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GIRL SCOUT MINDFULNESS GARDEN WAS GROUP EFFORT

Township of Clark

Clark Brownie Troop 40457 recently installed a Girl Scout Garden on Clark Recreation Grounds near the bocce courts. The garden was the labor of many. Troop leaders, Kim Albarella and Cara Sullivan Kropp said all twelve of the troop members, along with parents and family and a donation of time and labor from landscaper, Marc Hayden brought this mindfulness garden to life.

According to leaders, the garden was designed by and fundraised for by the scouts and embraced by Recreation Director Ralph Bernardo. He was open to helping the girls find a spot to house the garden for any troop that wants a quiet outdoor space to meet or perform a bridging-over ceremony.

"I am all for these types of scout projects," said Bernardo. "The work of these girls and their families benefits many and provides another resource at the Recreation Center for all the scouts in town."

Troop leaders said they were proud to have a small piece of the legacy of what it means to be part of the Clark Township Community and to have instilled in their scouts that investing in the local community, benefits all.

Troop 40457 members include Avery Albarella, Kylie Kropp, Roseanna Cutrona, Alyssa Perdiz, Briana Tobin-Montanez, Anniston Triola, Sofia Carbonara, Autumn McHugh, Juliana Henriques, Jaida Jacobs, Brooklyn Conoshenti and Elena Cuoto.

Photos by Clark Brownie Troop 40457



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EMERGENCY SQUAD PARTICIPATES IN NNO

Submitted by Susan Alacchi

Clark Township joined other communities nationwide participating in "National Night Out" on Tuesday, August 2. All of Clark's emergency organizations were there with equipment on display. The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad had an ambulance and demonstrated various equipment. The children seemed more interested in the candy and the lights and sirens than anything else. President and Sergeant Ron Weslosky and Lieutenant Krupa Weslosky spoke

with the people, answering questions and making everyone feel more relaxed about taking a trip to the hospital in an ambulance.

The Clark Emergency Squad has been helping people in Clark and surrounding communities since 1941. When someone is in need of medical attention, "The Squad" is there to help. It relies on the donations of people to keep operating with the latest equipment and keeping our membership trained in using the latest developments in emergency medical care.

Clark Monthly NJ

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Clark Monthly is published by Renna Media. 6,700 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Clark.

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In my many years as a top producing realtor, I have been involved in a tremendous amount of Clark transactions. I live and work here and know everything this outstanding town and school system has to offer. Using an agent with a proven track record is very important. I put an enormous effort into marketing, advertising and customer satisfaction. Since 1/1/20 to present, I have had 142 transactions, 102 in Clark, and have many homes that are currently under contract. I also made the highest level of Platinum for 2021 Circle of Excellence Award which ranks overall in the top 1% of Realtors in New Jersey. I also made Top Agent Magazine!

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LORI'S CLARK TRANSACTIONS FROM 1/1/20 TO PRESENT

SOLD

15 Westfield Ave.
 40 Ivy St.
 15 Tudor Dr.
 10 Washington St., Unit 03
 47 Briarwood Path
 39 King St.
 56 Lexington Blvd.
 13 Blake Dr.
 213 East Lane
 1168 Lake Ave., Unit 4
 45 Wendell Pl.
 501 Oak Ridge Rd.
 309 Oak Ridge Rd.
 29 Conger Way
 13 Florence Dr.
 303 West Ln.
 1 Rose Ter.
 187 Liberty St.
 11 Harding Ave.
 40 John St.

77 John St.
 17 Hillside Ave.
 11 Avon Rd.
 81 New York Ave.
 42 Kenneth Pl.
 1 Kathryn St.
 29 Hillside Ave.
 9 Shetland Dr.
 12 Yorktown Dr.
 84 Wheatsheaf Rd.
 12 Ascot Way
 301 West Lane
 1119 Maurice Ave.
 1 Longfellow Lane
 8 Wendell Place
 13 Blake Dr.
 42 School St.
 29 Harvey Ct.
 18 Yorktown Dr.
 45 Starlite Dr.

1538 Franklin St.
 40 Conger Way
 15 Ayers Lane
 72 Dorset Dr.
 5 Schmidt Lane
 269 Willow Way
 18 Ginesi Dr.
 7 Blake Dr.
 43 Willow way
 95 Briarheath Ln.
 18 Terhune Rd.
 1 Jarvis Ter.
 39 Frances Dr.
 28 Gibson Blvd.
 41 Largo Lane
 5 Tudor Dr.
 111 Westfield Ave.
 14 Washington St.
 118 Jupiter St.
 61 Sycamore Rd.

18 Terhune Rd.
 15 Briarheath Ln.
 43 Kathryn St.
 54 Harding Ave.
 1 Plymouth Rd.
 306 Parkway Dr.
 75 Union County Pkwy
 49 Briarwood Path
 49 Briarwood Path
 549 Valley Rd.
 161 Meadow Rd.
 16 Nassau St.
 160 Meadow Rd.
 415 Valley Rd.
 49 Joseph St.
UNDER CONTRACT
 23 Ayers lane
 110 Sweet Briar Dr.
 30 Stanton St.
 76 Harding Ave.

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSACTIONS = 142, 102 ARE IN CLARK

PROGRAM TO FEATURE UNION COUNTY'S REIGN OF TERROR

The Union County Historical Society is pleased to host Dr. Walter E. Boright for a program entitled "Union County's Reign of Terror" on Sunday, October 2 at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford. As seating is limited, an advance reservation is suggested by emailing the society with the number attending at uncohissoc1@gmail.com.

The presentation centers on a Union County man who earned infamy as one of the most notorious killers in the state of New Jersey. His rampage in the 1950s into the 1970s began with grave desecration and arson, and escalated to rape, murder, and cop killing. He was not linked to some of his crimes until decades after they were committed. This serial killer eventually was convicted of murder and imprisoned for life where he later died of natural causes.

Union County Historical Society President Joanne Rajoppi said, "We are excited to have Dr. Boright, a noted author and historian, review the history of these crimes for the Society's program. Dr. Boright is a respected, well-known author of six local history books and nearly 200 published articles about local, county, and New Jersey State history," she added.

Dr. Boright earned a bachelor's degree as a history major from Kean University in Union where he also taught New Jersey history. He taught history in Clark schools and became a New Jersey superintendent of schools. He earned master's and doctoral degrees at Seton Hall University. He served as a Kenilworth councilman and was elected five times to the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders (now the Board of Commissioners). Dr. Boright has presented many programs to schools and organizations about local, regional, and New Jersey history.

The program is open to the public without charge. Parking at the Cranford Community Center is adjacent to the center and library with free off-street parking.



(above) Dr. Walter E. Boright

Courtesy photo

OPENING OF SCHOOL LETTER

Dear Members of the Clark Community,

As I say each year, the most remarkable aspect of being an educator is that each September we get to start anew, building on the strengths of the past but making the necessary adjustments to become even stronger as we move ahead. For that reason, the opening of our new school year is accompanied by excitement for me. I would be remiss if I did not thank our twelve-month and ten-month/two-week administrators and support staff for all of their diligent work this summer. Their efforts, as always, are a central reason why we will be ready for an outstanding beginning. Our maintenance team led by Mr. John Pingor is deserving of a special acknowledgment for their preparation of our buildings and grounds. They engage in projects throughout the year so that our students and staff are provided with enhanced facilities. The importance of this physical upkeep of our schools should never be devalued.

Schools will reopen for students on Wednesday, September 7. This first day of school is always a most special one and one that we, as a school district, are excited for. This year is no exception. Getting to see a large number of our parents and guardians at our various Back-to-School Nights will be equally rewarding. VRS's is scheduled for Monday, September 12; ALJ's for Tuesday, September 13; FKH's for Wednesday, September 14; CHK's for Thursday, September 15; and CPA's for Monday, September 19. Please know that we, as an administrative team, have an open-door policy and are here to address any concerns that you may have. It is our sincere hope to continue to "inspire greatness" through the work that we do.

Respectfully yours,

Edward Grande
Superintendent of Schools

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ARTSFEST: ART IN ALL DIMENSIONS – SEPT. 24

On Saturday, September 24, 2022 from 2 – 6 p.m., ArtsFest: Art in All Dimensions takes the arts to new heights in the City of Rahway (literally!) With an array of performance artists showcasing their talents, including: a gravity defying aerialist, the skill and grace of a contortionist, the dance moves of Steppaz with Attitude and Rahway Dance Theater, as well as music from Sarah Teti, Sweater Pills, Stefano Catugno and Karickter. Visual Artists will have their creativity and talent on display and some of Irving Street's local restaurants will show off their culinary skills with creations from their kitchens. With over 50 accomplished and

amateur artists and local vendors displaying their work and selling hand-crafted items, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Those in attendance can help to create art as well with live art classes, demonstrations, and interactive community art pieces.

For more information check out rahwaiyishappening.com/artsfest.

After a day of being immersed in the arts scene, visitors and residents of Rahway can enjoy the Union County Performing Arts Center's feature presentation of "The Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience: Who's Bad." This event will provide "dinner and a show" options for those

who wish to enhance their theater experience by visiting a local Rahway restaurant before the show. The "Who's Bad" show specials include meal offerings ranging from \$25-\$29 or a free beverage with your order. To take advantage of these deals, simply present your ticket at a participating restaurant on the day of the show. Reservations are encouraged. Details about the "dinner and a show" specials are available at rahwaiyishappening.com/dinnershow. For tickets to "The Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience: Who's Bad", please visit the UCPAC's website: <https://ucpac.org/event/whos-bad-the-ultimate-michael-jackson-experience/>

MOBILE MEALS

Sheet Metal Workers' Union No. 22 recently presented Mobile Meals of Westfield with another much-appreciated donation of \$600 in gift cards. Representing the union was Business Representative, Financial Secretary/Treasurer Jason Rooney. Accepting the donation was Mobile Meals Operations Manager Josephine Walsh.

Mobile Meals of Westfield is a non-profit organization that provides nutritious hot meals for those unable to provide meals for themselves. The organization serves the communities of Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains, and Westfield. For more information about the organization and services, visit the website at mobilemealsofwestfield.org or call 908-233-6146.

Sheet Metal Workers' Union No. 22 serves Union, Morris, Somerset and Sussex Counties. The union members support veterans, the homeless and non-profit organizations as part of their community assistance programs. In addition, new union members, as part of their apprenticeship, provide 20 hours of community service annually over a five-year period for a total of 100 hours. For more information on the union, visit SMWIALU22.ORG. The union has consistently supported Mobile Meals of Westfield, and their generous donation is most appreciated.



(above, l-r) Jason Rooney, Sheet Metal Workers' Union; and Josephine Walsh, Mobile Meals of Westfield.

Courtesy photo

MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE AND THE RAHWAY CITY COUNCIL PRESENT

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ARTS FEST

RAHWAY

Saturday, Sept. 24

2PM to 6PM • Irving Street From Central Ave. to Elizabeth Ave.
Rain Location: Rahway Recreation Center

ArtsFest is a free one-day festival taking place in downtown Rahway where visitors of all ages will have the chance to experience and engage with the arts in a dynamic way. Visual artists, performers, musicians, craft artisans, and local businesses from all walks of life come together to create an atmosphere that will enliven the senses.

More info at: www.rahwaiyishappening.com/artsfest

Free Parking available at Hamilton Stage, RSI Bank, The Gallery Space and Municipal Lots. Standard rates apply at Rahway Parking Garage.

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RAHWAY
EST. 1838

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NEW ARTHUR L. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

Clark Public Schools

At the August 11, 2022 Special Board of Education Meeting, the new Arthur L. Johnson High School Principal and Assistant Principal were appointed.

Mrs. Tara Oliveira (Gerstner) will be the ALJ Principal. An alumnus of the ALJ Class of 2000, she pursued her post-secondary education at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA. While at Lehigh she earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English, a Master's Degree in Technology Education, and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership.

After holding positions as both a high school and middle school English Teacher in Pennsylvania, she returned to New Jersey and secured a position as an English Teacher at Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights.

Most recently, she has served ten years as the Assistant Principal of Governor Livingston High School, during which time she was named the NJ Visionary Assistant Principal of the Year, as well as the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) National Assistant Principal of the Year for New Jersey.

Mrs. Oliveira has held several district-level leadership positions, including School Security Specialist and District Testing Coordinator. She resides in Clark with her husband and two daughters.

Mrs. Katrina Poskay will be the ALJ Assistant Principal. She began her teaching career with the Clark Public School District in 1998. During her 24-year tenure as an English teacher, she instructed English IV, English IV Honors, AP Literature and Composition, and AP Language and Composition students. She was selected as ALJ's recipient of the Governor's Educator of the Year award in 2017.

She served as the head field hockey coach for 22 seasons, amassing 297 wins for the Crusaders and received multiple coach of the year accolades. Her teams won numerous divisional titles, three state sectional championships (2008, 2010, 2011) and the school's first Union County Championship in 2009.

She also advised the district newsletter, The Pride, since its inception in 2007 and the school's literary magazine, The Quest, since 2001.

Mrs. Poskay has a B.A. in English with a concentration in Creative Writing and an M.A. in Educational Administration. She resides in Clark with her husband, Matthew, and her three children.



(above, l-r) Pictured are Mr. Thomas Lewis; Mrs. Katrina Poskay; Mrs. Tara Oliveira; Mr. Edward Grande; and Ms. Lorraine Akonis, BOE Personnel Committee Member.

Photo by Clark Public Schools

RARELY SEEN

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE EXTRAORDINARY



SUPERCCELL STORM CLOUD

Photo by Marko Korosec, near Julesburg, Colorado

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SHOPRITE MAKES DONATION TO CVES

The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad recently received a generous donation from ShopRite of Clark. Tiffany Egan, ShopRite's Associate Relations Manager, presented EMT Susan Alacchi with a check and gift card for ShopRite. ShopRite has been a long supporter of the Squad. Tiffany said the Squad does a great service to the community and is happy that ShopRite can acknowledge that service in some way.

The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad will celebrate its 81st anniversary in December. It is committed to serving the emergency medical needs of the people of Clark. Since there currently is no charge for our services, the Squad depends on donations so it can provide training to its members as well as keep its ambulance and equipment in top condition.

The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad is grateful for the support of ShopRite of Clark and the community at large.



(above) Tiffany Egan, ShopRite Associate Relations Manager, presented EMT Susan Alacchi with a generous donation.



Elizabeth Bataille
Sales Associate



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RELIEF FROM CHRONIC KNEE PAIN FDA Approved Treatment to Avoid Surgery

DON'T BLAME THE ARROW FOR MISSING THE TARGET

Just like tens of millions of other Americans, you were looking for relief from your chronic knee pain. You thought Viscosupplementation injections might be the answer, but the results were disappointing and painful. Don't assume the treatment wasn't right. That could very well be like blaming the arrow for its path to the target when the problem might be the archer. If you didn't get the pain relief you were hoping for, chances are your injection treatment was off target. Unlike blind injections or even ultrasound targeted treatments found elsewhere, **Northeast Spine & Wellness Center** uses diagnostic fluoroscopy to make sure the area that needs treated is the exact area where the injection goes. This is the most advanced method of delivering this pain relieving treatment with 95% accuracy to give you the results you're looking for. The use of Fluoroscopy guided injections sets **Northeast Spine & Wellness Center** apart. The end result is you living pain free from your chronic knee pain. You can avoid the lengthy and painful road of knee replacement surgery. You can avoid the endless trial and error assortment of potentially addictive prescription medications. This treatment, using fluoroscopy guided injections has seen a success rate of above 85% in those suffering from knee pain related to osteoarthritis, and that includes people with bone on bone involvement. You've suffered from chronic knee pain long enough. Call **Northeast Spine & Wellness Center** now for a RISK FREE consultation.



If Knee Surgery Sounds Scary, It Should

Have you have been told you are facing knee replacement surgery? Have you been told about all the downsides you could be facing? First and foremost, there are NO guarantees that knee replacement surgery will be the answer to your pain, but let's look further:

- Surgery is costly, regardless of the percentage of services covered by insurance.
- Surgery requires lost time from work and typically requires a regimen of rehabilitation and medications.
- With surgery, there is always a risk for unwelcomed complications. And you could be back to where you started, or worse.
- Medications will be required for relief from surgery and you have been down that road before. Addictions to these pain medications can cause potential side effects, something you do not want to experience.
- Rehabilitation can take years.

Consider This Alternative To Surgery

Northeast Spine & Wellness Center offers you a real opportunity and a painless way to say goodbye to your knee pain without any surgery. Here are just a few of the important benefits you should consider?

- Diagnostic fluoroscopy accurately targets the pain, unlike blind injections.
- Guided fluoroscopic injections are virtually pain free, unlike blind injections.
- No lost time from work or family.
- No expensive or time consuming rehabilitation.
- No potentially addictive prescription medications.
- Recovery time is almost instant, not months or years.

How Does This New Treatment Work?

Relief begins almost as fast as it takes to pronounce the treatment. It's called Viscosupplementation Therapy. To begin with, it starts with **Northeast Spine & Wellness Center** investing in the use of diagnostic fluoroscopy. This enables them to target the exact location of your knee pain with pinpoint accuracy. What follows is a simple injection that causes little to no pain, especially when compared to what you may be living with daily. That explains what you will see on the surface of this revolutionary treatment. What's taking place below the surface is how and where the natural healing process takes place. The injection of a Hyaluronic acid called Hyalgan. This gel-like substance was approved by the FDA in 1996. Hyalgan is a natural substance that mimics the synovial fluid that is already produced by your body in your joints. Osteoarthritis sufferers in particular see a reduction in this much needed synovial fluid in their knee joints. Without that cushioning layer of protection, the cartilage in your knee can begin to wear away leading to the rubbing of bone on bone. Through Viscosupplementation Therapy, this natural substance immediately goes to work reducing the swelling and inflammation in the joint and adding a coating layer of protection. Think about Dorothy taking the oil can to The Tin Man. You'll begin to feel that same kind of relief and quite possibly feel like you're ready for a dance down the yellow brick road to recovery yourself. And with a success rate of over 85% in alleviating pain associated with osteoarthritis, it's easy to see why this treatment is so readily covered by Medicare and by most major insurance providers. Diagnostic fluoroscopy to target the pain, Viscosupplementation Therapy to relieve the pain. Simple, fast and no surgery!

Do you Suffer from any of these Symptoms?

There are a number of reasons why you developed Osteoarthritis pain. It can develop with age or because of heredity. It could be from repetitive stress from a job or some glory days in athletics. Of course your concern is with the symptoms you face daily and how to make them end, hopefully without surgery or the use of potentially addictive medications. **Northeast Spine & Wellness Center** understands the symptoms you have been living with and can help. If you have any of the symptoms below, please call us today. Relief is a phone call away.

- **Pain** - Whether it's a sharp aching or maybe a burning sensation, the pain can range from irritating to debilitating.
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- **Stiffness** - Getting up out of bed or after sitting for a period of time gets more and more difficult. This loss of mobility can be more than a hindrance. It can be dangerous if you need to move quickly.
- **Loss of muscle strength** - This can lead to balance issues and the strong possibility of falling.
- **Joint deformity** - Not just unsightly, but painful as well.
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R.I.S.E. GRADES K-5 SUMMER PROGRAM

Clark Public Schools

Students from Hehnly and Valley Road Schools in Clark, NJ participated in the R.I.S.E. choice enrichment summer program at Hehnly School. The R.I.S.E. (Reaching Independence through Superior Education) Program consists of two-week long sessions during the month of July. This summer students had the choice of selecting the program of study that interested them the most. In Kindergarten and first grade, students were able to choose their theme of study which ranged from Space Explorers to Ocean Adventurers and more. In grades two through five, students were able to choose one class for

the week. Classes included: graphic design, stem challenges, experimenting with science, forensics, canvas painting, reader's theater, creative writing, stock market, book club, becoming an entrepreneur, and vacationing around the USA. The goal of the program is to enrich students' learning experience. This summer the program was staffed with Clark teachers from Arthur L. Johnson High School, Valley Road School and Hehnly School. High school students from Clark, NJ volunteered their time to assist students and teachers throughout the week. The excitement of the students and staff is contagious each day as the

learning experiences occur through hands-on activities, centers, and educational games. Students also have the opportunity to work in small groups and receive individualized attention to meet their needs. The program concludes with Clark Pool Fun Day where each student is awarded with an ice-cream coupon. Cindy Tarello and Teresa Gotti, the coordinators of the program stated, "As you walk through the building the student interest and engagement is evident and exciting to watch in each classroom. Having student choice this summer seems to ignite a passion in student learning in the R.I.S.E. program."



(above) R.I.S.E. program students



Photo by Clark Public Schools



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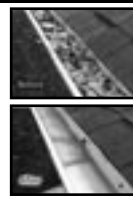
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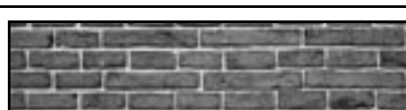
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CLARK 10U SOFTBALL HAS UNDEFEATED SEASON

Clark Recreation

The Clark 10U softball team had a fantastic summer season with an undefeated (9 wins and 1 tie) with a big championship win! The team was coached by Dave Roselli, Lou Ricigliano, Rob DeJesus and Keith Doherty.

Championship Players were: Olivia Calleja, Mia DeJesus, Makenzie Doherty, Victoria Ferreira, Violet Figueroa, Antonella Gallo, Emma Pardo, Victoria Radtke, Olivia Ricigliano, Kayla Roselli, Lila Stebbins and Rosie Socarras.

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Photo by Allison Roselli

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OUTSTANDING CITIZENS HONORED BY SCOUTS

Submitted by Jennifer Volz

Boy Scouts of America, Patriots' Path Council will be honoring local citizens at the annual Union County Lifetime Achievement Awards Dinner to be held on the evening of Tuesday, September 13 at the Galloping Hill Golf Club in Kenilworth. This year's Lifetime Achievement award honorees are Peter Chemidlin, Melissa Mann, Kathy Matthews, Joanne Rajoppi, Theodore Schlosberg, and John Wohlrab. Doug Harris is receiving the Boy Scouts of America 2022 National Outstanding Eagle Scout Award at the event.

The event recognizes outstanding citizens for their community service, as evidenced by their leadership and interests within the Union County community, and for their embodiment of the values of the century old Scout Oath and Law in their personal and professional lives. The event co-chairs are Nancy DiLiegro and Gene Jannotti, past Lifetime Achievement Award recipients and active volunteers in the Union County community.

Peter Chemidlin is the President of Family Investors Company located in Fanwood; Melissa Mann is the Administrative Director GME at Trinitas Regional Medical Center; Kathy Matthews is an Educator at Union Catholic High School; Joanne Rajoppi is the Union County Clerk; Theodore Schlosberg is the Founder and Executive Director of the NJ Workshop for the Arts; and John Wohlrab is the Director of Government Relations at Waste Management.

Union County is a part of the Patriots' Path Council, Boy Scouts of America along with the counties of Middlesex, Morris, Somerset, and Sussex. In the council, over 3,000 adult volunteers deliver the values of Scouting to over 7,500 Scouts.

For more information on Scouting in Patriots' Path Council, attending the event, and sponsoring the program journal, contact Jennifer Volz, Sr. Development Director, at 973-765-9322 ext. 249 and/or jennifer.volz@scouting.org.

8U GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM WINS CHAMPIONSHIP

Township of Clark

Congratulations to the Clark Girls 8U Blue softball team for winning the Parkway Softball League 8U division. This team went undefeated (10-0) throughout the regular season to take home the Championship. This incredible team also won the Clark Summer Classic tournament

going 6-0 to win it all! The team's overall record was 23-2.

Team members include Alexandra Resto, Aubrey Barros, Sophia Suchak, Hailey Stroming, Peyton Loeffler, Molly Fleres, Emmalyn Planas, Jillian Ryan, Amelia Manimtim, Jamie Marcazo, Alyssa DeMarco, and Melaina Saleh.



(above) The Clark Girls 8U Blue softball team celebrated winning the Parkway Softball League 8U division and the Clark Summer Classic tournament, finishing their season with a 23-2 record.

Photo by Karen Planas

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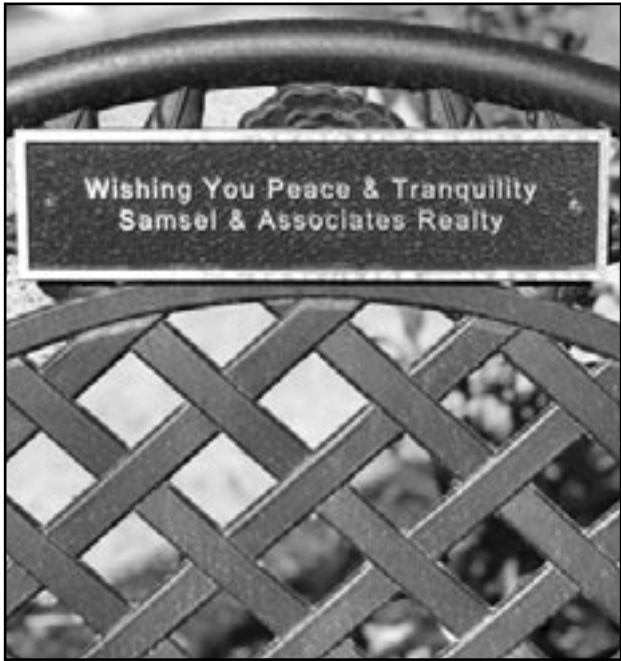
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GARDEN RECEIVES BENCH DONATION

John Samsel of Samsel & Associates Realty has donated a bench to the newly renovated Everett Duchin Memorial Garden at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Rahway in Rahway, NJ. Over the years, this space has served as a pinnacle place for RWJUH Rahway staff, patients, and families. In the wake of the

COVID-19 Pandemic, this space had become a place not only for breaks or staff and family meetings, but a place for tranquility, peaceful repose, reflection and remembrance. Thanks to the generosity of Samsel & Associates Realty, it will continue to serve as a symbol of hope and resilience for all.



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Clark Public Schools

Valley Road School ran its annual "Hats On" for the Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad (CVES) fundraiser in April. The students and staff were invited to wear a hat to school on that day and make a donation to the CVES to show support. Donations were not mandatory in order to wear a hat, but according to the event organizer Valley Road Teacher Lorraine Haney, "the VRS community was thoughtful and generous in their donations." This yearly fundraiser was started many years ago by Mrs. Haney. PTA President Darlene Alicea was also very involved with the fundraiser and assisted with its efforts. Together with the community they were proud to present the donation to Susan Alacchi, EMT and Corresponding Secretary for the CVES.

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(above) Front row: Second Grade Students Alek Velovic and Elisa Perez; Back row: Mr. Joe Beltramba, Principal of VRS, Mrs. Lorraine Haney, Teacher, Ms. Susan Alacchi, EMT, and Darlene Alicea, VRS PTA President.

Photo by Clark Public Schools



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CLARK PD PROMOTIONS AND 2022 AWARDS

Township of Clark

Four Clark Police officers took an oath in front of the Town Council and their families during the June 20, 2022 public meeting as they were promoted to new positions within the department.

Ricardo Oliveira and Sergio Henriques were promoted to Lieutenant during the ceremony. Henriques came to Clark from the Newark Police Department in 2011 and was promoted to sergeant in 2019. Oliveira began his career with the Newark Police and came to Clark in 2012. In 2017 he was promoted to Sergeant. He is the recipient of seven life-saving awards, two honorable service award and two written commendations in his 13-year career.

Andrew Medeiros and Mark Detore were promoted to Detective. Medeiros began his work in law enforcement in the Middlesex County Sheriff's Office. After more than eight years, he came to the Clark Police department where he served as a patrolman. He also spent two years with the Union County Prosecutor's office Homicide Task Force. During his time in Clark, Medeiros earned a lifesaving award and an honorable service award.

Detore started his career as an Essex County Corrections Officer in 2010. Since coming to Clark in 2015 he has had numerous responsibilities and duties. He is a DARE instructor and has been serving in the role of Youth Aide Detective since February of 2022.

Mayor Sal Bonaccorso and Captain Chris Lott presided over the promotions. Lott himself was recently promoted. After starting in Clark in

January of 2009, he became a sergeant in 2014, a Detective Sergeant in 2017, Lieutenant in 2020 and now Captain. Along the way Lott was awarded two lifesaving awards, platoon awards and distinguished service awards. He also received 12 awards for DUI enforcement. Lott has served as the Drug Recognition Expert Instructor since 2016.

During the same meeting, numerous officers and team members were recognized as a part of the 2022 Clark Police Departmental Awards.

Distinguished Service Awards: P.O. Kevin Chan, P.O. Michael DeAngelo, Sr. PST Kelly Lipinski, Det. Bruce McDonald, P.O. Joshua Weber (3 awards)

Life Saving Award: P.O. Mazhar Elwardany, P.O. Theodore McKeown, P.O. Michael Somma, P.O. Paul Sosnowski, P.O. Christopher Tuccio (2 awards)

Written Commendation: P.O. Mazhar Elwardany, P.O. Michael DeAngelo, Union Twp. Firefighter Paulo Lopes, Deputy U.S. Marshal Nicholas Ricigliano

Platoon Award: Lt. Miguel Acabou, P.O. Kevin Chan, P.O. Michael DeAngelo, P.O. Brad Dustin, P.O. Nicholas Kurus, Sgt. Pedro Oliveira, P.O. Ronny Taborda, Sgt. Christopher Tuccio, P.O. Joshua Weber, Sr. PST Christine Burlew, Sr. PST Kelly Lipinski

Platoon Award: P.O. Brad Dustin, P.O. Brandon McKenna, Sgt. Pedro Oliveira, P.O. Mateusz Pazdan, P.O. Brandon Pitts, P.O. Ronny Taborda

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STRANGERS HELPING STRANGERS

The New Jersey Veterans Network

The New Jersey Veterans Network (NJVN) works with many different organizations to bring food, groceries, and clothes to veteran families in need. One organization they've worked with is Strangers Helping Strangers (SHS). They've provided over 100 meals for veterans and their families while pairing up with the NJVN over multiple projects. SHS itself distributes 20,000 pounds of food in Elmwood Park, NJ.

On Friday, August 12, 2022, Doc Schupp, Director of Veterans Outreach for NJVN, and Dennis Duddie, American Legion Department Vice Commander, presented the Strangers Helping Strangers team with four awards, including a Hero Award for team President Chris Braitsch, a Certificate of Commendation, as well as the Community Service Award, recognizing their continuous support for Veterans and their families. Strangers Helping Strangers was also presented with the Certificate of Appreciation from The Department of NJ State VFW and an NJVN Community Service award.

When asked about the assistance that SHS has provided for the Veteran Community, Doc Schupp said, "This team (SHS) has provided for our State's heroes time and time again, we are blessed to have them as partners."

Strangers Helping Strangers was created during the COVID-19 crisis, and has continued to work with the New Jersey Veterans Network to provide for our veterans. They work closely to provide not only goods for those in need, but they also give hope in times of crisis. While SHS provides the food and groceries, the NJVN distributes them directly to the veterans homes. It's a wonderful system that has helped improve the lives of so many veterans and their families.



(above) Doc Schupp, Director of Veterans Outreach for The New Jersey Veterans Network, and Dennis Duddie, American Legion Department Vice Commander, presented the Strangers Helping Strangers team with four awards.

Courtesy photo

VENDOR AND CRAFT FAIR – SEPT. 10

Enjoy a day of shopping at the Friends of the Clark Library's Outdoor Vendor and Craft Fair on September 10, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Clark Library. Our rain date is Sunday September 11, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. There will be Spring décor, jewelry, make-up, skin and hair products, candles, accessories, books, home decor, adult, children and baby clothing, crafts of all kinds, vintage items, baked goods, signs, and much more. Enjoy food (for purchase) by Dinny's Dinners LLC food truck. Admission is free. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Clark Library. All proceeds will benefit the Clark Library.

Fall Vendor and Craft Fair

Outdoors, at the Clark (NJ) Public Library
September 10 9:00 - 3:00
Raindate September 11 9:00 - 3:00
Sponsored by the Friends of the Clark Library
Vendors and Crafters are needed.
\$30 for a 10 x 10 space
Kindly contact
clarklibraryfol@gmail.com for more information

CRAFT & VENDOR EVENT – SEPT. 17

Dr. Wm. Robinson Museum

The 5th annual Dr. Wm. Robinson Museum Crafter & Vendor Event is being held Saturday, September 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 593 Madison Hill Road, Clark. The rain date is Sunday. There will be a gift raffle on the day of the event.

Come out and support our 50+ vendors including Color Street, Touchstone crystal jewelry, Avon, Pampered Chef, Usborne Books, Elk River Soap, L'Bri Skincare, Scentsy, Paparazzi \$5 Jewelry. Home decor will also be available, including wreathes, wooden signs, and so much more! The museum will have refreshments for sale.

All proceeds benefit the museum. Helps maintain the museum and all the free demonstrations, activities, etc.

Dr. Wm. Robinson Museum
593 Madison Hill Road Clark, NJ

WeLoveOurVendors@Yahoo.Com
Contact: Nancy Ann Morris

CRAFT / VENDOR EVENT

Dates of Craft / Vendor Events:
Saturday, September 17th 2022
Saturday, November 5th 2022

Fee: \$30 for a 10ft x 10ft space
*Must bring your own Canopy,
(if desired), Tables, Chairs, etc

+ \$25 donated item
to be raffled off at event
Raindate: Sunday

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CLARK GETS ITS FIRST GAGA BALL PIT

Township of Clark

Alexander Cistaro worked with fellow Boy Scouts in Troop 145, Scott McCabe, and members of the Clark Department of Public Works to create a Gaga ball pit behind the Clark Municipal Building. Cistaro, who has played his fair share of Gaga ball at Boy Scout summer camp over the years, picked this undertaking as his Eagle Scout project.

Gaga ball is a gentler version of dodgeball where players use a lightweight ball and only hit each other below the knees to tag a player out of the pit. The game moves very fast and ends when there is one person left within the walled area that has not been tagged-out by a tap from the ball.

Recreation Director, Ralph Bernardo was excited to have the newest addition to the municipal grounds. "I think Xander's idea for the Gaga pit was terrific, it's different and a

wonderful new offering to the community," he said. "Kids at our summer camp are already enjoying the pit."

The Gaga ball pit, located behind the Caitlin Nelson Park is open to the public until dusk each day. Parking is in front of the Municipal Building.



(above) For his Eagle Scout project, Alexander Cistaro created a Gaga ball pit behind the Clark Municipal Building for the community to enjoy. He worked with fellow Boy Scouts in Troop 145, Scott McCabe, and members of the Clark Department of Public Works to complete the project.

Photos by J. Cistaro

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 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9:30 am - 9:00 pm • Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 9:30 am - 5:00 pm • Sunday: Closed
 closed from Saturday, September 3, to Monday, September 5 for Labor Day

Family Movie Night The Good Guys

Thursday, September 1 at 6:30 p.m.
 Free family movie on the big screen before the kids head back to school! Rated PG

Duplo Bingo

Friday, September 9 at 10:00 a.m.
 Duplo Animal Bingo is a new twist on a fun, classic game. Preschoolers pick a building card enabling them to construct their animal by collecting the corresponding bricks as they are drawn. As they build the colorful and simple models, they engage in shape and color recognition and matching.

Tales for Tots

Mondays, September 12, 19, and 26
 at 10:00 a.m.

Stories and songs for active listeners. Geared toward ages 2-3 with a caregiver. Older children are welcome! 30 minutes of open play follows. Registration is required.

Union County Aging Services Kiosk

Monday, September 12
 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Do you have questions about services available in Union County for seniors or their caregivers? Come visit the Union County Aging Services Kiosk, speak to our specialist, and get answers to your questions.

Medicare Workshop

Monday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for this Medicare workshop presented by Senior Advisors in Cranford, NJ. Learn about some of the recent changes, the different parts of Medicare, how Medicare supplements work, how to avoid the top 5 mistakes.

Evening Book Club

Monday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m.

We'll be discussing "Next Year in Havana" by Chanel Cleeton. Please speak with a librarian or email reference@clarklibrary.org if you need a copy of the book.

Baby Bookworms

Tuesdays, September 13, 20, and 27
 at 10:00 a.m.

Babies and toddlers are invited to listen to some books and learn some songs, rhymes, lap bounces, and fingerplays. 30 minutes of open play follows.

Sunset Acrylic Painting

Wednesday, September 14 at 11:00 a.m.
 Create a beautiful sunset painting on canvas. All supplies provided.

Clark Library Trivia Nights Schitt's Creek

Thursday, September 15 from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

We will be hosting a trivia contest on everything from history to the biggest hits on Netflix. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will receive both a prize and bragging rights. This month's Trivia Night will be on Schitt's Creek, the show by Dan and Eugene Levy.

Stories & More

Fridays, September 16, 23, and 30
 at 10:00 a.m.

Stories, movement, and songs followed by a simple craft for active listeners ages 3-5 years old. Registration is required.

LEGO® Club

Friday, September 16
 from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Join us for the LEGO® Club at the Clark Public Library! Create your own LEGO® structures. LEGO® are provided by the library. Creations are displayed in the Children's Area. For children in grades K - 5

Barks & Books

Saturday, Sept. 17, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

If you have a young, reluctant, or struggling reader, we want you to meet our therapy dogs! Therapy dogs are non-judgmental listeners and furry friends to read to that won't laugh if a child makes a mistake or stumbles over a word. Children learn to associate reading with being with the dog and begin to view reading in a positive way. Over time, the child's reading ability and confidence can improve because they are practicing their skills. Children will each get approximately 15 minutes of reading time with Bubble, Magnolia, or Sophie. Please register for a 15-minute time slot.

Sunday Family Movie Matinee

Sunday, September 18 at 2:00 p.m.

Join us for a family movie matinee featuring a newly released movie rated PG. Based on the original characters by Pete Docter, Andrew Stanton, and John Lasseter, this spinoff film follows astronaut Buzz Lightyear as he goes on his outer space adventures. His missions include encounters with dangerous creatures and killer robots. The 2022 Disney animated film by director Angus MacLane features a noteworthy voice cast, including Chris Evans, Keke Palmer, Uzo Aduba, and Taika Waititi.

Teen Advisory Group

Monday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Teens - let your voice be heard at the library! The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) helps create, plan, and run teen programs and services they would like offered at the Clark Public Library. Open to teens in Grades 6-12.

Afternoon Book Club

Tuesday, September 20 at 1:00 p.m.

We'll be discussing "Rise & Shine Benedict Stone" by Phaedra Patrick. Please speak with a librarian if you need a copy of the book.

[Hybrid] Family Game Night-Bingo

Thursday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Join us on Zoom or In-Person for Family Game Night! This month we will be playing BINGO!

Children, Parents, and your child's Grandparents are invited to play along! Prizes for winners and runners-up. *Must be willing to pick up prizes in person, they will not be mailed.

Maker Monday 3D Printer 101

Monday, September 26 at 3:30 p.m.

With this program, children will be able to learn all about the 3D Printer, how it works, what material is used, and be able to see up close how an object gets printed. The program will be in the Children's Room for ages 9-12.

Krafty Kids

Wednesday, September 28 at 3:30 p.m.

Join us as we make some fun and creative artwork. Don't forget to bring your imagination and creativity! Please register for each session individually. Geared to ages 5-11

Tinker Tots

Thursday, September 29 at 10:00 a.m.

Come join us for a morning of fun STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) activities perfect for little ones. For children ages 1 through Pre-K. Please register.

Little Scientist

Thursday, September 29 at 4 p.m.

Each session will be a different experiment that will touch upon a different STEM skill. For ages 6-12.

[Hybrid] Adult Free Bingo

Thursday, September 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Join us on Zoom or In-Person for free adult BINGO! Prizes for winners and runners-up.

Take & Makes for Preschoolers - Adults

Each month we have a new take-home craft to pick up and make at your leisure. While supplies last, no registration.

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JOHN ALEJANDRO MESA-BEDOYA GRADUATES SCHOOL OF NURSING

Trinitas Regional Medical Center's School of Nursing recently celebrated 49 graduates at its 168th commencement ceremony. Included was Clark resident John Alejandro Mesa-Bedoya.

The graduation ceremony, held at St. Michael Church in Cranford, featured a traditional pinning ceremony that symbolizes a rite of passage into the professional world of nursing and the nurse's commitment to those they care for.

While nursing school is uniquely challenging for all who enroll, the students that made up Trinitas Regional Medical Center's School of Nursing class of 2022 faced unprecedented challenges throughout their two-and-a-half year nursing school journeys which started in January 2020 just prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. During that time the students navigated multiple challenges with resilience including transitioning between remote and in-person learning multiple times, adhering to safety protocols including smaller clinical groups,

social distancing, mandatory masking and face shields, COVID screening, weekly COVID testing and relocating on campus after Hurricane Ida flooded the Trinitas School of Nursing educational center on the Union County College Campus. Additionally, nursing students in the class of 2022 participated in vaccination efforts with supervision from faculty, administering some of the first COVID vaccines to the community.

"It is my pleasure to congratulate the Trinitas School of Nursing Class of 2022," said Gary S. Horan, FACHE, President & Chief Executive Officer, Trinitas Regional Medical Center, an RWJBarnabas Health facility. "The past two and a half years have been unexpected and unforgettable, but our nursing students rose to every challenge they were faced with. We are very proud of students as well as our faculty and staff, for doing this important work during a very challenging situation, all while keeping

with the mission of Trinitas Regional Medical Center upholding a commitment to providing high-quality care to a diverse population."

Established in 1891, the Trinitas School of Nursing is fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Nursing Education, Inc. and the New Jersey State Board of Nursing. In 1971, the school made a commitment to serve educationally disadvantaged students, the non-traditional, and those seeking a second career and/or career mobility. This commitment resulted in the formation of a Cooperative Nursing Program (CNP) in partnership with Union County College, which allows students in the CNP to graduate with a Diploma in Nursing from Trinitas School of Nursing and an Associates in Science from Union County College. Upon graduation, all students are also eligible to sit for the National Council Licensing Examination for Registered Nurse Licensure. (NCLEX). For more visit trinitasschoolofnursing.org.



Photo by Grace Photography



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2 Units	6.5" x 2" or 3.25" x 4"	\$100	\$250	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800	\$900	\$1000
4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700	\$1900
6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000	\$2200
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400	\$2700
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700	\$3000
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REGISTER: <https://score.tfaforms.net/17?EventID=a105a000005qvnQ>

Participants are encouraged to ask questions as they pertain to their own businesses.



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Each month, over 160,000 newspapers are mailed to every home and business in 24 towns. He also offers full color printing and mailing services as well as an online presence that parallels his print publications. Through these publications, Renna Media has focused on the needs of the local business owner offering customized, affordable, advertising opportunities. Joe Renna also helps his advertisers with their marketing plans as a value-added service.

Mr. Renna's presentation will address the different aspects of building a marketing plan and tuning up existing ones. The audience will leave with the information to guide them in developing a plan that will get them the best return for their marketing budget. The presentation will encourage questions from the audience and will address specific challenges facing participating business owners.

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GRIEF RECOVERY SEMINAR - SEPT. 18

The First Presbyterian Church of Cranford (FPCC) is preparing to offer its free, 8-week, grief recovery seminar, "Journey Toward Wholeness: Healing the Grieving Heart," which takes place on Sunday evenings beginning September 18 until Sunday, November 6 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The seminar is being offered on Zoom only. There is no charge, but registration is required by calling 908-251-5641.

Exhausted, depleted, lonely, and isolated are just a few of the terms that describe how we are feeling while navigating through an increasingly chaotic existence, exacerbated by a pandemic, political conflict, and extreme weather. When you are grieving a loss amid all these stressors, every day may seem dark and overwhelming.

We offer a ray of light and welcome all grieving a loss of any type to join our seminar. The co-leaders of the program, Patti Williams, RN and Certified Grief Counselor, and Virginia Waters, Clinical Psychologist, have personal and professional training and experience in the field of grief and loss. They are joined by a team of trained facilitators who provide support and lead breakout groups for individuals who have experienced a similar loss.

In the words of a recent participant, "Thank you and your team for everything you are doing to create such necessary, safe, and encouraging bereavement healing space for these times. Being with other grievers, I felt myself soften into the truths of my loss in a profound way that I haven't had the opportunity to do at all during this time of Covid. I'm so grateful for that small step forward. I was also mightily impressed by how well you all managed the technology to make this possible. Well done!"

The program is free and open to all faiths. We have helped thousands of participants in 21 years. For more information visit firstprescranford.org/care/grief-recovery.

About the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford

As the body of Christ empowered by the Holy Spirit, the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford (FPCC), 11 Springfield Ave., Cranford, seeks to live God's Word and inspire others to embrace Jesus' commandment to love one another as the Lord loves us. Learn more at firstprescranford.org.

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Johnnie Walker Blue	1.75L	\$425.99
Johnnie Walker Black	750ml	\$28.99
Johnnie Walker Black	1.75L	\$59.99
Johnnie Walker Double Black	750ml	\$34.99
Johnnie Walker Red	750ml	\$19.99
Johnnie Walker Red	1.75L	\$33.09
Macallan 12yrs old (double cask)	750ml	\$60.99
Makers Mark	750ml	\$28.99
Makers Mark	1.75L	\$52.99

GIN

Beefeater	1.75L	\$35.99
Bombay Sapphire	1.75L	\$37.99
Seagram's gin	1.75L	\$21.99
Tanqueray	750ml	\$21.99
Tanqueray	1.75L	\$36.99

COGNAC & BRANDY

Courvoisier V.S.	750ml	\$32.99
Courvoisier V.S.	1.75L	\$57.99
Remy Martin V.S.O.P.	750ml	\$49.99
Remy Martin V.S.O.P.	1.75L	\$104.99

CORDIALS

Bailey's Irish Cream	1.75L	\$47.99
Duggan's Irish Cream	1.75L	\$28.99
Kahlua	1.75L	\$39.99
Krupnik	750ml	\$17.99
Licor 43	750ml	\$25.99
Licor 43	1.75L	\$42.99

VODKA

Absolut (regular)	750ml	\$19.09
Absolut (regular)	1.75L	\$29.09
Belvedere Vodka	750ml	\$27.99
Belvedere Vodka	1.75L	\$44.99
Ciroc (all types)	750ml	\$29.99
Ciroc (all types)	1.75L	\$57.99
Finlandia	750ml	\$15.99
Finlandia	1.75L	\$26.99
Grey Goose	750ml	\$24.99
Grey Goose	1.75L	\$39.99
Ketel One	750ml	\$19.99
Ketel One	1.75L	\$39.99
Luksusowa Vodka	1.75L	\$23.99
Pinnacle (all types)	750ml	\$11.99
Pinnacle (80 proof)	1.75L	\$17.99
Skyy	1.75L	\$19.99
Sobieski	750ml	\$11.99
Sobieski	1.75L	\$19.99
Stolichnaya (all types)	1.75L	\$30.09
Tanqueray Sterling	750ml	\$19.99
Tanqueray Sterling	1.75L	\$30.99
Three Olives (all types)	1L	\$19.99
Tito's Vodka	1.75L	\$30.99

RUM

Bacardi Light & Gold	750ml	\$12.99
Bacardi Light & Gold	1.75L	\$19.19
Captain Morgan Spice	1.75L	\$25.99
Malibu	750ml	\$18.99
Malibu	1.75L	\$27.99

TEQUILA

Deleon Blanco Tequila	750ml	\$37.99
Deleon Blanco Tequila	1.75L	\$59.99
Patron Silver	750ml	\$46.99
Patron Silver	1.75L	\$99.99
Cantera Negra Coffee Tequila	750ml	\$26.99

BEER

Becks (12oz) 24pk	24pk	\$25.99
Bud and Bud Lite cans	30pk	\$24.99
Bud and Bud Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$21.99
Coors Lite (24oz) cans	12pk	\$17.49
Coors Lite/Miller Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$21.99
Coors Lite/Miller Lite	30pk	\$24.99
Corona/Corona Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$31.99
Dab (16oz) cans	24pk	\$23.99
Dogfish Head 60 min.	24pk	\$37.99
Heineken/Heineken Lite bottles	24pk	\$30.99
Land Shark	24pk	\$26.99
Lech (500ml)	20pk	\$32.99
Modelo Especial cans	12pk	\$17.99
New Belgium Fat Tire	24pk	\$35.49
Pabst Blue Ribbon cans	30pk	\$19.99
Pilsner Urquell	24pk	\$30.99
Sagres	24pk	\$24.99
Sam Adams Boston Lager	24pk	\$35.25
Stella Artois loose bottles	24pk	\$32.99
Yuengling Lager bottles	24pk	\$22.99
Zywiec (11.2oz)	24pk	\$21.99

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