

Clark Monthly NJ

Published by Renna Media

Issue 9 • May 2012

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CLARK STREET TO BE NAMED FOR SGT. JAMES W. HARVEY II

William Duffy reflects on his quest to name streets in honor of Clark's Fallen Heros

When I graduated from the police academy in October 1972 Officer Ray Xifo was assigned as my training officer. While on patrol, Ray pointed to a street sign at the intersection of Broadway and Joseph Street. The sign had a 5 point gold star on it. Ray asked me "do you know why the sign has a gold star on it?" I said, " I have no idea." Ray informed me that the street was named after and dedicated to "Joseph" Padusniak and "Joseph" Witkowski, both Clark residents who died in WW II during combat and the star indicates that to the public.

I said to Ray, that since I didn't know that, there must be many others who also were unaware of the "gold star". That started me on what is now a 40-year research project to find out about all of the Clark Fallen Heroes, so as to inform the public, especially our youth, about who they were, where they lived in Clark, how they died, and if any families were still in Clark, etc.

My research has revealed that there were a total of 19 Clark Fallen Heroes, including a resident who was killed during the Civil War and another who died in WW I. Sadly, during my research 2 more were added, Stephen Benish died in Iraq in November 2004 and James Harvey died in Afghanistan in June 2011.

In 1995 I petitioned the Clark Council to pass a law stating that "all future streets shall be named and dedicated to the Clark Fallen Heroes". Since then, 19 township streets have been named after the Clark Fallen Heroes, with just 2 more to go, to include all 21 of them.

A listing of Clark's Fallen Heroes can be found on page 11 of this publication.

CLARK Memorial Day Services

MONDAY, MAY 28, 2012

DEDICATED THIS YEAR TO CLARK NATIVE

Sgt. James W. Harvey II

WHO WAS "K.I.A." ON
June 20, 2011
IN AFGHANISTAN



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Members of Clark Chamber of Commerce, an affiliate of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, are welcomed in all Gateway events. For additional event information call the Chamber at 908-352-0900 or visit our website at www.gatewaychamber.com

8:30 AM MAY 22

LINDEN CHAMBER MEETING
Linden EMS, 12 N. Stiles St., Linden

8:30 AM MAY 23

CLARK CHAMBER GROUP
Visit our website for meeting location.

8:00 AM MAY 25

SOMERSET HILLS BUSINESS NETWORK
Royce Brook CC, 201 Hamilton Rd, Hillsborough

8:30 AM JUNE 7

GATEWAY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS RECEPTION
Elizabethtown Gas Company, 1085 Morris Ave., Union

10:00 AM JUNE 7

WORKFORCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Elizabethtown Gas Company, 1085 Morris Ave., Union

8:30 AM JUNE 8

LOCAL & COUNTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Scotch Plains Municipal Building, 430 Park Ave.,

6:00 PM JUNE 12

IRISH BUSINESS ASSOC. AWARDS DINNER
The Westwood, 438 North Avenue, Garwood 07027
(reservations required)

8:30 AM JUNE 13

KENILWORTH CHAMBER MEETING
Visit our website for meeting location

5:30 PM JUNE 14

**LINDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
11TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP
& BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARDS DINNER**
III Amici Ristorante, 1700 W. Elizabeth Avenue, Linden
(reservations required)

6:00 PM JUNE 19

IRISH BUSINESS ASSOC. NETWORKING
Molly Maguire's Irish Pub, 1085 Central Avenue, Clark

8:00 AM JUNE 20

EMPLOYER LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Kenilworth Inn, Boulevard & 31st Street, Kenilworth

8:00 AM JUNE 22

SOMERSET HILLS BUSINESS NETWORK
Royce Brook Golf CC, 201 Hamilton Rd, Hillsborough

8:30 AM JUNE 26

LINDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Hosted by Epicor, at the Hampton Inn @ Aviation Plaza,
501 West Edgar Road, Linden

8:30 AM JUNE 27

CLARK CHAMBER GROUP
Visit our website for meeting location.

ROBINSON MUSEUM UPCOMING EVENTS



The Dr. Wm. Robinson Museum will host the 4th annual Living History Weekend featuring the Civil War on June 2nd and 3rd. Joining us this year will be the 2nd Rhode Island, Company D, the 7th Virginia Calvary, Company A and the 3rd New Jersey Volunteer Infantry. The event will take place from 10 am -5 pm on Saturday and 10 am - 3 pm on Sunday. There will be a special candlelight tour on Saturday night from 8:30 pm - 10 pm. During the candlelight tour you can tour the campsites of the soldiers and tour the Robinson House by candlelight. On Saturday and Sunday there will be a Civil War reenactment battle between the North and the South. Battles will take place at Esposito Park, located down the street from the museum. At the museum there will be demonstrations in Civil War dancing, Civil War camp life, weapons drills, Maritime history, chair caning, hatbox and bandbox decorating, rug making and everyone is welcome to talk to all the reenactors.

The museum will be open for tours all day, the gift shop is open and refreshments will be sold. This event is free, but donations are welcome. On street parking is available and the event is held rain or shine. The museum is also open for tours May 20th from 12 - 4 pm and every 3rd Sunday from September - December.

For more information and time schedule visit our website at www.DrRobinsonMuseum.org. ADA accessible. 593 Madison Hill Road, Clark, NJ (Exit 135 off the Garden State Parkway).

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Join the fight against cancer and the movement to create a world with more birthdays by participating in the American Cancer Society

RELAY FOR LIFE
JUNE 8TH & 9TH, 2012
ARTHUR L. JOHNSON FOOTBALL FIELD
 [365 Westfield Avenue Clark, N.J.]
 starting at 6:00 pm until 6:00 am.

This inspiring overnight event unites the entire community in celebrating those who have had cancer, remembering loved ones lost and providing an opportunity to fight back against the disease. Relay for Life is an overnight celebration where individuals and teams camp out, picnic, dance, play games and take turns circling a track "relay" style. The event begins as cancer survivors walk in a "survivor lap" around the track to celebrate victory over cancer. Later as the sun sets, participants light hundreds of luminaria candles to pay tribute to those lost to the disease. Relay for Life supports the society's mission to save lives by helping people get well, stay well, find cures and fightback.

To register, volunteer or for additional information visit RelayForLife.org/ClarkNJ or call 1-800-227-2345

Together we CAN make a difference!

BREAKFAST ITEMS BEING COLLECTED

The Clark Give and Share program will be collecting breakfast items (cereal, cereal/granola bars, canned juices, canned fruit, powdered milk, etc.) during the month of May. Items may be dropped off at the Clark Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Ave. room 18 between 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Anyone with questions can contact Nancy Raymond, Health Officer at 732-428-8405. Thank you to all those who donate items and volunteer their time to our programs.

WALK FOR DIABETES

Arthur L. Johnson High School and Carl H. Kumpf Middle School will be hosting its 3rd annual American Diabetes Association's School Walk for Diabetes on May 22nd, 2012.

To date the two schools have collectively raised almost \$7,000.00 are excited for this year's event.

If you would like to donate, kindly make a check out to the American Diabetes Association and mail it to Arthur L. Johnson High School, 365 Westfield Ave., Clark, N.J. 07066.

JOIN THE FUN AT THE COMMUNITY POOL!

Join our pool! Take advantage of community camaraderie right in your own backyard. Come see for yourself our newly renovated facility including new bathrooms, changing rooms and showers. Relax in the shaded areas or enjoy our kiddie pool, snack bar, and picnic areas.

We have fun planned for the whole family through our wide variety of entertainment and recreation. Swim lessons, Swim Team, Late Night Family Swim, Kids Parties, Friday Floats, Raft Sun-day, Arts & Crafts, Ceramics, 4th of July Celebration, Story Time, Basketball, Ping Pong and much, much more!

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SUMMER READING PROGRAMS

The Clark Public Library is hosting many free programs and special events for children, teens and adults this summer in conjunction with the Dream Big summer reading program. The library hopes to entice everyone to keep reading all summer long!

Children, teens and adults can sign up for their own summer reading program. The reading program is a fun way to enable children and teens to maintain their reading skills during the summer. Kids and teens will earn prizes for their accomplishments. Detailed information will be available in early June about these great activities.

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HEHNLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WALK AND BIKE TO SCHOOL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Students at Frank K. Hehnly Elementary School in Clark, were encouraged to walk or ride their bikes to school to celebrate Earth Day. More than 100 students participated along with the students who regularly walk to school.

Various children were chosen in a raffle to be escorted to school by Hehnly teachers, administrators and community representatives. Pictured below walking from Rotundo's in Clark are Hehnly students with their escorts.



(above) Elementary Supervisor Janeen Allmendinger and Hehnly teachers Jennifer Lewis, Mary Jo Baker, Jacqueline Caplette, AnnMaria Chironna, Rhonda Linken, Janis Kay, and Nancy Pflug.

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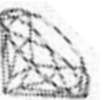
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NORTHSTAR MEDIVAC AND CLARK VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD DRUNK DRIVING PROGRAM

On April 27th representatives from Northstar Medivac and Clark Volunteer Rescue Squad did a Drunk Driving program for seniors. In the lower gym, seniors participated in a driving simulator (SIDNE), using fatal vision goggles and a distracter simulator to emphasize the dangers of driving while impaired. Also, students involved themselves in a distract-o-match game which simulated distracted driving. Student Samorri Johnson said, "After the car simulation, I would never think about drinking and driving and putting other lives in danger." At the end of the day, all seniors reported to the auditorium to hear survivor, Charley Fleiser, talk about how he was in a drunk driving accident.



ST. AGNES STUDENTS HELP BRING BACK BEES



(above) Mrs. Ellen Kenny along with a few of her Fourth grade students at St Agnes School in Clark recently planted wildflower seeds on school grounds to help fight Colony Collapse Disorder and bring back more honeybees.



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UNICO AWARDS BRIAN PICCOLO AWARDS TO STUDENT ATHLETES

The Clark UNICO Chapter along with 9 other chapters, awarded their recipients of the Annual Brian Piccolo Award at a dinner reception held at L’Affaire in Mountainside on Friday May 11th. The recipients from ALJ High School were seniors Nick Mullery and Sarah Panetta. The two received the award based on athletic, academic and community service.



(above) UNICO members Christian Kroyer, Antonio DeMedici, Sam Liff; President Ralph Bernardo; award recipients Nick Mullery, Sarah Panetta; members George Abruzzo, Vera Abruzzo, and Henry Varriano.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

St. Agnes School in Clark recently inducted four new students into the National Junior Honor Society.

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding middle school students.

More than just an honor roll, NJHS honors those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since their beginnings in 1921 and 1929.



(above) Members of National Junior Honor Society, teacher Mr. Michael Rocco and four new inductees, Grade 6: Christopher Armstrong, Jillian Frost, Zachary Kunz, and Grade 7: Robert Argasinski.



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BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

The 7th-8th grade Varsity Boys Basketball Team from St. Agnes School in Clark won the Suburban Catholic School League for their first Championship since the 1990-1991 season by beating the previously undefeated Holy Trinity team by the final score of 54-42. The game was played on March 12th, 2012 at Kawameeh Middle School in Union, NJ.



(above, top, l-r) Coach Dave Bell, Jacob Lunn, Bailey Ramirez, Jerry Armstrong, Coach Tony Bozzone. (bottom, l-r) Travis Adams, Anthony "Mern" Bozzone, Raymond Berry, Ross Maertz.

HEHNLY MATH-A-THON ADDS UP TO \$6,000 FOR ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Students at Frank K. Hehnlly Elementary School in Clark participated in the St. Jude Children's Hospital Math-A-Thon. The students completed a Math funbook while receiving pledges from friends and family. The total donations raised at Hehnlly were over \$6,000.



(above) Top-earners with the fundraiser co-chairs, second grade teachers Ellen Tamburino and AnnMarie Estevez.

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PRESIDENTIAL FITNESS CHALLENGE!

The Presidential Fitness Challenge has struck Hehny Elementary!! For those of you who don't know, the presidential fitness challenge tests students on their physical abilities. This challenge has been around for many years but never within the Clark School District at the elementary level, until now! There are five categories the students are tested on including sit ups, pull-ups, the shuttle run, the sit and reach and the one mile run/walk. For completing the challenge a student can earn one of three awards: the participant award which is awarded to anyone who completes the challenge, the national award for the top 50% of student athletes and the presidential award which is for the top 15% of student athletes. These numbers are not only within the school district but also all across America! Led by physical education teacher Caleb Bain, the students have all been trying very hard to earn the prestigious presidential award!



(above, r-l) Students preparing for the sit and reach event Anthony Costa, Michael DeGregorio, Gianna Caldiero, Alyssa Pedalino, Casandra Smith and Madeline Gunsiorowski.

SIGNING DAY CEREMONY

Recently members of various Arthur L. Johnson Athletic Teams participated in a signing day ceremony to honor their four years of service to Crusader Athletics and commemorate their signing of Nation Letters of Intent to play NCAA Collegiate Athletics.

Johnson Senior Student Athletes Nicole Imbriaco, Allison Meagher, Cyndi Wilson, and Amanda Wnorowski, signed their letter of intent to continue their athletic and academic careers at the collegiate level, where they will continue playing field hockey and softball.

Nicole Imbriaco and Amanda Wnorowski will both be playing field hockey in college, at the Universities of Rutgers and East Stroudsburg

respectively. Alison Meagher and Cyndi Wilson will both be playing softball in college, at the Universities of Rider and St. Joseph's respectively.

Gus Kalikas, Supervisor of Athletics, Health, and Physical Education at Arthur L. Johnson High School, had this to say about the event "Nicole, Allison, Cyndi, and Amanda have been an integral part of the success of our Field Hockey and Softball teams, allowing us to win championships in both sports. More importantly, they have been model student athletes that did things the right way both on the field, in the classroom, and throughout our community."



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FOURTH GRADE ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

Students in Ms. Tara Filippini's Fourth Grade Class at Valley Road School in Clark celebrated Arbor Day. Students read about Mr. J. Sterling Morton, who inspired the national holiday by discussing the importance of trees with the community. In honor of Mr. Morton, students used recycled paper to create 'leaves' stating various reasons why trees are so important to us. Just as Mr. Morton spread the word on the importance of trees, the fourth graders will decorate the halls with their leaves to remind people of their importance!



(above) Fourth graders Daniela Thompson, Mackenzie Oyola, Lauren Kelly, Chris Nudo, and Emily Pereira display reasons why trees are so special to them.

4TH GRADERS SKYPE AS PART OF CAREER DAY

Mrs. Stephanie Philippakos' and Ms. Kaitlyn Meredith's Fourth grade class at the Frank K. Hehny School in Clark enjoyed Skyping with Ms. Meredith's brother for career day. Bryan Meredith is a professional MLS soccer player. He plays for the Seattle Sounders as the back-up

goalkeeper. Bryan shared with the students how important education is for any career and how it helped him to become a professional athlete. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were very excited to receive an autographed picture from Bryan Meredith.



DAISIES BEAUTIFY THEIR SCHOOL

Valley Road School in Clark recently saw some improvements made to their school courtesy of the First grade Daisy Troop 41407. The girls, together with their families, removed and replaced aged wood from a sign in front of the school. They then added new dirt, mulch, and planted new flowers.

The troop will oversee the care of this area by planting new flowers as needed throughout their scouting tenure as an ongoing community service project.

The troop would like to extend a special thanks to Stan Zawacki, who pre-cut the border and letters as well as to Scheferstein Farms who discounted the planting supplied.



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KUMPF SCHOOL'S HALL OF FAME

Take a stroll down the Hall of Fame in the Sixth grade hallway at Carl H. Kumpf Middle School in Clark, and you will learn all about some of the most influential people of the past and present. Sixth grade language art classes recently participated in a Hall of Fame Project which required students to select a person they believed was deserving of a place in the Hall of Fame. Students created a plaque to represent their selected individual, which included important background information as well as major accomplishments. In addition, the students wrote a persuasive essay stating why their person should be inducted. Inductees ranged from Anne Frank to Steve Jobs. All of the sixth graders enjoyed doing the project, and they did a wonderful job demonstrating their talent and creativity to the school community.



(above) In the photograph above, sixth graders Matthew Diaz, Danielle Hartzler, Jeffery Drajin, and Lauren Sasala proudly show the Hall of Fame creation.

KUMPF MIDDLE SCHOOL HOLDS NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION PROGRAM

The Carl H. Kumpf Middle School in Clark's National Junior Honor Society inducted 23 new members into its chapter on Thursday, April 19th. In addition to achieving a cumulative average of 95 or above, students also had to demonstrate strong examples of leadership,

service, character, and citizenship. Students participated in a candle lighting ceremony which relayed the cardinal principles of Honor Society to the community. New inductees were awarded membership cards and medals, which they will wear at graduation.



(above, bottom row, l-r) Doreen Babis, Advisor, George Visconti, Samuel Curran, Danielle Hartzler, Nicole Nugent, Deserae Sequeira, Jessica Gannon, Sydney Tropeano, Jennifer Casalino, Christine Casale, Advisor; (second row) Daniel McMahon, Krista Ginesi, Inez Puc, Brenner Gull, Gregory Zukowski, Zachary Thornton, Matthew Diaz, Joseph DiProfio, Maryann Makosiej, Janelle Pyar, Mia Lancellotti; (third row) Mariel Loughlin, Jessica Lopez, Sydney Zamboni, Amy Wysocki, Lindsey Hofschneider, Matthew Iaccarino, Roman Chiarello, Zachary Sandler, Matthew Hall, Julia Melao, Madison Gulbin; (top row) Meaghan Gallagher, Georgia Stavrakis, Kelsey Briscece, Brianna Lukasiewicz, Sabah El Garhy, Ryan King, Zachary Chieco, Nicholas Makosiej, Ryan Kowalenko

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- Vision Benefits of America
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- Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield and many more.
- Davis Vision
- Oxford



WE REMEMBER OUR CLARK FALLEN HEROES

By William J. "Duff" Duffy

I feel deeply that their sacrifices must be told so that they are not forgotten, especially by our youth. They have given of their lives while our country was at war, so that we may live in freedom. You may not know them, but in gratitude pay tribute to them every Memorial Day. Let's take a brief look at each of "Clark's Fallen Heroes", but before we do, here's a portion Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address:

"that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

CIVIL WAR

1. BULLMAN, JAMES, Cpl., CO.C, 14th, Regiment, N.J. Volunteers. This Clark hero resided on Raritan Road where the Windsor Diner/Bank of America is presently located. He was "Killed in Action" at the "Battle of Cold Harbor" in Virginia, 1 June 1864, along with 7,000 other Union forces during the battle.

WORLD WAR I

2. MILLER, JOHN B., U.S. Army, former address 2 Valley Road, Clark. His father Adam received a telegram on 9 December 1918, that his son, previously reported as "Missing in Action," since 16 October 1918, during the Allies final winning offensive action, was now reported to have died 12 November 1918, following "Wounds Received in Action."

WORLD WAR II

3. BIENKO, BENNIE, S1C, Serial No. 02245585, U.S. Navy, "Killed in Action" 13 November 1942 at the "Naval Battle of Guadalcanal" while aboard the U.S.S. Monssen. (The same day as another Clark fallen hero - John L. Rudy - died during the same battle!)
4. BITSKO, CHARLES, Pvt., Serial No. 32559648, U.S. Army. "Died in the Line of Duty" November 1942 while aboard a troop transport ship in the Pacific. On 21 August 1944 a new bridge was named in his honor in the vicinity of his unit's camp in the South Pacific.
5. CLAUSS, PAUL J., PFC, Serial No. 32240351, U.S. Army. 77th Infantry Div. "Killed in Action" by machine gun fire, 15 December 1944 on Leyte Island, the Philippines, while coming to the aid of a wounded soldier.
6. GRAVES, MELVYN, Pvt., Serial No. 42100647, U.S. Army, "Killed in Action" 24 January 1945 while serving in France at the end of the Battle of the Bulge. This hero was under heavy mortar and artillery fire and was hit in the neck by a piece of shrapnel. His father, Herman Graves, was Mayor of Clark 1927-1932. (In his last letter home to his son, dated Christmas 1944, Melvyn talks about seeing him and mommy soon. He was killed a month later).
7. GREEN, RUSSELL W., Pvt., Serial No. 42000833, U.S. Army. "Killed in Action" 26 April 1943 while serving in the Italian theatre of war on Anzio Beach, Italy. (In his last letter home, he thanks his sister Lorraine for the chocolate).
8. GROSSMAN, ALVIN R. 2nd Lt. Serial No. 0-803810, U.S. Army Air Corps, "Died in the Line of Duty", 14 June 1943 while conducting training exercises aboard a navigation training plane. The Lieutenant had just earned his wings as an Army Pilot two weeks prior to his death.
9. HUTCHINSON, EUGENE F., Torpedoman's Mate 3C, U.S. Navy, "Killed in Action" 7 November 1944 while serving aboard the USS Albacore (SS218). This submarine was sunk on its 11th patrol by mines off North Hokkaido Island, Japan. All hands were lost and is on "Eternal Patrol".
10. MAKOWSKI, EDWARD J., Serial No. 0-751919, U.S. Army Air Corps. "Killed in Action" 3 March 1944 while serving as a bombardier aboard a B-24 Liberator on a combat mission over Italy. This hero was assigned to the 14th Air Force, 450th Bomb Group, 723rd Squadron.
11. PADUSNIAK, JOSEPH G., Tech 5, Serial No. 32385995, U.S. Army. "Killed in Action" 18 December 1944 while serving with the 99th Infantry Division at the "Battle of the Bulge."

12. RUDDY, JOHN L., Jr., S2C, Serial No. 06464195. "Killed in Action" 13 November 1942 at the "Naval Battle of Guadalcanal" while aboard the U.S.S. Juneau, the same ship that included the five Sullivan brothers, who also were "Killed in Action".
13. SCHMITT, MARTIN, Cpl., Serial No. 32594212, U.S. Army. "Killed in Action" 30 November 1944 while serving with 102nd Infantry Div. near Linnoch, Germany. Buried overseas at the American Military Cemetery in the Netherlands. (His father-in-law, Lesley Carlson, was Post 328's first Commander in August 1945 when the charter was issued).
14. WITKOWSKI, JOSEPH, PFC., Serial No. 12203849, U.S. Army, "Killed in Action" 9 July 1944, while serving with the 8th Infantry Division near St. Lo, France, during the Normandy breakout.

COLD WAR

15. WILKES, JOHN, Jr., First Lt., USAF. "Died in Service" 9 October 1958 while piloting an F100-F Super Sabre jet. Lt. Wilkes was on a routine training flight when his jet crashed in the desert near Phoenix, Arizona. He was 28 and resided at 465 Madison Hill Road.

VIETNAM

16. HARTMAN, RICHARD D., CMDR, Serial No. 613595, U.S. Navy, age 32. On 18 July 1967, Hartman's A-4E jet airplane fell victim to anti-aircraft fire near Phu Ly, Nam Ha Province, North Vietnam. He ejected safely, however, the next day for other Naval personnel were killed during an attempted rescue of Hartman. He was eventually captured and "Died in Captivity". His remains were repatriated on 6 March 1974 and he is buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Section 11.
17. KUSPIEL, KENNETH, SP4, U.S. Army. "Killed in Action" 1 February 1968 while serving in the infantry, as a result of multiple wounds from an exploding land mine in the vicinity of Chu Lai, Vietnam, at the beginning of the "Tet Offensive". (Ken's last letter home talks about how he misses his family).
18. SEVELL, ROBERT L., Capt., Serial No. 093427, U.S. Marine Corps, "Killed in Action" 28 February 1968 while co-piloting a Sea Knight helicopter enroute to a downed aircraft near the heroic Marine Base at Khe Sanh, Vietnam.
19. WINTERS, JOHN P., LCPL, U.S. Marine Corps. "Killed in Action" 25 May 1969 after being hit by fragments from a mortar shell near Cam Lo, Quang Tri Province, Vietnam.

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

20. BENISH, STEPHEN C., PFC, age 20, U.S. Army, died 28 November 2004 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, when he received enemy fire while on a dismounted patrol. Benish was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Howze, Korea.

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

21. HARVEY, JAMES, W., II, Sgt., age 23, U.S. Army, "Killed in Action" 20 June 2011 in Ghazni Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked his unit with small-arms fire. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. (The Sergeant wrote a "last letter home" to his family that was only to be opened upon his death).

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WIN \$1,000 IN GIFT CERTIFICATES DONATE \$10 AND GET A CHANCE TO WIN \$1,000 IN GIFT CERTIFICATES!

This newspaper publisher, Joe Renna, will be running in the Hope & Possibility 5 Mile event on Sunday, June 24, 2012 in Central Park, NYC. Guess what place he will finish in. Closest guess wins.



All donations go to the Achilles Freedom Team of Wounded and Disabled Veterans in memory of Cpl. Luigi Marciante Jr.

Over 4,000 runners! In what place will Joe finish? Last three finishes were 1479, 2474 and 2236. (see below) Tie goes to lower guesser prize or earlier entry.

In honor of Cpl Luigi "Louie" Marciante Jr we continue our ongoing commitment to the Achilles Freedom Team of Wounded Veterans. This is our fifth year participating in the Hope & Possibility 5M and in those five years we have raised over \$100,000 and endowed twenty five handcrank wheelchairs. Since the tragic loss of my brother Louie in Iraq on September 20, 2007 we have been making a significant difference in his honor. Everyday a wounded veterans sits in one of our chairs or participates in an event it is because of people like you who have supported this amazing cause.

This year Team S.O.S. will reunite on Sunday, June 24th in Central Park NYC. If you are interested in running, walking, rolling or cheering with us please contact me for additional information: enzajacobowitz@gmail.com. To make an online donation visit www.louieslife.org and join the movement today!

Enza Jacobowitz



Race Name, Date	Finisher Name	Gender/ Age	City, State	Team	Distance (miles)	Gun Time	Net Time	Place/ Mile	Overall Place	Gender Place	Age Place	% of Graded %
Achilles Hope & Possibility June 26, 2011	Renna, Joe	M51	Cranford, NJ	SOS	5.0	0:53:33	10:43	2226	1274	96	45.93 %	
Hope & Possibility 5M June 27, 2010	Renna, Joe	M50	Cranford, NJ	SOS	5.0	58:49	11:21	2474	1391	108	42.0 %	
Achilles Hope & Possibility 5M June 28, 2009	Renna, Joe	M49	Cranford, NJ	SOS	5.0	52:36	10:31	1479	800	62	45.9 %	

To send a donation make all checks payable to: Achilles International.

Submit form below with payment to:

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Keep for your records:

Donation amount (\$10 per guess): _____

Guesses: _____

Guesses with be posted on www.joerenna.com

GUESS WHAT PLACE JOE WILL FINISH.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email: _____

To send a donation make all checks payable to:
Achilles International.

Donation amount (\$10 per guess): _____

Guesses: (HINT: The number will probably be over 1,000)





(above) Paul Loong. Photo by: John Woo



(above, l-r) Filmmaker Theresa Loong, pictured with her father, is a Valley Road, Kumpf and ALJ graduate. She is currently working on a new project called Feed Me a Story. For further information, including information about purchasing a DVD, visit <http://www.everydayisaholiday.org>.

Photo by: Julia Dengel



(above) Paul Loong salutes prior to the Memorial Day Parade in Clark, NJ.

EVERY DAY IS A HOLIDAY PREMIERES MAY 27TH

Every Day is a Holiday Premieres on Public Television in May 2012 in conjunction with Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and Memorial Day.

A Warm and Intimate Portrait of Chinese-American Filmmaker Theresa Loong's father - unveiling his secret past as a POW in Japan and his journey to becoming an American

While growing up in Clark, New Jersey, Chinese-American filmmaker Theresa Loong knew little about her father's past. Then, one day she discovered his secret diary, written when he was a teenager and POW in a Japanese work camp during World War II. In it, he vowed to make "every day a holiday" if he ever survived. Told through Loong's eyes, Every Day Is a Holiday tells the life-affirming story of her father's unlikely journey, from Chinese Malay teenager and Japanese POW, to merchant seaman, American soldier, Veterans Affairs doctor, and proud citizen of the country that liberated him: the United States. Using intimate conversations, rare archival footage and his wartime diary, the film traces how, through

sheer strength of will and a remarkably positive outlook, Paul Loong overcame the horrors of war and obstacles as an immigrant, truly making "every day a holiday." This inspiring and moving portrait of an unforgettable American premieres on public television this May in conjunction with Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and Memorial Day.

Growing up, filmmaker Theresa Loong recalls a cheerful father who loved to laugh and play pranks on his children, but underneath all that laughter, he would show occasional flashes of anger and sadness. When one day young Theresa asked him innocently about a curious scar on his back, he simply said, "Everyone has secrets." It wasn't until Theresa discovered a hidden diary her father kept while imprisoned, that she uncovered what those secrets were.

With a steel-trap memory and joyful spirit, at 88 years old, Paul is commemorating his 66th year of freedom. Every Day Is a Holiday celebrates the freedom that comes with confronting the past and facing the future with resilience, forgiveness, and love.



(above) Paul, Anna, Joseph and Theresa Loong, 1981.



(above) Paul Loong reading from his secret WWII diary.

**EVERY DAY IS A HOLIDAY
AIRING SCHEDULE**

WNET/Thirteen
Sunday, May 27 @ 2:30pm

WLIW21
Sunday, May 27 @ 5:30pm

WLIW21WORLD
Monday, May 7 – 9am, 3pm, 8pm
Tuesday, May 8am – 1am
Friday, May 11 – 5am, 11am, 6pm
Sunday, May 13 – 6am, 12pm



(above) Paul Loong points out his family while he grew up in Malaysia.



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ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL RECEIVES THIRD MIDDLE STATE REACCREDITATION

St. John the Apostle School, Clark is proud to announce its recent reaccreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, (MSCESSA). This prestigious recognition was announced following the Commissions' March 2012 meeting. St. John the Apostle School was one of approximately 200

schools honored.

This is the third time the school has been accredited by the MSCESSA. This accreditation signifies that the educational community of the school has engaged in a rigorous process of developing self-knowledge; has hosted an evaluation team of independently-appointed educators; and has created an on-going strategic plan to move school improvement forward. This 16 month long process was governed by the Steering committee, co-chaired by Mrs. MaryAnn Chohey and Mrs. Susan Luciano.

Many members of the St. John the Apostle community including the pastor, priests, faculty, school boards, parents and the students themselves joined in the process of self-evaluation.

Currently celebrating its 60th year, St. John the Apostle School was awarded the National Blue Ribbon Award of Academic Excellence in November, 2011 in Washington, DC. Sr. Donna Marie O'Brien, principal of the school for over 25 years, has been a driving force in the school's academic success.



(above) Mrs. MaryAnn Chohey, Sister Donna Marie O'Brien, Principal, Mrs. Susan Luciano, Patricia Lettini and Patricia Stryker.

UNICO HELPS SCHOOL FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN

Clark UNICO Chapter selected the McAuley School for Special Children in North Plainfield for UNICO National Service month. On April

27th many Clark UNICANS served the children dinner, dessert, and danced. Later the children performed by singing and dancing individually.



(above) Clark UNICO members and McAuley School children.

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CRUSADER ATHLETIC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL VISIT FIRST CHILDREN'S SCHOOL

Recently members of the Crusader Athletic Leadership Council (C.A.L.C.) participated in a visit to the First Children's School, located in Fanwood, NJ.

The First Children's School in Fanwood is a stepping off point for children who need highly specialized educational services for some period of time in their lives. First Children's services extend into the home districts of students with special needs where they are invited to work with faculty and administration to assure that children with special needs get cutting-edge services in their home schools. The dedicated staffs, including teachers, aides, and therapists,

are prepared to deliver their services in the schools and homes of the children they serve. First Children partners with districts and other providers like Children's Specialized Hospital and Eden Autism Services to make sure that the children receive the very best services possible.

C.A.L.C. members went into various classrooms and participated in a multitude of activities relating to the school's curriculum. C.A.L.C. members Becky Brattole, Bianca Briscese, Nicole Brougham, Nick Buccarelli, John Caliguire, Nick Campione, Michael Cieslak, Joanna Couto, Sal DeMarzo, Ali Dugan, Kevin Eipel, Tyler Faede, Jenna Rose-

Fraser, Dan Hogan, Nicole Imbriaco, Samorri Johnson, Alison Meagher, Sean Meyers, Kyle Mogenson, Brian Moran, Sarah Panetta, Lance Pecina, Sam Rodrigues, Amanda Rusin, Jeff Siessel, John Stauffer, Michael Vieira, Amanda Wnorowski, and Andrew Zub all participated in the visit to the First Children's School.

Gus Kalikas, Supervisor of Athletics, Health, and Physical Education at Arthur L. Johnson High School, had this to say about the event. "The C.A.L.C. was thrilled to be able to assist with the daily routines of the First Children's School. I think both groups not only enjoyed the experience, but learned a lot while doing it."



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HEHNLY SCHOOL CELEBRATES ARBOR DAY

Frank K. Hehnly Elementary School's annual Arbor Day Program consisted of the entire student body participating on the front lawn. The student council representatives opened the ceremony by leading the school with the flag salute then singing "America the Beautiful". Each class had one student assist Hehnly Music teacher James Vavra with the planting of the new landscaping. The program closed with the students and teachers singing "This Land is Our Land".



(above) Teachers Anne Pandolfo and James Vavra helping first grader Erini Daganitis in the ceremonial planting of the bushes.



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Students in Susan Mytrowitz' kindergarten class at Frank K. Hehnly Elementary School participated in the Soles4Souls® program. Soles4Souls is a shoe charity that collects gently worn shoes to provide shoes to those who desperately need footwear to various

destinations around the world. The kindergarten students were very excited about passing along their family's shoes to others in need. They learned that the Soles4Souls shoe charity was a great way to recycle shoes.



(above) Students along with their teacher Susan Mytrowitz display their shoe collection for the Soles4Souls® program.

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MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY HONORS ED GRANDE AS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Mr. Ed Grande, Content Supervisor of Mathematics, World Language, and Technology with the Clark School District; was honored as a recipient of the Monmouth University Roberts Charitable Foundation Outstanding School Teacher Award. In attendance at the reception was the University President, numerous Deans and professors, Clark Interim Director of Curriculum William Feldman and Superintendent of Schools Kenneth Knops.

The award was initiated in 2006 to recognize outstanding secondary school teachers who make an important contribution to the education of current Monmouth University students. Each teacher received an award of \$1,500.

Each recipient was nominated by a Monmouth University senior student for his or her outstanding teaching skills and dedication to education. The selection committee included the Dean of the School of Education, Lynn Romeo, and professors and students.

Mr. Grande is a graduate of Arthur L. Johnson High School, he earned an undergraduate degree in mathematics from Rutgers College, a master's degree in mathematics education from Rutgers College, and a master's degree in education leadership from Teachers College, Columbia University.

Mr. Grande serves the district as the K-12 Content Area Supervisor of Mathematics, World Languages, Science, Business, Computers, and Technology. Prior to this position, he taught Mathematics at Arthur L. Johnson High School. In addition, he assumed a number of extracurricular responsibilities, including

serving as a class advisor and an advisor to the student council.

Mr. Grande has also taught and advised students at the college level during evenings and on weekends and is currently a doctoral student in the Education Leadership Program at Teachers College, Columbia University. He has completed his coursework and is currently writing his dissertation on high school reform as a part of his doctoral studies.

Mr. Grande was nominated by a former student who is graduating from Monmouth University next week, Lisa Bukowiec.

In commenting on the honoring of Ed Grande, Clark Superintendent of Schools Kenneth Knops remarked, "I congratulate Mr. Grande on this very impressive honor. It is well deserved and fitting for Ed to receive such recognition for his excellence in teaching. Mr. Grande is a role model, mentor, and guiding light to students and teachers alike. We are indeed fortunate to have him in our school district. This award underscores the positive influence he is on motivating young people."



(above) Outstanding School Teacher Awardee Ed Grande addresses the gathering at Monmouth University as University Trustee, William Roberts, program creator, looks on.

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Monday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.

World War II Navy Photography

In honor of Memorial Day, join photographer Gary Saretsky as he discusses Navy photography in World War II, focusing on Edward Steichen and his documentation of naval operations in the Pacific. Light refreshments will be served.

Thursday, May 24 at 3:30 p.m.

Teen Soap Making

Have fun with your friends while making soaps to keep or give as gifts. For teens in grades 6 - 12.

Saturday, June 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Rhythm & Rhyme

Story time for special needs children age 3 - 7.

Friday, June 8 at 3:15 p.m.

Lego Club

We provide the Legos; you provide the inspiration. For children in grades 1 - 6.

Tuesday, June 12 at 3:30 p.m.

Garden in a Glove

Join dietitian Lauren Purdy for "Garden in a Glove". The children make a garden with seeds in a glove. Then, we make a big salad full of the fruits and veggies that they used for seeds. Children with food allergies should not attend. For children age 8 - 12 years old.

Wednesday, June 13 at 3:30 p.m.

Father's Day Craft

Make something for dad and listen to a humorous tale. For ages Kindergarten through Grade 5.

Ongoing; Mondays at 2:00 p.m.

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(above) Local Cranford artist, Cynthia A. Dawley, stands with Library Director Patricia Anderson, as she presents an oil painting of the Clark Public Library to the library in recognition of its 50th Anniversary in 2011. The painting was commissioned by Henry Variano (to Mrs. Anderson's right), Board of Education member and avid supporter of the local library.

ITALIAN HERITAGE NIGHT

The Clark UNICO Chapter held their Annual Cultural Program at the Clark Library on April 19th. Chuck Granata (writer, songwriter, producer) presented the story of Frank Sinatra and his music. Mr. Granata knew Frank Sinatra very well and is still close today with his children Nancy and Frank Jr. The audience was treated to numerous Sinatra songs and Chuck explained the origin of each one. After the presentation, UNICO presented and donated Granata's book to the Library.



(above) UNICO Secretary George Abruzzo, President Ralph Bernardo, Chuck Granata, Library Director Patti Anderson and UNICO member Henry Varriano.

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CROWNE PLAZA REBRANDS AS NEW HOLIDAY INN WITH "HUB CAFÉ"

After completing a multi-million dollar renovation, the former award-winning Crowne Plaza Clark has been transformed into a new Holiday Inn hotel. The renovation of the Clark property includes the complete redesign of the building's exterior, lobby, technology, meeting spaces and guestrooms, and highlights a unique food and beverage concept as the center of the guest's stay.

As a Crowne Plaza, the hotel earned the 2011 IHG Torchbearer Award for Guest Satisfaction and Brand Citizen Award for participation in customer service. "Our Holiday Inn provides an outstanding guest experience for new and returning guests alike," explained Dhaval Brahmbhatt, general manager. "The public spaces offer an amazing gathering spot and social center where guests can unwind, be

entertained, get a break from work, socialize, and make the most of their free time."

The 192-room Holiday Inn Clark is only the second hotel worldwide to feature the brand's new "Hub Café" concept including an open layout with clean, modern lines and low-key atmosphere and relaxing outdoor retreat that sets the tone for an inviting and engaging guest experience, for a few minutes or a few hours.

There are more than 8,000 square feet of flexible event space for up to 300, six meeting rooms, and outstanding catering services. Additional amenities include a fitness center, room service, and complimentary guest parking.

"We are excited to be a part of Holiday Inn's great history and current level of outstanding performance," added Brahmbhatt, referring to the brand's 2011 JD Power Award for guest satisfaction.



(above) Clark Mayor Sal Bonaccorso and Holiday Inn Director Of Sales and Marketing Kelly Leftheris attending the Hub at Holiday Inn event on April 26th.

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CLARK RECREATION SPRING PROGRAMS

Clark Recreation is in full swing with their spring programs. Director Ralph Bernardo says “there is something for everyone at the rec center.” Just to name a few of the classes and programs offered at the Department currently running are Sport Squirts, Soccer Squirts, T-Ball Squirts for preschoolers, Hip Hop Kidz, Tennis, Movin & Groovin, Little Bakers, golf, field hockey, skateboarding for the kids and adults are enjoying Zumba, Co-ed Volleyball, scrapbooking, ceramics and exercise classes and the list goes on and on. For more information about programs and classes offered at the Clark Recreation Department call 732-428-8400.



(above) Sport Squirts – instructors from the US Sports Institute focus on a particular sport and do drills and techniques with the preschoolers ages 3-5.



(above) Hip Hop Kidz – Niki – is the instructor from Center for Dance in Clark. Each week children ages 6-10 learn different Hip Hop dance techniques.

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ALJ STUDENTS' ARTWORK HIGHLIGHTED IN EXHIBIT

Three students from Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark were recently selected to have their artwork tour as part of the 2012 Teen Arts Traveling Exhibit. Angelo Fagan, Samantha Ring and Jimmy Douglas participated along with other music, literature and art students at the annual two-day Union County Teen Arts Festival held March 15th at Union County College. Angelo's sculpture of a fireman's hat, Jimmys' landscape photograph, and Samantha's acrylic guitar painting were critiqued by professional artists, and received high enough marks to be included in the traveling exhibit.

“This is a great opportunity for our students to showcase their talents”, said Mr. Christopher Marcin, art, photography and graphic design teacher at Arthur L. Johnson High School.

These works will tour the county at various local libraries, corporations and other sites until

February 2013.

Samantha, Angelo, and Jimmy will be joining all art students at ALJ by displaying their work at the “End of the Year Art Show”. The show will be held on Monday, May 21, 2012 at 6:00 pm in the Arthur L. Johnson Media Center.



(above) Arthur L. Johnson student Samantha Ring discusses her painting with Sarah Panetta at the 2012 Union County Teen Arts Festival.

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Louis Jadot Pouilly Fuisse 750ml	\$19 ⁹⁹
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Absolut 1.75lt	\$29 ⁹⁹
Ciroc (All Types) 750ml	\$29 ⁹⁹
Ciroc (All Types) 1.75lt	\$55 ⁹⁹
Finlandia 750ml	\$15 ⁹⁹
Finlandia 1lt	\$17 ⁹⁹
Finlandia 1.75lt	\$25 ⁹⁹
Fris 1.75lt	\$18 ⁹⁹
Grey Goose (All Types) 750ml	\$27 ⁹⁹
Grey Goose (All Types) 1.75lt	\$49 ⁹⁹
Ketel One 1.75 lt	\$39 ⁹⁹
Luksusowa 750ml	\$14 ⁹⁹
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Leroux Blackberry Brandy 750ml	\$11 ⁹⁹
Leroux Blackberry Brandy 1.75lt	\$19 ⁹⁹
Patron XO Cafe 750ml	\$22 ⁹⁹
Southern Comfort 750ml	\$16 ⁹⁹
Southern Comfort 1.75lt	\$26 ⁹⁹

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Bombay Sapphire 1.75lt	\$38 ⁹⁹
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