

CRANFORD MONTHLY_{NJ}

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GIRL SCOUTS EARN ESTEEMED PRESIDENT'S AWARD

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Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey has once again bestowed its most prestigious award upon the Girl Scouts of Cranford Service Unit (48). For the second consecutive year, Cranford's Girl Scouts Service Unit was presented the President's Award during the organization's annual awards dinner held in late October at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Somerset, New Jersey. The honor, considered the council's most prestigious volunteer award, recognizes the efforts of a service-delivery team or committee whose exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience surpassed team goals and resulted in significant, measurable impact toward reaching the council's overall goals. Lisa Durant, former Service Unit Manager, and Anne-Marie McGuinness, current Service Unit Co-Manager, accepted the award on behalf of the group.

Members of the Girl Scout Heart of New Jersey presented the awards that evening, honoring hundreds of volunteers throughout the region. In addition to the President's Award, the organization recognized individual Cranford Girl Scout leaders for their substantial contributions.

The following individuals were awarded:

- GSHNJ Dedicated Leader Award
– Diane Butka and Christine Newport
- GSHNJ Rookie of the Year Award
– Melissa Alfano, Anne-Marie McGuinness, Jacqueline Messinger and Nancy Valdivia
- GSHNJ Volunteer of Excellence Award
– Stephanie Banks Patterson and Virginia Bartkowicz
- GSHNJ Appreciation Pin:
Ginette Bracke, Nicole Consorte, Erin Esteves, Cessy Gamez Peralta and Kristin Santos
- 25 Year Membership Recognition
– Lisa Durant

The Dedicated Leader Award recognizes a troop/group leader, assistant leader or coordinator for continued outstanding performance working with girls. The Rookie of the Year Award recognizes a troop/group leader,



Girl Scouts of Cranford were one of only three towns in NJ recognized this year with the national President's Award.

(above l-r) Melissa Alfano, Jacqueline Messinger, Lorrae Schau, Nancy Valdivia, Erin Esteves, Stephanie Banks Patterson, Lisa Durant, Diane Butka, Theresa Gathercole, Christine Newport and Anne-Marie McGuinness. Missing from photo are Kristin Santos, Nicole Consorte, Ginette Bracke, Virginia Bartkowicz, and Cessy Gamez Peralta.

assistant leader, troop volunteer, or SU volunteer for outstanding performance during their first year of service.

The Volunteer of Excellence award recognizes those volunteers who have contributed outstanding service while partnering directly with girls in any pathway to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) through use of the National Program Portfolio (Journeys), or who have contributed outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery to girl and adult members.

Girl Scouts is the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls - all girls - where, in an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adult volunteers, girls develop qualities that will serve them all their lives.

For over a 100 years, its membership has been unified towards the achievement of the Girl Scout mission: "To build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place."

The Girl Scouts of Cranford boasts almost 1,100 Girl Scout Members in 73 troops and Juliette's making it one of the largest non-profit organizations in town. The Cranford Service Unit is a part of the Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey (GSHNJ) Council which is part of the Girl Scouts of the USA. If your family is interested in learning more about local Girl Scouts or to find out more information on the Girls Scouts of Cranford, please visit <http://www.cranfordgirlscouts.com>.

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OAS GIRLS SOCCER TEAM HAD UNDEFEATED 2017 SEASON

Submitted by Diane Roussey, Team Manager.

This year the 7th and 8th Grade Girls OAS Middle School Soccer Team had an outstanding, undefeated season. With a record of 11-0-1, the team scored a total of 53 goals with only 11 goals scored against them. They had tied Union in a tough match, but clinched a 1-0 victory over Elizabeth on November 1 to end the season undefeated.

From day one of practice, the girls came together as a cohesive unit both on and off the field. "As a team, our goal was to work hard at practice and play hard at games," said Coach Suzette De Araujo. "Each girl had a job to do and

each one gave it her all. My goal as a coach was to not only direct the girls in the game of soccer but also to teach them that soccer is a microcosm for life. You have no control over some of the things that happen on the pitch, weather, ref calls, bad bounces, missed shots, just like in life. Sometimes 'life just happens.' It's how you react to those things that makes you a winner. As long as you live and play with integrity, and do your best, you can walk off the field, and walk in life, with your head held high! It was an honor and a privilege to coach such a dedicated team. We will miss our 8th graders, but look forward to continuing to build our team next year."



(above, front, l-r) Kneeling/front row: Grace Cannizzo, Victoria Aslin, Meghan Normann, Aileen McGovern, Aislinn McGovern, Grace Donnelly, Mia Berard.
 (standing, back, l-r) Brooke Burke, Emma Donnelly, Jasmine Alvarez, Clare Roussey, Anna Constable, Grace Ramirez, Caroline Morris, Angelia Knight, Coach Suzette De Araujo.

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PROJECT HOME OF CRANFORD'S MONSTER DASH 5K AND FUN RUN

A great time was had by all at the Project Home of Cranford's inaugural Monster Dash 5K and Fun Run that was held on Sunday October 29, 2017 in Nomahegan Park. Runners, walkers and spectators all got into the Halloween spirit, some even participated in costumes. Medals were given to all children who participated in the Fun Run and Awards to the top 3 finishers for both men and women who competed in the 5K.

A collection of non-perishable foods was held at the race to help stock the Cranford Family Care pantry.

Project Home of Cranford wants to thank all the sponsors and donors who helped to make the race a success. Special thanks to their Platinum Sponsors: Arnold's Pest Control, Deluca Disposal Solutions, Martin Jewelers, The

Panagakos Family, Sitescapes Landscaping and Wells Fargo Advisors.

For 25 years Project Home of Cranford, a 501(c)3 charity has been working through Cranford Family Care to keep Cranford families

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CRANFORD FIRST AID SQUAD: A LOOK BEYOND THE LIGHTS AND SIRENS

Written by Emma DeBole, Cranford High School



The Cranford First Aid Squad has been providing the Cranford community with completely free and dedicated emergency medical service for over 60 years. A squad made entirely of volunteers, CFAS is not only a trained, equipped emergency medical service organization, but also a hub of tremendous passion, commitment, and medical knowledge. As a part of the cadet program at the Cranford First Aid Squad, although I have not yet received the full training of an Emergency Medical Technician, commonly referred to as an EMT, I have had the opportunity to ride along on emergency calls and observe the emergency medical system first-hand. I have learned a lot in the way of medical terminology and the emergency protocols and also a lot about what makes Cranford's first responders so unique.

The officers of the squad are the glue that holds CFAS together. Without their leadership role in our community, the services provided would not be possible. Elected positions, these officers ensure that the squad members receive regular training, are updated on changes in emergency protocol, and are as prepared as possible to deal with all emergency situations. When I joined the squad, the first thing I noticed was the level of professionalism and dedication in these respected leadership roles. Although completely unpaid for their dedication to the

serving of those in the community, these officers put in the time and effort of a full-time paid position.

After months of riding with squad I have also noticed the community respect and gratitude toward members of CFAS. Whether it is a discounted price at a restaurant or a ceremony recognizing the service of the volunteers, Cranford holds in high regard their first responders. Without the added expense of an ambulance bill, patients can focus on recovering from a medical incident with less financial burden. This free service would not be made possible without the volunteering and donations from those in your community. To donate, apply, or learn more visit www.cranfordfirstaid.org

The Cranford First Aid Squad's aid of the community does not end with the emergency response system. CFAS also provides the community with Basic Life Support and Community CPR classes. Services also include the lending of medical equipment, 911 awareness programs for children, boy scouts and girl scouts, as well as provide Readyman training for Boy Scouts.

The next time you hear the sirens or see the flashing of the Cranford First Aid Squad ambulance, remember the volunteer service the squad provides your community. Please consider donating or applying today!



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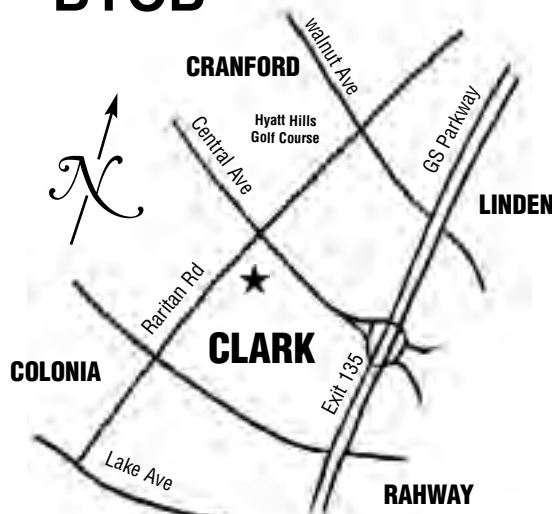
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Dr. David Bower, Director of Music and Organist at the church announced in addition to the quintet, a program featuring the Adult, Handbell and Youth Choirs of St. Michael together with vocal soloists. The audience is invited to join in singing familiar Advent and Christmas carols of the season along with organ, brass and choirs. The twenty-voice Youth Choir is a source of pride for the Music Program.

"Atlas Brass" maintains an active performance schedule and is composed of all professional musicians who teach and perform throughout the tri-state area. Dr. Bower indicated "we are fortunate to have this highly professional quintet, especially at this season when they are in great demand. Please join us in singing the joyous music of the Advent and Christmas season."

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CRANFORD RESIDENT KRISTINA KOZAK PUBLISHES FIRST CHILDREN'S BOOK

On December 5, 2017, Kristina Kozak released her first book, "The Travels of Adventurous Alexander and Relentless Russell: Dominican Republic".

Kristina is an elementary school teacher who lives with her husband and two sons in Cranford, NJ. She attended Kean University, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education and fine art as a double major. The art classes she took prepared her for drawing the illustrations in this book. These days she uses her creativity in the classroom. Her current position is as a Literacy Coach. Kristina reads picture books to her students every day. Her wealth of experience and knowledge has given her many lessons in story writing. Another passion is taking recreational photographs, including photos seen in the book. She enjoys attending Zumba classes, going to her sons' extracurricular activities, and of course traveling. She plans on writing a whole series displaying other places they have visited and the adventures they went on. She loves their family pet Cooper, an Australian Labradoodle. Maybe you will see him pop up as Curious Cooper!

"The Travels of Adventurous Alexander and

Relentless Russell" is available online with the following retailers: amazon.com, BAM! Books-A-Million, Barnes & Noble, Mascot Books. The book will also be sold at Periwinkles in Cranford.



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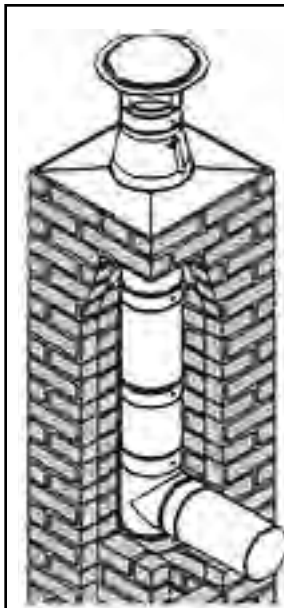
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MEET 1ST LT. CHARLES A. HARKER JR., KOREAN WAR AIR FORCE PILOT, POW/MIA. ONE OF CRANFORD'S 86 HOMETOWN HEROES

By Don Sweeney & Lt. Col. Steven Glazer (Ret.), Cranford Historical Society

As our selection process began this month we were contacted by a nephew of one of our Cranford 86 that was a result of our many inquiries on Ancestry.com. Chris Harker of Oregon identified himself as the son of Robert Harker, the 88-year-old brother of Charles A. Harker Jr. He informed us that his father was alive and well and living in Oceanport, NJ. He said his dad had many clear pictures of "Junie," short for Junior, as he was known to his family, and would be glad to meet with me. We had much of Charles' story documented already; it was the pictures that we needed to complete our mission of letting people "see the faces" belonging to the names of our fallen heroes read on Memorial Day.

Bob Harker called me the following day and we made an appointment to meet. He didn't let us down. Formal military portraits, casual snap shots and best of all, 1st Lt. Charles Harker Jr. standing in front of his F-84 thunderjet, the aircraft that he volunteered to fly solo the night of May 3rd 1953, his 38th mission into hostile territories over North Korea, his final mission.

Bob and I talked for more than an hour, telling me the personal notes that we like to gather in telling the whole story of our Hometown Heroes. He spoke of his younger brother that he grew up with at 218 Arbor Street as a light-hearted, happy-go-lucky guy. I asked him about the inscription under his yearbook picture. "A man among men, but mostly among women," Bob said his brother had a special way with the ladies. He teared up a couple of times during our talk. I could tell he was still affected by the incredible story that we are about to reveal in this article.

The story starts as three close Cranford High School graduates, class of '48, were studying at college in St. Petersburg, Florida, in November of 1950. Jimmy Walker, Jim Hall and Chuck, as his friends knew him, were on the beach, listening to the Army-Navy game on the radio. As a news flash broke into the broadcast they heard President Truman announce a national emergency in Korea. Communists had invaded South Korea, our forces were backed into a peninsula and were about to be overtaken. Walker and Hall both enlisted right away, Walker into the Navy, Hall, Chuck's closest friend, in the Air Force. Chuck stayed to complete his college year at St. Petersburg Junior College. He eventually applied and was accepted into pilot training for the Air Force. The three friends sadly were never together again.

Charles Harker soon became a pilot with the new fleet of over 7000 F-84 thunderjet fighter-bombers, a predecessor to the more refined F-86 Sabre. The Korean War was the first battle theater where jet fighters routinely dominated; it was a new era of aerial combat. Because of the danger of these encounters, night sorties to strike supply lines were being conducted. Charles was awarded the Air Medal in recognition of his gallant service and heroism in this challenging battle environment prior to the fateful night of his disappearance in May 1953.



(above) Charles A. Harker Jr. (above) Lt. Col. Charles Abbott Harker Jr. from Cranford 1948 yearbook. Jr. 311th Fighter-Bomber Squadron, 56th Fighter Bomber Group.

Military reports initially stated that Charles flew beyond radar surveillance and voice communication and crashed his aircraft, disintegrating upon impact. However, it was later reported that the aircraft following him by minutes saw no sign of a crash scene. No search had taken place due to the hostility of the area. Charles' aircraft may not have crashed at all; no remains were ever recovered. Accordingly, Charles was classified as "MIA," missing in action and presumed dead. He was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously. It seems like a simple story with a sad ending, another brave young man giving his life for his country, but maybe not so simple.

Fast forward to 1960, Jim Hall, Junie's best friend, is now a civilian information officer employed by the Department of the Army, assigned to the United Nations in Korea. Seven years after the conclusion of hostilities, armistice talks are still taking place in a building right on the line that separates North and South Korea. On one side of the table, a team of stern-faced Communist North Korean officers sit, and on the other, similar-looking United Nations officials stare back. Jim Hall was a spectator listening to days of tedious rehashing of post-conflict matters. The conversations had turned to the repatriation of suspected prisoners still being held captive by the North Koreans and Russians. As lists of the suspected captives were read, Jim heard "Charles Harker Jr." Jim said, "Did you just say Charles Harker Jr.?" He immediately went to the UN officials



(above) 1st Lt. Charles A. Harker Jr. receiving The Air Medal for gallant service.



(above) Lt. Col. Charles Harker Jr. in a casual moment.



(above) Brother's Bob and "Junie" on the beach in Ship Bottom, NJ.

CHARLES A. HARKER JR. (continued)

to find out why they just read the name of his best friend as being held by the Communists. He was told that a picture of what appeared to be his buddy Chuck had surfaced from a Russian POW camp. For the next ten years Jim Hall would work tirelessly, using all his Washington contacts, to uncover further information about the situation he had stumbled upon, but to no avail. It seemed like he hit a dead end.

Decades passed, now 1990 when Jim Hall attended a Cranford High School reunion and he ran into Chuck's older brother Bob. He shared his revelation while he was working in Korea. Bob was notably shaken by the story. Trusting that Jim had turned every stone possible in his research, they both agreed that Junie had been taken from them in the springtime of his life. Case closed, again.

Autumn 1993, following the breakup of the Soviet Union, brought another turn in this amazing story. The Associated Press uncovered a government report titled "The Transfer of U.S. Korean War POWs to the U.S.S.R." telling of the organized transport of American POWs to China and ultimately the Soviet Union. The Clinton administration decided not to release the report; however, an unidentified leaker brought the story to light. Documents had been discovered indicating that American pilots were being held by the Russians as early as 1953 and our government knew about it. More proof was found through the 1960's. Never was any grief-stricken family given a hint of the program to move their loved ones to Siberian gulags (forced work camps) or other remote locations in Russia. Interviews with retired Russian officers from these camps confirmed the leaked information. Lists of the Russian-held pilots were included in the reports. There were several lists containing hundreds of names, Charles A. Harker Jr.'s name appeared on two of them.

Our research uncovered the actual list of Charles' personal possessions at the time of his interrogation at the Russian POW camp. It is printed in Russian and translated into English. It itemizes the complete contents of his wallet and personal bag that accompanied him on his ill-fated mission.

The Russians under the command of Josef Stalin were driven to gain information about the new F-86 fighter jets that had been plaguing their MiG-15 fighters, formerly the best air-fighting machines. The kill ratio between the MiG-15 and the F-86 was 10:1. The F-86 was significantly faster and had superior radar gun sights that made it deadly in high-speed dogfights. Interviews with retired Russian officers revealed Stalin's plan to attempt to force F-86 fighter jets to land, and then take the pilots to interrogation camps in Mongolia and Siberia. The aircraft would be transported for study and duplication.

The Soviet 64th Fighter Aviation Corps was the unit formed by Stalin to hunt pilots who had been shot down or grounded. It is documented that there were 70 Russian teams with the sole mission of searching for these men. It is believed that about 600 American pilots, mostly of F-86 Sabres, may have been taken captive in this way. Officers of the 64th Fighter Aviation Corps were interviewed after the Soviet breakup, confirming this



(above) "Junie" and his sweetheart
Gail Carson of N. Plainfield.
Note she is wearing his wings.



(above) "Junie" boarding his F-84
Thunderjet fighter bomber.

diabolical plan. Twenty-four years have passed since this disclosure by the Russian government. Not one of these pilots was repatriated after the conclusion of hostilities, a complete disregard for all Geneva Convention requirements. Josef Stalin died four months prior to the end of the Korean War March 5, 1953, two months before Charles Harker Jr. went missing. In all 54,246 Americans were lost and 8,140 are unaccounted for. 2,195 are estimated to have been captured.

Charles A. Harker Jr. "Junie" was a great American and one of our Cranford 86 Hometown Heroes. Amazingly at the time of his disappearance he was just 22 years old.

The goal of our group is to introduce the brave men that sacrificed all, so that we can live here in freedom. This Memorial Day at our town's ceremony that follows our parade we are planning to dedicate banners that will line the streets of Cranford. Each will bear the photographs and information of the Heroes whose stories have been told this year.

To date we have introduced and told stories of 9 of our 86 Heroes, by Memorial Day we should have 15 or more. If you missed any you can find them all on Facebook at Cranford86 or on Rennamedia.com in the archives section. If you have any comments or information about our project I welcome your responses, Don Sweeney djsween@aol.com (908) 272-0876.



(above) Cranford Memorial Park monument
dedicated by his graduating 1948 graduating
class in 1993 after being identified as a POW.



(above) His Memorila marker at
Arlington National Cemetery.



(above) The F-84 Thunderjet.

FLORAPHILE GARDEN CLUB DONATES GARDEN CLUB BOOK

Cranford's Floraphile Garden Club donated a copy of the book *The Saved Seed: A Journey Through a Seed's Life*, to the Cranford Public Library. The *Saved Seed* is the National Garden Club's second early reader book written to educate elementary children about the life cycle of seed plants. Two more copies were donated to Brookside and Walnut Avenue Schools.

To learn more about the Floraphile Garden Club of Cranford people can find us on Facebook at facebook.com/floraphilegardenclub.



(above, l-r) Patty Wisniewski, donating the book to Cranford Library Director, John Malar.

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Library hours are Monday to Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Thursday and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This after-hours program was created for children with autism and their families.

December 8, January 12, February 9;

Sensory Library Time: 6-8:00 p.m.

Friday, December 8, January 12, and
February 9.

Families will enjoy browsing the collection in a space that minimizes unnecessary stimulation while connecting with each other. Towards the end of our time together, we will hold two sessions of a small group program. Tickets for small group programs, one at 6:30 and another at 7:00, will be given out on a first come, first served basis beginning at 6:00 on the day of the program. Sensory Library Time will be held monthly and run through June 2017.

Registration is not required. This free program is sponsored by a grant from the Union County.

Touch the Music Presents the Nutcracker

December 9

A special performance by Touch the Music for children ages 3-12. Touch the Music is a unique music program that gives children an extraordinary opportunity to touch and explore real orchestral instruments. Attendees will learn

about the story behind Tchaikovsky's famous suite, hear the different instruments featured, and try their hand at creating music of their own! The program will be held at 2:00 in the Cranford Community Center on Saturday, December 9th. This free program is made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the Library. Registration is not required, but we ask that participants arrive on time as latecomers are not guaranteed admittance.

iDiscover Coding

December 5

"iDiscover Coding," a monthly introduction to computer programming. Each class will acquaint children with a coding concept through the use of fun, educational apps.

Students will create interactive stories, animation, and even video games! Children in grades 1-3 can join us on December 5 at 6:30 p.m., and those in grades 4-6 can join us on the same day at 7:30. Registration is required and space is limited. This free program is sponsored by a grant from the Union County.

For a list of other upcoming programs, visit the library Web page at www.cranfordlibrary.org.

FREE DROP-IN TUTORING PROGRAM

A free drop-in tutoring program is being offered at the Cranford Library for students in kindergarten through 5th grade. This program is created by a Cranford Girl Scout as her Gold Award project. Parents can bring their children to the library on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:30 for free academic tutoring in any subject by local high school students.

Tutoring is held on the first floor, near the magazine rack. Parents do not need to sign up to bring their children. However, they should bring any homework, books, or any other materials that would be useful for tutoring.

High school students can also sign up to be tutors, and get community service hours for

participating, as well as valuable experience working with children. This all comes together to create a great program that helps both elementary school children, their parents, and high school students.

This program has helped many children with their schoolwork, and their parents have expressed satisfaction with the program. This is a simple way to get academic help for your children, without the need for expensive tutors and complex scheduling.

The program is looking to expand the number of children being tutored, so you are encouraged to bring your children to the library for tutoring on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:30.

Free Tutoring!

Does your child need assistance with their academic subjects?
We can help!

This is a Girl Scout Gold Award project created by a high schooler.
We are offering tutoring services for children in grades K-5, provided free of charge by local high school students as part of a community service project.

Here's how it works:

- Tutoring will be conducted on the main floor, by the magazine rack, at the Cranford Library.
- Come to the tutoring table and sign up for a time slot. Service provided on a "first-come-first-served" basis, so get there early to get the best spot.
- Bring your subject textbooks, workbooks, notebooks, and writing supplies.

Tutors will be available on Wednesdays
from 4 to 5:30.

Contact us at cranfordlibrary@gmail.com

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The Friends of the Cranford Public Library are very pleased to welcome back rock historian Vincent Bruno for two lectures: "The Sixties: Bob Dylan" on Wednesday, December 6, and "The Sixties: The Rolling Stones" on Monday, December 11. Both programs start at 7:00 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center.

Each lecture is two-hours long and will include slides and audio clips. Admission is free and all are welcome.

In addition to his work as a rock historian, Mr.

Bruno has taught in a number of settings for more than 35 years, including stints at LaGuardia Community College, Empire State College, and Union County College.

The Dylan and Rolling Stones programs mark Mr. Bruno's sixth and seventh visits to the Cranford Community Center, where he has also lectured on the Beatles, the Beatles as solo artists, the Beatles film A Hard Day's Night, the British Invasion, and American pop/rock music of the 1960s.

BELLE TONES HOLIDAY SHOW

The Friends of the Cranford Public Library are very pleased to sponsor a special holiday music performance by the Belle Tones on Saturday, December 16, at 3:00 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. Often referred to as the "twenty-first century Andrews Sisters," the Belle

Tones specialize in close-knit three part harmony. The Belle Tones have performed extensively in New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Admission to the program is free and all are welcome. This marks the group's second visit to the Cranford Community Center.

LIBRARY FOOD DRIVE

Help check out hunger this holiday season with donations to a Food Drive being sponsored by the Libraries of Union County Consortium (LUCC). From November 27 - December 18, your local public library will be accepting donations of non-perishable food items to benefit the New Jersey Community Food Bank and other local food pantries. Collection bins will be conveniently located at the public libraries and library staff will then route 100% of the donations to designated food banks.

Even though experts say our economy is in recovery, many people in New Jersey have been left behind: low income families, struggling single parents, the elderly on a fixed income, and

the unemployed. The New Jersey Community Food Bank assists by distributing food to more than 1,500 non-profit charities in 19 counties, including soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, local food banks, after school programs, and senior centers. Local food pantries such as SHIP in Summit serve food to the homeless and low-income individuals on a daily basis. These donations will help to fill shopping carts and bellies.

To make this holiday season hunger free, simply visit your local library with a donation of non-perishable items. Groceries most needed are canned meat and fish, canned soups, pasta and rice, formula, and canned vegetables and fruits.



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1 - Tray of Your Choice
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Apple with lemon poppyseed vinaigrette dressing

Pasta (Your Choice of 1 Full Tray)
• Homemade Stuffed Shells
• Homemade Manicotti

Vegetables (Your Choice of 1 Full Tray)
• Spring Bean Almondine
• Vegetable Medley

Potato (Your Choice of 1 Full Tray)
• Roasted Baked Potatoes
• Potato Croquettes

Entrée (Your Choice of 1 Full Tray)
• Chicken Scarpelli
Dress: Olive Dressing, Olive, Swiss Chard, Tomato, White Onion, Red & Green Peppers, Balsamic
• Stuffed Loin of Pork
Served with Potatoes, Grilled Asparagus & Mushrooms
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Served with Potatoes, Grilled Asparagus & Mushrooms

Dessert
• 2 lb. Tray of Italian Cookies

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ANTHEM CELEBRATES 2ND ANNIVERSARY

This month, ANTHEM style + gift, a women's clothing, accessories and gift boutique located in Cranford, NJ, is celebrating their second anniversary. Since opening their doors in December of 2015, ANTHEM has become an integral part of the retail landscape of Downtown Cranford, an area that has been experiencing an exciting influx of new businesses.

Shop owner Cori Eberling Ardente has worked in fashion buying and merchandising in many different realms (brick & mortar, e-commerce, corporate), and had always dreamed of opening her own boutique. A Cranford native and current resident, when the time was finally right, her extensive research and location scouting eventually led her back to her hometown.

"When it ultimately came to choosing our brick and mortar location, all roads lead directly back to Cranford for me," Ardente says.

"There seemed to be and still seems to be so much potential and exciting opportunities as a retailer downtown. I'm excited to see what the future holds ANTHEM here in Cranford."

Always on the lookout for the latest new trends in apparel, gifts, and beyond, Ardente loves being able to bring all of the amazing product she's

sourced from well-known and emerging designers to the town she grew up in.

Cori and the team at ANTHEM are excited to continue to serve the Cranford community, offering new and exciting products and brands for many years to come.



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UCEDC HOSTS SBA ADMINISTRATOR

CRANFORD MONTHLY • Page 17 • December 2017

UCEDC was host to Linda McMahon, Administrator of the US Small Business Administration (SBA) on Saturday, November 4, 2017 as she conducted a listening round table with local small businesses to hear their comments and concerns about the current federal tax structure.

Among the business owners sharing their observations with Administrator McMahon were UCEDC clients, Robin Hoy, owner of PuroClean Restoration Services in Kenilworth and Mary

Baker, owner of Baker Tax and Accounting Service in Linden. UCEDC President Maureen Tinen, and Jane Rey, chair of the UCEDC Board, provided their perspectives on the small business climate.

UCEDC is a private SBA-designated small business lender, serving all of New Jersey and parts of New York and Pennsylvania. It also serves as the entrepreneurial training arm of the NJEDA and is a federally designated Procurement Technical Assistance Center.



(above) SBA Administrator Linda McMahon (center) with attendees of her small business round table held at UCEDC headquarters. Joining her (from l to r) were UCEDC Senior Loan Officer Ellen McHenry, UCEDC client Mary Baker, UCEDC President Maureen Tinen, and UCEDC client Robin Hoy. Also attending, UCEDC Board Chair Jane Rey (second from right).

VFW POST #335 TO HOLD PEARL HARBOR DAY SERVICES

On Thursday, December 7th at 9:00 a.m., Cranford VFW Post #335 will hold an outdoor memorial service in remembrance of the attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941 which ignited the beginning of WW II.

The service is open to the public and will be held at the VFW Post Memorial Home at 479 South Ave. E. in Cranford. The program will last approximately a half hour and will be followed by free coffee and pastries in the lounge. In the event of inclement weather the ceremony will be moved indoors at the Post.

Featured at the service will be the VFW Color Guard, and a local bugler, as well as a taped recorded playing of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's famous "date which will live in infamy" radio address. For additional info, please call 908-276-9730 or email jimdr@verizon.net.

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FALL SEASON RECAP OF COUGAR SPORTS

Submitted by Cranford Public Schools Athletics Department.

During the fall season our student athletes and coaches have captured numerous championships.

Gymnastics won the Union County Title for the second consecutive year, with Bee Iosso winning the All - Around County Champion title and Kelly McAuliffe winning the County Champion on the Balance Beam. The teams also won a Conference Title and set a school record for an overall meet point total.

The Field Hockey team captured its first

Divisional Title since 1989.

The Boys Soccer team also won a Conference Divisional Championship, while the JV Boys Soccer team won the Union County Title.

Senior Gordon Graceffo will be signing his National Letter of Intent on November 13th to play baseball at Villanova University next season.

Congratulations to all of our Cranford Cougar athletes for an excellent Fall season!

FRIDAY SENIOR CLUB OF CRANFORD

The Friday Senior Club of Cranford sponsors a trip the second Wednesday of the month to Resorts Casino at Atlantic City. The next trip will be December 13th. The cost is \$30.

The Club also sponsors a trip to the Sands Casino, Bethlehem, PA. The cost is \$30.

Friday club meets once a week from 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. at the Cranford Community Center to socialize and play Bingo. All Cranford seniors are invited to join in.

For more information and to make trip reservations contact Helen at (908) 654-1236.

REGISTRATION FOR PARKS & REC WINTER PROGRAMS BEGINS MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

The Cranford Recreation and Parks Department is pleased to announce that registration for our Winter 2017 programs will start 9:00 am on Tuesday, December 5th.

We are strongly encouraging registration for all classes to be done online by visiting <https://register.communitypass.net/cranford>.

Online registration will enable you to register 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to make payment by credit card and to receive the latest program updates as they occur through your account. If you would like assistance to register online, please stop by the Recreation Department or call

(908) 709-7283.

Details of classes are found in the brochure, which was mailed to all Cranford residents, as well as on the website www.cranfordnj.org/recreation-parks.

You may also find new classes not found in the brochure on the Recreation & Park Department's Facebook page found at www.facebook.com/CranfordRecreationAndParks.

Should you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact us at (908) 709-7283.

MAINTENANCE TECH WANTED

Maintenance tech wanted for Summit & Garwood apartment complex. Must have electrical, plumbing & carpentry skills. Boiler black seal a plus. Good starting hourly wage and 1 bedroom apt. in Garwood area. Vacation, holiday pay & medical benefits. **Please apply in person at Stephanie Gardens, 54 Third Avenue, Garwood, Tues & Thurs between 9 - 5 or call 908-789-9198.**

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LIBRARY DIRECTOR JOHN MALAR TO RETIRE

Cranford Public Library Director John Malar will retire at the end of December after 29 years of service to the Library. Mr. Malar began his tenure at the Library as a Reference Librarian in 1989 and was promoted to Director in 1992. Commenting on his time at the Library, Mr. Malar said, “I couldn’t have been more fortunate than to wind up working at the Cranford Public Library. It has been a great place to work and there are so many people I would like to thank for helping to make the Library such a valuable asset to the community. Many, many thanks to the dedicated staff members I have worked with over the years, the many Library Trustees who have served so ably and so conscientiously, my colleagues in the New Jersey library community, who have been the source of much wise counsel, and the Cranford Township administration for its steadfast support. Also, many thanks to the Friends of the Cranford Public Library, who have been instrumental in helping the Library succeed in its mission. But, first and foremost, thank you to the thousands of patrons of all ages who have borrowed more than six million items from the

Library and have taken advantage of the Library’s programs and services during my tenure. Your patronage is a testament to the value of public libraries everywhere. I leave the Library knowing that it will be in excellent hands under the directorship of Michael Maziekien.” Mr. Maziekien will assume the position of Director of the Cranford Library in January. He is currently the Director of the Kenilworth Public Library. Before assuming his post at Kenilworth four years ago, Mr. Maziekien was an Adult Services Librarian at the Riverdale and Nutley Public libraries, and Head of Reference and Information Technology at the Rockaway Township Public Library. He is currently President of the New Jersey Library Association. Speaking of his move to Cranford, Mr. Maziekian noted, “I’m excited to be working alongside the library board, staff, and Friends to continue the tradition of excellent service in Cranford.” There will be a farewell reception for Mr. Malar at the Library on Saturday, December 9, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Raddin Room. All are welcome.



CHRISTMAS SHOPPE AND SOUP FESTIVAL DEC. 9TH at Cranford United Methodist Church



The Cranford United Methodist Church will host its 7th annual **Christmas Holiday Shoppe and Soup Fest** on Saturday, December 9, 2017, 10am – 3 pm. This is a family-friendly event where kids and adults alike can to do their holiday shopping.

Over 45 vendors will offer a large variety of merchandise, crafts and gifts. There is sure to be something for everyone in the **Christmas Shoppe and Soup Fest!**

Five fabulous homemade soups will be available as part of the event and packaged soups (quarts & pints) for take-out will also be available while supplies last. Come early – these soups sell out quickly!

Baked goods and lunch will be available for purchase, too. So, skip the mall, the crowds and the hassles and join us for a great day of unique shopping!

The event will take place in the church's education building at 201 Lincoln Avenue, corner of Walnut and Lincoln Avenues, Cranford. Admission is free. There is plenty of free parking.

For information, please call Marti at (908) 276-0936 or send a message to office@cranfordumc.com.

201 Lincoln Avenue Cranford, NJ 07016 908-276-0936

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Christmas Eve Service

DECEMBER 24TH AT 5:30PM

New Community Church is a campus of The Presbyterian Church in New Providence. We meet every week at The Westwood at 9:30AM. We invite you to come worship with us! All are welcome!

Find out more about our church on our website: WWW.NCPCNJ.ORG

Merry Christmas!

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RENNA MEDIA LAUNCHES THREE NEW NEWSPAPERS NOW MAILING 125,000 NEWSPAPERS BRINGING TOTAL TO 21 TOWNS

Renna Media will be launching three new newspapers in January 2018. *Garwood Times*, *The Chathams*, and *Madison Monthly* will join Renna Media's family of newspapers, bringing the number of publications to 21 with a total of 125,000 newspapers mailed to homes and businesses monthly.



(above, l-r) Joe and Tina Renna, owners of Renna Media, LLC, have been publishing community newspapers since 1998.

The publications are "hyper-local" in nature in that they contain information focused on each individual town and are direct mailed within those towns.

The hyper-local design gives businesses the highest value for their advertising dollars. The newspapers are designed (black ink on newsprint) to keep the cost of advertising as low as \$60 for a business card size ad. Regional

businesses can take advantage of one low rate for being in multiple publications. Inserts are also available.

Joe and Tina Renna, owners of Renna Media, LLC, have been publishing community newspapers since 1998.

For info about Renna Media publications, please contact info@rennamedia.com; or call 908-418-5586.

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FLYERS - \$35 per thousand
8.5" x 11" / Full color / 2 sided / 600 gsm coated stock / Tri-fold / 300 gsm / 100 miles
POST CARDS - \$45 per thousand
8.5" x 4" / Full color / 3 sided / 100 gsm / coated stock
Minimum printing quantity is 10,000. Other sizes and stocks can be quoted.

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COST PER THOUSAND INSERTS	
Up to 15,000	\$60
15,000 to 30,000	\$55
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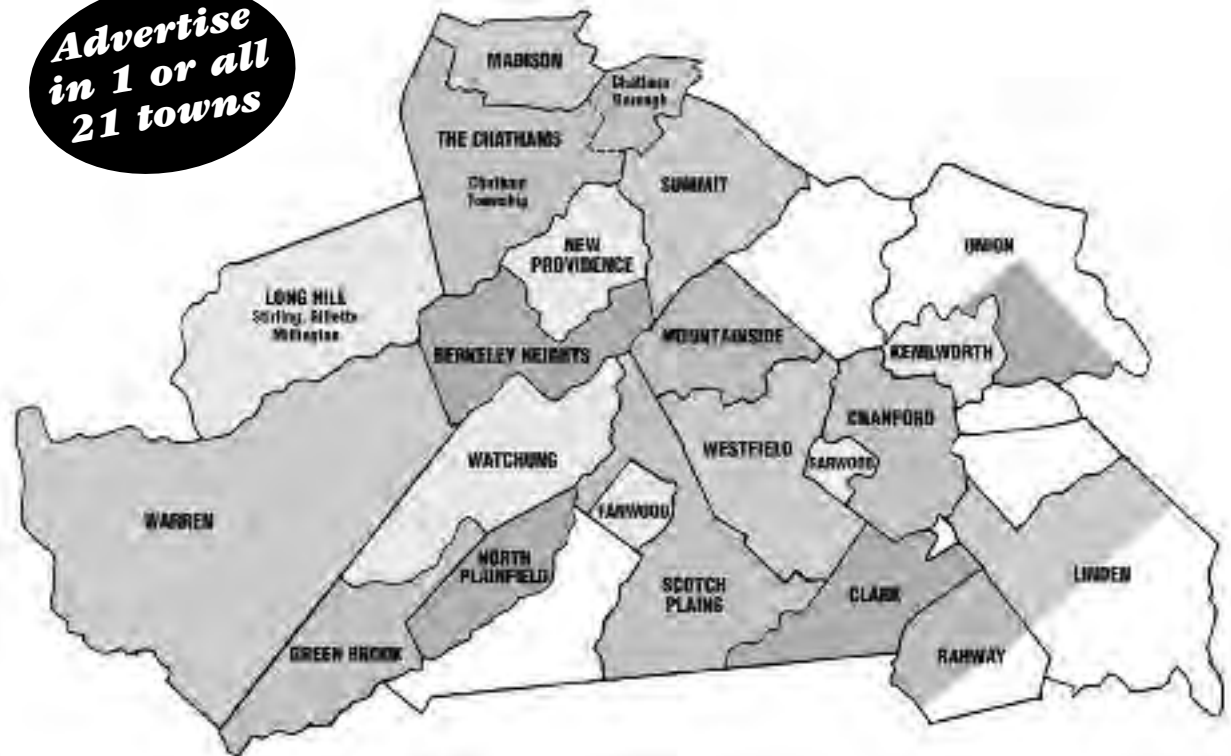
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Newspapers are black on white.

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1 Unit (Business card)	3.25" x 2"	\$60	\$150	\$250	\$350	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$550
2 Units	6.5" x 2" or 3.25" x 4"	\$100	\$250	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800	\$900
4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700
6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 14"	\$400	\$1000	\$1400	\$1800	\$2200	\$2500	\$2800	\$3000
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BOY SCOUT CHRISTMAS WREATH

Cranford's Boy Scout Troop 80
will kick off its annual
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10AM – 3PM.

Scouts will be outside of the
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Every Saturday and Sunday
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Door Wreaths: Small \$25 – Large \$45

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CRANFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS



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8 Springfield Avenue • Cranford, NJ 07016

DECEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

Santa's Mailbox will be at the inside
entrance to the Post Office on Miln and
Eastman Streets until December 18th.
Letters to Santa must have a return address.

December 9th

Breakfast with Santa at the Garlic Rose, 28
North Avenue, W. Cranford.

For reservations, which are a MUST
please call 908-276-5749.

December 16th

10:00 a.m. – Noon

Santa's arrival at

Centennial Ave. & Lincoln Ave.

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Photos with Santa at the Gazebo
on N. Union Avenue.

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Free Trolley rides around Cranford
with Santa leaving from the Gazebo.

For more information please visit

Cranford.com/chamber

or call 908-272-6114.

The Cranford Area Chamber of Commerce unites and
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Santa's Mailbox will be at the
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Leroux Blackberry	1.75L	\$19.99
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Ketel One	1.75L	\$39.01
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Majorska	1.75L	\$13.99
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Smirnoff Vodka (80 proof)	750ml	\$11.99
Smirnoff Vodka (80 proof)	1.75L	\$19.29
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Svedka (all types)	1.75L	\$19.29
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Malibu	1.75L	\$25.99

TEQUILA

Avion Silver	750ml	\$38.99
Casa Noble Silver	750ml	\$34.99
Deleon Blanco Tequila	750ml	\$29.99
Deleon Blanco Tequila	1.75L	\$59.99
Jose Cuervo	750ml	\$18.99
Jose Cuervo	1.75L	\$33.99
Patron Silver	750ml	\$39.99
Patron Silver	1.75L	\$82.29

BEER

Becks (12oz) 24pk	24pk	\$23.99
Bud and Bud Lite cans	30pk	\$21.99
Bud and Bud Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$18.99
Coors Lite (24oz) cans	12pk	\$12.99
Coors Lite/Miller Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$18.99
Coors Lite/Miller Lite	30pk	\$21.99
Corol Beer	24pk	\$17.99
Corona/Corona Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$27.99
Dab (16oz) cans	24pk	\$21.99
Heineken/Heineken Lite bottles	24pk	\$26.99
Land Shark	24pk	\$23.99
Lech (500ml)	20pk	\$26.99
Modelo Especial cans	24pk	\$24.99
New Belgium Fat Tire	24pk	\$31.99
Pabst Blue Ribbon cans	30pk	\$17.99
Pilsner Urquell	24pk	\$28.99
Sam Adams Boston Lager	24pk	\$30.99
Stella Artois loose bottles	24pk	\$26.99
Dogfish Head 60 min.	24pk	\$33.99
Yuengling Lager cans and bottles	24pk	\$17.99
Zywiec (11.2oz)	24pk	\$19.99

"Cold or warm Beer = Same Price"
"Visit the store for more In-Store Specials!"

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
HEADQUARTERS



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**1179 WEST ST. GEORGES AVE.
(RT. 27) LINDEN, NJ 07036
908-925-1770**
email: metroliquors@gmail.com
Hours: Mon. thru Sat. 9am - 10pm Sun. 12pm - 8pm



Witty's
Fine Wine and Liquors
**870 ST. GEORGES AVE.
(RT. 27) RAHWAY, NJ 07065
732-381-6776**
email: wittyswines@gmail.com
www.wittyswine.com

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VISIT THE STORE FOR MORE IN-STORE SPECIALS

WINE



Alamos Malbec	750ml	\$ 8.99
Andre (All Types).....	750ml	\$ 5.99
Apothic Red	750ml	\$ 9.29
Avalon (Cabernet Sauvignon).....	750ml	\$ 9.99
Barefoot All Types	1.5L	\$10.39
Bartenura Moscato	750ml	\$10.99
Barone Fini (Pinot Grigio).....	750ml	\$10.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	750ml	\$ 4.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	1.5L	\$ 8.69
Black Box (All Types).....	3L	\$19.99
Blackstone (All Types).....	1.5L	\$13.99
Bogle (Chardonnay and Merlot)	750ml	\$ 6.99
Bolla	1.5L	\$12.99
Caymus Napa Valley (Cabernet Sauvignon).....	750ml	\$75.99
Carlo Rossi (Chablis, Burgundy, Sangria, Blush).....	4L	\$13.99
Carnivor (Cabernet Sauvignon).....	750ml	\$10.99
Casal Garcia Vinho Verde	1L	\$ 5.99
Cavit (All Types)	1.5L	\$13.99
Chateau ste Michelle Columbia Valley Cabernet and Merlot	750ml	\$13.99
Chateau Ste. Michelle Columbia Valley Chardonnay	750ml	\$ 9.95
Chateau Ste. Michelle Columbia Valley Riesling	750ml	\$ 8.99
Clos du Bois Chardonnay	1.5 L	\$19.99
Clos du Bois Cabernet, Merlot.....	750m	\$ 9.95
Cockburns Ruby and Tawny Porto	750ml	\$10.99
Concha Y Toro Frontera	1.5L	\$ 8.99
Coppola Diamond Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot.....	750ml	\$13.99
Coppola Diamond Chardonnay	750ml	\$11.99
Corbett Canyon (All Types)	1.5L	\$ 7.99
Cupcake (All types, except Prosecco and Moscato)	750ml	\$ 8.99
Dom Perignon	750ml	\$149.99
Dreaming Tree (All Types)	750ml	\$11.99
Ecco Domani (Pinot Grigio).....	750ml	\$ 8.99
Fish Eye (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Flip Flop (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Franzia (Crisp White, Blush, Sangria, Chilable red).....	5L	\$13.99
Freixenet.....	750ml	\$ 9.99
Gato Negro (All Types)	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Gazela Vinho Verde	750ml	\$ 5.99
Ghost Pines (Merlot and Red Blend).....	750ml	\$15.99
J. Lohr Cabernet Sauvignon	750ml	\$11.99
Josh Cabernet Sauvignon.....	750ml	\$13.99
Joseph Carr Cabernet Sauvignon	750ml	\$19.99
Kendall Jackson Vintners Chardonnay	750ml	\$12.09
Kim Crawford (Sauvignon Blanc)	750ml	\$13.99
Korbel (All Types except Natural and Organic)	750ml	\$11.99
La Crema Sonoma Pinot Noir.....	750ml	\$16.99
Liberty Creek (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 7.99

Louis Jadot Beaujolais	750ml	\$ 9.99
Louis Jadot Beaujolais Villages.....	750ml	\$ 10.99
Louis Jadot Pouilly Fuisse	750ml	\$20.99
Luna di Luna (All Types).....	1.5L	\$13.99
Mark West Pinot Noir.....	750ml	\$ 9.39
Mark West Pinot Noir.....	1.5L	\$17.99
Martini & Rossi Asti	750ml	\$11.99
Menage a Trois Red	750ml	\$ 8.99
Merry Vale (Cabernet)	750ml	\$49.99
Mezzacorona Pinot Grigio.....	1.5L	\$12.99
Mi Amore Red	750ml	\$ 8.99
Moet Imperial Champagne	750ml	\$39.99
Noble Wine 337, 667.....	750ml	\$10.99
Papi (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.98
Real Sangria	1.5L	\$10.99
Rex Goliath (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select	750ml	\$ 8.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select	1.5L	\$16.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Cabernet & Merlot.....	750ml	\$15.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Chardonnay	750ml	\$11.99
Rombauer Chardonnay	750ml	\$30.99
Ruffino Chianti	750ml	\$ 7.99
Ruffino Chianti	1.5 L	\$13.99
Ruffino Pinot Grigio	1.5L	\$11.99
Ruffino Chianti Gold	750ml	\$30.99
Ruffino Tan label	750ml	\$19.99
Santa Margerita Pinot Grigio.....	750ml	\$20.29
Senor Sangria (All Types)	1.5L	\$11.99
Silver Oak Alexander Valley Cabernet	750ml	\$70.99
Simi Chardonnay.....	750ml	\$12.09
Sonoma Cutrer Chardonnay.....	750ml	\$20.99
Sutter Home (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 8.99
Tom Gore (All Types)	750ml	\$ 9.99
Woodbridge (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.99
Yago Sangria	3L	\$14.99
Yellow Tail (All Types)	1.5L	\$11.49

**VISIT THE STORE FOR
MORE IN-STORE SPECIALS**

**We specialize in
hard to find items
and custom orders,
just ask!**

10% OFF
Any purchase of
6 bottles of wine
Non sale items only. (Excludes RED & YELLOW TAG items.) Sale items do apply towards purchase requirement.

15% OFF
Any purchase of
12 bottles of wine
Non sale items only. (Excludes RED & YELLOW TAG items.) Sale items do apply towards purchase requirement.

Visit our facebook page for news of next tasting event: [facebook.com/metrolinden](https://www.facebook.com/metrolinden)

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