

CRANFORD MONTHLY_{NJ}

Published by Renna Media. On-line at RennaMedia.com

Issue 145 • January 2026

GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place your ad
in this space
and be in
every mailbox
in town!



CALL FOR DETAILS
908-418-5586

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LANCASTER, PA
PERMIT NO. 1325

ECRWSS

*****ECRWSSDDM*****
POSTAL PATRON
CRANFORD, NJ 07016

CREATING CHRISTMAS MEMORIES WITH THE JAYCEES

Cranford loves to celebrate the Christmas season, and many of the town's best holiday traditions involve the Cranford Jaycees.

For many years, the group has provided the lights and decorations for the Eastman Plaza clock tower downtown, including the new sleigh donated in 2023, providing a festive holiday centerpiece for the community.

The Jaycees have also hosted a free Kids Christmas Party each year for several decades, which includes free photos with Santa Claus. More than 5,000 photos have been captured since the switch to digital in 2011. This year's party was highlighted by a surprise visit from "The Grinch," whose attempt to "steal Christmas" was quickly thwarted by the Cranford Police.

The group is best known for their Santa Deliveries and Toy Drive. Over the course of two nights, the Jaycees and Santa stopped at more than 1,050 homes to deliver more than 2,500 presents, both records, escorted by flashing lights from a Cranford Police or Fire Department vehicle and a team of elves.

The program invites parents to donate a present for families in need and to then have a wrapped present delivered by Santa to their home on a weekend night. The drive netted more than 3,000 toys, filling two U-Haul trucks, which were distributed to Cranford residents and several local organizations: Cranford Family Care, the New Jersey Community Development Corporation in Paterson, and Union County Social Services.

More than 60 Jaycee members volunteer to support the event, from organizing presents and loading delivery cars to planning



traffic routes and suiting up as Santa. Eight teams, each with a Santa and elf helpers, delivered the presents each night.

"Every year it's a massive undertaking, but it's also our favorite event to see the joy when Santa pulls up to the houses," said Cameron Andre, who has co-chaired the event with Mike Bond since 2016 and is passing the torch to new Jaycees. "We thank everyone who donated toys so we can spread that joy across our community and give more families a happy holiday."

Courtesy Photo



Got Critters?

Complete Termite & Pest Control Since 1952
From rats to bats, skunks to raccoons, and squirrels to mice
... and everything in between, WE CAN HELP.

ARNOLD'S
PEST CONTROL

Business license #90966A
908-276-8062
ArnoldsPestControl.com
9 Quine Street, Cranford, NJ 07016

CALL TODAY!

CRANFORD MONTHLYNJ

Renna Media, LLC, Publishers
202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

Cranford Monthly is published by Renna Media. 9,900 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Cranford, NJ. Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.
©2025 Contents of this newspaper cannot be reproduced without written consent from Renna Media LLC.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

Do you have a community service that you need help publicizing? Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (honor, award, etc.), send us your news! Email: editor@rennamedia.com

ADVERTISING

Joe Renna: 908-447-1295
joerenna@rennamedia.com



Find us on online: rennamedia.com
[facebook.com/ Cranford Monthly](https://facebook.com/CranfordMonthly)

CHAMBER HOSTS ANNUAL SANTA TROLLY RIDE



(above) The annual free Trolley Rides & Sing Along with Santa, organized by the Cranford Area Chamber of Commerce, returned on Saturday, December 13th.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF CRANFORD

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ

Does your new year's resolution
include going back to church?



We've made it easy for you!

SIGN UP FOR A VISIT ONLINE!

☒ We'll meet you at the door

☒ Give you a quick tour

☒ Introduce you to the Pastor

☒ And give you a free gift for coming!



www.firstprescranford.org/new-here



SAM'S

LANDSCAPING

COMPLETE PROPERTY CARE

TREAT YOURSELF TO STRESS-FREE
PROPERTY CARE IN 2026!

WEEKLY LAWN SERVICE
HARDSCAPING
PLANTING
MULCH

SPRING CLEANUPS
GARDEN PREP
SOD
TOPSOIL

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL OF OUR SERVICES



OFF-SEASON HARDSCAPING SPEACIALS

PATIOS
WALKWAYS
DRIVEWAYS
RETAINING WALLS

FREE
ESTIMATES

SAMSLANDSCAPING.COM

CUSTOMER SERVICE - OUR BUSINESS; LANDSCAPING - OUR SPECIALTY!

TEXT OR CALL 908-441-7302

FREE
ESTIMATES

Considering Relocation, Retirement or Second Home?

– You're Invited –

**THE PREMIER
RELOCATION
EVENT**

**Best
Places
EXPO** 

**EXHIBITS, SEMINARS,
DISCOVERY TRAVEL
& MORE**

JAN 31-FEB 1

Sat 10am-4pm • Sun 11am-3pm

BRIDGEWATER MARRIOTT

700 COMMONS WAY, BRIDGEWATER, NJ

The Best Places to Live... All in One Place!

FEATURING REAL ESTATE FROM NORTH CAROLINA, FLORIDA, SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, TENNESSEE, VIRGINIA, DELAWARE, PLUS GREECE, MEXICO AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

- Compare the best new places to vacation, retire or relocate – in one convenient location.
- Discover areas that afford high quality of life yet very low taxes.
- Get answers to your questions by meeting personally with relocation experts & home builders.

Attend Workshops & Presentations Designed to Help You Find Your Ideal Place

- How to Choose Your Ideal Place
- International Lifestyles
- Selling Your Home in Today's Market
- Building Your Ideal Home
- Planning for Retirement in an Inflationary World



PRESENTED BY
idealLIVING

**Best
Places
EXPO** 

THE PREMIER
RELOCATION EVENT

COMPLIMENTARY SHOW PASS

ADMIT TWO
JAN 31 - FEB 1, 2026

Bridgewater Marriott
700 Commons Way, Bridgewater, NJ
CALL for info: 800-736-0321

RSVP: BestPlacesExpo.com

EXPO HOURS:
Sat: 10am - 4pm
Sun: 11am - 3pm

Scan to RSVP



RSVP and receive a FREE Relocation Guide at the Expo.

HICKORY TREE CHORUS INVITES ACAPPELLA SINGERS TO OPEN AUDITIONS

The award-winning Hickory Tree Chorus is calling singers in the soprano, alto, and contralto ranges to join their harmonious sisterhood!

Performing in communities throughout northern and central New Jersey, the chorus enjoys singing recognizable popular songs - arranged in rich four-part harmony.

Fresh off their top-scoring performance at the 2025 Sweet Adelines Region 15 competition, the

chorus has earned a coveted spot in the Harmony Classic at the 78th Annual Sweet Adelines International Competition in Columbus, Ohio, October 2026. Now, they're building their sound for the world stage.

Open auditions will be held in Stirling between 6:30-7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in January 2026 and take less than 10 minutes (flexible scheduling is available). Singers are

asked to perform a brief acappella song of their choice. No experience required, just a love of singing and a desire to grow.

This is more than a chorus—it's a sisterhood, a mission, and a moment. Will your voice be part of it?

For details and to schedule your audition, email us at info@hickorytreechorus.org or call 908-377-1399.



Office: (732) 499-0030, x228
Cell: (908) 419-7696
Fax: (732) 388-4233
Email: thomasi@hallmarkrealtors.com
www.hallmarkrealtors.com
112 Westfield Ave., Clark, NJ 07066



Thomas Italiano
Realtor - Sales Associate



PICK UP & DELIVERY LAUNDRY SERVICE

Just call us for a pickup time.
We'll swing on by,
pick up your laundry
and bring it back clean,
fresh and folded

908-528-5080

- Pick-Up and Delivery Every Day Monday through Saturday
- Special Pricing for Commercial Accounts
- Everyday Discounts for Seniors, Veterans and Individuals with Disabilities

Cranford Resident Owned Business



25% OFF YOUR FIRST ORDER

Minimum order is 30lbs of clothes, sheets and towels. Blankets, pillows and other items are a separate charge. Please call for pricing.


LAUNDRY WORLD



BUILDING COMMUNITY, ONE LOAD AT A TIME.

LaundryWorldNJ.com

UNION COUNTY
ORTHOPAEDIC
GROUP




A DIVISION OF OrthoNJ

ORTHOPEDICS - PAIN - PODIATRY IN YOUR COMMUNITY

BOARD CERTIFIED PHYSICIANS - PROVIDING EXPERT CARE
PHYSICAL THERAPY - CLARK & LINDEN
URGENT CARE - LINDEN, WEEKDAY LATE AFTERNOONS
SAME-DAY APPOINTMENTS & ON-SITE DIAGNOSTICS


HELPING YOU MOVE IN CONFIDENCE



LINDEN • CLARK • UNION

CALL US **908-864-0664** TEXT US **908-628-1115**

Hablamos Español!



SCAN FOR MORE INFO

WWW.UNIONCOUNTYORTHO.COM

Follow Us On

FACEBOOK

RENNA MEDIA



Call Today for a Free Estimate! ☎ 855.624.6655



AS SEEN ON
GEORGE TO THE RESCUE
NBC

Magnolia™
HOME REMODELING GROUP

ROOFING | SIDING | WINDOWS
KITCHENS | BATHROOMS | BASEMENTS
MASONRY | DECKS | PORCHES



Payment Plans

WINDOWS \$209	BASEMENTS \$395
KITCHENS \$389	BATHROOMS \$199
ROOFING \$249	DECKS/PATIOS \$189
SIDING \$289	PORCHES/STEPS \$185

0% Plans Available!

Estimated monthly payments.
Rates & payments based on credit approval.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS ALSO AVAILABLE

Interior & Exterior Remodeling | Family Owned & Operated

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | 30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

NJDCA 13VH07755300



MagnoliaHomeRemodeling.com

CELEBRATING ALMOST 100 YEARS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



#SMS STRONG

**Registrations for the 2026-2027
academic year are now being accepted**

- Faith-based environment
- Early Childhood Program
Pre K3 & Pre K4 (Full & Half Day)
- Full Day academically based
Kindergarten
- Primary, Elementary,
and Middle School curriculums
- Controlled class size
- Average 16:1 student-teacher ratio
- Chromebooks for grades 2-8
- Before and after care programs
are available daily on site
- Member of the National Catholic
Education Association (NCEA)
- Accredited by the Middle States
Association Commission
on Elementary Schools

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE
Thursday, January 22, 2026
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Sunday, January 25, 2026
11:00 pm - 1:30 pm

**PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL
FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CALL
(908) 276-9425**

100 Alden Street, Cranford, NJ
www.smscranford.com
E-Mail: saint.michael@verizon.net

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH PARISHIONERS' CLOTHES DONATIONS DELIVERED TO NEWARK

Cranford Knights of Columbus - # 6226

The Cranford Knights of Columbus Council # 6226 recently supported the 2025 Franciscan Charities Fall Coat Drive in Newark led by Brother Keith Santulli. Over several weeks, Brother Knight volunteers collected, sorted and delivered hundreds of articles of clothing donated by St. Michael's Church parishioners with over 15 contractor sized bags of donations in total.

Brother Knights delivered all that was collected and helped distribute more than 1,500 coats, hats, gloves and scarves to over 650 needy families in Newark's Central Ward along with serving 350 hot lunches. The Franciscan Charities is a charitable organization that operates Franciscan Kitchens providing meals and a variety of social services to their needy neighbors

in the Central and West wards of Newark, NJ. Special thanks to our Pastor Father Marc Vicari, the St. Michael's Parish Community and Parish Staff and Brother Santulli who spearheads this worthy Council charitable initiative every year.

Since the Council's founding in 1970, the Cranford Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Men's Fraternal Organization dedicated to our four core principles, Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. The Cranford Council supports many worthy charities and civic causes and is committed to being a viable part of our community nationally, statewide and locally. For information about joining the Cranford Council, please contact our Grand Knight Tom Turner at 908-884-4083, or visit our website: cranfordknights.org



(above, l-r) Brother Joseph Patella, Past Grand Knight Jerry Conheeney, and Brother Knights Keith Santulli, Tom Molfetto, and Jim Dino.

Courtesy Photo

Over 20 Years Experience

Krause Dental Care

*Cranford's own continues a
trusted tradition of quality care!*



- Insurance Accepted
- Affordable Fees
- Second Opinions

908-272-3001 118 North Avenue West
www.krausedentalcare.com Suite 101
Cranford, NJ 07016

"Family care for newborns through 100"



**Vanguard
Medical
Group**
Guiding You to Better Health.

House Calls, Open 6 Days, Evening hours

570 South Ave E, Bldg. G | Cranford, NJ 07016

Make your appointment today! 908.272.7990

MY HANDYMAN & PAINTER



**QUALITY HOME IMPROVEMENTS
AT AFFORDABLE PRICES**

**All Kinds of
Home Repairs
- No Job Too Small**

732-331-9572

www.MyHandymanAndPainter.com

- Doors Hung
- Stair Rails Installed & Repaired
- Sheetrock Installed & Repaired
- Fences Installed & Repaired
- Minor Electric & Plumbing



Bathrooms

My new Bathroom took less than 2 weeks from start to finish. Love my new heated towel rail.
- Heather H.



Kitchens

"Ryki & his guys did a great job on my mummy's kitchen remodel. He also brought me cookies every day."
- Trinity the Pitbull

Decks & Porches



Big new Composite Deck about 43Ft. x 28Ft., built in fall 2024. Looks Spectacular.
- Anne B.

Windows, Siding & Capping

New Siding and Custom Windows installed and Capped. Good Work and Great Price.
- Dawn S



Indoor & Outdoor Painting

Ryki and his guys painted the outside shakes of the house and capped all exposed wood with PVC coated aluminum. Good for another 20 years. House looks like new.
- Tim & Anne R.

Basement Waterproofing & Finishing



Had French drain and 2 sump pumps installed by Ryki's company in a very wet basement 3 years ago. Bone dry ever since. After a month when we were sure basement was dry, the Basement was finished.
- Steven C



FREE ESTIMATES!

Duke says "Adopt, Don't Shop."
Pet friendly - We support animal rescues

View our Google Reviews.



Licensed, Insured & Bonded

License #13VH11554200

MY HANDYMAN & PAINTER LLC. 100 WALNUT AVE, SUITE 210. CLARK NJ 07066

ESTATES ROADSHOW BUYING EVENTS

Gold Is At An All Time High NOW IS THE TIME TO SELL

GOLD EXCEEDS \$4,000 PER OUNCE!!!



BUYING ALL GOLD

- Gold Necklaces
- Gold Earrings
- Gold Rings
- Gold Bracelets
- Gold Pendants
- Gold Charms
- Gold Watches

BUYING ALL COINS

- Gold Coins
- Gold Eagles
- Proof Sets
- Kreugerrands
- Buffalos
- US Silver Coins Pre-64
- Morgan/Peace Dollars

BUYING ALL STERLING SILVER

- Silverware
- Trays
- 925 Jewelry
- All Sterling Silver

**SILVER
NOW \$50
PER OZ!**

WATCHES

- Rolex
- Cartier
- Patek Philippe
- Pocket Watches

BUYING ALL DIAMONDS

- Wedding Rings
- Loose Diamonds
- Diamond Jewelry
- Engagement Rings

EstatesRoadshow.com

**ADD 20%
TOWARD YOUR SALE
WITH THIS COUPON!**

* Limit 1 Per Customer. Visit us at a show with this coupon for more details.
This Coupon must be presented at the start of the transaction. Other restrictions
may apply. All prices subject to market fluctuation. Offers Subject to Condition
& Presentation. Please Bring All Appropriate Boxes & Paper Work.

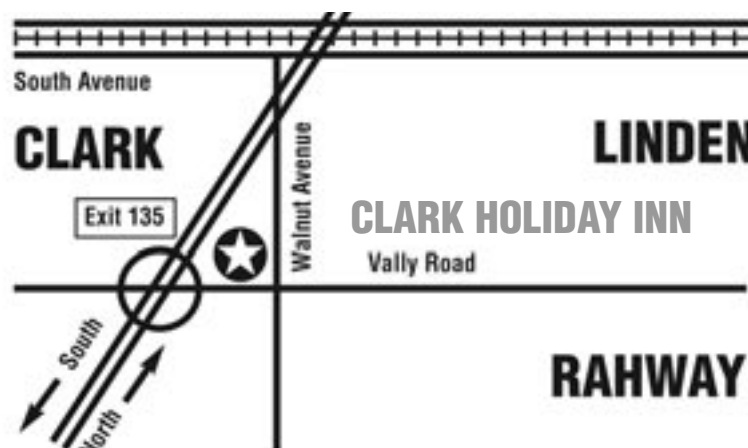


**Highest
Cash Offer
on the Spot!**

**Don't Miss Out!
We Pay the Most!
Instant Verbal Quotes!**

JANUARY 2025 SHOW @ CLARK HOLIDAY INN!!

JAN 19th TO 23rd 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



36 Valley Road, Clark, NJ

No Appointment Necessary. • FREE Appraisals • FREE Admission

Speak to the company's owner: Marshall Smoller: 609-781-6559

ESTATES ROADSHOW BUYING EVENTS

Gold Is At An All Time High NOW IS THE TIME TO SELL

GOLD EXCEEDS \$4,000 PER OUNCE!!!



BUYING ALL GOLD

- Gold Necklaces
- Gold Earrings
- Gold Rings
- Gold Bracelets
- Gold Pendants
- Gold Charms
- Gold Watches

BUYING ALL COINS

- Gold Coins
- Gold Eagles
- Proof Sets
- Kreugerrands
- Buffalos
- US Silver Coins Pre-64
- Morgan/Peace Dollars

BUYING ALL STERLING SILVER

- Silverware
- Trays
- 925 Jewelry
- All Sterling Silver

**SILVER
NOW \$50
PER OZ!**

WATCHES

- Rolex
- Cartier
- Patek Philippe
- Pocket Watches

BUYING ALL DIAMONDS

- Wedding Rings
- Loose Diamonds
- Diamond Jewelry
- Engagement Rings

EstatesRoadshow.com

**ADD 20%
TOWARD YOUR SALE
WITH THIS COUPON!**

* Limit 1 Per Customer. Visit us at a show with this coupon for more details. This Coupon must be presented at the start of the transaction. Other restrictions may apply. All prices subject to market fluctuation. Offers Subject to Condition & Presentation. Please Bring All Appropriate Boxes & Paper Work.



**Highest
Cash Offer
on the Spot!**

Don't Miss Out!

We Pay the Most!

Instant Verbal Quotes!

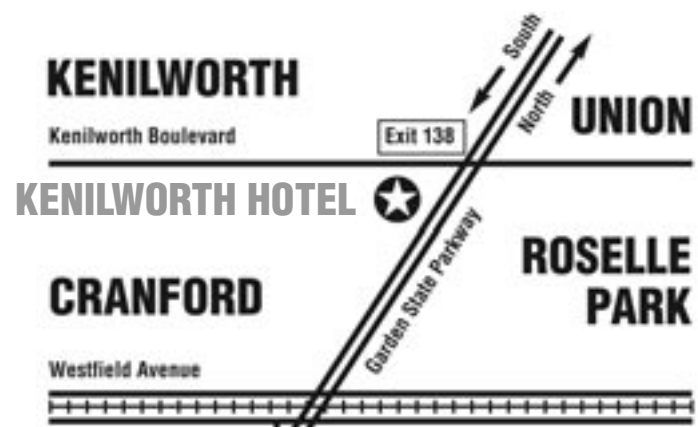
**TWO WEEKS IN JANUARY
@ KENILWORTH HOTEL!!**

FIVE DAYS A WEEK 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**MONDAY - FRIDAY
JAN 5th TO 9th**

AND

JAN 19th TO 23rd



60 S 31st Street, Kenilworth, NJ

No Appointment Necessary. • FREE Appraisals • FREE Admission

Speak to the company's owner: Marshall Smoller: 609-781-6559

SPIRITUAL? CURIOUS? SEEKING?



Do you consider yourself Spiritual? Are you Curious about what people are talking about when they speak of having faith or being spiritual? Are you Seeking peace of mind, of heart of soul?

Come and see for yourself. Come and explore the Christian faith. Come and discuss with other seekers what is on your mind, what you cannot talk about except with other seekers. Come to an Alpha gathering.

Alpha is for everybody that wants to discuss seeking answers to life's big questions. Why are we here? Is this all there is to life? Where are we going? How do I attain peace of mind, heart, and soul? Whether you are young or old, have faith or are atheist or agnostic, Alpha provides a safe environment for exploring our big questions about life.

We begin by sharing a meal together and getting to know each other. We watch a video together then break into small groups for uninhibited discussion about what is on our minds.

The series runs for 12 weeks on Monday nights beginning at 7:30 p.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m. It will begin February 2nd, 2026, and end May 4th, 2026. Five of the sessions are live in person and the remainder are on Zoom. There is no cost to participate. You will need a desire for frank discussion, a willingness to participate and a commitment to attend. You will also need a computer or smartphone capable of Zoom sessions.

The live in person sessions will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 1571 S. Martine Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ.

To register go onto IHMParish.net/Alpha. If you have any questions, please call 908-889-2100.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

On Saturday, December 6th, the Knights of Columbus proudly supported Saint Michael School with their annual Breakfast with Santa. The Knights generously donated the entire breakfast and provided two shifts of 45 members who helped cook, clean, and distribute coloring books and crayons to the children. The event was a resounding success, serving breakfast to 300 attendees.

A highlight of the morning was Santa's arrival. He walked through the cafeteria, taking the time to sit with each child and listen to their Christmas

wishes, creating memorable moments for everyone involved.

The Cranford Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization dedicated to our four Core Principles: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Our Cranford Council actively supports various charitable and civic causes at local, state, and national levels, and we are committed to being a positive and engaged part of our community. For more info about joining, please contact our Grand Knight, Tom Turner, at 908-884-4083 or visit our website.



Courtesy Photo

CAN SELL YOUR HOUSE YOURSELF?
YES. \$\$\$\$ YOU CAN!

All you need is a little help to point you in the right direction.

For That, Call: 908-463-2089
E-mail: fsbowner49@gmail.com
Advisory Consultants, Edison, NJ 08817
Initial Consultation is FREE!

EDWARD J. HOBBIE MARK E. HOBBIE

HOBBIE & HOBBIE
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, LLC

Celebrating over 50 years of service to the Cranford and Westfield area.

908-276-4777
hobbieandhobbie.com
fax: 908-709-1663
edward@hobbieandhobbie.com mark@hobbieandhobbie.com
476 South Avenue. East, Cranford, NJ 07016-0863

- Estate Administration
- Will and Trusts
- Elder Law
- Real Estate

COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

The highest compliment I can receive is a referral from a satisfied client.

Cell 908-202-1702 • O: 908-233-5555
ElizabethBHomes.com
Efax 908-935-0960 • elizabeth.bataille@gmail.com
209 Central Ave, Westfield, NJ 07090

Elizabeth Bataille
Sales Associate

Top 1%
Sales Associate
Nationwide

Al's Carpentry Home Improvements

25 Years in Business

Bathrooms - Basements - Decks - Tile
Additions- Doors/Windows - Molding - Drywall
Kitchens - Roofing - Siding - Plumbing - Electrical
Int. & Ext. Painting - Household Cleanouts

Call: 908.451.2230
alscarpentry11@aol.com

Electrical Lic. # 14616
& Plumbing w #8660

NJ ANTIQUE BUYERS

WE BUY ANTIQUES, ART, COLLECTIBLES, COINS, AND JEWELRY

WE BUY ANYTHING OLD

- Old Toys
- Coins and Medals
- Watches & Clocks
- Judaica Collectibles
- Military Collectibles
- Asian Decorative Arts
- Old Writing Instruments
- Antique Porcelain & Glass
- Art (Paintings, Sculptures, Old Prints)
- Jewelry (Vintage, Costume, Silver, and Gold)
- Sterling Silver, European Silver, Antique Silverplate

201-410-8442
info@njantiques.com
www.njantiques.com
3 East Pleasant Ave.
Maywood, NJ

We do house-calls anywhere within the tri-state area.

CRANFORD KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

Submitted by John Doolan

The Cranford Knights of Columbus Council #6226 recently made a ceremonial check presentation to the Madd Ox Foundation at the November General Meeting held at the Garwood Columbian Club Hall. The Madd Ox Foundation is a non-profit organization driven by a deep commitment to raising awareness, supporting families and advancing research to prevent stillbirth and ease its impact. The Council donated

\$5,000 from the proceeds of our Annual Golf held in September at the Galloping Hill Golf Course in Kenilworth, NJ. We would like to thank all of the local businesses and organizations for their help and support that continues to make this worthy event a success each and every year. Since its inception in 2004, the Council's Annual Golf Outing has raised over \$400,000, which has been used to help worthy charities and organizations that the

Council supports on an annual basis. Since the Council's founding in 1970, the Cranford Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Men's Fraternal Organization dedicated to our four core principles, Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. The Cranford Council supports many worthy charities and civic causes and is committed to being a viable part of our community nationally, statewide and locally. For information about joining the Cranford Council, please contact our Grand Knight Tom Turner at 908-884-4083 or visit our web site, cranfordknights.org.



(above, l-r) Pictured in the check presentation photo fare Grand Knight Tom Turner, Brother Knight Rich Leahey, Past Grand Knight John Doolan, Jennifer Gomes-Lemon, Malcolm Lemon, Past Grand Knight Jerry Conheeney, David Lemon, Past Grand Knight John McKeary, Brother Knight Paul Zissler and Worthy Chaplain Monsignor Tim Shugrue.

Courtesy Photo

GRATITUDE GRANT FROM ELKS FOUNDATION

Cranford Elks recently presented a check in the amount of \$2,500 to Madd Ox Foundation as part of the Gratitude Grant from Elks National Foundation. Madd Ox Foundation is a non-profit

organization dedicated to raising awareness, supporting families, and advancing research to prevent stillbirth and alleviate its impact. Learn more about them at maddox-foundation.org.

Courtesy Photo



'Tis the season when home means everything.

If a move is on your mind, I'm here to help. Call now to discuss your goals for the new year.

Diana Chaves
Realtor® Associate
Cell (908) 873-6586
diana.chaves@cbmoves.com



Happy Holidays!



Coldwell Banker Realty
209 Central Avenue
Westfield, NJ 07090
(908) 233-5555

Angi Home Improvement LLC
973-896-4656

HIGH END TILE & FINISH CARPENTRY


- Molding/Trim
- Sheet Rock
- Doors
- Tile Work
- Painting
- Interior & Exterior Remodeling

Visit our website for sample photos and testimonials: www.angillc.com

ALL PIPES
Plumbing
Heating and
Air Conditioning

Master Plumber Lic. #12951

Located in Cranford, NJ



Bonded & Insured

Joe Neglio

908-499-9092

TRY DRY JANUARY

The CDC defines drinking in moderation by limiting intake to 2 drinks or less in a day for men or 1 drink or less in a day for women. Heavier drinking and long-term drinking can increase physical and mental problems. The concept of Dry January, wishing to cut down on your alcohol intake, or simply wanting to begin the new year with a clean slate by choosing not to drink beer, wine, or spirits for one month, appeals to someone who may have noticed a pattern that they're drinking a little bit more than they should, especially during the holidays.

THERE ARE BENEFITS TO DRY JANUARY:

- You'll get a mood boost.
- You'll sleep more soundly.
- You might feel less bloated or even drop a few pounds.
- You'll save money.
- Your skin might look brighter.
- You'll have a stronger immune system.
- You'll feel better in the morning.
- You'll have a new relationship with alcohol.

A month may seem like a long time, but most people can be successful. Here are some tips for a successful Dry January:

Find a substitute non-alcoholic drink. For social situations, or when you crave a cocktail after a long day, reach for alcohol-free beverages like sparkling water, soda, or virgin beverages (non-alcoholic versions of alcoholic drinks.)

Non-alcoholic beer or wine also is an option, but some brands still contain up to 0.5% alcohol by volume, so check the label.

Avoid temptations. Keep alcohol out of your house. When you are invited to someone's home, bring your non-alcoholic drinks with you.

Create a support group. Let friends and family know about your intentions and encourage them to keep you accountable. Better yet, enlist someone to do the challenge with you.

Use the Try Dry app. This free app helps you track your drinking, set personal goals, and offers motivational information like calories and money saved from not drinking. It's aimed at cutting back on or cutting out alcohol, depending on your choices.

Don't give up. If you slip up, don't feel guilty. Just begin again the next day.

If you found Dry January to be a positive experience, why not consider extending it a little longer or gradually decreasing your alcohol consumption? Embracing these small changes could lead to lasting improvements in overall health and well-being.

Written by Amy Lewis, MPH, MCHES, Health Educator, Westfield Regional Health Department, on behalf of the Mayors Wellness Campaign.

BROOK ARTS CENTER ANNOUNCES IT 2ND SPEAKEASY SOIREE AND SILENT AUCTION.

The historic Brook Arts Center is proud to announce its Second Annual Speakeasy Soirée & Silent Auction, Friday, January 23, 2026, at 7:00 PM. This Roaring '20s-themed evening promises an unforgettable night of glitz, glamour, entertainment, and support for one of Somerset County New Jersey's, historic landmarks.

Guests will be transported back to the golden age as they enjoy live music, period-inspired entertainment, and a lavish buffet.

The evening's highlight is a silent auction featuring more than 100 exclusive items, including a cruise getaway, a Bradford Portraits gift certificate with a private photo session, a 20-inch framed wall portrait and luxury hotel stay, four VIP tickets to Meadowlands Racing with dinner and winner's circle photos, designer handbags, sports memorabilia, dining and spa packages and so much more.

Tickets are \$50 per person or \$80 per couple and include buffet dining, live music, live

entertainment, and a cash bar.

Attendees are encouraged to dress in their finest 1920s-inspired attire to fully embrace the spirit of the evening.

The Speakeasy Soirée is the Brook Arts Center's largest fundraiser of the year.

As a fully volunteer-run 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Brook Arts Center relies on community support to continue with the preservation and restoration of the facility and its mission of providing high-quality entertainment, inspiring creativity, fostering community partnerships, and nurturing education and growth through the arts.

Tickets are on sale now through January 16, 2026.

To purchase tickets or learn more, visit www.brookarts.org.

Reserve your tickets today and be part of a glamorous night that helps keep the arts alive in our community.



± BROOK ±
ARTS CENTER

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR

**2ND ANNUAL
SPEAKEASY SOIRÉE
AND
SILENT AUCTION
FUNDRAISER**

DATE: JAN 23RD TIME: 7PM

TICKETS: \$50 P/P \$80 P/C

**APPETIZERS, ENTERTAINMENT
AND CASH BAR**

COCKTAIL/BUSINESS ATTIRE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT

BROOKARTS.ORG



REYNOLDS PLUMBING



(908) 276-5367

(201) 666-0003

358 North Avenue East
Cranford, NJ

www.reynolds-plumbing.net

Lou DiFabio
Lic. #4237

Dan DiFabio
Lic. #11749

Residential / Commercial / Industrial

LIBRARY JANUARY PROGRAMS

224 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016 • Tel: 908-709-7272 • Email: cranfordlibrary@cranfordlibrary.org • cranfordlibrary.org

CHILDREN

Boogie on down to Baby Prom!

Tuesday, January 27 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Children ages 0-2 and their caregivers are invited to join us for a morning of music and dancing. This program meets in room 201 of the Cranford Community Center. Fancy dress is highly encouraged but not required, photo ops will be available. No registration required.

Exploration Stations

Thursday, January 8.

We are offering two sessions of this program, one at 10:00 a.m. and the other at 11:00 a.m.

Exploration Stations' sensory play programs are designed to engage toddlers in imaginative and educational activities. Each session is a journey through themed stations that stimulate children's senses and curiosity while promoting early literacy, cognitive development and improving social skills. For children ages 1-3.

Cozy Storytime

January 8 at 4:00 p.m.

Come listen to a bedtime story and decorate your own pillowcase and ping pong ball night light. Registration is required and begins two weeks before the event, please don't register if you've attended this event in the past:

Owl Moon Storytime and Hike

December 9 at 6:00 p.m. - Hanson House

We'll read an owl story, learn owl facts, do an owl craft, and go on a short hike around the park to look for owls! This program is for children ages 6+ with a caregiver. Registration is required and can be done online.

Magic of Make-Believe

Wednesday, January 14 at 10:00 a.m.

for children ages 3-6 that blends theater games, music, movement, and imaginative play designed to spark creativity, build confidence, and nurture social-emotional growth in early childhood. This program meets on Registration is required and can be done online

Egg Carton New Jersey Forest

Friday, January 16 at 4:00 p.m.

Children ages 5 and up. Create a mini forest using egg cartons! Paint an egg carton, color in some wildlife and plants, glue it all together, and learn some fun facts about nature in our state. This program is for children ages 5+. Space is limited and registration is required, call or stop by the Children's Department to reserve a spot up to two weeks in advance.

Finger Paint Friday

Friday, January 19 at 10:15 a.m.

Toddlers are invited to make some toddler-friendly art! This program is best suited to children ages 2+ with a caregiver and meets in the Community Center. No registration required, dress for a mess.

Graphic Novel Book Club

Monday, January 26 at 6:00 p.m.

Fans of graphic novels and comics in grades 3-5 are invited to join us. This month, we'll be reading *The Firelight Apprentice* by Bree Paulsen. Registration is required and can be done online.

ADULTS

Romance Readers Book Club

Monday, January 5, at 7pm

Join us for our Romance Readers Book Club. Today's book is "Voices in the Snow" by Darcy Coates. If you don't want to read that book, or for some reason can't find a copy, feel free to come anyway to discuss whichever romance you've recently read.

Movie Night

Wednesday, January 7, at 7pm

Join us the first Wednesday of the month for a screening of a recently released DVD! Visit our website or contact the library for film titles.

Junk Journaling

Thursday, January 8, at 6:30pm

Join us at our new monthly program to create and add to your very own junk journal! Please visit our website for more information.

Lit Cafe

Saturday, January 10, at 10:15am

Literary Café is a book chat program. The format is simple: Bring a few of your recent favorite books and tell the other members of the group what you like about them. There is no required reading, and you will have the opportunity to learn about books recommended by other group members. Admission is free and all are welcome. Light refreshments provided by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library. Attend in person or on Zoom (contact library for link). Lit Cafe will meet Fridays in the Summer and return to Saturdays in the Fall.

International Film

Monday, January 12, at 12:30pm and 7pm

Join us for an International film screening. The same film will be shown at 12:30pm and 7pm. Please contact the library for the film title.

Adults Create

Tuesday, January 13, 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 and for more information about this month's craft.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library.

Theater Project

Saturday, January 17, at 2pm

The Friends of the Cranford Public Library invite everyone to attend a live theatrical performance! New Jersey's own Theater Project will present a reading of an original short play. The reading will be followed by a question and answer session with the audience, director, playwright and cast. This program has been made possible by funds from the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. Funds also provided by the Friends of the Cranford Library. No registration needed.

Wednesday Morning Adult Craft

January 21, at 10am

Join us for crafts! Visit our website to register and for more information about this month's craft. Sponsored by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library.

Trivia Night

Wednesday, January 21, at 7pm

Join us for another fun evening of trivia! This free event is hosted by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library! Join us in the Community Room on the first floor of the Community Center! Feel free to bring your own snacks and (non-alcoholic) drinks. Prizes awarded to the winning team. Please visit our website or contact the library to register.

Books and (Coffee Brew)

Monday, January 26, at 2pm and 7pm

Join us for our monthly book discussion at The Morning Roast! Visit our website for book titles and more information. Coffee and non-alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase.

Readers' Forum Book Club

Monday, January 26, at 7pm

All are welcome to join this book club!

Additional copies are available at the Circulation Desk. This month's book is *Remarkably Bright Creatures*.



Cranford
BARBER
SHOP

908-955-8700
108 Walnut Ave. • Cranford, NJ
HAIR CUTS AND BEARD TRIMMING
Traditional, Old-Timey Service!

HOURS:	
Tue & Wed:	10a - 6pm
Thu & Fri:	9am - 6pm
Saturday:	8:30am - 5pm
Sun & Mon:	Closed

Walk-ins only
ALL HAIRCUTS \$18



Mr. J's Deli
Custom Catering
for Any Size Party!
Book Your Playoff and
Championship Game Parties!

- 3-6 Foot Sub Sandwiches
- Sloppy Joe Platters
- Hot & Cold Foods
- Sub Platters
- Wrap Platters
- Salads • Wings
- Chicken Fingers

Plan Ahead - Call Today
908-272-0370
See our full menu online at:
mrjsdeliincranford.com
15 Walnut Ave. Cranford, NJ

RENNA MEDIA NEWSPAPERS RATE SHEET

**We Mail 200,000 Newspapers
to Every Home & Business
in 30 Towns!**

Joe Renna 908-447-1295

joerenna@rennamedia.com

Call today for FREE consult on
marketing and business plans.

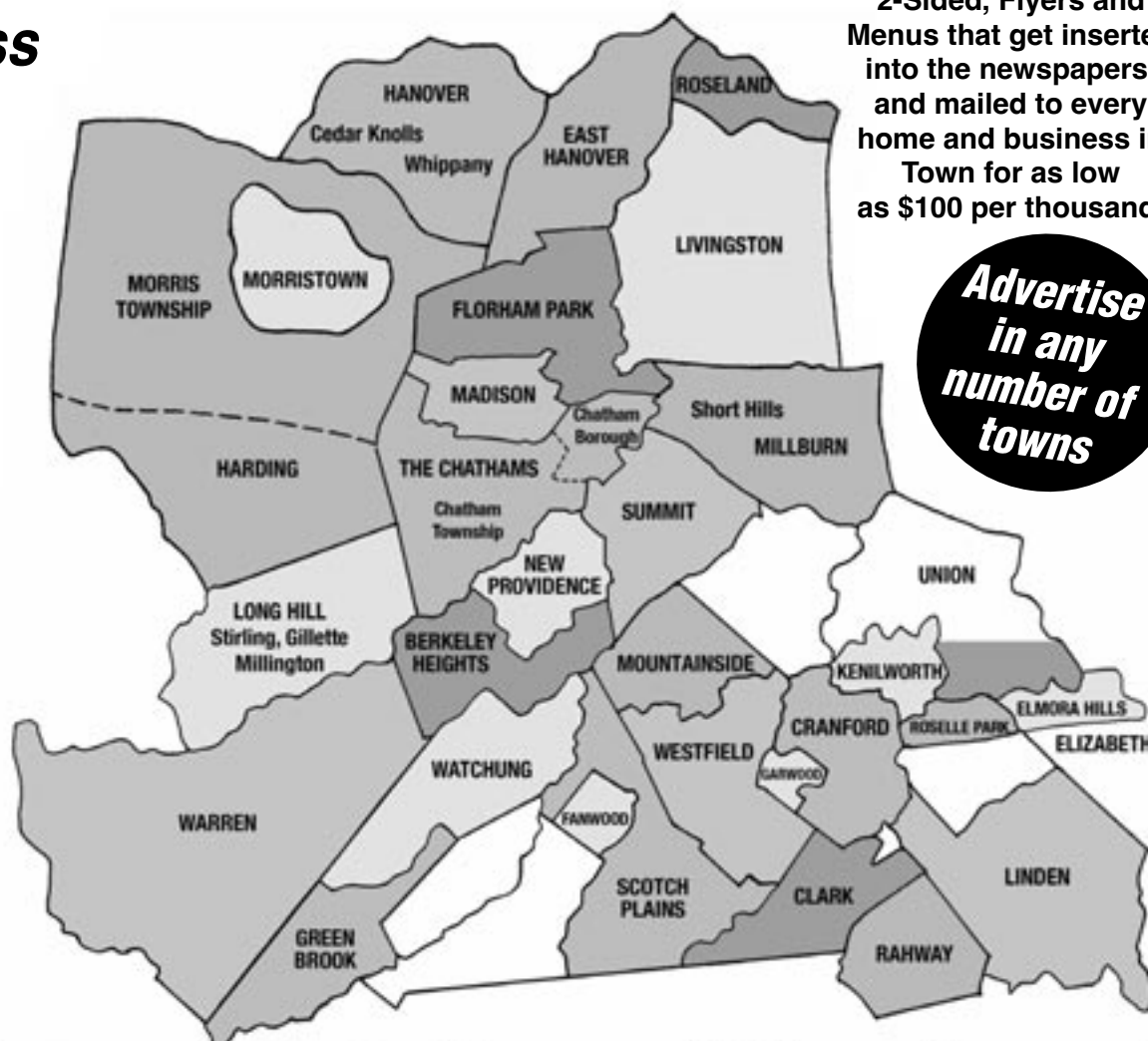
We print Full Color
2-Sided, Flyers and
Menus that get inserted
into the newspapers,
and mailed to every
home and business in
Town for as low
as \$100 per thousand.

**Advertise
in any
number of
towns**

RENNAMEDIA.COM

Berkeley Heights NJ COMMUNITY NEWS Qty: 5,000 Zip: 07922	THE CHATHAMS NJ Qty: 7,600 Zip: 07928	Clark Monthly Qty: 6,800 Zip: 07066
CRANFORD MONTHLY NJ Qty: 9,900 Zip: 07016	East Hanover View NJ Qty: 4,700 Zip: 07936	Elmora Hills ELIZABETH, NJ Qty: 5,400 Zip: 07208

Section of Elizabeth, NJ



Fanwood Post NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07023	Florham Park Press NJ Qty: 6,000 Zip: 07932	Garwood Times NJ Qty: 2,500 Zip: 07027	Green Brook Gazette NJ Qty: 3,300 Zip: 08812	HANOVER TOWNSHIP PRESS NJ CEDAR KNOLLS WHIPPANY Qty: 6,100 Zips: 07927, 07981	BUSINESS • LIFE KENILWORTH NJ Qty: 3,500 Zip: 07033	NJ LIFE in LINDEN NJ Qty: 18,000 Zip: 07036	Livingston Monthly NJ Qty: 12,100 Zip: 07039
Long Hill LEADER NJ Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980	MADISON MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,300 Zip: 07940	Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 8,200 Zips: 07041, 07078	MORRIS TOWNSHIP TIMES NJ Qty: 13,500 Zip: 07960, Harding 07976	MORRISTOWN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 7,000 Zip: 07960	MOUNTAINVIEW NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07092	New Providence NEWS NJ Qty: 5,100 Zip: 07974	OUR TOWN Rahway, NJ NJ Qty: 13,100 Zip: 07065
Life in Roseland NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07068	ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY NJ Qty: 5,600 Zip: 07204	Scotch Plains NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07076	Summit Times NJ Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07901	Spirit of UNION NJ Qty: 7,800 Zip: 07083 (partial)	WARREN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,500 Zip: 07059	Watchung Post NJ Qty: 2,700 Zip: 07069	Westfield MONTHLY NJ Qty: 12,000 Zip: 07090

NEWSPAPER AD RATES

Units (wide x High)	Size	1 TOWN	3 TOWNS	6 TOWNS	9 TOWNS	12 TOWNS	15 TOWNS	18 TOWNS	21 TOWNS	24 TOWNS	27 TOWNS	30 TOWNS
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										
BACK PAGE	10"x14"	600										
FRONT PAGE BANNER	8.25"x2"	360										
FRONT PAGE BOX	1.5"x4.5"	320										

PREPAY 6 MONTHS AND GET 1 MORE FREE
PREPAY 12 MONTHS AND GET 3 MORE FREE

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

Back cover, Front Page Banner and Front Box reserved on first-come, first-served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

Rates effective November 1, 2024. Subject to change. See RennaMedia.com for most up to date pricing.

Make Checks payable to Renna Media • Venmo • Zelle •



STATE CANCELS LEGAL NOTICE MANDATE

We rarely ever hear about the government reducing taxes but it happened this year when New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy eliminated the mandate that legal notices must be printed in a newspaper.

The antiquated mandate is decades old and the cost for the adverting was paid for by public funds from municipalities, counties, school districts, and independent authorities. It was a lucrative business for the publications and more recently the majority of their revenue. Without the mandate the fear in the newspaper industry was that the publications relying on the legal advertising income will not survive.

In some cases the majority of content in the newspaper had been the legal ads. In question was the criteria for the mandate, i.e., were the publications meeting the required numbers of

paid subscriptions, and circulation.

The idea of doing away with the mandate, though practical, was considered political poison. No lawmaker wanted to be deemed responsible as the cause for newspapers' closures and people losing their jobs. During the Governor Christi administration the Star Ledger warned that doing away with the mandates would cause 250 weekly newspapers to close.

What brought about the change is a successful lawsuit filed by the County of Warren which named the Star Ledger and Daily Record as defendants. The suit may have been the last straw in the Ledger's decision to stop printing the newspaper in January of 2025.

Local governments will now be required to publish their legal notices on their websites.



WATCH EPISODE 6 OF RENNA MEDIA PODCAST



BUILD YOUR ONLINE PRESENCE: NEW DFY* SERVICE

DONE FOR YOU - NJLOCALINFO.COM

Struggling to build your business' online presence? NJLocalInfo.com offers not only a powerful, cutting-edge content marketing service, but also a high quality local directory to connect you with leads directly.

BOOST YOUR ONLINE VISIBILITY VISIT NJLOCALINFO.COM

NJLocalInfo.com has developed a two-fold visibility solution that will allow your business to quickly and sustainably build organic traffic in your local market. This is done by establishing high-quality backlinks to build site authority, and by promoting your business directly to customers through their own directory.

POST A FREE BUSINESS PROFILE VISIT NJLocalinfo.com

- Video Tape Transfers
- DVD & Flash Drive Duplication
- High Speed Photo & Slide Scanning

VIDEO DATA SERVICES®

locally owned since 1984

www.vdsnj.com

facebook.com/vdsnj

email: vdsnjira@gmail.com

908-964-4004

406 Chestnut St. • Union, NJ 07083

FULL COLOR FLYERS / BROCHURES / MENUS

**PRINTING & MAILING TO
EVERY HOME & BUSINESS** **\$100**
per thousand

Minimum of 10,000 Inserted in Renna Media Newspapers.
PDF artwork supplied. Call for details and custom orders.

PRINTING

8 1/2" x 11" \$45 per thousand

Minimum cost is \$450. Tri-folding add \$15 per thousand.

8.5" x 11" / full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock

11" x 17" \$85 per thousand

Minimum cost is \$850. **INCLUDES FOLDING**

Quarter-fold or Tri-fold, with coupon tab option.

11"x17" / full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock

INSERTING \$55 per thousand

Minimum cost is \$350.

POST CARD \$120 per thousand

8.5" x 5" / full color / 2 sided / 9 pt. coated stock

STAND-ALONE EDDM

Artwork / Printing / Mail Prep / Shipping / Postage

All inclusive price: \$400 per thousand

ARTWORK \$300

Custom illustration, photography available.

Rates effective November 1, 2024. Subject to change. See RennaMedia.com for most up to date pricing.

RENNAMEDIA.COM

JOE RENNA 908-447-1295

email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com



**FULL SERVICE WEBSITE,
SEO, SOCIAL MEDIA, &
ONLINE MARKETING.**



Marano & Sons Auto Sales:
Not only do we sell late model pre-owned vehicles,
but we will buy your car!

Any car no matter how old. We will buyout your lease,
payoff your loan, pick it up at your house.

MARANO & SONS



AUTO SALES INC.

Keeping your car?

Did you know you can purchase an
extended warranty for your vehicle?

• coverage up to 120,000 miles • even if
you did not buy it from Marano & Sons.

Visit our website to value your car
MaranoSonsAuto.com



Two locations
In Garwood, NJ

507-13 South Avenue
150 South Avenue

908-789-1551
908-789-0555
Fax 908-789-1792

LOOKING FOR A CAR, TRUCK OR SUV?

Visit our lots or shop at home. Search over 135 vehicles
by Make / Model/ Year/ Color / Body type / Engine specs / etc.



Like us on
Facebook!!!

Credit problems? Call us to get you approved!