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Issue 16 • April 2015

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HISTORIC MURALS RESTORATION PROJECT RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Cranford's Historic Murals Restoration Project achieved national recognition at a ceremony held on March 14, 2015 hosted by the Crane's Ford Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) at the Cranford Municipal Building. The local chapter had submitted the mural project for the award sponsored by the National DAR, Washington DC. It was presented by Cranford DAR to those who were instrumental in the painting restoration of four historic murals now prominently displayed on the walls of the Cranford Municipal Building meeting room. The award is specifically for volunteer efforts.

The five recipients include: former Cranford Mayor Robert Puhak; former Cranford High School history teacher and Township Historian Larry Fuhro (posthumously), whose award was accepted by his wife Laura Fuhro; Cranford artistic consultant for the restoration Deb Leber; Cranford Public School District Board of Education represented by President Mary Venditti; Township of Cranford represented by Mayor Andis Kalnins.

The four murals were originally painted during the Depression era Works Progress Administration of the 1930's by Cranford artist Everett S. Ward and completed in 1942. They tell the story of Cranford through four scenes of town history: The original Lenape Indian tribe; first European settlers; Revolutionary War; railroad and Victorian era.

Originally hung in Cranford High School library, they were removed during school renovation in the 1960's and stored away, not rediscovered as a set until 2008, when Larry Fuhro and Bob Puhak began the process of public awareness, realizing their unique historic value.

The Board of Education shared that value, secured grant funding and provided work space at the high school where staff and students could observe the two year restoration effort. Deb Leber retained restoration specialist Angelito David to perform the extensive artistic work required to repair years of dust and damage to the canvases. Larry Fuhro lent his vast knowledge of Cranford history to the research required.

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(above, l-r) Historic Murals Restoration Award recipients Barbara Krause and Regent Mary Leonard Crane's Ford DAR; artist Deb Leber; former Mayor Robert Puhak; Board of Education President Mary Venditti; Mayor Andis Kalnins; and Laura Fuhro.

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CRANFORD BAND "SPLITTREE" DEBUT ALBUM

Local Cranford band Splittree, made up of three Cranford High Seniors, released their debut album, "Mind Tricks" on March 3rd. The trio, comprised of Tom Stoke (17), John Ancien (18) and Kean MacLelland (18), released the album via iTunes, Bandcamp, Soundcloud, physical copies, as well as other music streaming services, to the acclaim of their fan base and high school classmates.

"It's great to see such positive feedback from people who doubted us, or never heard our music before," says bassist Tom Stoke. "We finally got to show people the level of professionalism we put forth."

The band, who write original, alternative

sounding tunes wrapped up recording on their debut, 13-song album, Mind Tricks in early January and worked with industry professionals for the mastering, production and distribution.

"Never Look Back," an upbeat song with punchy drums and the signature alternative sounding guitars, talks about embracing the future, and was the first single from the new record, which the band released on December 12th, of 2014. In one night the song received over 200 listens alone on Soundcloud, and has since surpassed 1000 listens and downloads total.

"I think the smartest thing we did with the single last month was to offer it as a free download. This really provided an incentive for people to download the song and rock out in prep for the album release," drummer John Ancien adds. "We hope the same happens with the album and builds our following."

"Over the past few years of playing together, we have really developed our sound, and improved our songwriting. That's what's so special about this new album, you get to hear our wide range of songwriting abilities," says singer and guitarist Kean MacLelland. "Our next step is to support this album by touring, radio interviews, and any sort of promotion possible, and we are coordinating all this on our own because we don't have record label backing yet."

The band had been working on their upcoming album, Mind Tricks, since late March 2014 and features guitarist Alex Codella. Over 200 hours had been put into recording, mixing, and mastering. Recording took place at Studio 108 in Cranford, NJ.

For your free download of the album, or to listen, visit the band at:

<https://splittree.bandcamp.com/album/mind-tricks>

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This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market.

The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

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CRANFORD 8TH GRADE BASKETBALL TEAM IS GARDEN STATE LEAGUE CHAMPS

On Sunday, March 15th, the Cranford 8th grade boys' basketball team capped off their season, and career's, with a 55-44 victory over Morristown to win the Garden State League Championship.

The win capped off an impressive streak for the team who started the year 1-2, and then won ten of their next twelve league games before finishing things off by winning three

straightgames in the playoffs. The key to the team's success was a relentless man-to-man defense. In the final game, Cranford led by four at the half and put the game away with a big run to open the second half and gaining a double-digit lead heading into the final quarter. The team shot better than 80% from the free throw line in each of their playoff wins to seal victories.



(above, top, l-r) James Anderson, Deandre Fieldhouse, Kevin Donovan, Jeremy Ruka, Rob Schork, Michael Carracino (bottom, l-r) Joe Casazza, Hunter Goff, Nick Black, Max Wischusen, Dante Cassaro. Coached by: Jim Ruka, Rich Wischusen and Bill McCann

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THE THEATER PROJECT TO PRESENT A STAGED READING OF A NEW PLAY, BACK CHANNEL

The Theater Project will be present a staged reading of a new play, Back Channel, by Joseph Vitale on Saturday, April 18, at 2:00 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center.

Set in 1962 during the Cuban Missile Crisis, Back Channel tells the story of two men who meet for lunch in a Washington, D.C. restaurant. One is television reporter John Scali; the other is Soviet embassy official Alexander Feklisov, who is, in reality, a KGB agent. Each man is being used as a "back channel" by his respective government in an attempt to resolve the crisis. Out of the glare of the media and in opposition to the intransigent, "official" positions of their governments, Scali and Feklisov try to work out a deal. But is each man who he says he is? With the fate of the world at stake and the clock ticking, can they learn to trust one another? And, most important, will they have enough time? Joseph Vitale, a semi-finalist at the 2012 Eugene O'Neill Theater/National Playwrights Conference, is the author of a number of plays, including Murrow, which was performed at The Theater Project in Maplewood. His The Fourth State of Matter was performed in August in 2011 at the Theater for the New City in New York. His one-act plays have been produced at the Hudson Guild, Barrow Group, and Manhattan Repertory theaters in New York and at The Theater Project. The Theater Project is an acclaimed, New Jersey-based professional theater group and the winner of two New Jersey Tony Awards. Following the reading, the play will be discussed by the audience, the director, the actors, and Mr. Vitale. Admission is free and all are welcome. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library.

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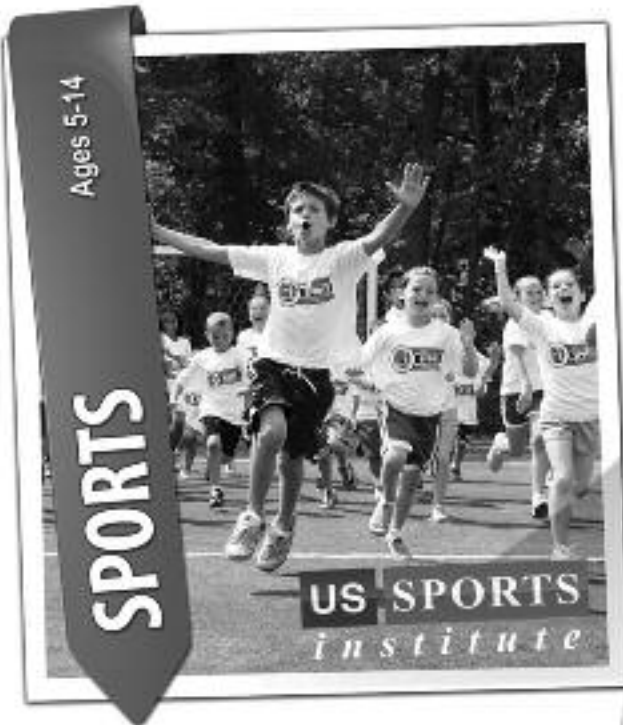
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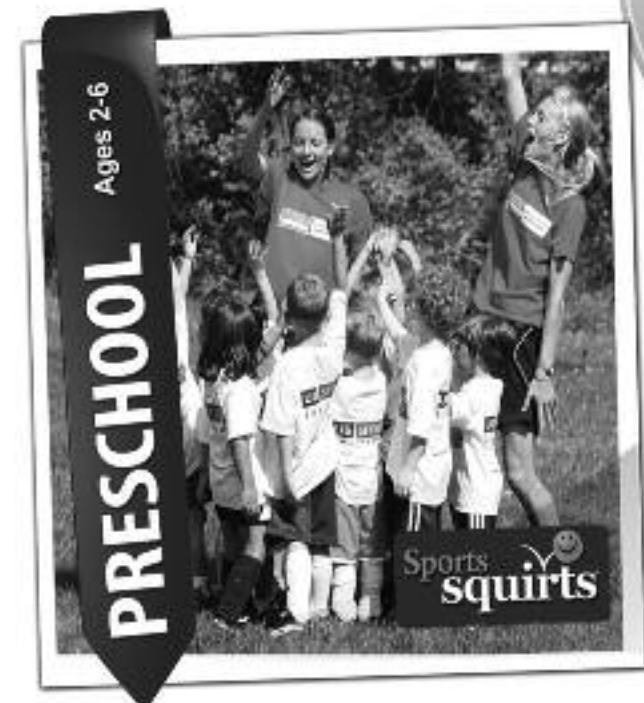
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Union County Historical Society SPECIAL NOTICE

The Society has made arrangements for our annual dinner/meeting to be held at the Garden. Restaurant, 943 Magie Avenue, Union, near the Elizabeth/Union boundary line. This event will take place at 2:00 PM on April 12, 2015.

The menu will consist of a salad, the diner's choice of either chicken, fish, or pasta and dessert and beverage. The cost for each meal will be \$25.00, which is barely enough to cover our expenses. It is necessary that reservations must be made and paid in advance, by filling out and returning the order blank at the bottom of this page. The restaurant requires that we have at least thirty diners in order to retain this price and room, so please get your orders in early and relieve the mental load on the dinner committee members. An addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

As this dinner is also our April Meeting, any necessary business action will be accomplished, but with as little inconvenience as possible. An interesting program will also be presented by Walter Boright, who will be our guest speaker..

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RICH WISCHUSEN OF CRANFORD SWORN IN AS SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

The nomination of Rich Wischusen of Cranford, New Jersey as a Union County Superior Court Judge was confirmed on February 6, 2015. State Senator Tom Kean, Jr. endorsed Wischusen who was nominated by Governor Chris Christie. Family and friends filled a Union County courtroom in Elizabeth, NJ where a swearing in ceremony was held on March 6, 2015.

Union County Assignment Judge Karen Cassidy, also a Cranford resident, presided over the ceremony. Wischusen's wife, Amy, held the Bible as Appellate Judge Douglas Fasciale administered the oath of office. Fasciale and Wischusen were classmates at Seaton Hall Law School.

Wischusen's children participated in the ceremony. Daughter Kerry assisted in robing her father. The pledge of Allegiance was lead by Rich's daughter Casey. Son Max was flag bearer. Daughter Shannon attended via Skype from Buenos Aires, Argentina where she is studying abroad.

Rich is the youngest of ten children, and all but one sibling was in attendance with two generations of nieces and nephews in tow. Over sixty members of his immediate family were in attendance.

In his closing statement Judge Wischusen thanked the dignitaries and colleagues who help in the process. He thanked his family and friends and even acknowledged the members of the

little league baseball team that he coaches. He noted that all contributed to teach him life lessons and gave him the tools he will need to be an effective judge.

In closing he paid tribute to his mother, Lillian, who passed away just over two months

prior on December 22, 2015 at the age of 92. Lillian, a widow of sixty years, was an extraordinary woman and mother. Her presence was missed by everyone in attendance and especially by Judge Wischusen.



(above, l-r) The Honorable Douglas Fasciale, administers the oath of office as Amy Wischusen holds the Bible for her husband Rich.



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FAMILY PHOTO FROM SWEARING IN CEREMONY OF RICH WISCHUSEN



(above, back, l-r) The Honorable Richard C. Wischusen, Kerry, and Amy. (front, l-r) Casey, Shannon via Skype, and Max.
(right) Wischusen family members attending Rich's swearing in.



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CHAMBER HOLDS ITS FIRST AFTER HOURS NETWORKING MEET & GREET

Sponsored by The Cranford Chamber of Commerce, hosted by Kilkenny House, March 24, 2015.



(above, l-r) Vince Spada, Michael Flynn and Charlie Baniewicz.



(above, l-r) Martha Garcia, Barbara Bilger & Barry O'Donovan, owner of Kilkenny House.



(above, l-r) Robin Hoy, Mark Mayer, and Marie Mayer.



(above, l-r) Lifeline's Rebecca Hudziak, Richie Santana and Mark Mazzel of Ameriprise.



(above, l-r) Sarah and Ken of Track Three Media with Bernie Wagenblast

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LYDIA'S HOSTS CHAMBER'S MARCH MEETING

The Cranford Chamber of Commerce hosted a networking event held at Lidia's Cuban Kitchen on March 11th at noon and it was very well attended.

Attendees received a delicious lunch and valuable information from the guest speaker, Ms. Nancy Burke.

Ms. Burke is the Marketing & Business Development Manager for the Industry/Business Institute at Union County College in Cranford. She updated the group on programs available to businesses and their employees through the Industry/Business Institute. She advised that she was also available

to do off-site training, which includes Excel, Word and other computer programs.

Lidia Amado Galvez opened Lidia's Cuban Kitchen two years ago on North Union Avenue in Cranford, and the Chamber would like to thank her for her hospitality and wonderful food that she served for this event.

Each month the Chamber hosts a networking event and if you would like to attend you can contact the chamber office at 908-272-6114 or visit cranfordchamber@comcast.net.



(pictured) Nancy Burke from UCC Industry & Business Institute addressing the members.



(above, l-r) New Cranford Chamber of Commerce members Anthony Lugara & Sal Ridente of Discovery Child Care, received a membership plaque from Jamie Miller, secretary of the Chamber.



(above, l-r) Jamie Miller, Lidia Amado Galvez, Owner of Lidia's Cuban Kitchen and host of the event, Dottie Baniewicz, Interim Executive Director of the Chamber.

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CUT-A-THON BENEFITS CRANFORD FAMILY CARE PROJECT HOME

The Mane Event Salon, located at 107 N. Union Avenue, will host a Cut-A-Thon on Sunday, April 26th from 12 – 5pm. 100% of the proceeds will benefit Cranford Family Care Project Home....100%.

The donation is only \$18 for a wash and cut. Walk ins are welcome and appointments are available. Call 908-272-5622 for more information.

DAR INVITES PUBLIC TO PROGRAM "HISTORY OF THE JERSEY SHORE"

On April 11th at 1pm at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Avenue, a program sponsored by the Crane's Ford Daughters of the American Revolution will be presented by Kevin Woyce "History of the Jersey Shore".

Mr. Woyce is an author, photographer and lecturer. A lifelong resident of New Jersey, he has written many books on regional history of New Jersey and New York. Over the past few years he has presented multi-media shows at dozens of libraries, historical societies and church groups. His program "History of the Jersey Shore" will be illustrated with original photography and vintage images of Jersey shore beaches, boardwalks, lighthouses and hotels.

Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be served.

CRANFORD SIP N SHOP RETURNS ON MAY 1ST FROM 6 PM TO 9 PM

The Cranford Junior Woman's Club is pleased to again sponsor the Sip n Shop. This event will be held rain or shine.

This is your opportunity to discover Cranford's unique shops or visit old favorites. Local businesses in the downtown area will offer special discounts, samples, demonstrations and refreshments as you and your friends stroll through beautiful Downtown Cranford.

Further details and ticket information will be available on line at www.CranfordJWC.com. Please join us for a memorable evening.

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FABULOUSLY FUN FITNESS PROGRAM STRETCH-N-GROW!

The Stretch-N-Grow program is designed to promote exercise and wellness for preschool-aged children. The class focuses on balance, coordination and sports readiness skills. Stretch-N-Grow stars participate in weekly sessions, which include warm up, cardio, cool down and stretching, including kids Yoga, taught by a well-trained Stretch-N-Grow coach. Our Stretch-N-Grow stars have lots of fun while learning to enjoy exercise and building good habits.

The program is for children 2-5 years in age and is on Wednesdays April 15th – June 3rd, from 9:30am–10:15am. The class is located at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave..

Registration is for Cranford residents only and may be done in person at the Cranford Community Center or online through Community Pass. The cost is \$85.

Please contact Cranford Community Center with any questions at (908) 709-7283.

SPRING FIELD HOCKEY CLINIC FOR GIRLS 3-8

WHEN: Sunday April 12th – May 17th
(NO session May 3rd)

LOCATION: Memorial TURF Field

TIME: 6-7pm **COST:** \$45

The clinic will be an introduction to the game of field hockey for girls who have an interest in learning basic stick skills and game rules.

INSTRUCTION GIVEN BY THE CHS COACHES & PLAYERS!!!

Registration must be returned by Thursday, April 2nd. Please return registration to:

Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave. Call 908-709-7283 for more information.

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****Players must supply their own sticks, shin guards, and mouth guards****

CRANFORD REC DEPT MANNERATIONS ETIQUETTE PROGRAMS

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MANNERATIONS™ SOCIAL ETIQUETTE –

This program teaches proper etiquette techniques to successfully manage social situations. Some of the topics reviewed include: greetings and introductions, being a good guest and host, written correspondence, and behavior at celebrations and other life events. Children learn through role playing, worksheets and fun games. This one-hour class is offered to children 6 – 10 years old on April 15th from 4:00 PM – 5:00PM. The cost is \$40 per child – includes instructional material and a fun, good manners bag.

MANNERATIONS™ DINING PROGRAM –

Learn the etiquette of dining in a fun interactive and memorable manner. A four course meal is consumed while etiquette instruction is provided. Discussion of why good manners during dining is important, and how to correctly behave and manage a formal meal. This one-hour class is offered to children 6 – 10 years old on April 21st from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM. The cost is \$50 per child - includes a four course meal and instructional manual.

Please contact Patti Manning, Founder of Mannerations, with any questions (908) 233-2566, or mannerations@comcast.net. Please make check payable to: Cranford Recreation Department. Please mail or drop off registration at the Cranford Recreation Department, Community Center at 220 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016.

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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 volunteerism, 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.jlepaj.org, call us at 908-790-1177 or email pres@jlepaj.org

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MASTERS OF THE CELTIC HARP

The Friends of the Cranford Public Library are pleased to present "Masters of the Celtic Harp," featuring Gráinne Hambly and William Jackson, on Wednesday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. Ms. Hambly and Mr. Jackson, two of the foremost harpers of Ireland and Scotland, will combine their talents on harp, as well as concertina, tin whistle, and bouzouki. A County Mayo resident, Ms. Hambly won the senior All-Ireland titles on harp and concertina in 1994 and, also, the prestigious Keadue and Granard harp competitions. She has released three critically acclaimed CDs, *The Thorn Tree*, *Between the Showers*, and *Golden Lights and Green Shadows*. She has recorded with many other artists and published two books of her arrangements. William Jackson hails from Glasgow and has been at the forefront of Scottish traditional music for nearly 30 years. In addition to his stature as one of the Scotland's leading harpers and multi-instrumentalists, he is an internationally renowned composer. Mr. Jackson was a founding member of Ossian in

1976, which became one of Scotland's best-loved traditional bands. The band, whose music influenced a generation of musicians, toured the U.S. and Europe extensively. Admission to the program is free and all are welcome.



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LITTLE PIM LANGUAGE LEARNING SERIES

Many studies have shown that learning a foreign language improves memory and analytic abilities and strengthens problem solving skills. The Cranford Public Library is, therefore, pleased to announce that it recently added the Little Pim language learning series to its children's collection. Funded by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library, the series consists of 12 DVD sets intended for children six years and younger. Languages covered include Spanish, French, Chinese, English, English with Spanish subtitles, German, Italian, Japanese, Arabic, Hebrew, Russian, and Portuguese. The award-winning series makes it fun and easy for children to acquire a new vocabulary and a near-native accent. The DVDs alternate animated sequences of a panda bear named Little Pim with live action sequences of children enjoying everyday activities. In addition to the Little Pim DVD series, the library also lends a CD language learning series for children called Muzzy.

THE READERS' FORUM

The Readers' Forum, the lively, long-running book discussion group of the Cranford Public Library, will meet next in the library on Monday, April 27, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *Americanah* (2014), a novel by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. The New York Times Book Review named *Americanah* one of the ten best books of 2014. *Americanah* is a story of love and race centered on a young man and woman from Nigeria who face difficult choices and challenges in the countries they come to call home. The Readers' Forum will also meet on Monday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *The Circle* (2014) by Dave Eggers. The group welcomes new members at any time.

COMPUTER INTERNET BASICS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

The Cranford Public Library will again be offering Computer Internet Basics for Beginners classes for Senior Citizens on Thursdays. Students from Cranford High School teach senior citizens basic Internet skills in a casual, one-on-one setting. Classes are currently ongoing and will run through May or June, 2015. Pre-Registration is required as seating is limited. Easy, fun, and informative!

FANCY DANCE AT THE LIBRARY

The Cranford Public Library will be hosting "Fancy Dance," a series of free dance classes for children ages 5+. Instructors from Arthur Murray Dance School will teach us to Waltz, Rhumba, Salsa, Merengue, and Tango! Dance is an excellent way for children to exercise while building confidence and having fun! Fancy Dance is being held on Monday, April 6th, 13th, and 20th. Registration is required. Admission is free and all Cranford residents are welcome. For a list of other upcoming programs, visit the library Web page at cranford.com.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

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.

STORY TIME YOGA

The Cranford Public Library will be hosting "Story Time Yoga" featuring Lisa Ferraro. This engaging 8-week story time will run on Thursday mornings from April 9-May 28 at 10:15. It promotes literacy while getting children up and moving! Children ages 2-5 will use props—like balls, scarves, pinwheels and pom-poms—to build strength, flexibility, and self-confidence through play. The program mixes poses, games, storytelling, art and music to teach children to release the sillies and find the calm.

Yoga is a wonderful outlet: it encourages play while providing children with an opportunity to express themselves in a safe environment. It's also an excellent way to learn healthy physical and mental habits that can be practiced for a lifetime!

Registration is required and begins on March 26th. Admission is free and all Cranford residents are welcome.

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:

Apr 7 – *The Sea Hawk* (1940)

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

Apr 14 – *Touch of Evil* (1958)

Noir. Directed by Orson Welles, starring Charlton Heston and Janet Leigh. 108 minutes.

Apr 21 – *Treasure of the Sierra Madre* (1948)

Western. Directed by John Huston, starring Humphrey Bogart and Walter Huston. 126 minutes.

Apr 28 – *That Uncertain Feeling* (1941)

Comedy. Directed by Ernst Lubitsch, starring Melvyn Douglas and Merle Oberon. 86 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 Houston or email cranfordlibrary@gmail.com

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RECAP OF 2014-2015 CRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING SEASON

Submitted by Cranford High Wrestling Team

To be the man you must beat the man, and to get better you must wrestle the best, this is the mindset that the Cranford wrestling program lives by. This creed is what has forged elite wrestlers in Cranford for decades, and this season it would be no different.

The 2014-2015 Cranford Wrestling season kicked off in early December with the Cougars focused on getting their team to the next level. Head Coach Patrick Gorman stacked the schedule with top tier teams and new tournaments to challenge his squad and get them ready for their post season run. The schedule included dual meets with five top 20 teams and tournaments in and out of state that would have Cranford's lineup facing even tougher competition. In the end, the battle tested Cougars would reach that next level and beyond, breaking records and accomplishing feats that had not been done for some 30 years, but first there was hard work that needed to be done. Nothing is handed out in life and it is no

different on the mat, for a wrestler to be successful he must put in long hours of grueling work in the off season and stay positive through the many adversities he will face throughout the season.

This year's Varsity line up consisted of 2 focused freshmen, 6 focused sophomores, 4 focused juniors and 2 focused seniors. What looks like a young team on paper is actually a seasoned bunch who have been wrestling together for many years in the PAL before breaking onto the High School scene. Led by Senior Captains Nick Ballas and Gavin Murray this team finished with a 16-4 record. Along the way the team won the Union County Tournament, a championship that hasn't been brought back to Cranford since the 80's. There were 4 individual County Champions, 2 of which received "Outstanding Wrestler" awards (Tom DiGiovanni 120lbs, Chris Scorese 126lbs OW, Gavin Murray 152lbs OW, Niko Cappello 182lbs) and Head Coach Patrick Gorman received the Union County Coach of the Year award. They also captured a Conference Title, reached the North Jersey Group 3 Section Finals, and repeated as the District 11 Champions. The Cougars placed 10 wrestlers in the top three at the district level and finished with 5 individual Champions (Anthony Capece 106lbs, Tom DiGiovanni 120lbs, Chris Scorese 126lbs, Gavin Murray 152lbs, and Niko Cappello 182lbs) and Head Coach Patrick Gorman receiving the District Coach of the Year award. With the 10 wrestlers advancing to the Regional tournament Cranford had made its much anticipated impact this season, but they were not done yet.

At the Regions Cranford finished in the top 5 of the 41 teams participating, punched 4 of its wrestlers to the State Tournament held at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City (Tom Digiovanni 120lbs region 3rd, Chris Scorese 126lbs region 2nd, Gavin Murray 152lbs region 2nd, and Niko Cappello 182lbs region

champion) and Head Coach Patrick Gorman shared Region Coach of the Year awards with Head Coach of Union Dino DeBellonia. Down in Atlantic City the Cougars continued their winning ways finishing with two wrestlers placing in the top 8 in their weight class. Junior Niko Cappello capped off his successful year by getting his hand raised and placing 7th in the state in the 182lb bracket. Senior Gavin Murray, who set the all-time career win and pin records at Cranford this season (144 wins and 77 pins), ended his career at Cranford with a 5th place finish in the state at 152lbs marking his second time placing in the state tournament. Gavin will be attending Purdue University in the fall to continue his wrestling career.

"It is always tough to say good bye to the seniors, but I am confident that they are stronger men for having come through this program and will excel in any avenue they choose in life. I'm proud of all of my wrestlers this season each and every one of them play a vital part in the success of the program. The memories that they have made this year will last a lifetime. I am also very fortunate and thankful for the support that I receive from the administration and community. I have the best coaching staff in the state and one of the strongest PAL programs around. Cranford Wrestling will continue to make gains each year." Said Head Coach Patrick Gorman.

Congratulations to the following wrestlers who received all Conference Honors yesterday

106 Anthony Capece 1st team all Conference
120 Tom DiGiovanni 1st team all Conference
126 Chris Scorese 1st team all Conference
132 Vince Concina 1st team all Conference
138 Dave Busch 1st team all Conference
145 Brian McGovern 1st team all Conference
152 Gavin Murray 1st team all Conference
160 Andrew Tompkins 1st team all Conference
182 Niko Cappello 1st team all Conference
195 Nick Ballas Honorable Mention
HWT Kevin Doran Honorable Mention

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CRANFORD WRESTLING PHOTOS BY JIMOCCI.PHOTOSHELTER.COM

Photos by Jim Occi of wrestling match between Long Branch at Cranford, February 11, 2015.



(above) Cranford's Brian McGovern vs Danny Mullan



(above) Cranford's Brian McGovern vs Danny Mullan



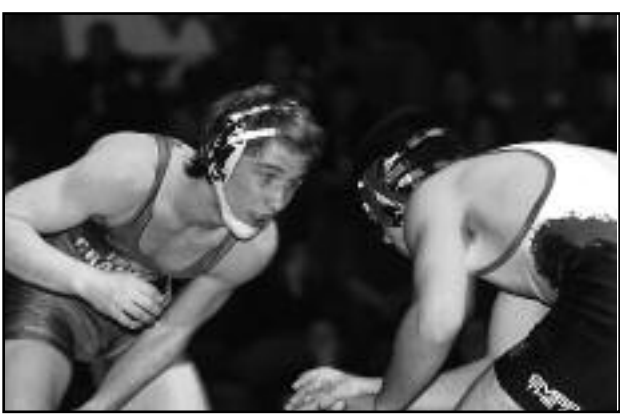
(above) Nick Ballas vs John Mimes



(above) Niko Cappello vs Pete Wersinger



(above) Anthony Capece vs Justin Farnsworth



(above) Gavin Murray vs Vincent Vaccaro



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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.

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TEXAS HOLD 'EM EVENT TO RAISE MONEY FOR LOCAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE

Suicide prevention and crisis intervention hotline CONTACT We Care will be hosting a Texas Hold 'Em event April 11 in Clark to raise money for the hotline. The event will be held at the Gran Centurion at 440 Madison Hill Road in Clark, 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., with the doors opening at 6:00 p.m.

Grand prize will be \$3,000, Second Place will be \$1,500 and Third Place will be \$500.

The ticket price of \$150 includes entry fee, food, beer, wine and soda. Tickets for non-playing guests are \$75 and include food, beer, wine and soda. Tickets are available online at <http://contactwecareorg.ticketleap.com/cwccharitypokernight/>. Tickets also are available at the door but reservations are strongly suggested.

"Just \$15 helps fund one call to CONTACT We care from someone in distress or crisis," said Joanne Oppelt, the hotline's executive director. "This is wonderful opportunity for people to enjoy an evening out at a fun event while helping us save lives. It's a win-win, which is

great at a Texas Hold 'Em night."

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 volunteer listeners and texters and funding from grants and donations from the public.

The hotline serves Central and Northern New Jersey 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.

For general information about CONTACT We Care or to become a volunteer, call us at 908-301-1899 or visit our website at www.contactwecare.org.

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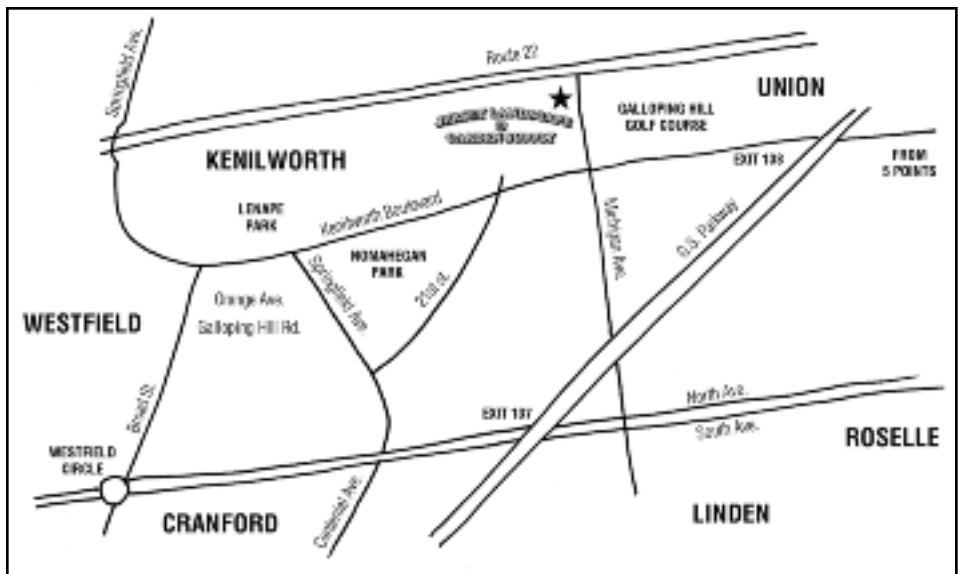
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