



BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE NEWSLETTER

April 2025



*Mayor
Debbie
Mans*

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I don't know about you, but I am excited to see the Spring flowers peeking up. Spring in the Borough means we are busy!

Recently, everyone should have received a letter explaining that the Borough has been mandated by the Essex County Board of Taxation to conduct a property revaluation. This is a systematic process of reviewing the value of all properties when recent market values show a considerable difference from what the Borough has recorded. It is designed to be "revenue neutral" — the amount of money the Borough raises through property taxes remains unchanged but ensures that the assessments are fair and accurate across the Borough. For further information or questions about the

revaluation process, property owners are encouraged to check out the [website](#) or contact the Borough's tax assessor's office.

Our residential town-wide water meter upgrade program is underway. The new meters include advanced leak detection systems to reduce water loss and backflow prevention to help prevent water contamination. If you haven't scheduled your appointment, please find details [here](#).

The Department of Public Works has been busy preparing fields for spring sports and making sure our storm drains stay clear for spring rains. Registration is now open for Freeman Tennis Courts, the community pool and summer day camp.

Finally, while our own tree lined streets look striking, don't miss the cherry blossom trees in nearby [Branch Brook Park](#), which has more than 4,000 cherry trees!

Mayor Debbie Mans

Borough of Glen Ridge

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Early Voting Locations for the June 10, 2025 Primary Election

Please be advised that Early Voting for 2025 Primary Election will take place from June 3 to June 8, 2025. Voting Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10AM to 8PM, and Sunday from 10AM to 6PM.

Early Voting Locations are as follows:

BLOOMFIELD

WATSESSING PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
BLOOMFIELD AVENUE

EAST ORANGE

EAST ORANGE CITY HALL
44 CITY HALL PLAZA

FAIRFIELD

FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER
22 I HOLLYWOOD A VENUE

IRVINGTON

IRVINGTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING
1 CIVIC SQUARE WEST

VERONA

VERONA COMMUNITY CENTER
880 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE

WEST ORANGE

BERSON FAMILY CENTER, SOUTH MOUNTAIN RECREATION COMPLEX
560 NORTHFIELD A VENUE

NEWARK

ESSEX COUNTY COMPLEX PARKING GARAGE
WEST MARKET STREET ENTRANCE

STEVE ADUBATO CENTER
BRANCH BROOK PARK

WEEQUAHIC PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
MEEKER AND ELIZABETH AVENUE ENTRANCE

WEST SIDE PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
600 SOUTH 17th STREET

Parks & Recreation Department

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Glen Ridge Recreation programs and activities <https://www.glenridgenj.org/parks.htm> are administered by the Glen Ridge Parks and Recreation Department located in the Glen Ridge Senior/Community Center (Train Station) at 228 Ridgewood Avenue.

For more info, contact Jim Cowan, Director of Recreation 973-748-2924 jtcowan@glenridgenj.org

Register your e-mail address to receive announcements and information from Glen Ridge Recreation. Go to www.glenridgenj.org (bottom right of the home page) to join the list.



Senior Citizen Golden Circle Programs

Open to all Glen Ridge residents aged 55 and older. In addition to programs such as the monthly health screenings and luncheons at the Community Center, virtual on-line options for the weekly Yoga and Art programs are offered. The Recreation Department also runs the very popular weekly grocery shopping trips for seniors and bus and jitney day trips (most recently to Grounds for Sculpture and Branch Brook Blossom viewing) continue to be a program highlight.

The year-end holiday gathering at Fitzgerald's was attended by over 30 resident seniors.

Do you have any suggestions for senior citizen activities? If so, please contact seniors activities coordinator, Kate Stanisci seniors@glenridgenj.org



Freeman Tennis Courts

Located on Woodland Avenue and home of the Glen Ridge High School boys and girls tennis teams, the six clay courts are open seven days a week, April through October (weather permitting). A permit fee is required. Registration is now open! Go to <https://www.glenridgenj.org/freemantenniscourts.htm>

Summer Day Camp: Proudly serving Borough youth annually for over 50 years, registration for this popular seven-week program for residents ages 5-12 is now open! Go to <https://www.glenridgenj.org/summerdaycamp.htm>

Glen Ridge Community Pool: The Glen Ridge Community Pool was built in 2003 and is operated by the Borough of Glen Ridge Recreation Department. It is a family-friendly pool open from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day. Located just off Bloomfield Avenue at 35 Clark Street, the pool offers a variety of swimming and recreational activities. Registration is now open! Go to <https://www.glenridgenj.org/pool.htm>

Police Department

Upcoming Events & Road Closures:

- ❖ Arts Festival – Saturday May 17th, 2025 7am to 6pm
 - Ridgewood Ave between Bloomfield Ave and Lincoln Street
- ❖ Rhino Romp – May 22nd, 2025 9am to 11am
 - Ridgewood avenue between Bloomfield Ave and Bay Ave
- ❖ Lager Run 5K – June 8th, 2025 4p to 8pm
 - Ridgewood Ave/Forest Ave from Bloomfield Ave to Sunset Road
- ❖ Sunset Classic 8K – June 26th, 2025 6pm to 9pm
 - Forest Ave [all roads east of Ridgewood from Wildwood to Sunset]

Crime Prevention Tips:

The Glen Ridge Police Department is committed to keeping our neighborhoods safe. Recently, across the state we have seen an increase in residential burglaries, between 3 and 5 am, where the suspects are breaking into a residence and looking for the keys to high end motor vehicles parked in the driveway. We urge residents to take simple but effective precautions to protect their homes, vehicles, and valuables.

◆ Home Security:

- Lock all doors and windows, even when home.
- Use outdoor lighting and motion sensors to deter criminals.
- Install security cameras or an alarm system.
- Keep keys out of sight
- Set alarms & install security cameras

◆ Vehicle Safety:

- Never leave your car running unattended.
- Always lock your doors and close all windows.
- Remove valuables from your vehicle
- Park in a garage if available.
- Report suspicious activity



Did you know?

The Glen Ridge Police Department offers free home security surveys to our residents? Contact 973-748-5400 x 118 to set one up today!

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the most up to date department information



Facebook/glenridgepd



@glenridgepd



The Library’s 2024 Annual Report “**Library Service Inside & Out**” is available for viewing on our website at glenridgelibrary.org.

We are looking forward to a busy year full of programs and activities. Our building improvements continue with an update to the Children’s Room office in April and will be finishing up some final projects as part of the Library Construction Bond Act later this year.

We are excited for this year’s Summer Reading Program with the

theme for 2025 being “**Color Our World**”. The Summer Reading Kickoff event will be held on June 10th from 5-7PM and we hope you will join us for ice cream, activities, outdoor games (from the Library of Things) and more. Summer Reading is for all ages, and we will have programs available for everyone!

Courtesy of the Friends we have a variety of **Museum Passes** and new items in our **Library of Things** including a new pressure washer, a battery powered leaf blower, a Tonie box, and much more. Reserve a Pass or Thing via the website TODAY!

We also have also added some **new online services** for you to use for FREE with your library card including Freegal (free music downloads and 24/7 streaming), ComicsPlus (comic books, manga, graphic novels, and picture books), and the



digital *Star Ledger* now that the print is no longer available. All of our online resources are available at <https://www.glenridgelibrary.org/onlineresources.html>.



In order to make sure you are aware of all of our programs & events, make sure to visit the Library’s Event Calendar and subscribe by visiting

<https://bccls.libcal.com/calendar/glenridge>. To **add the**

events to your personal calendar, click on the image at the top left of the calendar and copy the URL to subscribe with your online calendaring program. If you



have any questions about this or any Library related program or service, please give us a call at 973-748-5482 or email glrgcirc@bccls.org. **HAPPY READING!**

Glen Ridge is committed to supporting sustainability through proper recycling.

E-Waste, Rechargeable Batteries & Styrofoam Recycling is available the second Saturday of every month at the Public Works Maintenance Yard, 122 Carteret St.

	<u>Acceptable</u>	<u>Non-Acceptable</u>
E-Waste	computers, monitors, printers, telecom equipment, speakers, DVD players, cell phones, scanners, televisions, keyboards, VCRs, stereos, digital cameras	smoke detectors carbon monoxide alarms fluorescent bulbs, CFL bulbs corded household items, light fixtures
Rechargeable Batteries	Nickel Cadmium Ni-Cd Lithium Ion Li-Ion Nickel Metal Hydride Ni-MH Small Sealed Lead Acid SSLA/Pb Nickel Zinc Ni-Zn	batteries 11 lbs or greater single use batteries AA, AAA, 6V, 9V, C, D, button batteries car or marine batteries
Styrofoam	clean white EPS Expanded Polystyrene	NO tape, labels, stickers, cardboard, packing peanuts, colored Styrofoam, cups, food service trays, egg cartons

Public Works collects large household appliances and freon appliances curbside every Wednesday morning by appointment. Email dpw@glenridgenj.org or call 973-748-8400 x223 to schedule.

[ECUA Household Hazardous Waste Collection](#) for items that cannot be included in regular garbage collection like antifreeze, gasoline, oil-based paint, cleaning solvents & more.

Latex paint must have lids removed and set aside to completely dry out. The drying process can be accelerated by adding cat litter or speedy dry. Once dry, cans can be disposed of with household trash.





The Glen Ridge Athletic Association (GRAA) oversees youth sports in Glen Ridge for students in 8th grade and below. Approximately 86% of all students enrolled in Glen Ridge schools participate in GRAA programs and we are committed to growing that number even further. Having just concluded a successful Winter season, we are now looking forward to an exciting lineup of Spring sports! Please visit graa.org for more information.

- **Attention HS Seniors!** - GRAA offers scholarships to graduating seniors - applications are due April 25, 2025! Reach out to the Glen Ridge High School Guidance Office for information on how to apply.
- **Memorial Day Parade** - All GRAA participants are encouraged to march with GRAA. Details will be emailed soon.
- **Sponsorships Available** - Local businesses are encouraged to reach out to treasurer@graa.org for more info.



The GREAC is looking forward to the Arts & Eco Fair on Saturday May 17, 10AM-4PM (rain date May 18). In addition to 75 vendors, town groups, the annual student art show, food, and live music, the NJ Electric Vehicle Association will be back with a variety of EVs, Helpsy will be on-hand for textile recycling, Diamond Cycle will give your bike a tune-up, and Toadshade Wildflower Farm will sell native plants. BYO water bottle and fill 'er up thanks to the West of Hudson Real Estate water truck. Java's Compost will help us reduce waste by collecting event food scraps. Interested in getting involved with the event? Email us: goglenridgegreen@gmail.com.

We are fundraising for our GRHS Environmental Scholarship by selling Penstemon digitalis, a stunning native perennial with white tubular flowers that attract bumblebees and hummingbirds. See below for order details. High school seniors: ask your guidance counselor about our scholarship!

Follow us: @GlenRidgeGreen or Glen Ridge Environmental Advisory Committee, www.goglenridgegreen.org



Native Plant Sale 

to support GRHS Senior Scholarship Fund

Penstemon

**\$6 each,
\$25 for 5**

Pick up your order at the Arts & Eco Fair on May 17

- Clusters of spring and summer-blooming tubular, white flowers attract bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.
- Grows in sun, shade, dry, wet, clay, and loam
- After blooming, the low-growing foliage makes an attractive evergreen groundcover.
- Order through <https://register.capturepoint.com/reg/index.cfm> or email goglenridgegreen@gmail.com.

Gas Lamp Players is pleased to share information on our upcoming spring and summer theatre arts programming:

The Gas Lamp Kids Workshop presents *Aristocats* Kids on April 26th at the Ridgewood Avenue School Auditorium. Tickets are available for purchase at www.gaslampplayers.org.

Gas Lamp Teens presents *The Wolves*, a one-act play about teenage adolescence through the lens of a high school girls' soccer team. Performance information and ticket sales will be available at www.gaslampplayers.org by May 1st.

Gas Lamp Junior Summer Camp goes under the sea for two performances of *The Little Mermaid* JR on July 18 (7 PM) and July 19 (1 PM) at Ridgewood Avenue School. Registration is still open for *The Prom* - School Edition Teen Summer Camp (July 21st-August 9th). Visit www.gaslampplayers.org to learn more.

Finally, submissions are being accepted for the 2025 Kelli O'Hara Scholarship program. The annual \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a graduating high school senior who has been a longstanding part of the Gas Lamp community and is pursuing a degree in the performing arts. [Click HERE](#) for the application which must be received by May 16, 2025.



This past February we lost a beloved friend and community member, Robert Baum, who served on the board of the Freeman Gardens Association for over 15 years. Robert's kind and thoughtful way left a lasting impression on those lucky enough to have known him and he is deeply missed. A tree will be planted in Robert's honor this spring as a small recognition of all he did for the garden.

As we move into spring, we hope you'll join us on April 27th for a new Tiny Gallery art reception and on May 23rd for Grub n' Roses, our annual food truck and live music event.

Stay up-to-date on the latest garden news by following us on Instagram @freemangardens or reach out to freemangardens07028@gmail.com to join our email list.

Freeman Gardens Association is a 100% volunteer-run and community supported nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.



Since 1950, the Glen Ridge Volunteer Ambulance Squad (GRVAS) has made approximately 100 ambulance calls and 10-15 senior transports per month. This selfless care is all voluntary and is always free. Striving to be kind, compassionate, professional and knowledgeable, GRVAS members are available 24 hours a day to help anyone in need.

As the field of EMS changes, we remain committed to making sure our members are trained in the most up to date methods which include BLS medical interventions and protocols, airway management, lifting and moving techniques and the numerous other valuable skills needed to help protect our community.

Many of our student members have continued into the health care field, some remaining on the squad well past college. Others are simply proud of the work they have done; the calm professionalism these students show during calls tells us what today's youth is really all about. So here's to our high school seniors who will continue to make a difference in the world. (Pictured L to R: Feryal Haider, Emily Stapleford, Kaitlin Duffus, Sydney Appelbaum-Roth, Elle Graham, Maia DeLuca, John Bettenbender, and Sarp Yagiz)

