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EVENT CELEBRATES LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT DONATION

The Aliver Foundation

On June 6, The Aliver Foundation, Cranford Public Schools, Cranford Fire Department, and Cranford Police Department held a family friendly community event at Memorial Field in honor of PAL volunteers, to celebrate the donation of a lifesaving equipment bundle consisting of a CE TEK 4000 Outdoor AED Enclosure along with a Heartsine Samaritan 350P AED.

The evening took place during CPR & AED Awareness Week and featured an interactive CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and AED (automated external defibrillator) demonstration by Cranford Fire Department Lieutenant John Dillon who is also a First Responder Committee member with The Aliver Foundation, and a stethoscope craft for children.

Cranford Police Chief Matthew R. Nazzaro said. “Time saves lives and having an AED at this location 24 hours a day, 7 days a week is a tremendous addition to the public safety needs of Cranford – especially our kids.”

Each year, nearly 360,000 people in the United States will experience an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and fewer than 10% will survive. The best outcomes occur when CPR is

started immediately and an AED is used within the first few minutes. For every minute defibrillation is delayed, the chance of survival drops by about 10%.

The hope is that nobody will ever have to use this equipment but knowing it is there and can remain outside and accessible no matter the weather is so important.

ABOUT THE ALIVER FOUNDATION

Founded in January 2024, The Aliver Foundation’s mission is to raise awareness and funds to install all weather AEDs in outdoor recreation spaces while also providing crucial resources and educational opportunities to individuals and communities.

The goal is simple – to save lives and help hearts by:

- 1) Increasing the number of all weather, climate controlled AEDs that are in outdoor recreation spaces
- 2) Creating access to educational opportunities like CPR and AED training
- 3) Providing resources and support to sudden cardiac arrest survivors and their loved ones
- 4) Circulating messaging about the difference between SCA and heart attacks as well as CPR and AED usage

Learn more at: thealiverfoundation.org

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(above) Police Chief Nazzaro, Board of Education Members Christoper Kolibas, Jessica Soltys & Susan Shaw with the lifesaving equipment bundle, Andrew Hooey, and Jill A. Pall of The Aliver Foundation. Courtesy Photo



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YOUTH GROUPS REWARDED FOR MARCHING IN PARADE

Cranford 86 Project

For 104 years, Cranford has given generations of its youth a special opportunity to exhibit pride and patriotism in its Memorial Day Parade. Any time Cranford's Memorial Day is referenced on social media there will inevitably be a flurry of comments from adults of all ages fondly remembering their participation in the parade and ceremony.

In hopes of giving our current youth groups a similar experience, parade participation guidelines were established and it was announced that awards would be presented to the groups that displayed the most order, organization and uniformity. Our judges were positioned out on the

parade route and based on their input, along with a video review of the parade, award recipients were selected. The winners are:

DAISY TROOP 40894

These young ladies were focused on what they were doing and clearly identified themselves with a very nice banner. They marched in a respectful manner and were politely waving and engaging with the spectators. The leaders marched in line, at the rear of the group, so the children were clearly visible. Well done Daisies!

CRANFORD PAL CHEERLEADERS

This group was lined up in rows, in step and demonstrating their cheers. They were in uniform and even took the time to all have the

same hairstyle. Their group was not overwhelmed by adults and the cheerleaders were clearly visible to the spectators. Nice job!

Each group will receive \$150.00 worth of Downtown Cranford Gift Cards. Prizes were funded by personal donations from members of the Cranford 86 Project whose mission it is to ensure that the faces and stories of Cranford's 86 fallen military are recognized and remembered.

Thank you to the leaders of these groups, for guiding these young people to participate in Cranford's 104-year-old Memorial Day Parade, with the respect called for on the one day of the year on which our fallen military are honored!



(above) Daisy Troop 40894



Courtesy Photos

(above) Cranford PAL Cheerleaders





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CRANFORD VFW COLOR GUARD MARCHES TO NEW HEIGHTS

Cranford VFW Post 335 Color Guard, which has been named the Department of New Jersey VFW State Color Guard for two years in a row, performed a flawless installation ceremony at its May annual convention in Wildwood. The formal presentation of the changing of the overall leadership of the State organization involves a handoff of a United States flag between the past and newly elected commanders. The Exchange of the Colors was guarded and managed by the Cranford Color Guard who designed the highly technical presentation. In recognition of the installation of the new State Commander, the Cranford group also led in the annual parade in

Wildwood. Past State Commander and Cranford resident Jay Boxwell commented, “Our Color Guard received a terrific amount of praise from the over 500 members in attendance at the convention. The tight precision in their movements and procedures is awesome to watch. Our town should be proud of such representation in the State.” The Cranford Color Guard is well known for leading the annual Memorial Day Parade and even lead the initial St Patrick’s Parade in town. In addition, the Guard proudly presents the colors at all the Cranford High Football Team home

games as well as the High School graduation ceremony. Because of the Guard’s notoriety, they are in great demand at many events in all parts of the State. The current active members of the group are Captain Braulio Lorenzo, Mark Schwartz, Jay Price, Jim D’Arcy, Mark Pollack, Paul Havarilla, John Aslanian and Drew Burns. Any VFW eligible individual who would be interested in joining the Color Guard should email Cranford Post Commander Mike Gregory at cmd@vfw335.org, or call the Post @ 908-276-9730.



(above) Cranford VFW Post 335 Color Guard

Courtesy Photo

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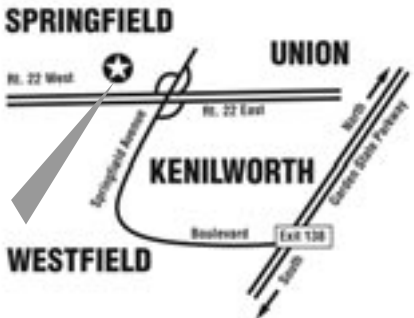
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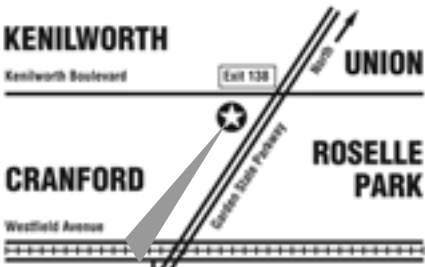
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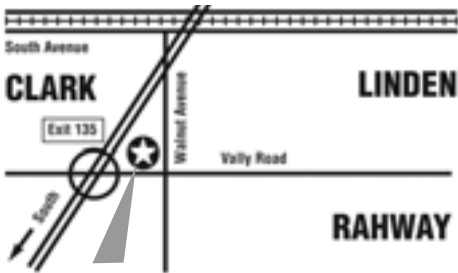
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TV 35 HONORED WITH THREE FIRST PLACE JAG AWARDS



(above) Cranford Mayor Terrence Curran and Cranford TV-35 Station Manager Don Smith. A proclamation was signed and read by Mayor Terrence Curran during the Township Committee meeting on June 3, 2025, celebrating Cranford TV-35 for its dedication, professionalism, and service to the people of Cranford, and honoring the station’s achievements in providing high-quality video content that continues to uplift, inform and connect with the community. Mayor Curran presented the proclamation to Mr. Smith.

Photos courtesy of Township of

Cranford Township

On May 15, 2025, at the annual Jersey Access Group (JAG) Conference and Awards Dinner, Cranford TV-35 was honored with 11 awards in all, including three first-place awards.

First Place: “Video Coverage of the Township Committee Meeting (July 9, 2024)” video. Camera work by Don Smith and directing by Christine Hoffman.

First Place: Bulletin Board. (The bulletin board provides community information, such as events, activities, and upcoming meetings, as well as traffic, weather, sports standings, and more, and is aired in between programming.)

First Place: “Back to School Safety Reminder” video in collaboration with the Cranford Police Department. Camera work and editing by Christine Hoffman.

TV-35 also attained four second-place awards and four third-place awards. There were 130 entrants statewide in all.

“TV-35 is a jewel in the Township’s crown. We are fortunate to have Don Smith and Christine Hoffman and many other people behind the camera helping us to get out information and highlight things that are going on in Cranford,” Mayor Terrence Curran said. A proclamation was signed and read by Mayor Curran during the Township Committee meeting on June 3, 2025, celebrating Cranford TV-35 for its dedication, professionalism, and service to the people of Cranford, and honoring the station’s achievements in providing high-quality video content that continues to uplift, inform and connect with the community.

“Placing in 11 categories out of 15, and placing first in three is really outstanding. Don Smith and

Christine Hoffman have brought TV-35 to a different level, following the legacy of our longtime station manager Ed Davenport,” Township Administrator and Chief Financial Officer Lavona Patterson stated.

“As pedestrian safety is a priority in the Township of Cranford and Cranford Police Department, we thank TV-35 for producing an informative public service announcement that creatively captured the attention of our community,” Police Chief Matthew Nazzaro said. “We congratulate them on their well-deserved recognition at the JAG Conference and thank them for being strong partners in public safety,” Chief of Police Matthew R. Nazzaro stated.

“The Township is committed to getting accurate and timely information to our residents and general public. TV-35 is integral in that effort. The staff’s creativity and professionalism has enhanced our efforts,” stated Kathleen Miller Prunty, liaison to Cranford TV-35.

“I would like to thank the Mayor, Township Committee and Township Administration for its ongoing support of local programming benefiting the residents of Cranford. We accept these first-place achievement awards on behalf of the residents of Cranford. We thank the Jersey Access Group for their continuing support of local access television across the state of New Jersey,” Manager of Cranford TV-35 Don Smith stated.

Cranford TV-35 is a member of the state-wide organization, Jersey Access Group (JAG), a professional organization that is a consortium of local access channels throughout the state of New Jersey.



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POLICE CARRY THE TORCH FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Cranford Police joined police officers from across the state in the 42nd Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run to benefit Special Olympics New Jersey. Over 3,000 police officers took to their local streets to raise funds and awareness for this incredible organization.

ABOUT THE ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW JERSEY:

Torch Run began in New Jersey in 1984 as a way to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics New Jersey. The run is a day-long event, split into 26 legs (or starting points) with

some legs beginning as early as 4:45 a.m. The run travels through more than 300 towns, covering 750 miles on-foot. About 3,000 runners participated in 2025. Representing over 450 police departments. To learn more, visit NJTorchRun.org.



(above) Cranford police officers participated in the 42nd Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Courtesy Photo

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A composite image showing a vintage wristwatch with a metal link bracelet on the left, and a collection of ornate silverware, including a teapot, sugar bowl, and creamer, on the right.



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FRED'S ROOM HELPS CHILDREN PROCESS GRIEF

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss

At Imagine, we know that grief is complex, and big feelings need a safe place to be expressed. That's why we created the Volcano Room, a dedicated space where children can release their emotions in a healthy way. Recently redecorated with characters from the Inside Out film series, the room features cushioned walls, soft basketballs, and big pillow piles to jump in where children can process their grief in their own time.

For the DeJesus family of Scotch Plains, Imagine has been a source of comfort for the past five years. To honor their beloved husband, son, and father, they chose to dedicate the Volcano Room as "Fred's Room." The event happened on the fifth anniversary of Fred DeJesus' death at just 38 years old. Fred's wife Suzanne, and their daughters led the family in a heartfelt dedication ceremony.

"We know that Fred is watching over us, front row for every dance recital, Girl Scout event, and school performance," Suzanne shared. "He's still cheering us on, asking, 'How did it go, kiddo? I know you hit it out of the park.'"

Spaces like Fred's Room are made possible by families who want to create a lasting tribute to their loved ones. As Imagine continues to grow, we are honored to help families find meaningful ways to celebrate the lives of those they hold dear.

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss is a 501c3 that offers grief and loss education and training to the community and free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 and young adults 19-30 who are coping with a loss due to death. Concurrently, support groups are available for the parents and caregivers of the children in the groups and offered in English and Spanish. For more information, please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imagineinjenj.org or visit their website at imagineinjenj.org.



(above) The DeJesus family gathers in Imagine's "Volcano Room" recently dedicated in memory of Scotch Plains resident Fred DeJesus.

Courtesy Photo

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1 Unit (Business card)	3.25"x2"0	100	260	360	460	560	600	660	700	800	900	1000
2 Units	6.5"x2" or 3.25"x4"	150	360	560	600	700	800	900	1000	1100	1200	1300
4 Units	3.25"x8" or 6.5"x4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
6 Units	6.5"x6.25" or 10"x4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE	6.5"x9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
12 Units	6.5"x14"	400	960	1400	1800	2100	2400	2700	3000	3300	3600	3900
18 FULL PAGE	10"x14"	500	1200	1800	2200	2500	2800	3000	3300	3600	3900	4300
2-PAGE SPREAD	(2) 10"x14"	800										
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SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ PRESENTS BRAZILIAN JAZZ QUARTET

The Salem Roadhouse Café presents Gerson Galante and his Brazilian Jazz Quartet, with special guest vocalist Melanie Mitrano and featuring students from the Community College of Morris on Saturday, July 12, 2025. The doors open at 7:15 p.m., the show starts at 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 and includes show, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert. The venue is located in Bailey Hall at Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities.

Having performed together at the Salem Roadhouse Café before, Gerson and Melanie present the mystical sounds of Brazilian Jazz with a dynamic quartet of sax/flute, bass and keyboards. Melanie will provide vocals, as will various students from the Community College of Morris, where Melanie teaches music.

Original artwork will be on display at the Roadhouse Fine Arts Gallery, as presented by an artists collective of over a dozen local artists led by Dr. Francis Billups. Music and art definitely go together, and at the Roadhouse it's a perfect blend with a great atmosphere.

As always, the Salem Roadhouse Café is live, intimate, up front, and personal. All ages are welcome.

ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

It's not "church music." It's music music. Folks who've come to the Salem Roadhouse Café know that it's a clean, safe place for people

who enjoy listening to live music — in a world otherwise filled with clubs and bars. The Roadhouse has always offered its stage to local and independent mainstream musicians. Jazz, rock, folk, and other groups have performed. What's the common thread? They're all great musicians playing the kind of music people like to hear. There's no message, just music.

Now in its 16th year of operation, the Roadhouse started in 2008 by members of Townley Presbyterian Church with a grant from the Presbytery of Elizabeth. Hey — that's why we're located where we are, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities. That's its social mission.

But the many musicians who've played the Salem Roadhouse Café see it as a solid performance venue. They love it because of its special intimacy and great audiences. They say people here "really listen." Ask any of the musicians you meet here — they love to play the Roadhouse, and they want to come back often.

The Salem Roadhouse Café has raised funds for many carefully chosen charities. They include: The Presbytery of Elizabeth E-port Center, Center For Hope Hospice, Community Food Bank, Monarch Housing, Angel Paws Animal Rescue, National MS Society, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Program, and others. Many thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.

LIBRARY JULY SPECIAL EVENTS FOR ADULTS

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Tosho-con

Saturday, July 19, from 10am-4pm

This free, full-day, all-ages comic, anime, and pop culture convention will include panels, interactive workshops, crafts, special guests, dance parties, a cosplay contest, artist alley.

Summer Reading Challenge

June through August 18

Arecreational literacy program for community members of all ages. Visit our website to find the link to log books online and enter raffles.

1:1 Senior Tech Help Appointments

Tuesdays starting at 1pm

Have questions about your smartphone, tablet, or other device? Register for a 15 or 30-minute tech help appointment with a librarian.

Romance Readers Book Club

Monday, July 14, at 7pm

Join us for July's Romance Readers Book Club. Feel free to come anyway to discuss whichever romance you've recently read.

Trivia Night

Wednesday, July 16, at 7pm

Join us in the Community Center! Feel free to bring your own snacks and (non-alcoholic) drinks. Prizes awarded to the winning team.

Wednesday Morning Adult Craft

Wednesday, July 16, at 10am

A relaxing morning of reverse coloring!

Adults Create

Tuesday, July 22, at 7pm

Join us the second Tuesday of the month for crafts! All supplies will be provided! Space is limited; please visit our website to register.

Books and Brew Book Club

**Monday, July 28, at 2pm & 7pm
(at The Morning Roast)**

Join us for our monthly Books and Brew book club at The Morning Roast! This month's book is *The Cloisters* by Katy Hays. The Morning Roast offers coffee and non-alcoholic beverages available for purchase. Registration is required due to space and can be done through the Library website.

Create in Community crafting group

Friday mornings 10:00 – 12:00

Working on an amazing afghan, cozy cardigan, or joyful junk journal? Don't have a craft of your own? We will have coloring pages and colored pencils available so that you can keep your hands busy while you build community.

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