

# OUR TOWN

RAHWAY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

**FREE**

The Voice of the Rahway Chamber of Commerce.

Issue 20 • January 2012

**NEXT CHAMBER  
MEETING**  
**JAN 26, 2012**  
**8:30am to 9:30am**  
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## REMEMBERING RAHWAY THE WAY IT WAS

Written by Alex Shipley

Standing in front of City Hall Plaza, one can almost see the entire extent of the Main Street business district from Milton Avenue to Monroe Street. It is a relatively short distance, yet much history and many memories abound in those few blocks. No matter what period a shopper may recall, nostalgic emotions are kindled when one hears the names of stores that were a part of our town and a part of our lives.

The period I personally remember is the fifties, a time when the downtown area was in its heyday. This was a time before the shopping malls, when bus lines made frequent stops bringing customers from Carteret, Iselin and Clark. Friday night was the big night, and downtown Rahway was like "Grand Central Station." One only needs to think back to the fine service and merchandise offered in the following stores to realize why Rahway was "the heart of shopping in Union County."

Chain stores, such as Woolworth's, W.T. Grant, and McCrory's 5 and 10 moved into Rahway's larger buildings. Rahway residents had a choice of shopping at five modern grocery stores, three of which were in the downtown area. The ACME was on Main Street at the head of Monroe, while the Safeway and the A&P were on Irving Street. Demblings and the National Grocery Store were on Grand Avenue.

Main Street businesses included Miller's Men Shop, Miles Shoes, S&A Hardware, National Shoe Store, Mary's Bake Shop, Green's, Robert's Hardware, Sadye Cooper, Schwartz Shoes, Jack and Jill, Robinson's Hardware, Oxman's Gifts, Sargents Men Shop, Saffian's Children's Shop, Rahway Hardware, Sentry Auto, Conner's Music Shop, Amorelli's Sport Shop, Harris' Men Shop, Miller's Shoes, Sydney's Men Shop, and Schatzman's Toy Store. Located on Cherry Street were Bertie Pachman's Millinery, Goldblatt's Jewelry, the Fashion Shop, Kuznitz Shoe Store, Rae Lou Women's Shop, Kagan's Shoes, Ducoff's Stationary, Rahway Shoe Repair, Rahway Book and Gift, Clayton Camera, Em Bee Jewelry, Loft's Candy Store, and Ben Pachman's Women's Store.

If one was hungry or thirsty after a long afternoon of shopping, there were plenty of places to stop for a quick snack or an ice cream soda. The shopper might patronize Voss, the Beverly Sweet Shop, the counter in Woolworth's, the Rahway Diner, or the Rahway Grill. Over on Irving Street were Bauer's and Estelle's. Two of the few pizza



(above) 2011 Painting by Rahway native Lloyd Garrison titled "Memories of Cherry Street, 1960," Mr. Garrison is in the 11th generation of his family living in Rahway. More information about Garrison and samples of his work can be found on his website [www.lloydgarrison.com](http://www.lloydgarrison.com).

places in town were Roma's and, on the other end of Main Street, Norrante's.

Several fine drug stores filled Rahway's needs including Golodner's, Kirstein's, Verneau's, Lloyd's and Bells.

By the mid-sixties, the business district was changing dramatically. A new shopping trend began with the creation of the nearby Menlo Park and Woodbridge malls, offering more stores, more variety and more parking. Shoppers quickly bought into this innovative retail concept and soon abandoned the local stores for the ultra-modern complexes.

Today, trends are again changing and downtown areas are being redesigned for the consumers who want to shop by where they live. Rahway too is rebuilding with hopes that our downtown district will once more become "the heart of shopping in Union County."

Alex Shipley is the research coordinator for the Rahway Public Library and City Historian for the City of Rahway. He is currently the Director of Museum Operations at the Merchants & Drovers Tavern Museum. He is the author of four books on Rahway history: *Rediscovery of Rahway* (1975), *Images of the Past* (1997), *Images of the Past II* (2005) and *The Case of the Unknown Woman* (2010).

# OUR TOWN Rahway

*Our Town* is published by Renna Media in coordination with the Rahway Chamber of Commerce.

Three thousand newspapers are printed monthly and mailed free to every business in Rahway and distributed free at distribution sites throughout Rahway.

Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

## RAHWAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PO Box #277, Rahway, NJ 07065

**President: Bob Markey**

732 388 1765

Bob@SaligaMarkey.com

## CITY OF RAHWAY

1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065

www.cityofrahway.com

**Mayor: Richard Proctor**

732-827-2000

## RAHWAY CITY COUNCIL

**First Ward: Robert Rachlin**

2215 Allen Street • (732) 499-7389

**Second Ward: Michael Cox, President**

776 West Scott Avenue • (732) 388-2880

**Third Ward: Jerry Scaturro**

515 Albermarle Street • (732) 381-1924

**Fourth Ward: David Brown**

353 East Stearns Street • (732) 388-6545

**Fifth Ward: Jennifer Wenson-Maier**

1314 Bryant Street • (732) 396-8536

**Sixth Ward: Samson Steinman**

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**At Large: James Baker, Vice President**

596 Leesville Avenue • (732) 574-1206

**At Large: Salvatore Mione**

1452 New Church Street • (732) 574-1328

**At Large: Nancy Saliga**

1103 Milton Boulevard • (732) 574-3188

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Economic Development .....	(732) 827-2176
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Solid Waste & Recycling .....	(732) 827-2159
Municipal Clerk .....	(732) 827-2100
Senior Services .....	(732) 827-2016
Health & Housing .....	(732) 827-2172
Parks & Recreation .....	(732) 669-3600
Law Department .....	(732) 827-2000
Tax Collector .....	(732) 827-2050
Tax Assessor .....	(732) 827-2030
Municipal Court .....	(732) 827-2039
Library .....	(732) 340-1551
Board of Education .....	(732) 396-1000



## Message from the President

### WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU ON BOARD

*The Chamber of Commerce has passed its 100th member mark.*

It's only the second year of our resurrection. We've surpassed many of our goals and our Chamber is still growing strongly.

The backbone of our membership continues to be small businesses and they're finding a large voice in our organization. All of our members and community friends can benefit by taking part in our business networking system and by attending Chamber sponsored events and by involvement in our community service projects.

Rahway Chamber of Commerce would love to also have your involvement. No fancy credentials needed . . . just an interest in making our town a better place in which to live and in which to do business.

Become part of a dynamic group of individuals who are truly helping to make Rahway a better town. You'll rub shoulders with business big shots and the little mom & pop store owners, local residents as well leaders of our town's schools, churches and organizations. We all sit together equally at our meeting table supporting one another and supporting what's in the best interest of our community.

Come and check us out at an upcoming morning general membership meeting, a committee meeting or an early evening's business networking event.

Did You Know that the Rahway Chamber of Commerce?

- First started in 1977
- Disbanded in 2000
- Reorganized in 2010
- Is 100% volunteer led
- Non political
- 100 current members and growing
- Memberships open to businesses, organizations and residents at affordable dues
- Our Mission: To support all Rahway businesses, help strengthen Rahway's schools and improve Rahway's parks and quality of life

*Bob Markey*

*Bob Markey, can be reached by calling 732-388-1765,*

*by email at Bob@SaligaMarkey.com, or by mail at PO Box #277, Rahway, NJ 07065*

**www.rahwaychamberofcommerce.com**

## Advertise in this newspaper

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*The Rahway Recreation department  
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## 2012 TALENT SHOW

**TRYOUTS: JAN. 27, 6 P.M.**

**AT THE RAHWAY RECREATION CENTER**

*Only the serious need to apply.*

*Acts include children; (ages 8-17)*

*and Adults; (18-older).*

*To register for auditions,*

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***If you like this newspaper,  
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# CITY MEETING DATES & SCHEDULES

## RAHWAY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, City Hall Plaza, Rahway. Please call (732) 827-2100 for any inquiries.

Tuesday, February 7,

Pre-Meeting Conference

Monday, February 13, Regular Meeting

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Monthly Caucus Meetings are held in the Louis R. Rizzo Board Meeting Room (room 105) of the Middle School at 7 p.m.

Board Meetings are held in the Cafeteria at 7 p.m. Organization Meeting begins at 7 p.m., Regular Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. (Both in the Cafeteria). Please call (732) 396-1000 for any inquiries.

Tuesday, January 10, Monthly Caucus

Tuesday, January 17, Regular Board Meeting

## BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Meetings are held in the Municipal Council Chambers, 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, Please call (732) 827-2176 for any inquiries.

Monday, January 30, 2012 Reorganization meeting to begin at 6:45 p.m.

## RAHWAY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at Rahway City Hall (2nd floor conference room)

Thursday, January 12

## LIBRARY BOARD

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm at the Rahway Public Library. Please call (732) 340-1551 for any inquiries.

Tuesday, January 17

## GUESS THE NUMBER OF CANDY CANES WINNER



Mary Ann Williams from Rahway won the holiday "Count the Candy Canes Contest" that were featured in the window of the Gilded Lillie located in downtown at 1433 Main Street. The total number of candy canes in the glass was 253 Maryann's guess was 247. The prize was a \$50 US Savings Bond.

## PARKING AUTHORITY

Meetings are held at the Parking Authority offices at 67 Lewis Street, Rahway, on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Please call (732) 382-3279 for any inquiries.

Tuesday, January 24

\*Re-Organization Meeting followed immediately by Regular Meeting.

## PLANNING BOARD

Meetings are held in the Municipal Council Chambers, 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway Call (732) 827-2176 for any inquiries.

Tuesday, January 31, Annual Reorganization meeting begins at 6:45 p.m.

## RAHWAY CENTER PARTNERSHIP

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at Café at UCPAC, 1601 Irving Street. Please call (732) 396-3545 for any inquiries. Check for meetings; [www.cityofrahway.com](http://www.cityofrahway.com).

## SENIOR TRIP TO RESORT IN HAWLEY, PA

The Rahway Division of Senior Services is sponsoring a trip to Ehrhardt's Water Front Resort in Hawley, PA on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. The trip is \$57.00 per person with no refunds after Thursday, March 1, 2012. The trip includes bus transportation, family style lunch, an Irish Band and the Ventriloquist Vince and his Leprechaun Buddy George. Vince and George have been entertaining audiences for over 30 years. They have appeared on The Joan Rivers Show, Joe Franklin Show, Comedy Tonight with Bill Boggs, Comedy Central and many more. They have also shared a stage with Henry Youngman, Tiny Tim, Pat Cooper, Richard Belzer, Robert Klein, Eddie Murphy, Bobby Vinton and many more artists.

The bus will leave from the Rahway Senior Center at 8:45 AM. and depart from Ehrhardt's at approximately 3:30 PM. For more information please call 732-827-2016.



(above) Shirley Austin shows off the poinsettia plant she won at the Rahway Senior Center Holiday Party on December 20th.

## RAHWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065

Phone: (732) 340-1551

Hours: Mon 12-8 / Tues 9-5 / Wed 9-8

Thurs 9-8 / Fri 9-5 / Sat 9-5

## FEBRUARY 2012 EVENTS

### BLACK HISTORY BINGO:

For all ages. Everyone wins!

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Thursday, February 2 at 6:45 pm

### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING:

All are welcome to attend.

Thursday, February 9 at 7:00 pm

### FAST FRIENDS:

A social gathering; meet new people with the possibility of making new friends! This program is for adults (age 18+). Light refreshments will be served.

Saturday, February 11 at 2:00 pm

### READER'S CIRCLE BOOK GROUP:

This month's title: "Cleopatra's Daughter".

Wednesday, February 15 at 2:00 pm

### BOOK BINGO:

for ages 18+; everyone wins!

Tuesday, February 21 at 2:00 pm

## TEEN EVENTS

### VALENTINE'S CONTEST:

One lucky teen will win chocolate! Pick up a form at the Reference Desk.

Contest ends February 29th.

### TEEN MOVIE - "REAL STEEL"

Rated PG13. All are welcome.

Monday, February 13 at 5:30 pm

## CHILDREN'S EVENTS

### TODDLER TIME:

No registration required.

Tuesdays at 10:30 am

### RHYME TIME LAP-SIT:

No registration required.

Thursdays at 10:30 am

### GROUNDHOG LOL: Story and craft.

Thursday, February 2 at 4:00 pm

### VALENTINE COOKS AND BOOKS:

Thursday, February 9 at 6:30 pm

### DROP-IN CRAFT: VALENTINES

All day, stop in any time!

Saturday, February 11

### DROP-IN CRAFT: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

All day, stop in any time!

Saturday, February 25



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## THIRD GRADE GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS ATTEND BRAIN BOWL

Rahway's third grade Gifted and Talented students attended the Union County Convocation, Brain Bowl, on Wednesday, December 7th. This Inter-district Problem Solving Convocation was hosted by the Union County Gifted and Talented Association, of which Rahway is a member. Convocations provide an opportunity for students to work with a large number of students with similar abilities, communicating their ideas in positive ways so they can complete various problem-solving tasks that require higher levels of thinking (analysis, synthesis, evaluation) for longer

periods of time, and often at a faster pace. The students have opportunities to work on tasks that require problem finding as well as, problem solving, make real world connections and make use of interdisciplinary, advanced content.

The Brain Bowl focused on problem-solving tasks and activities. The day began with an icebreaker activity (design a logo license plate

for your team) to establish their inter-district identities. Teams proceeded throughout the day through various problem-solving stations to earn points for their teams. Stations included tower building, estimation, brainstorming and a question/answer section. Totals were tallied at the end of the day and awards given to the highest teams.

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(above) Third grade GT students with their teachers; Mrs. Debby Geis, Mrs. Susan Rubino, Mrs. Margaret Cilia, and Supervisor John Perillo.

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Thur: 10am to 6pm  
Fri: 10am to 6pm  
Sat: 9am to 2pm  
Sun: Closed

Late appointments are available by request.

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| • Avesis       | • Block Vision    | • Vision Benefits of America               |
| • Qualcare     | • Superior Vision | • Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield            |
| • Davis Vision | • Oxford          | and many more.                             |





Rahway High School recently took time out to celebrate the 273 students who achieved honor roll distinction for the first marking period. Parents were also invited and recognized during remarks by Principal John Farinella, Vice Principal Mark Cantagallo, and Student Government Advisor, Steven Radler. Names of students attaining honor roll can be viewed in the Guidance Newsletter found on the school website: <http://www.rahway.net/rhs/2011-2012/Flyers/GNLDec11.pdf>

*(left) Rahway High School Guidance Counselor Robert Zech congratulates honor roll seniors: Ciarra Zatorski and her mom, Cindy Zatorski, and Anthony Campioni.*



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"Winter Small Business Series" include:

The U.S. Small Business Administration

Union County Business Resource Center

Elizabeth Development Company

Union County Workforce Investment Board

### LEGAL ASPECTS OF STARTING & RUNNING A SMALL BUSINESS

**January 18, 2012 - 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

There are numerous laws that affect the formation and operation of a small business. This workshop will help you understand and satisfy the legal requirements facing your business, and avoid legal liabilities that might otherwise damage your business.

Topics to be covered include: selecting the legal business structures; choosing a name for the business; licenses and permits; employment law matters; real estate and environmental law concerns; financing the business; ongoing corporate record keeping; developing contracts and forms for use with customers, suppliers and consultants.

Conducted by: Richard Lambert Esq.,  
Dunn Lambert LLC, Paramus, NJ

### IS BUSINESS OWNERSHIP RIGHT FOR YOU?

**January 25, 2012 - 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

This seminar is aimed at those thinking about career options outside of the traditional employer/employee relationship.

We will cover: "The new Career Economy" How to determine if business ownership holds potential for you What are you looking to accomplish by

considering a different career Overview of career alternatives beyond the job market How to create a "yardstick" (that is specific to you) with which to measure potential options Recommended approach to identify options that may hold potential for you How to explore and evaluate these options against the "yardstick" What does the path to success look like?

Conducted by: Nick Cohron, Owner,  
Entrepreneur's Source, Summit, NJ

### PROVEN MARKETING & SALES STRATEGIES

**February 01, 2012 - 9:00 -11:00 a.m.**

We will look at key elements of building a marketing strategy that will provide the foundation needed to build a business in today's more competitive environment. From there we will develop a more strategic approach to

maximizing sales opportunities and relationships with key customers.

The Marketing Strategy including the learning and applying what pushes customers' buttons, branding your business and gaining consistent leads.

The Sales Strategy including the 6 Step Strategic Sales Process to build rapport while building credibility from day 1 and gaining commitment.

Conducted by: Jack Gottlieb, President

The Total Solutions Group, Jackson, NJ

### DEVELOPING A WINNING BUSINESS PLAN

**February 08, 2012 - 9:00-11:30 a.m.**

Topics Include: Why you need a Business Plan What investors & lenders look for in Business Plans Business Plan content

- \* Executive Summary
- \* The Business
- \* Management & Personnel
- \* Marketing Analysis & Strategy
- \* Location
- \* Business Continuity Planning Financial Data
- \* P & L
- \* Balance Sheet
- \* Cash Flow Projection Supporting Documentation

Conducted by:

Herb Caesar, President,

CED Solutions, LLC Englewood, NJ

### FINANCING YOUR SMALL BUSINESS

**February 15, 2012 - 9:00 -11:00 a.m.**

Knowing how and when to obtain the right kind of financing is crucial to the small owner, whether start-up or established.

This workshop will discuss the various loan programs including the new Federal and State incentives available to the small business owners and their general requirements. It will also explain how to prepare to properly approach a lender for maximum success.

Conducted by: Nathaniel Sims, Asst. Director,

NJ SBDC at Kean University.

Co-Presenters: SBA, UCEDC, NJEDA, RBAC, EDC

FEE: NONE



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## CITY OF RAHWAY AND RAHWAY BLACK HISTORY COMMITTEE TO HONOR SOLDIERS WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES.

The City of Rahway and the Rahway Black History Committee will be honoring our troops and anyone who served in the Armed Forces on Feb 2, 2012 at 6:30pm at the Union County Performing Arts Center during the Opening Reception of the Black History month.

As you are aware, President Barack Obama is bringing back troops from Iraq and Afghanistan, most of our troops are back already with their families.

The City of Rahway would like to welcome them and anyone who served in the armed forces to join us at the Union County Performing Arts Center, 1601 Irving Street to be honored for their services. The event will run in conjunction with the opening reception of the Black History Month. The keynote speaker for the event will be Master Sergeant Shade Lee, United States Air Force (Retired) H.M. "Killer Cox" Chapter, TAI-DOTA, and Pioneer Tuskegee Military Aviation.

This will be an opportunity to put on their uniforms one more time and mingle with their fellow soldiers. Uniforms are encouraged but not necessary. This is a free event and seating is limited but no reservation is required. There will be a special dance performance by BSV League of Unreal Dancing group from Brooklyn, New York, light refreshments will be served.

For more information please call. 732-669-3600 or 732-827-2014. Please bring a guest.



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**OPEN HOUSE DATES:**  
January: 26th, 7-9pm | 28th 11:30am-1:30pm  
31st, 9-11:30am and 1-3pm  
February: 1st, 9-11:30am

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## HIGH SCHOOL WORK IN CLAW PROGRAM

Each year, the students enrolled in the CLAW (Children Learning About Work) course at Rahway High School hold a Holiday Sale. This year's sale was held on Friday, December 2. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Special Education teacher Ms. Patricia Williams and several of her "elves," the CLAW students created holiday-themed gift baskets, planned the retail layout and worked during the sale. This year, the sale was indeed a success, as much of the merchandise sold out before lunch.



(above) Rahway High School senior Sheniqua Benjamin attends to some holiday shopping at the CLAW annual holiday sale on December 2.

## JUBILEE MOBILE INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES MIYEAR: A YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Jubilee Mobile Institute (JMI) announces the launch of miYear a new youth leadership program for 8th through 12th grades. Our introductory orientation session will kick off at 9:00 a.m. on January 21, 2012 at the Rahway YMCA. One of our partners, Dr. Loretta Long who plays Nurse Susan on "Sesame Street" will be on hand to give a head start on "Occupying Your Dream."

"There are many youth leadership programs, said JMI President Hazel Hector. We at JMI provide our young people the opportunity to think outside the box. The programming range

from miDesign: Character Building to Understanding the YOU. It's all about confidence building.

miYear program is packed with both individual and group activities, and discussions to maximize learning experience. "What better ways to help prepare our future leaders gain an edge," said President Hector. They learn how to participate in the affairs of the community.

Jubilee Mobile Institute a 501 (3) (c) corporation founded in 2010 is headquartered in Rahway, New Jersey.

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## RAHWAY HIGH SCHOOL MADRIGAL SINGERS JOIN CAROLERS AT SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL



On December 14, members of the Rahway High School Madrigal Choir and their director, Mr. Donald Pennell journeyed to Newark's basilica, Sacred Heart Cathedral, to join in the annual carol sing. The Cathedral Choir and Instrumental Ensemble performed and students had the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the Cathedral, considered to be the finest example of neo-Gothic architecture in the Western Hemisphere. This carol sing began 41 years ago when the featured performer for a planned concert in the Basilica was delayed by weather, so the conductor led the audience in a selection of songs.

## RAHWAY SIDELINERS AND BAND BOOSTERS HONOR FALL ATHLETES AND MUSICIANS

At the final football game of the season, the Rahway Sideliners and Band Boosters organizations held the Senior Spotlight to recognize the graduating senior members of the football team under Coach Mobley, the senior cheerleaders under Coach Hennessy and the senior band and color guard members under Director Robert Van Wyk. Excitement reigned during this double overtime traditional Thanksgiving game won by the Rahway Indians against Clark 9 – 3.

## BAND MEMBERS ATTEND TUBA CHRISTMAS IN NYC

On December 11, members of the Rahway High School Band journeyed to Rockefeller Center for the 43rd annual Tuba Christmas with band director Robert VanWyk. Six Rahway students were performers and another 14 attended as visitors. Tuba Christmas is presented at multiple venues throughout the world since 1974. On the ice at Rockefeller Center this year were 502 tuba players of all ages.

*(right) Rahway High School students join others in performing at Tuba Christmas on the ice at Rockefeller Center.*



*(above) Rahway High School Band plays during the Senior Spotlight at the final football game of the 2011 season.*

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## CALLING ALL GIRL SCOUTS!

Girl Scouts USA is celebrating their centennial this year. To honor the occasion the Rahway Girl Scouts are hoping to re-establish a connection with their "Old Guard", specifically Girl Scouts of all ages from the Rahway area who might have attended meetings or slept over in the Merchants and Drovers Tavern, once known simply as "The Girl Scout House". Were you ever a Rahway Girl Scout or leader? If you were, or if you know where one can be found, please contact Troop 41197.

You can send an e-mail message to [gshnj.troop.1197@gmail.com](mailto:gshnj.troop.1197@gmail.com) or leave a message for Sarah Hansen of the Rahway Girl Scouts at 732-382-7437.

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## LA FAYETTE LODGE #27 FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS INSTALL 2012 OFFICERS

Installation for the 2012 Year was held on Saturday December 17th. The new Master Michel Romano was installed as well as the

officers. There were close to 100 people who attended and It turned out to be a Wonderful Evening.



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## PURCHASE HELP FOR YOUR NEW HOME!

By Carmen Tyler McLendon of Striker Realty, Jasmine Leake of Grey Eyes Publications.

Looking to buy a home? Renovate? Are you wondering how you can afford it? Your Rahway real estate agent can help you answer those questions. There are dozens of loan programs available in this wonderful city.

Rahway has many great homes available for purchase at prices that are a great value for today's home buyer. There are 174 single family properties available for sale with many homes

under \$150,000, making home ownership affordable for almost everyone. Short sale options are available for 71 single family houses. Ninety homes are available under \$250,000, 54 properties between \$250,000 and \$349,999 and seven above \$350,000. There are 24 multi-family and investment properties in Rahway that range from \$122,000 to \$515,000 in the Garden State Multiple Listing Service.

There are \$203,000 improvement loans that will pay for the upgrades and renovations on your new home. You can even buy new appliances for your kitchen, new fixtures for your bathroom or renovate that bathroom and kitchen completely. If you have hesitated to invest in your new home because of the job market, there are loans available that will even offer insurance to cover your mortgage in the event of a job lay off!

Rahway Savings, TD Bank, Bank of America and many of our other banks offer loan programs. Rahway has three excellent, experienced Real Estate Brokerages ready, willing and able to assist you with all your buying, selling, investing and rental real estate needs.

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## SALIGA AND MARKEY MERGES WITH STRIKER

Carmen Tyler McLendon of Striker Realty is pleased to announce the merging of Saliga and Markey into the family of Striker Realty. The Striker Realty office, located at 1582 Elizabeth Avenue, Rahway, NJ, welcomes Saliga and Markey with their 30-plus year history of serving Rahway and the surrounding areas.

The "Hometown Agency" and the "Striker Agency" is a win, win for everyone involved. Marianne Power said, "Joining an agency with four locations, offering every level of real estate service - Each of us will continue to provide the personal and expert services that have been our trademark for years."

"Our clients will have access to more listings, more agents, more potential buyers and more services", stated Carmen McLendon, broker and branch manager for Striker Realty - Rahway Branch.

The Rahway office specialties include listing and selling residential, investment, commercial, foreclosure and short sale properties. The office can also find potential renters for landlords or provide listings of rental properties for people looking to rent houses or apartments. Free guides for buying and selling properties are also available by contacting the office.

For more information or to reach Carmen Tyler McLendon, Marianne Power, or any real estate professional at Striker Realty, please call 732-669-9090 or visit [www.StrikerRealty.com](http://www.StrikerRealty.com).

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## WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION



Native American Tom Delacy performed a traditional Winter Solstice blessing at Milton Lake Damn on Sunday afternoon, December 18th. Tom is not only a Native American medicine man but also an accomplished martial artist, Tai Chi teacher and New York City Detective. Denise Rolong of Rahway helped arrange the celebration.

## HAVE YOU SEEN THESE GUYS UP IN YOUR TREES?



The US Department of Agriculture is still examining Rahway trees for possible infestation by the Asian Long Horned Beetle. Tree climbers are seen above on a giant old Sycamore tree in early January by downtown's Wheatena Park. Fortunately, no beetles were found.



## GARDEN CLUB MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

*What's Going On In Your garden This Winter?  
Suggestions needed for the "Official Flower of Rahway"*

The Rahway Garden Club meets Thursday, January 19th at 7 pm till 8:30 pm at the Rahway Public Library, 2 City Hall Plaza. The meeting is free and open to the public.

The Rahway Garden Club has formed under the umbrella of the NJ Garden Club and is open

to any area person who has a gardening interest. If you have a passion for flowers, vegetables, plants, trees or shrubs then this is the group for you to meet up with. Additional information can be obtained by calling 732-388-1765.

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## A MAN NOT ONLY WELL LIKED BUT ALSO WELL RESPECTED.... THAT'S BILL DAVIS

*Bill meets life fully in his gracious way with tact and a warm smile*

Bill Davis was born in the Wyoming Valley of North Eastern Pennsylvania in the old coal mining town of Pittston. Bill's mom was from Irish heritage and Bill's dad was of Welsh decent. When Bill's father returned from World War 11, he decided it was time for the family to move on to greener pastures and so off he went to work in New Jersey: first at the Kearney Ship Yard and then to Ford Motor Company's newly built Edison assembly plant.

The Davis family followed and they bought a home in Hillside and it was there Bill grew up and went to high school. "I worked each day after school at Sweeder's Food Market in Hillside stocking shelves and bagging food and delivering groceries on my bicycle. The extra money I earned was appreciated in my family. I still remember Mrs. Sweeder really well; she spoke little English and she was also little in stature but boy she commanded respect and when she told us something we listened" remarked Bill.

When Bill wasn't working or doing schoolwork he found time to do some high school wrestling and played some tennis. Then after graduation from Hillside High in 1956 Bill enlisted in the United States Marine Corp. serving for six years. "The Corp was a good thing for me cause at 18 I was a kid and when I was discharged I had grown up. I spent part of my active duty at Marine Headquarters in Arlington Virginia. I wasn't trained as a young boy with a rifle but it turned out I was a bit of a natural and during my infantry training I still feel proud that I attained the level of Sharpshooter with the M1 carbine" said Bill.

Bill always wanted to help people and help his community and after discharge he was drawn to consider becoming a funeral director. "I asked my mom what she thought and she said "Bill, why not give it a try" and so the rest is history. I graduated from American Academy and apprenticed for 4 years. I then sat for my NJ Funeral Director's test in 1965 and passed with flying colors on the first try. Boy did that make me feel good 'cause most applicants still don't pass that test on the first try" noted Bill.

Bill was a bachelor in the spring of 1966 and while at a political function in Elizabeth his eye caught the eye of a beautiful young Irish girl

who was to become his wife within 6 months. "I asked Miss Mary Duhig if I could buy her a cup of coffee but since she had come that evening with another date she said no, but on her way out she slipped me her telephone number on a piece of paper." Bill and Mary were married that same year and that was 39 years ago.

The newlyweds started to raise a family and then Bill was given the opportunity to purchase a well respected funeral home in Rahway that had been established in 1832. Bill had done work for the Pettit Funeral Home and got along well with Mrs. Pettit. In 1973 Bill purchased the business from Jeanette Pettit and the named changed to Pettit-Davis Funeral Home.

Bill reads three newspapers each day and loves to walk. "If I'm not at Rahway River Park I often go back to my old Hillside neighborhood and walk for an hour or so. I'm fortunate that Mary and I over the years have been able to travel to many, many places around the world, yet I've never met nicer people than those right here in Rahway. Our city may be facing tough times as so many other towns are but I just know we're going to make it" remarked Bill.

Bill Davis' community involvement is long and deep. Youth soccer coach, founding member of Chamber of Commerce, RSI Bank Director, and serving on the boards of; St Mary's Church,



(left)  
Bill Davis  
as Marine  
Corp. basic  
training  
graduate.



(below) Bill  
relaxing by  
staircase at  
Pettit-Davis  
Funeral  
Home.



(right)  
Young  
Bill  
Davis.



(above, left, right) Bill's lovely wife Mary and a family shot with son Will and his wife Mandy.

American Legion, PBA, Elks, Knights of Columbus to name just a few. Bill and Mary Davis are the proud parents of their three children Will and Mary Pat and Cathleen as well as 7 grand children. Son Will is currently Funeral Director at Pettit-Davis.



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## A FRIENDSHIP RESOLUTION

Submitted by Colin Gittens, president of the Friends of the Rahway Public Library.



Colin Gittens

With 2012 here right in front of us, the newness and inherent possibilities of the year to come make me think of resolutions, especially those concerning the Friends of the Rahway Public Library.

As you know if you've been reading this column over the past months, the Friends exist to support the Rahway Public Library, both financially and in spirit. A key part of our mission is to raise funds to support programs that might otherwise not happen, or that would happen at a diminished level. We raise these funds through "extracurricular" activities that have generally been tied to books, reading, or the library itself.

But we have also strived during the past year to broaden our approach, and create fundraising events that not only raise money but also serve to raise community consciousness and increase connections among city residents. I'd like to offer last year's Amazing Race around Rahway—which began and ended at the library, and sent teams on a clue-solving race around town—as a good example of the fun, "outside of the box" efforts we enjoy presenting.

In 2012, that race will likely be back, so you may want to mark your calendars for May and begin assembling your team. But before that—on February 11th at 2 PM, to be precise—we'll also be participating with library management to present a "Fast Friends" event. What is this, exactly? Basically, it's a structured, no-cost way to meet new people who already have the library in common. The event draws on the principles of speed dating, where participants mingle with other attendees for time-limited conversations before rotating on to other participants.

No preregistration is required, and there is no fee involved; the only thing needed is a willingness to say hello to new people. So please give this your consideration. Your social circle may well get bigger as a result, or perhaps you'll simply take this opportunity to join the Friends of the Library. You may find a friend, or become a Friend. Either way, you win, I think.

"A stranger is just a friend I haven't met yet."

--Will Rogers

## A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION THAT WILL HELP OTHERS

*Literacy Volunteers Recommends Volunteering To Help Others Learn to Read.*

A typical New Year's resolution involves things like losing weight, giving up a bad habit or getting more organized. While those goals are important to the person making them, Literacy Volunteers of Union County (LV-UC) is asking you to expand your 2012 New Year's resolutions and help your fellow community members.

Nationwide, one in seven adults cannot read, write or do math above an elementary school level. Literacy Volunteers is part of a national network of literacy organizations offering critical education programs that help American adults learn to read and write. Volunteers in the program help teach adults basic literacy, GED preparation, math and English (ESL).

LV-UC is a member of ProLiteracy, the world's largest organization of adult basic education and literacy programs, and is one of 1,200 community-based organizations that make up the ProLiteracy network.

"Literacy literally has the power to change lives," said David C. Harvey, president and CEO of ProLiteracy. "Particularly in this economy, adults need literacy to help them be competitive for jobs and to help keep themselves and their families healthy. By helping these adults gain the education they deserve, we're helping them and their children come together to solve problems and create stronger neighborhoods and communities."

Volunteer tutors are trained at a 15-hour workshop where they will develop the skills needed to work with adult learners in their community. Resource materials are provided at the workshop and the professional staff of LVUC provides ongoing support to all tutors. In



(above, l-r) Bonni McCoy is a volunteer tutor who teaches English to Vanya Stoyanova an immigrant from Bulgaria.

addition, free in services on specific literacy topics are offered several times a year and tutor mentors meet with new volunteers.

A New Tutor Training Workshop Series begins January 21 at the Plainfield Public Library, 800 Park Avenue, Plainfield, and continues January 28, February 4, and February 11 (if needed for a snow day). The workshop begins promptly at 9:30 am and concludes 2:45 pm each Saturday. Attendance is required at all sessions to be come a certified tutor and you must be at least 18 years old, able to read and write English, and willing to commit to tutoring at a Union County Library for one hour a week for one year.

There is a \$40 non-refundable registration fee to cover the cost of materials provided at the workshop and need based scholarships are available to individuals to cover this fee.

For more information on becoming involved visit [www.lvaunion.org](http://www.lvaunion.org), contact [susan@lvaunion.org](mailto:susan@lvaunion.org) or call 908-755-7998.

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Robert Mondavi Private Selection 750ml	\$ 9 <sup>95</sup>
Robert Mondavi Private Selection 1.5lt.	\$18 <sup>97</sup>
Ruffino Chianti 1.5lt.	\$13 <sup>99</sup>
Ruffino Chianti classico	\$19 <sup>99</sup>
Santa Margerita Pinot Grigio 750ml.	\$19 <sup>97</sup>
Sebastiani Chardonnay 750ml.	\$ 9 <sup>95</sup>
Smoking Loom (All Types) 750ml	\$ 8 <sup>99</sup>
Sutter Home (All Varieties) 1.5lt.	\$ 9 <sup>95</sup>
Sutter Home White Zinfandel 1.5lt.	\$ 7 <sup>99</sup>
Sutter Home Moscato 1.5lt.	\$ 8 <sup>99</sup>
Veuve Clicquot Brut 750ml.	\$41 <sup>98</sup>
Woodbridge (All Types) 1.5lt.	\$10 <sup>98</sup>
Yellow Tail (All Types) 1.5lt.	\$10 <sup>98</sup>
Zonin Pinot Grigio 1.5l	\$ 9 <sup>95</sup>

*Please check out our  
in-store wine specials  
and our fine wine  
selections!*

## LIQUOR

### COGNAC/BRANDY

Courvoisier VS 750ml	\$27 <sup>99</sup>
Courvoisier VS 1.75lt.	\$52 <sup>99</sup>
Hennessy 750ml	\$28 <sup>99</sup>
Hennessy 1lt.	\$35 <sup>97</sup>
Hennessy 1.75lt.	\$59 <sup>99</sup>
JC VSOP 750ml	\$19 <sup>91</sup>
Paul Masson VS 750ml	\$ 9 <sup>95</sup>
Paul Masson VS 1.75lt.	\$18 <sup>97</sup>
Remy Martin VSOP 750ml.	\$36 <sup>97</sup>
Remy Martin VSOP 1lt.	\$49 <sup>99</sup>

### VODKA

Absolut 750ml	\$18 <sup>97</sup>
Absolut 1.75lt.	\$29 <sup>99</sup>
Ciroc (All Types) 750ml.	\$29 <sup>97</sup>
Ciroc (All Types) 1.75lt.	\$55 <sup>97</sup>
Finlandia 750ml	\$15 <sup>97</sup>
Finlandia 1lt.	\$17 <sup>97</sup>
Finlandia 1.75lt.	\$25 <sup>99</sup>
Fris 1.75lt.	\$18 <sup>97</sup>
Grey Goose (All Types) 750ml.	\$27 <sup>99</sup>
Grey Goose (All Types) 1.75lt.	\$49 <sup>99</sup>
Ketel One 1.75 lt.	\$39 <sup>97</sup>
Luksusowa 750ml	\$14 <sup>97</sup>
Luksusowa 1.75lt.	\$19 <sup>99</sup>
Majorska 1.75lt.	\$13 <sup>97</sup>
Pinnacle Vodka 1.75lt.	\$18 <sup>97</sup>
Sobieski 750ml	\$10 <sup>99</sup>
Sobieski 1.75lt.	\$17 <sup>97</sup>
Svedka (All Types) 1.75 lt.	\$19 <sup>97</sup>
Smirnoff 750ml.	\$10 <sup>98</sup>
Smirnoff 1.75lt.	\$19 <sup>97</sup>
Stolichanaya 1.75lt.	\$29 <sup>99</sup>
Three Olives (All Types) 1lt.	\$22 <sup>99</sup>
Three Olives (All Types) 1.75lt.	\$25 <sup>99</sup>
Tanqueray Sterling 1.75lt.	\$29 <sup>97</sup>

### CORDIALS

Bailey's Irish Creme 750ml	\$19 <sup>99</sup>
Bailey's Irish Creme 1.75lt.	\$38 <sup>97</sup>
Leroux Blackberry Brandy 750ml	\$11 <sup>99</sup>
Leroux Blackberry Brandy 1.75lt.	\$19 <sup>97</sup>
Patron XO Cafe 750ml	\$22 <sup>99</sup>
Southern Comfort 750ml	\$16 <sup>97</sup>
Southern Comfort 1.75lt.	\$26 <sup>97</sup>

### GIN

Bombay Sapphire 1.75lt.	\$38 <sup>97</sup>
Seagram's 1.75lt.	\$16 <sup>99</sup>
Tanqueray 1.75lt.	\$37 <sup>99</sup>

### RUM

Bacardi Lt, Gold, Select 1.75lt.	\$19 <sup>97</sup>
Captain Morgan 1.75lt.	\$25 <sup>99</sup>
Malibu 750ml.	\$18 <sup>97</sup>
Malibu 1.75lt.	\$24 <sup>99</sup>

### WHISKEY

Ballantine Finest 1.75lt.	\$28 <sup>97</sup>
Canadian Club 1.75lt.	\$19 <sup>99</sup>
Canadian Mist 1.75lt.	\$18 <sup>99</sup>
Chivas Regal 12 Year 750ml	\$27 <sup>99</sup>
Chivas Regal 12 Year 1.75lt.	\$49 <sup>99</sup>
Crown Royal 1.75lt.	\$45 <sup>99</sup>
Dewar's White Label 750ml.	\$19 <sup>99</sup>
Dewar's White Label 1.75lt.	\$29 <sup>99</sup>
Dewar's 12 Year 750ml.	\$29 <sup>99</sup>
Dewar's 12 Year 1.75lt.	\$49 <sup>99</sup>
Gentleman Jack 750ml	\$26 <sup>99</sup>
Gentleman Jack 1.75lt.	\$49 <sup>99</sup>
Grant's 750ml	\$13 <sup>99</sup>
Grant's 1.75lt.	\$23 <sup>99</sup>
Jack Daniel's Black 750ml	\$21 <sup>99</sup>
Jack Daniel's Black 1.75lt.	\$40 <sup>99</sup>
Jameson 750ml.	\$24 <sup>97</sup>
Jim Beam Whisky 1.75lt.	\$29 <sup>99</sup>
Johnnie Walker Black 750ml	\$31 <sup>99</sup>
Johnnie Walker Black 1.75lt.	\$59 <sup>99</sup>
Johnnie Walker Blue 750ml	\$169 <sup>99</sup>
Johnnie Walker Red 750ml	\$19 <sup>97</sup>
Johnnie Walker Red 1.75lt.	\$31 <sup>99</sup>
Maker's Mark 750ml.	\$24 <sup>99</sup>
Maker's Mark 1.75lt.	\$42 <sup>97</sup>
Seagram's 7 1.75lt.	\$18 <sup>97</sup>

### TEQUILA

Avion Silver 750ml	\$36 <sup>99</sup>
El Jimador Reposado 100% Agave Tequila (#1 Selling Tequila in Mexico) 750ml	\$19 <sup>97</sup>
El Jimador Reposado 1.75lt.	\$29 <sup>99</sup>
Jose Cuervo 1lt.	\$20 <sup>98</sup>
Jose Cuervo 1.75lt.	\$32 <sup>99</sup>
Patron Silver 750ml	\$37 <sup>97</sup>

## BEER

*"Come check our large  
23 door cooler full of cold  
craft beers and large  
variety and as always  
COLD AND WARM  
SAME PRICE!"*

Beck's (12oz) 24pk.	\$23 <sup>99</sup>
Budwesier Family (Cans) 30pk	\$20 <sup>99</sup>
Coors Lt & Bud Family (Loose Bottles)	\$16 <sup>99</sup>
Coors Lite (Cans) 30pk.	\$20 <sup>99</sup>
Corona 24pk (Bottles).	\$24 <sup>99</sup>
Guinness Extra Stout 24pk.	\$28 <sup>99</sup>
Heineken and Amstel Lt 24pk.	\$24 <sup>99</sup>
Mich Ultra (Loose)	\$16 <sup>99</sup>
Miller Lite (Cans) 30pk.	\$20 <sup>99</sup>
Sargres 24pk (Bottles).	\$16 <sup>99</sup>
Sam Adams Lager 24pk	\$25 <sup>99</sup>
Stella Artois 24pk	\$24 <sup>97</sup>
Tatra (500ml) 20pk	\$18 <sup>99</sup>
Tecate 24pk (Cans).	\$15 <sup>99</sup>
Yuengling Lager (Loose Bottles) 24pk	\$16 <sup>99</sup>
Zyweic (11.2oz) 24pk	\$18 <sup>99</sup>

*We also have a large  
selection of craft beers,  
European beers  
and kegs on sale!*

