

CRANFORD LIFE

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Bear sighted in Cranford



— See Page 3

Resident honored



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Detectives earn honor



— See Page 12

Town assures that Cranford Roundhouse is not in danger

By EmilyAnn Jackman
Staff Writer

A historic building in Cranford, along with its legacy, is in jeopardy. The Cranford Roundhouse was recently featured on a list of the top 10 most endangered historical sites in New Jersey.

The annual list is compiled by the group Preservation New Jersey, a statewide, member-supported nonprofit historical organization. Preservation New Jersey promotes the economic vitality, sustainability and heritage of New Jersey's diverse communities through advocacy and education, according to its website.

The Cranford Roundhouse has been standing for more than 100 years and is one of only three surviving roundhouses in the state; the other two are in Hawthorne and Newark.

With today's housing climate, there is great concern for the historical building.

"Considering the township's own record of demolishing its historic buildings, namely the Roosevelt School, which was demolished in 2010, and the Cranford Trolley Power House Building, demolished in 2016, the position taken by the Planning Board, as well as the affordable housing climate that we are all living in here in Cranford, I would say my concern and Preservation New Jersey's concern for the roundhouse is more than justified," Connolly & Hickey Historical Architects principal architect Thomas Connolly told LocalSource on May 22.

According to Connolly, the roundhouse was constructed between 1913 and 1915. Roundhouses were common during the first half of the 20th century and the era of steam locomotives and were used to service and store locomotives. Steam locomotives could run in only one direction, so a



Photo Courtesy of Donna Pace

Although the historic Cranford Roundhouse has been named to Preservation New Jersey's list of top 10 most endangered historical sites in New Jersey, township officials assured that the building is not in any danger and the town's Department of Public Works will continue to use it.

turntable or other similar feature was necessary when they needed to change direction. A roundhouse and turntable were often built together, so the locomotives could be turned and directed into one of the stalls in the roundhouse and turned around again when departing. By the 1950s, when most steam locomotives had been replaced by diesels, which could run in either direction, roundhouses and turntables became obsolete.

The Cranford Roundhouse was part of the Cranford Junction Coach Yard, which originally consisted of the brick roundhouse structure, a turntable, a coal dock, a one-story yard office building and other small railroad-related structures. The property was adaptively reused by the township in 1960 as the Department of

Public Works maintenance yard. The roundhouse had eight locomotive stalls, still identifiable through the building's massing, fenestration and roof vents. The roundhouse property is listed as a key contributing resource in the Central Railroad of New Jersey Mainline Historic District survey prepared in 1999.

Even though the roundhouse is currently being used by Cranford's DPW as a maintenance yard and storage facility, there are rumors that the DPW may be looking to relocate.

If the DPW moves on and relocates to a new location, the township may see the historic building as an empty space with no use. Connolly worries that, if that were to happen, the building could be torn

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Committee condemns hateful online speech

By Yael Katzwer
Editor

The Cranford Township Committee passed a resolution on June 9 that condemns “hateful and racist rhetoric” in online posting, as well as condemning the use of the town’s name in association with any group that contains such language. The language of the resolution specifically called out the “Cranford Uncensored” Facebook group, a group not affiliated with the township where residents can post about anything they wish relating to Cranford.

“At its public meeting, the Cranford Township Committee, in the strongest of terms, acknowledged that hate-filled speech that targets people based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender or sexual identity contributes to discrimination. The committee passed a resolution that also cited the role that social media plays in furthering divisions in communities,” a township statement read on June 10. “Resolution 2020-227 condemned and disavowed the use of the name ‘Cranford’ by individuals and on sites, including the Facebook group ‘Cranford Uncensored,’ that targets and harasses individuals.”

The resolution is clear that it does not — and cannot under the First Amendment — stop these groups, but it reaffirms the

township’s social media policy for municipal employees, which prohibits employees from engaging in or supporting discrimination, hatred and violence based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender or sexuality.

“Cranford Uncensored” was the sole group cited in the resolution. The closed group has nearly 4,000 members and averages 80 posts per day. Administrators of the Facebook group could not be reached for comment by press time.

This issue came up most recently on May 31 in a Facebook post made by Mayor Patrick Giblin, in which he reaffirmed that the township has nothing to do with “Cranford Uncensored.”

“Over the last 24 hours, I’ve seen comments from many residents about racial comments made on the ‘Cranford Uncensored’ Facebook page,” Giblin wrote. “Silence equals support, and this is not reflective of the Cranford that I know and love. I owe our residents that have been offended an apology for not speaking up sooner. By connecting our beloved Cranford town name to this page, it reflects poorly on the accepting and kind community that I know.”

The post garnered nearly 160 responses, most of which were supportive of the

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Bear jaunts around Cranford, then heads home

By EmilyAnn Jackman
Staff Writer

It looks like at least one bear is enjoying being out of hibernation and is appreciating the warm weather. Recently, many towns in Union County have had bear sightings, prompting law enforcement to warn town residents to avoid those areas. Now, Cranford is on the list, as a bear was spotted in both Cranford and Westfield on June 8.

"It was a black bear, and it appeared to be a small cub," Cranford Police Lt. Edward Davenport told Local-Source. "The bear was first seen in Cranford on Monday, June 8, around 10 a.m. The initial sighting in Cranford was along Riverside Drive. It then worked its way over to Orchard Street, North Avenue and then back north to Westfield."

It appears the bear spotted in Cranford was the same bear seen wandering around in Westfield.

As the bear did not pose any imminent threat to the public, Cranford police responded to the bear sighting by monitoring its movements.

"We did not attempt to engage with the bear," Davenport said. "We simply monitored the bear from a safe distance to ensure anyone from the public, in and around the area, was safe. If the bear does become contained in a location, more specifically a tree, we can report to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife and a professional will attempt to catch and relocate the bear. This did not occur on this occasion, as the bear was never contained in a location."

Thankfully, no one was hurt by the bear. Davenport gave the latest update on the bear's whereabouts.

"Last we heard of the bear was that it was sighted in Westfield the following morning," Davenport said.

Cranford Township Administrator Jamie Cryan also spoke about the bear's whereabouts.



Photo Courtesy of Lt. Edward Davenport

A small black bear cub was spotted in Cranford and Westfield on Monday, June 8.

"The Cranford Police Department left the scene when it went into Westfield," Cryan said on June 15. "No one was hurt in Cranford. There are no updates with regards to Cranford, but I believe there were prior sightings in Mountainside, Milburn, as well as Garwood and Westfield."

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has guidelines for anyone who comes across a bear. You should never feed or approach a bear. Remain calm if you encounter a bear; do not run from it or make the bear aware of your presence by speaking in an assertive voice,

singing, clapping your hands or making other loud noises. Make sure the bear has an escape route; if a bear enters your home, prop open all doors to the outside. Direct eye contact, which may be perceived by the bear as a challenge, should be avoided. If a bear is encountered, back away slowly; do not run. To scare a bear away once it is aware of your presence, Fish and Wildlife suggests, make loud noises by yelling, banging pots and pans or using an air horn; make yourself look as big as possible by waving your arms, and, if you are with another person, stand close together with arms raised above your heads.

According to NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, the bear may utter a series of huffs, making popping sounds by snapping its jaws and swatting the ground. These are warning signs that you are too close and should slowly back away, avoiding direct eye contact. If a bear stands on its hind legs or moves closer, it may be trying to get a better view or detect scents in the air; this is usually not threatening behavior.

The NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife warns that black bears will sometimes "bluff charge" when cornered, threatened or attempting to steal food. In this case, you should stand your ground, avoid direct eye contact, then slowly back away. If the bear doesn't leave, you should move to a secure area.

Residents can report black bear damage or nuisance behavior to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's 24-hour, toll-free hotline at 877-927-6337. The NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife advises families that live in areas frequented by black bears to have a "bear plan" in place for children, with an escape route and planned use of whistles and air horns. The division says black bear attacks are extremely rare, and if a black bear does attack, residents should fight back.

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Cranford High School graduates Class of 2020

The following members of the Cranford High School Class of 2020 are set to graduate July 8:

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Madalyn Castle
Matthew Chan
Jameson Chang
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Jenna Cianciulli
Nelvia Clark
Autumn Clarke
Elizabeth Cohen
Aidan Cole
Alexandra Comas
Joshua Cooper
Mandara Corlett
Daniela Correia
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Sabrina Cuji-Tapia
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Brittney Daddato
Alyssa Darling
Ariel Daryani
Madison Davison-Flynn
Paul DeBole
Anthony Decostello
Joel Delgado
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Amanda Licks
Victoria Lima
Emma Linthicum
Carissa Lobo
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Cranford HS seniors prepare for bright futures

(Continued from previous page)

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STUDENT UPDATE

Vaccaro earns degree

Marc Vaccaro, of Cranford, has graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in interactive media design, with a concentration in game production and management, from Becker College, located in Worcester and Leicester, Mass.

Vaccaro was also named to the Alpha Chi honor society. Alpha Chi limits membership to the highest 10 percent of full-time students in the junior and senior classes. The Massachusetts Theta Chapter of Alpha Chi recognizes and promotes scholarships and those elements of character that contribute to high scholarly achievement.

Vaccaro has also been recognized with the award for Game Production from the School of Design and Technology. Senior Program Awards recipients are selected by the faculty at Becker College; the awards recognize students who show outstanding accomplishment in their respective programs.

Vaccaro has also been named to the dean's list for the spring 2020 semester. The dean's list recognizes all full-time students whose term grade-point average is 3.5 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete or withdrawal/failing grades.

DeBole excels

Cranford's Emma DeBole was named to the dean's list at the University of Vermont, located in Burlington, Vt.

To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

Graduation in Vermont

Cranford's Malcolm Pringle recently graduated from the University of Vermont, located in Burlington, Vt.

Degrees from Scranton

Cranford's Lauren Byrne, Anthony Maglino and Arika Daryani all earned Bachelor of Science degrees in exercise science from the University of Scranton, located in Scranton, Pa., on May 31.

Savino earns bachelor's

Stephen Savino, of Cranford, graduated from the University of San Diego with a bachelor's degree in real estate and business administration.

Ledford makes dean's list

Kaylen Ledford, of Cranford, was named to the dean's list at Cedar Crest College, located in Allentown, Pa., for the spring 2020 semester.

The dean's list recognizes students who have earned a grade-point average of 3.65 or higher in the academic semester.

Georgia Tech honors

Kylie Brown, of Cranford, earned faculty honors at the Georgia Institute of

Technology for the spring 2020 semester.

Faculty honors are awarded to undergraduate students who have earned a 4.0 academic average for the semester.

Kutztown excellence

Anthony Joseph Demarino, of Cranford, has been named to the dean's list at Kutztown University for the spring 2020 semester.

To be eligible for the dean's list, an undergraduate student must be registered for at least 12 credits and have a minimum grade-point average of 3.6. The university is located in Kutztown, Pa.

Marks earns masters

Casey Marks, of Cranford, earned a Master of Science in genetic counseling from Arcadia University, located in Glenside, Pa., on May 15.

Honors for Kellett

Cian Kellett, of Cranford, was named to the dean's list at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania for the spring 2020 semester.

A full-time student whose semester grade-point average is 3.5 or higher in 12 or more semester hours of coursework for which a grade or grades are received are named to the dean's list.

ESU dean's list

East Stroudsburg University, located in East Stroudsburg, Pa., has named

Cranford resident Heaven Tines to the dean's list for the spring 2020 semester. Tines is majoring in nursing.

A student at ESU is eligible for the dean's list for a semester if they are pursuing a degree and have earned at least 12 credits with a semester GPA of at least 3.5.

Ledford makes dean's list

Kaylen Ledford, of Cranford, was named to the dean's list at Cedar Crest College, located in Allentown, Pa., for the spring 2020 semester.

The dean's list recognizes students who have earned a grade-point average of 3.65 or higher in the academic semester.

Emerson honors

Cranford's Jared Quinn has been named to the dean's list at Emerson College, located in Boston, Mass., for the spring 2020 semester.

To be named to the dean's list, a student must earn a semester grade-point average of 3.7 or better.

Honors at SNHU

Angelina Iosso, of Cranford, was named to the president's list for the winter 2020 term at Southern New Hampshire University. The winter term runs from January to May.

To be named to the dean's list, a student must accumulate a grade-point average between 3.7 and 4.0 and earn 12 credits for the semester.

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NJSIAA honors Kanterman

For the 2019-'20 school year, the 27th annual Scholar-Athlete Awards initiative of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association has provided a certificate of recognition to 354 high school student-athletes.

Under this ongoing program, each NJSIAA member school — nearly every high school in the state — has the opportunity to select one graduating senior as its scholar-athlete of the year. From Cranford High School, Evan Kanterman has been chosen for the honor.

"Given the very challenging year we've all faced, it's particularly important to recognize the academic achievements of New Jersey's student-athletes," NJSIAA Chief Operating Officer Colleen Maguire said. "I'm certain each certificate recipient worked hard not only in the classroom and in competition, but also in overcoming the hurdles presented by the closing of all school buildings. Despite the difficulties, they all continued to pursue their goals and dreams."

Since 1993, NJSIAA has honored more than 7,700 New Jersey high school students through its annual scholastic-athletes program.

UC program awards \$87K to town

The Union County Freeholders Infrastructure Grant program will fund various projects throughout the county, including parks, sewage drainage, road resurfacing and signage. In all, the Freeholders made awards to 21 municipalities as part of the sixth annual Union County Infrastructure Grant program, funding projects aimed at spurring economic development growth, and providing indirect tax relief, according to a May 26 press release from the county.

Cranford will receive \$87,500 for Brookside Place drainage improvements.

The program was conceived by Freeholder Christopher Hudak in 2015, developed by the county's Freeholder Fiscal Committee and administered by the Department of Economic Development. This year's Freeholder Fiscal Committee is

chaired by Freeholder Sergio Granados. Also on the committee are Freeholders Hudak, Rebecca Williams and Kimberly Palmieri-Moued.

"The Infrastructure Grant Program is aimed at providing economic assistance for our municipalities to make these and other needed improvements, providing a better quality of life for the residents of Union County," Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella said.

"Infrastructure is a priority and our municipalities must continue to be able to make essential improvements. These grants allow our residents to directly benefit from improvements made to their local communities," Hudak said.

The matching grant initiative makes available approximately \$1.5 million to Union County's 21 municipalities.

STUDENT UPDATE

Success at Moravian

Cranford's Rose Michetti was named to the dean's honor list at Moravian College, located in Bethlehem, Pa., for the spring 2020 semester.

For inclusion on the dean's honor list, a student must carry three or more course units and attain a term grade-point average of 3.5 or higher.

Acclaim at Susquehanna

The following Cranford students were named to the dean's list at Susquehanna University, located in Selinsgrove, Pa., for the spring 2020 semester: Duncan Horne,

majoring in communications; Samantha Serido, in creative writing; and Amber Martino, in communications.

The dean's list recognizes students who achieve a grade-point average of 3.4 or higher out of a possible 4.0 for the semester. To qualify, students must complete a minimum of 12 semester hours.

Degrees earned in Pa.

Susquehanna University, located in Selinsgrove, Pa., conferred academic degrees on 497 students on May 13. Among those graduates are, from Cranford, Duncan Horne with a Bachelor of

Arts in communications; Samantha Serido with a Bachelor of Arts in creative writing, summa cum laude and with university honors; and Ethan Tom with a Bachelor of Science in marketing, magna cum laude.

Honors for excellence

Brenna S. Dolan, of Cranford, was recognized for academic excellence by Arcadia University, located in Glenside, Pa., during the school's honors convocation.

The ceremony recognized students who earned dean's list or distinguished dean's list honors for the fall 2019 semester and the spring 2020 semester.

O'Donovan graduates

Roisin O'Donovan, of Cranford, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in television and radio from Ithaca College, located in Ithaca, N.Y., in May.

Dean's list at Ithaca

The following Cranford students were named to the dean's list at Ithaca College, located in Ithaca, N.Y., for the spring 2020 semester: Charles Bernstein, majoring in cinema and photography; Timothy Marotta, in computer science and emerging media; and Megan Robinson, in culture and communication.

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'Roundhouse is actively used' by DPW, Cryan says

(Continued from Page 1)

down as the township may have other plans for that space.

"The roundhouse site would be ideal for redevelopment, given the recent influx of residential and mixed-used construction taking place in Cranford," Connolly said. "There is concern the township may sell the property in order for it to be redeveloped for housing or similar development. The roundhouse has enormous potential for adaptive reuse that would be attractive to the town's growing population, such as artists' studio space, a small performance/event venue, market or a brewery."

Last year, the Township Planning Board recommended removing the roundhouse from the list of historic properties in the township's Historic Preservation Element. Without local historic protections, the township would be free to make changes to the building and even to sell the property, which could eventually lead to its demolition.

Connolly sees demolition as a worst-case scenario.

"It is time for Cranford to be more aware of its devel-



Photo Courtesy of Donna Pace

Above is an inside view of the Cranford Roundhouse.

opmental history and make decisions that respect and protect rather than destroy its architectural and cultural resources," Connolly said. "Adaptive reuse would once

again reinforce the value of its preservation for the next generation. The purpose of the 10 Most Endangered list is to bring public attention to underutilized historic structures and to recognize the value of the resource."

But, according to the township of Cranford, there should be no concern for the Cranford Roundhouse.

"The roundhouse is very actively used by the Department of Public Works and is not for sale," Township Administrator Jamie Cryan told LocalSource on May 26. "The township bought the roundhouse in 1979 to serve as the maintenance yard, garage and operations center for the Department of Public Works. It continues to serve in that role. The township of Cranford has no plans to change the use of the roundhouse."

Cryan assured that the public would be notified should the township wish to make any changes to the roundhouse's status.

"Any future change of use would be done publicly with full residential input, but the roundhouse is not for sale. No change of use is being considered."

Mayor stresses importance of completing census

By EmilyAnn Jackman
Staff Writer

The 2020 census, a once-a-decade system of counting every person living in the United States, is still underway. The U.S. Census Bureau and local officials are urging all residents to complete the census questionnaire.

"The census is important, as it deter-

mines political representation and funding," Cranford Mayor Patrick Giblin said on June 1.

This is the first census with the option of replying online. According to its website, the Census Bureau counts the population in the United States and five territories — Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana

Islands, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Each home should have received an invitation to respond to a short questionnaire, either online, by phone or by mail.

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers and many others use to provide daily services, products and support to their communities. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads and other resources based on census data. The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

U.S. Census Bureau public affairs specialist Veronica Vaquer explained that the deadline to respond to the 2020 census is Oct. 31.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Census Bureau has adjusted 2020 census operations in order to protect the health and safety of the American public and Census Bureau employees; implement guidance from federal, state and local

authorities regarding COVID-19; and ensure a complete and accurate count of all communities.

Originally, the self-response phase — whether online, by phone or by mail — was scheduled for March 12 through July 31. The new schedule is March 12 through Oct. 31.

According to the 2020 census website, participating in the census is required by law. A complete and accurate count is critical for all residents in every community, because the results of the 2020 census will affect community funding, congressional representation and a host of other things.

The total self-response rate for New Jersey, as of May 31, is 62.5 percent; Union County's total self-response rate is 64.3 percent. Cranford's self-response rate is 78.2 percent, one of the highest in the county.

For more information on the 2020 census and ways to complete it, visit www.2020census.gov. To complete the questionnaire by phone, call 844-330-2020; to complete the questionnaire in a language other than English, visit the census website to find the correct phone number.

Giblin condemns racist social media postings

(Continued from Page 2)

mayor's comments. Brian Lopez, who runs the "Cranford Uncensored" page, however, demanded that the mayor and commenters provide actual examples of hate language on his page.

"The page is an exchange of ideas," Lopez wrote.

Lopez claimed in the Facebook com-

ments that the whole issue arose after Giblin blocked Lopez from the mayor's personal Twitter account.

Nevertheless, the commenters on the mayor's Facebook post were supportive of reporting the page to Facebook to have it removed and of doing everything possible to distance Cranford from the comments made on the page.

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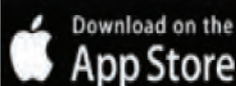
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OESP names Cranford resident as national treasurer

The National Association of Oil and Energy Service Professionals has named Paul Cuprewich, of Cranford, as treasurer for the 2020–2022 term.

Cuprewich currently serves as secretary for the association, a position he has held since 2014. He has previously served as OESP Garden State Chapter president

and is currently the education chairman for the chapter.

In the past, Cuprewich was the recipient of the National Service Manager of the Year award, the Garden State Chapter Service Manager of the Year award and the National Hugh McKee award. Cuprewich has been a member of OESP since 1997.

“Since joining this organization, I feel that I have gained a vast amount of knowledge about the HVAC industry,” Cuprewich said. “In my new role as national treasurer, I look forward to building our membership base and identifying ways to provide more value to our members.”

Cuprewich is a service manager for J.W. Pierson Co. in Glen Ridge.



Paul Cuprewich

IN MEMORIAM

- DEGREGORIO – William Rocco Shields, of Cranford; June 3. Loved video games and baseball. Son, step-son, step-brother, nephew, cousin. Was 11.
- HUCKEL – Frances Helen Mikolajczyk, of Cranford, formerly of New York City; April 28. Teacher, Widow, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, 95.
- OWEN – Joyce Mills, of Cranford; May 24. Was 93.
- SCHENKER – Frieda Barbara, of Newport News, Va., formerly of Cranford and Kittery, Maine; June 9. Widow, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, 96.
- TITONE – Doris J., of Westfield, formerly of Whiting and Cranford; May 26. Retired from Fidelity Bank. Widow, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, 84.
- WALSH – Mary Genevieve, of Cranford, formerly of Elizabeth; June 9. Volunteer, secretary. Widow, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, great-aunt, 94.
- YEE – Joseph, of Cranford, formerly of Springfield, Rochester, Pa., New York City; June 3. World War II Army vet. Engineer, husband, father, grandfather, 93.
- ZAVILA – Mary, of Cranford; April 14. Widow, mother, grandmother, 97.

In Memoriam is a weekly feature compiled by the news staff from various sources. We also provide the opportunity for families and funeral directors to publish a more extensive, special notice about their loved one called an obituary. These notices are published on our website immediately and then in the next edition of this newspaper. To place a paid obituary send an email to obits@thelocalsource.com or fax to 908-688-0401. Family and friends' submissions must include sender's name, address, phone and the name of the funeral home. Call 908-686-7850 for assistance.

Governor's Awards announced

Students and adult leaders received the state's most prestigious award in the arts at the 40th anniversary of the New Jersey Governor's Awards in Arts Education on June 26. This virtual event recognized 70 students and 15 adult leaders who have demonstrated excellence in and dedication to arts education.

Among the 2020 award winners are:

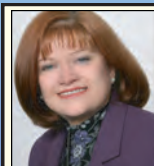
- Teacher David Marconi from Cranford High School, who won the Outstanding Teacher Award; he was nominated by the Speech and Theatre Association of New Jersey.

- Max Wisniewski of Cranford High School, who won Best Scene; he was nominated by the Speech and Theatre Association of New Jersey.

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This program was first piloted in New Jersey through the Ocean County Police Traffic Officers Association in February 2016. This year, 32 officers were awarded Level 1 specialist and five awarded Level 2 specialist statewide. Both D'Ambola and Temple are assigned to the Cranford Police Department Traffic Bureau.



Cranford Police Detectives Steven D'Ambola, left, and Shayne Temple were awarded Traffic Safety Specialist Leadership designation.

**Some expiration dates apply so don't delay*