



City of Garfield

2024 Second Quarter Newsletter

PRSRRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

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>

NEW “CHAMPION PARK” CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY AND MOVING QUICKLY!



The City Manager and Mayor & Council are thrilled with the progress of construction at the park located at the intersection of Midland Avenue & Outwater Lane, which will now be named “Champion Park”. The park will include various amenities, including but not limited to: playgrounds (with misting features), a fitness court, picnic grove with benches and picnic tables, designated food truck area, several drainage features, and eventually an amphitheater! We look forward to hosting many City events here in the future.

The park has been significantly funded through grants, for a total grant award exceeding \$4.5 million!



The City was earmarked for \$959,752.00 in Congressional Appropriation funding to continue to address flooding in the areas of Zone 4/5. Thank you to our representatives in Washington DC for making this possible!

**Please note that this is an extensive process, and the funding is not made immediately available*

Special note: The NJDEP has confirmed that our water is in compliance and meets State standards for water quality.

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

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Want to feature your business in Garfield's Community Banner program for 24/7 exposure? Check out the sample to the right.



Call 201-500-4562 if you are interested or would like more information.



While the Splash Park will not be open at its full capacity this summer, it will be open FREE to residents Monday-Friday from 10AM-3PM and Saturdays from 12PM-4PM. Call the Recreation Center at 973-546-1700 for more information.

Keep an eye out on social media for our Summer Pop-Up BBQs!

BVMI INITIATIVE

The City of Garfield is happy to partner with the Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative (BVMI), who provides an array of healthcare services for free to qualified adults. In need of services?

Call 201-342-2478



GARFIELD UNITY FOOD PANTRY

The Mayor and Council is proud to support the Garfield Unity Food Pantry, which opened on June 24th and is located at 529 Midland Avenue. The food pantry is a full choice shopping center powered by the Community Foodbank of New Jersey. Hours: M & T: 9:30am to 2:30pm for shopping and F: 9:30am to 11:30am for online order pickups and pantry registration. For more information, please follow the QR code to the left.



Upcoming/Ongoing City Projects

BID AWARDED/CONSTRUCTION ONGOING

- Banta Avenue sewer main upgrades

PREPARING TO GO OUT TO BID

- Prospect Street water main upgrades, to be followed by road repaving in 2025
- Banta Avenue road repaving, to be done in phases
- Lead line replacements (Harrison Avenue and Section of MacArthur Avenue)

DESIGN PHASE

- Harrison Avenue road repaving, to be done in 2025 following lead line replacements
- Belmont Oval/Little League Turf Replacement
- Splash Park Feature/Surface Upgrades

BEFORE



AFTER



The City recently completed a sidewalk improvement project along Midland Avenue. Establishing a safe, accessible space for all pedestrians was the number one driver behind new sidewalks, which are now ADA compliant

Garfield Police Department Updates

The City of Garfield would like to Welcome newly hired Officers, Elijah Bezares and Nicholas Lafortezza-Losino

Garfield Police Department Numbers Have Gone Up!



In June 2024, the City recently applied for a grant to hire even more officers!

Sign-up for RAVE/Smart 911 messages!

Stay in the know by signing up for our emergency notification system on our website!

Follow the GPD on social media!

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



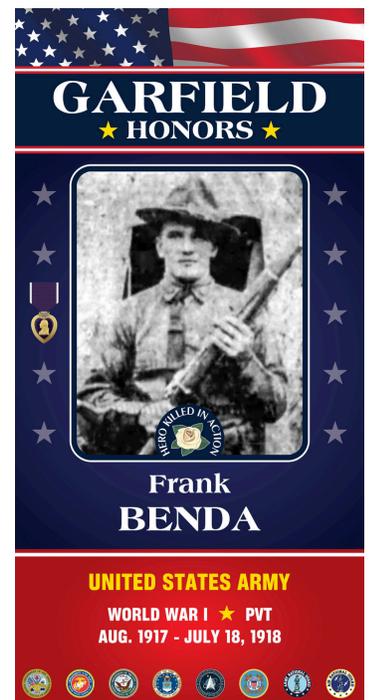
Pictured is new Police Officer Bezares

Recognizing Our Veterans

The City was happy to have VFW Post 2867 in attendance at a Mayor and Council meeting for Military Family Month



Attending the annual Memorial Day Ceremony



Interested in sponsoring a banner for a loved one?
Pictured is a sample. Call the City Manager's Office for more information at 973-340-2000 ext. 4003

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.

Any increase to your 2024 tax bills is in result of an increase in the Board of Education/County tax portions*

Message from Mayor Richard "Riggs" Rigoglioso

Summer is upon us, bringing not just heat but also opportunities for growth. It signals the start of road repairs, building projects, and infrastructure upgrades. More importantly, it's a time to come together and celebrate the great City of Garfield, discovering the many advantages it offers to its residents.

It is the perfect season to explore the diverse dining options at our restaurants or enjoy leisurely strolls along the walking paths in our parks, or along the river. Some options are Century Field, and soon at the new Champions Park on the corner of Midland and Outwater Lane, which will quickly be the envy of Bergen County.

July and August also provide opportunities to deepen our sense of community. Let's make new friends by attending or participating in the many picnics, sporting events, parades, feasts, fireworks, street fairs, and other gatherings available to all residents. I want to thank all the residents for their continuous support as we strive to move Garfield into a brighter future with new parks, a sports facility, a new school, new businesses, community events, and adopting a zero percent tax increase for two out of the last five years.

So, let's come together this summer, explore new opportunities, enjoy our friends and families, and make new friends. Let's celebrate our great city and our shared vision for moving Garfield forward. It is because of our residents that Garfield is one of the best small cities in North Jersey to start or raise a family so, again, thank you.

Respectfully,
Mayor Richard
"Riggs" Rigoglioso



EVENT CORNER & HIGHLIGHTS

Upcoming City Events

- **August 6th:** National Night Out - 20th Century Field
- **August 17th & 18th:** Community Lemonade Stand Contest
- **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 monthly recipients as follows:

- **March:** Women's History Month - Kathy Alessi, Jean Ricco, Nelly Seminario
- **April:** Middle School & High School art students for the contributions to new City decoration program
- **May:** Military Family Month - Middle School & High School Blue Star Families
- **June:** 2024 Garfield High School Valedictorian and Salutatorian

