## CRANFORD MONTHLYNJ

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#### CRANFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING

FEB 11, 2016 7:30-9:00am

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#### **JUNIOR TROOP ROARS TO FINISH**

Junior Girl Scout Troop 40444 showed up at the Cranford United Methodist Church on Jan 17 to get their hands dirty. The Troop raced their cars immediately after Boys Cub Pack 75. 98 of the 121 girls who registered raced their cars on the same track, and the girl scouts had cars that were as fast or faster than the cub scouts. Some of the winners, just to mention a few, were: Award Winners Haley Concannon for Most Bling and Maggie Byrne for Best Use of Glitter, Award Winner Sofia Bloom for Most Original Car, and Award Winner Virginia Sherrington for Best Engineered Car. The girls were really proud of the cars they created and look forward to their next race.



(above) Award Winners Haley Concannon for Most Bling and Maggie Byrne for Best Use of Glitter.



(above) Award Winner Sofia Bloom for Most Original Car.



(above) Award Winner Virginia Sherrington for Best Engineered Car



(above) The Derby was run by Girl Scout Troop 40444:
 (top,-r) Troop Leaders Erin Esteves and Stephanie
Patterson. (middle, l-r) Eva Salvatore, Kyra Patterson, Isha
Agni, Maeve Boger O'Bryan, Ava Campos. (front, l-r)
Melissa Collins, Gwyneth Esteves, Anna Waller



(above, l-r) Kyra Patterson, Maeve Boger O'Bryan and Gwyneth Esteves at the finish line.



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Cranford Monthly is published by Renna Media. 9,500 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Cranford.

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Economic Development	.908-709-7208
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#### **SEND US YOUR NEWS**

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

#### 3rd Annual

### 2016 White Castle



#### District Munsee Boy Scout Chess Tournament

Saturday, February 27, 2016

10:00 am to 2:00 pm Sign-in/setup starts at 9:00 am

### Cranford Community Center

220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ • 908.709.7283

Open to all registered Boy Scouts/Venturers/Explorers. Limited to 40 players who must know how to play chess. Registration is \$6 Use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link to register on-line at ppbsa.doubleknot.com

Email Jim Parlapiano jim.parlapiano@hotmail.com for more info.

Trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers. Commemorative ribbons for all participants. Lunch will be provided by White Castle for all players. This tournament meets the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

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#### **7 THINGS YOU MUST KNOW BEFORE PUTTING YOUR HOME UP FOR SALE**

Cranford NJ - A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

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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This report is courtesy of All Towne Realty Realtor. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright © 2014

#### **2015: A GREAT YEAR FOR DOWNTOWN CRANFORD**

A Message from Mayor Kalnins

Last year, Downtown Cranford welcomed more new businesses, continued public improvements and launched several exciting new events for visitors to the business district. In 2015, five new restaurants opened adding even more dining choices to the downtown. Downtown dining choices now Ambeli Greek Taverna, River & Rail Mexican Cantina, Ciao Bello, Tablespoon and Siam Inn.

New shops, like Anthem Style+Accessories, Swimsuit Junction, Alfonso's Pastry Shoppe and River & Rail Wine and Spirits along with several personal service businesses like Arthur Murray Dance Studio, Esthetique Skin Care and Giggles, a modern take on children's indoor play, are attracting people of all ages.

"These new businesses and other significant investments and improvements, all contributed to a very successful year and lower than average vacancy rate," said Mayor Andis Kalnins. The downtown ended the year with a 96% first floor occupancy rate.

Downtown Director Kathleen Miller Prunty said interest in downtown remains very strong and several new businesses will open in the next few months. "In addition, several established

businesses moved to larger locations or undergoing major renovations. These investments are the surest sign of confidence in Cranford", she added.

The residential population has also grown with the completion of Transit-Oriented projects bringing more people within steps of stores, restaurants and services. Riverfront at Cranford Station includes nine retail businesses and several offices, as well as 126 luxury apartments. Woodmont Station in Cranford, which opened in the Spring, has a 100% occupancy rate. These projects, along with Cranford Crossing built in 2005, are all within walking distance of the train and businesses.

The streets were bustling during Spring, Summer and Fall with lots of new events like Lego Night, giant sidewalk games, Yoga in the Street, concerts, Sip & Shop and outdoor farm market. The popular 8th Annual Scarecrow Stroll, with almost 100 scarecrows, drew a big audience and attracted people from 74 towns in NJ, NY and Pennsylvania.

"We look forward to welcoming more businesses in 2016 and continuing improvements in the downtown," said Mayor Kalnins.



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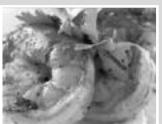
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Kids 7-10\$5.99	Kids 7-10\$6.99
Kids 3-6\$3.99	Kids 3-6\$5.99
2 & UnderFREE!	2 & UnderFREE!

#### FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am · 3:	30pm	Dinner 3:30p	m • 10:30pm
Adult	\$7.99	Adult	\$11.59
Kids 7-10	\$5.99	Kids 7-10	\$6.99
Kids 3-6		Kids 3-6	\$5.99
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#### HANSON PARK CONSERVANCY "FUN WITH BUGS!" PROGRAM

Please join the Hanson Park Conservancy as we welcome Rick Mikula, "The Butterfly Guy," as he presents his program, "Fun With Bugs!" on Saturday, February 20 at 10:00 AM at the Cranford Community Center. Butterfly Rick will be covering the amazing insects that live in our parks and gardens. He will show everyone how to find, raise and appreciate bugs using household items. Rick will be showcasing LIVE butterflies and will demonstrate just how easy it is to care for them. This wonderful program is free and is open to insect lovers of all ages!

For over 35 years, Rick Mikula has been engaging audiences with his humorous way of looking at butterflies. He is currently President of Butterfly Rescue International and serves as consultant to both the Association for Butterflies and The International Butterfly Breeders Association. Rick is also the pioneer and inventor of releasing butterflies at weddings and funerals and has helped to make it a global phenomenon. He wrote the award-winning, "The Family Butterfly Book." And he has designed several live butterfly exhibits including the Hershey

Butterfly House, the exhibit at Clyde Peeling's Reptiland and at DollyWood. To learn more about Rick Mikula please visit his website www.butterflyrick.com.

The Cranford Community Center is located at 220 Walnut Ave. in Cranford, NJ. This program is sponsored by the Hanson Park Conservancy and brought to you by a grant from Merck.

Please register for this event on the Hanson Park Conservancy's website www.hansonparkconservancy.com or on our Facebook page.

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#### FLORAPHILE GARDEN CLUB HOLDS WORKSHOP

On Tuesday, February 16 at 12:30 PM at the for warmer days ahead! Cranford Community Center, the Floraphile Garden Club of Cranford will be leading a Stepping Stone Workshop. Attendees will be instructed on how to make their own beautiful stained glass and cement stepping stones for their gardens. All materials will be supplied. The Cranford Community Center is located at 220 Walnut Ave. in Cranford. Don't let the winter blues get you down, join us in creating something

The workshop is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests. Guests must register and pay at least two weeks in advance. Guests should plan on arriving at 12:45 PM. If you are interested in joining the Floraphile Garden Club of Cranford or to register for this or other upcoming events,

please feel free to contact Mary Ellen at mecrafts@verizon.net. Or like us on Facebook at facebook.com/floraphilegardenclub.

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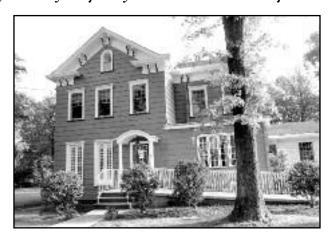
#### **CRANFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2016 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

This is an invitation for you and your family to become members of the Cranford Historical Society.

The Cranford Historical Society was founded by Wesley A. Stanger, Sr. and a group of local citizens interested in preserving the town's unique history. Since its founding, the Society has been dedicated to the perpetuation of Cranford's history by continuing to collect and document the town's past. The Society was chartered by the State of New Jersey on February 17, 1927, as a non-profit educational organization.

The Cranford Historical Society maintains the Crane-Phillips House Museum which is our primary programming site. It is a prime example of the work of Victorian architect Andrew Jackson Downing, whose book, Victorian Cottage Residences, published in 1843, influenced American vernacular architecture. The museum was restored in 1998. A replica 19th Century kitchen was installed along with interior restoration. This Victorian cottage's vibrant two-toned green and red exterior trim with peach door were uncovered and restored. Cranford's Third Grade students visit our museum annually to learn what life was like in the late 1870's.

An average of 4,000 people a year visit the Museum which is across the street from the Cranford 9/11 Memorial. It is open on most Sundays from 2:00-4:00pm from September to May or during the week by appointment only. Admission is free but donations are happily accepted. If you have not visited the museum with your family, you are cordially invited to do so. The Museum was placed on the National and



(above) Hanson House.

State Registers of Historic Places in 1997 and was named a "Save America's Treasures" site by The White House in 1999.

The Society's headquarters is located at Hanson House. It was the longtime home and office of Dr. Carl Hanson, a pediatrician, who opened his office here in 1934 and over the succeeding decades, provided care for hundreds of Cranford children. Dr. Hanson was a nationally recognized researcher in the field of strep throat. The Township purchased the property and then leased it to the Cranford Historical Society in 1990.

The Cranford Historical Society has maintained the Hanson House since 1990 and through a grants from Union County, matching funds from the Township of Cranford and the Society in addition to other donations; the Society



(above) Crane-Phillips House Museum.

was able to have the Hanson House painted in 2011 in historical colors, green, cream trim and burgundy accents, to blend with nature. All new windows were installed, a needed stabilization.

In becoming members, you are aligning your family with one of the important educational organization in Cranford. We are in our 89th year and are looking forward to having you and your family becomes members of the Cranford Historical Society. You will help us in our goal of preserving and perpetuating the rich history of Cranford through our many programs and events.

Go online to cranfordhistoricalsociety.com where you can print and fill out our membership form and choose the annual dues of your choice. Make your checks payable to the Cranford Historical Society and mail it to 38 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016.



#### **CRANFORD ELKS HOOP SHOOT WINNERS**

Congratulations to Saint Michael's Cranford Basketball Players Jordan and Anthony in the Cranford Elks Hoop Shoot Competition.



(above) Jordan Bell 1st Place and Anthony Serson 3rd Place

#### CRANFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave. You may register on line at register.communitypass.net/cranford or in person at the Cranford Community Center. If you have any questions, please call Cranford Recreation at (908)709-7283.

#### RECREATION DEPARTMENT PRESENTS MANNERATIONS™ ETIQUETTE PROGRAMS

The Recreation and Parks Department is children 6 – 10 years old on Mar. 1st 2016, 4:00 pleased to announce Mannerations<sup>TM</sup> Etiquette Programs.

Mannerations<sup>TM</sup> is a fun, innovative program that teaches children and young adults about

etiquette and how it should be practiced in today's world. Modern etiquette embraces social grace, consideration and respect for others – while feeling comfortable and confident.

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Mannerations<sup>TM</sup> Social Etiquette is offered to

PM - 5:00PM. The cost is \$40 per child includes instructional material and a fun, good manners bag.

Mannerations<sup>TM</sup> Dining Program is offered to children 6 - 10 years old on Mar. 8th 2016, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM. The cost is \$50 per child includes a four course meal and instructional manual.

Both classes are held at Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ. You may register in person at the Community Center or online through Community Pass.

For addition information, contact Cranford Community Center at (908) 709-7283.

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#### **CONGRATS TO THE** ST. MICHAELS BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Tournament. The team is made up of 7th and 8th January 5, 2016.

The Saint Michaels Boys Varsity Basketball Graders from the Cranford School. The team Team won the 2015 Clark Chargers Winter opens their Suburban Catholic League Season on



Front Row (l-r): Patrick Devlin, Anthony Serson, Caleb Carter and Max Kapatanakas Second Row (-r): Nicholas Cummins, Jordan Bell, JT Russell, Matteo Patrone Third Row (1-r): Coach Carter, Coach Serson, Jack Cartnick, Isaac Carter, Coach Bell Missing from Photo (l-r): Matthew Kelly and Michael Lopez.



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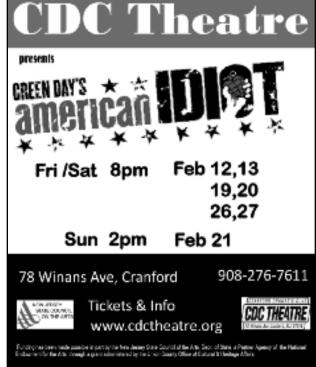
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#### **SENIORS OF CRANFORD** Let's "SENIORCISE"

Cranford Recreation and Parks Department would like to announce that a new Senior Exercise class will be held at the **Cranford Community Center** for all Cranford Seniors who are interested. Join us for one hour of "SENIORCISE", a class structured for active seniors that incorporates aerobics & weights designed to improve endurance, strength, balance, coordination and flexibility. Class will be held at the Community Center.

Tuesday afternoons from 1:30-2:30pm beginning Tuesday March 1st.

#### Registration is open

at Cranford Recreation Department. For further information please contact Cranford Community Center at

(908) 709-7283



#### **CRANFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

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#### FRIENDS OF THE CRANFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN**

The annual membership drive of the Friends of the Cranford Public Library is underway. Founded in 1979, the Friends support the library in dozens of ways, including sponsorship of the classic and international film series, the adult, teen, and children's summer reading programs, the Books & Bagels program, monthly play readings by the Theater Project, and story time yoga sessions for children.

The Friends also purchase furniture and equipment for the library, fund an annual library studies scholarship, and fund the library's highly popular museum pass and book club kit programs. In addition, the Friends make substantial contributions to the library book

**COMPUTER COURSES BEING TAUGHT AT LIBRARY** 

Cranford—The Cranford Public Library will again be offering Computer Internet Basics for Beginners classes on Thursdays. Students from Cranford High School will teach basic Internet skills in a casual, one-on-one setting. Classes will begin in January and will run through May or June, 2016. Pre-Registration is required as seating is limited. Easy, fun, and informative! For more information or to register, call the library at 908-709-7272 and ask for Fran Housten.

budget. The Friends ask that you help support the library by joining or by renewing your membership. The annual membership fee is only \$10.00 (\$5.00 for senior citizens and students). Membership in the Friends includes mailings of The Reader, the joint, bi-monthly newsletter of the library and the Friends. Membership applications are available at the main desk of the library or online.

#### A CONCERT OF **AFRICAN AMERICAN** SPIRITUALS WED., **FEBRUARY 17, 2016**

To celebrate Black History Month, the Cranford Historical Society and the Cranford Public Library invites you to attend a "Concert of African-American Spirituals" sung by tenor David S. Gooding with piano accompanist Kim Baker. The concert will be held atthe Cranford Community Center on 220 Walnut Avenue in Cranford on Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 7:00pm.

Mr. Gooding was born in Barbados and is a graduate of the Royal College of Music in London. He has performed at many venues here and abroad including Westminster Abbey. Admission to the program is free and all are welcome.





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#### A DAY MADE ON...NOT OFF! CRANFORD COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT FAIR

On January 18, 2016, the Cranford Alliance Church held its fourth annual Service Project Fair for the Cranford community in conjunction with the Interfaith Community. The national holiday to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday was designated as a national day of service. Dr. King envisioned everyone taking an active role in making our country great by achieving common goals and by strengthening our communities. Participants of all ages had the opportunity to complete several hands-on service projects, which not only benefitted the recipients, but gave the participants the opportunity to use community action to serve others.

Our goal was to serve at least 150 children for each of the food projects (Community Food Bank and Cranford Family Care) and 30 families (Women's Shelter) with cleaning products. We asked the 10 houses of worship in the Cranford Clergy Council to collect the items we needed to complete the service projects.

With everyone's support, this year we made 500 sandwiches for St. Joseph Social Services in Elizabeth, 100 weekend backpack meal bags for Community Food Bank in Hillside, boxes filled with hundreds of juice boxes and snacks for Cranford Family Care, which also was the recipient of our snack stand money that day. We sent 40 hand decorated drawstring bags filled with toiletries to the Women's Shelter in Elizabeth, dozens of hand decorated baby t-shirts and bibs, along with 40 or so packages of diapers

to Raphael's Life House. In addition, we were able to donate 24 buckets with cleaning products with hand decorated refrigerator magnets to Family Promise of Union County and to FISH Hospitality Program, 40 paper floral arrangements to the Woodland Nursing Home, 30 felt bookmarks went to Clark Rehabilitation Center and also to Veterans Hospital in East Orange, and 50 Valentine's Day finger puppets and cards to Children's Specialized Hospital.

We had a lot of high school students this year who volunteered to manage many of the projects. Thank you to all who participated. It was definitely a day made ON, not off!





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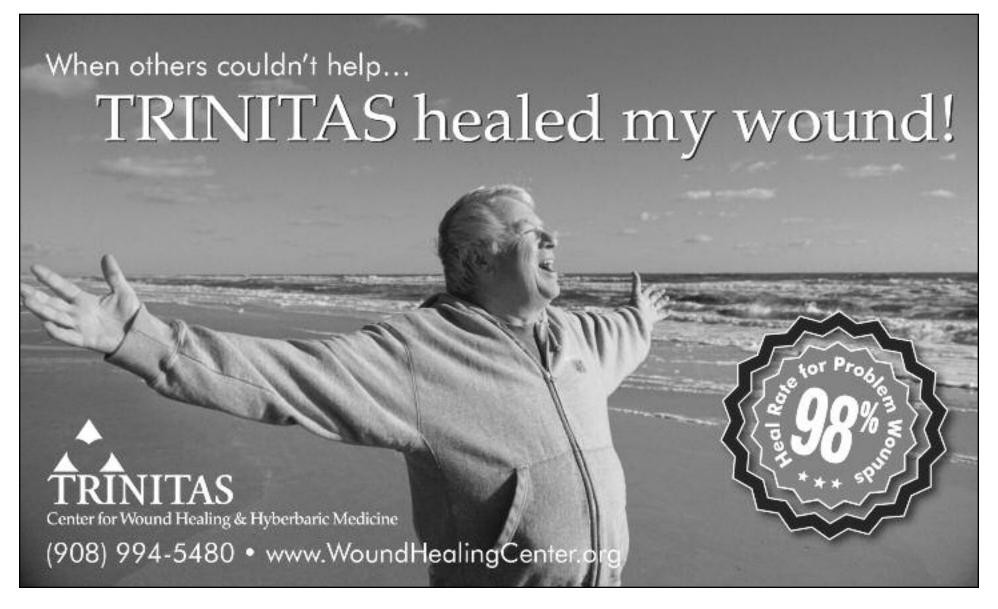
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(above) Brookside Place School fifth grader Julia Chen of Cranford performed violin and piano solos in the BPS Winter Concert.

#### **BROOKSIDE PLACE SCHOOL CELEBRATES YEAR-END WITH WINTER CONCERT**

Elementary students at Brookside Place School (BPS) in Cranford participated in a multitude of extracurricular activities this fall culminating with its annual BPS Winter Concert on Thursday, December 17 and Friday, December 18. Some fall events included: Fall Fest, Trickor-Trunk and the annual Veterans' Day program.

"In addition to focusing on their academic studies, it is extremely important for students to expand their social skills by being active participants in activities outside of the classroom," said Mr. Michael Klimko, BPS Principal.

In October, the Brookside Parent Teacher Association hosted its fall-themed events including Fall Fest and Trick-or-Trunk. The annual Fall Fest brings families to BPS for an afternoon of fun featuring a Chili Cook-off and a Pumpkin Carving Contest. The annual Trick-or-Trunk brought in over twenty vehicles to distribute candy and goodies to over 300 children, with many families' themed trunk adding a carnival-type game

In November, many staff members at Brookside helped to organize BPS' annual Veterans' Day Assembly on November 11. Seventeen local veterans were celebrated and honored for their service to our country. Participating Cranford families represented were: Doyle, Estep, Fiore, Gray, McCarthy, McDonald, McTiernan, Owens, Pawelko, Riley, Rocco, Rosenthal, Ryan, Sormillon, Szkeres, Tully and Towne.

"I commend our students who participated in these events and their parents who encouraged them to do so. It is a commitment to attend early rehearsals and weekend activities. Efforts in this regard serve as the building blocks on which a strong community is built," continued Klimko.

The BPS Winter Concert showcased talents of BPS' fourth and fifth graders who are involved in band, chorus, and orchestra. The String Orchestra was led by Christine Lee, vocals by Maureen Rapach and instrumental music by Karen Mockoviak. Over one hundred twenty students participated in the program.

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John Lucich is the HTCN Academy Director and has been performing computer forensics for over 24 years. John is a retired state law enforcement officer from the New Jersey Attorney General's Office, Organized Crime & Racketeering Rureau and a 14 year cyber crimes instructor at Sea Girt N.I. for the State Attorney General's Academy. John is also a technical expert for Fox News and CNN news networks and has made numerous TV appearances over the past seven years. He is currently the CEO & forensic lab director for eForensix, a computer forensic consulting company who has been engaged in notable cases throughout the United States.





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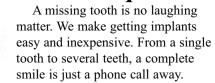
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#### PHOTOS FROM BROOKSIDE



(above) Brookside Place School celebrated Veterans Day by honoring 17 local veterans who were the parents and grandparents of BPS students. Here, BPS fourth grade student, CJ McCarthy of Cranford joins his grandfather, John, and fellow vets Fred Reingold (left) and George Towne (right) at the annual ceremony.



(above) Brookside Place School fourth grade students, Eddie Toy and Daniel Dickson of Cranford participate in the annual Brookside Trick or Trunk hosted by the Brookside Parent Teacher Association.

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#### KORNBERGER, PERROTTA & CAPONE JOIN THE LEGACY OF EAGLE SCOUTS

Living a life by the Scout Law, The Scout Oath, the Scout Motto and Slogan is what guides an Eagle Scout through their life. A sense of responsibility to their God, community and country is what defines them. Recently three fine young Cranford scouts have completed their mission of the past twelve years and have been honored with the rank of Eagle Scout by Troop 80 of the Cranford's First Presbyterian Church.

Eagle Scout honors are not bestowed on all that attempt this lofty goal. In fact less than four percent of all young men that enter scouting reach Eagle Scout. In order to complete the task a young man must advance in rank and hold a managing position in the troop. He must complete at least 21 merit badges for learned life skills, some of these to his choosing other mandatory to the rank of Eagle. He must complete a service project that demonstrates his ability to take on a project of grand proportions that will give him a chance to showcase the skills that he has acquired in the twelve years he has dedicated to scouting. This project must benefit his church or community and must be preapproved by Patriot's Path Council to fulfill all the necessary components.

AJ Kornberger chose the creation of a picnic area and garden at Roosevelt Park on Orange Avenue the former sight Solomon Schlecter School. Since the razing of the school and purchase of the property by the town, it has remained undeveloped AJ, being a neighbor to the park, thought he could help develop the space into a family friendly area that could be used by the community. Constructing from scratch 2 two picnic benches and gardens with additional benches was his proposal to council. It was approved. With help from Westfield Lumber, Home Depot, Lowes Home Center, Williams Nursery and Dryer Farms, AJ led a group of friends and fellow scouts to complete the project. A total of 223 man hours later the family picnic area was completed. It will be enjoyed by Cranford residents for years to come.

AJ completed an impressive 38 merit badges and The Boy Scout World Conservation Award as well on his path to Eagle Scout. He was elected and served as the Senior Patrol Leader, the highest management position in the troop. He completed the rigorous trek at the legendary high adventure Philmont Scout Reservation in Cimarron, New Mexico where his crew climbed the majestic Mt. Philip. He is a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society of Cranford High School. He is also a 3rd degree Black belt in Tae-Kwon-do. He plans to attend college next year and pursue a career in





(above) AJ Kornberger and his crew stand around one of the picnic benches constructed for the family picnic area at Roosevelt Park.

forensic science.

Evan Perrotta was approached by the host of our troop, The First Presbyterian Church, about the possibility of having the unfinished basement converted to a storage area with rows of free standing shelves. They also needed shelves installed in other closet areas in the facility. The plans were presented to council and approved. With the help of several friends and scouts Evan planned and guided his team to complete the task. Totaling over 200 man hours the job took two weekends and an \$800.00 Investment which Evan was able to collect through fundraising efforts.

While a young scout, Evan attended Camp Rodney in Northeast Maryland for summer camp. Inspired by the many camp counselors at the camp, Evan set his sights on becoming one of those scouts. At the age of 14 he returned to Camp Rodney to train as a C.I.T. councelor in training. The following year he was hired to his dream job of camp counselor. He returned for 3 years, a prestigious position for a young man. Of all the hundreds of Troop 80 scouts attending Camp Rodney over the years. Evan was the only scout to be a camp counselor there. Evan is currently studying at Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania.

Matt Capone, an avid athlete, saw a need for an exercise station at the Memorial Field and Ray White track facility. A series of bars for dips and pull ups Matt felt would be an added venue for developing upper body strength for athletes that prefer to do outdoor strength training. He researched the idea and presented it to council. It was approved. Originally planning to construct the equipment himself he started out his plan. Matt found that legal and insurance regulations needed him to purchase pre-fabricated exercise hardware. He also planned on using generic mulch around the perimeter. He found that special sanitized mulch would be needed. This created a cost restraint that almost caused his project to be reworked. With some creative managing Matt was able to arrange funding through the Cranford Jaycees. Matt and a crew of his friends were contracted by the generous



(above) Matt Capone stands proudly in front his Memorial Field Eagle Scout project.

Jaycees to manage the umpiring crew at their yearly charity softball tournament. For his services The Jaycees purchased the hardware for the project. The Cranford Track and Field organization also helped with the financing of the special mulch. In the end it all came together and the project was completed, a total of 151 man hours were tallied. It stands to the left of the football field when viewing the field from the home grandstands.

Matt was a member of Crew 702 that traveled to Philmont Scout Reservation in the summer of 2012. They hike over 73 miles and climbed two mountains to a height of 12,440 feet above sea level. He earned a total of 24 merit badges while on his path to Eagle. Matt's new found love of community service is something he plans on continuing while in college next year where he plans on pursuing a career in engineering.

Since 1928 Troop 80 of the First Presbyterian Church has advanced 144 scouts to the rank of Eagle. Our community has benefited through these efforts, not only in receiving 144 projects that enhance our town, but the addition of 144 young men who have changed and will change our community through their responsible involvement with every aspect of their volunteerism and community involvement.

For more information about Troop 80 visit our website www.troop80-bsa.com or call Don Sweeney (908) 272-0876.

#### **ASSESSMENT TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT**

A team of assessors from the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) will arrive on Sunday, February 7, 2016, to examine all aspects of the Cranford Police Department management, policies and procedures, operations, and support services Chief James Wozniak announced today.

"Verification by the team that the Cranford Police Department meets the Commission's "best practice" standards is part of a voluntary process to achieve re-accreditation, a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence", Chief Wozniak said. The Cranford Police Department was initially accredited in December 2006, and reaccredited in 2009 and 2012. This will be the agency's third application for reaccreditation.

As part of this final on-site assessment, employees and members of the general public are invited to provide comments to the assessment team. They may do so by telephone or email. The public may call 908-272-8178 on Monday, February 8, 2016, between the hours of 10:00am and 12:00pm.

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#### **CRANFORD CHAMBER 72ND ANNIVERSARY**

The Cranford Chamber of Commerce marked its 72nd Anniversary with a New Year's party on January 20 at the Garlic Rose in Cranford. The event featured an introduction of the Executive Board including the incoming President, Marcia Garcia. Marcia gave an overview of the upcoming events planned for 2016. The Chamber announced four new Board Members, Brian Denny of Arnold's Pest Control, Robin Hoy of

Puroclean Restoration Services, Kamal Assad of Signarama, Tg Glazer of Coldwell Banker Residential and welcomed them.

The Chamber would like to thank Marc Corello of the Garlic Rose for his hospitality and delicious food. Each month the Chamber hosts a networking event, if you would like to attend or need any additional information please call 908 272 6114 or visit cranfordchamber@comcast.net

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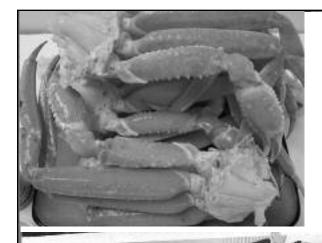
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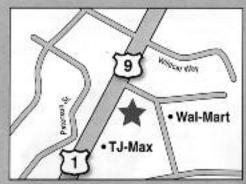
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