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Edited by NYU SoM NIEHS Center CEC

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FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER



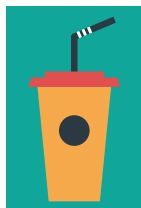
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*Congratulations on Garfield's
Community Newsletter
"Generations for Garfield"*



**Richard "Riggs"
Rigoglioso**
MAYOR



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Garfield Police Department-Community Affairs

06-5306

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

The City of Garfield is unlike anywhere else in New Jersey and it is because of you, our residents! Having the opportunity to serve as your mayor for these past four years have truly been some of the best years. As such, I want to thank each one of you, for the support you have shown me. This has been an amazing experience so far and one that I would not change for the world, largely because I have the privilege of serving in the most amazing City. We have had some memorable (mostly good) experiences together and I know that I am a better person today because of the residents of this community.

This year has been unlike anything I have ever experienced (or wanted to experience), and I am sure many of you probably feel the same way. Although this year has been unprecedented in so many ways, it also provided me a new outlook. This past year there were many things, I believe as a city we did correct, from supporting our business, community and residents that were, and are, struggling to handling the pandemic, all the while, we were committed to moving our city forward for a better future. We are weathering these challenging times... together!

With that said, I would like to extend warm wishes and gratitude to our residents and city employees. I am continually in awe of the many wonderful residents, organization, business, volunteers, and city workers that have lived up to our name "Garfield: City of Champions" we all are working together to strengthen our community during this pandemic. I want to thank each and every one of you, you all have gone above and beyond what was ask. Individually and as a city we have experienced many changes in 2020, and despite the unexpected detours we have faced, there are reasons for optimism.

We have endured revenue losses throughout the city, but we are entering into a somewhat solid financial position in 2021, which is largely due to our strong economy, our numerous amounts of grants that were rewarded to the city, and our approach to COVID and conservative decisions.

We asked you to participate in the 2020 Census. An amazing 68.7% of our residents responded, that is higher than the 66.4% self-response rate in 2010. This participation will make a tangible difference for our city and state, as an accurate count helps attract federal dollars to Garfield to support a variety of programs and helps our city get its share of funding and resources for the next 10 years.

This has also been a banner year for capital improvements, road projects were completed throughout the city, significantly improving traffic safety. The anticipated development in our "Opportunity Zones through the city is also ongoing. Meanwhile, several projects are proceeding with completion expected within a year or two. This includes the redevelopment of Passaic Street, the removal of the train tracks on Monroe Street, the clean-up and redevelopment of the old Kalama Chemical Plant (Monroe and River Road), the Second Phase of the River Road Park, and a new design for the Columbus Field Park. These represent some of the most noteworthy city projects; however, growth is occurring in nearly every corner of the city with improvements added almost every month.

While unprecedented challenges may linger, I know we will continue to remain strong and resilient. I think about all that has happened in 11 months. Again; I would like to personally thank everyone for their patience, flexibility, understanding, and, respect, we will collectively work through these unprecedented times. We still have things to learn, overcome and accomplish, but I am beyond grateful to serve a city that unites through tough times. Residents can rest assured that your Garfield City Council and City Employees will continue providing the best services possible during this pandemic.

Wishing you a new year full of peace, health, and happiness.

Thank You,

Garfield Mayor

Richard "Riggs" Rigoglioso

RIVER TO RAIL DISTRICT

COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU
about the future of Garfield's
River to Rail District around Passaic Street.



Join us via Zoom!

Thursday, February 25th @7PM

Register in advance:

<http://bit.ly/3dnQIR5>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email
containing information about joining the meeting.



Garfield is looking for
volunteers to
participate in
upcoming focus
groups regarding the
'River to Rail District'
on Passaic Street.

**Register in advance
using the link:**

<http://bit.ly/3dnQIR5>

Upcoming focus group
dates include:

February 24 & 25th

March 1, 3, 4



For more information on the redevelopment plan, visit:

www.garfieldnj.org/_content/pdf/river-to-rail-preservation-plan-Jan-2020.pdf



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SCAM ALERT



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- ◇ **DO NOT** give your personal or financial information to anyone over the phone if you did not initiate the purchase.
- ◇ As shown in this email (see left), the individual did not place this order, but received a 'scam email' that is inviting them to call a toll free number. When you call the number, they will ask for personal information or ask you to purchase a gift card from a pharmacy or convenience store. Once you give them the gift card number, they have instant access to the card balance (i.e., cash) and it is untraceable.
- ◇ **DO** verify the 'From' email address as shown in this photo (top left corner).

From: Amazon billing
Sent: Saturday, October 3, 2020 9:20 AM
To:
Subject: Order Confirmation

Mousing over "Amazon billing" reveals that this email was sent from: Eddward.lopez@icloud.com

amazon.com

Dear [redacted],
We thought you'd like to know that we've dispatched your item(s). Your order is on the way. If you need to return an item from this shipment or manage other orders, please Contact our TollFree Number

If you need further assistance or to cancel your order, please Contact Customer Service 1-855-713-0818

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Monday, October 5

Your package was sent to:

Your package is being shipped by Transportation Services and the tracking number is 445180626. Please note that a signature may be required for the delivery of the package.

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\$2198.34

Item Subtotal: \$2198.34

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Delivery: \$0.00

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If you need further assistance or to cancel your order, please Contact Customer Service 1-855-713-0818

We hope to see you again soon!

SCAMMER'S number

For more information on this or any other scam you have experienced, please email Sgt. Jeff Stewart at jstewart@garfieldpolice.org



Mayor Richard Rigoglioso: Rrigoglioso@garfieldnj.org
Deputy Mayor Erin Delaney: Edelaney@garfieldnj.org
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Councilman Romi Herrera: rherrera@garfieldnj.org
Councilman Pawel Maslag: pmaslag@garfieldnj.org
City Manager Thomas Duch: tduch@garfieldnj.org

Thank you to Mayor Richard Rigoglioso, the entire City Council & City Manager Tom Duch for their support!