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HALLOWEEN SOUP AND CHILI FEST SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26



(above) The Cranford United Methodist Church will host a Halloween Soup and Chili Fest on Saturday, October 26, 2019, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Cranford United Methodist Church will host a Halloween Soup and Chili Fest on Saturday, October 26, 2019, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

There's nothing quite like a bowl of steaming soup or chili on a nippy Fall day to make you feel warm and cozy. Back by popular demand, eight fabulous homemade soups and chilis will be available for take-out at the church on October 26.

Everyone knows the soups at the church's annual Christmas Shoppe and Soup Fest are out of this world. No need to wait until December! Now is your opportunity to get some of those soups to take home. No cooking, no mess, just enjoy some of the best soups in town.

Pints and Quarts of a variety of soups and chilis will be available for \$5 and \$9 each. Options include chili, tomato basil, chicken noodle, potato cheddar (with bacon), potato cheddar (no bacon), butternut squash, turkey vegetable, and vegetarian pasta veggie.

To avoid being disappointed that your favorite soup is sold out, advance orders are crucial. Download the order form from our website (cranfordumc.com), fill it in, enclose your check payable to CUMC and mail it to:

Issue 71 • October 2019

Cranford United Methodist Church,

Soup Sale,

201 Lincoln Ave. East, Cranford, NJ 07016.

Pre-paid advance orders will be available for pick up the morning of October 26. Pre-paid advance orders must be received by mail or drop off in the church office by Monday, October 21. However, you do not have to order in advance walk-ins are welcome too. (Tip: arrive early!)

Orders can be picked up on Saturday, October 26 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the kitchen of the church's education building at 201 Lincoln Avenue, corner of Walnut and Lincoln Avenues, Cranford. There is plenty of free parking.

Questions? Please call Angela at 908-276-0936 or send an email to office@cranfordumc.com.



CRANFORD MONTHLYNJ

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Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (accomplishment, honor, award, etc.). Do you have an event that you need help publicizing? Then send Cranford Monthly your news!

Call: 908-858-4012 Fax: 908-709-9209 Email: editor@rennamedia.com

VISIT CRANE-PHILLIPS HOUSE MUSEUM DURING "FOUR CENTURIES IN A WEEKEND"

The Cranford Historical Society's Crane-Phillips House Museum will once again participate in Union County's annual program, "Four Centuries in a Weekend". The museum will be open Saturday, October 19 from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 20 from 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.

This year's theme is "Saving The Past and Moving Forward to Technology of the Present." Visitors will see how implements in the kitchen and throughout the house have evolved through technology and pictures will be at each implement showing the technology of today. All the inventions of the past are hands on to all who would like to try them to see what it was like to do household chores, etc. Also, Trustees and Volunteers will be on hand to give a tour of each room in this unique living museum.

The Crane-Phillips House Museum is available as our own local history museum through the hard work of volunteers and members of the Cranford Historical Society. It has received generous support from the

The Cranford Historical Society's Crane-Cranford Historical Society, Union County, nillips House Museum will once again Cranford citizens and the Township of Cranford.

> Various materials about the weekend-long self-guided tour are available from the Office of Union County Cultural and Heritage Affairs. Materials will also be at many of the sites. A booklet features photos and information about each site with a map showing the location. For further information about Union County's Four Centuries in a Weekend program, please call Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at 908-558-2550.

> The Crane-Phillips House Museum located at 124 North Union Avenue in Cranford is open the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from September through May from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. or by appointment. Admission is free. Founded in 1927, the Cranford Historical Society's mission is to preserve and perpetuate the history of Cranford.

To see the rest of our schedule, please visit our website at cranfordhistoricalsociety.com or call our office at 908-276-0082.





Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com



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IS IT TIME TO BUY OR SELL?

2019 Year to Date Cranford Real Estate Activity

Average Homes Sold Per Month	21
Average Original Listing Price	\$502,305
Average Sale Price	\$484,357
Average Days on Market	40

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CRANFORD'S ANNUAL DUCKY DERBY RETURNS

Hanson Park Conservancy's 9th Annual Rubber Ducky Derby is scheduled once again for Sunday, October 13, 2019 at 4 p.m. On race day, over one-thousand individually numbered rubber ducks will be released in the Rahway River at Sperry Park, Cranford NJ and tumble over the falls racing to the finish line at the North Union Ave Bridge. Numerous prizes for the fastest lucky duckies will be awarded. The top prize is a \$250 gift card.

Ducks can be purchased at two locations:

Periwinkles, on North Union Avenue downtown Cranford, or the Cranford Canoe Club on Springfield Ave. Purchase a single Duck for \$5 or a flock of 5 ducks for \$20. Please secure your tickets early as ducks are limited, and the race has been known to sell out.

All proceeds benefit Hanson Park maintenance and educational programs. If you have not yet walked through this lovely little park, please visit this hidden gem located at 38 Springfield Ave.

Have you got your Ducky?



(above) Over one-thousand individually numbered rubber ducks will be released in the Rahway River for the 9th Annual Rubber Ducky Derby on Sunday, October 13, 2019 at 4 p.m.







Illustration by Frank Schoonovere



THE CRANFORD 86 56-PAGE BOOKLET AND AWARENESS CAR MAGNET ARE AVAILABLE FOR A DONATION

Please help us to fund our continuing mission to tell the stories and see the faces of all 86 Hometown Heroes.

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A HALLOWEEN STORY IS A GIFT TO CRANDORD

Submitted by Bill Snyder

I have been a Cranford resident for over thirty-five years. About 20 years ago I got a call from Dianne Maher, another long time resident, who had this wonderful idea of creating a fundraiser for the High School that would involve turning our old and beautiful school into a haunted house. What lover of Halloween would not jump at the chance. We created a unique Halloween event at Cranford High School we enthusiastically named Happy Hauntings! Beginning in October 1999 and performing every Halloween since, Senior students prepared for the class fundraiser by transforming the high school halls into a haunted mansion, school, horrible hospital, masquerade ball, or ghostly graveyard, and on the Friday and Saturday evenings before Halloween, presented haunted tours! The community embraced the shows and continue to twenty years later. We were involved in the Senior Class project for fourteen years. Every year was a different theme with its own unique storyline. Happy Hauntings is a Cranford tradition that takes place rain, shine, or fog! We would love to honor the project we proudly started so many years ago.

Once we left Happy Hauntings we continued our creative relationship by working together on a radio show and most recently decided to try our hand at writing. Together we wrote three stories. The second story we wrote "The Spector Of Cranford" is a short Halloween story as tribute to Happy Hauntings. We combined parts of past shows with the true haunted history Cranford shares with the actual American Revolutionary War and events that happened on real streets in Cranford, Gallows Hill Road and Brookside Place!

We are hoping to share our fictitious character, Anna Strong, a voracious reader of Revolutionary War stories and a current member of the Senior class at Cranford High School, who gets all turned on about when she learns she is distantly related to a revolutionary patriot....who is currently haunting Anna's dreams! Her experience is quite real, and we believe the story will catch the imaginations of many who love a good Halloween story!

Dianne and I viewed Happy Hauntings as our gift to our community. It is in this same light of a gift that we present "The Specter Of Cranford." Unfortunately, it will be our last gift to Cranford. My friend, writing partner and muse Dianne Maher died on August 12, 2019, not long after the story was completed. Below is the link to the story. I know I speak for both of us when I say that we hope you enjoy it. Happy Hauntings!

Read story online here: www.wattpad.com/784876807-the-specter-of-cranford



















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CRANFORD'S GREAT PUMPKIN CARVE OUT RETURNS FOR SIXTH YEAR CARVED PUMPKIN CONTEST AND DISPLAY AND MOVIE; FOR ALL AGES

Jersey Central Art Studio, with support from the Cranford Jaycees, will host the sixth annual 2019 Great Pumpkin Carve Out on Saturday, October 19th, 2019, (Saturday, October 26th rain date). For updates check jcas.org. All the activities will take place at Hanson Park, 38 Springfield Avenue in Cranford, NJ. The pumpkin carving contest is a free event and is open to all ages. Individuals can drop off their creatively carved pumpkins from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Hanson Park at 38 Springfield Ave, Cranford on Saturday October 19th along with a completed registration form (also available on site).

Everyone is invited to come to Hanson Park from 6 p.m. -9 p.m. to stroll along the pumpkin lighted garden paths to see the carved pumpkins on display, each on its own pedestal. Cash awards will be given for funniest, scariest, and most original and will be grouped by ages; 4-8, 9-16 and 17 and up.

In addition, a big screen outdoor double feature will be shown featuring the classic, Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein. Bring your blankets. The movie, stroll and contest are all free and hot cider will be available for purchase.

JCAS is a group of artists and citizens



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dedicated to raising awareness of the arts and the artistic process as well as integrating the arts into the community through education, events and economic development. We see art as a vital component to our lives and one that will also enrich our community.



CARI LOPEZ NAMED NEW LIVINGSTON AVENUE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Cranford Board of Education is pleased to announce Cari Lopez as the new principal of Livingston Avenue School. Mrs. Lopez was selected after an extensive search process which included multiple interviews with selection committees (superintendent, asst. superintendent, parents, administrators, and teachers), reviews of work samples, and a very thorough reference check.

Mrs. Lopez began her educational career as a fourth-grade teacher in North Brunswick at Livingston Park Elementary School. During her twelve years as a fourth-grade teacher, she served as grade level leader, gifted and talented lead teacher and the summer academy lead teacher. She was also involved in many district-wide committees including language arts, cultural awareness, and the curriculum writing and revision committee. Mrs. Lopez also served as the district representative to Kean University's Diversity Council and met with educators throughout the state to help promote cultural awareness and reduce prejudice in schools. In addition, she had the honor of joining a panel of superintendents as a teacher representative with Governor Christie to discuss changes in education. She then moved into administration as an instructional dean at Parsons Elementary School in North Brunswick. Among her many duties, she served as the anti-bullying

specialist and led efforts in promoting socialemotional learning. Over the course of four years, she worked to establish restorative practices to effectively handle discipline in the school. Her proudest accomplishment during her time at Parsons was starting a non-tenured teacher support group where teachers received timely and meaningful professional development while building collaborative and supportive relationships.

In January 2019, Mrs. Lopez was hired as an assistant principal at Martin Luther King Elementary School and Washington Elementary School in Edison Township. During her short time in Edison, she built positive relationships with all stakeholders and implemented initiatives that focused on the social and emotional well-being of students, while also enhancing the academic program.

Mrs. Lopez attended Rutgers University for both her undergraduate and graduate education. She began as a nutrition major on Cook Campus and then switched to education.

Mrs. Lopez lives in North Brunswick with her husband, Will, and daughters, Stella and Lucy. She is very excited to be named the new principal of Livingston Avenue School and looks forward to working collaboratively with parents/guardians, students, and staff to ensure the success of the Livingston Avenue School community.



If your home is currently listed with another real estate broker, please disregard this advertisement. It is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other real estate brokers.

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(above) A final show will be performed at Eastman Clock Plaza Park at 5:30 p.m.



3RD ANNUAL CRANFORD PORCHFEST

On October 12th, 2019, Cranford is going to kick off its 3rd annual Porchfest with bands rocking and rolling all over town. Ten homes will host three bands each, starting at two in the afternoon until 5:00 p.m. Bands will play music from a variety of genres and most are New Jersey locals to boot!

Some folks traipse from one porch to another checking out their favorite bands while others park themselves with friends on a single lawn for

three hours of live music.

Following the porch performances, there will be a final show at the Eastman Clock Plaza Park. The 5:30 p.m. performance provides a great opportunity to gather with the Cranford community and take advantage of the great shops and restaurants in town.

To find out more about Porchfest performances, or how you can volunteer, visit cranfordporchfest.wixsite.com/porchfest.



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FRIDAY - SATURDAY Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm

Lunch 11am	- 3:30pm
Adult	\$8.59
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SUNDAY ALL DAY DINNER 11am / 10nm

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CRANFORD FIRST AID SQUAD ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Julianne Hodgkins, President

The Cranford First Aid Squad fundraising letter has been mailed to all Cranford residents.

It is a surprisingly common misconception that the First Aid Squad is part of the Cranford Township and that it is funded by tax dollars. This is not the case.

The Cranford First Aid Squad is an all volunteer, independent non-profit agency which

must raise all its own funding for its operation. We own and maintain our building and ambulances. It is an expensive undertaking.

We responded to 1044 calls in 2018. Our average response time is approximately 1 minute 40 seconds. We transported nearly 700 patients to 11 different facilities. We do not and never have billed our patients. Please take the time to make a donation. We are extremely cost conscious and can only operate through the generosity of each of you. Any amount is greatly appreciated.

Your tax-deductible donation can be mailed to: Cranford First Aid Squad 6 Centennial Ave.

Cranford NJ 07016



(above) Members of the Cranford First Aid Squad during National Night Out 2019.



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CALVARY CHURCH THANKS COMMUNITY FOR HELPING SHOE COLLECTION









More than 700 pairs of shoes were donated on Sunday, September 15, 2019, at Calvary Lutheran Church. All shoes will go to Soles4Souls, a nonprofit organization working to end global poverty. Soles4Souls also helps victims of disasters, like those impacted by Hurricane Dorian. The shoe collection was an overwhelming success thanks to the congregation, community members, Calvary Nursery School and Child Care families and members of the Christian Education Program at the First United Methodist Church of Westfield.

Calvary collected shoes as part of a Climate Fair which focused on ways to better take care of God's earth. The church also collected 1400 plastic shopping bags for recycling. Everyone who turned in plastic bags got a reusable Calvary bag in exchange.

The Climate Fair was Calvary's way of engaging in service on "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday, a day set aside by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) for members to make a positive change in their community.

Calvary Lutheran Church is located at 108 Eastman Street in Cranford. For more information about our congregation and opportunities to worship call the office at 908-276-2418 or go to calvarycranford.com. More information about the ELCA is available at ELCA.org. You can learn more about the good work done by Soles4Souls at soles4souls.org.

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LIGHTS, CAMERA AND 1940S ACTION IN CRANFORD

by Stu Rosenthal

For two nights, towards the end of this summer, downtown Cranford was briefly teleported to the early 1940s for a fictional political rally. Cranford was chosen to depict a New Jersey town which was the site of The Plot Against America, a forthcoming HBO miniseries based on a novel of the same name. It offers an 'alternative' history whereby U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt loses a bid for re-election.

During the filming, Cranford streets were closed, storefronts were altered and crowds of onlookers caught glimpses of the set and actors. But for a lucky few from Cranford – including myself – we participated in the shoot.

Cranford is no stranger to commercial film productions, including Guess Who, Far From Heaven and Garden State. But it is doubtful these earlier productions cast many local performers, or actors who returned home for the shoot.

The casting company inquired about local talent, and even amateur actors. They contacted the CDC Theatre -- Cranford's preeminent theatre company which has been entertaining and developing local talent for over 100 years. The CDC forwarded the casting call email to its distribution list.

"When CDC contacted me about the



(above) Cranford residents Stu Rosenthal pictured here on Miln Street with his wife, Pam Brewster, during a break from the shoot.

opportunity, I immediately responded," said Kelsey Kilpatrick, an acting student at Rider University who began performing at CDC at age 9. Kelsey intends to pursue acting full time after graduation next year.

While I am a proud patron and parent of young actors who got their start at CDC, I am not a professional actor. Beyond appearing in a few amateur films, including one for my son, I have no formal training. So when my wife, Pam, said that she submitted our names to the casting company, I hardly gave it much thought. As luck would have it, we were booked and directed to Queens for a wardrobe fitting a week before the shoot.

The Cranford Community Center closed early to the public on August 29th, and became the base of operations for the cast and some crew. Charter buses began arriving from Manhattan around 4:30 p.m., full of actors. Upon arrival, the Production Assistants navigated the cast from room-to-room for check-ins, wardrobe, hairstyling and makeup. By around 7 p.m., we were on our way to the set, located just under the train trestle on Eastman Street.

The Cranford site must have been carefully considered, with the picturesque Eastman Clock Plaza and manicured landscape used for background scenery. Perhaps one of the location scouts grew up here, or word had spread that Cranford has the best downtown in New Jersey, a title recently bestowed by NJ.com. Still, the rolling trains above the set interrupted filming at least once, and I wondered if any of the crew had reviewed a train schedule.

In order to resemble the early 1940s, some thoughtful modifications were required around the set. Most visible were the vintage vehicles parked along North Avenue and surrounding streets. Less obvious were the amended store signs, concealed parking meters and altered traffic signs. One also couldn't miss the sight (or perhaps smell) of the horses involved in the scene.

Over 150 actors took part in the rally. Most of

us were dressed in garb reminiscent of working class immigrants from the era. Yet, our hairstyles were fashionable. The ladies' hair was fashioned with hair rolls and waves. The men's hair was highly slicked, and sharply parted to the side. I never had so much goop in my hair before. Nevertheless, most of us donned headwear which obscured the retro hairstyles.

After rehearsal, we had dinner back at the Community Center before returning to the set by about 9:45 p.m. I was standing in the middle of the 'rally,' with Pam nearby. I was readying for a long night ahead when someone from the crew approached me. She led me through the crowd, toward the front of the stage. I thought maybe they had too many 'extras' and didn't need me. Quite the contrary. She positioned me at the front of the crowd – the very first row – and introduced me to my new 'wife' with whom I would attend the rally.

In the front, I was surrounded by all of the crew operators, equipment and the general buzz of a major film shoot. Directly in front of me were the most expensive video cameras in the business, available only to the studios. Behind the temporary stage was a crane that would extend overhead to film the crowd. Nearby were portable video stations for coordinating with the camera operators. Next to me were the strobe lights, pointed at the stage.

The Director soon stepped onto the stage and welcomed everyone. He provided the background for the scene, set the mood and established the tempo for the shoot. (Sorry, no spoiler alerts here.) The Director then retreated to the sidewalk, next to the Dovetails antiques store, to his makeshift 'cubicle.' It was the nerve center of the shoot – a meet up spot for his Assistant Directors and senior crew members.

Traversing all around me were the cinematographer, boom (microphone) operator, art director, gaffer (lighting), hair/makeup, technicians, etc. But when the 1st Assistant Director came over to greet a regular on the set -

(continued on page 15)



1940S ACTION IN CRANFORD (continued)



(above) Downtown Cranford was chosen to depict a New Jersey town which was the site of The Plot Against America, a forthcoming HBO mini-series based on a novel of the same name.



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(continued from page 14)

- my new wife character -- I knew this was a coveted spot.

The Assistant Director took charge, guiding the crew and cast through the many takes that would follow. He preceded each take with a "picture is up" directive, or signal for everyone to get into position. This was followed by "ready, set, background, rolling," and intermittent acknowledgements by the equipment operators. Finally, with the proverbial "action" command, I became an actor with no scripted lines. But I was in a 'leading' row.

We remained on our feet all night, with occasional breaks when they guided us away from the set toward North Ave. We wandered down Eastman, toward the post office and Miln Street. Pizzeria Bel Giardino, although not normally open for business at midnight, opened their dining area to the cast for seating. Between shoots, I chatted with the crew, cast and met other locals.

"Working on The Plot Against America in my hometown, Cranford, was an absolutely surreal experience," said Chris Esmerado, a full time actor and CHS graduate who returned home for the shoot. "Among the many film and TV show sets that I've worked on – including Joker, The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel, and Gotham -- The Plot Against America is one of the best and most professional."

By about 2:30 a.m., filming wrapped and the cast returned to the Community Center. We exchanged wardrobes and checked-out. Most boarded the buses, and returned to Manhattan, only to arrive home just before sunrise. They would return to the set the next afternoon, after just a few hours of sleep.

By the second night of shooting, the crowd of Cranford onlookers grew. Word must have traveled. We were familiar, even comfortable with the scene by now. Or so we thought, until the stunt performers arrived. The Director was in the crowd for the early takes, and guided the stunt performers. It became the pinnacle of the scene, and was captured from numerous camera angles. The cinematographer was now in the crowd, filming the stunt performers. Ironically, he was also named Stu. I thought 'how often are two guys named Stu on the same movie set -- one behind the camera -- and one in front?'

We concluded by about 3:30 am. I bid farewell to my new friends -- non-local actors, mostly extras, who routinely shoot on location in many towns. But rarely, I was told, do the residents line the streets, to greet, applaud and take pictures of the actors, as they did in Cranford. I responded that this was a special event, and hosted in a special place.

The HBO film shoot was made possible by the Cranford Downtown Management Committee, the accommodating businesses and a very welcoming town.

"The Plot Against America is destined to be one of the great shows of 2020. I can't wait until it airs," said Chris.

That's a wrap.

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(above) The Barynya Balalaika Duo



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BARYNYA BALALAIKA DUO TO PERFORM - OCT 8

Ensemble Barynya, one of the finest Russian folk ensembles outside of Russia. On Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., join Mikhail Smirnov and Elina Karokhina for "From Russia with Love," a concert at the Cranford Community Center sponsored by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library. Their dual balalaika performance will include Russian, Cossack, Ukrainian, Russian Gypsy and Russian Jewish traditional music, songs, and dances.

Mikhail Smirnov, artistic director and founder of Ensemble Barynya based in New York City, was born in Moscow. He is the author of many articles about traditional Russian dance, music and instruments in both English and Russian. As a child, he was a member of the Moscow Boys Chorus, one of the most prestigious all-male choirs in Russia. He received his Master's degree from the Moscow State University of Culture and Arts. Before coming to the United States in 1991, Mikhail was a soloist in a several Russian folk dance and music groups, including the Moscow State Center for Russian Song under the direction of Nadezhda Babkina.

In January 2009, Mikhail and Ensemble Barynya dancers were featured on NBC's Superstars of Dance, an international dance competition led by executive producers Nigel Lythgoe and Simon Fuller (American Idol, So You Think You Can Dance). Mikhail Smirnov was one of eight judges who determined the winning nation.

Balalaika virtuoso Elina Karokhina was born in Leningrad and began her formal training at the Mussorgsky Music College of St. Petersburg. She continued her education at N.A. Rimsky-Korsakov Saint Petersburg State Conservatory,

The Barynya Balalaika Duo is part of earning a degree as an Orchestra Soloist. After a brief residency in Germany, she returned to her native St. Petersburg and completed her education, earning a Doctor of Musical Art degree in the Balalaika. Following her graduation, she began working as a musician, teacher and performer. She served in the Russian Army in the Military Ensemble in the Northwest Order of Red Stars.

As a balalaika soloist, Elina has toured the world. When she moved to the United States in 2009 she was hired as a musical director and soloist with Ensemble Barynya. In 2015, she was selected to play the balalaika with Mariinsky Theatre, directed by the famous Russian conductor Valery Gergiev, in Rodion Shchedrin's opera The Enchanted Wanderer at the Howard Gilman Opera House in Brooklyn. In 2016, she was hired to play six concerts at the Carnegie Hall in New York City as a part of the Orchestra Rocks international event, and returned to Carnegie Hall again as a part of Moscow Gypsy Army, representing the rich musical culture of Eastern European Roma people. In 2017, she was hired to play Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's "Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh" at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. with the National Symphony Orchestra. Recently Elina was invited to perform as an Honored Guest Artist at the Balalaika and Domra Association of America's 40th Jubilee Convention in Philadelphia.

No registration is required for this event. The Cranford Community Center is located at 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016, and is accessible to all. For information about the Cranford Public Library and the Friends of the Library, visit cranfordlibrary.org.



"Find something you're passionate about and keep tremendously interested in it." These are wise words from Julia Child, one of the 20th century's most prominent chefs. On Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., actor and narrator Linda Kenyon will bring this fantastic figure to life in Julia Says: Bon Appetit! This one-woman show written by Clay Teunis and directed by Ed Starr will take place in the Cranford Community Center, and is sponsored by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library.

Julia Child was an American cook, author, and television personality who introduced French cuisine and cooking techniques to America. By changing America's taste, she helped shaped modern America's foodie culture. Her most famous works are the 1961 cookbook Mastering the Art of French Cooking and her first television series The French Chef. She starred in eleven other television series, and was the author of eighteen other books.

While her public face and voice became familiar to aspiring chefs worldwide, this play focuses on her private side, especially her relationship with her husband, Paul Child. Julia tells about growing up in southern California, her adventures in World War II, learning to cook French Cuisine, teaching and becoming a public figure.

Linda Kenyon, an actor and historical improviser from Solebury, Pennsylvania, performs in two other one-woman shows: A Life of My Own: Meeting Eleanor Roosevelt, by Stephen LaRocque, and The Greatest Ever: Babe Didrikson Zaharias' Story, by Maribeth Theroux, both with Seniors' Theatre. She can be seen screaming her head off in Chris Rock's film Head of State. Linda has been Charlotte, the camp Director in Venus Theatre's production of Ugly Ducklings, and the Duchess of York in Richard III with the Virginia Shakespeare Company. She has worked at the Washington Stage Guild, Source Theatre and at the Maryland Renaissance Festival. Linda's voice can be heard at the Postal Museum, the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis and at the United States' Holocaust Memorial Museum. She narrated the three part series The Last of the Czars and France's Forgotten Shame for the Discovery Channel. She is the voice of the

"Find something you're passionate about and Dark Elf in the Elder Scrolls: Morrowind video game series.

Linda is a widow and the mother of five grown children and two step daughters. Her mother was an actress and her father was a scenic designer. Her website is lindakenyon.com.

Playwright Clay Teunis is a sound engineer, audio books narrator and occasional scribe. He has designed sound for several theatres in the Washington area. Clay's playwriting projects include a version of Julia commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery in 2008, and an original work about Harry Truman and Andy Warhol. Clay and his wife Laura engineer and coach voice-over demos in their Hillandale home.

Director Ed Starr made significant contributions to the text of this play as well as directing it. The play was originally commissioned by Seniors' Theatre of Chevy Chase, Maryland.

No registration is required for this free event. The Cranford Community Center is located at 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016, and is accessible to all. For more information about the Cranford Public Library and the Friends of the Cranford Public Library, visit cranfordlibrary.org.



(above) Come see Linda Kenyon as Julia Child in Julia Says: Bon Appetit!, one-woman show written by Clay Teunis and directed by Ed Starr, at the Cranford Community Center.







Gina Marie Ciaramella, Stylist/Owner Nancy Nahaczewski, Stylist Jessica Fernandez, Stylist Amanda Majuri Pace, Extension Specialist

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(above) Rev. Liz Alexande





Saturday, October 19th Where: Ciao Amici 25 N. Ave. W, Cranford 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Kids - High School Age



Phone/Text Barbara Zeckman for info or to reserve a table:



REV. LIZ ALEXANDER TO PREACH ON PEACEMAKING SUNDAY

The Service and Mission Team is proud to announce that the Rev. Liz Alexander has accepted their invitation to preach on Peacemaking and World Communion Sunday on October 6, 2019. Rev. Alexander needs no introduction to long time First Presbyterian Church members and friends. A Cranford native, Liz served as Interim Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Cranford from January 2014 to June 2016. Liz earned a BA in Early Childhood Education from Trenton State College (now the College of NJ) an MA in Special Education from Jersey City State and a Master of Divinity Degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

Rev. Alexander's experiences include serving as an Associate Pastor, Director of Children and Family Ministries at the Riverside Church in New York City and as the Pastor of the Church of Gethsemane in Brooklyn. Both of these congregations were involved in interfaith and advocacy concerns. The Church of Gethsemane was founded by formerly incarcerated persons and their families and seeks to find alternatives and changes to our present criminal justice system.

Liz describes herself as a pastor, teacher, advocate and community builder and has a lifetime of experience in education, community organizing, advocacy and peacebuilding. She has served on the board of JusticeWorks Community, a non-profit organization that advocated for women in the criminal justice system and their children, was a member of the Prison Re-entry Task Force of the Presbytery of New York, was a staff person for the National Peace Academy, and participated in an Interfaith group founded after 911 called Building Bridges. She was also a founding board member for Presbyterian Welcome, a group advocating for equity and full inclusion of all LGBTQ persons.

Liz is a parent, step parent and a grandmother to 5 grandchildren. Her hobbies include water color painting, nature study, traveling and canoeing.

Rev. Alexander's last call was as Interim Pastor at the Oak Tree Presbyterian Church in Edison, NJ. Since retiring in the spring, Liz has been putting additional energy into advocacy work, particularly in the areas of criminal justice reform and peacebuilding.





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TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE CANDIDATES' FORUM

The Cranford Jaycees and the Union Area League of Women Voters are proud to host the annual Township Committee Candidates' Forum on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. in the Cranford Municipal Building, Council Chambers. Please come to hear and meet Township Committee Candidates. There are two three year term committee position on the ballot this year. The candidates this year are Democrats Kathleen Miller Prunty and Brian Andrews, and Republicans Mary O'Connor and Philip Siliato. An open forum will be provided for questions from the audience. All are invited to attend. TV35 will broadcast the forum live.

VFW POST 335 SUPPORTS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH!

COME COLOR A **BREAST CANCER COLORING PAGE TO HELP RAISE AWARENESS!**

VFW POST 335 479 SOUTH AVE. E. CRANFORD, NJ Sunday, October 6, 2019 2PM – 5PM **TICKETS: \$5**

> **COLORING PENCILS** will be provided and we will be serving refreshments. There will be a basket raffle -\$20 arms length of tickets & 50/50

> > **CANNED FOOD DRIVE** Bring a bag of canned food safor our veterans to win a prize.



CRANFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY OCT BOOK SALE

Looking for some good reading at bargain and recorded books. 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, Oct 9, 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct 10, 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Friday, Oct 11, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.,

Saturday, Oct 12, 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,

Prices range from \$.25 to \$2.00, except for a few specially marked items. Saturday is Bag Day; fill a bag with books for just \$8.00.

The library is located at 224 Walnut Avenue. 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

THEATER PROJECT TO VISIT COMMUNITY CENTER

The Theater Project will present staged, scriptin-hand readings of two original plays, followed by open discussions with playwrights, directors and cast members, on Saturday, October 12 at 2:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 2 at 2:00 p.m. Both readings will take place at the Community Center, located at 220 Walnut Avenue. These programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library, who are continuing their commitment to drama and the arts in 2019.

Headquartered in Union, New Jersey, The Theater Project is an acclaimed professional theater group and the winner of two New Jersey Tony Awards. Admission is free and all are welcome. For information about the Cranford Public Library, the Friends of the Cranford Public Library, and other upcoming events, visit the cranfordlibrary.org. For information about The Theater Project, visit their page at thetheaterproject.org.

BAS/OAS 5K & FUN RUN - NOV 3RD

The holidays will be here before you know it! Make memories, while getting a head start on those fitness resolutions, at the BAS/OAS 5K & Fun Run on November 3, 2019 and support two of our wonderful Cranford schools, Bloomingdale Avenue School and Orange Avenue School.

The 1 mile fun run begins at 8 a.m. and is perfect for all ages. The USA Track and Field Certified 5K begins at 8:30 a.m. and provides a here: bestrace.com/bloomingdale5k.

great opportunity to connect with friends, neighbors and family - while also burning off some of that Halloween candy! With a DJ, tons of kids activities, prizes and delicious treats from local Cranford businesses, there is something for the whole family.

Participants who register by October 15 will be guaranteed a race t-shirt!

To sign up, follow us on Facebook or register

"BEEKEEPING" CRANE'S FORD DAR - OCT. 5TH

world. They pollinate 80% of our crops and ultimately account for one-third of the food we eat." (Better Homes and Gardens 8/19)

Cranford resident, Tage Haun tells us about his fascinating hobby of beekeeping in Cranford. He'll relate how and why he got started and the many rewards. With alarming decline of bee

"Honeybees are the Rock Stars of the plant colonies for decades, he's answering the honeybee's call for help. This program is very timely. Mr. Haun has spoken to Cranford's Green Thumb Garden Club, College Women's Club and others. The public is invited October 5th, 2019, 1 p.m. at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave. Refreshments will be served. Children are welcome, accompanied by an adult.



CRANFORD'S ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE

Department, in partnership with the Cranford Jaycees, is sponsoring the 19TH Annual Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 27, 2019. Gathering and registration will begin at 1 p.m. in the parking lot of the Cranford Community Center. Judging will start at 1:30 p.m.

The parade will begin at 2 p.m. at the Cranford Community Center. It will continue west on Walnut Avenue, north across South and North Avenue, up North Union Avenue, across Alden and end at the Gazebo in Parking Lot #1 (near the Fire Dept.).

Don't miss the Pumpkin Chunkin at 2:30 p.m., followed by the awards presentation. Judging will be done by the following categories: Ages 0-3, 4- Recreation Department at (908) 709-7283.

The Cranford Recreation and Parks 5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, and 12-16. Other categories include: adult/child team, group and hand pulled mini floats. Please enter only 1 prize category per person (or creature).

> Parade escorts include the Cranford High School Marching Band, Cranford Police Department, Cranford Fire Department, and the Cranford Emergency Squad.

> The Halloween Parade and Pumpkin Chunkin, now in its19th year, has become a Cranford tradition. This is a great family event that the kids are guaranteed to love. Please be sure to bring out your little ghouls and goblins for the parade or just come down to cheer them on.

For questions, please contact the Cranford

DOCTOR FAUSTUS TO BE PERFORMED AT THE CRANFORD COMMUNITY CENTER

Just in time for Halloween, the Hudson ultimately - what happens when his time is up? Shakespeare Company presents Christopher Marlowe's chilling tragedy Doctor Faustus, directed by Jon Ciccarelli. The production, which will be performed in the Cranford Community Center on Wednesday, October 30, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., is sponsored by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library.

In this classic dark play, Doctor Faustus makes an offer that Mephistopheles, a servant of the devil, can't refuse: He will sign away his soul in exchange for 24 years of life - and Mephistopheles at his beck and call. Faustus embarks on a journey through time and space in search of life's meaning. Who will he meet? Where will he go? What will he learn? And

MARK E. HOBBIE

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The Hudson Shakespeare Company has presented over 100 productions since 1992, including an annual Shakespeare festival, modern theater and educational programs. They are known for producing many lesser-known and lesser-performed works "in order to expose audiences to all facets of Elizabethan and Jacobean drama."

No registration is required for this free event. The Cranford Community Center is located at 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016, and is accessible to all.

For more information about the Friends of the Cranford Public Library, visit cranfordlibrary.org.





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GIRL SCOUTS TO HOST OPEN HOUSE

House for all ages on Monday, October 7, 2019, from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford. Families interested in learning more about the Girl Scout movement are encourage to attend.

To RSVP or for additional information, please email Registrar@CranfordGirlScouts.com. The Girl Scouts of Cranford boasts over 1.139

The Girl Scouts of Cranford will host an Open Girl Scout Members in 71 troops and Juliette's making it one of the largest non-profit organizations in town. The Girl Scouts of Cranford Service Unit 48 is a part of the Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey (GSHNJ) Council which is part of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.

To learn more about local Girl Scouts or to find out more information on the Girls Scouts of Cranford, please visit:

cranfordgirlscouts.com.

PROJECT HOME 5K MONSTER DASH – OCT. 27

Project Home of Cranford will be hosting their annual 5K Monster Dash on Sunday, October 27, 2019 in Nomahegan Park starting at 9:30 a.m. and a 1-Mile Family Fun Run starting at 9:00 a.m. Runners and walkers are welcomed to run or walk in costume. There will also be a collection of non-perishable foods at the race to help stock the Cranford Family Care pantry.

Free t-shirt to all those who register by October 7, 2019. For registration and race information, visit our web-site: projecthomeofcranford.org.

All profits from the event will go to help Cranford Family Care, a local charity that assists Cranford families in need. For over 30 years Project Home of Cranford, a 501(c)3 charity has been working through Cranford Family Care to keep Cranford families in their homes during times of financial crisis.

To help defray the cost of this event we are looking for local businesses interested in being sponsors. If you would like to become a sponsor or donor or just find out more about Project Home and our mission please email us projecthomeofcranford@gmail.com, visit our website projecthomeofcranford.org or join our Facebook Group, Project Home of Cranford.



TASTE AND SEE BENEFITS RAPHAEL'S LIFE HOUSE

Submitted by Denise McDermott

A "Taste and See" Art Auction and Sale to benefit Raphael's Life House will be held on Friday, October 18, 2019 from 6-9 p.m. at Simply Art & Framing, 11 N Union Avenue, Cranford.

Talented artists from the tri-state area and beyond will display and sell their work, and donate a portion of their proceeds directly to Raphael's Life House. Participants include local artists that have participated in the Cranford Plein Air Event, as well as artists from other parts of the country. Some of the mediums to be displayed include watercolor, abstract, photography, drawing sculpture, jewelry and much more. Simply Art & Framing will donate 20% of their sales during the event to Raphael's.

Local eateries and merchants have donated appetizers, desserts and beverages to enjoy during the auction and sale. "Taste" and enjoy the refreshments and "See" displayed artwork and merchandise available for purchase to benefit this worthy cause.

Raphael's Life House, founded by Cranford resident Edith Coogan and former resident, Mary Orrico, is Covenant House New Jersey's Mother Child program, created to provide non-sectarian

housing to homeless and pregnant young women and their babies when born, for up to one year. The goal is to assist the women in establishing an independent living situation for themselves and their babies. The women in the program are ages 18-23, alcohol and drug free, mentally and physically capable of caring for themselves and their baby, and willing to obey the house rules while either working or attending school. Raphael's Life House shelters 12 women at a time; each mother shares quarters with her baby in a safe and homey environment.

Staff and talented volunteers provide classes to assist moms with prenatal care, parenting skills, building esteem, job seeking, educational and vocational opportunities and other critical life skills. Volunteers also participate as baby-sitters, host community monthly dinners, coordinate baby showers and fundraising events, and much more. Founded in 1993, Raphael's has provided transitional housing and support for over 700 young mothers and their babies. Learn more at raphaelslifehouse.org.

Entry tickets are \$15.00 in advance and \$20.00 at the door. Information and tickets are available by emailing cmcmullan2969@gmail.com.





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Submitted by Donna Marino

On July 13, 2019, 9 scouts and 3 adult advisors, all of the First Presbyterian Church Boy Scout Troop 80, boarded a plane departing from Newark Airport to Denver International Airport for a 14-day excursion to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. This group, known as Crew 713-Z-03, included scouts Anthony Bottino, River Elbayar, Will Harder, Dan Iosso, Will Kennedy, Peter Marino, Jake Tadros, John Scheurer, and Michael Scheurer, along with three adult advisors, Charles Harder, Bill Kennedy and Scott Marino.

The expedition began in Colorado Springs where the group spent two days touring the Rocky Mountain area while acclimating to the altitude. The crew toured Garden of the Gods, the United States Air Force Academy Cathedral and Pikes Peak. They also whitewater rafted 10 miles on the Arkansas River during world class rapid conditions. The crew then took a 3 hour bus ride to Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, NM. This is where they would begin their 12 day journey backpacking through the Sangre de Cristo Mountains at Philmont Scout Ranch.

Their trek consisted of backpacking 87 miles through the expansive wilderness with elevations ranging between 6,500 and 12,441 feet. A year in the making, the trek was carefully selected after Philmont was forced to reorganize their trails after the 2018 Ute Park Fire that burned through 36,740 acres of the camp last year. Training for the trek began a year ago with many backpacking trips and hikes to get the crew in shape. railroad pump car and tomahawk throwing. During the trek, the group was assigned a burro to help carry food and equipment along the trail. The burro, whom they named "Allen", carried 50 pounds of gear for a part of the trail and became a friend to the crew. The highlight of the trek was

Upon arriving at the camp, the crew was introduced to a ranger who would conduct their final training for the first two days. He taught them the ways of the trail, navigating, first aid, bear bag skills, cooking and sanitation. After completing the training, the ranger then left Crew 713-Z-03 on their own in the vast wilderness for the next 10 days.

Their itinerary consisted of hiking through the backcountry with packs ranging from 40-50 pounds, participating in challenging programs and completion of a conservation service project for the camp. With only the essentials on their back, they ate freeze dried meals and searched for water sources daily. The crew used map and compass skills to make their way to a new camp each day and were fortunate to experience dry weather conditions with only a few hours of rain. Some of the programs included panning for gold, visiting the first discovered Tyrannosaurus Rex track in the world, blacksmithing, Cowboy Action shooting, a copper mine tour, operating a During the trek, the group was assigned a burro to help carry food and equipment along the trail. The burro, whom they named "Allen", carried 50 pounds of gear for a part of the trail and became a friend to the crew. The highlight of the trek was climbing Mount Baldy, the tallest peak on the ranch measuring 12,441 feet. The group was also treated to a cowboy chuck wagon dinner and cantina show run by the camp. On the last day, after returning to base camp, the boys turned in all their gear and set out for the western town of Cimarron. The historic Sante Fe Trail runs through Cimarron making it a great stop for Philmont campers. In town they experienced their first "real" meal where most of the crew ordered 1/2 pound bison burgers at the historic St. James Hotel.

Crew 713-Z-03 was led by Crew Chief Peter Marino, Chaplain's Aide Will Kennedy and Wilderness Guide Mike Scheurer. Each of the crew members had important roles to ensure the success of the trek including navigation, dining fly, bear bags, water and cooking. The entire crew truly had the adventure of a lifetime. They enjoyed the challenges, the panoramic views but most importantly, the incredible camaraderie.

Photos by Cranford Boy Scouts of Troop 80







(above) The scouts whitewater rafted 10 miles on the Arkansas River during world class rapid conditions during the trip.



(above) The scouts practiced many skills during the trip, including navigating, first aid, bear bag skills, cooking and sanitation.

BOY SCOUTS ADVENTURE PHOTOS





(above) First Presbyterian Church Boy Scout Troop 80 had the adventure of a lifetime during a 14 day excursion to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.





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for simple bookkeeping.

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Call Richard 908-591-9110

CRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL TO PERFORM THE FANTASTICKS

The Cranford High School Performing Arts Department will present the classic musical The Fantasticks on November 1 and 2, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Cranford High School Auditorium. An open dress rehearsal for senior citizens will take place on Wednesday, October 30 at 7:30 p.m.

The Fantasticks is the world's longest-running musical, playing off-broadway continuously from 1960 until 2015. Tickets for Cranford High School's production are available at chs.booktix.com for \$15, and will be available at the door. Student rush tickets will also be available for \$10 at the door for each performance with a valid student ID. The Cranford Public Schools Permitted Items Policy will be in effect for the two performances; large bags and purses will not be allowed into the auditorium. Note that there will be no performance on Thursday, October 31.

Don't just "Try to Remember," but mark your calendars for November 1 and 2 and see The Fantasticks at Cranford High School.

CRANFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS cranfordchamber@comcast.net cranford.com/chamber • 908 272 6114 8 Springfield Avenue • Cranford, NJ 07016 **CRANFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OCTOBER EVENTS** "How Your Business can benefit from LinkedIn" Presented By: Julbert Abraham Thursday, October 10th - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Pizzeria Bel Giardino 103 Miln Street, Cranford \$20 Members/ \$25 Future Members Pizza and Refreshments Served Rsvp: cranfordchamber@comcast.net or 908 272 6114 **Fall Street Fair** Sunday - October 13th – 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Downtown Cranford **Food Truckfest - Five Food Trucks** Thursday - October 17th 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. CEC Research - Front Parking Lot 16 Commerce Drive, Cranford Raindate: Friday, October 18th **Interactive Murder Mystery** "Best Laid Plans" Friday - October 25th - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Garlic Rose Bistro 28 North Avenue, W, Cranford \$50 Includes Buffet Dinner Cash Bar available Additional Info: Call 908 272 6114 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.

LOL COMEDY SHOW AT KENILWORTH VFW

When tragedy strikes, some step up to help. Project Help and VetREST are doing just that for veterans and in particular for Arthur Bilenker, DMD and Retired Army Colonel.

Art suffered a catastrophic accident that left him paralyzed from the neck down. He was about to retire and begin the golden years with his wife, when the accident occurred.

With the financial issues that come along with something like this, these two organizations, both 501c3 charities, are stepping up to do a fundraiser for him and other veterans who are facing incredible hardships. "We hope to make this an annual event and we do realize that Art and Teri need so much more than we can raise in one night, but it all helps," said Sandy Mitchell, Executive Director at Project Help.

The LOL Comedy Show will take place on Friday, October 11, 2019 at the Vet Center VFW Post 2230, located at 33 South 21st Street, Kenilworth. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Four comics will have you laughing out loud. They are Paul Venier (The Comedy Tornado), Joey Gay (Last Comic Standing finalist), Steve Trevelise (New Jersey 101.5) and Joey Carroll (Boston Comedy Festival with several Combat Tours entertaining Veterans in Iraq & Afghanistan). Additionally, you will get to enjoy a silent auction, featuring sporting events, bottles of libation, original art pieces, kids bikes (Christmas right around the corner) and so much more. You will also enjoy a wonderful buffet dinner, cash bar and 50/50.

The Cranford Jaycees are playing a big part in getting sponsors, items for the auction and in selling tickets. Cranford residents may also purchase tickets direct by calling John Hartnett at 908-787-2085 or purchase online at lolcomedyshowNJ.eventbrite.com. Limited tickets will be available at the door.

Sponsors are wanted along with items for the silent auction. Please contact Sandy at 973-875-2068 for information or go to projecthelp.us and use the contact form to reach us.



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TWELVE UNION COUNTY P.O.S OFFER CONVENIENT PASSPORT APPLICATION SERVICE

If you live in any one of the 21 Union County municipalities and need to apply for a U.S. Passport, chances are there is a Post Office within an easy 5-10 minute commute that can accept your application. Twelve Post Offices throughout Union County offer convenient passport application service on behalf of the United States Department of State.

The Union County Post Offices that offer passport application service include: Berkeley Heights, Cranford, Elizabeth Main Post Office, Fanwood, Garwood, Linden Main Post Office, Netherwood Station in Plainfield, Scotch Plains, Springfield, Summit, Union Main Post Office, and Westfield.

Although some Union County Post Offices like Garwood, Netherwood Station, and Scotch Plains accept walk-ins, many Post Offices offering passport services require an appointment. For appointments during regular passport processing hours, the U.S. Postal Service has made scheduling easier

If you live in any one of the 21 Union County with the USPS Retail Customer Appointment unicipalities and need to apply for a U.S. Scheduler tool (RCAS) at usps.com/scheduler.

The RCAS tool will display available appointment times for participating Post Office locations that offer passport appointment services within the selected radius. Users will receive notifications of their scheduled appointment via email or text.

Application forms and information on the costs and how to apply for a passport can be found at usps.com/passport.

The U.S. Department of State's National Passport Information Center is available to answer passport questions by phone or email in English or Spanish. If you have a question about passports you can call toll-free 1-877-487-2778 or email NPIC@state.gov.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.



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