

Garwood Council Expresses Concerns Over Ice Rink

By MICHAEL BONACCORSO
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

GARWOOD — Councilwomen Sara Todisco and Stephanie Bianco addressed the Gumbert Park temporary ice rink construction and its impact on the surrounding Garwood neighborhood at Tuesday's borough council meeting.

Ms. Bianco stated that an official letter signed by Mayor Charles Lombardo and every council member should be sent to Westfield addressing the residents and borough council's dissatisfaction with the ice rink. She said the letter must declare the rink should not be located per-

manently or at the sight for even next winter.

"Garwood does not want to see this rink for more than one year," Ms. Bianco said.

Ms. Bianco said the four months the rink is operating between November 1 to March 1 is "really six months," when including the month required to install the rink and another month to take it down.

Mayor Lombardo, Councilwoman Jennifer Blumenstock and Councilwoman Todisco attended a Gumbert Park ice rink official walkthrough several weeks ago, stated Ms. Todisco.

"Some issues have already

arisen, such as the contractor beginning work before the ordinance permitted 8 a.m. start time," Ms. Todisco said.

Ms. Todisco said Westfield's Mayor Shelley Brindle wants to "alleviate" the Pointe residents concerns regarding the ice rink. As the project progresses, Mayor Brindle mentioned to Ms. Todisco she is supportive of Ms. Todisco acting as a liaison to Westfield's leadership on the Pointe residents' behalf and all Garwood residents behalf, stated Ms. Todisco.

Ms. Todisco said she was using the opportunity to reduce other concerns the Pointe residents have expressed. Such concerns include foul balls being hit towards their building from the Gumbert baseball field, stated Ms. Todisco.

"Residents are also concerned about the on-street parking on Chestnut Street," Ms. Todisco said.

Ms. Todisco said she believes the police department should "look into" restricting the parking down from two hours to possibly no parking when the rink is operating. She said police should strive to make parking restrictions to ensure rink visitors use the designated 48-spot parking lot next to the baseball field rather than on-street parking.

In other business, the council unanimously decided to table a resolution committing Garwood from condoning billboards similar to the one displayed on Morris Avenue in Union Township. The billboard "used hate-speech" towards President Donald Trump as asserted in the resolution.

"Garwood prides itself on the borough's diversity and does not



Paul Lachenauer for The Westfield Leader

FOR DOGS ONLY...Families gather to watch the Pooch Plunge on Sunday at the Cranford Centennial Avenue Pool. The event was organized by the Cranford Community Connection and the Township of Cranford Recreation and Parks Department.

Cranford Discusses Brookside Drainage

By CAROLINE MCNAMARA
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — The township committee held its workshop meeting on Monday, tackling matters ranging from paving and drainage to the needs of Cranford's police force.

The meeting commenced with an update from Township Engineer William Masol. He said the township's engineering department is looking to participate in its paving program soon, noting the department is waiting on a confirmation of insurance.

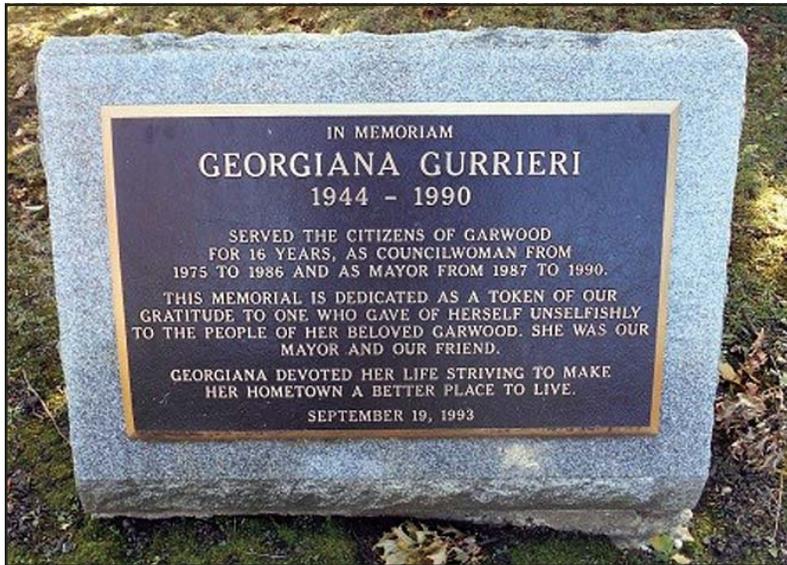
The township committee is interested in further pursuing the Brookside drainage improvement. "There is no drainage on the street currently," said Mr. Masol.

Mayor Thomas H. Hannen, Jr. expressed his concern regarding the Brookside sanitary sewer

level. He said a homeowner has experienced many blockages. The homeowner in question was present at the meeting.

"Fifty-three other houses are using that sewer," the homeowner said. "The blockage happens when it rains." The Public Works Department has been on site and has suggested to the homeowner that the blockage could be due to baby wipes. However, the homeowner said this is not the case. The homeowner has experienced several expenses in attempts to drain the blockage. The township committee is looking to aid the homeowner's efforts and ameliorate the problem.

Mayor Hannen said he is interested in addressing the train station roundabout issue. The township will explore receiving fund-



GURRIERI REMEMBERED...The Garwood Historical Committee will honor former Mayor Georgiana Gurrieri this Saturday, September 29, when the committee will rededicate Georgiana Gurrieri Memorial Park at 11 a.m. with a rain date of Sunday, September 30, also at 11 a.m. The public is invited to this 25th anniversary ceremony. The park is located on the corner of Walnut Street and Fourth Avenue and is known for its landscaping and gazebo erected in 1993 to Mayor Gurrieri's memory who had died in office. For further information, please contact the Committee at garwoodhistory@garwood.org.

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