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Issue 15 • March 2015

CRANFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NETWORKING EVENT MARCH 11TH NOON LIDIA'S CUBAN KITCHEN 117 No. Union Ave Cranford Members and nonmembers are welcome.

CRANFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE **AFTER HOURS NETWORKING MARCH 24th - 5:30 pm KILKENNY HOUSE** 112 South Ave. E., Cranford Until 7:30 pm. No charge - Cash bar Members and nonmembers are welcome.



CRANFORD HIGH PRESENTS SEUSSICAL, THE MUSICAL

Cranford High School is proud to announce their spring musical SEUSSICAL, The Musical to be presented March 13 and 14 with a 7:30 PM curtain and March 15 with a 2:00PM curtain. An open dress rehearsal is available for senior citizens on March 12 with a 7:30 PM curtain. SEUSSICAL, The Musical will be directed and choreographed by Cranford's own Michelle Massa. Tickets are available now online at www.chs.booktix.com, questions about tickets can be directed to Virginia Burd at burdvirg@cranfordschools.org.

SEUSSICAL, The Musical, is a fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza and is a wonderful family-kid-friendly show for all ages. SEUSSICAL continues to be one of the most performed shows in America. Tony winners Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty ("Ragtime," "Once On This Island") have lovingly brought to life all of our favorite Dr. Seuss characters, including Horton the Elephant, The Cat in the Hat, Gertrude McFuzz, lazy Mayzie, and a little boy with a big imagination--JoJo. "Oh, the Thinks You Can Think" captures the show's spirit of imagination, as the colorful characters transport us from the Jungle of Nool to the Circus McGurkus to the invisible world of the Whos.

The Cat in the Hat is the host and emcee (and all-around mischief-maker) in this romp through the Seuss classics. Horton the Elephant, finds himself faced with a double challenge--not only must he protect his tiny friend JoJo (and all the invisible Whos) from a world of naysayers and dangers, but he must guard an abandoned egg, left to his care

by Mayzie. Although Horton faces ridicule, danger, kidnapping and a trial, the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him, and is the only one who recognizes "his kind and his powerful heart."

Easy on the ear and very pop, conveying the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community and how they are challenged and emerge triumphant in a story that makes you laugh and cry. This is a heart warming kid-friendly story that also won't insult an adult's intelligence.

Cast in the CHS production include Tyler McMahon as The Cat, Dylan Randazzo as Horton, Emma Schwartz as Gertrude, Lauren Costa as Mayzie, Katie Morreale as Jo-Jo, Derek Keller as Mr. Mayor, Veronica Walton as Mrs. Mayor, Tom Stoke as The General, Kelsey Kilpatrick, Mikayla Herz and Pria McNeill as The Bird Girls, Sarah Parlapiano as the Sour Kangaroo, Tyler Beresford, Garrett Forrestal and Shelden Mendes as The Wickersham Brothers, Bart Lahiff as The Grinch, James Lynch as Yertle and Jordan Burd as The Marshall.

The ensemble includes Haley Baranowski, Sabrina Brito, Samantha Gordon, Kelsey Harder, Cristina Marcotrigiano, Maggie Manhardt, Kelly McMahon, Gabi Meadows, Erica Moreno, Julia Nicholas, Niamh O'Donovan, Lilian Rebelo, Laura Salway, Marisa Sigas, Rachel Quinn, Heather Valenzano, Carly Van Houten, Charlie Bernstein, Chris Brightman, Tom Dineen, Tim Dooley, Devin Kenney, Max Kopla, Bobby Morris, Jake Randazzo, Brenden Scalea, Todd Sweeney and Alex Zoughy.



(above) The Cast of Cranford High School's Production of SEUSSICAL, THE MUSICAL





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Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (accomplishment, honor, award, etc.). Do you have an event that you need help publicizing? Then send Cranford Monthly your news!

Call: 908-418-5586 Fax: 908-709-9209 Email: info@rennamedia.com



Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com

DAR INVITES PUBLIC TO AWARD CEREMONY

On March 14th at 12 noon at the Cranford Municipal Building the Crane's Ford Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will present the NSDAR Historic Preservation Recognition Award to the individuals responsible for the restoration of the historic Cranford murals hanging in the Committee Room.

The restoration process was initiated and completed by five volunteers over a period of four years beginning in 2008. Receiving the award will be former Mayor Robert Puhak; Lawrence Fuhro, posthumously, deceased 2014, former Cranford High School history teacher and Cranford Historian; Deb Leber, artist liaison; Cranford Board of Education and the Township of Cranford.

The public is invited by the DAR to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of the award recipients.

BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

Join the Easter Bunny for an extra special breakfast. There will be bagels, muffins and donuts for everyone! Children will color Easter pictures, make a simple craft and get their picture taken with the guest of honor, the Easter Bunny (please bring your own camera).

Tickets are available on line at www.cranfordjwc.com or at the following Cranford locations: The Library and Periwinkles Fine Gifts. Seating islimited so get your tickets early!

Saturday, March 28, 2015 Cranford Community Center 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford Two seatings: 9:30am & 11am \$6 per person at The Library & Periwinkles

\$7 per person at www.cranfordjwc.com

Sponsored by Cranford Junior Woman's Club Fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund

& General Philanthropic

CRANFORD RECREATION PROGRAMS

The Cranford Recreation and Parks Department would like to remind everyone that registration for Spring Programs (Session 3) will begin on Monday, March 16th. Registration for Cranford Residents only may be done in person at the Community Center or on-line. Most programs start the week of April 6th.

PRESCHOOL AND KINDER PROGRAMS

All Sports for Kids, Friday with My First Friends, Mommy and Me Music, Preschool Arts and Crafts, Science Matters, Stretch-n-Grow, US Sports classes, Kinder Yoga, Kinder Book Club and Kinder Cooking & Arts and Crafts

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Science Matters, Beginner Quilting, Mannerations-Social Etiquette, Mannerations-Dining Program, Astronomy Stargazers, Art Class, Lights! Camera! Kids! Action!, Elementary Cooking, Junior Rock-Intro to Rock Instruments, Guitar 101, Keyboard 101, Jr. Scientists, Little Bakers Workshop, Jewelry Design, Creative Art and Kid Safe Self Defense

ADULT PROGRAMS

(all programs for adults age 18+)

Beginner Quilting, Piano (Beginners/ Intermediate), Body Barre, Yoga, Astronomy Stargazers, Tai Chi (Beginner/Intermediate) and Pilates

For more details on these programs, please go to our website www.cranford.com/rec, click on INFORMATION and click on our brochure. Registration may be done in person at the Community Center or on-line at https://register.communitypass.net/cranford. For further information, please call the Recreation Department at (908) 709-7283.





ages 10 and up

Our Summer Intensive is available to all students ages 10 and up who have some dance experience and the drive to learn more! Your dancer will be exposed to technique in Ballet every day (pointe for our more advanced dancers), Jazz, Hip-hop, Modern, Lyrical, Contemporary, Tap, Partner Dancing, Improvisation and more! A specialty class in teaching students HOW to choreograph only helps the dancer to be more well-rounded. Based on dance experience, each student will be placed within your appropriate level of dance for the week. Your dancer will participate in 4 classes per day, starting with an hour and a half of Ballet, followed by three classes in each of the different styles of dance. \$300

11 CRITICAL HOME INSPECTION TRAPS TO BE AWARE OF WEEKS BEFORE LISTING YOURHOME FOR SALE

Cranford NJ - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away altogether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homesellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To order a FREE Special Report, visit www.njhomeinspectiontraps.com or to hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-888-243-5861 and enter 3002. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

This report is courtesy of All Towne Realty Realtor. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright © 2015.

CHAMBER'S BREAKFAST WITH THE MAYOR

The Cranford Chamber of Commerce held its second 2015 networking event on February 4, 2015 at the Rustic Mill Diner in Cranford. Cranford's Mayor Andis Kalnins was the guest speaker. Mayor Kalnins gave an overview of all the departments in the Municipal Building and how well everything is going there.

Cranford will be have two major projects beginning in 2015. These projects include the improving of the train station and platform and the upgrading of the PSE&G building on South Avenue. The Mayor will be working with the township, business owners and residents to insure that everyone is kept updated on parking issues and other changes downtown.

The Chamber would like to thank Mayor Kalnins and the Rustic Mill Diner for a very successful networking event. If you are interested in attending our Networking Events, please contact us at 908 272-6114 or e-mail us at cranfordchamber@comcast.net.



(above, l-r) Cranford Mayor Andis Kalnins chats with Joe Fazio, partner in O'Connor Davies CPA firm after addressing the members at Cranford Chamber meeting.

CRANFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPCOMING MARCH EVENTS

NETWORKING LUNCHEON MARCH 11TH - 12:00 NOON LIDIA'S CUBAN KITCHEN

117 No Union Ave., Cranford. Our guest speaker will be Nancy Burke, UCC Industry & Business Institute's Marketing & Business Development Manager. She will be giving an overview of the free classes available to business owners. Cost \$12.00 Members

\$17.00 Future Members.

OPEN FORUM MARCH 18TH - 7 PM CRANFORD COMMUNITY CENTER

The Chamber invites all business owners to an Open Forum to learn about upcoming events. The Cranford Community Connection will also be present to talk about their activities and Mayor's Wellness Campaign.

AFTER HOURS NETWORKING MARCH 24TH - 5:30 PM KILKENNY HOUSE,

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2 & UnderFREE!	2 & UnderFREE!

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	n Dinne	r 3:30pm - 9:3	80pm
Adult\$7.9	9 Adult	\$ 1	10.99
Kids 7-10\$5.9	9 Kids 7-1	10	\$6.99
Kids 3-6\$3.9	9 Kids 3-0	5	\$5.99
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HIBACHI

Choose your favorite ingredients from dozens of seafood, meats and vegetables. Watch our chef preparing them in our special hibachi sauce to create a full-flavored dish.



During the weekend of February 20th-22nd the Cranford Hockey Club Squirt B Team participated in a youth hockey tournament in Lake Placid, New York. Teams from as far away as New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware, Vermont, and Canada were in attendance. During the course of this three-day event the Cranford Squirt B Team played games in the 1932 Olympic Arena and the USA Olympic practice Arena. After two days of competition, the Cranford Hockey Club Squirt B Team advanced to the Championship Game that was held in the historic Coach Herb Brooks 1980 Olympic Arena. The boys were assigned the same locker room that the 1980 Olympic Russian Hockey Team was assigned during the 1980 Championship game against the USA Hockey Team. Cranford lost to a tough Milton Massachusetts hockey team and came home with the second place silver medal. After the game the Cranford players were given a private tour of the USA Hockey Team locker room, which has remained unchanged since the 1980 Olympics.

CRANFORD HOCKEY CLUB

This weekend happened to be the 35-year anniversary celebration of the 1980 Olympic Hockey Team in Lake Placid. On Saturday night February 21st the Cranford Squirt B Team attended a ceremony that was held to honor the 1980 USA Hockey Team in the 1980 Arena. Most of the 1980 USA Hockey Team members were in attendance.





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CRANFORD RESIDENTS AMONG CLASS FROM TRINITAS SCHOOL OF NURSING

With nursing diplomas and Associate in Science degrees from Union County College (UCC) in hand, the January class of the Trinitas School of Nursing celebrated their completion of the program at graduation exercises held at UCC in Cranford. The class included 75 women and 13 men, continuing a trend of increasing numbers of men seeking nursing careers. The graduates included Cranford residents Susana Pereira and Doris P. Reno.

Trinitas School of Nursing currently holds full continuing accreditation from The National League for Nursing (NLN) Accrediting Commission, Inc. through Fall 2020. The NLN's Board of Commissioners' extended accreditation is based on the School's designation as an NLN Center of Excellence; the length of employment of the faculty, all of whom hold certification as Certified Nurse Educators (CNE); the School's fostering of excellence among students with English as a second language; the School's nurturing environment for student support that encourages success among the entire student body, and the excellent relationships among the Trinitas Regional Medical Center nursing staff, clinical unit managers, faculty and students.



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CRANFORD MONTHLY • Page 10 • March 2015



(above, 1-r) Cranford Fire Department chefs: Inspector Tom Hannen; Mechanic Matt Steitz; Acting Fire Chief Dean Russamano; Inspector John Dillon



FIRE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATES IN COOK-OFF

On Monday February 23, 2015, firefighters from around New Jersey competed at the Cooked and Uncorked Food and Wine Festival benefiting New Jersey State Firefighter's Mutual Benevolent Association (NJSFMB) and Saint Barnabas Burn Foundation. The competition is part of the culinary extravaganza where participants experienced the tastes and flavors of more than twenty-eight of New Jersey's finest restaurants, caterers and dessert shops, as well as 34 tables of liquor vendors all in one location. Cranford restaurants that participated included II Gabbiano Italian Bistro, Cranford Hotel, and Lidia's Cuban Kitchen.

The event, which drew more than 1,000 people from throughout New Jersey, was held at The Pines Manor in Edison. Some of the quotes heard were "Amazing Event", "The Food and Beverages were incredible", "The Fire Departments out did themselves this year", "Tried so many different kinds of beverages", "I'll be back next year and bring my friends".

The Ultimate Fire Department Cook-off was an integral part of the evening as twenty-five fire departments competed for top honors in "Gourmet Cooking", "Firehouse Cooking", and "Peoples' Choice". Cranford competed against teams from Union, Rahway, Bayonne, Carteret, Elizabeth, Hillside, Hamilton Twp., New Brunswick, Long Branch, Linden, Plainfield, South Orange, Trenton, Roselle, Millburn, Maplewood, Nutley, and Paterson.

This was the Cranford Fire Department's fifth year participating. The team consisted of Inspectors Tom Hannen and John Dillon;

On Monday February 23, 2015, firefighters Mechanic Matt Steitz, and Acting Fire Chief om around New Jersey competed at the boked and Uncorked Food and Wine Festival beef chili with course ground strip steak.

Established in 1987, Saint Barnabas Burn Foundation serves as the education, research and fundraising arm of The Burn Center. It provides essential financial support to burn patients and their families, fire safety programs for the

community, training programs for professionals, as well as medical equipment for The Burn Center.

CRANFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT RECIPE FOR 5TH ANNUAL COOKED & UNCORKED

INGREDIENTS 3 lbs beef tenderloin diced into cubes 3 lbs ground beef 3 large cans of crushed tomatoes 2 peppers diced 1 onion diced 1 cup chili powder 2 table spoons cumin 1/4 cup cilantro Salt and pepper to taste *1 tablespoon garlic powder* 1 tablespoon crushed red pepper 4 shakes of Franks Hot Sauce PREPARATION Sauté ground beef and cubes. Drain all fat and add peppers onions and all dry ingredients. Add crushed tomatoes and cook on low for 1.5 - 2 hours with the lid partially on. Stir as needed as not to burn on the bottom. Serve over rice or elbow macoroni and top with shredded cheese. (Note: Chili powder can be adjusted to taste and heat)



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FIRE HOUSE COOK OFF PHOTO ALBUM



(above) Lidia's Cuban Kitchen

at ERA Meeker 2010-2013



(above) The Cranford Hotel

(right) Il Gabbiano An Italian Bistro



every step of the way.

Photos of this and other events can be found at www.rennamedia.com and on the Renna Media Facebook page.Feel free to "Like", "Tag", and "Share".





ANNUAL ST. JOSEPH TABLE SEEKING FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRANFORD FAMILY CARE

St. Michael Parish will celebrate the feast of St. Joseph, on March 19. St Joseph has been given the title "Patron of Families" by the Church worldwide.

As part of the annual celebration the parish will have a "St. Joseph Table " in the main lobby Wednesday March 19 through Sunday, March 22. The parish's "Table" will have a statue of St Joseph and traditional decorations associated with this feast, but no food. Can you help us "decorate" this table with non– perishable food items the will be donated to Cranford Family Care? All items collected will be delivered Monday March 23.

For more information please call the Parish office 908-276-0360. St. Michael Church is open Weekday and Saturdays 6A.M. until 7:30 P.M. and Sunday 6:30A.M.until 2:30 P.M.

Giving ALMS (assistance to the less fortunate) is an ancient Lenten tradition.



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If your property is currently listed with another real estate broker please disregard. It is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other real estate brokers.

ATLANTIC BEACH SOAP TO HOST FUND RAISER TO SUPPORT CRANFORD'S PROJECT HOME

Atlantic Beach Soap Company® "The Largest Soap Store in New Jersey" located at 102B North Union Avenue in downtown Cranford announced a month-long event to showcase the work of Cranford artist Cynthia A. Dawley. As part of the store's expansion into the home décor sector, owner Shaun Vanclief decided to bring in select oils by the acclaimed artist and to help support Cranford's very own "Project Home." A portion of the sales of Cynthia's work will be donated to the local charity throughout the month of March.



Cynthia Dawley's use of bright color and vivid light captures the emotion and moment on canvas. Her subject matter is quite diverse, including the



cityscapes of NYC, to neighborhood points of interest, to beach scenes, to foreign countries. Cynthia has exhibited her oil paintings in galleries all over the country, and her works have also been seen on "The Sopranos" and in corporate settings.

On Friday evening, March 13th Atlantic Beach Soap Company® is hosting an open gallery event where you can meet Cynthia Dawley between the hours of 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. There will be product demonstrations and live entertainment featuring the acoustic duo "Two Steps UPP." There will also be a silent auction with proceeds going to Project Home. If you miss the Friday event, Atlantic Beach Soap Company® will be hosting a 2nd gallery event on Sunday, March 29th between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. where you can again meet the artist and listen to the acoustic rendition of The "American Songbook" featuring the vocals of Bonnie Russo and John LaMorges on keyboard.

Stop by and enjoy these great events and help support Project Home. There is plenty of onstreet parking as well as several municipal lots conveniently within walking distance of the Atlantic Beach Soap shop.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PERFORM IN ALL-STATE WOMEN'S CHORUS

Four Cranford High School students performed in the NJ All-State Women's Chorus on Saturday, February 21 at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.



(above, l-r) Cranford High School students Veronica Walton, Elyse Mackenzie, Katherine Mackenzie, and Alexandra Heyburn with All-State Women's Chorus conductor Patricia Joyce, center. This school year, a total of seventeen Cranford High School students were selected for and participated vin the NJ All-State Choruses.



TROOP 80'S ANNUAL SKI TRIP TO SHAWNEE

For over ten years Troop 80 has brought its winter loving scouts and parents to the Pocono mountains for ski and snowboard training and lots of fun. This year's continuous cold and snow brought near perfect ski conditions to the Poconos that would usually be available only at much more distant locations. In all thirty-four scouts of all skill levels attacked the snowy hills of Shawnee Mountain and experience three days of downhill magic.

In a ski in ski out mountain top lodge, the boys and chaperone parents enjoyed the cozy side of skiing. Snuggled by the fireplace they were treated to a weekend-long nacho bar and an endless supply of comfort foods and drinks. The middle school aged scouts competed after hours with a ping pong tournament. Frank Caldwell, Shane Waleski and Patrick O'shea took 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectfully. The high school aged scouts competed in the Saturday night Texas hold'em poker tournament which A.J Kornberger and Garrett Kennedy took 1st and 2nd place respectfully.

In all the boys skied a total of 24 hours during the 3 day trip. Taking advantage of the slopes until 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday night under the lights on every trail and slope that Shawnee Mountain is famous for.

Each year a small group of first time skiers join the trip. After three days on the slopes and a

couple of lessons, a few non skiers become skiers. This year we had six first time downhillers who past their test with flying colors. The Boy Scouts goal is to develop fine young men in every way. Living their life by the scout law and scout oath are a small part of the experience. Scouting's new motto "Prepared for life" means created well rounded young adult that are ready for their life ahead. This weekend we took on skiing, ping pong and yes even poker skills. A great time was had by all.

For more information about Troop 80 Boy Scouts contact Roy Walton 908-868-4681.

Photo courtesy of Cranford Boy Scout Troop 80



TROOP 80'S FROST GIANTS TIED FOR 2ND PLACE AT KLONDIKE DERBY

2nd place overall in this years Klondike Derby held on February 7th in the loop park located in Watchung Reservatio

The Klondike challenge is an annual event based on the heritage of the Klondike Gold Rush designed to test a scouts outdoor skills in events including fire building, lashing, knot tying, first aid, winter rescues, team skills and orienteering.

Cranford's Troop 80's Frost Giants tied for Adding to the challenge, scouts are required to pull a sled similar to the sled used in the actual Iditarod to various towns around the Watchung Reservation equipped with only basic camping equipment. Upon arrival to the various towns the scouts are presented with a challenge to solve using only the equipment carried on their sled and knowledge of the members of their team.



Scouts are given 6 hours to complete the course, with points awarded based on the method used to solve the problem and time needed to complete. Most points wins. If you were to think it's easy, try to light a fire without a match, in the snow, with no paper, or fire starter.

Scouts from Carteret, Clark, Colonia, Cranford, Elizabeth, Fords, Hillside, Hopelawn, Iselin, Keasby, Kenilworth, Linden, Perth Amboy, Port Reading, Rahway, Roselle, Roselle Park, Sewaren, Springfield, Union, and Winfield park participated in The Klondike Derby.

The Boy Scouts of America have been running the Klondike derby since 1949.

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Dance Intensive for ages 13 & up Hip Hop Intensive



CRANFORD HOSTS 2ND ANNUAL WHITE CASTLE SPONSORED BOY SCOUT CHESS TOURNAMENT



(above) Third place winner of the White Castle / Boy Scout Chess tournament.



(above. l-r) Players representing Cranford Troop Tyler Wright, Alex Whitmore, Keegan martin, Julia Linger and Timothy Egenton.

Photos of this and other events can be found at www.rennamedia.com and on the Renna Media Facebook page. Feel free to "Like", "Tag", and "Share".

The Cranford Community Center was the site for the Second Annual Boy Scouts Chess Tournament sponsored by White Castle. The tournament was open to all registered Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers.

Sean McKeon of Cranford's Troop #80 won third place honors. Second place was won by Jimmy Devine of Dunellen and first place went to Hagan Pereira of Woodbridge, who won all four of his games.

White Castle purchased 20 sets, boards and clocks for Munsee District Boy Scouts and will continue to sponsor the annual event. White Castle is expanding the Chess program with plans to host tournaments in all six Boy Scout Districts in New Jersey.

The company also covered expenses for running the tournament including trophies for the top three winners and ribbons for participants. They also supplied lunch for all players and spectators along with gift bags. White Castle will continue to support the Boy Scouts and the Chess program.







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SCOUTS PAY WHITE CASTLE DONATION FORWARD

White Castle sponsored and also donated lunch to all participants and spectators of the Boy Scout Chess Tournament. They were over generous and the Scouts had more hamburgers, cheeseburgers, veggie burgers and chicken and drinks than they could consume.

The balance of the food was delivered to St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth, NJ,

White Castle sponsored and also donated where it was then distributed to many needy nch to all participants and spectators of the families.

St Joseph Social Service Center serves homeless and needy people in the greater Elizabeth area. Services include a soup kitchen, food pantry, job program, health services, counseling program, advocacy and case management.

> (left, l-r) Jim Parlapiano, a Munsee District volunteer of the Boy Scouts of America. First place winner Hagan Pereira, second place winner Jimmy Devine, third place finisher Sean McKeon, and Haskell Wallace of White Castle.





Bloody Callan Fri, March 13 Starting at 10 pm Parade After Party Sat, March 14 Starting at 4 pm Greatest Post St. Patrick's Day Parade After Party in Union County featuring The Canny Brothers Band

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Sunday's Prime Rib Special



CRANFORD MONTHLY • Page 17 • March 2015



(above) Staff member of St Joseph Social Service Center Carlos Flores receives the donation of four boxes of White Castle sandwiches forwarded by the Munsee District of the Boy Scouts of America.

Contact St Joseph Social Service Center Email: stjoseph@stjosephelizabeth.org 118 Division St., Elizabeth, NJ 07201-2736 Tel. 908.352.2989/2966 Admin. Office: 908.354.5456



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OFFICER HAND SACRIFICE REMEMBERED



On Wednesday February 11, 2015 the Cranford Police Department remembered Patrol Robert F. Hand and the sacrifice that he made forty years ago. Uniformed Cranford officers wore black mourning bands across their badges in remembrance of their fallen brother. "Officer Hand is nothing short of a legend within the Cranford Police Department, and this week we will take time to remember his service to our country, his dedication to our community, and the sacrifice that he and his family made forty years ago," Chief Wozniak said.

On February 11, 1975 Patrolman Robert F. Hand was killed in the line of duty during a motor vehicle pursuit. The car that Patrolman Hand was chasing was driven by an eighteen year old Rahway resident. The chase began in Cranford and continued onto Westfield Avenue in Clark, where the officer lost control of his car and crashed into the storefront of a glass and mirror shop. The eighteen year old driver of the car that Patrolman Hand was chasing was arrested in Rahway several minutes after the

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crash. Patrolman Hand was taken to Rahway Hospital where he was pronounced dead. Patrolman Hand left behind a wife and four young children.

Patrolman Hand will always be remembered as a servant leader who had deep ties to our community. His was nicknamed 'The Senator' because he was known to stop and talk to all of the store owners, shoppers, and everyone else who he saw on his beat. His peers would joke that it would take him half of his shift to walk just one block because of his desire to help people and start conversations with everyone he saw.

Cranford Police Chief James Wozniak said, "Patrolman Hand could have written a book on community policing. His desire to give back to the community wasn't something that anyone could teach; it was a gift that came very natural to him."

Patrolman Hand was an Air Force veteran who served in the Korean Conflict and he received an honorable discharge in 1950. He was sworn in as a Cranford Patrolman in 1956 and received numerous commendations during his 19-year career. In 1968 he was issued a commendation for breaking up a large scale narcotics ring that resulted in the arrest of 10 drug dealers, and in 1969 he was commended for arresting a child sex offender.

Patrolman Hand was active in the Cranford Elks Lodge and VFW Post 335 and had been elected by his fellow officers to serve as president of the Cranford P.B.A.



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ST PATRICK'S DAY Celebrate the Whole Month of March!

> Saturday March 14th (After Union Parade) Live Irish Music – Lagan's Love 5:00 -9:00 pm

Sunday March 15th Live Irish Music - Round The House Band 5:00 - 9:00 pm

Tuesday March 17th Live Irish Music - Willy Lynch Band 12:00 Noon

Sunday March 22nd Live Irish Music - Andy Cooney Band 5:00 - 9:00 pm

Sunday March 29th Live Irish Music - Rumor Has It 5:00 - 9:00 pm

April 5th * Irish Easter * Live Irish Music - Willy Lynch Band 5:00 - 9:00 pm Limited Availability - Call to Reserve

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BLUE RIBBONS SHOW SUPPORT FOR POLICE

After riots broke out in Missouri and New York, and NYPD officers Wenjian Liu and Rafeal Ramos were shot and killed as they sat in a marked squad car in Brooklyn on December 20, 2014, Kenilworth's borough clerk Laura Reinertsen was dismayed by the anti-police sentiment that was being reported in the national news. She had an idea of placing blue ribbons around Kenilworth Borough Hall to show support for the police and she called the Kenilworth Garden Center for help. It was right in the midst of the Christmas holiday bustle, but owners Gail and Art Russo thought it was a great idea and they tracked down some blue ribbon for the effort. Gail and Art along with Art's mom Mary, created the bows and installed them at Kenilworth's Borough Hall free of charge.

The Russo's thought it was such a great idea that they offered their services free of charge to other towns. Laura sent a blast email to other Union County clerks asking if they'd like blue ribbons to decorate their municipal buildings. The response was overwhelming. To date the Russo's have placed blue ribbons to show support in Cranford, Winfield Park, Elizabeth,

Springfield, Fanwood, Scotch Plains, Union, Clark, Roselle Park and Kenilworth.

Remembers Gail Russo, owner of Kenilworth Garden Center, "The police were getting a bad rap. We wanted to show our support."



(above, l-r) Gail Russo and Cranford PBA President Tom Bell posting blue bows outside of the Police Department on Christmas Eve.



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• Rotating Equipment Maintenance Technician

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For all positions, you must possess one of the following: 3-5 years experience in process operations or in maintenance. Strong interpersonal/communication and analytical skills are required. You must also be detail oriented, computer literate, and have the ability to take responsibility while responding to changing business situations. A valid Drivers License, as well as legal status to work in the United States is required.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY ETTA INGRAM



(above) Hillside Avenue School in Cranford celebrated a very special birthday on January 22, 2015. Etta Ingram, a life-long resident of Cranford and long-time employee of Cranford Public Schools, turned 91 years young!



LOCAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS APPLAUD OSCAR WINNERS

films "Birdman" and "American Sniper" at this year's Academy Awards, a group of about 200 volunteers at a local suicide prevention and crisis intervention hotline were more touched by two obscure winners.

"The Phone Call," a short film about a suicide prevention hotline operator and her distraught caller, won for Best Live Action Short Film. "Crisis Hotline: Veterans Press 1," a documentary about the employees who staff the suicide hotline of the Veterans Administration, took home Best Documentary. Both films are heart-wrenching.

The volunteers of CONTACT We Care understand why these two films garnered such honors. As real-life operators who take the calls of people in crisis, many of whom are suicidal, they understand the emotion that goes into these exchanges - on both ends.

Dean Marsh has been a volunteer listener at CONTACT since December. He recalls one recent call he took toward the end of his shift. He spent two-and-a-half hours talking to the caller.

"What he was feeling at the beginning of the call and at the end of the call was an amazing turnaround," Marsh said. "He told me he didn't know what he would do if someone didn't pick up the phone. He said having someone to talk to really changed his world. You really feel good about yourself when you get off that kind of call and know that you changed or potentially saved a life."

CONTACT We Care, headquartered in Westfield, is a suicide prevention agency that operates a suicide prevention and crisis intervention hotline and provides suicide prevention training to the public, community groups and businesses.

The agency relies on more than 200

While most Americans were focused on the volunteers to staff its listening lines and texting services and the hotline is always looking for new volunteers, according to Joanne Oppelt, CONTACT's executive director. Listeners answer about 14,000 calls and texts each year.

"It is so essential that people in crisis or distress have someone they can talk to who will listen in an empathetic and non-judgmental way," Oppelt said. "Our callers come from all walks of life and every socioeconomic level. They are our neighbors and at a dramatic moment of crossroads in their lives, our listeners are here for them. What our listeners give is a remarkable story - Oscar-deserving in itself."

CONTACT volunteers undergo 50 hours of instruction in empathetic and nonjudgmental active listening and mental health issues and go through a two-day intensive session on suicide intervention called ASIST, or Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. Training is followed by an internship on the lines with experienced listeners.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer listener or texter at CONTACT We Care should contact Sue Fasano, director of programs, at 908.301.1899 or

sue.fasano@contactwecare.org.

CONTACT We Care also provides training to members of the public, community groups and businesses in suicide awareness and prevention, active listening, mental health first aid and preventing teenage suicide. Anyone interested in learning more about or scheduling training also should contact Fasano.

CONTACT We Care serves Central and Northern New Jersev and is a primary responder to calls to the national suicide prevention line (1-800-273-TALK or 1-800-SUICIDE) that originate in New Jersey. Callers also reach CONTACT by dialing 908-232-2880 or texting "CWC" to 839863.



GATEWAY CHAMBER HONORS LOCAL BUSINESSES AT 103RD ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce recently honored three local businesses and a local chamber of commerce at its 103rd Annual Dinner Meeting, held in February at the Newark Airport Marriott.

Renna Media, publishers of the Cranford Monthly, was honored as Small Company of the Year. Founded and operated by Joe and Tina Renna, the small publishing house publishes 13 hyper-local newspapers in Union, Somerset and Warren counties.

Other honorees included Infineum USA L.P. of Linden, Large Company of the Year; R. Seelus & Company, Medium Company of the Year; the Linden Chamber of Commerce, Chamber of the Year.

Visit gatewaychamber.com or call 908-352-0900 or for more information about Gateway.



(above) Kamal Assad, owner of Sign-A-Rama of Kenilworth, presentes Tina and Joe Renna, publishers of the Cranford Monthly, with the Small Company of the Year Award on behalf of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce.

BUSINESS & EDUCATOR BREAKFAST TO DISCUSS TRADE/VOCATIONAL CAREERS

The Gateway Regional Chamber of can be entered at a much lower cost, such as Commerce's Workforce Education Committee is pleased to host a seminar on trade/vocational careers for educators from Union County and beyond.

The Workforce Education Committee has found that many high school graduates in Union County do not have the financial means to attend traditional four-year colleges and that such institutions often burden students with significant debt and limited preparation to join the workforce.

The Workforce Education Committee will discuss alternative career options available that

medical assistants, carpentry, transportation and logistics and others.

A panel discussion of trade industry experts will be moderated by Jim Coyle, President of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The event will be held on Friday, March 20, 2015 from 8:00-10:00a.m., at the Holiday Inn, located at 36 Valley Road, Clark, NJ.

The event is free for educators; \$25 for others. Please register in advance on line at www.gatewaychamber.com or contact Bidisa Rai (908) 352-0900 or email bidisarai@gatewaychamber.com.



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START OF A NEW SESSION OF PROJECT READY AT ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER

Project Ready is a free 6-week job readiness and computer skills training class designed for adults who are actively looking for work. Volunteer tutors help students identify skills, write resumes, practice interviewing, and search for jobs. Basic computer skills, including Microsoft Word and Excel, are also taught.

The program runs Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 am until 2:30 pm. The next session begins March 31, 2015 and ends on May 14, 2015.

Please call us at (908) 353-1045, Ext 8, or email Projectreadyprg@yahoo.com. If you are interested in participating in this class, join us for our Information and Sign up session on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 1pm (118 Division St. Elizabeth, NJ). Seats are limited -Student selection by lottery.

FREE WORKSHOP: IDENTIFY AND PROTECT YOUR TRADE SECRETS

If you own or manage a business, you have trade secrets. Many small businesses are unaware of the value of a trade secret until it is lost or stolen. Trade secrets are generally some confidential information or knowledge that you do not want your competitors to know, such as customer lists, special discounts, recipes, special process, equipment or formulas.

Protecting trade secrets has now become more complex as they are stored on many platforms such as servers, computers, mobile devices as well as on paper in locked cabinets. Trade secrets may even extend to social media platforms such as LinkedIn® and Facebook®.

The workshop will help the business owner and those starting a business identify the potential trade secrets within their own business and learn the steps to both proactively and retroactively protect their trade secrets.

UCEDC, is a nonprofit economic development corporation. UCEDC training events are free, unless otherwise noted, and are open to all small businesses and entrepreneurs in New Jersey.

Event information: Monday, March 23, 2015 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Street, Cranford, NJ.

Please register by visiting their website at www.ucedc.com. If you have any questions or problems regarding registration, kindly contact Jerry Phillips, 908-527-1166, x23 or email jphillips@ucedc.com.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS SOUGHT

The Friends of the Cranford Public Library are offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a Cranford resident who is currently pursuing or intends to pursue a graduate degree in library and information science or media specialist. The award is not based on need. The candidate must furnish proof of acceptance to an accredited university, a letter of reference, and an essay. Applications are available at the Cranford Public Library reference desk. Completed applications must be returned to The Friends of the Cranford Public Library, P.O. Box 400, Cranford, NJ 07016. The deadline to apply is the May 1, 2015.

LIBRARY CLASSIC FILM NIGHT

Cranford Library is continuing its ongoing Classic Film Night. Films are shown on Tuesday nights at 7 PM. The films run the gamut from mystery, comedy and romance, to thrillers and melodramas. Upcoming films are:

infinets and metodramas. Opeoning mini

Mar 10 – Swing Time (1936)

Directed by George Stevens, starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. 103 minutes.

Mar 17 – The Letter (1940)

Directed by William Wyler, starring Bette Davis and Herbert Marshall. 96 minutes.

Mar 24 – The Roaring Twenties (1939)

Directed by Raoul Walsh, starring James Cagney and Humphrey Bogart. 106 minutes.

Mar 31 - Hobson's Choice (1954)

Directed by David Lean, starring Charles Laughton and John Mills. 107 minutes.

Apr 7 – The Sea Hawk (1940)

Directed by Michael Curtiz, starring Errol Flynn and Claude Rains. 128 minutes.

To review the list of films in the series, visit the library web site at www.cranford.com/library. Admission is free and all are welcome. For further information about the series, call the library at 908-709-7272 and ask for Fran Housten or email cranfordlibrary@gmail.com

CRANFORD LIBRARY

Library Hours: Monday to Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.- Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Phone: 908-709-7272 • Email: library@cranfordnj.org • Web: cranford.com/library

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Cranford Public Library invite you to visit their used book sale in the Friendly Book Cellar Wed, March 11, 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.,

Thurs / Fri, March 12 /13, 10a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Items for sale include more than 10,000 adult and children's books, as well as CDs, DVDs, and recorded books. Prices range from \$.25 to \$2.00, except for a few

specially marked items. Saturday is Bag Day; fill a bag with books for just \$8.00.

LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS Cyber Security

Wednesday, March 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center and learn how to save time, money, and stress by keeping yourself and your computer safe and secure. Learn how to recognize email scams, avoid viruses, determine if a Web site is safe, and create strong passwords (and remember them!). Admission is free and all are welcome.

Program on Wills, Estates, and Managing Assets Wednesday, March 25, at 7 p.m.

in the Cranford Community Center. Cranford residents Tony Romero and Nicholas Giuditta will present a program entitled "What Everyone Should Know About

Wills, Estates, and Managing Assets for Loved Ones". Informed Investing

Friday, March 27, at 2 p.m.

Come and find out at an interactive workshop at the Cranford Community Center The program will focus on best practices for selecting a broker or brokerage firm, investing red flags, commonly raised legal claims against financial professionals, and options available to people who think they may have a legal claim against a broker.

Admission is free and all are welcome.

Classical Concert

Monday, March 30, at 7:30 p.m. Guitarist Joel Perry and pianist Eric Olsen will perform

Joaquin Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez. in the Cranford Community Center. Originally composed for guitar and orchestra, the Concierto is considered the first piece to successfully combine the soul of flamenco with the balanced form of classical music. Mr. Perry and Mr.

Olsen will perform some shorter pieces as well. Admission is free and all are welcome.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

ArtBots

Children ages 8-12 are invited to make ArtBots.This workshop, perfect for beginner Makers, provides a thrilling introduction to simple circuits. We'll be creating and decorating a simple robot that produces its own squiggly art. Join us on Saturday, March 14th at 11:00 a.m. in the library's Raddin Room. Registration is required and space is limited.

Looking for a Good Listener?

Sessions take place on the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m Children who would like to read to a welcoming, noncritical listener are invited to read to a certified therapy dog (and trainer). . in the Children's Room. Please register in the Children's Room.

ArtBots

Saturday, March 14, at 11 a.m. Children ages 8 to 12, come make a simple robot that creates scribbly art on in the Raddin Room! Registration is required.

Lego Club

third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The next two session dates are March 17 and April 21. Children in grades K to 5 are welcome. Stop by, freebuild, and share your work with others. And contact Miss Lauren in the Children's Room to be added to the monthly Lego Club Newsletter.

YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

National Teenager Day

Saturday, March 21, noon to 3 p.m. Celebrate yourself and your friends at our Teen Party! Teen Tech Week

Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Work on making simple robots from 10 a.m. to noon. Noon to 2 p.m., enjoy pizza and draw a 3D hand!

Registration required! Teen Advisory Meeting.

Tuesday, March 24, 6 to 8 p.m. Have ideas for cool events? Want to earn volunteer time? Interested in making the library a cooler place for teens?





brary at 908-709-7272 and ask for Fran email cranfordlibrary@gmail.com



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ELIZABETH-PLAINFIELD

Women building better communities

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BEST REASON: give your dress "new life" L/ and give back by making PROM a reality for deserving young ladies.



DONATE

LAST YEAR'S PROM OR HOMECOMING DRESS? BRIDESMAID DRESSES? es. SEMI-FORMAL AND FORMAL ATTIRE?

The Jumble Store, a fundraising project of the Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield, is now accepting clean, lightly used prom dresses and formal wear for its annual Glass Slipper Boutique.

Please drop off clean dresses to The Jumble Store 110 Walnut Ave, Cranford now through March 21st

All Jumble Store proceeds benefit the community projects of the Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield (JLEP), a non-profit organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Through its members, JLEP serves individuals and organizations in need throughout greater Union County. Our current focus is on assisting families and young women in crisis, addressing both prevention and intervention. For more information visit our website at www.jlepuj.org, call us at 908-790-1177 or email pres@jlepuj.org



SENIOR CLUB SEEKING NEW MEMBERS

The Cranford Senior Club meeting which are held on Wednesdays are looking for new members. The Club offers socialization, activated for retirees and meet on a weekly basis. Any Cranford senior resident who is interested in joining can call the Community Center and speak to Lori-Ann (908) 709-7283.





CRANFORD MONTHLY • Page 24 • March 2015

