

# THE READER

The Newsletter of the Cranford Public Library & The Friends of the Cranford Public Library  
September – October 2017

## We Have Baby Boxes!



Baby boxes are baby starter kits inspired by the 75-year-old baby box tradition in Finland. Baby box distribution has helped Finland achieve one of the world's lowest infant mortality rates. Each baby box includes a custom mattress with a fitted sheet so it can be used like a bassinet. The boxes include new parent supplies, such as diapers and wipes, and a board book, complements of the Friends of the Cranford Public Library. All expecting and new parents are eligible to participate. In order to claim your free baby box: (1) register at Baby Box University at [babyboxuniversity.com](http://babyboxuniversity.com); (2) log onto [babyboxuniversity.com](http://babyboxuniversity.com) and watch a brief educational video; (3) complete the quiz that follows the video and receive a certificate of completion; (4) print the certificate; (5) stop by or call the Children's Department (908-709-7272, ext. 2103) to arrange to pick up your baby box. You will need to present your certificate of completion in order to claim your box.

## Women & Wealth Seminar

Financial Advisor Donna Mulvihill of Garretson Financial will present a seminar entitled "Women & Wealth" on Wednesday, September 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. Ms. Mulvihill will talk about the financial challenges women face and recommend simple strategies for amassing wealth. Admission is free and all are welcome. Registration is *not* required.

## All about Medicare

Justin Lubenow of Senior Advisors will present a program on Medicare on Friday, September 15, at 2:00 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. Admission is free and all are welcome. Registration is *not* required.

## The Readers' Forum

The Readers' Forum, the Library's book discussion group, will begin its 25th year with a discussion of *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* (1943) by Betty Smith on Monday, September 25. Subsequent dates, all Mondays, are: October 23, November 27, December 18, 2017, and January 22, February 26, March 26, April 23, May 21, 2018. Sessions begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Fridlington Room. Registration is *not* required. New members are welcome at any time!

## Learn about ReferenceUSA

T.J. Pridell of ReferenceUSA will present a seminar on ReferenceUSA on Wednesday, October 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. ReferenceUSA is an online provider of business and consumer research available from the Library's Web site. It can help Library users create marketing plans, conduct competitive analysis, raise funds, and locate people in order to expand and grow their businesses. ReferenceUSA provides real-time access to more than 44 million businesses and 270 million consumers. Admission to the program is free; all are welcome.

## From the Teen Zone



**Teen Advisory Group** – Share ideas and talk about ways to improve the Teen Zone! Help plan programs, select new materials, and earn community service hours! Bring your friends and make new ones. Snacks will be provided! Monday, September 11, and Monday, October 16, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., in the Teen Zone. . . . **Chess Club** – All chess players aged eight and up are invited to come learn the rules and practice against teen volunteers! Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., September 12 and 26, October 10 and 24. To register as a volunteer, please email Maddy at [cranfordlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:cranfordlibrary@gmail.com). . . . **SAT Practice Test** – Saturday, September 16, 10:30 a.m. The test is *free* but registration is required. To register, visit [cranfordlibrary.org/teens.php](http://cranfordlibrary.org/teens.php) or stop by the Reference Desk. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the test and bring two #2 pencils and a calculator. The test will be administered by C2 Education of Westfield. . . . **Game On!** – Game On! is back! Join us on Friday, September 22 and October 27, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for board games, card games, and video games. Jump in for a round of Mario Kart, or give an old school game of Battleship a shot. Registration is *not* required. . . . **Comedy Workshop** – Comedian, author, and Cranford resident Alex Bernstein will present an "Introduction to Improv Comedy" class on Wednesday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m. *Registration is required.* To register, visit [cranfordlibrary.org/teens.php](http://cranfordlibrary.org/teens.php), or stop by the Reference Desk. . . . For Information about all things teen at the Library, contact Teen Librarian Maddy at [cranfordlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:cranfordlibrary@gmail.com).

## From the Children's Room



**Lap Sit Story Time** – Join us for our first ever lap sit story time! This story time, designed for our youngest Library users, is a perfect way for babies and caregivers to bond while encouraging early literacy practices. We'll be sharing songs and a short book or two on Monday mornings at 10:15 a.m. The program, for babies ages three to twelve months, will run through October

23. . . . **iDiscover Coding** – Learn about the basics of coding. Each class will acquaint children with a coding concept through the use of fun, educational apps. Students will create interactive stories, animation, and even video games! Children in grades one to three are invited to join us on September 5 at 6:30 p.m. or September 26 at 7:00 p.m., and those in grades four to six can join us on September 5 at 7:30 p.m. Registration is required and begins two weeks before each program. This free program is sponsored by a grant from the Union County Freeholders.

*Additional dates:* Grades one to three: October 3 at 6:30 p.m., November 7 at 6:30 p.m., and November 28 at 7:00 p.m. Grades four to six: October 3 at 7:30 p.m. and November 7 at 7:30 p.m. . . . **Therapy Dogs** – Young readers are invited to hone their skills by reading to certified therapy dogs. The dogs make a perfect, non-judgmental audience for children learning to read independently! Join us on Tuesday, September 12, at 6:30 p.m. Registration is required and begins on August 29. *Additional dates:* October 10 and November 14. . . . **3-4-5 Story Time** – Get school ready at the Library! This story time was created especially for our preschool-aged friends. Our fall session begins on Tuesday, September 19, at 10:15 a.m. and runs through October 24. *Ages three to five; no registration required. . . .*

**Baby Story Time** – Children ages 13 to 23 months are invited to join us at 10:15 on Wednesday mornings for this short, lively story time. We'll be introducing new songs, stories, and sounds from September 20 to October 25. *No registration required. . . .* **Toddler Story Time** – Our two-year-old friends and their caregivers are invited to join us for some simple stories on Thursday mornings at 10:15. Our fall session begins on September 21 at 10:15 a.m. and runs through October 26. *No registration required. . . .* **Puppet Show** – Come see Mariah's Amazing Puppets for a "Wonderful Wizard of Oz" themed puppet show on Tuesday, September 26, at 4:00 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center! This free show is funded by the Cranford Township Clean Communities Grant. . . . **Farm Fun**

– Join us for a special story time, featuring rhymes, songs, puppets, and audience participation, perfect for children ages three to five. Saturday, September 30, at 10:15 a.m. in the Library's Raddin Room. *No registration required, just drop in! . . .* **Story Time Yoga** – Join instructor Lisa Ferraro as she teaches children to release the sillies and find the calm! Children ages two to five will use props to build strength, flexibility, and self-confidence through play on Thursday mornings at 10:15 from November 2 to December 28. (*No session on November 23*). This story time mixes poses, games, storytelling, art, and music and is well suited to active children and caregivers. Registration is not required, but we ask that participants arrive on time as we may be unable to accommodate latecomers.

**News from the Friends of the Cranford Public Library**

## News from the Friends of the Cranford Public Library

### Play Reading by The Theater Project

The Theater Project will present a staged reading of *Our Brother of Saint Mary's Ave* by Tylie Shider on Saturday, September 9, at 2:00 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. The play examines a community's dysfunction in the wake of a mysterious murder. Following the reading, the audience will have the opportunity to discuss the play with the Mr. Shider. The program is sponsored by the Friends. Admission is free; all are welcome. A play reading by the Theater Project will also take place on Saturday, October 14, at 2:00 p.m., author and title to be announced.

### Bargains Abound at the Friends' Used Book Sale!



Choose from thousands of adult and children's books, CDs, DVDs, and recorded books on Wednesday, October 11, 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Thursday and Friday, October 12 and 13, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in the Library's Friendly Book Cellar. Most items are priced between \$.25 and \$2.00. On Saturday, fill a bag with books for just \$8.00! The sale is wheelchair accessible. Proceeds benefit the Library.

### Foreign Films

The Friends' foreign film series continues with *Delicacy* (France, comedy/drama, 2011, 108 minutes) on Monday, September 18, and *The Kind Words* (Israel, drama, 2016, 118 minutes) on Monday, October 16, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Films are shown in the Cranford Community Center. Admission is free and all are welcome.

### LIBRARY HOURS & CLOSINGS

Monday to Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.; Thursday & Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, September 2, and Monday, September 4, for Labor Day Weekend. Closed Monday, October 9, for Columbus Day.

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