

## DAR, CDC, JROTC Bring Cheer to Hospitalized Vets

CRANFORD — The Volunteer Service to Veterans Committee of Crane's Ford Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) teamed up with the Cranford Dramatic Club (CDC) and the Linden High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) on November 8 to entertain hospitalized veterans at the Veterans Administration Lyons Medical Center in Bernards Township.

Anjanette Valiante, leader of the Cranford Dramatic Club Outreach Group, organized a program of patriotic and standard songs and accompanied on the piano. Maureen Monroe, a member of CDC, brought a group of young performers to the Medical Center to sing.

The Linden High School JROTC also participated with the veterans. Cadets Magda Kozak, Amanda Foreman, Brendon Birch and Jon Garcia helped serve refreshments.

DAR Veterans Committee Chairwoman Bonnie Goodwin planned and organized the afternoon along with DAR members Mary Leonard, Carolyn Youngs, Helen vanGelder, Bonnie Turner and Betty Duckworth. With donations of gift cards from ShopRite, Stop & Shop and Wegmans, the DAR was able to purchase snacks and drinks for the veterans.

The Crane's Ford DAR has been volunteering with annual parties for the Lyons facility veterans for more than 21 years. The CDC Outreach Group has been collaborating for the past 11 years.

The DAR is a national service organization of women who have ancestry to participants of the American Revolution, both in combat and those who provided goods and services to the American cause. Prospective members may visit the website dar.org to learn more.



**VETERANS DAY SALUTE...**To mark Veterans Day, members of the Cranford Dramatic Club Theatre in Cranford entertained veterans and their guests and joined members of the Linden High School Junior ROTC at the Lyons Veterans Administration Hospital. The Crane's Ford Daughters of the American Revolution also participated in the festivities.

## Trinity Church Charity Sale To Offer Jewelry, Accessories

CRANFORD — The Trinity Episcopal Church will host a charity jewelry and accessory sale on Saturday, December 6, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. It will be held in the church's Witherington Hall, located at 119 Forest Avenue, Cranford. The merchandise will include bracelets, earrings and rings.

"Proceeds from the sale will benefit The Good Shepherd Home in Cameroon that cares for children orphaned by HIV/AIDS," said Marion Nechuta, Trinity's Outreach Team Leader. "We are happy to help support such an important, life-saving effort."

The Good Shepherd Home is the brainchild of Sister Jane Mankaa, who has dedicated her

life to nurturing the orphans of her country. Sister Jane saw a small boy sleeping on the street in Yaounde, the capitol of Cameroon. "I asked him why he was sleeping there and he told me that's where he lived," she said. "I brought him some rice, and when I came back to see him the next morning, there were ten other boys with him."

She learned that the street children were all orphans whose parents had died of AIDS. "I knew then that caring for these children was what I was called to do," Sister Jane recalled.

All are welcome. For more information, contact Marion Nechuta at (908) 245-1892.

## Wednesday Morning Club Reveals December Events

CRANFORD — The Wednesday Morning Club will celebrate the holidays with a Philanthropic Tea/Luncheon on Wednesday, December 10, at 1 p.m. It will be held at Il Giardino Restaurant, located at 103 Miln Street, Cranford. Co-Presidents Dot Conheaney and Barbara Jackson of Westfield will introduce The Madrigal Singers, who will perform under the direction of Anthony Rafaniello.

The club's Literature and Public Affairs Departments will meet in Lee McArthur's home at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9, for a joint Christmas party. Sharing Christmas stories will be the theme of the party. Members are asked to bring sandwiches.

On Tuesday, December 16, members of the American Arts and Crafts Department will design and make pottery at Fire Me Up on North Union Avenue in

Cranford. The meeting time is 11 a.m.

The Wednesday Morning Club is geared toward mature women living in Union County who have recently retired or left the workplace and are looking for new activities. Participants get together several times a month to exchange ideas and explore areas of interest in the arts, literature and public affairs. For more information or to attend a meeting, call Diane Hickey at (908) 272-8665.

### GW Christmas Tree Lighting Nov. 29

Garwood will hold its Christmas tree lighting on Saturday, November 29, at 5 p.m., in the parking lot at Borough Hall, located at 403 South Avenue. Santa will arrive for a visit and pictures. Refreshments will be served.

## Garwood Knights Holding Toy Drive

GARWOOD — The Garwood Knights of Columbus are conducting a toy drive through December.

Donations of brand new, unwrapped toys on behalf of St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth can be dropped off after 4 p.m. weekdays at the Knights' Council Hall, located at 37 South Avenue, Garwood (opposite PathMark). On weekends, individuals are asked to first call (908) 789-9809. Parking is available behind the building off Willow Avenue (turn at Marty Shoes). Visitors are asked to use the side-door entrance.

Monetary donations may be made payable to: "The Garwood K of C Toy Drive," attention Keith Gallagher.

The Knights request that individuals not donate toys depicting violence, guns, dolls exploiting women or old stuffed animals.

For more information on the toy drive, call (908) 789-9809 or Keith Gallagher at (908) 789-0931 after 4 p.m. More information about St. Joseph Social Service Center is available on YouTube "Homeless in Elizabeth," parts one and two, or by visiting stjosephelizabeth.org.

### Postal News

The Postal Service called. "As of Jan 5, 2015 first class mail could take between 2 and 5 days to reach out-of-state destinations."

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