



Cranford Police Department

An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

2007 Annual Report



The Cranford Police Department Honor Guard



The Cranford Police Department marched in honor of those who died serving in the United States Armed Forces during the Annual Township Memorial Day Parade.



Cranford Police Department

- Mission Statement -

The mission of the Cranford Police Department is to protect life and property, enforce all State and local laws and ordinances, apprehend and prosecute violators and provide the finest quality of routine and emergency police services to the community we serve.

Members of the Cranford Police Department, both sworn and civilian, shall conduct themselves in a professional manner, treating all people with courtesy and respect and without bias or prejudice. We shall be judicious in the use of our authority, fair and compassionate when dealing with those we come in contact with and shall divorce our personal feelings, emotions and opinions from our decision making while in the performance of our duties.

Members of the Cranford Police Department acknowledge that the public trust is sacred and that it must be earned and vigorously maintained by strict adherence to our mission statement and core values. We shall establish and foster strong relationships with all groups within our community in order to be both proactive and responsive to their individual needs, with the ultimate goal of enhancing the quality of life in the Township of Cranford.

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CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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VISIT US ON THE INTERNET · www.cranford.com/police

ERIC G. MASON
CHIEF OF POLICE



Letter from Chief Eric G. Mason

It is with great pleasure that I present the Cranford Police Department 2007 Annual Report. This report is a reflection of the efforts of the men and women both sworn and civilian, who have the safety and security of the Cranford community as their core mission.

The Cranford Police Department is blessed to enjoy the support of the entire Cranford community. That continuous support is inextricably tied to the success of the police department. We are very much aware that we are here to serve our community.

I would like to thank Public Safety Commissioner George McDonough for all of his efforts on behalf of the Cranford Police Department. Commissioner McDonough along with all of the members of the Cranford Township Committee have worked diligently with the police department to ensure that professional service and law enforcement is delivered to our residents. We also want to acknowledge Township Administrator Marlena Schmid for her unwavering commitment and support of the Cranford Police Department.

It is our privilege and honor to serve our community as members of the Cranford Police Department.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Eric G. Mason'.

TO PROTECT AND SERVE

Letter from Chief Eric G. Mason

Cranford Police Department Administration



Chief Eric G. Mason



Captain Jerome M. Andrews



Captain John C. Baer

Cranford Township Committee



Michael A. Plick
Mayor



Robert I. Puhak
Deputy Mayor
Commissioner
of Public Works



George T. McDonough
Commissioner
of Public Safety



George J. Jorn
Commissioner
of Public Affairs



David W. Robinson
Commissioner of
Finance



Marlena A. Schmid
Township Administrator

CHIEF OF POLICE

Eric G. Mason

CAPTAINS

Jerome M. Andrews

John C. Baer

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Joan F. Pinto

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Jennifer C. Burns

LIEUTENEANTS

Robert A. Colaneri

Joseph P. Van Bergen

Stephen D. Wilde

James Wozniak

SERGEANTS

Francis Hanley

Michael E. Dow

Christopher G. R. Chapman

Anthony J. Dobbins

Thomas J. Feeney

Craig L. Marino

Gerard P. Quinn

Frank T. Williams

Guy E. Patterson

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Lieutenant Stephen D. Wilde

DETECTIVE BUREAU

Sergeant Gerard P. Quinn

Detective Robert A. Montague

Detective Patrick J. Fay

Detective John J. Swandrak

Detective Michael L. Andrews

JUVENILE BUREAU

Sergeant Michael E. Dow

Detective Christopher T. Polito

Detective Richard Vitale

TRAFFIC DIVISION

Lieutenant Joseph P. Van Bergen

Detective Edward R. Davenport

Detective Steven R. Toy

TRAFFIC DIVISION CIVILIANS

Traffic Maintenance Charles E. Fette

Traffic Maintenance Joseph A. Corbisiero

Parking Enforcement Helen C. Green

Parking Enforcement Ralph Gregson

RECORDS DIVISION

Sergeant Craig L. Marino

Information Systems Technician Emmanuel O. Chiobi

Principal Clerk Typist Jean H. McComb

Principal Clerk Typist Suzanne M. Welsh

PATROL DIVISION

Lieutenant Robert A. Colaneri	Officer Joseph W. Stulpin
Lieutenant James Wozniak	Officer Nadia N. Jones
Sergeant Christopher G. R. Chapman	Officer Nelson W. Hearn, Jr.
Sergeant Thomas J. Feeney	Officer Sean T. Holcomb
Sergeant Francis Hanley	Officer Matthew R. Nazzaro
Sergeant Guy E. Patterson	Officer Brian J. Wagner
Sergeant Frank T. Williams	Officer Steven R. D'Ambola
Officer Robert E. Peters	Officer Matthew J. Widdows
Officer Donald P. Zsak	Officer John M. Colineri
Officer Peter J. Graczyk	Officer Daniel S. Norton
Officer John M. Heesters	Officer Russell J. Luedecker
Officer Brian M. Lopez	Officer Spencer J. Durkin
Officer William K. Pietrucha	Officer Christopher M. DiFabio
Officer Derek M. Farbanec	Officer Thomas C. Stiansen
Officer Brian D. Thomas	Officer John J. Rattigan
Officer Thomas M. Bell	Officer Eugene J. Perrotta
Officer Timothy W. O'Brien	Officer Kelly A. Rieder
Officer Ryan J. Greco	Officer Robert Jordan

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS

Kathleen A. Ditzel
Diana M. Chilson
Stacy A. Thorn
Rosemary T. Cartwright
Ralph E. Gregson
Anthony E. Matusawicz
Salvatore A. Angioletta
Amy N. Nigro
Leon T. Paster
Kelly M. Sretenovic

IN DEDICATION

This Annual Report is dedicated to all of the men and women who serve and have served on the Cranford Police Department and have loyally committed their lives to the service of our community.

We hope all who read this year's annual report will take a moment to review their names in recognition. (Names in bold face indicate current and former Chiefs of Police)

Ronald W. Abram
Nicholas Anthony Amicucci
Arthur E. Anderson
Jerome M. Andrews
Michael L. Andrews
Charles H. Archdeacon
Louis T. Atwood
John Charles Baer
Thomas M. Bell
Robert L. Bell
John Peter Benedetto
Otto Behnert
Thomas Roy Benton
Phillip H. Bindenberger
Archie G. Bird
William Blaney
Harry A. Bohman
Lawrence Bonnell, Sr.
Lawrence T. Bonnell
Thomas F. Bowne
Vincent Brinkerhoff
Alfred Broda
Harry Cameron Brown
Francesco L. Buonocore
Albert Frank Burr
William H. Burr
Frank Angelo Caruso
Leo M. Casper
Michael W. Cavalla
Christopher G. R. Chapman

Bernard Francis Clark
David Lawrence Cochrane
Robert Anthony Colaneri
Antonio Colineri
John M. Colineri
Edward J. Coleman
Ronald Coles
William A. Connell
Wayne Cooper
Raymond Cosmas
Harry A. Craig
William F. Crissey
William Crory
Edward Csuka
Donald Allen Curry
Myron Cymbaluk
Paul R. Cymbaluk
Samuel William Cymbaluk
Steven D'Ambola
Raymond Louis Davidson
Edward R. Davenport
Michael Anthony Deane
Christopher DiFabio
Anthony James Dobbins
Clifford W. Dobbins
Michael Emil Dow
Bernard Arnis Doyle, Jr.
Gregory James Drexler
Nicholas Druzek
Spencer Durkin

Edwin F. Eldridge
George Ennesser
Larry Erickson
Derek Farbanec
Patrick Fay
Michael Fedroff
Thomas Joseph Feeney
Albert Ralph Fischer
William A. Fischer
Steven Gachko
John T. Gallagher
Edward J. Galvin
William G. Gassman
Peter Joseph Graczyk
Ryan J. Greco
Jennifer Green
George Greiss
Alfred Vincent Grickowski
William Griffin
Louis Ludger Guertin
Robert A. Guertin
L. H. Halsey
Brian S. Hand
Robert Franz Hand
Gerard F. Haney
Matthew T. Haney
Francis Hanley
Richard C. Harrington
Henry Harris, Jr.
Nelson W. Hearn, Jr.
John M. Heesters, III.
James E. Hennesey
William Hennesey
John Joseph Herzer
Thomas R. Herzer
John M. Hicks
Sean T. Holcomb
Charles Michael Hoeffler
Roy Irving
John Harold Itzel

Williams Jennings
Paul S. Johnson
Nadia N. Jones
Robert A. Jones
Robert Jordan
George Wanzer Kane, Jr.
Thomas E. Kane
Alex King
Louis Max Kleeman
Rudolph Klempa
Edward John Klubenspies
John P. Korsch
Joseph Ralph Koury
Ralph J. Koury
Anton Kovacs
John Joseph Kovacs
Paul Lampert
Thomas Leavy
Edward Nathaniel Lee
Linn M. Lockwood, Jr.
Brian Lopez
John E. Lowrey
Russell Lueducker
James K. Manning
Salvatore Manuri, Jr.
Craig Lawrence Marino
Patrick J. Martin
Eric Grant Mason
Milton Theodore Mason
Carlangelo Massa
Joseph McCaffrey
James G. McFall
John Joseph McNerney
Robert Richard Merrill
Whitney Curtis Merrill
W. E. Merwin
Edward Joseph Metzner
Arthur T. Miles, Jr.
Leonard Miller
Peter Felix Miller

Robert R. Moffett
Robert Montague
Stephen Motyczka
Matthew R. Nazzaro
Frank Nielsen
Daniel S. Norton
Robert Ivan Nylen
Timothy W. O'Brien
John O' Donnell
William O'Donnell
Alfred J. Oram
Gordon J. Ostrowsky
Harry P. Page, Jr.
William Parsons
Guy E. Patterson
Robert Emmett Peters
William Gerard Peters
Eugene J. Perrotta
John J. Pienciak
Robert E. Pierce
William Pietrucha
Henry Polidoro
Christopher T. Polito
George A. Porcella
Lester William Powell
John J. Puglisi
Gerard Patrick Quinn
John G. Ranhofer
John J. Rattigan
Kelly A. Rieder
Frederick George Roberts
George Lawrence Rosendale
Robert Joseph Ryan
Leo John Schaeffer
Robert Schafer
Edward A. Schindler
Stephen D. Schlapak
Richard H. Schofield
Leo Anthony Schultz
Robert Michael Segear

Andrew J. Sharo, Jr.
Henry Simon
James F. Sloan
John H. Stanier, Jr.
Thomas Stiansen
Joseph W. Stulpin
John Swandrak
James P. Switek
William D. Thermann
Robert Carlyle Thieme
John Morton Thimons
Brian D. Thomas
Lawrence Travis Thomas
Russell W. Thomas
Carl Thompson
Steven Toy
Joseph Patrick Van Bergen, Jr.
Vanessa Van Brunt
Leonard R. Van Sadars
John Frances Varley, Jr.
Peter Vergalla
Richard J. Vitale
Brian Wagner
George Charles Ward
James Edward Washbourne
Matthew Widdows
Harry William Wilde
Russell Scott Wilde
Stephen Douglas Wilde
Frank Williams
David P. Winans
Norman Woitkowski
Thomas W. Woods, Sr.
Thomas H. Woods, Jr.
James Wozniak
Edward T. Zarzecki
William Edward Zirkel
Donald Paul Zsak

In Memoriam



OFFICER ROBERT HAND

**Served with the Cranford Police Department from
July 1, 1956 until February 11, 1975.**

Officer Hand is the only Cranford Police Officer to
have lost his life in the line of duty.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

John M. Colineri	January 1, 2007	Officer 2 ND Grade
Daniel S. Norton	January 1, 2007	Officer 2 ND Grade
Brian Wagner	January 1, 2007	Officer 3 RD Grade
Matthew Nazzaro	January 1, 2007	Officer 3 RD Grade
Russell Luedecker	February 1, 2007	Officer 2 ND Grade
Spencer Durkin	February 1, 2007	Officer 2 ND Grade
Christopher DiFabio	February 1, 2007	Officer 2 ND Grade
Joseph Stulpin	May 1, 2007	Officer 6 TH Grade
Steven D'Ambola	July 1, 2007	Officer 3 RD Grade
Matthew Widdows	July 1, 2007	Officer 3 RD Grade
Thomas Stiansen	July 22, 2007	Officer 2 ND Grade
Nadia N. Jones	December 1, 2007	Officer 5 TH Grade
Nelson W. Hearn, Jr.	December 1, 2007	Officer 5 TH Grade
Sean T. Holcomb	December 1, 2007	Officer 5 TH Grade
John J. Rattigan	December 31, 2007	Officer 2 ND Grade
Eugene Perrotta	December 31, 2007	Officer 1 ST Grade
Kelly Rieder	December 31, 2007	Officer 1 ST Grade
Robert Jordan	December 31, 2007	Probationary
Christopher Chapman	December 31, 2007	Retired
Helen Green	April 25, 2007	Retired



The swearing in ceremony for Officer Robert Jordan.
 Pictured left to right:
 Captain John C. Baer, Officer Robert Jordan and Chief Eric G. Mason

OFFICER ROBERT JORDAN SWORN IN

Officer Robert Jordan is a graduate of Edison High School and is pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice at Middlesex County College. He is also a graduate of the Cape May County Police Academy.

Officer Jordan is an Alternate Route graduate from the Cape May County Police Academy. He graduated from the Academy on January 24, 2008 at which time he began our intensive departmental training program.

Officer Jordan comes from a long lineage of law enforcement professionals. His grandfather, Charles David, served as Chief of Police in the borough of Kenilworth. His Uncle Brent David

served as Chief of Police in the Borough of Kenilworth from 1990 through 1995. Currently his cousin Mark David is a Sergeant with the Kenilworth Police Department.

At the swearing in ceremony for Officer Jordan, Chief Mason stated "During our selection process for the position, Officer Jordan distinguished himself from the other candidates with his display of professionalism, respect for law enforcement, and his desire to be a member of the Cranford Police Department. There is no doubt in our minds that he possesses the necessary character, integrity, discipline and maturity to be an asset to the Cranford community and the Cranford Police Department."



Officer Robert Jordan being sworn in by Township Clerk, Tara Rowley with Chief Eric Mason and Officer Jordan's parents.



Officer Robert Jordan after the swearing in ceremony, photographed with his attending family members.

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHES HONOR GUARD

An Honor Guard by definition, is a group of people serving as an escort or performing drill exhibitions on ceremonial occasions (Wikipedia)

In early 2007, while at a Supervisor's Staff Meeting, Chief Eric Mason proposed the creation of a Cranford Police Department Honor Guard Team. Chief Mason was looking for one supervisor and six officers to serve.

Usually comprised of volunteers who are carefully screened for their ability and physical dexterity, the department wanted members who are highly motivated and maintain exceptional standards of appearance and conduct. Members needed to show aptitude for ceremonial duty in order to be considered. The primary purpose of the CPD Honor Guard is to provide funeral honors for fallen comrades.

However, an honor guard may also serve as the "guardians of the colors". They present a nation's colors for various ceremonies and official state functions, both in and around Union County. Additionally, they serve as ambassadors to the public, presenting a positive image of their service, and assisting with the recruiting effort.

Sergeant Anthony J. Dobbins expressed interest to Chief Mason and was appointed the commander of the Honor Guard. Six other members were selected, on a voluntary basis, to complete the Cranford Police Department Honor Guard. The six other members are Detective John Swandrak, Detective Steven Toy, Officer Ryan Greco, Officer Thomas Bell, Officer William Pietrucha, and Officer Nelson Hearn.

The unit kicked off with a basic in house training followed by an Honor Guard Camp on April 26 and 27, 2007. Lt. Robert Kneer of the Fair Lawn, NJ Police Department, a United States Marine Corp Veteran as well as a thirty-year police veteran, who

has run numerous Honor Guard events around the country, instructed the camp.

With basic training completed, outfitting this extension of the CPD was the next order of business. Chief Mason, Captain Andrews and Sergeant Dobbins met with Jerry Lee, of Some's Uniforms in Hackensack, NJ. Mr. Lee has been outfitting Honor Guards for over 40 years. After presentations of uniform options, a Cranford Police Honor Guard uniform was selected.

In order to participate in the Memorial Day Parade for 2007, all of the members of the team needed to be fitted within nine days. With the cooperation of all of those involved, the parties pulled together and with the final push from Chief Mason, the uniforms were delivered just in time. The members were excited to participate in this Cranford tradition that exemplifies all of the duties of the Honor Guard.

The first presentation of the Honor Guard unit was at the Cranford PBA Local #52 Memorial Day Breakfast. Chief Mason spoke briefly and presented the group, who marched in to present colors and a salute to the flag.



Sgt. Anthony Dobbins, Officer Steven Toy and Officer William Pietrucha

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT INTERNET WEB SITE

In 1997, recognizing the larger role that technology and computers would play in the future, the Cranford Police Department became one of the first police departments in Union County to establish a permanent presence on the Internet's World Wide Web.

The creation and maintenance of the police website (www.cranford.com/police) was designed to give the public more access to departmental information, and to present a means for people, both local and non-local, to communicate non-emergency concerns. Today, and even more so in the near future, the public we serve is making use of emerging Internet technologies; the Cranford Police Department is adapting to meet the challenges of this new medium.

The department home page provides the following information and services...

- It lists the address, phone numbers, and email address (police@cranfordnj.org) of the department.
- It shows pictures of department members, activities and equipment.
- It contains information and application instructions for the Police Auxiliary and Police Explorers Post.
- It presents special announcements, community updates, drunk driving enforcement news, and other current information on a "bulletin board" page.
- It allows the viewing, downloading and printing of common forms, applications, and ordinances online.
- It presents traffic safety tips and program information, including bicycle/pedestrian safety, child seat information, safe driving campaigns, and links to the municipal court traffic ticket payment system.
- It provides crime prevention tips and advice for workers, seniors, homeowners and children.
- It lists Police Athletic League, D.A.R.E., and juvenile justice information.

- It presents a number of links to related police, local, and governmental websites.

In the past ten years (since 1998) the Department's Internet home page has logged over 127,000 visits to the site. That averages over 34 visitors per day. There were 14,915 visitors in 2007. Approximately 4000 of those visits were in April 2007, when Nor'easter and flood related safety, relief, and recovery information was posted.

Email has been received from numerous local residents as well as foreign citizens and law enforcement agencies. Local residents have reported everything from fraud cases to chronic barking dog issues; they have requested information for school reports and have arranged home and business security inspections. Foreign visitors have exchanged training and scheduling information, have requested patches or memorabilia, or have just stopped by to say "hi." Retired officers have checked in from as far away as Arizona and Florida.

Design and maintenance of the Cranford Police website, as well as responding to and recording email correspondence, is the responsibility of Sergeant Gerard Quinn (in cooperation with the web design team at Cranford.com/WebCards). Lieutenant Joe VanBergen assists with the email correspondence and the management of the site, particularly traffic related information. Each of the Department's division and bureau heads has provided information and regularly contributes to the overall makeup of the site. Through its Internet presence, the department intends to continue its progressive tradition and meet the technological challenges of the new millennium.

D.A.R.E.: DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION

The D.A.R.E. Program is sponsored by the Cranford Municipal Alliance. More than 3900 students have graduated from the D.A.R.E. Program since it was first introduced into the Cranford school system in 1991. These students have been given a head start in the fight against drugs.

D.A.R.E. is a collaborative effort by D.A.R.E. certified law enforcement officers, educators, students, parents, and community to offer an educational program in the classroom to prevent or reduce drug abuse and violence among children and youth. The fifth grade classes receive a structured, 10-week core program presented by a certified D.A.R.E. officer. The D.A.R.E. program offers preventative strategies to enhance those protective factors – especially bonding to the family, school, and community - which appear to foster the development of resiliency in young people who may be at risk for substance abuse or other problem behaviors.

The emphasis of the program is to help students recognize and resist the many direct and subtle pressures that influence them to experiment with alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, inhalants, or other drugs or to engage in violence. D.A.R.E. offers a variety of interactive, group-participation, cooperative-learning activities which are designed to encourage students to solve problems of major importance in their lives. It teaches children “life skills.” The children are not only told to “SAY NO”, but are taught “HOW TO SAY NO.”

The tasks accomplished by D.A.R.E. are by:

1. Providing students with accurate information about alcohol and drugs.
2. Teaching students “8 WAYS TO SAY NO” to drugs while providing alternatives to drug use.
3. Teaching students decision-making skills and the consequences of their behavior.
4. Building student’s self esteem while teaching them how to resist peer pressure.

5. Students are also taught how to resolve personal disputes and deal with stress, which will help reduce acts of violence.

The fifth grade program is punctuated by a ceremony in which every 5th grade student receives a D.A.R.E. Graduate certificate. The success of this program is being measured by the number of D.A.R.E. students who hold on to their commitment to “SAY NO” to drug use.



JUVENILE BUREAU

The Juvenile Bureau, located in Cleveland Plaza, offers an informal atmosphere conducive to creating a positive interaction between juveniles, parents, and Detective Sergeant Michael Dow, Detective Christopher Polito, and Detective Richard Vitale.

Parents are critical in fostering positive moral and social character development. Parents need to ask questions, make suggestions, console, comfort, support, encourage, discuss, teach, befriend, communicate, trust and respect their children. A parent who is actively involved in their child's life does make a difference.

The responsibilities and functions relating to juvenile delinquency, deterrence, and enforcement are exercised through the Family Court, Union County Prosecutor's Office and departmental policies. The goals of the Juvenile Justice System are:

- To ensure that public safety is protected.
- To rehabilitate the juvenile so that he or she can grow into a resourceful and productive person who will contribute positively to society.
- To hold the juvenile accountable for his or her acts.

All cases assigned to the Juvenile Bureau are handled by a follow-up investigation, which may result in the signing of juvenile complaints. The Juvenile Bureau handled 425 cases during 2006, a decrease of 11 percent from 2005. There were 156 cases diverted from the Family Court. There were 91 juveniles taken into custody resulting in the signing of 144 complaints. The number of juvenile repeat offenders dropped dramatically from 110 in 2005 to 22 in 2006.

Juveniles are taken into custody to protect the health, morals and well being of the juvenile. Juveniles are not arrested. All investigations and complaints are handled individually and impartially. Many times, formal involvement in the juvenile justice system is unwarranted and may even be counterproductive. Juvenile officers attempt to resolve minor incidents without the need to file a complaint with the court. In

these cases, the victim is given the opportunity to have input as to the final resolution of the matter. The officers, in agreement with the victim, juvenile offender, and their families, fashion the juvenile's consequences specifically to the needs of the involved parties. In these instances, the matter is resolved swiftly and to the satisfaction of the victim, the police, and the juvenile and their family.

The purpose of diverting juvenile offenders from appearing before the Family Court in Elizabeth is to seek the help specifically designed to educate and rehabilitate the individual. During the past year, juvenile offenders have been referred to the Fire Setter Program of the Cranford Fire Department, the Trinitas Mental Hygiene Unit, the Carrier Clinic, the High Focus Center, and the S.E.R.V. Center. The Juvenile Bureau has an excellent working relationship with school officials. The Juvenile Bureau has utilized the resources Student Assistance Counselors (Bob Segear, Brian Gilroy, and Lisa Barenboim) in the Cranford Public School system.

The Union County Youth Service Bureau - Crisis Intervention Unit serves as a mediation mechanism designed to preserve the unity of the family, whenever possible, and to secure for each child the appropriate care, guidance and control in the best interest of the child's welfare. Last year, 9 referrals were made to the Crisis Intervention Unit and 12 referrals were made to the Division of Youth and Family services. No juveniles were placed in detention.

The Juvenile Conference Committee continued to play an active, integral part in the adjudication of juvenile delinquents. The members of the J.C.C. are volunteers from Cranford who are trained by court staff and appointed by the Presiding Judge of the Family Court to informally hear juvenile complaints that are referred by the court. The J.C.C.

is primarily concerned with preventing future misconduct of young people. All matters coming before the Committee are strictly confidential. The Juvenile Bureau is easily accessible to the public making it convenient for parents, their children and the police to meet in a comfortable setting that encourages open dialogue amongst all parties. The office is also the home of the Cranford Police Athletic League. The Juvenile Bureau Conference Room was used for meetings by the following organizations during the past year:

- Juvenile Conference Committee
- Project Access - Crisis Intervention
- Division of Youth and Family Services
- Union County Juvenile Officer's Executive Board
- Union County Juvenile Probation
- Cranford Municipal Alliance
- Cranford Chamber of Commerce
- Cranford Baseball/Softball League Executive Officers
- Babe Ruth Baseball

- Rutgers Safety Certification Program
- Cranford Police Department - Superior Officers Staff
- Cranford Police Athletic League - Board of Directors

The Juvenile Bureau staff members have participated in and served on committees for the following organizations: Cranford Municipal Alliance, Red Ribbon Week, Cranford Police Athletic League, Union County Juvenile Officers Association, Union County D.A.R.E. Officers Association, New Jersey D.A.R.E. Officers Association and the New Jersey Juvenile Officers Association. They have been involved in activities at Cranford High School such as Project Graduation, Peer Development, the Booster Club, Open Gym nights, Spring Track and Field, Winter Track, Soccer, Baseball, and Gymnastics. Detective Sergeant Dow was honored by the Cranford Municipal Alliance as their Volunteer of the Year.



Cranford High School announcement board during the Spring of 2007

CRANFORD POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

The P.A.L. completed its 26th year of serving the youth of Cranford in 2007. The P.A.L. continued to provide many positive activities for the youth, including football, cheerleading, flag football, field hockey, boys and girls basketball, wrestling, volleyball and track.

The strength of the P.A.L. is the dedication and tenacity of the volunteers who give selflessly to the children, working to make a difference in their lives. We feel athletic participation instills certain desirable educational, social and personal values. These are just a few of the reasons the volunteers, parents, coaches and Cranford police officers involved with the P.A.L. provide considerable financial, and administrative support to the program.

The P.A.L. is operated under the direction of Executive Director, Det. Chris Polito and the 16 members

of the Board of Directors. Members of the P.A.L. Board of Directors are: Honorary Chairman, Chief Eric Mason, Lt. Bob Colaneri, Lt. James Wozniak, Sgt. Frank Williams (Treasurer), Off. Matt Nazzaro, Off. Steve D'Ambola (Secretary) Off. Joe Stulpin, Ret. Lt. Milt Mason, Ret. Det. Bob

Segear, Gregg Wheatley (President), Kim Capece (Vice President), Marc Taglieri, John Oblachinski, Bob Bruns, Brian McGovern, and Kevin Murray. These volunteers spend a tremendous amount of time making decisions and organizing programs that make the P.A.L. as successful as it is. The P.A.L. has six football teams for 3rd through

8th grade athletes. John Christiano, program director, and Erik Rosenmeier, head football coach at Cranford High School, hosted several clinics and meetings between the P.A.L. coaching staff and the varsity coaching staff. The staffs exchanged information regarding offensive, defensive, and special team strategies. The extra time put in by all the coaches was rewarded by an outstanding season. The "A Team" (8th grade) finished with a (7-2) record. The "B Team" (7th grade) were (3-6), and the "C Team" (6th grade) were division champs finishing with a (7-2) record. The "D & E Teams" (3rd-5th grade)

are part of the instructional part of the program and the scores are not officially kept. However, the "D" and both "E Teams" did exceptionally well. The cheerleading program had four squads this year. The participants are girls in 4th through 8th grade. The cheerleaders, under the guidance of program



2007 PAL Football Team
and Cheerleaders

director, Christine Alger and their coaches, invested many hours of practice during the season. The cheerleading squads provided both vocal and emotional support for the football teams throughout the year. The enthusiastic performance given every Sunday was evidence of their hard work and devotion to their sport.

The P.A.L. basketball program consisted of eleven teams participating in different leagues throughout the state. The boys program consists of seven teams, a 4th, 5th and 6th grade team, and two 7th and 8th grade teams. The program has four girls basketball teams for grades 5 through 8. John Frieri, program director, provided valuable technical and strategic information to the coaching staff. He was invaluable in coordinating gym facility use for games and practices for all the basketball teams as well as arranging the tryouts and schedules for each team. The P.A.L. sponsored summer basketball camps for the boys and girls run by Head Varsity Basketball Coach, Ryan Huber.

The wrestling program continued to grow in number of participants and in success on the mat. Program director, Kevin Murray, led the program to a 16-3 record, participating in the Central Jersey Wrestling League and the Union County Wrestling League. The team had 17 state qualifiers, 6 state place finishers, and 120 tournament place winners.

The track program, under director Sgt. Mike Dow, was held at Memorial Field. There were 100 participants in the program. The field hockey program was held at Orange Avenue School. The program, directed by Trudy Allen and coach Erin Polito taught 26 girls between 4th and 6th grade the skills of the sport. The flag football program, directed by Det. Chris Polito, completed its seventh year. There were 87 1st and 2nd grade athletes involved in the program.

The flag rugby program is co-sponsored by the P.A.L. and the Union County Rugby Football Club. The season runs from June through July with games on Saturdays at Unami Park.

The P.A.L. again sponsored teams in the Cranford/ Softball League, as well as supporting the Booster Club, Project Graduation, and the St. Michael's Feast. We also sponsored a baseball camp run by Head Varsity Baseball Coach Dennis McCaffery.

Unfortunately, the P.A.L. lost a member of its family this past year. Lt. Glenn Owens (Ret.) from the Union

County Prosecutor's Office and a P.A.L. Board Member since its inception in 1981 passed away this year. Glenn was a current member and Vice President of the P.A.L. at the time of his death. In his memory, the P.A.L. created the Glenn Owens Scholarship, awarded to two Cranford High School students, one boy and girl, who have participated in Cranford P.A.L. programs.



Lieutenant Glen Owens (Ret.) of the Union County Prosecutor's Office.

Cranford P.A.L. Board Member
1981 - 2007

CRANFORD AUXILIARY POLICE

The Cranford Auxiliary Police was formed in 1917 as the Cranford Civil Defense Force. During World War I, its purpose was to assist the local police should the country be invaded.

After World War I their duties consisted of helping during townwide emergencies such as hurricanes, blizzards etc. As World War II came upon us they were again used as a homeland defense force, whose job in part was to assist the local police should a foreign country invade us.

After the war the name was changed from the Civil Defense Force, to the **“Cranford Auxiliary Police”**. Still an all volunteer force, the Auxiliary Police have come a long way since those early days when they were given a helmet marked “civil defense”, an arm band with the civil defense logo on it, and very little, if any training. The auxiliary force of today consists of 13 officers whose job it is to supplement the regular force not only during times of emergency, but with other duties as well such as traffic direction at accident scenes, or walking the “beat” in the downtown area on shopping nights.

The Cranford Auxiliary police are a highly trained professional organization dedicated to helping keep the town safe, and providing our citizens with the same high quality of service given them by the regular officers of the police department.

Today’s auxiliary officers must go through an interview process, background check, and the auxiliary police academy. After completing the academy, they must then successfully complete a three-month on the job training program before they are finally accepted as full time members of the auxiliary police.

Auxiliary officers do not carry firearms, but are, for safety reasons, trained in their use. Should a regular officer become disabled, then the auxiliary officer would be able to assist him, by

making the officers weapon safe. For their protection they do carry PR-24 nightsticks, handcuffs, and Oleoresin Capsicum .

Although our auxiliary officers rarely make arrests, they do have the same powers as a regular officer while on duty. While on patrol they can issue warning summons for parking violations, bicycle violations or hazardous warnings. If they observe a violation that they feel requires a summons, they can notify a regular officer so one can be issued to the offender.

Currently there are 13 active members of the Auxiliary Police unit. Being led by Auxiliary Captain Ralph Gregson the members are:

Auxiliary Lieutenant James Nalepa
Auxiliary Sergeant Anthony Matusawicz
Auxiliary Officer Philip Andrews
Auxiliary Officer Archie DeMartino
Auxiliary Officer Terrance Duane
Auxiliary Officer Stephen Pietrucha
Auxiliary Officer David Tenbroek
Auxiliary Officer Francis Young
Auxiliary Officer Jedeon Virata
Auxiliary Officer Mike Urbanski
Auxiliary Officer Quashon Hasan

In 2007 we had Aux/Officer Sonny Heyder resign to take a position with New Jersey Transit’s light rail security division, and Aux/Officer Craig Hudak resign to take a position with the Gwinnett County, Georgia Police Department. Through Captain Gregson recruiting efforts, however the organization accepted four new officers into its training program. The new officers are Edward M. Bernier Jr., Gregory M. Federici, John T. Kurdt, and Michael R. Mistrell. Upon the successful completion of their training it will bring the unit up to 17 members.

During 2007 the Auxiliary officers volunteered 2278

CRANFORD AUXILIARY POLICE(Continued)

hours to the community. This is an increase of approximately 300 hours over 2006. Their duties range from traffic control for which they logged 784 hours, to motorized and foot patrol that accounted for 784 hours. Auxiliary officers also logged 132 emergency hours. Emergency hours are hours that are not accrued due to a planned event. This is when an officer is called out at any time of the day or night, due to an emergency situation where a tree or wire is down blocking a roadway, or our needing manpower to help cover an accident scene whose investigation would require a street be blocked, and traffic redirected, for an extended period of time.

Other duties performed by the auxiliary officers include assisting at DWI checkpoints,

and courtroom security. In addition to all, this they received over 450 hours of training. Some of the topics covered were: Fight or Flight, Self Defense, Use of Force, PR-24 Recertification, Your Vest won't stop this Bullet, Firearms, and Pursuit Training.

The service provided by the officer of our auxiliary unit to both the department, and the community is invaluable and cannot be measured in dollars and cents. As we go forward into 2008 rest assured that the officers of Cranford Auxiliary Police will continue, as they have for the past 91 years, to provide our citizens with the same high quality of service, and professionalism they are accustomed too.

2007 Cranford Police Department Auxiliary Graduation



Pictured left to right: Auxiliary Officer Quashon Hasan, Auxiliary Officer Mike Urbanski, Auxiliary Captain Ralph Gregson, Auxiliary Lieutenant James Nalepa, Auxiliary Sergeant Anthony Matusawicz, Auxiliary Officer Jedeon Virata, Auxiliary Officer Francis Young

RECORDS DIVISION

The year of 2007 brought about an administrative change within the Records Division of the Cranford Police Department.

Detective Sergeant Craig Marino commands the Records Division which has many responsibilities. One of the primary responsibilities is records management. Every report generated within the Cranford Police Department gets processed through the Records Division for data entry and quality assurance. By law, the Cranford Police Department is required to maintain each and every record for a specified amount of time and provide for access to these reports under the provisions set forth in the Open Public Records Act. Reports are also provided to attorneys under discovery rules for courtroom proceedings. These acts are completed with the help of his experienced administrative staff, Jean McComb and Suzanne Welsh. Jean McComb began working in the Records Division of the Cranford Police Department in 1987, while Suzanne Welsh came aboard in 2005. Both Administrative Clerks are well versed in Gun Permit Rules, Dog and Cat Licensing, Parking Rules, Alarm Registrations, Rules of Discovery, The Open Public Records Act and Criminal Record Expungements.

Most of the services provided by the Records Division generate revenue. The Records Division registered 809 alarms for businesses and residences within the Township and billed for multiple false alarms. This provided for a total revenue intake of \$32,075.00.

In January of each year, the Records Division teams up with the Cranford Health Department and runs a rabies clinic for both cats and dogs. At this clinic we have a booth set up for the issuance of licenses. Residents brave the usually inclement weather to obtain two valuable services in one outing. This year 450 cats and 1366 dogs were licensed. This generated a total revenue of \$11,436.50.

The Records Division issues parking permits for commuters, shoppers, business owners, and residents. Twelve hour permits allow the mass transportation commuter flexibility in their workday. The nine hour permit provides business owners and their employees

a place to park while providing goods and services to the town. These permits are \$500.00 a year. They are issued semi-annual or annual. Twelve hour parking permits for the Parking Garage are also issued semi-annual or annual and cost \$800.00 a year for Township residents and \$1,000.00 a year for non-residents. As of May 1 the Township of Cranford changed the rates to \$600.00 a year for Township Residents and \$780.00 a year for non-residents. For those who live in the downtown area we provide overnight parking permits at \$120.00 a year for the surface lots, \$200.00 a year for the Parking Garage and resident permits which are free of cost. As of May 1 the Township of Cranford changed the overnight parking permit to \$200.00 a year for surface lots. Parking continues to be our largest revenue generator at \$336,280.52. The Records Division also collected \$9,194.57 in New Jersey Sales tax, as required for parking permits issued after November 1, 2006.

Other daily revenue from Firearms Applications, Fingerprinting Services, Bicycle Licensing, and Police Reports brought the total revenue for 2007 to \$406,868.06.

Sergeant Marino is also the Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC Officer) and he is responsible for maintenance, training and review of the NCIC, CJIS, CCH and NCIC2000 systems. All new members of the Cranford Police Department were given and passed a written test on these systems as required by The New Jersey State Police.

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

In 2007 there were no personnel changes within the Detective Bureau. Sergeant Quinn is currently assigned as the nightshift supervisor in charge of the Detective Bureau.

The Investigative Division is lead by Detective Lieutenant Stephen Wilde and consists of the Detective Bureau and the Juvenile Bureau. In 2007 Detective Sergeant Quinn was assigned as the nightshift supervisor in charge of the Detective Bureau. Detective Patrick Fay, Detective John Swandrak, Detective Robert Montague and Detective Michael Andrews were all assigned to handle general investigations.

The Detective Bureau is a 24-hour, 365 day a year operation. Each detective is on call 11 weekends a year. In addition, each detective assigned to the nightshift is on call from 11:00pm to until 5:30am. Detective Bureau supervisors are on call around the clock.

The Detective Bureau is responsible for investigating all reported crimes. Criminal investigations are often a time consuming and tedious process. The investigator must utilize the professional skills learned combined with science and technology to successfully clear a case. A truly successful investigator, however, will never forget that above all else, the ability to be creative, thoughtful, reflective, and compassionate are key elements of that success. To that end members of the Detective Bureau are committed to the goals of suppressing crime in the community as well as providing quality police services to the residents of the Township of Cranford. During 2007 detectives were assigned a total of 2,659 cases. Each Detective handled an average of 443 cases in 2007.

In addition to handling a daily caseload, the detectives conducted 29 background investigations for firearms applicants. These background investigations involve interviewing all references, a state criminal history review, a national criminal history review, a mental health records check, a domestic violence/ restraining order inquiry, and submission of fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the New Jersey State Police.

As a special service to the residents of Cranford, the Detective Bureau offers fingerprint services to all residents every Tuesday. In 2007 the Detective Bureau fingerprinted 161 residents, a forty percent increase over 2006. Those fingerprinted included school teachers, child shield applicants, taxi drivers, substitute teachers, school bus drivers, foster parents, bankers, home health care workers, volunteer coaches, township employees and school custodians.

Each year the Detective Bureau is responsible for conducting annual inspections of licensed establishments. In 2007 Detective Swandrak conducted 14 inspections of licensed establishments in order to verify compliance with New Jersey State ABC regulations.

The Cranford Police Department is committed to serving the citizens of Cranford by providing a series of educational programs and lectures designed to increase awareness. In 2007 Lieutenant Stephen Wilde, Sergeant Jerry Quinn, Detective Patrick Fay Detective John Swandrak, Detective Robert Montague and Detective Michael Andrews spoke to dozens of community organizations such as The Little Gym, The Wednesday Morning Club, The Cub Scouts, and The League of Women Voters, The Union County Rape Crisis Advocates, and The Board of Education, The topic of these lectures varied greatly and changed according to the groups specific needs. Some of the topics the detectives addressed were Internet Safety, Personal Safety, Child Safety, and Home Security. Educating the citizens of Cranford through these awareness programs not only help protect our citizens but also help foster relationships between the police and the public. The members of the Detective Bureau not only enjoy providing this service, most find it incredibly rewarding.

In 2007 the Cranford Police Detective Bureau remained committed to educating our community and helping citizens from becoming crime victims. Lieutenant Stephen Wilde designed and implemented

a citizen awareness program for senior citizens. This program included a seminar that was held at the Community Center in April as well as a live TV 35 broadcast in August where Lieutenant Wilde discussed common home improvement scams and gave advice on how the viewers could avoid becoming a victim. Additionally in October of 2007 Sergeant Jerry Quinn appeared on TV 35 to talk about Internet crimes. These interviews reached thousands of viewers in the Cranford and Westfield area.

In order to cultivate relationships with members of other law enforcement agencies Detective

Bureau personnel held memberships in the following organizations in 2007:

The New Jersey State Crime Prevention Officers Association, The Union County Municipal Investigators Association, The Association of Evidence and Property Officers, The New Jersey Narcotics Officers Association, The High Tech Crime Officers Association, The New Jersey Fraud Investigators Association and The National Center For Missing and Exploited Children

2007 CLASS I OFFENSES BY MONTH

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	6
Assault	5	4	1	3	9	11	5	2	7	5	6	9	67
Burglary	5	1	0	5	1	1	5	5	3	2	3	3	34
Theft	26	9	13	13	12	22	18	18	19	14	17	15	196
MV Theft	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	8
Arson	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4

ARRESTS

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Adult	368	486
Juvenile	90	104
TOTAL	458	590

AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS ON POLICE

<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
3	4

CLASS I OFFENSES

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Homicide	1	0
Rape	0	0
Robbery	3	6
Assault	55	67
Burglary	32	34
Theft	248	196
MV Theft	6	6
Arson	1	4
TOTAL	346	313

CLASS II OFFENSES

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Fraud	125	123
Stolen Property	2	6
Malicious Mischief	283	343
Weapons	8	15
Sex Offenders	1	5
Narcotic Investigations	138	182
Family Offenses	55	81
DWI	99	83
Liquor Offenses	0	9
Disorderly Conduct	592	448
Bomb Incidents	0	0
Missing Persons	47	34
All Other Offenses	1373	1391
TOTAL	2723	2720

CASES ASSIGNED TO AND INVESTIGATED BY DETECTIVES

<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
2751	2659

TRAINING

Training refers to the attainment of knowledge, skills and competencies that pertains to specific useful skills.

Training is specific and done to improve ones capability, capacity and performance. Developing and maintaining an efficient, effective and personal service-oriented police force would require a comprehensive and continuous training program. One that systematically builds certain skills specific to achieve a certain end and that will utilize the most up-to-date professional law enforcement training techniques available.

For Police Officers in the Cranford Police Department, training begins with the Cranford Police Department Field Training Program. In late 2006 early 2007, we welcomed Officers Eugene Perrotta and Kelly Rieder to the department. Immediately upon graduating from the John H. Stamler Police Academy, each officer was teamed up with a Field Training Officer (FTO) and spent the next 14 tours becoming proficient in certain training tasks required by our FTO Program. This training not only teaches the new Officers policies, procedures and guidelines, but also exposes them to real life situations with a more experienced officer at their side. Ultimately, the FTO program allows for the proper

assimilation and socialization of our new Officers into the Department where they may spend the next twenty-five years serving Cranford.

In order to provide the best service possible, the constant training and retraining of police personnel is imperative. The Cranford Police Department continues training in the form of in-service training, professional development courses, specialized skills training and legal updates, to name a few. Also, all police officers within Union County must be trained twice a year in firearms qualifications, the use of force and the NJ Attorney General's pursuit guidelines. The Cranford Police Department also utilizes numerous media publications including but not limited to 911 Magazine, NJ Cops Magazine, Quinlan Publishing's Arrest, Search & Seizure Law Bulletin, Investigative Stops Law Bulletin and Arrest Law Bulletin, L.E.T.N. and The Union County Prosecutors Newsletter.

Finally, the Cranford Police Department sends sworn officers, communications officers, and civilian employee's to training courses and seminars annually. The following is a detailed list of all schools attended in 2007.

ANDREWS, JEROME

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ Police Officers
Preventing Street Gang Recruitment
Understanding the Internal Affairs Function
5th Annual Counter Terrorism Conference
FBI Civil Rights Training
Foreign Threats & NJ Vulnerability
Law Enforcement Expo
NJ Emergency Preparedness Conference
Police Power Leadership Program
Preventing Street Gang Recruitment

ANDREWS, MICHAEL

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
Fraud Recognition Education & Exposure
Interview & Interrogation
Preventing Gang Recruitment
Meth Lab Safety & Awareness
GANGS - Advanced Training
Preventing Street Gang Recruitment
Active Shooter - Breaching Techniques

BAER, JOHN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Background Investigation
Seminar
Bloodbourne Pathogens
Child Missing Alert
NJ Law Enforcement
Accreditation Conference
Shared Service Conference

BELL, THOMAS

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
Honor Guard Camp #357

COLANERI, ROBERT

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Promis Gavel Training for
DORA Orders
Alcotest Recertification
ETRO Seminar
Domestic Violence
Investigations
Bloodbourne Pathogens
Budgeting for Law Enforcemnt
Executives
FBI LEEDA
Law Enforcement EXPO
SWAT
UCERT

COLINERI, JOHN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

CONKLIN, JUSTIN

Basic Telecommunicator
Course
Emergency Medical Dispatch

CORBISERO, JOSEPH

T3 Motion Course

D'AMBOLA, STEVEN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Emergency Medical Dispatch
Warrentless Mtor Vehicle
Searches
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques
Active Shooter - Critical
Incident Response

DAVENPORT, EDWARD

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
T3 Motion Course
Methods of Instruction
POSIT
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques
Accident Investigation Review
Specialty Accident
Investigation Review

DIFABIO, CHRISTOPHER

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
40 Hour DWI
Domestic Violence Update
Meth Lab Safety & Awareness
Holtz legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques
Bomar Tactical Training

DOBBINS, ANTHONY

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
TAC Seminar
Alcotest Recertification
Bloodbourne Pathogens
Honor Guard Camp #357

DOW, MICHAEL

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Basic Telecommunicator
Course
Emergency Medical Dispatch
Preventing Gang Violence
Responding to Missing &
Abducted Children
ETRO Seminar
Bloodbourne Pathogens
Child is Missing Alert Program
Holtz Juvenile Law Update
Preventing Street Gang
Recruitment

DURKIN, SPENCER

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Basic Telecommunicator
Course
Emergency Medical Dispatch
40 Hour DWI
NJEOA Seminar
Warrantless Motor Vehicle
Searches
Meth Lab Safety & Awareness
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

FARBANEC, DEREK

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

FAY, PATRICK

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Fraud Recognition Education
& Exposure
Sex Crimes Investigations
Arrest, Search & Seizure
Police Response to Mental
Illness

FEENEY, THOMAS

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers

Alcotest Recertification
ETRO Seminar
Bloodbourne Pathogens
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

GRACZYK, PETER

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
Active Shooter
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

GRECO, RYAN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
Holtz Legal Update
Honor Guard Camp #357
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

GREGSON, RALPH

T3 Motion Course

HANLEY, FRANCIS

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
ETRO Seminar
Performance & Accountability

HEARNS, NELSON

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ

Police Officers
Gang Awareness
Holtz Legal Update
Honor Guard Camp #357
Meth Lab Safety & Awareness
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

HEESTERS, JOHN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Basic Telecommunicator
Course
Emergency Medical Dispatch
Crime Scene Safety
Gang Awareness
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

HOLCOMB, SEAN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

JONES, NADIA

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Defensive Tactics & Street
Survival for Female Officers
Holtz Legal Update
Women in Law Enforcement
Seminar
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

LOPEZ, BRIAN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

LUEDECKER, RUSSELL

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Critical Incident Response -
Active Shooter
Gang Awareness
GANGS - Advanced Training
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

MARINO, CRAIG

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
2007 TAC Seminar
Promis Gavel Training for
DORA Orders
Alcotest Recertification
UCR Training
ETRO Seminar
Unidentified & Missing Person
NCIC Training
Accreditation Assessor
Training
Bloodbourne Pathogens
NJ Law Enforcement
Accreditation Conference
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques
OPRA Update

MONTAGUE, ROBERT

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
Advanced Criminal
Investigations
Fraud Recognition Education
& Exposure
Interview & Interrogation
Spotlight on Human
Trafficking
Explosives & Explosive Effects
GANGS - Advanced Training
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

NAZZARO, MATTHEW

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Critical Incident Response -
Active Shooter
Holtz Legal Update
Police Response to Mental
Illness

NORTON, DANIEL

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

O'BRIEN, TIMOTHY

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers

Alcotest Recertification
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques
Active Shooter
NJNEOA Seminar

PATTERSON, GUY

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
ETRO Seminar
Bloodbourne Pathogens
West Point Command &
Leadership
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

PETERS, ROBERT

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

PERROTTA, EUGENE

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Basic Telecommunicators
Course
Emergency Medical Dispatch
Gang Awareness
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

PIETRUCHA, WILLIAM

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
NJNEOA Seminar
Critical Incident Response -
Active Shooter
Holtz Legal Update
Honor Guard Camp #357
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

POLITO, CHRISTOPHER

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
Crime Prevention
Preventing Gang Recruitment
NJ Juvenile Officers
Conference
Holtz Juvenile Law Update
Preventing Street Gang
Recruitment

QUINN, GERARD

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Promis Gavel Training for
DORA Orders
Advanced Interview &
Interrogation
Advanced Windows Forensics
Shaken Baby Investigations
UCR Training
Unidentified & Missing

Persons NCIC Training

ETRO Seminar

Accreditation Assessor Training

Background Pathogens

NJ Law Enforcement Accreditation Conference

Police Response to Mental Illness

Active Shooter - Breaching Techniques

RATTIGAN, JOHN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form

Work Zone Safety for NJ Police Officers

Holtz Legal Update

Active Shooter - Breaching Techniques

RIEDER, KELLY

NJTR - 1 Crash Form

Work Zone Safety for NJ Police Officers

Active Shooter

Defensive Tactics & Street Survival for Female Officers

Gang Awareness

GANGS - Advanced Training

Holtz Legal Update

Active Shooter - Breaching Techniques

STIANSEN, THOMAS

NJTR - 1 Crash Form

Work Zone Safety for NJ Police Officers

Basic Telecommunicators Course

Emergency Medical Dispatch

Holtz Legal Update

Active Shooter - Breaching Techniques

STULPIN, JOSEPH

NJTR - 1 Crash Form

Work Zone Safety for NJ Police Officers

Current Drug Trends

Active Shooter - Breaching Techniques

PR 24 Instructor

SWANDRAK, JOHN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form

Work Zone Safety for NJ Police Officers

Alcotest Recertification

Advanced Interview & Interrogation

Honor Guard Camp

Understanding Arab Culture

Active Shooter - Breaching Techniques

PR 24 Instructor

THOMAS, BRIAN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form

Work Zone Safety for NJ Police Officers

Holtz Legal Update

Active Shooter - Breaching Techniques

TOY, STEVEN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
DWI Instructor Course
Honor Guard Camp
#357
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques
Accident Investigation I
Review
Accident Investigation II
Review
Crash Investigation II
Title 39 Updaet
Vehicle Dynamics Crash III
Vehicle Dynamics Review

VAN BERGEN, JOSEPH

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
T3 Motion Course
Sexual Harrasment
Training
ETRO Seminar
Leaders Academy Grants
NJ Police Executive Expo
West Point Command &
Leadership
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques
Accident Investigation
Review
Crash Data Retrieval
Technician
Specialty Accident
Investigation Review

VITALE, RICHARD

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
Preventing Gang
Recruitment
Holtz Juvenile Law Update

WAGNER, BRIAN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Critical Incident Response -
Active Shooter
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

WELSH, SUZANNE

OPRA Update

WIDDOWS, MATTHEW

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Warrantless Motor Vehicle
Searches
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques
Critical Incident Response
- Active Shooter
Child Passenger Safety
Technician

WILDE, STEPHEN

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Promis Gavel Training for
DORA Orders
Alcotest Recertification
Fraud Recognition Education
& Exposure
ETRO Seminar
Bloodbourne Pathogens
NJ Police Executive Expo
Officer in Crisis
Policing your Community
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

WILLIAMS, FRANK

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Alcotest Recertification
ETRO Seminar
Bloodbourne Pathogens
Holtz Legal Update
Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

WOZNIAK, JAMES

NJTR - 1 Crash Form
Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers
Power Point Basic
Promis Gavel Training for
DORA Orders
ETRO Seminar

E.V.O.C.

Bloodborne Pathogens

Controlling Sick Leave
Abuse

Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y. Clinic

Active Shooter - Breaching
Techniques

ZSAK, DONALD

NJTR - 1 Crash Form

Work Zone Safety for NJ
Police Officers

Active Shooter

Meth Lab Safety &
Awareness



Parking Enforcement Officer Ralph Gregson maneuvering the T3 Motion training course.

PATROL DIVISION

In the Patrol Division of the Cranford Police Department, personal safety and property security guide our efforts to preserve public tranquility.

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the Cranford Police Department. It is manned by more officers than any other division within the department. The Division's preventive and proactive patrol efforts contribute toward safe streets and neighborhoods allowing the residents of Cranford to enjoy walking and cycling in complete confidence. The Patrol Division is under the command of **Captain Jerome Andrews**. He is assisted by **Lieutenants James**

Wozniak and **Robert Colaneri**, who each command one platoon. They are assisted by **Sergeants Frank Hanley, Thomas Feeney, Guy Patterson,** and **Frank Williams** who are in charge of the four division squads.

There were a total of **66,104** incidents reported to the Cranford Police Department during 2007. These total incidents are broken down as follows:

8,938 calls for criminal related activity, including:

1,561 calls reporting burglary/trespass/alarm
2,380 calls reporting disorderly conduct
375 calls reporting thefts/stolen property
306 calls reporting vandalism/
malicious damage
487 calls reporting warrant arrests

25,008 calls for traffic related activity, including:

1,004 calls reporting motor vehicle accidents
4,313 calls reporting selective enforcement assignments
17,097 calls reporting motor vehicle violation investigations resulting in warnings/summonses

27,372 calls requesting public service, including:

3,299 medical assistance requests
16,487 building examinations and public transportation inspections
411 requests for assistance with vehicle/
house lock-outs

4,786 administrative assignments, including:

233 Police Auxiliary/Explorer details
560 In-Service/L.E.T.N. training

TRAFFIC DIVISION

The three “E’s” of traffic safety are Education, Enforcement, and Engineering. As you will see the Cranford Police Department Traffic Division utilized all three to formulate a comprehensive traffic safety plan for the Township of Cranford.

ACCIDENTS

The Traffic Division’s main function is the investigation of accident causation and attempts to do whatever is necessary to reduce the frequency and the injuries caused by them. Traffic personnel are trained in all phases of investigation and enforcement procedures. However, the important part of the traffic officer’s job is attempting to prevent accidents from happening.

Traffic personnel review every accident report written by patrol officers and conduct any follow up investigation that may be necessary. Each report is entered into an accident database program that allows us to identify trends around the township and see where improvements can be made that will lower the accident and/or injury rates. In addition, all accidents are pinned on a map of the township located in the Traffic Division office. This allows for a quick identification of possible accident problems in Cranford.

One fatal crash occurred in Cranford this year. A pedestrian was killed crossing Springfield Avenue at Miln Street on March 30th by a drunk driver. The driver, from Clark, was charged with DWI, Manslaughter, Possession of CDS and Paraphernalia, as well as multiple motor vehicle violations. Blood tests showed that the driver was under the influence of both cocaine and alcohol when he struck the pedestrian. His blood alcohol level was reportedly twice the legal limit. As of the end of the year, the driver was expected to plead guilty to first degree vehicular homicide.

EDUCATION

The Cranford Police Department works energetically to insure safe practices by the users of our roadways. The Traffic Division stresses “**education**” to the

citizens of Cranford. Cranford has continued to be a leader in Bicycle Safety programs for many years. Other cities and towns emulate Cranford’s program and seek our input for their safety efforts. Our school programs are designed to teach the students about traffic intelligently and safely. We also teach safe methods of bicycle transportation to our school children. Educational programs in the schools include such topics as Driving While Under the Influence, Bicycle Rodeos, Bicycle Safety and Registrations, Pedestrian Safety, Don’t Talk To Strangers, and Use of School Crossing Guards.

Other educational programs administered by the Traffic Division include the HERO Designate Driver Campaign, WHALE Child Safety Campaign, and Positive Helmet Safety Reward Program.

Detective Davenport is responsible for organizing and conducting bicycle and pedestrian safety lectures as well as bicycle rodeos at every grammar school in Cranford, including Saint Michael’s School. Detective Davenport also provides training to the school crossing guards every year along with Lieutenant Van Bergen.

Lieutenant Joseph Van Bergen instructs the recruits of the Union County Police Auxiliary Academy in traffic control and other police traffic issues. The academy is run by the Union County Office of Emergency Management and is held at the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains twice a year. As a radar instructor, Lieutenant Van Bergen is in charge of the department’s Radar Certification and Recertification of all officers. He is assisted with this training by Detective Davenport. Lieutenant Van Bergen also handles all training related to the department’s mobile computers and other department computer programs.

ENFORCEMENT

The **"enforcement"** of our laws ensures that the education is carried out.

The Detective Steven Toy continued to conduct selective enforcement assignments as his primary assignment within Traffic. The division also continued to issue Traffic Enforcement Bulletins to the Patrol Division so they can focus their own selective enforcement efforts where they are needed most. When accidents occur, it is usually because of a type of careless operation. Due to the severe injuries that occur during high speed accidents, we are constantly enforcing the speed laws. This enforcement is accomplished with MPH Python Radar Units, Speed Detection Devices, and by Speedometer Clocking of vehicles with our police patrol cars certified speedometers.

A new hand held Stalker Radar unit was purchased for use by the department's motorcycle officer for strict speed enforcement in areas that a patrol car can not be used.

The department continues to use the Speed Trailer on township roadways to alert drivers of their speed. After the trailer is on the roadway for a few days, it is then removed and followed up by radar enforcement. We hope to purchase an additional speed display unit in 2008. These signs are very effective in bringing speed compliance to neighborhood streets. In fact, studies have shown that use of these speed displays have a better and longer term effect on speeding than strictly enforcement.

The Traffic Division monitors the number of cars using a given roadway, their speeds, and vehicle classification by using its two JAMAR Traffic Counters. This data is used to focus our enforcement on the areas that need it most and during the times of the most frequent violations. These counters are also necessary when making applications to the State or County for traffic upgrades.

We also enforce bicycle violations and issue both summonses and warnings depending on the severity of the case. We impound bicycles that are unsafe or are being operated in an unsafe manner and also impound skateboards and other human powered devices that are operated in a careless manner. This would include go-peds and mini-bikes.

The Department applied for and was awarded a "Click It or Ticket" grant from the New Jersey State Division of Highway Traffic Safety for extra enforcement efforts during a two week period from the end of May to early June. The grant was coordinated out of the Traffic Division and was very successful in seatbelt enforcement awareness.



The Department also took part in the yearly "Over the Limit, Under Arrest" DWI Enforcement program during the Labor Day holiday after receiving grant money from the Division of Highway Traffic Safety. We also participated in an end of year DWI crackdown December 7th to January 2nd.

ENGINEERING

The Traffic Division is constantly looking for ways to make our roads safer. **"Engineering"** at certain intersections and on roadways is found to be a cause of many traffic problems.

Data is collected from traffic counters, accident reports, intersection reviews, and citizen complaints in order to assist the Traffic Division in evaluating roadways or intersections for engineering changes.

These changes can be as simple as better signage or pavement markings or can be as complicated as roadway widening or traffic signal installations.

In using Engineering to improve safety, Detective Davenport with the assistance of the Board of Education applied for the 2007 **Safe Routes to School Grant** and was awarded \$90,000 for improvements to be completed in 2008. The upgrades include thermoplastic striping at 22 locations, sidewalk extensions at Livingston and South Union Avenues, bikeway signage replacement along the entire bike route, and four flashing school speed limit signs at Livingston Avenue School and Bloomingdale Avenue School.

NEW IN 2007

The Cranford Police Department was honored on May 30, 2007 for receiving a second place finish in the **New Jersey Law Enforcement Challenge**. The Law Enforcement Challenge is a competition between similar sizes and types of law enforcement agencies. It recognizes and rewards the best overall traffic safety programs in the United States. The areas of concentration include efforts to enforce laws and educate the public about occupant protection, impaired driving, and speeding. Departments submitted applications in a three ring binder documenting their agency's efforts and effectiveness in these areas. The winning safety programs are those that combine officer training, public information, and enforcement to reduce crashes and injuries within its jurisdiction.

The department began the upgrade of our VHS based mobile video recording systems in 2007 to completely digital units manufactured by **ICOP Digital**. These new units mount in the dashboard where the factory AM/FM radio is. They utilize ruggedized hard drives to collect the video and download wirelessly to a central server. Six vehicles were upgraded in 2007 with plans to upgrade the rest of the fleet over the next two years.

The Department completed their search for a new transportation device for Parking Enforcement Officer Gregson in order to eliminate the need for him to utilize a full-sized vehicle. After reviewing numerous vendors and the suitability of utilizing an electric, three-wheel vehicle for this application, the **"T3 Motion"** vehicle was selected. The vehicle was purchased with a combination of drug asset forfeiture funds and township funds.

After receiving training in the township's **website** design, Lieutenant Van Bergen created a Traffic Division page on the department's website. In addition, a new Parking page was added to provide information related to the town's parking system. The parking page also includes a map of all parking lots and on street regulations as well as the type of parking and hours of operation. Both sites are updated regularly and have created positive feedback from those utilizing them. In 2008 we hope to expand their use even further.



In 2007 the Department began participation in the **HERO Campaign**. This campaign brings awareness of the importance of Designated Drivers. All police vehicles have been fitted with a HERO decal on the rear bumper. The program was named in honor of Navy Ensign John R. Elliott of Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey who graduated in May 2000 from the US Naval Academy. On July 22, 2000, as he was driving home from Annapolis, Maryland for his mother's birthday, John was killed when his car was hit by a drunk driver.



The Department also began the **WHALE Campaign** which is a Child Safety Seat Occupant Identification Program. WHALE stands for "We Have A Little Emergency!" The purpose of WHALE is to provide vital information about a child involved in a car crash in the event the driver and passengers become incapacitated during the crash. Stickers are attached to the back of a child's seat providing emergency contact information. Packets are available from the Traffic Division and include an informational brochure, two side window decals, two car seat stickers, and an identification card.

The Cranford Police Department received a grant to take part in a **Positive Helmet Safety Rewards Program**. The program was administered through the Traffic Division and bicycle patrol officer from May until September. Tony's Cafe on North Union Avenue was our sponsor and offered a free slice of pizza to any child given a "summons" for riding their bike or skateboard or rollerblading while wearing a helmet. Each child also got a raffle ticket for a raffle at the end of the program for a \$250 gift certificate towards a bicycle from the Cranford Bike Shop. Also, approximately 75 bicycle helmets were donated to Cranford Family Care and the Cerebral Palsy League.

The “summonses” also contained valuable information about the helmet law and hints for correct helmet sizing and placement.

TRAFFIC COORDINATING COMMITTEE

On a regular basis, safety meetings are held with members of the **Traffic Coordinating Committee**. This committee is comprised of members from the Police Department, Fire Department, Township Administrator’s Office, Engineering Department, Department of Public Works, Board of Education, and the Downtown Management Corporation. During the past year the following projects were handled by the Traffic Division and placed on the agenda of this committee for review:

- ✱ Yield signs were installed at the intersections of Shawnee and Chippewa as well as Seneca and Chippewa after NJDOT approval in February.
- ✱ A No Left Turn restriction was enacted from Chippewa Way to Springfield Avenue during morning and evening rush hour to prevent cut through traffic after years of neighborhood complaints.
- ✱ Cranford Summer Concerts by the DMC and Recreation and Parks Department as well as Cruiser Nights were all assisted by the Traffic Division. This included lot closures, auxiliary lighting, and auxiliary police for traffic control.
- ✱ The Union County Engineering Department began a corridor study to review and upgrade the traffic signals at the intersections of Centennial Avenue with Myrtle Street, Wall Street, and Cayuga Road. Raritan Road will also receive a battery back up system in 2008.
- ✱ The Traffic Division worked with the contractor building a new Walgreen’s Pharmacy and stand alone Chase Bank in order to provide a safe pedestrian diversion around the construction site. The bank opened on December 31st and the Walgreen’s is expected to open the end of March 2008.
- ✱ A proposal to close Miln Street in front of the Post Office was not supported due to NJDOT postponing improvements to the area that

would have allowed the closure without impacting traffic negatively.

- ✱ The Calvary School on Eastman Street requested five permit spaces be converted to meter parking near Holly Street to allow for a safer pick up and drop off area for children. This was done by ordinance and is working well.
- ✱ A No Turn on Red ordinance was approved for the four approaches at Centennial and Lincoln Avenues. This will be incorporated in the final design plan for the new signal.
- ✱ Street light upgrades were performed by PSE&G after township requests at the following areas: North Union and Elizabeth Avenues, North Union and Springfield Avenues, Springfield Avenue at Miln Street, Springfield Avenue at Holly Street, Springfield Avenue near Gray’s Funeral Home, Municipal Lot #3, and upgrades are pending on Johnson Avenue, in front of the Library and Community Center, and at Lincoln Avenue and High Street. The street lights on West End Place were reconstructed from Springfield Avenue to Norman Place. This included widening the roadway, installing curb bump outs to shorten pedestrian crossings, new signage and markings, repavement, and new sidewalks. The traffic signal timing at High Street and South Avenue was changed to allow more time for the train station lot exit traffic.
- ✱ The police department was one of 22 towns in the country to participate in May Day which was meant to re-energize the Keep Kids Alive Drive 25 program for the summer. Signs were also distributed at the spring festival and department open house.
- ✱ Effective May 1st all on-street meter parking became 1 Hour limit and all shopper lots changed to a 3 Hour limit. Parking fee rates were all equalized and credit cards became a payment option at pay stations and for the purchase of permits and smart cards from the Records Division.
- ✱ The township purchased six pay stations from their capital budget and installed them at Warner Plaza, Clock Plaza, Eastman Plaza, Post Office Plaza, and along South Avenue

and South Union Avenue at Cranford Crossing. In 2008 the township plans to further expand the use of pay stations.

- ✱ An ordinance for a 25 MPH zone on Walnut Avenue between Lincoln Avenue and North Avenue was approved by the town and the county and was sent to NJDOT for approval. As of the end of the year we had not heard from the state. This modified ordinance was submitted after the county found no need to lower the limit on the other sections of Walnut Avenue.
- ✱ A request for a school crossing guard at West End Place and Springfield Avenue was denied by the Committee after it was found to be unwarranted. The township has requested the county look into a traffic signal for this intersection.
- ✱ The county has agreed to upgrade the traffic signals at Springfield Avenue and North Union Avenue as well as Springfield Avenue and Orange Avenue. This replacement will take place by fall of 2008.
- ✱ After two years of requesting the county install a dedicated right turn only lane for southbound Springfield Avenue at Penn Road. On November 29th this was installed. The request had been prompted by crash data analysis and complaints.
- ✱ A roadway solicitation ordinance was passed on November 12th and requires a permit for non-profits to solicit on the roadway and allows for 30 days cumulative per year.
- ✱ Intersection improvements were made by the county at Springfield Avenue and Miln Street after meeting with members of the traffic division in May. The upgrades were completed over the summer and included new striping, flashing pedestrian crossing signs, tree trimming, roadway text markings, and the change of the crossing from a school to pedestrian designation.
- ✱ The NJDOT replaced the bridge decking on North Avenue between Springfield and Centennial Avenues in December.

- ✱ The High Street footbridge was damaged during an April flood and is scheduled to be replaced in summer of 2008. In the meantime a temporary school crossing guard post was established at Lincoln and Walnut to accommodate the new walking route.
- ✱ NJDOT was again contacted and requested to upgrade their signals along the Route 28 corridor for better movement of traffic.
- ✱ A new parking lot location map was installed in the lobby of the train station.
- ✱ New pedestrian crossing signs were installed at Lincoln Avenue and High Street.
- ✱ A No Outlet sign was installed at Cayuga Road and Centennial Avenue to deter cut through traffic.
- ✱ A new parking lot directional sign was purchased and installed at the entrance to the parking garage on South Union Avenue. Also mirrors were installed in the garage near the elevator turn to improve visibility of cars turning.
- ✱ New no parking signs were installed on Miln Street in front of the Post Office in order to deter illegal parking. The posts were placed in the 50 foot of a stop sign zone and 25 foot of a crosswalk zone so that cars can only utilize the two marked legal spaces.

SCHOOL GUARDS

It is the duty and responsibility of the Cranford Police Traffic Division to monitor and review the Township's School Safety Program. Shifts in traffic patterns, school boundaries, or student residences necessitate modifications to the School Safety Program yearly.

An integral component of the School Safety Program is the establishment of a "Suggested Route to School" for students. The main objective is to guide children along routes which will minimize exposure to hazards.

During the 2006-2007 school year the Traffic Division was required to provide coverage at 279 school post assignments due to school guards failing to report for duty for either personal or medical reasons. During this calendar year, a total of 181 public/parochial

school days occurred of which only 21 did not require members of the police department to fill in for a school guard. This equated to 1.54 school guards out every school day which was a slight increase over the 1.48 the previous year.

These posts were covered by reserve school guards, the parking enforcement officer, and sworn Traffic Division personnel. Due to the temporary post at Lincoln and Walnut and a turn over in guards, we did not have a large pool of reserve guards which meant these posts sometimes required the use of patrol personnel as well.

OTHER DUTIES

As supervisor of the Traffic Division, Lieutenant Joseph P. Van Bergen is responsible for overseeing two traffic detectives, two traffic maintenance personnel, one meter enforcement officer, and twenty five school crossing guards. His responsibilities include assigning selective enforcement details, scheduling, traffic maintenance planning, ordinance development, purchasing bids and quotes, traffic safety grants, site plan reviews, and testifying at township board and committee meetings. One major responsibility that keeps him busy is the filling of extra duty assignments. In 2007 the Traffic Division coordinated and filled 553 off duty jobs. These jobs include traffic control at township festivals and construction zones, as well as security at private events.

Lieutenant Van Bergen maintains the responsibility of Fleet Manager and is in charge of making sure the police vehicle fleet is maintained by Traffic Maintenance personnel. He is also responsible for vehicle equipment and upgrades to the equipment. He obtains quotes yearly to assure we are getting the best price and the best equipment. He must ensure that any Safety Recalls by Ford Motor Company are identified and repaired as soon as possible.

He also assists Emmanuel Chiobi with the maintenance of the police department's computer system.

Lieutenant Van Bergen is a member of the Traffic Coordinating Committee, Union County Traffic Officers Association (Vice-President), New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association, National Association of Fleet Administrators, Institute of Transportation Engineers, and is a Notary Public. He is also an advisor of the Cranford Police Explorers.

Detective Edward Davenport has the responsibility of vehicle impounds and obtaining junk titles on all vehicles not claimed. New Jersey State Statute requires that any vehicle held for more than 20 business days be auctioned. This requires him to send certified mail to all owners/lien holders requesting they respond to pick up their vehicle otherwise it will be sold at auction. In 2007 about 430 vehicles were towed and 15 were sold at three auctions.

Also, Detective Davenport is responsible for the data entry of the daily summonses, crash reports, vehicle reports, and driver abstract requests. In 2007, 410 driver abstract requests were prepared for patrol personnel.

Detective Davenport is in charge of advertising, setting up, and running the department's car, bicycle, and equipment auctions. He also is responsible for the in-car video camera systems and portable radio maintenance and repair. In addition, Detective Davenport coordinates the purchase, installation, maintenance, and repair of the mobile personal computers (MPC) in the radio cars.

Detective Davenport is also a certified Child Passenger Seat Technician and Radar Instructor. He also is responsible for School Crossing Guard training and payroll. All employee registration forms and fingerprinting is also done by him.

Detective Davenport is a member of the Union County Traffic Officers Association (Secretary), New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association, Cranford Parking Task Force, Cranford Bicycle Safety Board, and is a Notary Public.

Detective Steven Toy began his first full year in the Traffic Division with the primary purpose of enforcement. When necessary, however, he assists Lieutenant Van Bergen and Detective Davenport in the above administrative duties.

Detective Toy is a member of the Union County Traffic Officers Association and New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association.

Our vehicle service intervals are set at every 3,000 miles or 3 months. This policy includes regular tune ups, oil changes, light and siren repair, interior cleaning, washing and waxing of vehicles, and more. This vehicle policy was developed to assure the

Cranford Police Department has the safest, cleanest, and most professional looking vehicle fleet in the area.

The Traffic Division also coordinates all of the maintenance and repair of portable and mobile police radios. All insurance claims related to police vehicles, Victorian street lights, parking garage lights, traffic lights, and traffic signs are handled by Traffic Division personnel as well.

The 400 on-street parking meters and sixteen central space rental machines are maintained and collected by Traffic Maintenance personnel. The central pay stations allow for easier maintenance, collection, and security. We purchased six new pay stations and installed them at Warner Plaza, Clock Plaza, Eastman Plaza, Post Office Plaza, Municipal Lot #11, South Avenue, and South Union Avenue in front of Cranford Crossing. With the assistance of the DPW and DMC, all meter poles were removed from these locations.

A central parking system server allows us to monitor payment, violations, and status at all pay stations. All pay stations connect via a cellular connection to the server and report use as well as any malfunctions as they happen. Parking enforcement personnel carry a smart-phone with web access that reports real time use of the lots. A quick glance at the phone displays expired meters as well as meter malfunctions. The system also includes the use and availability of smart cards for payment. The pay stations allow payment via coin, token, or smart card. The smart cards can carry an amount from \$5 to \$255 and are rechargeable from the Records Division or pay station. In 2007, the Township began accepting paper currency and credit cards at the pay stations to improve ease of use. Smart Cards were also made available from Commerce Bank on South Avenue as an added convenience to commuters that may not be able to make it to the Records Division during normal business hours. The Township's 2008 capital budget contains a request for additional pay stations to replace on street meters which would connect to the server as well.

Members of the Traffic Division are on call on a rotating basis in order to provide 24 hour a day, 365 days a year coverage in the event of a serious or fatal motor vehicle accident. Each Detective is on call for two weeks at a time with the Lieutenant providing coverage as needed.

Cranford hosts dozens of commercial, television show, and movie filmings a year. This year was no exception with numerous television commercials filmed in town. All coordination between and township and movie studio was done by the Traffic Division. This included arranging for extra duty police officers, street closings, special parking, security, and more.

TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE

As is the case every year, Traffic Maintenance personnel were busy in 2007. They are responsible for the maintenance and repair of all vehicles in the police department fleet; vehicle equipment installation; street sign maintenance and installation; maintenance and repair of 16 traffic signal intersections and 5 flashing lights; crosswalk and centerline painting; meter maintenance and collection; maintaining approximately 400 Victorian lights; bicycle rodeo setup; traffic counter placement; Speed Trailer placement; parking garage lighting; and much more. Traffic Maintenance personnel are also on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week in case of storms, power outages, and traffic light damage/maintenance.

The Traffic Division continued to install International type crosswalks at many intersections within the town using thermoplastic paint. This ladder type design allows for safer pedestrian crossing because they draw the attention of drivers who see them more readily than other types. The crosswalk paint duration is longer and, therefore, is more cost effective than traditional paint. The thermoplastic paint is also highly reflective at night. The department also uses 3M reflective tapes to improve visibility of lines at night.

Member of the Traffic Division over the last year were:

Lieutenant Joseph P. Van Bergen
Detective Edward R. Davenport
Detective Steven R. Toy

Civilian Personnel included:

Ralph Gregson, *Parking Enforcement*
Charles Fette, *Traffic Maintenance*
Joseph Corbisiero, *Traffic Maintenance*
Jamar Ingram, *Summer Traffic Maintenance*
Michael Urbanski, *Summer Traffic Maintenance*

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT EARNS NEW JERSEY LAW ENFORCEMENT CHALLENGE AWARD

The Cranford Police Department was honored on May 30, 2007 after receiving a second place finish in the New Jersey Law Enforcement Challenge.



The Law Enforcement Challenge is a competition between similar sizes and types of law enforcement agencies. It recognizes and rewards the best overall traffic safety programs in the United States. The areas of concentration include efforts to enforce laws and educate the public about occupant protection,

impaired driving, and speeding. Departments submitted applications in a three ring binder documenting their agency's efforts and effectiveness in these areas. The winning safety programs are those that combine officer training, public information, and enforcement to reduce crashes and injuries within its jurisdiction. The Law Enforcement Challenge is financed through a grant awarded to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Both of these organizations believe an increase in traffic enforcement in a community results in a decrease in motor vehicle crashes, injuries, and fatalities. The New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police has established its own state Challenge program along with the New Jersey Office of Highway Traffic Safety.



KEEP KIDS ALIVE, DRIVE 25 PROGRAM

The Cranford Police Department expanded their “Keep Kids Alive Drive 25” safety program this past year.



Since its implementation in June of 2005, the department has distributed more than 300 lawn signs to township schools, crossing guards, PTAs, and residents.

In 2007 the police department received a shipment of 100 additional lawn signs for distribution to interested residents. These signs are available to Cranford residents free of charge and will help spread the message of safe driving during the summer.

“Keep Kids Alive Drive 25” is a national safety campaign designed to allow residents to contribute to a reduction in speeding in their neighborhoods.

The signs are least effective when left out permanently. Residents were asked to place their signs out each morning and then bring them in at night. The program was developed in response to the fact that most speeders live in or around the neighborhoods they speed in. When drivers see the “Keep Kids Alive Drive 25 logo it reminds them to check their speed and slow down as needed.

CRANFORD POLICE PROMOTE CYCLING SAFETY WITH BIKE RODEO



Officer Edward Davenport directing the bike rodeo for Brookside Place School Students.

DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED

The number of alcohol related accidents resulting in both fatal and serious injuries continues to be a major focal point for law enforcement throughout the country.

Despite the major changes made in New Jersey's DWI laws, the news media continually reminds us of the deadly consequences of driving while under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs. On the local level we are not immune to this problem. During the year 2007 we had, in Cranford, *13 accidents* (four involving injury and one fatality) directly attributed to drunk drivers. This shows a significant decrease in the number of alcohol related accidents over the 17 we had in 2006 but and an increase in Fatal Accidents. In order to continue to decrease this number, the Cranford Police Department will continue to aggressively seek out and arrest those that would drive through our community while under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs.

Our officers are aware that there are certain medical conditions that mimic the behaviors of a drunk driver. Because of this it becomes necessary to have highly trained officers that are capable of detecting those drivers who are under the influence of alcohol and/or narcotics and those whose actions may be caused by one of several common medical conditions. This is where the use of Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and breath test machines such as the **Alcotest 7110 MK III-C** play a significant role in aiding the officer in making a determination as to whether or not someone is under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs, or is perhaps suffering from a medical condition.

The **Alcotest 7110 MK III-C** is an instrument that measures the alcoholic content of a person's blood through analysis of a breath sample. The *Alcotest* is a computerized instrument that uses two different measuring systems to analyze breath alcohol. Infrared spectroscopy and electro chemical cell technology are both used in conjunction with technologically advanced computer technology to obtain highly accurate breath test readings.

Upon the conclusion of 2007 the department had twenty (20) officers certified as *Alcotest 7110 MK III-C* operators, all of whom were trained by the *Office of the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey*. Instruction on Field Sobriety Testing as well as the *Alcotest* is conducted solely by the New Jersey State Police Alcohol/Drug Test Unit. Currently the following officers are qualified to administer breath tests:

Det/Lt. Stephen Wilde
Lt. Robert Colaneri
Sgt. Anthony Dobbins
Sgt. Thomas Feeney
Sgt. Craig Marino
Det/Sgt. Gerard Quinn
Sgt. Frank Williams
Sgt. Guy Patterson
Det. John Swandrak
Det. Christopher Polito
Det. Robert Montague
Det. Michael Andrews
Det. Richard Vitale
Det. Steven R Toy
Ptl. Robert Peters
Ptl. Peter Graczyk
Ptl. Derek Farbanec
Ptl. Thomas Bell
Ptl. Timothy O'Brien
Ptl. Ryan Greco

As in previous years this agency stressed to our officers the need to detect and apprehend those driving while intoxicated.

During the year 2007 these efforts resulted in 84 arrests being made for Driving While Intoxicated within the Township of Cranford.

Of the 84 arrests, 21 refused to submit to breath testing and 3 had blood drawn. This shows a 15% decrease from the 99 arrests made in the year 2006.

Breath Tests are the primary tool used by officers to determine a subject's level of intoxication. The Cranford Police Department also has two other very important tools at its disposal to identify those under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs. One such resource is the **Drug Recognition Expert**. Detective Michael Andrews is a **DRE (Drug Recognition Expert)** Certified by the *New Jersey State Attorney General's Office* to conduct tests on individuals suspected of being under the influence of narcotics.

As we move forward into the year 2008 the citizens of our community can rest assured that we will continue our aggressive enforcement practices. We will continue to send a strong message to those who would violate our drunk driving laws that they will be arrested should they drive through our community.

A part of New Jersey's DWI laws pertains directly to those drivers under the legal drinking age of 21. This law states that anyone under the legal drinking age of 21 can be charged if their blood alcohol level is anywhere between .01% to .07%. This in essence means that anyone under the legal drinking age who consumes as much as one drink and is caught driving can be charged with DWI. In 2006 nine drivers were charged under this law. This number has decreased to those of 2007 when seven subjects were arrested for underage DWI.

Another portion of New Jersey's DWI laws pertains directly to those operating commercial vehicles. Any operator of a commercial vehicle with a weight over 26,001 lbs who has a blood alcohol reading of .04% or more can be charged with driving while under the influence. We are happy to state that there have been zero arrests made within the township under this law in 2007.

Despite the lowering of the BAC to .08%, we continue to believe that one of the most important programs in reducing the number of drunk drivers on our roadways has been that of educating the public on the hazards of driving while under the influence. During 2007 the department continued its educational program at Cranford High School in conjunction with the driver education instructor Mr. Gene Millano. This program has been conducted for the past ten years. It is given over a three day period. The first day is dedicated to our officers

giving a slide/lecture presentation on alcohol related accidents which have occurred within the township over the past several years. Afterwards the officers have had some very lively discussions with the students on the laws and penalties involved with drinking and driving, especially those related to the underage driver. We also, during these sessions, receive some very positive input from the students on both our enforcement and educational programs.

Day two of the presentation is a film on alcohol related accidents. The film follows a traffic unit in a mid-western state as it responds to actual alcohol related accidents. The film is sometimes graphic in showing fatal injuries sustained by accident victims. This, however, only serves to reinforce what is being said about the dangers of drinking and driving.

The final day is a discussion between the students and Mr. Millano on what they have learned and what impact, if any, the program may have had on them. Mr. Millano also has the students write a brief synopsis of the program and where it can be improved.

The department also participated in the township's spring and fall festivals in the downtown area. During these events officers displayed photographs of alcohol related accidents within the township and surrounding communities, and handed out literature on traffic safety. The officers also gave away hundreds of pens, pencils, and bumper stickers all with drunk driving awareness slogans on them. These items were all purchased through grant monies received through a special DWI fund set up by the state which is funded through fines levied against those convicted of DWI.

The department used three extra enforcement initiatives to augment patrol efforts in enforcing DWI within the township. The DWI Checkpoint Program and Extra DWI Patrol Programs have been in place since 1988. In 2007 we participated in the Over the Limit Under Arrest program sponsored by the *New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety*.

The checkpoint program consists of setting up in a fixed location and checking a predetermined numbered vehicle (i.e.: every third, fifth, etc. vehicle as decided by the supervisor assigned to the scene and traffic conditions at the time) or vehicles with specific violations, such as headlights out, overdue

inspection, odors of alcohol, etc. The drivers of these vehicles were checked for their credentials as well as driving while intoxicated. The department conducted one checkpoint throughout the year. The extra patrol program consists of putting extra patrols out on selected weekends (usually holidays) with the specific assignment of detecting and apprehending drivers who are under the influence. *Over the Limit, Under Arrest 2007 Impaired Driving Crackdown* is a campaign that ran from August 17, 2007 through September 3, 2007. During this eighteen-day period, officers assigned to this campaign made three DWI arrest and issued 328 summonses for various violations. *Over the Limit, Under Arrest 2007 Year End Crackdown* campaign ran from December 7, 2007 to January 2, 2008. During this twenty-seven day period, officers assigned to this campaign made eight DWI arrests and issued 351 summons for various violations.

In the coming year we will continue to provide educational programs by way of lectures and demonstrations on the hazards of drunk driving to the various religious, civic, and educational organizations within the community. In conjunction with these educational programs we will continue to vigorously enforce the drunk driving laws of our state utilizing patrol and additional enforcement activities.

The problem of drinking and driving is one that continues to demand constant attention. It is only through the combined efforts of education and enforcement that we will continue to strive for a reduction in the senseless and too often tragic accidents that occur on our roadways. The citizens of our community can be assured that the men and women of the Cranford Police Department will do everything in their power to ensure that the streets of our community remain some of the safest in which to live, play, work, and drive in the nation.



DWI Crash that occurred on South Avenue near Washington Place.

Accidents and Injuries Summary

Reportable Accidents

Type	2006			2007		
	Accidents	Injuries	Fatal	Accidents	Injuries	Fatal
Motor Vehicle vs. Motor Vehicle	77	93	0	84	88	0
Motor Vehicle vs. Fixed Object	14	16	0	13	14	0
Motor Vehicle vs. Pedestrian	11	11	0	18	18	1
Motor Vehicle vs. Bicyclist	8	8	0	11	11	0
Motor Vehicle vs. Parked Vehicle	16	17	0	13	11	0
Other	4	4	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	130	149	0	139	142	1

Non-Reportable Accidents

Type	2006	2007
Motor Vehicle vs. Motor Vehicle	423	408
Motor Vehicle vs. Fixed Object	46	44
Motor Vehicle vs. Pedestrian	0	2
Motor Vehicle vs. Bicyclist	0	2
Motor Vehicle vs. Parked Vehicle	151	155
Other	5	11
TOTAL	625	622

MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT

The Cranford Police Department's motorized equipment presently consists of 38 units; 22 cars, four sport utilities, two motorcycles, three traffic trucks, one electric vehicle, two trailers, two boats, and two ambulances. Below is a list of these vehicles:

- 1 1997 Harley Davidson Motorcycle
- 1 1995 Harley Davidson Motorcycle
- 1 1994 Chevrolet Suburban 4X4
- 1 1997 Ford Expedition 4X4
- 1 2004 Ford Excursion 4X4
- 1 2004 Ford Explorer 4X4
- 1 2006 Ford Explorer 4X4
- 5 2006 Ford Police Interceptors
- 1 2005 Ford Police Interceptor
- 4 2004 Ford Police Interceptors
- 1 2003 Ford Police Interceptor
- 3 2002 Ford Police Interceptors
- 5 2000 Ford LTD Crown Victorias
- 1 1998 Ford LTD Crown Victoria
- 1 2001 Ford F-450 Super Duty Platform Truck
- 1 2000 Ford F-450 Super Duty Bucket Truck
- 1 1999 Ford F-250 Super Duty Pick-up Truck
- 1 1998 Toyota Camry
- 1 2007 T3 Motion
- 2 2005 Ford F-350 Ambulances
- 2 2001 Zodiac Boats
- 1 2003 Kristi Utility Trailer
- 1 1998 AMR Speed Detection/Message Board Trailer

A total of **342,094 miles** were traveled by motorized equipment during the year of 2007. Vehicles were serviced approximately every 3,000 miles and were cleaned and washed on average of once a week.

MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

The following is a comparative classification of motor vehicle violations between the period of January 2007 and December 2007 with the same period in 2006.

VIOLATION	2006	2007
Speeding	424	680
Stop Sign	48	61
Careless Driving	266	318
Reckless Driving	16	20
Driving Under The Influence	99	83
Open Container In Vehicle	25	21
CDS In Motor Vehicle	64	113
Wrong Way on One Way Street	5	11
Traffic Signal	164	146
Improper Passing	75	105
Illegal Turns	165	174
Obstructing Traffic	24	60
Driving While On Cell Phone	24	38
Unlicensed Driver	118	132
Revoked Driver	318	326
Unregistered Vehicle	223	227
Uninsured Motorist	57	48
No License In Possession	140	148
No Registration In Possession	193	179
No Insurance Card In Possession	48	66
Leaving The Scene Of An Accident	17	12
Fictitious/Obstructed Plates	416	444
Maintenance Of Lamps	700	811
Seatbelt Violations	916	1002
Safety Glass Violations	637	755
Inspection Law	271	392
Other Hazardous Violations	62	82
Other Non-Hazardous Violations	117	136
TOTALS:	5,632	6,590

PARKING VIOLATIONS

The following is a comparative classification of parking violations between the period of January 2007 and December 2007 with the same period in 2006.

VIOLATION	2006	2007
Meter Parking	4,980	4,491
4:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.	479	716
Restricted Hours	439	447
9 Hour Permit	400	382
12 Hour Permit	590	282
Overnight Parking	379	506
25' Of An Intersection	131	97
25' Of A Crosswalk	31	79
2 Hour Limit	89	134
10' Of A Fire Hydrant	8	27
50' Of A Stop Sign	71	114
Parked On A Crosswalk	9	9
Parked On A Sidewalk	3	4
Blocking A Driveway	22	19
School Zone	214	142
Bus Stop	1	0
Disabled Vehicle	0	0
Fire Zone	28	11
Facing Wrong Direction On Street	35	58
Between Signs	7	6
Head In Only	58	42
Not Within Lines	60	130
Handicapped	14	22
Loading Zone	23	21
Meter Feeding	25	2
No Parking Anytime	111	65
Other Parking Violations	55	28
TOTALS:	8,262	7,834

SCHOOL SAFETY

An important safety measure in school areas is the use of school crossing guards. We once again, salute them and extend our sincere appreciation for a job well done in protecting our most precious possessions. Rain or shine we can always be assured that these dedicated people will be on the job!

The year was numerous personnel changes in the ranks of the department's school crossing guards. Below are the retirements, resignations, and hires from 2007. After 21 years of service, Rosemary Corbisiero retired from her post at Springfield Avenue and Miln Street on September 28th. Maria Dilello, Hillside Avenue Tunnel post, retired at the end of the school year after five years of service. They will both be truly missed by not only the members of the police department but by the children they safely crossed everyday! We wish them all well.

We would like to welcome the following four guards hired in 2007. Iris Lopez was hired in February as a full time guard assigned to Denman Road/Livingston

Avenue. Charles Campbell joined the department as a reserve guard in May and was given a full time post at the Hillside Avenue Tunnel in September. Sol Rubenstein was hired in August and given the full time post of Miln Street/Springfield Avenue in October. Samuel Reynolds was hired in October as a full time guard to cover the temporary crossing post at Walnut Avenue and Lincoln Avenue. This crossing post was created in April after a rain storm damaged the High Street footbridge. The bridge is expected to be replaced in early 2008 at which time Mr. Reynolds will go into reserve status.

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS 2007

NAME	POST	NAME	POST
Claus Broderius	Severin / Centennial	Samuel Manderson	Lincoln / South Union
Sol Rubenstein	Springfield / Miln	Elizabeth Manfredo	South Union / Livingston
Charles Campbell	Hillside Avenue Tunnel	Kathleen Meier	Denman / Culin
Iris Lopez	Denman / Livingston	Betty Mobley	Walnut / Blake
Elizabeth Erdody	Gallows Hill / Brookside	James Mulcahy	Wadsworth / Orange
Charles Haller	Springfield / Tulip	Elsie Muldrow	West End / Spruce
Margaret Herzer	Retford / Livingston	Everitt Nye	North Lehigh Tunnel
Loretta Honeywell	Springfield / Doering	Jean Parenti	Brookside / Spruce
Nazaire Jennings	Centennial / Myrtle	Samuel Reynolds	Walnut / Lincoln
John Leonard	Lexington / Denman	Louise Ruggiano	Brookside / Orchard
Joseph Lopes	Alden / Miln	RESERVE GUARDS	
Anthony Lopez	Bloomington / Albany	Robert Bell	

“CLICK IT OR TICKET” MOBILIZATION

The goal of the “Click It or Ticket” program is to increase seatbelt usage rates through education and enforcement. The Cranford Police Department received \$4,000 in grant money from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for seatbelt enforcement during this years’ national campaign.

New Jersey reported 773 fatalities in 2006. More than half of the motor vehicle occupants killed were not wearing a seatbelt. Also, seatbelt use is especially important for teens and young adults, as motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for people ages 15 to 34 in the United States.

This years “Click It or Ticket” Mobilization was conducted from May 21, 2007 to June 3, 2007. The department conducted ten seat belt checkpoints utilizing overtime, patrol, and traffic personnel. A total of 93 hours of overtime were utilized, which was reimbursed by the grant.

Below is a summary of the department’s enforcement efforts:

SEAT BELT VIOLATIONS

By overtime officers	086
By patrol/traffic officers	159

CHILD RESTRAINT VIOLATIONS

by overtime officers	004
by patrol/traffic officers	003

TOTAL SEATBELT: 252

NON-SEATBELT VIOLATIONS

by overtime officers	057
by patrol/traffic officers	155

**TOTAL SUMMONSES DURING
THE MOBILIZATION:** 464



According to the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety’s 2007 Click It or Ticket Mobilization Summary Report the Cranford Police Department finished in the top four for summonses among the 22 police departments in Union County during the mobilization. Prior to the mobilization we reported a 94% seat belt use rate. At the completion of the mobilization we reported a 96% use rate, well above the state average rate of 91.4%



SAFTEY ID TAG PROGRAM

The Cranford Police Department continued its Saftey ID Program which began in 2005 in order to give outdoor exercisers a little piece of mind.

Participants can come to police headquarters to obtain a Safety ID Tag at no cost to them. They will be issued a reflective, waterproof Safety ID Tag which can attach to their sneaker/shoe laces.



The Safety ID Tag contains basic contact information, as well as pertinent medical information such as allergies that will assist first responders in case of a medical emergency. Since many people go for walks or a run without any identification, this small Safety ID Tag can be a lifesaver.

Police Chief Eric G. Mason stated he would encourage all Cranford runners, joggers, and walkers to come to police headquarters and pick up their free Safety ID Tag. The tags have also been picked up by parents for use by their small children.

OVER THE LIMIT, UNDER ARREST

The Cranford Police Department participated in the national end of summer and holiday "Over the Limit, Under Arrest" 2007 campaigns this year. The goal of the program is to decrease incidents of drunk driving through education and enforcement.

From August 17 - September 3, 2007, the Cranford Police Department stepped up impaired driving enforcement as part of New Jersey's end of summer *Over the Limit, Under Arrest 2007 Impaired Driving Crackdown*. The department received a \$5,000 grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for overtime enforcement.

The summer season, which concludes with the Labor Day holiday, is a time for social gatherings, which often include alcohol. The goal of the program is to raise awareness about the dangers of drinking and driving through high-visibility enforcement, and to arrest motorists who choose to drive while impaired by drugs or alcohol.

From December 7, 2007 - January 2, 2008, the Department stepped up impaired driving enforcement as part of *Over the Limit, Under Arrest 2007 Year End Crackdown*. The holiday season is traditionally a time for social gatherings, which often include alcohol. The goal of the program is to raise awareness about the dangers of drinking and driving through high-visibility enforcement, and to arrest motorists who choose to drive while impaired by drugs or alcohol.

The department conducted roving patrols utilizing patrol personnel during both mobilizations. Below is a summary of the department's enforcement efforts for each.

TOTAL PRODUCTIVITY:	8/17/07 - 9/3/07	12/7/07 - 1/2/08
DWI Arrests:	3	8
Moving Violations:	75	178
Non-Moving Violations:	142	165
TOTAL:	220	351

POSITIVE HELMET REWARD PROGRAM

From May through September, the Cranford Police Department began handing out “Positive Summonses.”

In an effort to promote the use of helmets and encourage safe behavior, the Cranford Police Department in collaboration with the Brain Injury Association of New Jersey, implemented **Think Positive: A Helmet Safety Reward Program**. This safety initiative uses positive reinforcement and education as a means to reinforce the importance of helmet safety and brain injury prevention.

Children under the age of 17 seen wearing a helmet, when participating in a wheeled sport activity, were given a “positive summons” by a police officer. The summons included a reward for the child for practicing safe responsible behavior. The reward donated by Tony’s Café of 21 North Union Avenue could be redeemed for a free slice of pizza. The summons also contained a raffle ticket for a \$240 gift certificate for the Cranford Bike Shop of 109 North Union Avenue which was raffled in September

and won by a Cranford resident. The summons when shown to the parent provided additional information on brain injury and helmet safety. The reward made the program appealing to the kids and encouraged them to get “caught” wearing their helmet.

Brain injury is a leading cause of death and disability in children and young adults. A properly worn helmet is the single most effective safety device available to reduce brain injury and death by as much as 88% (Dr. C. Everett Koop). New Jersey’s helmet law requires that “Children under the age of 17 wear a helmet while bicycling, skateboarding, and roller-skating.” Think Positive: A Helmet Safety Reward Program is a community program that involves not only police and local children, but also schools, businesses, community leaders, media, and most importantly parents.



Pictured left to right: Detective Edward Davenport, Lieutenant Joseph Van Bergen, Officer Matthew Nazzarro and the owner of Tony's Cafe'.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

The Communications Division falls under the direct supervision of Administrative Captain John C. Baer.

To date two Sergeants are assigned to work in the Communication Center. The schedule for the Sergeants is from noon until midnight to cover a majority of both day and night shifts. Their duties are to oversee the day to day operations related to Communications which includes but not limited to the supervision of ten Communications Officers.

There were several personnel changes during 2007. Communications Officer Ralph Gregson was reassigned to the Traffic Division where he presently serves as the Parking Enforcement Officer. C/O Gregson had been a Communications Officer since July 2001. During this time C/O Gregson exhibited a high level of competency. Coupled with his devotion, dedication and knowledge we know that he will excel in his new assignment. Two additional officers, C/O Salvatore Angiletta and C/O Amy Nigro both resigned their position for other employment opportunities. In order to replace these valued employees the department administered a reality-based aptitude skills test specifically geared towards emergency communications employees. A total of thirty applicants applied for the position. After a rigorous testing procedure including an indepth oral interview and background investigation, Mr. Justin Conklin, Ms. Lisa Sortino and Mr. Michael Dubitsky were hired. All candidates displayed a high level of professionalism and respect for law enforcement. We welcome them aboard.

On April 15, 2007 the Township of Cranford experienced one of the townships worst storms in history. A Nor'easter which ravaged the entire east coast of New Jersey caused extensive damage to many residential dwellings and township owned property. This coastal storm center passed over the State of New Jersey resulting in severe weather conditions, including heavy rains, high winds, main stream and river flooding.

During the storm, numerous homeowners were forced to evacuate their homes due to significant flooding. The storm had a major impact on our dike

system resulting in the water levels breaching the riverbanks at many locations. Major impact was felt throughout our infrastructure causing significant damage to several pedestrian footbridges, roadways being lifted and removed, storm and sanitary systems compromised and damage to two dams. During the time of the storm and the days following this event, all members of the Communications Division conducted themselves in the most professional manner. During this crisis, the Communications Division handled a total of 728 calls ranging from, medical assistance to evacuations of the homeowners.

The Communications Center handled 66,104 calls for service in 2007. This increase can be attributed to the increase in calls for service, homeland security related assignments and proactive officer initiatives.

During 2007 our Reverse notification system was replaced with a state of the art reverse telephonic notification program. Our vendor at the time, Dialogic Communications Corporation, was instructed to obtain an alternative means in providing the township with the best long-range goal in furnishing the most efficient way to notify our residents in times of crisis. Resources provided to this agency revealed a company from Indianapolis, Indiana, Reverse 911, as that company. Reverse 911 has the capability through web-based technology allowing the Cranford Police Department access in notifying all our residents on all aspects to include, but not limited to, public awareness campaigns and ensuring effective communication and responsiveness during crisis situations. This system is a communication solution that uses a combination of databases telephone numbers and GIS mapping technologies

to deliver outbound notifications. All Communication officers can quickly target a precise geographic area and saturate it with updated information. This technology provides immediate interaction with rapid response to specific needs. During this year, Sergeant Dobbins instructed and certified many Cranford Police Officers in Basic Telecommunications and Emergency Medical Dispatch. With these officers being certified in Desk Operations this allows coverage during manpower shortages and scheduling issues that might arise. All officers manning the Communication Center are capable in administering all 911 calls, including pre-arrival instructions, all

security related monitoring systems ie; (Building Access, Alarm Boards, Camera monitoring, GPS, CAD and SCIC/NCIC applications). It is the goal of the officers manning the Communication Center to provide the most effective, courteous, professional uninterrupted service to the officers in which they serve as well as the citizens of Cranford and public alike. As the center of the township's emergency operation center, the maintenance and upgrading of equipment is essential to ensure the maximum amount of safety to the police/fire and EMS officers as well as the residents of Cranford.

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATES IN 2007 TORCH RUN

The annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics New Jersey coursed through the region this past summer. Officers from the Cranford Police Department carried the flame in an effort to raise funds and awareness for disabled athletes.



Pictured left to right: Detective Edward Davenport, Patrolman Steven D'Ambola, Detective John Swandrak, Patrolman Sean Holcomb, Sergeant Guy Patterson, Patrolman Joseph Stulpin, Patrolman John Rattigan and Patrolman Thomas Bell with his dog Buddy.

CRANFORD POLICE EXPLORER POST #74

Law Enforcement Exploring is run through the Boy Scouts of America. Exploring is a program designed to educate and involve youth in police operations and to expose them to law enforcement functions.

Through involvement, the Explorer program establishes an awareness of the complexities of police service. Exploring gives the members an opportunity to see firsthand the efforts of sworn police personnel and later share their observations with their fellow explorer members and peers. In this way, the basic idea of civic responsibility can be instilled.

The Cranford Police Explorer Post # 74 was established in 1982 and has served hundreds of children in those years. Numerous members of the Cranford Police Department were previously Explorers. The current advisors to the post are Lieutenant Joseph Van Bergen, Patrolman Matthew Widdows, Patrolman Steven D'Ambola, and Officer Kelly Rieder.

In 2007, the Post has 8 members. That number is continually growing due to the recruitment efforts of the members of the Post.

We are proud to report that the Post donated over 150 hours of participation to the department and township. The Post continued to hold training sessions at the monthly meetings. These sessions included discussions and training videos of current police topics and hands on practical scenarios. Post advisors taught 10 codes and phonetic alphabet, traffic control, crowd control, traffic accident report and traffic summons writing, domestic violence procedures, D.W.I. recognition and procedures, CDS investigation and other basic department procedures.

Practical exercises included mock motor vehicle stops in the rear lot of headquarters. The Explorers conduct motor vehicle stops as if they were real police officers. Fellow explorers and post advisors act as the "suspects." After

the scenarios are done the post discusses the positive and negative actions of the Explorers.

Some of the activities the Post participated in during 2007 were: traffic control at the 4th of July fireworks, the Spring and Fall Festivals, and the Memorial Day Parade.

One of the highlights of the Explorer experience is their participation in the Police Department's Ride Along Program. In this program, the Explorer goes on patrol with an experienced police officer. This gives the Explorer a first hand view of the roles and responsibilities of a Cranford Police Officer.



CRANFORD EMS

Cranford Emergency Medical Service (CEMS) has served since June of 2002 responding to emergency medical calls.

CEMS operates weekdays from 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. In 2007 CEMS responded to 1286 calls for service. CEMS calls for service have increased every year since being formed. Two EMS crews are on call daily.

CEMS operates under the direction of the Cranford Police Department and CEMS Supervisor Mikael Diaz. CEMS employees are experienced, practiced, and knowledgeable emergency medical technicians. Each employee must be a state certified EMT-Basic and possess a valid CPR certification. In addition, we require that all full time EMT's possess a certificate in Certified Emergency Vehicle Operations, completion of a recognized Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support course, and completion of a recognized Incident Command System course. These requirements assure us that we have competent and skilled EMT's providing the best emergency service to the residents and visitors of Cranford. All employees attend an orientation session prior to their first workday. Employees are trained on proper radio protocol, CEMS policies, ambulance supplies and equipment, and much more.

CEMS handles emergencies such as difficulty breathing, chest pains, motor vehicle accidents, falls, trauma, choking, sport injuries, machinery injuries, labor and delivery, strokes, and many more. In addition, we do Basic Life Support Presentations at schools, which includes a tour of our ambulance, supplies, and equipment, as well as the instruction of basic first aid. CEMS stands by at large sporting events such as marathon runs, and also at

Hazardous Material scenes and fire scenes. In 2007 CEMS obtained permission from New Jersey Department of Health to participate in the Epinephrine Auto Injector Program. Epinephrine Pens (Epi-Pens) are designed to delivery a pre-selected dose of epinephrine, used to treat severe allergic reactions. All employees under went training with the cooperation of Trinitas Hospital to ensure proper use of the Epi-Pens. In the event of a severe allergic reaction CEMS is better equipped to delivery prompt and effective care to the residents of Cranford.

CEMS continues to participate in the File of Life Program. This program distributes a form to senior living facilities, seniors at home and any other residents wishing to have medical information available to Police and EMS in case of an emergency. This information provides a crucial link in delivering rapid and effective medical care to residents.

CEMS also provides timely information to senior citizens on the effects of extreme weather conditions such as heat waves, and snowstorms and how to stay safe and uninjured during such events.

Mutual aid is delivered to surrounding towns that should require assistance in time of a medical emergency. Surrounding towns reciprocate the same for us if we are unavailable due to a high number of calls that day.

CEMS is based out of the Cranford Fire Headquarters. Along with the Cranford Police Department, all three agencies work closely together in an effort to provide superior medical care to the Cranford Community.

Employees of the Cranford Emergency Medical Service for 2007 include:

Mikael Diaz, Supervisor

Michael Davitt

Lisa Ferdinando

Kyle Dobiszewski

Tiffany Gaven

Heather Giles

Danielle Gritenas

Amy Davidowitch

Joanna Halat

Kimberly Loessel

Peter Magliano

Richard Raymond

Philip Rivera

Jeffrey Webb

Kenneth Wetzel

Michael Anderson

Robert Kahl

Bryan Resser

Robert Fissel



Cranford Police Emergency Medical Services ambulance during this year's Cranford Police Department Open House.

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

JANUARY:

CRANFORD MAN ARRESTED ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

State police arrested a township man last week on charges that he possessed and transmitted child pornography. Christopher M. Gardiner, 24, was charged with second degree child endangerment after police arrested him at around 6 a.m. Friday at his Algonquin Drive home. According to Sgt. Stephen Jones of the New Jersey State Police, Gardiner was charged after police received information from the Wheaton, Ill. police department. Wheaton officers told New Jersey authorities that Gardiner had transmitted more than a dozen pornographic videos of children engaged in sexual acts to a police investigator who he believed to be an underage female.

On Friday, police seized Gardiner's computer and related material from his home. The investigation was led in New Jersey by State Police Detective Katherine Klemp.

Jones said that an initial sweep of the computer conducted at the home revealed that Gardiner had "numerous video clips and still images of child pornography." The computer is being processed by the New Jersey Regional Computer Forensic Laboratory in Hamilton Township, which is run in conjunction with the FBI. Additional charges against the Cranford resident may be filed pending the results of the investigation, Jones said. Gardiner, a 2001 graduate of Cranford High School, is being held in lieu of \$25,000 bail at the Union County Jail.

CRANFORD FIFTH GRADERS DARE TO SAY NO TO DRUGS

The entire fifth-grade class at Brookside Place School in Cranford recently graduated from the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program, taught by Cranford Police Detective Rich Vitale. D.A.R.E. is a nationwide non-profit program that gives kids the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs and violence.

THE RECORD SHOWS: on January 18, 2007

James Schwartz, 50, of - Cranford was charged with criminal mischief after police reportedly saw him set fire to a Dumpster in an office complex on Walnut Avenue at 10:45 p.m. Friday. Police Chief Eric Mason said that the arrest was the result of a 10-week investigation into a series of intentionally-set Dumpster fires throughout the township.

Lt. Stephen Wilde, who led the investigation, said that no one was injured and no property damage was reported because of the fires. Schwartz was remanded to the Union County Jail on \$25,000 bail

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

FEBRUARY:

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

ACCREDITATION CEREMONY

The members of the township's police force might hold their heads a little higher after the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police credited the department for its outstanding work last week.

Applying for the accreditation was a competitive process that involved a comprehensive review of all operations, including evidence handling, fiscal responsibility, the use of force and the handling of prisoners. The review consists of 146 standards that a police department must pass.

In New Jersey there are 19 police departments that have been accredited, four of which are located in Union County.

Police Chief Eric Mason said with accreditation from the state comes consideration from the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies. CALEA reviews reports from the state in order to decide which departments to accredit on a national level.

The Cranford Police learned on Monday that CALEA will grant the department national accreditation in March. "The department as a whole was very active in the process and the recognition that is coming from the state, and CALEA is a recognition of that hard work," Mason said.

The brief accreditation ceremony was held at the Township Committee meeting on Feb. 13. Mitchell Sklar, executive director of the NJSACOP, presented Mason with a plaque commemorating the accreditation, which Mason accepted on behalf of all his officers. Mayor Michael Plick congratulated the department. "This is not something that is awarded - it's earned," Plick said.



Above left to right:
Captain John C. Baer and Chief Eric G. Mason

THE RECORD SHOWS: on February 22, 2007

The slushy winter mix that blanketed the area over Valentine's Day slowed drivers during the Tuesday and Wednesday commutes last week, but it was on Thursday morning, after the bad weather had stopped, that a serious three-vehicle accident snarled traffic on Springfield Avenue. The accident, which occurred at 9:14 a.m. near the intersection of Doering Way, involved a car, an SUV and a garbage truck, and sent two drivers to the hospital, according to Lt. Stephen Wilde.

Luis Garcia, the driver of a Honda, crossed the center line as he traveled north on Springfield Avenue and collided head-on with a Golden Sanitation garbage truck driven by Stephen Edwards, Wilde said. The garbage truck then struck the SUV which had been traveling northbound, tipping the vehicle on its side.

The road was closed to traffic following the accident. Garcia was charged with one count of careless driving, and he and Edwards were both transported to local hospitals for treatment, Wilde said.

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

MARCH:

CLARK DRIVER CHARGED WITH MANSLAUGHTER, DRUG POSSESSION

On Friday, March 30, the Cranford Police Department responded to a report of a pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle at the intersection of Springfield Avenue and Miln Street.

The pedestrian, identified as Cranford resident Mano Torta, 59, was pronounced dead at Union Hospital.

The Cranford Police Department Traffic Division is investigating the crash. Preliminary findings indicate that Torta was crossing in a westerly direction across Springfield Avenue in the marked crosswalk when he was struck by a pick up truck that was traveling north on Springfield Avenue.

The 2000 GMC pick up was driven by Thomas Maye Jr. of Clark, 21. Maye was arrested and charged with manslaughter, possession of a controlled dangerous substance in a motor vehicle, driving while intoxicated, refusal to submit to breath samples, open container of alcohol, reckless driving, failure to yield to a pedestrian, improper passing, and failure to keep right at an intersection.

Maye was committed to the Union County Jail and was being held on \$100,000 bail.

NOTE: Thomas Maye , Jr. plead guilty to the charges of first degree vehicular homicide and DWI in early 2008. Chief Eric Mason offered praise to Detective Lieutenant Joseph VanBergen, Detective Edward Davenport, Detective Steven Toy of the Traffic Division as well as the Detective Bureau for their outstanding police work in the Maye case. Mr. Maye will serve a maximum seven year prison sentence.

THE RECORD SHOWS: on March 29, 2007

A township woman required reconstructive surgery after she was bitten by a dog as she walked down Makatom Drive and Beech Street.

The 61 year old woman was reportedly bitten on the hand by a pit bull at around 10:25 am. According to Lt. Stephen Wilde, the woman suffered tendon damage and needed more than 40 stitches, along with reconstructive surgery.

The owner of the pit bull, John Pollo, Sr. of Orchard Street, was charged with allowing a dog to run at large and having an unleashed dog.

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

APRIL:

WEATHERING THE STORM

It is often said that disasters bring out the best in local communities, a statement that certainly applies to last week's flooding. Public officials worked hard to mitigate the damage caused by the Nor'easter that many compared to Tropical Storm Floyd.

Cranford's leaders took advantage of the town's local cable television network to reach out to residents in the days after storm. In at least three separate broadcasts, Township Committee members, Cranford Police Department and Cranford Health Officer Warren Hehl discussed damage, offered tips for cleaning up, supplied phone numbers for ongoing emergencies and suggested steps for flood victims to take in upcoming days and weeks.

The coverage was extensive, with daily updates and answered many important questions, from should I be boiling water, to how do I dispose of large, storm-damaged appliances, like a refrigerator.

The township's Web site also continues to offer a number of resources for residents, including a Flood Relief Packet with state and federal disaster contacts, practical cleaning tips and hazard warnings.

"We're living in a time when communication is available through many means. Cranford has proven that point. Residents expect their public officials to keep them in the loop and those officials know it's their job to respond."

Deputy Mayor Robert Puhak made that point last week, saying, "As we know communication is always important. In this case, it was critical. TV 35 was a crucial element in that effort. They did a wonderful job in getting vital information and regular updates flowing regularly to residents and the community. We commend everyone who helped out last week for their hard work and dedication."



THE RECORD SHOWS: on April 15, 2007

The Nor'easter that pummeled the state left much of Cranford under water, forcing approximately 75 residents from their homes and flooding sections of the township that remained dry during Tropical Storm Floyd.

As record-breaking levels of rain fell on the area, filling basements, garages and even first floors with water, mandatory evacuations were ordered from some streets at about 10 p.m. Sunday night, and Police and emergency workers set out in motorboats and front loaders to rescue stranded residents from their homes.

Police rescued residents from Henley Avenue, Riverside Drive, Edgar Avenue, Balmiere Parkway, Claremont Place, Normandie Place, Kensington Avenue, Venetia Avenue, Belmont Avenue, Richmond Avenue, Franklin Avenue, Crescent Place, and Glenwood Road.

The Rahway River, which snakes throughout the township, overtopped its dikes at about 11 pm Sunday night and crested at about 5:00 am Monday. Detective Jerry Quinn stated that the dikes along the river did not break. "There was no breach." Quinn stated.

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

MAY:

SERGEANT GUY PATTERSON - WEST POINT

COMMAND & LEADERSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATE

On Thursday, May 10, 2007, Sergeant Guy Patterson of the Cranford Police Department was among 33 graduates of the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police West Point Command and Leadership Program.

A collaboration between the United States Military Academy and the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police, the West Point Command and Leadership program is a unique blend of leadership theory and application. Candidates who have demonstrated leadership potential are selected on a competitive basis to attend this prestigious training course.

Cranford Police Chief Eric G. Mason who nominated Sergeant Patterson for this program stated, "Command and Leadership students learn to apply leadership principles as a science, employing logic, critical thinking, and scientific methodology. Participants learn to be leaders. They learn how to be the ultimate combination of decision-maker, communicator, counselor, and stress manager, all within the context of managing a complex organization."

"A program of this caliber is extremely demanding, and law enforcement professionals who are selected to attend must make more than a casual commitment. The West Point Command and Leadership Program is an intensive and challenging experience that pays immediate dividends to the individual officer as well as the officer's department and community."

Sergeant Patterson is an eight-year veteran of the Cranford Police Department. He is a graduate of St. Joseph's University where he earned a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Sergeant Patterson currently serves as a supervisor in the Patrol Division.

THE RECORD SHOWS: on March 23, 2007

An incident of apparent road rage during the evening rush hour in downtown Cranford sent one local resident to the hospital Tuesday night, though no one was arrested.

Police responded to North Union Avenue near the intersection about 5:38 p.m. on a report of a physical altercation. Police arrived to find several cars blocking the road-way and a 44-year-old Cranford man on the side walk, bleeding from the face. Emergency medical services were summoned and the man was transported Union Hospital.

Another man, a 25-year old Cranford resident, spoke to police at the scene; however, no arrests were made. Police declined to identify the men.



Pictured left to right:
Cranford Police Chief Eric Mason,
Cranford Police Sergeant Guy
Patterson, Lieutenant George
Petersen of Chatham Twp. (lead
instructor) and Chief Robert Kugler
(President, New Jersey State
Association of Chiefs of Police).

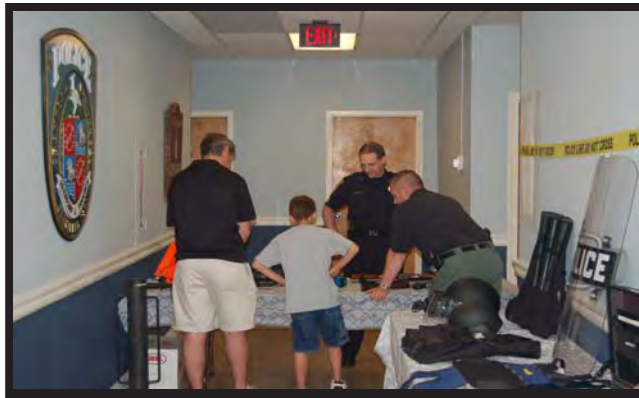
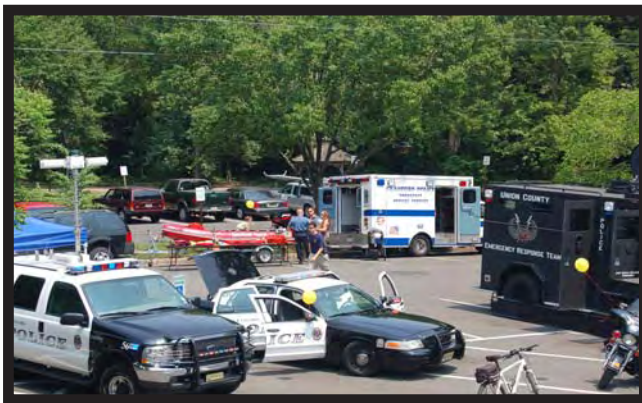
CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

JUNE:

OPEN HOUSE



The Cranford Police Department held an open house at police headquarters on Saturday, June 2nd. This year's activity included tours of police headquarters, bicycle and pedestrian safety information, alcohol/drug awareness, as well as static displays of police equipment. Children will also had the opportunity to have their photo taken while sitting in a police car, motorcycle, and boat. Police K9, Crime Scene, Bomb Squad, and Police EMS demonstrations also took place.



CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

JULY:

CONGRESSMAN FERGUSON BRINGS UPGRADES TO CRANFORD POLICE

The township's first responders are expecting a boost to Cranford's public safety in the form of a request for \$100,000 by Congressman Mike Ferguson.

The new generator will allow the entire municipal building including the police department and TV35 to remain operational in a power outage. This could prove very useful in emergencies like floods and snowstorms.

"Because the township building hosts our 911 dispatch center, it's critical that our communication systems have a consistent source of power so we can respond and communicate effectively during emergencies," Police Chief Eric Mason said. "It's a great upgrade to the public safety of our community."

The current generator, which the township rents, powers only Cranford's 911 dispatch call center and communications for local police, fire and emergency medical services.

Operating a new and permanent generator will ensure uninterrupted communications for first responders in Cranford and for township residents who call 911 during emergencies," Ferguson said during a news conference in Cranford to announce the congressional action. "I'm pleased to have secured initial Congressional approval of these important funds for Cranford first responders."

Mason said the department has been hoping for the money to make these improvements for a while before being notified last week of the congressman's efforts.

"We need to make sure that the police, fire and other emergency services are still operational in the event of a power outage," Public Safety Commissioner George McDonough said.

If the funding level requested by Ferguson makes it through Congress this year, it would pay for more than half the \$168,000 cost of buying a new, permanent generator for the township municipal building. The remainder of the money has already been set aside by the township, a portion of the funds being diverted from the Orchard Brook Flood Project, which was recently postponed.

"The application of this federal grant to the emergency generator alleviates the extent of funding required to be taken out of that flood project's account, hence further helping to protect the lives, well-being, and properties of Cranford residents," Deputy Mayor Puhak said.

THE RECORD SHOWS:

July 19, 2007

Cranford Police Chief Eric G. Mason was elevated to the office of 4th vice president, New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police -NJSACOP - after having completed a successful one-year term as the Association's 5th vice president. The official ceremony took place at a special installations banquet on June 20 held during the NJSACOP's 95th Annual Training Conference in Atlantic City.

The 1,200 member professional organization, which is governed by a six-member executive board, represents more than 450 active Chiefs of Police throughout the Garden State, retired Chiefs of Police, law enforcement executives from other departments and agencies, and executives from the private security sector. Mason is a 30-year veteran of the Cranford Police Department and except for an assignment with the Union County Prosecutor's Narcotics Strike Force, served his entire career with the Cranford Police Department.

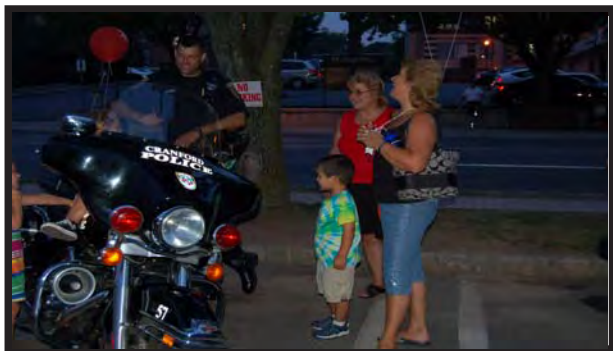
CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

AUGUST:

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On Tuesday, Aug. 7 the Cranford Police Department participated in the 24th annual National Night Out. The nationwide event is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness. Officers were stationed at the gazebo on the corner of North Union and Springfield avenues from 6-9 p.m. The event featured a display of Cranford police vehicles including cars, a motorcycle, a boat,

the mobile command center and a police department ambulance. The Union County Sheriff's K-9 Unit was on hand, and crime prevention literature was available. Free ice cream, balloons, storytelling, face painting, and a DJ were also there for children to enjoy.



SEPTEMBER:

POLICE LAUNCH CHILD SEAT PROGRAM

The Cranford Police Department recently launched a new Child Safety Seat Occupant Identification Program to coincide with its Child Seat Certified Technician Program for all those with children.

The new program is called WHALE which stands for "We Have A Little Emergency!" The purpose of WHALE is to provide vital information about a child involved in a car crash in the event the driver and passengers become incapacitated during the crash. Stickers are attached to the back of a child's seat providing emergency contact information. Packets are available from the Traffic Division and include an informational brochure, two side window decals, two car seat stickers, and an identification card sticker. The identification card also includes space for a photograph of the child. The purpose of the photograph is in the event more than one child uses a seat, for example a grandparent who may transport different children at different times.

All emergency personnel in Cranford have been provided information on the program so they can easily identify a vehicle that participates in WHALE and will have the proper identification card affixed to the car seat. Police Chief Eric Mason states, "Sometimes just knowing a child's name can help rescue workers comfort a young patient. The WHALE Program gives rescue workers another tool in providing a comprehensive public safety response to the Cranford community."

In 2002, 63,000 children under age four were involved in automobile crashes. If the adult in the vehicle is seriously injured and unable to speak, emergency personnel have no easy way of identifying the child or his/her special needs - vital information that can help rescue efforts go more smoothly. Sometimes, just knowing the child's name can help rescue personnel comfort a frightened child, while knowing whom to contact in an emergency allows them to notify parents or the next closest relative right away. That's when WHALE can make a difference.

WHALE is an identification program that started in the early 1990's by Connie Day, a child caregiver in Virginia, who wondered what would happen to the children in her care in the event of a car crash. The program is now recognized and used by emergency personnel in 34 states.

THE RECORD SHOWS: on September 21, 2007

The Cranford Police Department recently completed their search for a new transportation device for their parking enforcement officer in order to eliminate the need for him to utilize a full-sized vehicle. After reviewing numerous vendors and the suitability of utilizing an electric, three-wheel vehicle for this application, the "T3 Motion" vehicle was selected. The vehicle was purchased with a combination of drug asset forfeiture funds and township funds.

The quiet environmentally friendly zero-emission vehicle includes an integrated LED lighting system and an incomparable low cost of operation- running for less than 10 cents per day.

The vehicle, available only to government, law enforcement, and security professionals, features a zero-degree turning radius and compact design, helpful for maneuvering through crowds and tight spaces. The vehicle will be utilized within the downtown shopping district, parking garage, and surrounding neighborhoods with parking restrictions, such as around Cranford High School.

OCTOBER:

JOHN H. STAMLER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO DETECTIVE PATRICK FAY

Cranford Detective Patrick Fay was awarded the Prosecutor John H. Stamler Memorial Scholarship.

Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow presented the scholarship at the Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex in Trenton. Several dignitaries attended the ceremony, including Deputy Attorney General Thomas Fiskien.

Fay is a graduate student at Kean University in Union, where he is studying public administration. The \$2,500 scholarship will help defray the cost of tuition.

"I am thrilled for Detective Fay as well as the Union County law enforcement community, because he is a wonderful police officer and a great father, and because I was a great admirer of the late Prosecutor Stamler, for whom the scholarship is named," said Romankow.

Cranford Police Chief Eric Mason said, "I am very proud of Detective Fay and his accomplishments. Patrick was one of approximately 60 law enforcement officers statewide who had applied for this prestigious scholarship. I am pleased to see that his academic success has been rewarded."



THE RECORD SHOWS: on October 19, 2007

Police are looking for two men who reportedly robbed four Cranford teens at gunpoint on Saturday, October 13, 2007.

Lt. Stephen Wilde of the Cranford Police said officers responded to the report of a robbery on Berkeley Place at 9:51 p.m. The victims, a 16-year-old male, a 15-year-old male, and two 15-year-old females, told police that a mid-1990s Jeep Cherokee, occupied by four men, pulled over as they walked down the road. Two men, one holding a handgun, then exited the vehicle and demanded the victims empty their pockets.

The two robbers, described as African-American men in their late teens or early 20s and dressed in dark clothing with close cropped hair, made off with a wallet, four cell phones and approximately \$29 in cash, according to Wilde. None of the teens reported being injured. Wilde said police are investigating the crime.

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

NOVEMBER:

AWARDS CEREMONY



**CAPTAIN JOHN C. BAER
DETECTIVE SGT. GERARD P. QUINN
DETECTIVE. SGT. CRAIG L. MARINO**

For their efforts in bringing the Accreditation project to a successful conclusion, these officers were presented with the Cranford Police Department Administrative Services Award.



OFFICER JOHN RATTIGAN

For his successful efforts in using the Heimlich Maneuver on an elderly resident, Officer Rattigan was presented with the Cranford Police Department's Life Saving Award.



**OFFICER DONALD P. ZSAK
OFFICER BRIAN M. LOPEZ**

For their efforts in pursuing criminal drug activity and for removing an unlawful weapon from the streets, these officers were presented with Cranford Police Department's Departmental Citations.



OFFICER BRIAN WAGNER

For his efforts in looking beyond a traffic stop and removing an armed violent criminal from the streets, Officer Wagner was presented with Cranford Police Department's Departmental Citation

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

NOVEMBER:

DEATH OF LIEUTENANT JOHN G. O'DONNELL



Lieutenant John G. O'Donnell (Ret.)
of the Cranford Police Department

Former Cranford Police Lieutenant John G. O'Donnell died November 14th at the age of 62 at the VA Hospital in Lyons.

Lieutenant O'Donnell was a lifelong Cranford resident. He attended Saint Michael's School and Cranford High School. John graduated from Union County College in 1978 with an Associates of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice. He served in the United States Army and was a veteran of the Vietnam War. For his service in the military he was the recipient of the Purple Heart, Vietnam Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, and Vietnam Service Medal with Bronze Service Star.

He joined the Cranford Police Department in May of 1969, serving for 30 years before retiring in

May of 1999 as a Lieutenant. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant in December of 1980 and then lieutenant in January of 1988. John spent eleven years in the Patrol Division until his promotion to Sergeant when he was placed in charge of the Traffic Division. After approximately a year in Traffic, John was transferred as a Sergeant to the Patrol Division. When he was promoted to Lieutenant he remained in the Patrol Division as a Platoon Commander where he served until his retirement.

Lieutenant O'Donnell was a lifetime member of Captain Newell Rodney Fiske VFW Post 355, Cranford, and was a past president of the Cranford PBA Local 52.

CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT - THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 2007

DECEMBER:

LIEUTENANT JOSEPH VAN BERGEN - WEST POINT

COMMAND & LEADERSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATE

Detective Lieutenant Joseph Van Bergen of the Cranford Police Department was among 34 graduates of the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police West Point Command and Leadership Program.

Participation in the prestigious West Point Command and Leadership Program is based upon the applicant's successfully completing a competitive selection process. The program is the collaboration between the United States Military Academy and the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police. The program combines leadership theory with practical applications for law enforcement executives.

In addition to successfully completing the challenging program, Detective Lieutenant Van Bergen was awarded the Chief Harry W. Wilde Award, which is presented to the graduate who achieves the highest academic average throughout the program. The award is named in honor of retired Cranford Police Chief Harry W. Wilde who was the visionary for the West Point Command and Leadership Program and is credited with bringing this prestigious leadership-training program to the New Jersey law enforcement community.

Cranford Police Chief Eric G. Mason who nominated Detective Lieutenant Van Bergen for this program stated, "Graduates of the Command and Leadership Program have been trained to apply leadership theory and principles as a science, utilizing logic, critical thinking and scientific methodology to solving leadership problems. They learn how to combine their decision-making, counseling, stress management and communication skills in the context of managing a complex law enforcement organization." He further added, "A program like this requires the participant to be focused and committed to being a law enforcement leader. The training that Detective Lieutenant Van Bergen received will serve him, his community and the department well."

Detective Lieutenant Van Bergen is an eleven-year veteran of the Cranford Police Department. He is a graduate of Seton Hall University where he earned a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Detective Lieutenant Van Bergen currently serves as Commander of the Traffic Division.



Pictured left to right:

Lieutenant George Petersen of Chatham Twp. (lead instructor), Cranford Police Lieutenant Joseph Van Bergen, Cranford Police Chief Eric Mason

Days Gone By...

Cranford Police Department Desk Circa 1946



Pictured left to right:
Sergeant Harry Page and Patrolman Anton Kovacs
at the Cranford Police Department Desk.