances - Balancing the Budget

The City of Garfield is **REQUIRED** to collect taxes for several entities including the School District, County (including Open Space Trust), & Library. Your tax bills are broken down as follows:

- Approximately 48.25% - School Tax
- Approximately 39.25% - Municipal Tax
- Approximately 11.25% - County Tax



In 2024, the City approved a **ZERO** percent tax increase.

Message from Mayor Richard "Riggs" Rigoglioso

As we close on the first quarter of 2024. On behalf of the City Council, City Manager, and myself, I am pleased to share some exciting news about our great city.

It is with pride that we announce Garfield's recognition as one of the top small cities in North Jersey, with under 40,000 residents, to raise a family and live in. This accomplishment is a testament to the shared efforts of our city in creating a welcoming and supportive environment for all. We are committed to maintaining this status as we continuously look to improve the quality of life for our residents.

Additionally, Garfield has received the Bronze Certificate for Sustainable New Jersey for the third consecutive year. Sustainable Jersey is a vital network of municipalities working together to bring about a sustainable future for our city and state. Through collaboration with state agencies, non-profit organizations, foundations, and industry partners, we are always seeking and implementing best practices to contribute to a sustainable New Jersey.

In addition to our sustainability efforts, Garfield has achieved state recognition for The Mayor's Wellness Campaign (MWC). This health initiative, involving mayors, council members, and community leaders, aims to help residents achieve healthier lifestyles and improve overall health and wellness in the city of Garfield. One example is our Fitness Challenge held in February. It reflects our dedication to the well-being of every individual in Garfield.

It is of great importance that we, as a community, seize this moment to implement policies that keep Garfield safe and vibrant. We are actively advocating for funding to address crucial issues such as infrastructure, flooding, repairing sewer lines, and fixing roadways. Thanks to our strong connections with the county and the state, many of our projects have received grants. We must build on this momentum and secure additional resources to further enhance Garfield's infrastructure.

In closing, on behalf of the Council and City Manager, I want to thank you for your continued support and commitment to making Garfield a great place to live and raise a family. Together, we are shaping a promising future for our city. Let's embrace the opportunities that lie ahead with a vision towards a more prosperous and sustainable Garfield.



Respectfully,
Mayor Richard
"Riggs" Rigoglioso

EVENT CORNER

Upcoming City Events

- **April 20th:** Whole Lotta Empanada Food Truck Festival - 20th Century Field (Rain date: April 21st)
- **April 20th:** Community Wide Clean-up Day
- **May 27th:** Memorial Day Service - Monument at Marsellus Place, followed by the VFW
- **September 6th:** Annual Fireworks Display - 20th Century Field (Rain date: September 27th)
- **September 18th-22nd:** Carnival - 20th Century Field
- **October 11th:** Annual Pumpkin Patch - 20th Century Field (Rain date: October 18th)
- **October 27th:** Street Fair - Midland Avenue
- **November 11th:** Veterans Day Service - VFW Post 2867
- **December 6th:** City of Garfield Tree Lighting - Location TBD (Rain date: December 9th)



The Mayor and City Council honored Reverend Gina McKinney & former officer John Dukes in February during Black History Month.

This year's Egg Hunt, held on March 30th, was a huge success!

