

## In This World, When One Mistake May Be One Too Many

How can we continue to trust our lives and fortunes to people claiming to know what they are doing when they do not know what they are doing?

President Hoover, inaugural address, March 4, 1929, "The larger purpose of our economic thought should be to establish more firmly stability and security of business and employment and thereby remove poverty still further from our borders." But the Great Depression was right around the corner.

FDR, accepting the 1932 Democratic nomination for president, "I pledge myself to a new deal for the American people" to end the Great Depression. But unemployment remained high until the Second World War.

British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, September 30, 1938, declared that the Munich Agreement would mean "peace in our time." But the Second World War began less than a year later.

President Truman's strategy produced stalemate, not victory, in Korea. Defense Secretary Robert McNamara in his 1964 Senate testimony, "I must say I don't object its being called McNamara's War. I think it a very important war and I am pleased to be identified with it and do whatever I can to win it." But North Korea defeated South Korea despite the enormous loss of American lives and the vast expenditure of other national treasure!

President George W. Bush in the Azores, March 16, 2003, "The dictator of Iraq and his weapons of mass destruction are a threat to the security of free nations." But the Central Intelligence Agency's Iraq Survey Group later concluded after an exhaustive 15-month investigation that Saddam Hussein did not have chemi-

cal, biological, or nuclear weapons or any program to create them.

President Obama on September 14, 2013 welcomed the Russo-American protocol to eliminate Syrian chemical weapons that followed a Syrian government chemical weapons attack in Damascus on August 21, 2013. But chemical attacks have continued!

President Obama repeatedly declared about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, "If you like your health care plan you can keep it." But millions of Americans have lost their health care plans.

There are mistakes and there are mistakes. No real harm was done to anyone because that famous tower in Pisa was built on unstable soil.

Indeed some mistakes turn out well! Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin in a contaminated Petri dish. John and Will Kellogg invented corn flakes when they rolled some stale wheat through rollers. Chemist Constantin Fahlgren discovered Saccharin by connecting the sweetness on his unwashed hands covered with the anhydroorthosulphaminebenzoic acid with which he had been working.

Eleven-year-old Francis Epperson invented the Popsicle when he left his flavored water drink with the mixing stick in it on his back porch where it froze during the night. French scientist Eduard Benedictus discovered safety glass when the glass flask containing cellulose nitrate a liquid plastic he had accidentally dropped did not shatter.

But mistakes about domestic policy cannot be tolerated, nor can mistakes about war in the thermonuclear age when one mistake may be one too many!

Stephen Schoeman  
Westfield

## This Time And Space I Talk About My Passion For Doing The Right Thing

To my fellow Garwood residents: I am running for the Borough Council, because being of service to those around me is in my blood. Both literally, in the case of my parents, and figuratively with my desire to do what's right. My late father was a police officer, known in his day for doing things the right way and passing this knowledge down to new officers coming onto the job. Most people around Garwood know my mother, who has been a tireless advocate for many things in her life, for the businesses in town, but most of all for me. These personal examples have guided me throughout my life, providing the inspiration for me to be who I am today. I now can do what my father did by working with new officers to help teach the next generation how to wear a shield with integrity and pride.

I am first and foremost a father and a husband. There is no bigger role to fill than parenthood, and I hope to guide and inspire my own sons the way my father did for me. My wife Veronica is truly my best friend, my rock and my support system. Without Veronica standing alongside me, nothing else I do would be possible.

After family comes my profession. I am passionate about what I do, and what I have done over my years of service in law enforcement. Instead of listing off various things I have done in my career, I invite everyone to visit our campaign team's website at [www.garwoodforward.com](http://www.garwoodforward.com), where my resume may be found. I would rather take this time and space to talk about my passion for doing the right thing, which led me to be a police officer and continues to drive me over two decades later to keep doing the right thing on my job.

This passion carries over into anything else I do, from helping friends to family events and of course including my first run for public office. One of my favorite things about working in law enforcement is all the wonderful people I have been able to meet and help over the years. This is something I also see happening now as I walk door to door in our neighborhoods and meet people around town with my running mates. There are many more people to help and much good left to do.

I will bring my knowledge, experience and ideas to our Council. I will also bring the same passion I have in all other aspects of my life to the concept of moving "Garwood Forward." I am willing and able to make difficult decisions while taking ownership of both my ideas and my mistakes. I will be an honest advocate for our residents, even if that means occasionally telling someone something they don't want to hear.

I will work to restore civility and have greater transparency on the Council, while ensuring Garwood's continued success as an excellent place to live and raise a family through my commitment to fiscal responsibility.

I am excited, honored and humbled for the opportunity to join with Mayor Charles Lombardo and Jennifer Guerrero. We are your real Garwood Democrats, with the right priorities and the perfect mixture of passion, commitment and experience to bring this town into the next phase of its existence. I ask my fellow Democrats to join our team, and vote for Column B on June 5.

Vincent Kearney  
Regular Democratic Candidate for  
Garwood Council

## Improving Communication Between Garwood's Government And Its Residents Is A Critical Step

We believe in empowering citizens. Information should be regularly shared with the public, and elected officials need to be responsive to residents' questions and concerns. We stand for creating an open and inclusive process for appointments to town committees as well as initiating a "Citizens' Advisory Panel" made up of citizens, not politicians, to help the Council make capital decisions, like roads and equipment.

Simply saying, "residents should attend public meetings" is not enough. Our approach to communication is multifaceted. While public meetings and the Borough website are a good start, they are far from the end. As the only local representative with administrative power, a Mayor should be active in ensuring website updates are timely and thorough. Social media needs to be embraced as a means for delivering information. We support sensible policies and procedures to manage Garwood Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages. A Mayor should provide leadership in spearheading new initiatives like these.

We recognize that all citizens are not on social media, so the town should provide more informational literature to all homes, so that the residents know what is going on, especially on major topics like redevelopment. It's necessary to have a leader that ensures entities, like the utility companies, provide information to homes affected by their work. More direct outreach to the public about upcoming road work with project details and timelines would also be beneficial.

At the April 24 Council meeting,

Sara asked the Mayor when a town hall meeting would be held by Russo Development. When he responded that he expected it to be July or August, Sara stressed the importance of the meeting and requested it be held sooner. At the May 8 Council meeting, a town hall was scheduled for May 30 and Sara suggested the town send a flyer announcing the meeting to inform all the citizens and the rest of Council agreed. That's leadership.

With the upcoming town-wide revaluation, it is imperative that accurate information is disseminated effectively. Sara demonstrated proactive leadership by inviting the tax assessor to speak at public meetings about this topic beginning back in 2013. Since Garwood has now been mandated by the State to conduct a revaluation of all properties, it's important our town has a leader who is visible, proactive, and responsive to residents. The Democratic-led Council has made sure the firm conducting the revaluation is responsible for informing the citizens. Now, we need a Mayor who will oversee this process and hold the firm accountable.

Our town is at a pivotal moment and we are dedicated to making sure Garwood comes out on top. Please vote Column D for our "Democrats for Garwood" team on June 5 so that we can work together to improve communication and create a stronger Garwood.

Councilwoman Sara Todisco,  
Candidate for Mayor  
Michael Ince, Candidate for Council  
Sean Benoit, Candidate for Council

## Councilwoman Todisco Stepped Up To Help Provide Me With The Direction

As a teacher for the past 15 years, and a Garwood Councilman for the last 18 months, I have worked with various leaders. When I first started teaching, my principal delegated all responsibilities to the teachers, which created a culture of independence and flexibility. Unfortunately, it also created a lack of uniformed vision as staff members would feel as if there were no clear direction for why programs or professional development were implemented. When a new principal came, a new style of leadership emerged. One in which a shared mission and goals were developed under the direction of our principal and a group of teacher leaders who volunteered their time to improve the overall climate and success of our students. This type of leader was no dictator, but someone who was willing to articulate a clear path forward, take feedback from teachers to mold challenging, but realistic goals, and provide a supportive yet aggressive approach to completing the mission.

This story reminds me of the democratic primary mayoral race in Garwood. Having worked with both current Mayor Charles Lombardo and Councilwoman Todisco, both have a commitment to serving Garwood that is extremely admirable. Where they differ in this mayoral primary race is the type of leader each of them represents. Mayor Lombardo, especially prior to the announcement that there would be a primary race, was a leader who would place complete faith in each councilperson to complete any and every task. While I certainly appreciate the autonomy, I found myself at the start of my term struggling to figure out exactly how to fulfill my campaign promises to the people of Garwood. It was Councilwoman Todisco who stepped up to help provide me with the direction and connections to let me feel more capable to be successful. One such example was the beautification idea to spruce up Garwood. It was Councilwoman Todisco who expertly guided Council President Blumenstock and me to create a Green Team that allowed not only the Mayor and council members to get involved, but encouraged and tapped into the volunteer spirit of this town. This vision then morphed into creating the volunteer cards for discounts at local businesses.

Councilwoman Todisco is not someone who waits for ideas to materialize; she taps into the potential of the people she works with and provides the tools and clear vision to

make government function more effectively. On top of that, today's mayor requires someone who can actively communicate with the public about safety concerns, meetings, and other important issues. Councilwoman Todisco is persistent in fully disclosing information whether it be through her tenacious reports during council meetings, Facebook posts, videos, fliers, and coordinating and advocating for town hall meetings. She has the boundless energy this town needs in its Mayor as we embark on the next four years.

For these reasons, I encourage all Democratic primary voters to consider what kind of leader do you want running your town? I hope you will join me in pledging your support to the Todisco-Ince-Benoit Team on Column D on Tuesday, June 5.

Garwood Councilman  
Marc Lazarov (D)

## Legal Advertising

MORE IN BACK SECTION

### PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD  
CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY  
ORDINANCE NO. 2018-08

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD, COUNTY OF UNION, APPROVING THE APPLICATION AND FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR A TAX EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO THE LONG TERM TAX EXEMPTION LAW OF BIRCHWOOD DEVELOPERS URBAN RENOVATION ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RESIDENTIAL PROJECT LOCATED AT 215 AND 235 BIRCHWOOD AVENUE

### STATEMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing ordinance was finally passed at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, New Jersey on May 8, 2018.

Patricia Donahue  
Municipal Clerk  
1 T - 5/17/18, The Leader Fee: \$26.01

## Laughs Aimed at Garwood From Other Towns as It Mismanages Development

As Alice said in Wonderland, "things get curiouiser and curiouiser." Nowhere is that observation more true than in Garwood, that little patch of ground that likes to call itself the small town with the big heart. I'm sure the Mad Hatter would agree that the only big thing about Garwood these days are the laughs directed at it from other towns who watch it mismanage and bungle its opportunities to redevelop some of the largest and most valuable tracts of land in the county. Some members of both parties have turned Garwood redevelopment into a joke.

We have two full tickets on the Democratic side chattering away about various issues and looking to win primary votes. We have some Republican candidates who sound like they are not sure where the party platform ends and where fantasy begins. Alice and the Mad Hatter would agree with this newspaper when it calls the Garwood election season "the silly season."

So, what do we do? Who do we vote for? I think we need to look a little deeper than at just a full ticket of candidates of either party and the party line they espouse. We need to look at the individuals themselves who are running and what they stand for.

I would like to introduce you to one of the people I am going to vote for in the Democratic Primary Election, Vincent Kearney. Vincent is a family man with two young boys and a wonderful wife who serves as a crossing guard in Garwood. Vincent moved to Garwood to start and raise this family, and put down roots.

I know he is kind of person who will step up and serve Garwood with integrity, just as he serves our larger community as an officer for the Union County Sheriff. With his strong personal character and his many years of experience in law enforcement, I believe has the foundation for what it takes to represent our community well and help provide what we all want for Garwood: Clean streets, good schools, safe neighborhoods and fiscal respon-

sibility.

I believe that to be a good Councilperson you need a good moral compass. You need to have the courage of your convictions. At our level in politics it comes down to knowing the right thing from the wrong thing for your community. From what I know of Vincent over the several years I have known him, he would bring these qualities along with his sharp analytical ability to the office of Councilman. Additionally, Vincent is a person who can think for himself outside of party boundaries because - let's face it - we should all check our party membership at the door when we are talking about local politics. We all want the same things in our community and there is no such thing as a Democratic road or a Republican street light.

Vote for Vincent Kearney in the June 5 primary for councilman.

Mike Martin  
Former Garwood Councilman

## Garwood Candidate Is Afraid To Speak Out Risking His County Job

As the saying goes, "give a man enough rope and he will hang himself". So goes Garwood council candidate Vincent Kearney when you read his letters to *The Westfield Leader*.

I already pointed out to him that insulting and attacking residents that have differing views is not a good quality in a candidate. He doesn't care, but that's his prerogative. In that same letter, I pointed out that if he is not manipulated by the county political machine then he should stand by me and express outrage to the Freeholders about them hiring a new Union County manager based on political connections and in express violation of the county laws and statutes.

Candidate Kearney's response was that he was not going to stand by me, but that I should go talk to other agencies about it. That, I agree, is sound advice and that direction is already in place. But here is where he proves me right again and ends up with "enough rope".

He clearly admits to being an officer in the sheriff's department at Union County. We must assume he took an oath of office and swore on the bible while recounting the fact that he is to uphold the laws of this state and nation.

So what kind of officer, who swears on upholding the laws, when confronted by the fact the Freeholders are breaking those laws, instead avoids any confrontation of that violation?

The readers can certainly guess the answer that was already posed: One that is manipulated by the county political machine and is afraid to speak out risking his job.

Just as an aside, I did offer him suggestions, that he should let his handlers write the letters to avoid having him shoot himself in the foot. I even offered myself to vet his letters first to help him out. The offer still stands.

Bruce Paterson  
Garwood

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD

CONTRACTOR: Day Ford, 1600 Golden Mile Highway, Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146

NATURE OF SERVICES: Purchase of (1) 2018 Ford Expedition

DURATION: 2018

AMOUNT: Amount of \$36,059.00 under Cranford Cooperative Purchasing Program, with this expenditure charged to Budget Operating Account 8-01-165-251

CONTRACTOR: Municipal Equipment, 27803 Fire Road, Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey 08234

NATURE OF SERVICES: Upfit of (1) 2018 Ford Expedition

DURATION: 2018

AMOUNT: Amount of \$5,754.97 under NJ State Homeland 4/30/17 MEE Contract # 81332, with this expenditure charged to Budget Operating Account 8-01-125-219

THE RESOLUTION AND CONTRACT FOR SAME ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK.

Tara Rowley, RMC  
Town Clerk  
1 T - 5/17/18, The Leader Fee: \$26.01