

Cranford High School Teen to Host Flea Market, Festival Fundraiser

CRANFORD – Cranford High School graduate Mary Kate Mueller will host the "Fundraising Festival Extraordinaire" featuring a flea market and art show. A musician and aspiring ambassador, Mary Kate will travel on a scholarship to Brazil to advocate for women's rights and youth development. She is one of 80 Global Citizen Year Fellows of 2012-2013.

In order for this program to continuously change lives of future generations, Mary Kate is organizing a summer campaign to help out future potential "Youth Ambassadors." She will host a fundraising flea market and arts festival on Saturday, July 21, and Sunday, July 22, in Cranford at 56 Burnside Avenue from 8 a.m.

to 8 p.m. each day, with the flea market during the day and performances in the late afternoon and evening.

The "Fundraising Festival Extraordinaire" will feature a flea market and art show from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. The flea market will include furniture, instruments, baked goods, local cuisine, clothing, jewelry, and everything in between. The art show will be spotlighting local artists' and photographers' work.

Live music and dance performances will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Dance performers include Shea Jennings' Irish Dancers (Saturday) and the IDance team from Maplewood (Saturday and Sunday). On Sunday, Debra Biderman from New Jersey Sym-

phony Orchestra will perform. Aspiring local teen dancers and musicians will also take the stage throughout the weekend.

The entry fee for the performances is \$4 for a day pass and \$7 for a weekend pass. The full schedule is available upon request.

Based out of San Francisco, Global Citizen Year is spearheading a movement to immerse young adults in developing countries around the globe after they graduate high school. The program is dedicated to building a generation of global citizens.

A recent Institute of International Education (IIE) poll suggests that Americans are increasingly isolated from the developing world. Less than one percent of Americans will ever meet any of the world's 2.6 billion who live in extreme poverty. There is an urgent need to prepare a new generation of Americans for effective leadership in a globalized world. Few Americans possess the language skills, cross-cultural understanding, or empathy needed to create innovative, collaborative and sustainable solutions to overcome these challenges.

Global Citizen Year aims to create in the next generation; global competence, engaged leadership, and college readiness. The bridge year program is the very opposite of 'taking a year off.' Fellows will travel to developing countries in September to live with a host family and apprentice in a local organization, thereby developing an ethic of service, fluency in another language, and a global perspective. Upon return, these students will be better prepared to effectively explain the complexities of international development through a profound first-hand experience.

Birchwood Site Hearings Set Aug. 8-9

appeal of the judge's decision.

The township committee has received a letter from the Cranford Environmental Commission that, besides stating that it is "extremely concerned" about the Birchwood Avenue development, asked that the township secure the services of an environmental consultant to assist with the township's fight against the project.

In other business, the committee gave unanimous approval to the 2012 capital budget, which amounts to \$1,361,800 for several projects, according to Deputy Mayor Andis Kalnins. He said \$280,000 in radio upgrades for the police department will be funded by the capital budget, along with \$265,000 earmarked for sewer repairs, \$280,000 for resurfacing of several streets, a replacement street sweeper and de-

silting efforts in the Rahway River.

"This is a well-balanced capital program," he said. In response to a resident's query, Mr. Kalnins said no funding was included for repairs of the dikes along the Rahway River. He said the township is still reviewing cost estimates for the project, which range from \$1 to \$3 million.

Commissioner Kevin Campbell, while voting to approve the capital budget, said he would have preferred have money included for dike repairs. "But a half or two-thirds of a loaf is better than none," he said.

Commissioner Edward O'Malley presented certificates to two local businesses — the Cranford Chamber of Commerce and NJDriver.com — for their efforts at adopting environmentally-sustainable practices as part of the local Go Green initiative.



LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP...President Margaret M. McMenamin, left, and Victor M. Richel, right, Chair of the Union County College Board of Trustees, congratulate James Perry on his Lifetime Membership to the Association of Community College Trustees.

UCC Board Vice Chair, James Perry, Honored

CRANFORD – At the Union County College's June 26 meeting of the Boards of Governors and Trustees, Jim Perry received a Lifetime Membership to the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT).

Mr. Perry, of Plainfield, has been a member of the Union County College Board since 1992 when he joined as an appointed member by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. In his 20 years of service, he has been a key member, chairing the Education Planning and Policy Committee, as well as serving as Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Jim has served as a Trustee Ambassador for the New Jersey Council of County Colleges for many years. As a Trustee Ambassador, he meets regularly with

state legislators and members of the State's congressional delegation advocating on behalf of the State's 19 community colleges.

Since 2006, he has been the Northeast Regional Chair of ACCT. In this capacity, Jim has been a member of the organization's Board of Directors. The Board establishes policies that supervise, control and direct the affairs of ACCT.

UC Tea Party to Meet July 25 at Rustic Mill

CRANFORD —The next meeting of the Union County Tea Party will be held Wednesday, July 25, at 8 p.m. at the Rustic Mill Diner at 109 North Avenue, West in Cranford. Ron Bass of United Patriots of America will speak on the subject of border security.

The Union County Tea Party is a grassroots organization whose

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