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MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES HONOR CRANFORD'S 86 HEROES

Cranford's Memorial Day Parade was held on Monday, May 28, 2018. The gray skies did not keep crowds from lining the parade route, and many people followed the parade to Memorial Park on Springfield Avenue where a moving ceremony showing respect to fallen American war heroes is displayed each year.

The service can be viewed on Cranford's TV 35 throughout the month of June. It can also be viewed on demand on the station's Facebook page.

This year's Grand Marshall was Cranford resident James Silkensen who served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. His service awards included being awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service. Silkensen was also awarded the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service at Ft. Belvoir, VA. He was honorably discharged on December 9, 1971 with a Good Conduct Medal.

Don Sweeney, a member of the Memorial Day Committee, and author of 'Cranford 86', a series of stories chronicling the Cranford 86 hometown heroes who perished during wartime, spoke about the new banners to be placed around Cranford which were dedicated during the ceremony. A booklet of the stories published thus far was also distributed.

The program which was led by Master of Ceremonies Barbara Bilder, Auxiliary VFW Post #335, also included music from the Cranford High School Band, an invocation from Lead Rev. Msgr. Timothy J. Shugrue, St. Michael's Church, The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Isabella Stoto, a Cranford High School student and Girl Scout Juliette and Gold Award Recipient, and musical selections were performed by the Cranford High School Madrigal Ensemble. The Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was read by Emma Donnelly, Orange Avenue School. A roll call of Cranford's war dead was read by representatives of VFW Post #335. During the placing of the wreaths Taps was played by Lucian Mahadeo and a benediction was led by Cantor Frank Lanzkron-Tamarazo, Temple Beth El Mekor Chayim.

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Cranford Monthly page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."



(above) Ray Schwartz, age 14, rode with the Cranford Police Department. Ray was sworn is an honorary police officer on May 15, 2018 during a Cranford Township Committee Meeting.

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CROSSING GUARD ROBERT BELL NAMED GRAND MARSHAL OF BAYONNE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

By Cranford Police Department

Cranford resident and former U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer Third Class (PO3), Robert T. Bell Sr. served as the Grand Marshal for the 2018 Bayonne Memorial Day Parade.

Mr. Bell was born in Bayonne in 1939 and permanently moved to Cranford in 1979.

An active member of the Catholic War Veterans Bayonne Chapter, he was chosen by his fellow veterans to be this year's Grand Marshal.

Mr. Bell graduated the Coast Guard Academy in Cape May in 1959- class F39. As part of his academy training he and his fellow recruits sailed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for training in anti-submarine warfare.

He was stationed at the following posts:

Rockland, Maine where his duties included lighthouse operations and sea rescue.

Hyannis Port, Cape Cod where he patrolled the waters around the Kennedy Compound.

And finally, Boston where he was assigned to the 311' Cutter "Humbolt". His duties once again included sea rescue.

PO3 Bell's most memorable moment was the time he and his crew came to the aid of a recreational boater who was trying to navigate

along the coast of Maine with a road map. The boater became hopelessly lost and was eight miles from his reported location. PO3 Bell and his crew quickly found the boater, gave him a proper map and a crash course in sea navigation.

His other memorable moment was discouraging Russian "fishing trawlers" from boarding abandoned radar platforms in the North Atlantic during the Cold War. These radar platforms were used by the US Air Force for surveillance and were designed after the drilling platforms in Texas, commonly known as Texas Towers. One such platform in the North Atlantic collapsed during a storm which led to a new order that the remaining platforms had to be temporarily abandoned during subsequent storms. The worry was the Russians would board these abandoned platforms and remove equipment and other sensitive materials. The responsibility to safeguard these platforms was that of the U.S. Coast Guard which was carried out in all sorts of weather.

PO3 Bell was honorably discharged from the U.S. Coast Guard in 1963. He is currently employed by the Township of Cranford as a Crossing Guard at St. Michael's School.



(above) Robert Bell is pictured here with his youngest son, Thomas Bell, a Cranford Police Officer and graduate of St. Michael's School.



(above) U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer Third Class (PO3), Robert T. Bell Sr.


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SEA SCOUTING OPEN HOUSE JUNE 9

Sea Scouting is a high-adventure branch of the Boy Scouts of America. We provide young adults with the opportunity to learn, develop new skills, and have fun while traveling aboard our 65' training vessel, the Sea Dart II. The Sea Dart II is also one of the largest Sea Scout vessels on the East Coast, which provides our program a valuable resource. The program is also an excellent path for career development, as we have had several of our members pursue successful careers in the maritime industry, US Navy, and US Coast

Guard. The Linden Sea Scouts will be hosting an open house for all prospective new members June 9, 2018, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Linden Sea Scout Base, 4400 Tremely Point Road, Linden, New Jersey. The Sea Scout program is open to male and female youth from 14- to 21-years-old. There will be free food and free boat rides for all. Please contact Skipper James Zatwarnicki at jimmyzat@gmail.com or 551-580-0008 for more information.

SUMMER YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION IS OPEN

The Union County Baseball Association invites young baseball players between the ages of 8 and 15 to register for its Summer Youth Baseball League. All games are played in Warinanco Park, on the border of Elizabeth and Roselle, Monday through Friday between 9:00am and 3:00pm. The games are coached and supervised by Union County Baseball Association staff. The season will begin in late June and end the first week of August. Players are divided into three age groups: Minor League 8-10 year olds, Major League 11-12 year olds, and Teen League 13-15 year olds. The Union County Baseball Association has added indoor clinics to the Summer League program. UCBA staff and guest Union County coaches will utilize the new state-of-the-art Warinanco Park Skating Center, which is equipped with artificial turf and indoor batting cages, to provide players weekly clinics focused on hitting, fielding, pitching, and catching. This

added benefit is included with the player registration fee. The registration fee for the Summer Baseball League is \$50 and players can register online at www.ucba-nj.org. In-person registration will also be held on June 16th and June 23rd from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Warinanco Park Boathouse. The UCBA Summer Baseball League is sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Union County Baseball Association, and the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation. About the Union County Baseball Association The Union County Baseball Association was formed in 1941 and runs a Summer Baseball League for players 8-15 years old and a Fall Baseball League for high school aged players. The league is based out of Warinanco Park, on the border of Elizabeth and Roselle. For more information about the Union County Baseball Association, please visit www.ucba-nj.org.

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Union County Baseball Association

SUMMER YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE

All games are played in Warinanco Park, Roselle, Monday through Friday between 9:00am and 3:00pm. Season runs from the end of June until the first week of August. Play is coached and supervised by UCBA staff.

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Baseball Age Groups		In-Person Registration
Minor League	8-10 year olds	Warinanco Park Boathouse
Major League	11-12 year olds	
Teen League	13-15 year olds	

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A local accounting group, LLI Advisory Group, was proud to form a team and be a part of Walk MS: Clark 2018. The walk was held on April 28, 2018, at Oak Ridge Park and featured 20 teams, 632 registered walkers, and many dogs.

LLI Advisory Group formed a team to support their co-worker, Cindy Brush, who has been bravely battling this unpredictable and often disabling disease of the central nervous system.

Calling themselves, Walkers with Calculators, LLI met in matching t-shirts and hats, and raised \$2,870.

At the end of the day, MS Walk: Clark raised \$67,712.21 to fund critical services, groundbreaking research, and to move us closer to a world free of MS. For more information or to find a walk near you can check out:

http://main.nationalmssociety.org/site/PageServer?pagename=WLK_HOM_splash



(above) LLI Advisory Group Supporting MS Walk.

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CRANFORD POLICE OFFICERS HONOR FALLEN HEROES IN UNITY TOUR

Cranford Police officers Captain Guy Patterson and Detective Derek Farbanec once again represented the township's police force on the Police Unity Tour bicycle ride to honor the sacrifices of police officers killed in the line of duty. They departed New Jersey on May 9, 2018. Officers and surviving family members of fallen officers from across the United States converged on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C. on Saturday, May 12, 2018.

The Police Unity Tour was started by Chief Patrick P. Montuore of the Florham Park Police Department, with the hope of bringing public awareness of Police Officers who died in the line of duty and to honor their sacrifices. The first event included 18 riders on a four-day fund-raising bicycle ride from Florham Park, NJ to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. Over time, the event has grown to encompass nine-chapter organizations

consisting of nearly 2500 members nationwide. In addition to officers representing 40 different states, participants have traveled to the event from Australia, Canada, England, India, Israel and Italy.

Through obtaining sponsorship and donations, officers participating in the Police Unity Tour raise funds that are donated to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF). The NLEOMF is responsible for maintaining the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C. where all officers fallen in the line of duty are engraved on the memorial's walls. Captain Patterson, Sergeant Joseph Stulpin, Officer Matthew Siessel and Officer Daniel Donnerstag participated in the May 2017 event which resulted in over 2.6 Million Dollars being donated to the NLEOMF, bringing total donations to the fund since inception to over 20 Million Dollars. The

Cranford Officers have committed to raising over \$2000.00 each through their participation in the tour. They hope to present a check to this year that is even larger than last year's total.

According to Capt. Patterson, participating in the Police Unity Tour is "a powerful opportunity to raise awareness of line of duty deaths for law enforcement officers. As we ride towards DC, we're over 450 bicycles in a mile-long procession. Everyone we pass is amazed at how many of us there are and how far we're riding. Our motorcycle escorts give out information on the tour and the memorial so people know why we're doing this." Cranford Police Chief Ryan Greco is proud of his officers' involvement in the Tour. "These officers are working very hard to not only pedal to D.C., but to ensure that our National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial remains a fitting tribute to officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice."



(above) Cranford Police officers Captain Guy Patterson and Detective Derek Farbanec represented the township's police force on the Police Unity Tour bicycle ride to honor the sacrifices of officers killed in the line of duty.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN RECEIVES HUMAN RELATIONS INTERFAITH AWARD

The First Presbyterian Church of Cranford was honored to receive the 2018 Union County Human Relations Commission Award for Clergy on May 7, 2018 during a ceremony held at Kean University.

Church members Catherine Felegi, Janice Grevious and Skip Winter were noted for their outreach to the community with their leadership and involvement in Operation Warmheart, a program for homeless men and women sponsored by the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless in Elizabeth, the FISH program, a transitional housing program for homeless families run by the FISH Hospitality Network of Piscataway and the Martin Luther King Day of Service, a program honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King, co-sponsored by the Cranford Clergy Council.

The Rev. Al Brown, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Cranford presented the award. The Rev. Chris Kile of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, accepted the award on behalf of the recipients and the congregation.



(above l, r) Rev. Caroline Unzaga, Catherine Felegi, Janice Grevious, Rev Chris Kile, Skip Winter (all of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford) and Rev. Al Brown, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Cranford and the Union County Human Relations Commission.



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MEET LIEUTENANT CHARLES ALBURY JR. WORLD WAR 2 GLIDER AVIATOR, ONE OF CRANFORD'S 86

By Don Sweeney with Jim D'Arcy Past commander VFW post 335 and Lt. Col. Steven Glazer (Ret.)

When I started the campaign to identify the faces and stories of the 86 men's names engraved in bronze at our Memorial Park, I was much less educated about the history of American wars and the brave men and women that dedicated their lives to fight in them. Now with a year and 12 stories and several hundred hours of computer research under my belt, I consider myself an amateur historian. What has amazed me is the important role that many Cranford citizens have taken in some of the largest and most important military undertakings in our nation's history. The grandeur of military actions and the planning that takes place months and years in advance of a mission is the segment that amazes me the most. Mostly all of the grand plans are considered classified and held as top secret. The individuals that will carry out the plans of attack, mostly know little or nothing about the encounter that they are about to play a major role in. The story of this month's Cranford 86 Hometown Hero Lt. Charles Albury Jr. is just one such case in point.

Charles was born in Cranford on February 11, 1921 living first at 202 North Ave. East before soon moving to the home he grew up in at 113 Eastman Street. He attended Grant School and Roosevelt School and graduated from Cranford High School in the class of 1938, the first graduating class of the new and current high school. He was member of The Episcopal Church boys' choir and an avid Boy Scout under Scout Leader Mr. Ireland. His hobbies were tennis and reading. He attended Hobart College, an all-boys school, in Geneva, NY, receiving his B.A. degree in 1942, with plans to become a teacher of history or perhaps English.

With America being fully engulfed in the world war in 1942, Charles answered his country's call to duty. He volunteered for the Army in September of 1942, and completed infantry training at Ft. Benning, Georgia in April of 1943. He married his college sweetheart, Margaret Needham just days after. Miss Needham attended William Smith College, the all-girl sister school of Hobart.

In August of 1944 he was sent to England and soon to Holland where he saw action for the first time. With glider activity in World War 2 increasing, the demand for glider pilots was high. Charles volunteered for this very risky and exciting segment of military aviation. What Charles and the other volunteers didn't know was that there was about to be an upcoming mission requiring a need for thousands of glider pilots during an invasion the likes of which had never been seen.

The march to Berlin was well underway, with successes at Normandy, The Hurtgen Forest and The Battle of the Bulge. However, the driving armies had reached a huge geographical obstacle, the Rhine River. It stood like a wall between thousands of Allied warriors in France and the Nazi headquarters in Germany's capital, Berlin. The plan was to fly over this river wall.



Lieutenant Charles Albury Jr.

Unlike the invasion on the beaches of Normandy which was supported by hundreds of offshore vessel and thousands of amphibious landing crafts, this invasion was to be accomplished with hundreds of aircraft, thousands of paratroopers and over 1500 gliders needing 2 pilots each. This need for more than 3000 pilots required the screening of nearly 4000 candidates; Lt. Charles Albury was one of those candidates.

The history of glider use in WW2 is interesting to me. I think it's worth a minute to share the basic idea. Glider technology actually was started by the Germans in 1940; the Americans took the idea and improved on it. During the war in total 14,612 gliders were built and used, ranging in size from 8, 15, 30 and the largest a 45-seater. Along with troops, they could also carry jeeps and light artillery. Mostly manufactured by The Waco Aircraft Company, many however, were made by Ford Motor Co., Cessna Aircraft Co. as well as a furniture company, a piano manufacturer and oddly enough, a coffin manufacturer. The later manufacturer was the source of one of the more colorful nicknames of the gliders, "Flying Coffins". Glider pilots wore a unique set of wings on their uniform similar to traditional aviator's wings, except on the center of the wings was a "G", for glider, the pilots claimed it stood for guts.

The gliders were pulled to the air by C-46 or C-47 transport planes and after release, the defenseless glider would fly silently through the night air into enemy territory. They would set down on fields hopefully undetected. Unlike

paratrooper jumps that would drop a military unit scattered across a large area without any armaments, a glider could land in a specific area allowing a unit to quickly organize and set out on their mission with jeeps, ammunition and light artillery. After landing, the gliders were left behind never to be used again, the pilots would then become part of the military unit, taking part in the mission until reaching a rallying point, where they were transported back. With the end of WW2 being only two months away, this would be the last mass use of gliders in modern warfare. Gliders while being an effective militarily tool, were extremely dangerous and accounted for many casualties from crash landings often in the dark of night. The insertion of helicopters in The Korean War made the perilous gliders fortunately obsolete.

As fate would have it, our Hometown hero experienced the danger of glider warfare first hand. On December 12, 1944 at the age of 23, while training in Newbury, England, Charles volunteered for a test flight in a glider which for reasons unknown, crashed killing all on board. He was buried with full military honors at Cambridge American Cemetery in England. In 1948 his body was returned to American soil, he is now buried near Phelps NY.

On March 24th 1945 his classmates went on to be part of Operation Plunder, the largest single day airborne drop in history. Several hundred aircraft carrying 16,000 paratroopers and 1050 troop-carrier C-46 and C-47s towing 1350 gliders moved 7,220 personnel and munitions to the east side of the Rhine River in a successful mission. This was their last hurdle to crush the already damaged 3rd Reich. Hitler, seeing the end of his rampage was nearing, took his own life on April 30, 1944. A week later on May 7th, General Eisenhower accepted the unconditional surrender of the German Army from German Col. General Alfred Jodi in Reims, France. The war was over.

A side note of interest was mentioned in a handwritten biography of Albury that is on file in the Cranford Historic Society's archives. The Albury family migrated from Newbury, England to the Bahamas in 1740. To their knowledge no family member had ever returned to their English hometown. Ironically Newbury was the site of the crash taking his life.

Charles Albury's wife Margaret gave birth to a baby girl on February 5, 1945. Born almost two months after her father's death, her name was Margaret Charles Albury. Besides his wife and baby, who moved to Phelps, NY, Lt. Albury left a father Charles Albury Sr., his mother Mabelle, an older sister Betty and a younger brother Ronald Graham Albury, who was a junior in Cranford High School at the time. Ronald later became an Episcopal Rector at The Church of The Holy Cross in N. Plainfield.

Lieutenant Charles Albury Jr. was a great American and one of our Cranford 86 Hometown Heroes.

CHARLES ALBURY JR. IMAGES



A Waco glider
with a howitzer 75 mm spiral cannon on



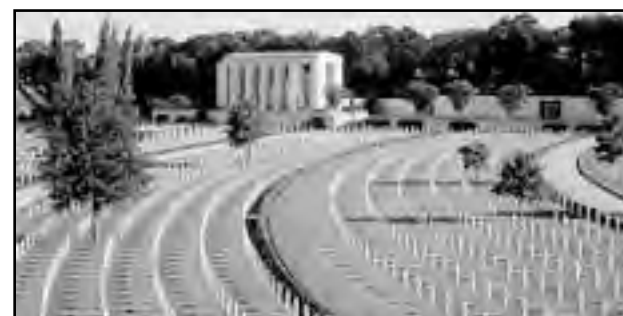
The simple cockpit of a WW2 glider



Gliders and C-47 transports
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JAYCEES GOLF OUTING 2018

Submitted by Sean Gorman

The Cranford, New Jersey Junior Chamber of Commerce ("Jaycees") will be hosting its 12th Annual Golf Outing on June 22, 2018 at the Galloping Hill Golf Course, Kenilworth, New Jersey. The Cranford Jaycees are an all-volunteer, non-profit 501(c)3 organization that has had the pleasure of serving the Cranford community for over 50 years. Jaycees' sponsored fundraising events over the years have afforded opportunities to support efforts such as: education, health and wellness, our local first responders, military veterans, youth and recreational activities, the arts, and environmental conservation and preservation to name a few.

Each year the Jaycees' golf outing looks to benefit "needing" organizations within the community. Each year we aspire to enrich our community by giving back to such organizations so that they may continue their fine works. This year, the golf outing will be proudly supporting two deserving entities: a) the Cranford Baseball and Softball League Inc. (proceeds offered will be used for field renovation projects that will enhance the safety of play for our youth); and b) the Union County Educational Services Commission (UCESC) which operates a Work Readiness Academy by providing educational and vocational skills training programs for young adults (ages 16 to 21) with disabilities (i.e., Autism Spectrum Disorder). The Work Readiness Academy, which has an 80 percent job placement

rate, partners with various local businesses to host job shadowing and internship opportunities for students with disabilities. The outing's host course, Galloping Hill Golf Course, recognized by the UCESC as an internship location, offers learning experiences for students on both golf operations and within the restaurant and banquet facility alike. By addressing these organizations' "needs" today, we hope to afford an opportunity to "kindle" the spark of imagination for our youth tomorrow. 'We Believe!' that when our youth are afforded opportunity, their inspiration and perspiration will overcome challenges and yield the solutions for tomorrow.

Following the round of golf, there will be a banquet that will feature both a silent auction and a raffle with many great prizes available for consideration. For those participating in the golf outing including our generous donors and sponsors, we offer our sincerest thanks and gratitude. While the outing is currently sold out, there are other ways you can participate and support the event to help us raise funds for these organizations. One can attend the after-round banquet (\$40) and participate in our silent auction and raffle, or companies can be a sponsor at our outing in various ways (hole sponsorship, beverage cart sponsorship, etc.).

Please contact the Outing's committee at golfouting@cranfordjaycees.org for more information.

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For further information on this event please contact Brian Bender at golfouting@cranfordjaycees.org

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(above, l-r) Lilian Rebelo and Valarie Beckford, both of Cranford, as Ana and her grandmother in "Ana y las langostas"



(above) Lilian Rebelo as Ana in "Ana y las langostas" in last summer's Hispanic Theatre Festival at the CDC Theatre in Cranford.

AUDITIONS FOR CDC THEATRE'S HISPANIC THEATRE FESTIVAL

Submitted by Joel Redmount

Spanish-language theatre is alive and well in New Jersey. For the second straight year, the CDC Theatre will feature its Hispanic Theatre Festival (or, as it prefers to be known, its Festival de Teatro Hispanico) for four performances July 26 to 28, 2018.

Despite a large and vibrant Hispanic population of 1.2 million in the state, the creators of this event recognized that there are no Spanish-language plays being performed on an ongoing basis that cater to that community in central New Jersey. As far as the Theatre world is concerned, the beauty of the language and the richness of the Hispanic heritage is simply being ignored. Families that want to attend live theatre, do so exclusively in English. Children grow up never hearing Spanish on the stage.

Last summer, the CDC Theatre, the longest continuously-running Community theatre in New Jersey, bridged that gap by mounting the premiere Hispanic Theatre Festival. It featured two one-act plays: "Ana y las langostas (Ana and the Locusts)" by Argentine playwright Alicia Dolinsky and "Bony y Kin (Bony & Kim)" by Puerto Rican Carlos Canales. The casts were filled with local Spanish-speaking actors from Plainfield, Cranford, Union, Edison, and Linden, as well as more distant communities such as Jersey City, Perth Amboy and Fords. They represented various places of national heritage from Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Puerto Rico and Honduras.

The play being showcased this season is "Bar Manolo," a full-length comedy by European playwright Jean-Pierre Martinez. The story unfolds in a friendly, comfortable bar that happens to be across from a cemetery, and the bar owner, Manolo, relies on a steady stream of customers looking for a little respite from the activities across the street. This particular afternoon features the interplay of two philosophical funeral workers, a professor who

may or may not be having an affair with one of his students, a flooded basement, a damaged coffin, a misplaced cell phone, a lost lottery ticket, a waitress frustrated with her bad luck with online dating, a befuddled old lady and a host of other characters, all of whom Manolo greets with a friendly smile and an offer of watered-down cognac.

Auditions for the nine adult roles will be held at the CDC Theatre, 78 Winans Avenue, Cranford from 8 to 10 p.m. on Sunday, June 10, and Monday, June 11. The production is looking for men and women of various ages. Spanish fluency is not necessary, but comfort in the language is a must. Bar Manolo will be directed by Joel Redmount of Scotch Plains, who founded and continues to produce the Hispanic Theatre Festival.

Performances will take place at the CDC Theatre on Thursday July 26, Friday July 27 and Saturday July 28, all at 8 p.m., with a matinee performance on Saturday July 28 at 2 p.m. Knowing it wouldn't truly be a Festival without appropriate music and food, the Producers of the event are looking to provide complementary refreshments on Opening Night, in the spirit of the evening.

And while the CDC Theatre is looking to tap into the underserved Spanish-speaking audience throughout our geographic region, they extend an invitation also to those non-Spanish speakers who may be intrigued by the multicultural nature of this Theatre Festival. The CDC looks forward to exploring the richness of la cultura Latina, as reflected in plays that mirror the pride, the drama and comedy of the human experience, as showcased through a Spanish language lens.

Tickets will be available for purchase in July through the website cdctheatre.org or available at the box office prior to each performance. Further information will also be provided on the website.

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FUNDRAISER BRUNCH FOR COMMUNITY CENTER'S NEW WATER GARDEN

Submitted by Brenda Flahault

A waterfall, flowing pond and aquatic plants will beautify the Cranford Community Center (CCC) atrium and provide a bubbling, relaxing sound for everyone to enjoy. Construction will start this spring. The water feature will be located on the left side of the atrium near the fireplace and will restore the current dormant water garden built in 2009.

Cranford's three garden clubs: The Floraphile Garden Club, the Garden Club of Cranford, and the Green Thumb Garden Club of Cranford, under the direction of Chairperson Deb Murphy,

had applied to the National Garden Clubs (NGC) for funds for the project, and received a "Plant America" grant to get started, the only NGC grant awarded to garden clubs in New Jersey. The three clubs have been collaborating with Cranford Recreational Director Steve Robertazzi since February to design the new water garden.

The pond will be constructed by Robert Bellek of Lily Pad Ponds, an award-winning, creative aquatic designer and frequent speaker at Rutgers University's horticultural programs, and will include trickling water, a pond with water lilies, lighting, assorted woodland plants and stone.

The local community can help support this project by attending a delicious, elaborate gourmet brunch buffet at the Pairings Palate and Plate restaurant at 10 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey, on Sunday June 10, 2018, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. BYO Prosecco/Wine. Tickets: \$55 per person. Contact Sue Matlosz at CRANFORDWATERGARDEN@gmail.com to purchase or buy at the front desk at the Cranford Public Library at 224 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey. Seating is limited so please do not delay reserving your tickets.



(above) Members of the Floraphile Garden Club, the Garden Club of Cranford, and the Green Thumb Garden Club of Cranford, along with Township employees, work at the CCC preparing for the new water garden feature installation.

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R U SMARTER THAN A 5TH GRADER ANNUAL EVENT 2018

Submitted by Jamie Miller

The Cranford Rotary recently held its ninth annual R U Smarter Than a Cranford/Garwood 5th Grader Event. Representing Cranford were students and parents from Brookside Place School, Hillside Avenue School, Livingston Avenue School, Orange Avenue School, and Walnut Avenue School. Representing Garwood were parents and students from the Lincoln School.

The questions focused on the subject matter the fifth graders were currently studying in school which ranged from math and science to art, geography, and literature. The goal of the event is to provide a game like environment for each school to study current curriculum. All the students received team tee shirts with different colors representing different schools. Each school also received \$200 from Cranford rotary to be used toward any current project. There were

several door prizes given out along with honorariums for the participating teachers and principals for all the work and effort they put into making this event the success it has become.

The Cranford Rotary would like to particularly thank Dr. Scott Rubin, Superintendent of Cranford Schools and Mr. Michael Klimco, Principal of the Brookside Place School for coordinating the event. Additional thanks go out to fellow principals and associates Mr. Kevin Deacon, Dr. Curt Fogas, Mr. Marc Edery, Ms. Jennifer Santa, Mr. Steve Van Dam and Ms. Michele Cammarata, Executive Secretary to the Board of Education. This is the third year that the students from Garwood's Lincoln School have participated in the event and that is due to the tireless efforts of Mrs. Mary Emmons, its principal, and the support of the Garwood Superintendent, Dr. Teresa Quigley.

This event would not be possible without the financial support of the Cranford Rotary and its outstanding sponsors. Special Thanks goes to Ms. Carmen Rivera, VP of Business Development and the Investors Bank Foundation for its \$3,000 donation to the event.

In addition, we'd like to also thank our tee shirt sponsors Bruce Bergen; Brookside Place School PTA; Cranford Gas Light Heating and Air Conditioning; David del Vecchio, architect; Feder Insurance Services; Flynn Advisory Group; Garretson Financial-Jamie Miller; Goodman Realty; JEC Consultants; the Kilkenny House - Barry O'Donovan; Livingston Avenue PTA; Joe Starkey, Cranford Rotary; Kathy Willis, Cranford Family Care; and Think D'Sign Print.

It was a fun night for all, delightfully emceed by Bernie Wagenblast and photographed by Kevin Papa.



(above) Cranford Rotary Presents 'R U Smarter Than a 5th Grader'

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ANNUAL TOWN-WIDE BBQ PHOTO ALBUM CAN BE FOUND ONLINE

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Cranford Monthly page on facebook.com Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."



(above) The Cranford Municipal Alliance's Annual town-wide BBQ was held on Sunday May 20, 2018. The free, fun-filled afternoon offered food and fun activities and prizes for the kids, including free raffle prizes, dunk tank, live music, and face painting.



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LIBRARY BOOK CELLAR SALE

Looking for some good reading at bargain prices? The Friends of the Cranford Public Library invite you to visit their used book sale in the Cranford Public Library's Friendly Book Cellar on Wednesday, June 6, 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, June 7 and 8, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, June 9, 2018, 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Items for sale include more than 10,000 adult and children's books, as well as CDs, DVDs, and recorded books. Prices range from 25 cents to \$2, except for a few specially marked items. Saturday is Bag Day; fill a bag with books for just \$8. The library is located at 224 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey. Entrance to the sale is through the side door, just off the main parking lot. The sale is wheelchair accessible. Proceeds benefit the library. For more information about the Friends of the Cranford Public Library, go to cranfordlibrary.org and click on "Friends of the Library."



CRANFORD JULY 4TH 2018 EVENTS

Cranford's July 4th activities are as follows:
9 a.m.

*Cane Races at the Canoe Club and
Firecracker Four Miler at Nomahegan Park.*
2 p.m.

Rides and games at Nomahegan Park.
9:15 p.m.

Fireworks at Nomahegan Park.
For more information, call the Cranford
Recreation & Parks Department
at 908-709-7283.

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Email: library@cranfordnj.org • Web: cranford.com/library

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.

Looking for a way to keep your child engaged in learning over the summer months?

Enroll in the Cranford Public Library's annual Summer Reading Program. This year's theme is "Libraries Rock," and there are plenty of ways to get involved.

Children are able to earn a new prize each week by tracking the amount of time they spend reading or being read to each day. This year's prizes, generously donated by local businesses, include a cone at Dairy Queen, a summer of bowling at Linden Lanes, and tickets to a Somerset Patriots game. Stop by the library
from June 16 to July 28

to register. Every child who reports any amount of time to us is invited to our annual Summer Reading Carnival, happening on

Thursday, August 16 from 9 a.m. to noon
with a rain date of August 17.

In addition to logging reading, the library runs weekly programs for children of all ages.

Preschoolers can join us
every Monday morning at 10:15
from June 25 to August 6

for an Enhanced Story Time. This story time, for children ages 3 to 5 and a caregiver, will help build essential pre-reading skills using stories and song. Registration is not required, but we ask that participants arrive on time as we may be unable to accommodate latecomers.

Each Wednesday evening, the library hosts an all ages family program featuring a different professional performer

Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.
in the Community Center's A/V Room (please note: the July 17 session will be held in room 200 of the Community Center). This year, the library will welcome musicians, magicians, live animals, and more. Free tickets can be picked up in the library up to two weeks before each event.

The library will be open on Saturdays in the summer and will be hosting a few special events.

Music Therapist Joyce Alexander, an exceptional early literacy instructor, will be leading two sessions of a music program
on July 14.

Joyce will lead a short, small-group session for children with special needs and a caregiver from 10:30 to 10:55 a.m., followed by a longer session for a larger group from 11 to 11:45 a.m. that is open to everyone.

Registration can be done by phone or in the Children's Department up to two weeks before the program.

Students in grades 4 to 6 are invited to an Ice Cream Social on June 25 at 3 p.m., where they'll help determine the following six weeks' worth of activities. Potential projects include stop-motion animation, slime making, robot projects, and more. Have your voice heard.

No registration required.

Children in grades 1 to 3 will have a program of their own

every Tuesday from 3:30 to 4:30.

Each week will focus on a new music-based activity. Participants will learn dance moves from around the world, write "shape songs," learn clapping games, engineer instruments, play musical games, create jingles, and much more. Registration is not required, with the exception of the July 17 session, when space is limited but participants are asked to arrive on time as we may be unable to accommodate latecomers.

Babies and toddlers

ages 3-months to 2-years and a caregiver are invited to join us Music & Movement Story Time
every Thursday from June 28 to
August 2 at 10:15 a.m.

This short, lively story time features fun stories and songs. We'll also be hosting an outdoor session of this story time at Sherman Park on August 9, look for us in the shade.

BEE DAY AT HANSON PARK JUNE 23

Submitted by Jenna Doscher

Please join the Hanson Park Conservancy on June 23rd for Bee Day at Hanson Park! At 2 p.m. Grant Stiles from Stiles Honey will be sharing his knowledge of bees with his presentation, "Fundamentals of Beekeeping and the Importance of Honey Bees in Our Society." Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy the beautiful surroundings as Mr. Stiles answers your questions about these important pollinators. He is a Certified Master Beekeeper and owns one of the most successful apiaries in the New York/New Jersey area, with Stiles Honey currently managing over 4000 honeybee colonies a year. Mr. Stiles will also be selling his honey.

Then at 3:15 p.m. it's Story Time at the Park. We will continue the theme with books about bees. This is a free event and recommended for

ages 8 and under, but anyone is welcome to stay and enjoy a story. No need to register, just show up! At 3:45 p.m. we will be making a bee craft. Get ready to have some fun with pipe cleaners and clothespins; and take home a little bee of your own!

Hanson Park is located at 38 Springfield Ave. in Cranford, New Jersey. Bee Day is free and open to the public. In the event of inclement weather, we will be relocating to the Cranford Community Center at 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford. Bee Day is sponsored by the Hanson Park Conservancy, a non-profit group dedicated to developing and maintaining Hanson Park and providing the community with educational programs and workshops. To learn more, please visit our website, hansonparkconservancy.com.

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DAISY TROOP 4097 TRIP TO DREYER FARMS

Submitted by Alexandra Paulyson

Cranford Daisy Troop 40967 had a fun time celebrating Earth Day at Dreyer Farms, Cranford, New Jersey! Miss Justine gave the troop a private tour of the fields, greenhouses, nursery, and as a

special treat, showed the troop how the doughnut machine works! The girls were educated about the importance of the farm and the impact it has on the environment.



(above) Cranford Daisy Troop 40967 celebrating Earth Day at Dreyer Farms.

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CRANFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS

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JUNE EVENTS - 2018

Downtown Cranford - Car Show - 5:00pm

June 13th - Wednesday - 5:30-9:00pm

Music - Hula Hoop Contests - Awards & More
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Business Block Party

Monday - June 18th - 5:30-7:30pm

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RSVP: cranford.com/chamber or call

908 272 6114 for all events.

The Cranford Area Chamber of Commerce unites and energizes the business community to improve members' success by providing networking, educational opportunities, encouraging business and community development.

The Cranford Knights of Columbus (KOC) recently welcomed Cranford Police Chief Ryan Greco for a Meet and Greet before the start of the General Meeting. Chief Greco shared his vision for the department and held a Q&A session for all Knights present at the Meeting. As a token of their appreciation, the Council gave Chief Greco an American Flag that was flown over the Capitol in Washington DC certified by Congressman Leonard Lance.

The Cranford Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Fraternal Organization dedicated to our Four Core Principles, Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. The Cranford Council supports many charities and civic causes locally, state-wide and nationally committed to be a viable part of our Community. For information about joining the Council, please contact Membership Chair John Caprio at 732-306-5634 or visit cranfordknights.org.



(above, l-r) Grand Knight Wally Shackell presenting Chief Greco with the American Flag.

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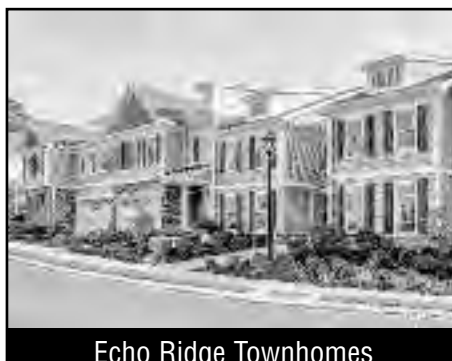
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