

# OUR TOWN

RAHWAY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

**FREE**

The Voice of the Rahway Chamber of Commerce.

**Issue 13 • June 2011**

**NEXT CHAMBER MEETING**  
**JUNE 23, 2011**  
 8:30am to 9:30am  
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## 2011 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



(above) Members of James Mackie American Legion Post #499.



(above) Grand Marshall John Ferry and Mrs. Ferry representing Vietnam Vets Chapter 779.



(left) Rahway High School Marine Corp. ROTC under direction of Sgt. Major George Henry



(above) Rahway HS Marching Band.



(above, l-r) Jaycee, Kristy & Emily watch parade.



(above) Rosemarie and Charles Paez retired Gunnery Sergeant U.S. Marines with 30 years of service whose grandson Sergeant Steven Rapczak is serving with the Marines in Afghanistan.



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**Photo albums of this and other events can be found on the Rahway Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.**

# OUR TOWN Rahway

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

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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**

1104 Plymouth Drive • (732) 388-4475

**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

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency .....	911
Non- Emergency Police .....	(732) 827-2200
Non- Emergency Fire .....	(732) 827-2155
Mayor's Office .....	(732) 827-2000
Building, Planning, and	
Economic Development .....	(732) 827-2176
Public Works & Engineering .....	(732) 827-2060
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

### WAITING FOR THE GAS METER MAN

Years ago I read a short book written by Richard Maybury entitled "Whatever Happened to Justice?". It was a great read, thought provoking and impacts my life still to this day. Maybury introduces in his book two profoundly simple moral laws which if followed will help our families, our towns, our businesses, our country and our world return to a more moral path.

One of Maybury's two simple laws is "Do all you have agreed to do". Sounds easy.... but it's not. I think back in my own life last week of well intended promises not kept: "I'll do that later today" and not do it; "I'll see you for lunch at noon" and then arrive at 12:15pm; "I'll pay you tomorrow" when what I really mean is sometime soon.

So when Elizabethtown Gas Company tells my new tenant that she needs to be at home as they will be at her building to read-over the gas meter between 8 am and noon, they have an obligation to be there. Unfortunately, my experience over many years as a landlord has shown me that they too often just don't show up. No phone call from them: Nothing. Later when my disappointed, new tenant calls back in she's told "we had to correct a gas emergency that day but we can re-schedule that appointment for next Tuesday between 8 am and noon unless you'd prefer the afternoon from noon till 4pm?"

Duhhhhhh..... what's the matter with these guys! My tenant had to stay at home and take a half day off from work to meet the meter reading guy and then he doesn't show up nor even call. Sadly, this is not an abnormal or isolated incident. To make it even more unbelievable, Elizabethtown Gas Company regularly reads her same meter with a remote reader which gives them accurate readings even as their guy is driving by in his van. When I recently quizzed an Elizabethtown Gas guy I was told informally that that department continues to be understaffed and that this read-over policy is outdated. And it ain't over yet.... Elizabethtown Gas even refuses to accept our meter reading visually confirmed by both landlord and tenant. Hey gas guys...maybe it's time for a policy review?

Sincerely,

*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



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# CITY MEETING DATES & SCHEDULES

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## 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.

Monday, July 11, Pre-Meeting Conference  
& 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.

T/B/A

## BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Meetings are held in the Municipal Council Chambers, 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, at 7:00 p.m. Please call (732) 827-2176 for any inquiries.

T/B/A

## 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, June 21

## 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, June 28

## PLANNING BOARD

Meetings are held in the Municipal Council Chambers, 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway at 7:00 p.m. Please call (732) 827-2176 for any inquiries.

Tuesday, June 28

## RAHWAY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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

July: No Meeting

## 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/rahway\\_center\\_partnership.htm](http://www.cityofrahway.com/rahway_center_partnership.htm)

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## FIRST THURSDAYS

With its unique combination of theatre, arts groups, galleries, dance studios and cultural programs, the Rahway Arts District is quickly becoming the most exciting regional cultural hub in New Jersey.

Situated in the heart of downtown Rahway, the Rahway Arts District is showcasing arts and

culture as a part of a vibrant redevelopment of the area. Along with the business district and the city complex downtown, the Rahway Arts District offers visitors and residents alike a wide variety of ongoing entertainment and activities throughout the year.

All year long, on the first Thursday of every month, the local arts & culture scene comes alive for a slew of activities from gallery exhibits, to classical piano concerts - from poetry slams to live music shows at the local restaurants.



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# FARMER FRED SCHIEFERSTEIN AND OTHER FAVORITE VENDORS RETURN

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Running from noon till 6pm each Thursday throughout the growing season, the Rahway Train Station Plaza will host the long running Jersey Fresh Farmer Market.

Freshly picked produce, baked goods, flowers, nuts and many other assorted healthy food items will be available for purchase.

Convenient short term parking can be found on the street or at the adjacent Rahway Parking Authority deck. Come on downtown on Thursdays and enjoy this open air market and perhaps have a casual lunch at one of the many local downtown eateries.

Locally grown produce not only supports

Jersey farming but also provides great nutrition as well as helping our environment. Locally grown keeps the fuel and transportation costs to bring the produce to us to a minimum which helps each of us at many levels.



*Jersey Fresh  
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*(above) Fred Schieferstein of third generation Schieferstein Farm Market & Garden Center located on Madison Hill Road in Clark.*

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## MAY'S CHAMBER NETWORKING EVENT A HIT AT FLYNN'S IRISH PUB & STEAKHOUSE

An overflowing crowd filled the restaurant's rear garden patio. It was a perfect spring evening to be outside as attendees made new business relationships and renewed old ones as well. Live entertainment was provided by acoustical guitarist extraordinaire and Rahway legend, Mr. Gary O'Neill. The event was free and open to the public.



Photo compliments of Clea Carchia of Chameleon House

## SUMMER SOLSTICE OCCURS JUNE 21st IN RAHWAY @ 1:16PM

Sol + stice derives from a combination of Latin words meaning "sun" + "to stand still." As the days lengthen, the sun rises higher until it seems to stand still in the sky. As a major celestial event, the Summer Solstice results in the longest day and the shortest night of the year.

## RAHWAY'S RE-FORMED CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP HITS 75

WHAT 'S ALL THE BUZZ IS ABOUT?

Attend our next free networking event or general membership meeting. Check us out and find what's going on. Memberships open to all businesses, organizations and residents at affordable dues. Be part of a vibrant and growing organization as we promote Rahway businesses while helping to strengthen our town's schools, parks and quality of life.

You are invited to a

### Summer Solstice Bonfire Party and networking event

Sponsored by The Rahway Chamber of Commerce

Tuesday June 21st from 6 to 7:30 pm

@ The Rail House  
1449 Irving Street, Rahway NJ

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# RAHWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY JUNE 2011 EVENTS

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**CAFÉ MUSIC SERIES:** Saturdays at 2:00 pm in the café area.

**June 4:** Combos of Somerset Jazz Consortium's Sunday Jam Band

**June 11:** Combos of Somerset Jazz Consortium's Vinnie Troyani Trio

**June 18:** Combos of Somerset Jazz Consortium's Jim Jaison & Orchestra

**June 25:** Family Tradition Band; music for everyone

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING:** All are welcome to attend.  
Thursday, June 9 at 6:30 pm

## READER'S CIRCLE BOOK GROUP:

This month's title: *"The Art of Racing in the Rain"*  
Wednesday, June 16 at 2:00 pm

**THE CARING, SHARING NETWORK:** Vital information for Seniors  
Monday, June 20 at 2:00 pm

**BOOK BINGO:** for ages 18+; everyone wins!

## TEEN EVENTS

**ANIME CLUB:** Watch Funimation anime and enjoy a snack!  
Monday, June 13 at 6:30 pm

## CHILDREN'S EVENTS

### DROP-IN CRAFT: Father's Day

All day, stop in any time! Saturday, June 18

### SUMMER READING CLUB OPENING EVENT

Magician: Mark Zacharia

Free for children of all ages and their families.

No registration, but seating is limited.

Wednesday, June 29 at 1:00 pm

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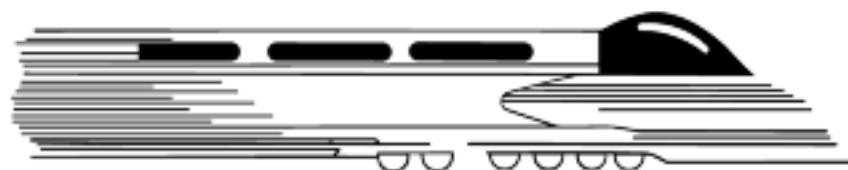
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Union County College offers free courses in basic-skills training for the employees of local businesses through a unique partnership of the New Jersey Business and Industry Association (NJBIA), the New Jersey Community College Consortium, and the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Through the grant-funded NJBIA Project, employees can be trained at one of Union County College's conveniently located campuses in Elizabeth or Cranford, or on-site at the participating business facility. Training is available in the following areas: Computer Applications (Windows, Outlook, Excel, Word), Mathematics and Measurement, Communications (verbal, written and customer relations), and English as a Second Language.

Open enrollment classes are available at the UCC Elizabeth and Cranford campuses. For a complete schedule and registration forms and instructions, visit the Industry-Business Institute page at [www.ucc.edu](http://www.ucc.edu). (Click on NJBIA

Computer Course Offerings.) Companies may also arrange classes at a time and location for their convenience, either one of UCC's campus locations or at your business facility.

### SUMMER SCHEDULE 2011

#### MS EXCEL PART 1

Section 101 July 7(Thurs)- Elizabeth  
Section 102 July 6 ( Wed)- Cranford  
Section 103 August 18 (Thurs)- Elizabeth  
Section 104 August 24 (wed) - Cranford

#### MS WORD PART 1

Section 101 June 22 (Wed) -Cranford  
Section 102 August 4 (Thurs) -Elizabeth

#### MS EXCEL PART 2

Section 101 July 13 (Wed) -Cranford  
Section 102 July 14 (Thurs)- Elizabeth  
Section 103 August 25 (Thurs)- Elizabeth  
Section 104 July 31 (Wed)- Cranford

#### MS WORD PART 2

Section 101 June 29 (Wed)- Cranford  
Section 102 August 11 (Thurs)- Elizabeth

#### MS OUTLOOK

Section 101 June 23(Thurs) - Elizabeth  
Section 102 July 21 (Thurs)- Elizabeth  
Section 103 July 27 (Wed) - Cranford

#### MS WINDOWS/OPERATING SYSTEM

Section 101 June 30 (Thurs)- Elizabeth  
Section 102 July 20 (Wed)- Cranford  
Section 103 July 28 (Thurs)- Elizabeth

Although these classes are provided at no charge to the company, employers must pay their employees the customary hourly wage while in training. Companies are not required to provide a minimum number of employees for training, pay for tuition, fill out complicated paperwork, or disclose financial statements.

If you are interested in learning more about the NJBIA Project program or to reserve classes for your company, please contact Lisa Raudelunas Hiscano at (908) 965-2358, or e-mail her at [Hiscano@ucc.edu](mailto:Hiscano@ucc.edu) and be sure to include your contact information and to write "NJBIA Project" in the subject line.

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# OUCH..THOSE STAPLES HURT

The metal staples that attach the paper RPD and garage sale signs to the new trees on Irving Street probably won't kill them but it sure doesn't help them either. Humans have skin and trees have bark and they both serve a similar purpose. Once our skin is punctured it bleeds and then needs to heal in order to prevent disease from entering our body: it's the same with our friends the trees. A healthy body usually doesn't have difficulty healing from a small wound but a body that's under stress is often a different story

Planting a good sized tree takes lots of labor and money. It's tough enough to begin with for a tree living next to our streets; we need to offer them respect and courtesy and help to nurture and treasure them. If we have no other choice and we must attach a public notice to a tree's trunk, instead of a staple gun let's ask our Traffic Department and our residents to use a nursery stretch tie that won't harm the bark and is also re-useable. We might also consider an elastic strap like those that come with Halloween masks which would also be re-useable.



# CHAMBER MEMBERS HELP OUT AT HOT RODS & HARLEYS

One dozen Chamber volunteers made themselves available to help out as needed at downtown's recent Hot Rods & Harleys event. The crowd was huge again this year and even with threatening skies, the classic cars and motorcycles turned out in large numbers.



(above) Chamber Vice-President Nate Albano checks out his favorite car in the show.



# PUBLIC INVITED TO RAHWAY GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Rahway Garden Club meets Thursday, June 16th at 7:pm till 8:30pm 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



Our town and our country will celebrate Flag Day on Tuesday, June 14th. We will be commemorating the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened that day by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777.

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(above, left) Carmen McLendon can be reached at Striker Realty, Elizabeth Avenue, Rahway, Carmen@StrikerRealty.com or 732-669-9090.

(above, right) Jasmine Leake, writer and performance poet, can be reached at www.JSimone.net or IMakeThingsBeautiful@gmail.com

## THERE IS ONLY ONE RAHWAY

By Carmen McLendon and Jasmine Leake

There is only one city named Rahway in the entire country. Though the history of Rahway is interesting, it's present and future are even more so. There have been many changes to our community over the past few years; hotels, world class restaurants, condominiums and, of course the magnificent, new, state of art train station. These 4sq. miles have a lot going on.

I grew up knowing my neighbors, played in the street, and went to the library I thought was wonderful. The new library, however, is a masterpiece. The Rahway Recreation Center has nearly everything you would need. Like most cities, there are several internationally recognized fast food chains, but there are also more intimate restaurants. Flynn's, Beana's, Cubano's, Luciano's, The Waiting Room and

several fantastic mom and pop eateries. With doctor's offices, dentists, optometrists, bars, gyms, parks, and an arts center, these few miles have everything within walking distance.

With so many businesses, one would think Rahway is purely corporate, but there are beautiful people who actually know those who reside on their block and even those across town. I'm sure you would love living in this community with easy access to NYC and Philadelphia. Contact your local Real Estate professional for more information on moving to this great city. There are 205 homes currently available in the city. 31 investment properties are under 150K. 36 are multi-family homes with 6 being investment properties. 17 are rentals and there are also 21 commercial properties.

## Rahway Auction House



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OUR TOWN *Rahway* • Page 11 • June 2011



(above, front l-r) front: Josephine Egidio, Betty Varadi, Melida Cabezas, Rhoda Dorrbecker.  
(back, l-r) Nancy Saliga, Pat Keenan and Sally Nadler. Missing Mary McArdle, Laura Sandhorst,  
and Dolores Surma.

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## BILL CLADEK - OUTSTANDING RAHWAY RESIDENT

### FAMILY HISTORY

Born in 1945 at Saint Mary's Hospital in Orange, New Jersey, Bill Cladek has been a lifelong Rahway resident. Bill's family came to New Jersey in the mid 1800's from Austria-Hungary and settled in Rahway in a home on the corner of Scott Avenue and Price Street. The house is still noted in certain historic registries as the home of Colonel John J. Cladek who served in the 3rd, 5th, 30th and 35th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry from 1861 through 1865. Colonel Cladek served as second in command to General Sherman and was introduced to President Lincoln during his time with the New Jersey Volunteers.

### PROFESSIONAL

Bill began his professional career as a teacher at Rahway High School in 1967 and retired in 2006 after suffering a heart attack. During his time at Rahway High School Bill taught History and English, was head of the English and Special Education Departments. Bill also spent time as an administrator. After teaching generations of Rahway High students, many new faculty members would ask him how he maintained order in his classroom. Bill's

advice to them was, "teaching can be so easy and fun, but you have to be the boss, not the students friend". For his style of teaching, Bill was loved by students and faculty alike and has been missed at Rahway High School since his retirement.

Bill also loves coaching sports and was head coach of the Rahway High School basketball, soccer and tennis teams and was a professional tennis coach for twenty nine years. But his true passion has always been baseball. Bill has been a professional umpire for forty years and even umpired several professional games during the umpires strike in the late 1970's. Inducted into the College Baseball Umpires Association hall of fame, Bill continues to umpire college and high school games and is preparing to umpire two New Jersey state championships.

### CONCLUSION

To those who know Bill Cladek, he's a charismatic friend, teacher, husband and father that has truly made a difference here in Rahway.



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(above) Colonel John J. Cladek's burial stone -  
Rahway Cemetery.

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## FLOATING PAPER CLIPS

5th grade students at Roosevelt School learned about breaking water surface tension while experimenting with water and paper clips during a presentation by United Water.



(above, l-r) Ashanti, Jazon Andes, and Kareem Taylor.

## FUN IN THE SUN

Mrs. Rubino's third grade Gifted and Talented students at Roosevelt School in Rahway have completed a unit on Solar Energy. Eco-conscious kids gathered to learn about one of the hottest energy sources on Earth: the Sun. Students experimented with solar beads. They also used K'Nex to build solar powered toys.



(above, l-r) Atiya Jackson, Fausto Benitez, and Devin Echavarria.

## ORDER IN THE COURT

Gifted and Talented fourth grade students in Rahway have just completed a unit on NJ Law and the Judicial System. Students have become familiar with the civil justice legal process. On May 25th, they visited the NJ Law Center in New Brunswick, NJ and served as jurors at a Mock Trial.

(right l-r) Roosevelt School students Tianna Lee, Lee'Shae Lawson, Billie Kluse, Marcel Leach, Chris Sanders, and Rowena Songcuan.

## R.E.S.P.E.C.T.

*Find Out What it Means to Roosevelt*

The Character Education theme for the month of April at Roosevelt School in Rahway was RESPECT.



(above, l-r) third graders from Miss Colleen O'Hara's class, Matthew Walsh, Vanessa Vazquez, Kevin Obasoyin, and Keyla Escobar.

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## RWJ RAHWAY FOUNDATION CELEBRATES ITS DONORS



RWJ Rahway Foundation unveiled its 2011 Donor Recognition Wall at the 5th Annual Celebration on Thursday, May 19th. "We are so very grateful for the continued generosity and support of our donors," Foundation Chairperson, Bunny Bowen said, adding that everyone listed on the Wall makes a difference for the hospital's patients and our community.

The Wall recognizes more than \$7 million in (left, l-r) l-R Foundation President Marlene Lubinger, Foundation Chairperson Bunny Bowen, RWJ Rahway Board of Governors Chairman Brian Leddy and President and CEO Kirk Tice.

philanthropic support to the hospital since 2000.

Members of RWJ Rahway Foundation, the hospital Board of Governors, and the hospital's leadership team welcomed donors from both the corporate and private sectors. The inscription on the Donor Recognition Wall reads: "The RWJ Rahway Foundation recognizes with gratitude the strong commitment, compassion and philanthropy of the many individuals, physicians, employees, corporations and foundations who through their generosity have helped to continue the more than 90-year tradition of healthcare excellence in our community."

## BUY BARCLAYS TICKETS AND BENEFIT RWJ RAHWAY

RWJ Rahway Foundation is a participant in the TICKETS For CHARITY program at The Barclays. This prestigious PGA tournament will be held at Plainfield Country Club in Edison August 23-28, 2011.

RWJ Rahway Foundation will receive \$37.50 for each ticket purchased on line.

Buying tickets is easy! Just go to [www.buyltfc.com](http://www.buyltfc.com). On the left menu, click on "Buy tickets" under The Barclays. The Foundation's promotion code is WRK4UP and is listed as Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Rahway Foundation.

The on-line TICKETS For CHARITY Weekly Grounds Ticket price is \$50, plus a \$5 service fee. This includes an individual ticket to each day of the tournament, the 2 practice rounds on Tuesday and Wednesday and the 4 competitive rounds from Thursday through

Sunday. This \$50 price is only available through TICKETS For CHARITY and not to the general public. Weekly Grounds Tickets to the general public range from \$75 to \$100.

RWJ Rahway is an acute, sub-acute and long-term acute care facility serving greater Union and Middlesex Counties. The hospital provides a comprehensive range of services including medical and surgical; cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation services including speech, physical and occupational therapy; oncology, neurology, Wound Care Center, diabetes services, Joint Replacement Center, senior services, community health and wellness education and an MRI.

For information regarding inclusion on the Donor Recognition Wall, please call the Foundation Office at 732.499.6135 or e-mail [foundation@rwjuhr.com](mailto:foundation@rwjuhr.com)

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