

Cranston Chamber News

A publication of the Cranston Chamber of Commerce



August 2007

Volume 6, No. 7

48 Rolfe Square, Cranston, RI 02910

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HelloWorld Offers Innovative Tool

Are you looking for a free, effective and easy way to enhance your business? Have you ever wanted to make a commercial for your business but thought that you couldn't afford it? With a new product offered through the Cranston Chamber of Commerce you can! HelloWorld is an innovative new business tool that allows you to make your very own streaming web videos! Now, getting this type of service is easier than ever! The Cranston Chamber is opening up to its members the opportunity to utilize HelloWorld to make a web based commercial that will be linked directly to the chambers website absolutely free!!

This is a tremendous way to increase exposure time and decrease cost in comparison to traditional commercial venues. To take advantage of this tremendous offer, simply contact the Chamber office and scheduling a time to meet with Lisa Santoro, the Chamber's HelloWorld representative

Web video is a dynamic venue to market your business and build strong customer relations. The cost of media advertising can seem out of reach for most small businesses, but now with the opportunity to produce your own mini commercial for free and have it air on the world wide web 24 hours a day 7 days a week you cannot afford not to! The web-based streaming media studio available through HelloWorld allows you to video blog, Podcast, post streaming video messages to your website, send targeted streaming video messages right to someone's inbox to connect in a more personal way, and the ability to webcast Live on-demand (it is like having your own TV station on line).

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5 Easy Ways To Improve Your Site

Today, a company's online presence is often as important as any brick-and-mortar storefront. But many small businesses still stumble when it comes to designing their company Web sites, and their image can suffer in the process.

Here are some tips to help small businesses improve their Web presence while avoiding some of the most common pitfalls:

1. Keep it lively. In addition to keeping the language of your Web site concise, consider writing with a sense of personality. A conversational tone can make visitors feel more comfortable and willing to take interest in whatever it is you're selling or promoting.

2. Avoid atypical fonts. Although it's vital to catch the viewer's attention right away, don't rely on strange or trendy fonts to do so.

Stick with a standard set of fonts and let the professionalism and content of your Web site do all the attention-getting.

3. Stay current. To prevent your Web site from seeming out of touch with modern online technology, consider featuring streaming video.

Companies like WhiteBlox (www.whiteblox.com) build and design streaming video players that can be smoothly incorporated into any Web page. The players also feature back-end analytics, so you can track your visitors' viewing habits with the player itself or monitor their participation in polls and surveys that come coupled with the technology.

4. Use ads sparingly. Ads can be a great source of extra revenue, but having too many can be distracting and make the site appear cluttered.

Continued on Page 6

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See page 8 for more info

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A Letter From The President

Summer brings with it a sense of energy and enjoyment, but for the Cranston Chamber of Commerce, Cranston High School East and Charter School it brings a new challenge for 20 students to learn the importance of work ethics and the financial reward being gainfully employed brings. With a grant made available from the Providence/Cranston Workforce Solutions the Cranston Chamber was able to secure financing to provide 20 students the opportunity for gainful employment through the summer months. These students are provided a case worker that helps them navigate their way through the Cranston YouthWorks program. These case workers are the glue that keeps the program going in a forward direction. They work closely with the job supervisors and the students.

This program was developed last year between Providence/Cranston Workforce Solutions and the Cranston Chamber of Commerce last year and successfully employed 10 students from the Charter School. The students earmarked for this program are students that are not in specialized in particular study programs. We are very excited to have been involved in the inception of this program. Offering these students hands on experience is such a



Susan Pagnozzi
President

valuable life lesson.

Last year we had students who were employed by companies such as Tasca, Dunkin Donuts, Crum Moving & Storage, Panera, and Burger King. It was a great year, but what almost brought me to tears was at the breakfast we hosted at the end of the program to recognize the students as well as the businesses for their part in this program. One of the students, we will call him Mark, stood before the room filled with his peers, parents and members of the chamber and

told them that if it were not for the opportunity this program offered him, the guidance of his case manager Kathy Hoffman and one of his teachers Marilyn Copolla he did not feel he would be standing before us on that day.

He truly believed that he would have been incarcerated before he would have graduated from school. But because of his experiences with the program he would be graduating from the Charter School and was looking into pursuing a Criminal Justice Degree from Gibbs College. He

made a comment during his speech that brought goose bumps to many in the room, "Rather than being behind bars, he is looking forward to enforcing law rather than breaking it." Statements that are

full of such emotion and truth are the indicators of how powerful programs like these are. If you would like to be involved in programs like this in the future please give the chamber a call and we will be sure to put you on our list for next year.

In addition to community based programs such as YouthWorks, the Cranston Chamber of Commerce is also looking into other ways to provide opportunities to our members and make a positive impact on the community as well. We will continue to investigate grants that are available to non-profits organizations such as the chamber that we will be able to share with you, our members.

If you were not able to stop by the office on June 28th for the unveiling of the "Business Center" you missed a great morning. The "Business Center" is located in the Chamber Office and is a partnership created between the Cranston Chamber of Commerce, the City of Cranston and the SBA in conjunction with Johnson & Wales College. This partnership offers many resources to our members, including the opportunity to work with the students of Johnson & Wales to provide research information on things like demographics, marketing plans, financials, design ideas and so much more. It is vital for the business owner to create their own business plan, but by working with a team of people you are able to compile a plan with so much valuable information, helping to create a more comprehensive plan for your business.

This service is valuable to everyone! For existing businesses this service can help you start on a path toward growth. Your business plan is just that, a plan and it should be updated on a regular basis, only time will tell if you need to re-evaluate your marketing plan or if your financials are way off from your projections, this is how this center can help existing businesses. If you are a start up business this center can also help from the ground floor up. It is like having your own personal consultant at your fingertips. There will be a consultant available to our members on a regular basis by appointment only, to set up a time contact the chamber at 785-3780.

20 students learn the importance of work ethics.

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Cranston Chamber News

Published monthly by The Cranston Chamber of Commerce. Printing by The Attleboro Sun Chronicle

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Mayor Napolitano's Letter

Now that the 2008 municipal budget is in effect, I would like to take this opportunity to clarify why it was necessary to impose a property tax increase. As such, be assured that during my term in office, "honesty" with Cranston's taxpayers will always be one of my top priorities.



Michael Napolitano
Mayor

During my Mayoral campaign, I promised Cranston's taxpayers that I would hold the line on taxes. Once elected Mayor of this great City, I honestly believed I would meet that challenge. Unfortunately, when preparing the 2008 municipal budget, I and my financial advisors, were confronted with a "financial road block" of a \$6.5 million dollar operating shortfall. In simple terms, the previous administration and city council used one-time revenue sources to balance the 2007 budget. These revenue sources are no longer available to me. In preparing the 2008 budget, my administration had to make up more than \$6.5 million dollars in revenue.

So, why are property taxes being raised? Please realize the following:

*The adopted 2006 budget by the previous administration utilized \$4.0 million of the Rainy Day Fund to balance the budget

*The adopted 2006 budget over-estimated motor vehicle taxes by approximately \$1.6 million

*The adopted 2006 budget over-estimated commercial and industrial properties by nearly \$1.1 million

*The adopted 2006 budget included proceeds of \$1.5 million from the sale of the old police station (to date it has not been sold!)

*The adopted 2005 and 2006 budget underfunded the police and fire pension fund by nearly \$2.5 million

*The adopted 2006 budget was infused with one-time revenue sources not available in 2007

My hope is that you can now better understand why a property tax increase was necessary. Remember, my administration and I are here to assist you and we welcome any questions you may have—(780-3110 or 780-3111).

Beware of losing your information through your work computer

Do you pay your bills online while at work? If you do you might have a couple of reasons to worry. First, many companies forbid personal use of computers and may even fire employees if they are caught. Second, and just as serious, your personal financial information can be retrieved by co-workers or outside hackers, who may not have the best intentions for your personal data.

Deleting files actually doesn't delete the content, just the file names from the index. The files may be harder to find, but

they still exist somewhere on your computer disk drive. Additionally, temporary or backup files identified by name in the index may still be around. Even if you were to use a program to overwrite these files, which is the only way to erase them, bigger companies may keep copies of all files and emails on their servers.

The solution? Do your personal chores at home, where you won't put your job in jeopardy. But take the same precautions to erase these and prevent hackers from getting your financial information.



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Why Long-Term Care Insurance Works for Businesses

By Lee P. Traibman, CLU,
Northwestern Long Term Care
Insurance Company

Many employers can now deduct from their federal taxes the premiums they pay for insurance plans that provide long-term care benefits for their employees. For those of us in the employee benefits business, this is really exciting news, reflecting our government's acknowledgement of the tremendous need for this coverage.

If you're an employer, long-term care insurance is a cost-effective way to increase the health care coverage you offer



your employees. And if you're an employee, you should ask your employer about adding this benefit. You are more likely to need long-term care benefits than you may think.

Most people think of long-term care insurance as "nursing home care only," strictly for the retired or elderly. In reality, long-term care insurance is a great way to help ensure that you maintain the choice to stay at home. Informed employers are rec-

ognizing that this benefit helps attract, retain and reward their employees while providing the potential for significant tax advantages. Consider the facts:

While the likelihood of requiring long-term care (meaning you need assistance with the activities of daily living or have a severe cognitive impairment) does increase with age, the U.S. General Accounting office estimated that 40% of the 13 million Americans receiving long-term care are between the ages of 18 and 64.¹

According to AARP, only 30% of Americans between the ages of 50 and 64 and 4% over age 85 have no chronic condition or functional limitation.²

Generally, Medicare doesn't pay for long-term care. Medicare pays only for medically necessary skilled nursing facility or home health care. However, you must meet certain conditions for Medicare to pay for these types of care. Most long-term care is to assist people with support services such as activities of daily living like dressing, bathing, and using the bathroom. Medicare doesn't pay for this type of care called "custodial care". Medicaid only kicks in after you have exhausted your assets; and then choices are limited.

Many employers are motivated to sponsor a long-term care insurance plan when they see the financial impact of long-term care in the workplace. Within 10 years, an estimated 11 to 15.6 million employees in our workforce, or one in 10 employees, will also be caregivers. And U.S. businesses now lose an estimated \$25 to \$30 billion every year due to the lost productivity of employees who provide care to family members.³

A company-supported long-term care insurance plan offers advantages to employers and their employees. Employers may be able to deduct their

According to AARP, only 30% of Americans between the ages of 50 and 64 and 4% over age 85 have no chronic condition or functional limitation.

contributions toward long-term care insurance premiums as a business expense. Employer paid long-term care insurance premiums for employees, spouses and retirees generally need not be included in taxable income. ⁴ Employers may also tier plans to offer different levels of coverage to different classes of employees. Although deductible limits vary for self-employed individuals, S corporations and Partnerships, the tax advantages can be significant.

Employers can offer long-term care insurance on an employee-pay-all basis, buy basic employee coverage⁵ and offer employees an opportunity to increase their coverage by paying extra, or offer a more comprehensive plan.

Whether employers pay all or part of the cost or simply make long-term care insurance coverage available to employees and family members at a group or discounted rate, employees in their 30s and 40s can understand the value of long-term care coverage. Many have seen a parent or grandparent impoverished as a result of a lengthy nursing home stay or the need for home-based care. Long-term care insurance protection may soon become a benefit you can't afford not to offer.

¹ HIAA, Health Insurance Association Of America, An Employer's Guide to Long-Term Care Insurance, 2002, Page 2.

² A Report to the Nation on Trends in Health Security, May 2002, American Association of Retired Persons, AARP

³ Benefit News Volume 15, Number 10, August 1, 2002, LTC Insurance extends retirement income protection, by Jay Menario.

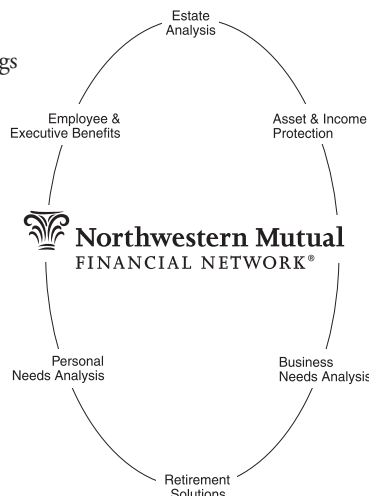
³ Benefit News Volume 15, Number 10, August 1, 2002 "LTC Insurance extends retirement income protection by Jay Menario.

⁴ In New York, employers are allowed to pay for up to 50% of each employee's total premium.

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Citizen's Bank Summer Concert Series

The Citizens Bank Summer Concert Series will be held on Wednesday evenings in Garden City Center, Route 2 in Cranston, RI. The free concerts are held from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the gazebo. The band line up is as follows:

August 1: Steve Smith & the Naked8

August 8: Young Neil & the Vipers (with guest vocalist Dave Howard)

August 15: Billy Shears (Beatles Tribute Band)

August 22: Greg Abate Jazz Quintet

Join the fun as we raffle off weekly prizes from Garden City Center stores including a deluxe recreational gift basket courtesy of Citizens Bank and register to win the grand prize of a Solana TX Hot Tub from The Pool Source, located in Cranston, RI. The concert series is presented by



Citizens Bank and sponsored in part by The Pool Source and Leisure Rooms New England.

Come early to enjoy shopping and dinner. Please bring your own lawn chairs and blankets. For more information, call Janice Pascone at 401 942-2800 ext 22 or log onto www.GardenCityCenter.com.

HelloWorld Offers Innovative Tool

Continued from Page 1

You can produce training videos, seminars, pay per view product and so much more.

The Cranston Chamber uses this on their web site and will begin to blast e-mail messages that you can listen to rather than read!!! If you are not already utilizing

Web 2.0 business building tools contact Lisa Santoro at 401-334-2913 or e-mail lisa@helloworld.com right away and separate yourself from the competition.

To learn more about helloworld, it's capabilities, reputation and history check out their website at www.helloworld.com.

5 Easy Ways To Improve Your Site

Continued from Page 1

Consider setting a personal limit as to how many advertisements you'll feature at one time. If you're using WhiteBlox or another streaming video player, feature paid ads at the beginning of the videos or broadcasts.

5. Use your own photos. In an "About Us" section, include real pictures of the people who work for your business. Stock photography can give your Web site a canned appearance, whereas photographs of your personnel can add a genuine touch that will resonate with visitors.

A Notice About DEADLINES

The following are deadlines for advertising, news and columns for upcoming issues of *Cranston Chamber News*.

October, 2007 Issue
Tuesday, September 4

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Rhode Island Architect Mark Saccoccio, Receives NCARB President's Medal for Distinguished Service



National Council of Architectural Registration Boards' President Robert E. Luke, AIA, (2006-2007) recently awarded the President's Medal for Distinguished Service to Mark Saccoccio, AIA, of Cranston, RI, in recognition of his significant contribution to the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare through his service to NCARB and to the practice of architecture.

Saccoccio's contributions to NCARB include serving on the Carnegie/Boyer Task Force and the Internship Implementation Task Force, two groups that moved the Council closer to its objective to better integrate architectural practitioners and their academic counterparts as a means to strengthen the profession. Saccoccio also served on NCARB's Committee on Procedures and Documents and the Electronic Technology Task Force, which he chaired in Fiscal Year 1998.

As a two-term member and former chair of the Rhode Island Board of Examination and Registration of Architects, Saccoccio devoted a decade to learning about and shaping the regulatory issues that define the architect profession.

On the regional level, Saccoccio was elected secretary/treasurer for the New England Council of Architectural Registration Boards for three consecutive years. He also served as chair of the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) team that assessed curricula at Louisiana Tech University, and

was a member of the NAAB teams that assessed Lawrence Technological University, Columbia University, University of Texas at Austin, and Illinois Institute of Technology.

Saccoccio was honored during NCARB's 88th Annual Meeting and Conference, held last month in Denver, CO. The President's Medal awards program was established in 1994 to recognize those individuals who dedicate part of their careers, energy, and wisdom to benefit the work of NCARB, the public, and the architectural profession. Saccoccio's father, Sal Saccoccio, was a recipient of the President's Medal in 1995.

A Cum Laude graduate of Rogers Williams University, Saccoccio received a Bachelor of Architecture in 1983 and Bachelor of Arts in 1982. He holds the NCARB Certificate for national reciprocity and is registered to practice in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

In addition to his ongoing service to NCARB, Saccoccio is president of AIA Rhode Island. He also remains active in his award-winning Cranston-based firm, Saccoccio & Associates, where he recently completed a pre-K through 12 special needs school, which has garnered much attention. Among his community-related work, Saccoccio is active in the Cranston Rotary Club, the Providence YMCA, the Cranston Historical Society, and the Providence Art Club. He resides in Smithfield, RI, where he enjoys golf and boating in his free time.

Meet the Chamber's Newest Members

Café Luna

Diane Vincent
22 Midway Road
Cranston, RI 02920
(401)944-1438

Clinical One

Donna Dragon
744 Park Avenue
Cranston, RI 02910
(401)944-7760

Little Shepard

Pam Lukowicz
(401) 461-2173
565 Pontiac Avenue
Cranston, RI 02910

Exciting changes are happening at Little Shepherd. When the new school year starts in September a full day program for five-year-olds will be added to the established programs at the school. This "multi-age" class will be composed of children who are turning five prior to December 31, 2007. Those children with

birthdays prior to September 1st will go on to first grade the following year.

Mrs. Barber, a valued staff member with a masters degree in early childhood, will be the teacher in this class. Her eighteen years in the school provide her with many experiences and insight into the specific needs of each and every child. The children who will be going on to first grade will be responsible for the curriculum as they prepare for the rigors of grade school. Other children in the program will be exposed to the materials and will be challenged when appropriate.

Why offer a full-day program for five-year-olds? Opportunity and consistency are two words that come to mind when planning for a full-day program - a secure, consistent environment with more learning opportunities. Developmentally appropriate practices established by the NAEYC provide the goals for this class. Language development, pre-literacy experiences, exposure to general knowledge and building social confidence are important skills for meeting success in school. These children will explore topics in depth and will work cooperatively in groups with intellectually engaging mate-

rials.

Little Shepherd, located at 565 Pontiac Avenue, has been in operation since the 1979-1980 school year. The team of teachers at the school have worked together for many years and continue to offer enthusiasm for their students and their families and provide unique activities year after year. The interior of the school is a bright, cheery, well-organized environment that provides the perfect setting for learning. Pam Lukowicz, the director, has a BA in Early Childhood and a Masters in Reading Education. She is proud of her staff and their willingness to participate in continuing education.

We feel confident that this new experience will boost the academic success of our students. They will continue to develop the self-confidence that is needed to meet with success.

Linda's Home Day Care

Linda Smith
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Meet The Chamber's Board



Steve Gibbons

In his 20 years as a member of the Cranston Chamber of Commerce, Steve Gibbons has been a strong advocate for the area business community, supporting all aspects of commercial growth and business development. In addition to working on Chamber membership and non-profit initiatives, he also served two terms as the Chamber's chairman and currently serves as head of the small business task force.

Steve works closely with the business community in his position as Director of Commercial Real Estate and Business Development at BankRI. Steve has been with the commercial real estate group since the bank's inception in 1996, and today, he leads a team that includes lenders and business banking officers located across the state. He brings particular knowledge of

the Cranston area to BankRI, with over 25 years of lending experience in this market.

Volunteer champion

In addition to his work with BankRI and the Chamber, he volunteers many hours with nonprofit organizations including CCAP (Comprehensive Community Action Program), Rhode Island Community Food Bank, Rhode Island Blood Center, Meeting Street School, Make-A-Wish Foundation, YMCA, and Amos House.

He also serves as a board member of Polaris Management and a trustee of Holy Apostles Church. A fifteen-year member of the RI Builders' Association, Steve is also affiliated with many local fundraising events and has served on the boards of many area youth baseball organizations.

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CRANSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
C A L E N D A R
of Chamber Events

RSVP for all events at 401-735-3780

August 2, 2007

Meet & Greet Government Day

Alpine Country Club

251 Pippin Orchard Road, Cranston, RI

8:30 am - 10:30 am

Join the Cranston Chamber of Commerce at this continental breakfast to meet with all your elected officials. Attendees invited are the Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, All State Representatives, City Of Cranston Mayor Michael Napolitano, City of Cranston City Council.

August 16, 2007

Business After Hours

Sharx Bar and Grill

505 Atwood Ave., Cranston, RI

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Enjoy the last few days of summer at this business after hours. Come enjoy Sharx's outdoor seating area and delicious food all while networking with chamber members. This is one you won't want to miss!

To register or for more information, contact the Chamber Office at (401)785-3780 or email katie@cranstonchamber.com

September 4, 2007

Golf Outing

Alpine Country Club

251 Pippin Orchard Road, Cranston, RI

12:00 pm Shotgun Start

See back page of this edition for all the details!

September 13, 2007

Business After Hours

Lender's Title Service

986 Hartford Ave., Johnston, RI

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Details to follow, contact the Chamber Office at (401)785-3780 or email katie@cranstonchamber.com to register.

September 28, 2007

Viva Las Vegas

Alpine Country Club

251 Pippin Orchard Road, Cranston, RI

6:00 - 7:30 pm - Dinner and Auction to follow

Las Vegas has nothing on Cranston!! Join us for an Evening full of fun and excitement with guest appearances from local celebrities. The Festivities will include crudites, cocktails and gambling with "Chamber Money" from 6:00-7:30 followed by dinner paired with samplings of fine wine, a chocolate fountain and silent and live auctions will round out the evening. **See ad on back page.**

Busin
Thanks to Betty's Candy



Guests networked while enjoying delicious Italian favorites and sweet candy creations!



John Bell Of Swisher won a free ad in the Chamber Paper in the evening's raffle!

ess After Hours

Corner for Hosting June's Business After Hours

A Great Time Was Had by All!



Guests Browsed through the extensive collection of gifts that Betty's offers in addition to her wonderful chocolates!



Betty DeTroia (center) and Her Staff Pose in front of the delicious chocolate fountain.



Paul Schurr of Word of Mouth Advertising picks the next winner!

Washington Trust President Appointed To Beacon Mutual Board

The Washington Trust Company has announced that Jack F. Treanor, president and chief operating officer has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Beacon Mutual Insurance Company, by Governor Donald L. Carcieri. Treanor replaces Col. Brendan Doherty, who resigned after being named as the Superintendent of the Rhode Island State Police. Beacon Mutual has a nine-member Board of Directors, with four appointed by the Governor.



Jack F. Treanor

lor's degree from St. Anslem College and a master's degree from Suffolk University. Treanor also serves on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Meeting Street School, and is vice

Treanor, a resident of South Kingstown, joined Washington Trust as president and chief operating officer in April of 1999, with more than 30 years of banking experience. He has a bache-

chairman of Hospice Care of Rhode Island. He is also a trustee of the YMCA of Greater Providence and is a member of the CEO Council of Junior Achievement.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation Needs A Volunteer

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Rhode Island in Cranston needs a volunteer to come in during office hours (9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Monday-Friday) to assist with the maintenance of volunteer files in the Fundraising and Development office. Duties will include filing, collating, data entry, volunteer recruitment and more. The volunteer should be available for about 10 hours a week, and scheduling is flexible. There will be a 1.5-hour orientation on a weeknight before volunteering begins. Contact Helen Vallee at (401) 781-9474 or e-mail hvallee@makeawishri.org.

The Down Syndrome Society of RI in Cranston needs volunteer facilitators to help put together and run book clubs for teens and adults with Down Syndrome. The book clubs will meet in local communities and require a 3-4 month commitment for one hour a week. The agency will provide training for all applicants. Interested volunteers must be able to read English, have patience, and be familiar with Down Syndrome or other developmental disabilities. The Down Syndrome Society is also currently accepting applications for the Board of Directors. All applicants must have knowledge of Down Syndrome and either have a family member with the illness or be professional in the field of developmental disabilities. Contact Claudia Lowe at (401) 463-5751 or e-mail coordinator@dssri.org.

NEADS (National Education for Assistance Dog Services) is looking for volunteers to become weekend puppy raisers for dogs in the prison pups program in Cranston. Puppy raisers commit their weekends to socializing one of the puppies for the year that he or she is being raised in the prison program to become a service dog

for someone who is deaf or uses a wheelchair. Volunteers also attend monthly puppy raiser meetings at the training facility in Princeton, MA and submit "furlough" reports about progress. Further training is provided by NEADS and the correctional institution. Contact Kerry Lemerise at (978) 422-0496 or e-mail klemerise@neads.org.

Samaritans of RI needs volunteers from all over the state to help with the suicide prevention Crisis Line/Listening Line. Training classes are held monthly at the First Unitarian Church in Providence and consist of 21 hours of classroom training and mentoring by experienced volunteers followed by a minimum commitment of 200 hours of service within a year. A criminal background check and professional references are also required. The Samaritans are especially interested in working with professionals looking for a challenging and rewarding volunteer opportunity, college and post-graduate students looking for an internship and Spanish speakers. Contact Denise Panichas at (401) 272-4243 or e-mail dpanichas@samaritansri.necoxmail.com.

Jewish Family Service of Rhode Island needs volunteers to help with Meals on Wheels delivery in Cranston. At the Jewish Family Service meal site at Temple Torat Yisrael, meals are prepared every weekday to be delivered to homebound elderly in the area. Volunteer drivers are needed 1-5 days a week to distribute these meals in the community. There is reimbursement offered for mileage driven, and all interested volunteers must have a driver's license and their own transportation. Contact Jennifer Modisette at (401) 331-1244 or e-mail jennifer@jfsri.org.



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Las Vegas Fun!

September 28th

Mark your calendar's for an evening of Fun!

Join the Cranston Chamber of Commerce for their Annual Wine Auction this year with an added Vegas Flair.

More information to come, check out our website at www.cranstonchamber.com for updates!

Last Call to Participate and Sponsor CranstonArc's 14th Annual Golf Tournament

CranstonArc announces last call for registrations to participate in the 14th Annual CranstonArc Golf Tournament. Tom Kane, Chief Executive Officer states "I am very pleased with the growing list of sponsors and golfers, I know we will reach sell out soon". Kane further states "Our silent auction will be better then ever with our growing list of week-end get-a-ways, foursomes of golf, sports tickets and sports memorabilia."

This tournament was created to raise much needed funding to enrich programs CranstonArc provides to children and adults with developmental disabilities. This year's event will be held at the Cranston Country Club in Cranston, Rhode Island on Friday, August 24th from 8:30 to 3:00. The generosity of last year's players, donors and sponsors produced over \$22,000 to benefit people with disabilities supported by CranstonArc. Funds generated from your participation in the 14th Annual Golf



Karen Adams of Channel 12 News will be the Honorary Chair of the event.

Tournament will be used to help offset the increasing costs associated with supporting approximately 400 children, adults and their families who rely on CranstonArc daily.

Opportunities for sponsorships, advertising and playing in this outstanding tournament are available.

CranstonArc Golf Committee prides itself on the quality of the tournament, men, women and mixed first place prizes, outstanding raffle prizes, one of kind silent auction items, including sports memorabilia and tickets, and great favors and gifts for our golfers. Many of our sponsors and players are from the Greater Providence and Cranston area businesses.

CranstonArc is looking for more businesses to get involved in this very special

*Your contribution
allows us to
strengthen our s
ervices to people with
disabilities.*

fundraising event. You can sponsor a player or a foursome, make a monetary donation, or donate a gift for the silent auction or raffle. The cost to play is \$600 per foursome and \$150 for a single player. For non-golfers, who wish to participate, please join us at 2:00 p.m. for the luncheon, \$50 per person, and participate in our spectacular silent auction.

CranstonArc, a non-profit organization, is a leading service provider for children and adults with severe and profound developmental disabilities. Established in 1965 by a group of parents as the Cranston

Center for Retarded Children, CranstonArc has continuously grown to provide outstanding programs and services to children and adults with mental retardation and developmental disabilities and their families.

CranstonArc has flourished into a comprehensive organization providing supports and services to nearly 400 families throughout Rhode Island. Its wide range of programs and services help people with disabilities gain greater independence.

CranstonArc believes everyone has abilities, can be a contributing member of the community, and lead fulfilling and productive lives. Our mission is "To empower people with differing abilities to claim and enjoy their rights to dignity and respect throughout their lives."

Your financial contribution allows us to strengthen our services and supports to people with disabilities. For more details, please contact our golf committee coordinator, Devorah Weiner at 401-941-1112 ext 133.

See ad below

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CranstonArc
14th Annual Golf Tournament

Sponsored by



Honorary Chair, Karen Adams
News Anchor, WPRI Channel 12

Friday, August 24, 2007

8:30 a.m. Shotgun

Cranston Country Club

69 Burlingame Road, Cranston, Rhode Island

The Day Includes:

Green fees, carts, prizes,
Breakfast and Luncheon
Raffle/Silent Auction

(Hotel and attraction passes in New Hampshire,
Cape Cod and Philadelphia, sports memorabilia
and much more!)

\$150 per golfer

Luncheon Only \$50.00 per person

For Sponsorship information
and/or to reserve your spot,
call Devorah Weiner at (401) 941-1112 X133
or e-mail at dweiner@cranstonarc.org

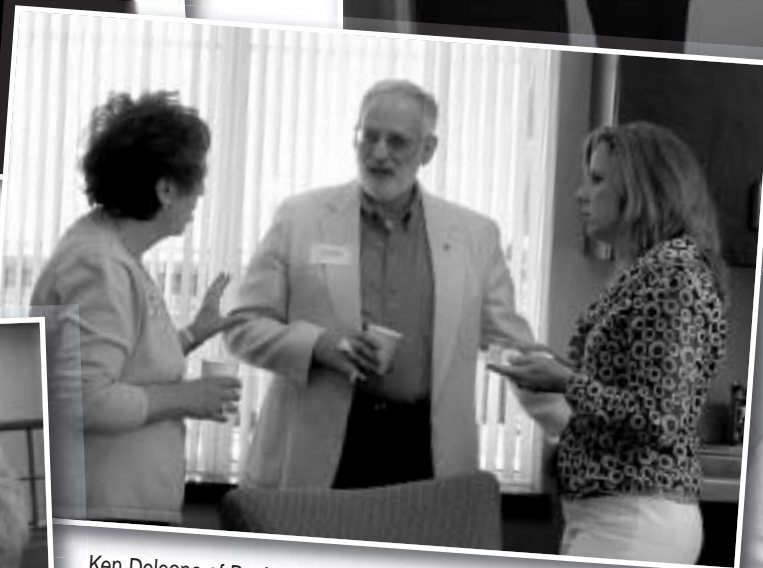
A Special Thanks to Washington Trust's Newest Branch on Oaklawn Avenue for Hosting the June 21st Business Before Hours and to T's for Catering the Event!



Economic development director for the City of Cranston, Paula Rocha, chats with Washington Trust Assistant VP and Branch Manager Elaine deCiutiis.



Allison Medierios and Tulay Lawton speak with fellow Washington Trust Company employees.



Ken Deleone of Business Clinics and Mrs. Sepe network with a Washington Trust Representative.



Peter Hajian of The Ian Group speaks with a Washington Trust Merchant Services Representative.



Ray Sepe of Electro Standards Laboratories, Brad Sacco of Sacco & Sacco, CPA's Peter Minati of the Washington Trust Company and Chairwoman Gloria Cassidy of Coastway Credit Union enjoy the gorgeous interior of the new Oaklawn Avenue Branch.



Brad Sacco of Sacco & Sacco CPA's, Joe Corso of Advantage Specialties and Peter Minati of Washington Trust converse over a cup of coffee at Washington Trust's newest branch.



Customers line up for service at the new branch.



Washington Trust Employees enjoy the elegant waiting area in the new branch.

**RECIPE
CORNER**

Fresh Summer Tart

A simple summer dessert created by Robin Haas

Looking for a creative way to make use of the summer's bounty of fresh fruit? Make a tart, and make it homemade, even the tart shell. No need to be intimidated by making a pastry crust, this one does not require any kneading or rolling, and the use of wheat germ and oatmeal boosts this dessert's nutritional value. For the filling, you can substitute raspberries for the blueberries, or use a bit of each. If you want, you could also use slices peaches (just make sure to pat them dry before adding them to your creation.)

Tart Shell

1/4 cup toasted wheat germ
1/4 cup quick cooking oatmeal
7 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 1/3 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
6 tablespoons cold unsalted butter, cut into small cubes
1 large egg, beaten
1 tablespoon vanilla extract

Filling

1/2 cup sour cream

3 ounces cream cheese
3 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 pint fresh blueberries
1 teaspoon lemon juice
1/2 cup sliced almonds
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

1) Preheat oven to 400 degrees, lightly grease a 9" tart pan with removable bottom.

2) Combine wheat germ, oatmeal, 7 tablespoons sugar, flour, and salt in pulse in a food processor until oatmeal begins to ground. Add butter, about a tablespoon at a time and pulse after each addition. Add egg and pulse until dough comes together.

3) Press dough into the bottom and sides of tart pan, pierce the bottom of the shell with the tines of a fork and bake in preheated oven for 5 minutes, reduce heat to 350 and continue to bake for 10 minutes, until golden.

4) Allow tart shell to cool before filling.

5) To prepare filling, beat sour cream, cream cheese, sugar, and cinnamon in a bowl to combine, spread into tart shell. Toss blueberries with lemon juice and spread over cream cheese mixture. Top with almonds and cinnamon.

Chill and serve. Makes 6-8 servings.

Employer Posters Available at No Cost

Federal and state regulations require businesses to post specific information onsite to educate their employees on their rights and privileges. Posters are available to all businesses at no cost to the employer.

Several private companies are soliciting area businesses with offers to provide these posters for a fee. Director Adelita S. Orefice explained, "Historically, paying for the convenience of a single point of contact may have been worth it for some employers. Now, the Department of Labor and Training has made all required posters available on our Website. One click and you're done!" At www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/business/post.htm, employers can download a "combination" poster with all required information, or download separate posters as needed, and print them at their own convenience. The web site also has information on whom to contact if the employer prefers a color poster to be mailed to them.

*The Department of
Labor and Training has
made posters available
on their Website.*

Information of interest to employees includes minimum wage, Unemployment Insurance, Temporary Disability Insurance, the Family Medical Leave Act, Workers' Compensation, and the rights of those working with hazardous substances. Failure to post this required information may result in substantial fees and court costs.

The Department of Labor and Training has many programs and services available to RI employers at no charge. For more information, go to www.dlt.ri.gov and review the options under "Employer Services."

Do you think you can't afford to have a web-site?

Now you can't afford not to have one!

**We are excited to announce a new benefit for
Cranston Chamber Members!!!**

You can have your own web-site through the
Cranston Chamber Gateway for only \$9.99 a month!!

This is a complete website without hidden costs!

**Call the Cranston Chamber at 785-3780 to learn more
about the informational seminar being held this month!**



Do Business the Old Fashioned Way Using New Aged Technology!

Tired of technology taking the personal touch out of your day-to-day business matters? Do you remember a time where greeting cards didn't pop up in an email message? A new product offered through the Cranston Chamber of Commerce allows you to combine the ease and timeliness of internet technology with a personal touch that can separate you from your competition. The Cranston Chamber of Commerce is proud to offer a new service from SendOutCards.

SendOutCards is a business-building tool that can do so much for your business relationships. This service will automate your follow up strategy, save you time and money, increase referrals, increase credibility, allow you to never forget a client's birthday or forget to send sympathy cards.

Builds customer loyalty

All these features help build customer trust and loyalty. This is the type of customer service that helps good businesses become great businesses. The new age of technology that incorporates speed and efficiency, has taken away the personal touch of knowing your clients. Through recent findings, more and more people are looking for good old fashion business practices where trust and reliability are just as important as the product the company has to offer.

SendOutCards is now the 3rd leading manufacturer of greeting cards in the United States and is growing by making sending cards quick, easy and affordable. How does it work? It is really quite simple! You choose a card from the online catalog and personalize it with your own message and even your own signature! – SendOutCards then prints your card, stuffs it, addresses and mails it! Your personal greeting card with your own message, and signature is in the mail without you even having to leave your desk!

Making SendOutCards even better is the fact that it costs less than sending a traditional card. Sending a personal message to your clients for less than a traditional card without even leaving your desk, what are you waiting for? Call the Cranston Chamber of Commerce at (401)785-3780 for more information, or visit the SendOutCards Chamber Gateway at www.cranstonchamber.com.

Dinner at China Tang: \$215

Dinner at Nobu Berkeley: \$250

Membership with the Cranston Chamber of Commerce: \$265



Benefits of Chamber:
...Priceless



The Gail Badessa Memorial Event for Cultural Experiences

Join spurwink|ri at the Alpine Country Club in Cranston, RI on Friday, August 17, 2007 at 6:30pm for an evening of poolside dinner and dancing for a very special cause! You will have the pleasure of the John Badessa Jazz Ensemble during cocktails, tempting Hors D'oeuvres, a sumptuous buffet dinner, an ice cream and cookie sundae bar, and dancing all evening to "Cover to Cover"!

This special evening will celebrate the fifth annual "Gail Badessa Memorial Fund for Cultural Experiences" event. Gail, born with developmental disabilities and physical limitations, was a kind, caring and compassionate person who truly loved life. Gail passed away on May 18, 2001, at the age of 42.

spurwink|ri established this memorial fund in Gail's memory to offer opportunities through grants in the areas of arts, music, sports, education and travel to children and adults with developmental disabilities and/or behavior disorders.

Last year, there were 300 people attended the event, and we granted 11 grants to 8 individuals and 3 groups totaling over \$15,000! The grants ranged from music and art lessons, to Disney trips to Broadway plays and fulfilled life-long dreams for some, provided invaluable education for others and even provided trips to those that would had never traveled before.

Please join us as we continue to grow this extremely important fund so that others may enjoy what Gail was able to enjoy during her brief life.

Tickets are \$75/person

To purchase tickets or to make a donation call Dawn Arpin at 401-781-4380, x. 130 or contact her via email at: darpin@spurwinkri.org

Spurwink|ri is a non-profit agency serving the needs of hundreds of children and adults with emotional, behavioral, learning or other developmental disabilities through various educational and therapeutic programs and services.

Neighborhood Pantry Express RI Food Bank Launches New Program

The Rhode Island Community Food Bank recently launched its Neighborhood Pantry Express program. The Neighborhood Pantry Express delivers Fresh Produce to areas of the state with the highest unmet need. The program is currently servicing two different high-need communities: Newport and Woonsocket.

The Neighborhood Pantry Express arrives fully loaded, and utilizes a Farmers Market approach, which will allow clients that have been referred by their respective member agencies to check in with the Rhode Island Community Food Bank staff on site, as well as volunteers from the member agencies participating in the program, and then select from the fresh produce available, have it weighed and be on their way with 10-15 pounds of fresh fruits and

vegetables.

In addition, and based on availability, the Neighborhood Pantry Express also offers baked goods and other perishable food items, from time to time.

The Food Bank arrives at one host site, and the local participating food pantries provide the volunteer support necessary to carry out the program. On the weekly delivery day, each participating agency will have volunteers stationed at the host site to help set up the market-style displays of fresh fruit and vegetables, delivered by the Food Bank. All clients picking up food that day will have been referred by their food pantry coordinators/volunteers.

Following the initial roll-out of the program, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank will be looking to expand this program to other areas of the state, which meet the high unmet need requirement.

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(401) 639-4786

Scampi's of Course

1 FREE Beverage with order
401-467-5770

Shur-Az Chemical Mfg.

25% off all janitorial supplies
401-723-0116

Stamas Auto & Truck Center

75% OFF Oil Changes for 1 Year on vehicle purchase
401-946-9594 - Ask for Steve

SuperCoups

\$100 off first emailing
401-732-2425

RI Counseling and Hypnotherapy Center

(401)751-8600

Temporarily Yours, Inc.

Professional Administrative Staffing & Event Planning
Phone: 401-739-8460
\$100.00 off of a Direct Hire (Restrictions may apply) \$850.00 for 8 hours of Maitre'D Services for the Day

theCurrier, words & events

10% off writing, editing and event coordination contract 401-467-1896

2 Paws Up

\$10.00 off our newest de-shedding program, The Furminator – Guarantees to substantially reduce shedding.
401-941-PAWS

Urban Ventures:

223-1061
We provide a board of advisors to help you grow your business. Free business assessment.

Waddell & Reed - Greg Silva

Complimentary retirement planning & investment workshop for your employees

Comprehensive financial plan at no charge for company owner or head of human resources
Call 401-885-2342 for details

Winkleman Travel

75% off passport photos: \$3 per pair (regularly \$12)
401-943-7700

WPRI Channel 12

Contact Chamber office for Representative Information
401-785-3780

Y2 Marketing

Everything you've learned about marketing is wrong... Free audio CD offer
401-270-6494

Annual Cranston Chamber of Commerce

Golf Tournament

**RESCHEDULED,
YOU STILL
HAVE TIME!**

September 4 at the
Alpine Country Club

*Every Person Who Plays Gets A
Certificate for a FREE Golf Club!*

Registration
10:30 am

Shotgun Start
12:00 - Noon



Includes:
18 Holes of Golf
Golf Cart
Lunch
Cocktails/Dinner

Modified Best Ball Format

Prizes Include
1st, 2nd, 3rd place
Mens/Ladies
Longest Drive
Closest to the Pin
Putting Contest
50/50 Hole
Hole in One Prizes

Dinner Immediately following with Awards Ceremony

Names

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Co Company: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Fax: _____
E-mail: _____

Sub-Total \$ _____

Please make check payable to:
Cranston Chamber of Commerce

MC, Visa, AMEX, Discover # _____ Exp: ___/___/___



Please mail to:
Cranston Chamber of Commerce
48A Rolfe Square
Cranston, RI 02910
401.785.3780

Fax to 401-785-3782
Email Susan@cranstonchamber.com
www.cranstonchamber.com

Cranston Chamber of Commerce | 48A Rolfe Square | Cranston, RI 02910 | Tel: 401.785.3780

Sponsorship Opportunities

- ___ HOLE-IN-ONE Sponsor \$2,500
Includes prominent advertising on all collateral material, front page logo on Program of the day, 1/2 page ad in the newsletter, two golf foursome's, banner hung prominently at the Alpine all day, tee sign, newsletter recognition
- ___ EAGLE Sponsor \$1,250
Significant advertising on all collateral material, 1/4 page ad in the Chamber newspaper, golf foursome, hang your banner at the Alpine, tee sign, mention in our newsletter
- ___ BIRDIE Sponsor \$750
Golf foursome and a tee sign with a listing on collateral materials
- ___ Foursome \$500
- ___ Individual Golfer \$150
- ___ Tee Sign \$100
- ___ Putting Green Sponsor \$250 (Exclusive signage on hole all day)

Company: _____
Contact Name: _____
Billing Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Payment Type: Check# _____ in the amount of \$ _____
Credit Card: AMEX, MC, VISA, Discover (circle)
Name Appearing on Card: _____
Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____



Didn't register for the June 4th Golf Tournament? It's not too late!!

Mother Nature got the best of the golfers who were registered to play in this year's 13th Annual Cranston Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament. Due to heavy rain the day of the event, it was postponed until Tuesday September 4th 2007. This means if you were unable to play the initial date you can still register!

Don't Miss out on a fun day of golf, complete with cart rental, Continental Breakfast, BBQ Lunch on the Course,

Dinner, Tons of Prizes, and a Gift Bag that includes a certificate to receive a FREE GOLF CLUB!!!

Not to worry, if you registered for the June 4th date, you are still registered for the September 4th rain date, but if you haven't call the Chamber Office at (401)785-3780 to reserve your spot! This is one day of fun you do not want to miss out on! Sponsorship Opportunities are still available as well.

UPCOMING

**Cranston Chamber
of
Commerce**

Evening in Vegas!

Now Entering
Las
Cranston

Las Vegas Evening

Las Vegas has nothing on Cranston!! Join us for an Evening full of fun and excitement with guest appearances from local celebrities. The Festivities will include crudites, cocktails and gambling with "Chamber Money" from 6:00-7:30 followed by dinner paired with samplings of fine wine, a chocolate fountain and silent and live auctions will round out the evening,

September 28, 2007

Alpine Country Club
251 Pippin Orchard Rd.
Cranston, RI 02921

Cocktails &
Gambling 6pm-7:30pm
Dinner and Auction
to follow

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!