

CRANFORD MONTHLY_{NJ}

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RIVERWALK RESTORATION PROJECT RESUMES ACTIVITIES

The Cranford Heritage Corridor is a 5,000-foot recreational area that spans across Cranford's most recognizable landmarks along the Rahway River.

The Riverwalk Committee hosted a Riverwalk Restoration Project on Saturday, September 12. Though COVID-19 interfered with maintaining the grounds, it was deemed safe for volunteers to return and follow CDC guidelines. Participants wore masks and practiced social distancing while cleaning up and performing other maintenance to the grounds.

A monthly Riverwalk cleanup and maintenance of the grounds will continue the 2nd Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (weather permitting). The next is scheduled for October 10th. Volunteers are to report to either the intersection of South Avenue and Lincoln Park East in Cranford, known as the Heritage Plaza, or behind Driescher's Mill on Lincoln Park East, also in Cranford.

The Cranford Heritage Riverwalk, a part of the Union County parks system, is as old as Cranford itself. Committee members are calling upon people within the community to come forward and help revitalize this area so it becomes a focus of celebration once again. In particular, the Riverwalk Committee hopes that this space will become a central focus of Cranford's 150th anniversary in 2021.

Participants both young and old can report to the volunteer stations located on either end of the Riverwalk and offer their time and energy to contribute. Tasks such as mulching, weeding, clearing the pathway and more are constant needs. Volunteers are asked to wear masks while the COVID-19 pandemic is still occurring. They are also asked to bring work gloves and any gardening tools that may help in this effort.

"Safety, of course, is paramount to our group," stated Mason when asking for volunteers to participate. "The path itself is eight-feet wide, allowing us the recommended six feet of distance between each person. Using these measures, we feel comfortable inviting the public to help be a part of history. Children will benefit by learning more about the town and seeing history come to life right before their eyes, and adults will find another section of Cranford transition from being forgotten, to becoming a gem for passive recreation."

The Cranford Heritage Corridor includes the parklands from Orange Avenue at the Cranford Canoe Club from the 19th century, and meanders through town following the Rahway River to the Williams-Driescher Mill from the early 18th century. The century-old stone walls and iconic stone columns are still in place, but are in need of restoration and preservation. Future plans include repairing the Kaltenbach



(Above) Boy Scouts were among the sixty volunteers who help with Riverwalk Restoration Project.

(More photos on pages 10 and 11.)

Estate Skating Pond, Victorian Footbridge and Squire Williams Picnic Grove. There are over 20 special projects that are a part of the master plan.

"Cranford is known as 'The Venice of New Jersey', complete with river carnivals, boating, fishing and skating on the Rahway River. Residents and visitors gather here for fun and relaxing all the time. We hope that the Cranford Heritage Corridor will once again be returned to its former glory," said Mason.

You can follow 'Cranford Heritage Corridor Riverwalk' on Facebook for the latest on the project's progress.

CRANFORD HERITAGE PLAZA AND RIVERWALK COMMITTEE

The Cranford Heritage Plaza and Riverwalk Committee was envisioned in 1971 by former Cranford High School teacher and township historian, the late Laurence Fuhro. Since that time, a group of dedicated volunteers have taken up the mantle in an effort to see the Riverwalk re-established and become a central part of the Cranford community. The Cranford Heritage Corridor, part of the Rahway River Parkway, Union County Department of Parks and Recreation, is a 210-acre recreational area that spans across Cranford's most recognizable landmarks along the Rahway River. The Cranford Heritage Plaza and Riverwalk Committee hosts regular cleanups and advocates to restore the Riverwalk back to its original glory.

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JAMIE WARNER NAMED COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The New Jersey School Boards Association recently named the 21 outstanding educators who have been selected as the County Teachers of the Year for 2020-2021 including Jamie Warner, an 8th grade social studies teacher at Orange Avenue School in Cranford.

“You represent the very best in education. Your dedication, talent and creativity are at the very heart of New Jersey’s public schools and the success of our students,” said Dr. Lawrence S. Feinsod, NJSBA executive director, during a virtual ceremony honoring the recipients on August 26, 2020.

“New Jersey’s County Teachers of the Year—and the teachers of the year in every school and every district—exemplify the hard work and dedication of their colleagues throughout the state,” he added.

Feinsod noted that NJSBA’s mission is to advance student achievement through effective school district governance. “An essential part of that mission is to encourage excellence in the classroom,” he said.

Selection of the County Teachers of the Year is part of the Governor’s Educator of the Year Program. It promotes a positive school culture by acknowledging the hard work and dedication of outstanding teachers.

“Our County Teachers of the Year exemplify the dedication and commitment we see in educators throughout the state,” said Governor Phil Murphy. “Now, more than ever, it’s important to celebrate and support our teachers in their efforts to ensure all students have opportunities to succeed.”

Individual schools are encouraged to nominate exceptional educators with diverse backgrounds to ensure that the honorees represent the ethnic/racial diversity of New Jersey.

Through the work of the New Jersey School Boards Association, the 2,400 educators named as their school’s educator of the year can receive free virtual education resources that will benefit their students.



“Teachers and schools have the power to change lives, said Interim Education Commissioner Kevin Dehmer. “The County Teachers of the Year who were announced today are being honored not only for their outstanding performance, but also for their high expectations for all students.”

The County Teachers of the Year will network with educators throughout the state and serve as ambassadors for New Jersey’s public schools. A panel of educators then will select the New Jersey State Teacher of the Year based on written applications, video submissions, and interviews with the top finalists.

The New Jersey State Teacher of the Year is typically announced at the State Board of Education’s October meeting and will go on to represent New Jersey in competing for the title of National Teacher of the Year.

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"Diana was a joy to work with. She walked us through the process of selling and buying a new home. I was looking for a particular home that seemed impossible to find. Diana assured me we would find the right house and she was right! She made herself available to us all the time and kept us informed about any houses that were about to go on the market. When it came to selling our home she negotiated it above asking and sold it 1 day (even during a pandemic)"

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CRANFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT ASSISTS IN 9/11 MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Chief Czeh and members of the Cranford Fire Department once again assisted in getting 9/11 Memorial Park ready for Cranford's annual ceremony.

The members of the department donate time

and manpower every year to ensure the park is ready for the solemn event. The Cranford Fire Department was requested to respond into Staten Island that fateful day. Those members responded to all emergencies in that borough so that all

FDNY members could respond to Ground Zero.

Cranford Fire and Cranford Police also sent personnel to Ground Zero as part of the NJ USAR Task Force to assist in search and recovery efforts.



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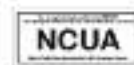
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IT IS GOING TO BE A DASH, A (VIRTUAL) MONSTER DASH!

Submitted by Maggie Feeney

Project Home of Cranford couldn't let fall go by without the Annual Monster Dash. Due to COVID-19 the race will be virtual this year. Participants can either run a 5K or walk or run 1 mile anytime from October 22 through October 25 and then load their results to the race site. We encourage running in costume, as long as it is something safe to run in. Just think of the smiles you will get going past people in your costume. We could all use a few more smiles!

A free t-shirt will be provided to those who register for the 5k while they last and an assortment of Halloween Treats will be given to those 12 and under who register for the 1 mile Fun Run/Walk, 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. Now more than ever our support is needed to assist Cranford families.

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 donor or just find out more about our mission email us projecthomeofcranford@gmail.com, visit our website projecthomeofcranford.org or join our Facebook Group, Project Home of Cranford.

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VFW KICKS-OFF SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Jay Boxwell, Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Post 335 in Cranford announced the kick-off of this year's VFW's Voice of Democracy Scholarship competition. Local high school students have the opportunity to compete for thousands of dollars in scholarships and a trip to Washington, D.C.

Students must write and record a three-to-five minute essay on the selected theme using an audio CD or flash drive and present their recording, typed essay and completed entry form to their local VFW Post by October 31. The 2020-2021 theme selected is "Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned" Students begin by competing at the local post level, then post winners compete at the district level with the winner advancing to the state competition.

All state first-place winners receive a four-day trip to Washington, D.C., and the chance to compete for their share of more than \$150,000 in scholarships. The first-place winner receives a

\$30,000 college scholarship.

The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) started the Voice of Democracy Scholarship program in 1947. The VFW became a national sponsor in the late 1950s and assumed sole responsibility for the program in 1961. The competition was created to provide students grades 9-12 the opportunity to express themselves in regard to democratic ideas and principles. Around 40,000 students participate in the competition each year and VFW awards more than \$2.1 million in educational scholarships every year.

Student entries, accompanied with a completed entry form, must be submitted to a local participating VFW Post. The deadline is Oct. 31, 2020.

Interested students and teachers should contact the Voice of Democracy Chairman at VFW Post 335 via email njvfwpowmia@gmail.com.



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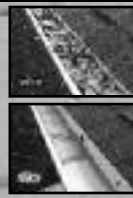
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"Thanks for the Memories" I wish to thank all the wonderful people in my life who have supported me during my time with Cranford Family Care. The time has come for me to step down as Executive Director. I am pleased to announce our new Executive Director Julie Carroll. Julie has been a member of the Board of Directors for fourteen years. I know she will do a fine job. Cranford Family Care was incorporated in 1936 by a group of concerned citizens who understood that there was a need to help our neighbors at a time when this country was suffering from the effects of the Great Depression. These were families that did not qualify for any other assistance.

I became a volunteer in 1982 and was hired in 1989. The journey has been more than I ever expected. I have been privileged to meet and work with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, houses of worship, school children and their teachers, clubs and so many caring and giving people. Especially the women of Project Home, Cranford Jr. Women's Club, and Cranford Junior League. A very special thank you to Cerebral Palsy League.

I also had the privilege to meet and help folks that were in serious trouble and working with the Board of Directors of CFC we were able to make a difference in their lives.

As the world is constantly changing Cranford is truly blest to have an agency that can and will be able to help families in need. So please



continue to support Cranford Family Care and all the good work they do. It has been my pleasure to serve the community for all these years.

Sincerely, Kathy Willis.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2020 MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by Margaret Gerlach, President

The Cranford Historical Society has been busy. Once again, the Crane-Phillips House Museum remains open to visitors every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Our free programs include: book discussions and signings by Cranford authors, speakers on an array of interesting topics, Civil War reenactors, family, craft and holiday events and much more. The Society has also sponsored educational and entertaining events such as concerts, films and lectures to honor the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War. Cranford third graders visit the museum to learn what life was like in the 1870's. Our volunteers continue to maintain and beautify the gardens around the museum. It looks great! At our office in the Hanson House, we continue to assist a steady stream of people researching their homes or looking for information about local history.

Please help us to keep the Cranford Historical Society strong by becoming a member. Thank you for your support!

Mail membership form to:

Cranford Historical Society

The Hanson House

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CRANFORD PORCHFEST, SAT., OCT 10

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You're invited to St. Michael School's Tricky Tray on Saturday, October 17th, 100 Alden Street in Cranford. Guests may enter through St. Michael's Lane, located at the back of the school.

Doors will be open for Tricky Tray ticket purchases and drops from 11:00am - 5:00pm. Social distancing guidelines will be followed. Masks/face coverings are required inside of the school building.

Hundreds of amazing prizes including gift certificates for local dining and shopping, Apple Air Pods, Apple iPad, Amazon Echo, Toshiba 32" Smart Television, Xbox One, and designer handbags just to name a few. Great gifts for everyone on your holiday shopping list.

Admission is FREE.

Winners need not be present to win. Winning #'s will be posted on our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/stmichaelschoolsdesignerbagbingo and on the school's website:

<https://smscranford.com>

Drawing will be at 7:00pm on Facebook Live. We invite you to host your own Viewing Parties.

For more info please follow us on Facebook:

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Or you may contact the school directly at:

saint.michael@verizon.net or 908-276-9425

Submitted by Ashley Legg

On Saturday, October 10, the 4th Annual Cranford Porchfest will kick off with bands rocking and rolling all over town. Ten homes will host three bands each, starting at 2 in the afternoon until 5:00 p.m. There will be a grand finale show at 5:30 p.m. at two finale locations, details to follow.

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 hours of live music.

Due to this year's pandemic, safety, as with all Cranford Community Connection events, is our number one priority. We are working hand in hand with the Cranford Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management for this year's event. Given the state safety protocols for social gatherings, and closing of blocks, it is required that everyone social distance and use masks for public safety.

There will also be specific instructions for homeowners and our Cranford Community Connection team will be out in the neighborhoods monitoring social distancing and use of masks. Above all, we know we can count on our Cranford community to do what's right for their neighbors.

We will also be adding a virtual component this year for those who are unable or uncomfortable to attend in person. We will



provide a live Facebook stream in conjunction with Virtual Cranford.

We are thrilled to move forward with Cranford Porchfest this year because our committee wants to return a sense of normalcy back into our community. Knowing that so much has been altered and/or cancelled, we felt this event was not only wanted, but needed. We are also motivated by the positive feedback we have received from the residents. It is wonderful to read how Cranford Porchfest has become the number one event for our town.

We are extremely excited to continue this tradition during this not so traditional time. We cannot wait to see people out having a great time with neighbors, enjoying this amazing event safely!

Be sure to go to our website to find all event information, an interactive map and a list of bands. Also look for our commemorative Porchfest T-shirt sold at Cougar Headquarters.

For more information visit cranfordporchfest.wixsite.com/porchfest.

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IMAGINE SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR NURSES

CRANFORD MONTHLY • Page 13 • October 2020

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss announced the expansion of its virtual group support programs with one designed to help nurses dealing with the stressors of healthcare work during Covid-19. Imagine, which serves more than 2,000 individuals annually and is nationally recognized for its work helping bereaved children and their families, offers its Peer Support Group for Nurses at no cost. Interested nurses can join the weekly support group at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning September 30.

When asked about the decision to launch this program, Imagine's Founder and Executive Director Mary Robinson said, "Through the pandemic, we recognized a gap in support for some of the people we rely on most: our nurses. Supporting nurses who are themselves supporting grieving families felt like a perfect fit for our mission."

Robinson, who was named a 2019 CNN Hero, went on to say, "Nurses continue to selflessly care for others despite their own fears about their potential exposure to Covid-19. We need to ensure they have a place to turn to for support."

For many, the anxiety they feel going to work in a healthcare environment comes on top of grief they were feeling before the pandemic even hit.

Talia Sion, a newly minted nurse, had attended Imagine's Young Adult Group for support following the death of her mother in January, and then joined the organization's pilot support program for First Responders when the pandemic hit.

Of her experience, Sion said, "I was quickly

overwhelmed with the weight of so many sick and unstable patients, not knowing if and when things would ever get back to 'normal.' Once again, Imagine created a program for me to turn to with people who understood how I feel; people who understood what I was facing on a daily basis at work."

"New Jersey is no longer a hotspot for Covid-19, but many of the nurses here are processing what they went through and bracing for a possible resurgence," Robinson said. "Meanwhile, there are nurses in other states in similar positions to where we were a few months ago. Sharing these stories, fears, and challenges at all different stages in a peer support model is proven to be an effective way to learn coping strategies."

As with all of Imagine's offerings, this free Peer Group Support for Nurses program will be available year-round for as long as is needed. Those who are interested can register at imaginej.org/nurses.

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss is a New Jersey-based grief support center for children, young adults and families dealing with the death or life-altering illness of a parent, sibling or child.

In addition to its peer grief support programs, Imagine provides training through education and outreach programs across the state to a variety of organizations including schools, houses of worship and corporations. Its goal is to create communities where grief and loss are transformed into resilience, empathy and compassion; and where no child grieves alone.

13TH ANNUAL SCARECROW STROLL

In a year filled with uncertainty, the Downtown Cranford office is thrilled to announce that they're going ahead with the 13th Annual Scarecrow Stroll this fall! From October 14th – November 1st, wild, wacky, and wonderful scarecrows will line the streets of Downtown Cranford. The contest is open to Cranford businesses, organizations, schools, and teams, as well as residents throughout the area. Awards will be given out in each category.

The Cranford DMC is aiming for at least 100 scarecrows to line the streets. If you would like to be a part of it, registration is free and open. The deadline is October 7th. Visit the Downtown Cranford Facebook page for guidelines and registration information.

This is one of the most anticipated events of the year, and the Downtown Cranford office would like as many people to take part as possible. Now more than ever, let's show off our community spirit!

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Hanson Park Conservancy's "Not a Duck Race" T-Shirt fundraiser is under way.

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We will arrange a date in October, at Hanson Park, to pick up t-shirts.



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MOBILE MEALS OF WESTFIELD

Mobile Meals of Westfield continues to provide lunches and dinners for those unable to provide meals for themselves. The organization serves the communities of Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield.

All state and CDC protocols are in place to ensure the safety of clients, staff and volunteers. Delivery will be to coolers at client homes rather than face-to-face.

For info or to receive service or to volunteer, email mobilemealswestfield@hotmail.com, or call 908-233-6146, or visit the website at mobilemealsofwestfield.org where donations are accepted online.

ABOUT OUR MEALS

Our meals are reasonably priced, and unlike other meal delivery services, Mobile Meals has no financial need requirements. Our customers come from all walks of life and financial situations. If you know of anyone who could benefit from receiving daily meals and personal contact, or if you have any interest in volunteering, please contact Mobile Meals of Westfield at (908) 233-6146.

We operate 5 days a week, Monday through Friday. All our meals are prepared by a trained

cook and packaged and delivered by volunteers. Our well-balanced menus change daily.

Mobile Meals serves a hot meal and an optional cold meal. The hot meal consists of soup and crackers, an entree of meat or fish, a vegetable and a starch, bread and butter, a dessert and a beverage (milk or juice). The cold meals consist of a sandwich, a dessert and a beverage.

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BROOKSIDE PLACE SCHOOL ANNOUNCES EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR 2019-2020

Brookside Place Elementary School (BPS) is pleased to announce that Donna Schlenker has been selected as the Educator of the Year and Paula Nowicki has been selected as the Educational Services Professional of the Year from nominations made by the BPS community as part of the New Jersey Department of Education 2019-20 Governor's Educator of the Year Program. BPS is a grades K to 5 school in Cranford.

Ms. Schlenker has taught at BPS for 27 years, with the past 14 of those years teaching first grade. She has taught every grade except for second grade. She received her master's degree in reading at Millersville University and holds an early childhood education undergraduate degree from University of Delaware. She also holds a reading specialist certification.

"I had a hard time reading and I wanted to make sure no one else had a hard time reading too," Ms. Schlenker said when asked why she decided to teach. She also was the youngest of five and always enjoyed being around children.

She teaches with patience, kindness and respect, she said. Safety is also a key component as a teacher, she added.

"Especially at this time in my career I consider this an honor," she said of being named the Educator of the Year at BPS. "For them to vote for me, I'm still on top of my game, and I feel good about that. I feel like I'm an old house... instead of tearing down the old home, I feel like I've been renovated several times over. I still retain the character of the old house, but I always try to keep fresh. All the new things coming down the pike, I learn them and then I keep some of the old and some of the new," said Ms. Schlenker, who added she is a team player and enjoys collaborating with her colleagues.

Throughout the school day, she provides her students with a lot of movement and opportunities to share and be engaged, she said.

An important part of her learning environment is incorporating music. Ms. Schlenker is known for playing the guitar while the children sit on the

rug and listen. "Music can help you learn...and it also gives them a nice break," she explained. She teaches them songs, such as the doubles rap that aids in the six- and seven-year-olds to learn their math doubles addition, as well as patriotic songs to teach them respect for their country and the flag. The children also learn over a dozen songs, which they then perform at the Edward K. Gill Apartments for seniors in Cranford.

Ms. Schlenker has also always had a class pet, something she said "fosters kindness and respect in a different way." For the last four years, the class pet is a guinea pig named Oreo, who the children are invited to take home and care for on weekends.

"I love the innocence of first graders and their honesty," she said of why she likes teaching first grade. "I believe you learn more in first grade than any other grade. First grade is a big growth year. I try to make it as fun as possible because I want them to like school," Ms. Schlenker said.

Ms. Nowicki started her career at Brookside over 20 years ago. "It's like a family here," she said of BPS. She currently is an Education Services Professional (ESP) in the fifth grade, assigned as an aide to a child, and has assisted in every grade throughout her years as an ESP. "It's an honor," she said of being chosen. "An entire fifth-grade class sent in letters saying why I should receive this honor," she explained. "I love the kids. They get me," said Mrs. Nowicki, who sometimes tells jokes over the intercom system. Some of those letters told how the children "love seeing her happy face when she opens the door in the morning," she explained. Another letter said, "When I see her waiting at door smiling, it makes me feel safe."

Ms. Nowicki, before becoming an ESP, helped to put together the BPS Olympics, an annual one-day field event where the students are grouped into teams of countries and compete in field games such as frisbee throwing, sack races, tug of war, and more. She keeps coming back to manage it because seeing those "400 happy faces" makes it all worthwhile, she said. She's



(above, l-r) Donna Schlenker has been selected as the Educator of the Year, and Paula Nowicki has been selected as the Educational Services Professional of the Year from nominations made by the BPS community as part of the New Jersey Department of Education 2019-20 Governor's Educator of the Year Program.

also an emcee of the BPS Variety Show, doing comedy skits with Principal Michael Klimko in between student performances, and manages the entire springtime show where each class rehearses and then performs a dance.

ABOUT THE GOVERNOR'S EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR PROGRAM:

The Governor's Educator of the Year Program highlights educational innovation, student achievement, the rewards of teaching, and important services outside the classroom environment that lead to student success. Further, it seeks to attract public attention to the positive aspects of our educational system.

For more information, please visit: state.nj.us/education/rpr/recognition/educators/geoy.shtml

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HEARTS FOR EMMA PARTNER FUND AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Submitted by Gary Mignone

The NJ Sharing Network Foundation recently awarded scholarships to high school graduates for their passion and dedication to raising awareness of organ and tissue donation. These scholarships are made possible thanks to several of the Foundation's family and partner funds.

The Hearts for Emma Partner Fund, which was created to celebrate the successful heart transplant of Emma Rothman of Cranford, awarded three scholarships to recognize graduating high school seniors whose lives have been touched by organ and tissue donation and transplantation. Each student was individually presented with their scholarship award at NJ Sharing Network's headquarters in New Providence during a private ceremony in the Landscape of Life Meditation Garden. Hearts for Emma Partner Fund's 2020-2021 scholarship winners are:

Elexa Rogolsky of Morganville (2020 graduate of Marlboro High School) has been continually organizing activities to promote donation since her father's life was saved by a heart transplant when she was 8-years-old. Elexa served as the President of MHS's Donate Life club for four years, served as MHS's Team Captain for the 5K Celebration of Life and raised more than \$20,000 by leading dozens of fundraising events, including bubble releases, and basket and scarf-making activities. Elexa plans to attend the University of Florida in the Fall.

Tiffany Rolon-Lucas of Woodbridge (2020 graduate of Colonia High School) was met with the biggest hurdle of her young life during her sophomore year when she was diagnosed with degenerative kidney disease. She fought for her life while on dialysis and returned to school with a catheter in her chest and a tube in her stomach. Thanks to a successful kidney transplant, Tiffany is living a healthy and active life, including competing in high school sports. Tiffany plans to attend Seton Hall University in the Fall.

Sydney Shea of Skillman (2020 graduate of Montgomery High School) is a transplant

recipient who received life-changing ligament reconstruction surgery on both of her knees. She is forever grateful for her donor and has led peer group discussions and a school-wide presentation to promote organ and tissue donation. Sydney plans to attend Bucknell University in the Fall.

If you met Emma Rothman of Cranford today, you would never suspect that at the age of 12 she received an emergency heart transplant to save her life. Today, she is a college student at Syracuse University and is thankfully able to enjoy life to its fullest – enjoying days at the beach, volleyball and surfing, and spending time with family and friends. Emma is actively involved in supporting many important causes, especially raising awareness of the need for organ, tissue and blood donation. In January 2019, Emma was honored as a float rider on the Donate Life Float at the Rose Parade in Pasadena.

Hearts for Emma, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, was founded by the Rothman family of Cranford and provides assistance to families of children with heart disease and supports educational initiatives relating to heart transplantation and organ and tissue donation. The Hearts for Emma Partner Fund, a program of the NJ Sharing Network Foundation, supports the production and distribution of education materials and programs to help promote the importance of organ and tissue donation. The Fund has raised more than \$50,000 since its inception and has helped educate more than 100,000 students about donation and transplant through NJ Sharing Network's formal high school outreach program.

"Hearts for Emma is focused on educating present and future generations to ensure everyone understands the importance of organ and tissue donation and transplantation," said Nancie Rothman, Emma's mother. "This year's scholarship winners, Elexa, Tiffany and Sydney, serve as perfect examples of what it means to take an active role in supporting these important outreach efforts."

The Foundation's scholarship program applicants were measured on academic achievement, community and volunteer efforts,

extracurricular activities and advocacy for organ and tissue donation. The application process was completed in June, and applications were reviewed by a committee of the NJ Sharing Network Foundation Board members and volunteers.

"We are grateful for the generous support of Hearts for Emma and their ongoing commitment to rewarding students who share a commitment to our life-saving mission," said Elisse E. Glennon, Executive Director of the NJ Sharing Network Foundation. "We know that all of our scholarship recipients will continue to be strong leaders in educating others about donation and transplantation as they move forward to begin college."

For more information about NJ Sharing Network's scholarship programs, please contact scholarship@njsharingnetwork.org.

ABOUT NJ SHARING NETWORK

Dedicated to saving lives through organ and tissue donation, NJ Sharing Network is the non-profit organization responsible for the recovery and placement of donated organs and tissue for the nearly 4,000 New Jersey residents waiting for a life-saving transplant. With headquarters in New Providence, NJ, the organization, selected by NJBiz as one of the state's "Best Places to Work" for the third consecutive year, is also part of the national recovery system, serving the nearly 115,000 people on the national waiting list. To learn more, get involved and register as an organ and tissue donor, visit NJSharingNetwork.org.

ABOUT THE NJ SHARING NETWORK FOUNDATION

The NJ Sharing Network Foundation is committed to increasing the number of lives saved through innovative transplant research, family support, public awareness and education about the life-saving benefits of organ and tissue donation and transplantation. By making a contribution, you empower our efforts, bringing us a step closer to providing the greatest gift of all... the Gift of Life.



(above) Hearts for Emma Partner Fund's 2020-2021 scholarship winner Elexa Rogolsky.



(above) Scholarship recipient Tiffany Rolon-Lucas.



(above) Scholarship winner Sydney Shea.

KEEP CALM AND SCOUT ON... FROM A DISTANCE

Submitted by Cady Kaneko

The boy scouts of Cranford's Troop 80 will not let a virus stop them from doing what needs to get done. Check out their latest accomplishments. Merit badges during a pandemic? No problem, keep in mind all of this was accomplished virtually! An overwhelming 45 scouts participated in the Citizenship of the Community merit badge (Eagle required badge) led by our very own Mayor Patrick Giblin. Scouts were required to discuss what it means to be an asset to their local community by identifying critical frontline necessities – fire/police stations and nearest hospitals, attending a town or school board meeting, identify charitable organizations outside of scouting and also prepare a public presentation about the unique qualities we have here in Cranford.

An elite group of scouts were able to earn their Emergency Preparedness merit badge (Eagle required badge) which is only open to those who have completed the daunting First Aid merit

badge. In this requirement scouts must be able to explain and demonstrate their response and recovery to disastrous emergencies, for example: kitchen fire, auto explosion, food-borne disease, earthquake/tsunami, gas leak, tornado/hurricane, flash flooding, toxic spills, nuclear power plant emergency, and violence in a public place, just to name a few. Scouts must also take part in an emergency service project with a scouting unit and the necessary preparations required for crowd/traffic control, collection and distribution of goods and services, and sanitary food and shelter locations.

This was also a good time to take advantage of our "slow-down" and pay attention to our best friends... the Pets merit badge. Showing our love and care for the pets in our households and demonstrating the local laws involved in keeping a pet. Young pet owners also had to submit a report on the necessary vaccinations and check-ups required for ownership.

While we were in the midst of our Covid-19

mayhem, for a limited edition special offer, Troop 80 participated in a Social Distancing badge (not a real badge but scouts do have fun!). Let your imagination run wild on this one but think along the lines of "What is first aid for irritability, lethargy, weight gain?" or "What sports do we miss watching most?" and "Teach your technology-challenged parents how to Zoom!"

Speaking of Zoom, aka the new way of socializing, scouts stayed in touch and even held a scout troop meeting! We were able to have a few Troop 80 meetings with scheduled time slots so scouts could connect and see each other according to their age group. It was refreshing to put a face to an email!

What is scouting without camping? Troop 80 announced Virtual Camping Nights! Our fearless and ever creative troop leaders have dedicated 2 weekends for scout families to camp in their own backyards. Scouts were required to set up their own tents (tents were provided for those without), prepare a meal for their family (prepared in kitchen or grill), prepare a fire (firepit, indoor, friend/neighbor/relative) and I'm sure there was some bug repellent involved!

We also had some Eagle projects going on around town so stay tuned for good happenings with Troop 80 of Cranford!



(above) Scout Miles Murphy completing a service project at Nomahegan Park



(above) Scout Miles Murphy backyard camping



(above) Scout Luke Tadros backyard camping

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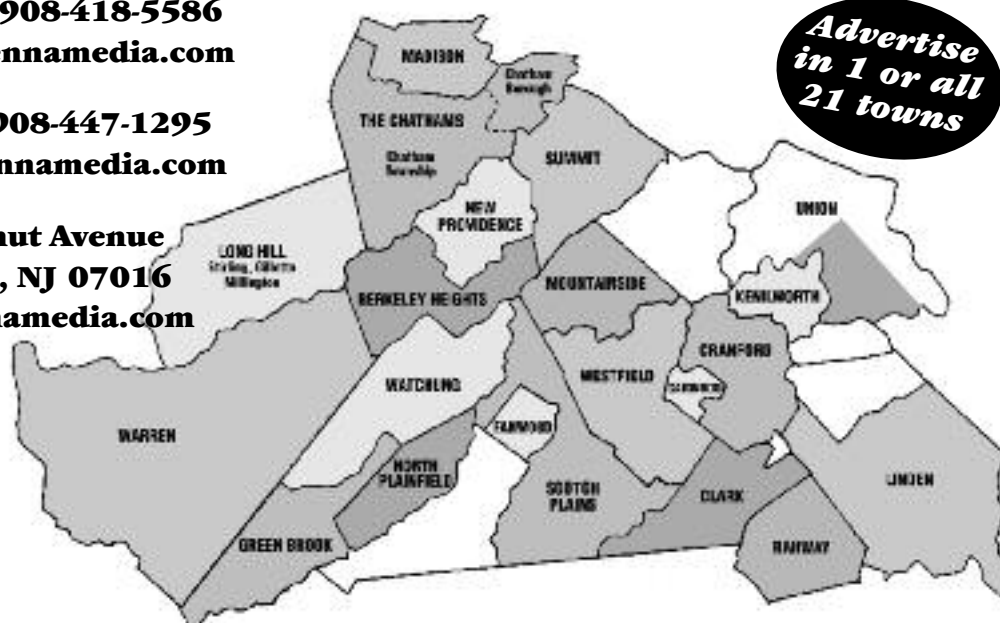
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OUR TOWN Rahway NJ Qty: 12,400 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07065	Scotch Plains NJ Qty: 9,600 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07076	Summit & Times NJ Qty: 9,600 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07901	Spirit of UNION NJ Qty: 5,500 5,000 mailed to homes and businesses. Zip: 07083	WARREN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,200 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07059	Watchung Post NJ Qty: 2,800 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07069	Westfield MONTHLY NJ Qty: 11,800 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07090

NEWSPAPER AD RATES

Rates are per month. Adwork included in price. Newspapers are black on white.

Units	Size	RATE FOR ANY 1 NEWSPAPER	RATE FOR ANY 3 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 6 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 9 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 12 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 15 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 18 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ALL 21 NEWSPAPERS
1 Unit (Business card)	3.25" x 2"	\$60	\$150	\$250	\$350	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$550
2 Units	6.5" x 2" or 3.25" x 4"	\$100	\$250	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800	\$900
4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700
6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 14"	\$400	\$1000	\$1400	\$1800	\$2200	\$2500	\$2800	\$3000
2 PAGE SPREAD	21" x 14"	\$700							
BACK PAGE	10" x 14"	\$500							
FRONT PAGE BANNER	8.25" x 2"	\$320							
FRONT PAGE BOX	1.5" x 4.5"	\$240							

Back cover, front page banner and front box reserved on first come first served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

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Too many businesses are stuck in contracts with no return on investments, no way to check if the work is getting done, and needing to invest more to make things right.

The following is a guide to Renna Media services and costs that you can compare to your present provider.

I highly recommend doing an independent audit of your website!

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Thank you. - Joe Renna

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Online Marketing Items

- Website ads and Social Media Posts, Classified ads\$20 per item
- Special bulk price.....Block of 20 items \$100
Including: Press releases / Classified Ads
Web Page / Calendar Event / Monthly Banner ads

Extra Boost:

- Blast your online ad or press release to a targeted market:\$100
- National Press Release Distribution
to 300 to 500 news outletsBudget choice from \$300 to \$500.

Website / SEO services

- Website Audit/Analysis and recommendation plan:\$250
- Website creation/update:.....\$2,400
(Cost for average website: 12 pages,
contact form, SEO friendly, responsive design)
- Website Hosting:\$300 per year
Includes website hosting, software updates,
monthly website content updates
- SEO Services:.....average cost \$1,000 - \$2,000 per month
Custom tailored solutions:
Google Ranking, Local SEO, Social Marketing

Video advertising

Production:

- Product placement \$250
- 30-second commercial \$500
- 3-minute spot \$1,000
- 30-minute show \$1,500
- 3-hour shoot - \$2,000

Call Joe Renna 908-447-1295

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- Things to include in any business contract

In this webinar, Mitch will also run through a business from idea, to startup, through getting into operation.

DATE: Tuesday, October 6, 2020

TIME: 1:00 pm

COST: FREE

REGISTER: https://score.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6utovA1_Rjelmw0dIDQVng



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