

OUR TOWN

RAHWAY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER **FREE**

The Voice of the Rahway Chamber of Commerce.

Issue 22 • March 2012

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OLYMPIC GOLD MEDAL WINNER SHARES STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS WITH RAHWAY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Submitted by Maryjane Finne

On Friday, February 17, Dain Blanton, Olympic Gold Medalist, professional athlete (Beach Volleyball), and sportscaster for the Los Angeles Clippers, spent the day with students at Rahway High School.

In the morning, he met with freshman students who are part of a new Freshman Transition initiative, a program that provides students with skills in financial literacy and enables them to create a personalized, comprehensive, yet flexible, 10-year plan for their own transition into adulthood.

He shared with these freshmen the importance of goal setting, having a positive attitude, developing the ability to overcome obstacles, and displaying self-discipline in academics and extra-curricular activities, so that the students might be able to successfully pursue their dreams just as he has. He stressed the need to be prepared now in case opportunities present themselves later, citing as an example, Jeremy Lin of the New York Knicks, who was on the bench in Los Angeles, but was prepared when injuries sidelined those players ahead of him on the New York team. He even passed around his gold medal from the Olympics, making concrete the fruits of hard work. Later in the day, he met with some students in classes, and then in the afternoon, he made a presentation to the upperclassmen.

Finally, he joined faculty members after school at a reception where teachers had an opportunity to know him better. Blanton, a highly skilled public speaker, who effectively engages his audiences in order to encourage them to pursue excellence, created a special bond with staff and students at Rahway High School during his visit here.

(right) Dain Blanton stopped into Mrs. Patricia Williams' Algebra class to meet students personally.



(above) As the first African-American professional beach volleyball player and winner of a \$300,000 prize, Dain Blanton was able to offer encouragement to members of Rahway High School's volleyball team.



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OUR TOWN Rahway

OUR TOWN *Rahway* • Page 2 • March 2012

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.

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PO Box #277, Rahway, NJ 07065

President: Bob Markey

732 388 1765

Bob@SaligaMarkey.com

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www.cityofrahway.com

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Message from the President

LET'S MAKE OUR TOWN'S PHARMACIES TOBACCO FREE

Sometimes I think that I'm from another planet cause so much here on earth just doesn't make sense to me. Case in point: Rahway's pharmacies are still selling tobacco products.

I grew up at a time when my dad smoked pipes and cigars at home and nearly every well known actor on TV or in the movies did the same. I'm a former cigarette smoker who quit 10 years ago for the 100th and final time.

In autumn of 2001 while vacationing on Cape Cod I was told that a law had been passed that no more smoking was allowed inside summer restaurants and clubs. I was in disbelief but after the initial shock passed I realized, WOW, times are a changing: then NYC followed suit and in 2004 the pubs throughout Ireland were told by law, no more inside smoking. Our world made a leap in consciousness. Some things change for the better and this was one of them.

In 2008, San Francisco enacted laws banning the sale of tobacco products in pharmacies: many towns in Massachusetts have recently done the same. There's a movement now around our country to do likewise.

The science has been out for a long time that smoking causes lung cancer and heart disease and many other illnesses. If you choose to smoke, that's up to you, but in many opinions to include mine, it's no longer appropriate to sell tobacco products at retail locations which claim to be devoted to improving our health and well being. As former San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom related his city's simple rationale: "Pharmacies should be places where people go to get better, not where people go to get cancer."

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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1ST DAY OF SPRING: VERNAL EQUINOX

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RAHWAY JROTC DRILL TEAM WINS 1ST PLACE AT COMPETITION.

Rahway High School Marine Corps JROTC Takes First Place in the Armed Division at Colts Neck High School NJROTC Drill Competition

On Saturday, February 18, members of the Rahway High School Marine Corps JROTC Drill Team performed at the Colts Neck High School Drill Competition. In the Armed Division (male), besides winning overall, team members took first places in Inspection and in Exhibition, second in Color Guard, and third in Regulation. In the Unarmed Division (female), the team won second place in Regulation, and third in Inspection and in Exhibition. The team's next competition will be at Reading (Pennsylvania) High School on March 31. The group's advisor, MSgt. Gregory Mintz commented, "Right now we are not as good as we can be. We are still peaking. We should be on point for the nationals May 3 through 9 at Daytona Beach, Florida



(above) Rahway High School's Armed Marine Corps JROTC Drill Team wins 1st place for their performance at Colts Neck competition.

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CELEBRATE RAHWAY DAY MAY 5TH

OUR TOWN *Rahway* • Page 5 • March 2012

The Rahway Chamber of Commerce is Sponsoring the 1st annual community celebration and event entitled "Rahway Day", on Saturday, May 5th, 2012, from 10am - 2pm.

Rahway Day will be held at the Rahway Public Library, utilizing the interior and exterior of the facility, rain or shine. The Rahway Chamber is the event sponsor and the Friends of the Rahway Library is the event host.

The Chamber invites all city services, businesses, organizations, schools, non-profits and houses of worship to be a part of this positive, pride in Rahway day. There are so many great services that the city provides that many people may not be aware of. In addition, we are planning to have choruses, school bands, church choirs and other talented performers.

We will be offering fun for the kids as well, so bring out the entire family for a free, fun filled event with music, balloons and activities.

The theme for Rahway Day is "Think Rahway First". It is an all-inclusive home town event where the new and longtime residents can enjoy all that Rahway has to offer in one place. We will also offer hot topic panels and discussions

We invite you to reserve a table for Rahway Day to spotlight your business, church, organization, service or products. Sponsorships are available and tables fees are staggered to accommodate small and large businesses and organizations. If you have a band, chorus and would like to perform, contact : RahwayDay@RahwayChamberofCommerce.com.



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SHOULD I FILE A TAX APPEAL?



(above) Jerry Smith

By now everyone in Rahway has received their tax bills and realized they have been hit with a substantial increase. The 2010 tax rate was \$5.128 per \$100 of assessed value. The 2011 tax rate is \$5.765 per \$100 of assessed value or an increase of almost 64 cents or 12.4%. To put it in perspective, I live in Rahway and my home has an assessed value of \$132,100. In 2010 I paid \$6,774.09 in taxes and in 2011 I paid \$7,615.57 in taxes or an increase of \$841.48. Ouch!

Unfortunately, an increase in my real estate taxes does not increase my odds of winning a tax appeal. The tax assessment is based on market value. Somewhere in the 1990's the City of Rahway went through a revaluation and everybody's assessment was, in theory, 100% of market value. As home prices increased over the years, the ratio of assessed value to market value continued to fall. In 2011, the ratio of assessed value to market value is 46.69%. If I want to know what the City thinks my house is worth, I divide my assessment of \$132,100 by the ratio of 46.69%. Therefore, $\$132,100 / .4669 = \$282,929.96$. The City thinks my house is worth roughly \$283,000 and they are right. The City is

not always right. I have a client in Rahway who purchased their home in 2010 in an arm's length transaction for less than \$300,000 but the City has the property assessed based on a market value of \$430,000. This is one of the more obvious cases.

If you are thinking about filing a tax appeal please keep in mind that, by law, the assessor is allowed a margin of error, which in Rahway is roughly 13%. This keeps municipalities from being overwhelmed with trivial cases. If I were going to file an appeal on my own home, I would have to prove a value less than \$246,000. ($\$283,000 \times .87 = \$246,210$). This is called the lower limit of value.

There are several ways to appeal your taxes. You can do it yourself by going on line or visiting the county tax board to get the appropriate forms. You will have to do your own market research and be ready to present your comparable sales to the assessor and the tax board. The filing fee for a typical house is \$5.00. You can hire an appraiser to do an appraisal to determine the market value of your property. You will still be responsible for filing the forms but the appraiser can provide you guidance and appear with you at a hearing if one is necessary. You can hire an attorney.

For more information go to www.ucnj.org, click on Government, click on Departments & Offices, click on Taxation and you will find the forms you need and a detailed explanation of the process.

Written by Rahway resident and Chamber member Jerry Smith, a NJ Certified Real Estate Appraiser. Jerry can be contacted at smithappraisal1@verizon.net

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NICE ALTERNATIVE TO BIG CITY LIFE

Written by Carmen Tyler McLendon, Striker Realty and Jasmine Leake, Grey Eyes Publications.

There are so many reasons to love Rahway, but it is hard to resist the allure of the Big City. Brian and Kimberly Prakapas lived in our quaint city, but felt the pull of New York. After two years in the “City that Never Sleeps,” Brian and Kimberly yearned for the quiet rest found in a smaller community. They “missed the small town neighborhood feel. We can find everything we need in Rahway.”

After looking at several potential homes in the area, they fell in love with the abode at 90 Richmond Terrace in Rahway, where they are



close to family and work.

We welcome Brian and Kimberly Prakapas back into our wonderful city and are thrilled they have returned!

REAL ESTATE MARKET SNAPSHOT

- There are currently 230 active residential listings for Rahway.
- 112 of these are Standard Listings (Not Short Sale or Distressed Properties)
- 92 of these residential listings are Short Sales, 6 are Estates and
- 20 of the active listings are REO/ Bank owned.

In addition, there are currently 18 active commercial/business listings in Rahway. 5 of these are REO/Bank Owned.

Submitted by Carmen Tyler McLendon, Striker Realty and Jasmine Leake, Grey Eyes Publications.

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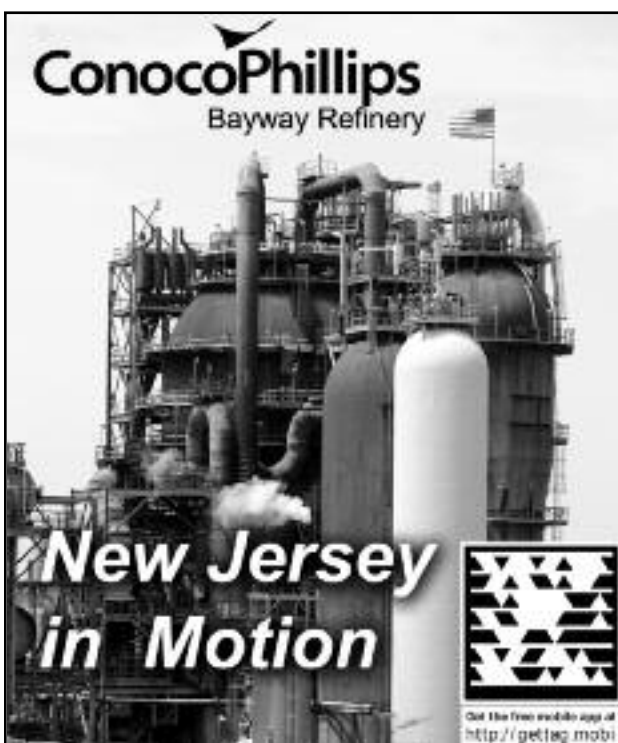


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(above, l-r) Mary Phillips, Community Relations Coordinator, and Michael Karlovich, Manager Strategic Communications, ConocoPhillips – Bayway Refinery view ConocoPhillips listing on the Donor Recognition Wall in RWJ Rahway's lobby.



CONOCOPHILLIPS DONATES \$15K TO RWJHR

ConocoPhillips – Bayway Refinery has generously donated \$15,000 to the Cardiac Catheterization Lab Replacement Project at RWJ Rahway.

Thanks to the support of ConocoPhillips and other funders, RWJ Rahway completed the major renovation of its Cardiac Cath Lab in November 2011.

According to Marlene Lubinger, President, RWJ Rahway Foundation almost one third of the people living in the hospital's service area are 65 or older and that population is growing. Last year 62% of all patients admitted to the hospital were 65+ and more than half had a cardiac-related diagnosis. In addition, more than half of all patients admitted to the Emergency Center

have a cardiac-related diagnosis.

“Understanding the need to provide cardiac cath in a nearby and familiar setting for our patients and their families, the Hospital renovated and replaced the outdated Cardiac Cath Lab with a state-of-the-art Cath Lab” said Ms. Lubinger. In November the new lab with new capabilities opened with a new name, The Cardiovascular Lab at RWJ Rahway.

ConocoPhillips – Bayway Refinery has been a long-time supporter of the hospital, partnering with RWJ Rahway in major renovations and purchasing of state-of-the-art equipment including the Cardiac Telemetry Unit, the Fund for Technology Advancements, and a patient communications project.



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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month culminated in "Stepping into the Harlem Renaissance Day" on Friday, February 24, 2012 at Roosevelt School in Rahway. Students and staff celebrated with a "Dress Up Day". There was a gallery walk for students in the gym by Mrs. Carol Scott, who presented a doll collection of famous Harlem Renaissance figures. There was a gallery walk in the afternoon for parents and guardians. They visited the hallways throughout the school and observed and reviewed projects students completed throughout Black History Month. The highlight of the day was a school assembly program about the Harlem Renaissance presented by Wincey Terry.

Each grade level at Roosevelt School participated in activities related to the theme. These activities included the following:

Kindergarten: Teachers read Honey, I Love by Eloise Greenfield and illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist. Students completed an art/writing project interpreting the poem that was displayed in the Kindergarten hallway. In addition other African Americans were discussed throughout the month of February and additional projects completed within the classes.

Grade 1: After an introduction to the Harlem Renaissance and famous African Americans during this time period, teachers read Harlem by Dean Myers. This picture book is Langston Hughes' poem "Harlem" and his life. After an "Author Study" talking about the life and works of Langston Hughes, students wrote their own poem utilizing his style (prose).

Grade2: Students created dioramas on a famous African American from the Harlem Renaissance Era. Individual reports by students were given about their chosen African American and their diorama. The dioramas were displayed in the 2nd grade hallway for observation during the parent/guardian gallery walk.

Grade 3: Students researched a notable musician, poet, or artist from the Harlem Renaissance Era. The information found by the students was used to create a newspaper article which was displayed for a gallery walk. Additionally, students choose ways to bring the Harlem Renaissance into the classroom by creating poems, songs, and essays to reflect their learning about the era.

Grade 4: Students read The Sweet and Sour Animal Book, written by Langston Hughes. Each student was given a letter of the alphabet and wrote a poem about an animal using their letter. They then drew a picture of the animal using only geometric shapes. Reading, writing, and math were incorporated into this project. Each fourth grade class completed the entire alphabet. Teachers also shared other works from Langston Hughes.

Grade 5: Students created reports on jazz, artists, singers/musicians, and poets from the Harlem Renaissance. The school cafeteria was decorated in the Harlem Renaissance time period. Students performed songs from the era during the lunch.



(above, l-r) Second graders Darryl Ansah, Jazshua Andes and Loyd Bailey visiting the Doll Museum.



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UNKNOWN WOMAN MURDER OF 1887 STILL OUTSTANDING CRIME IN CITY

It's hard to imagine that news of a strange crime which took place in Rahway 125 years ago could captivate attention and excite interest all across the United States and even reach countries on the other side of the Atlantic. But the brutal murder of a young woman and the ensuing layers of mystery that unfolded during the investigation, created one of the most intriguing murder mysteries of the nineteenth century.

On the morning of March 26, 1887, Alfred, Thomas, and Irving Worth set out along Jefferson Avenue for their two mile walk to work. At Central Avenue, they spied something on the ground that appeared to be a discarded coat. The brothers approached the object for a closer examination and were horrified to discover a bloody corpse of a young woman.

Rahway Police Chief William Tooker was immediately summoned, but by the time he arrived at the scene, approximately 100 curious neighbors had beat him to the site. Many were hovering around the body and others were kicking through the scrub grass searching for clues. Tooker restored order as best he could and finally had the opportunity to examine the scene.

The ground around the body showed every sign of a terrific struggle. The woman had been brutally murdered. Her throat had been slashed from ear to ear and her face was discolored with bruises. She was blue eyed, brown haired, and appeared to be in her early to mid-twenties. She was dressed in a dark green dress, wore tan kid gloves and was clad in a pair of shoes which looked foreign made. Near her body lay a fur cape, a black straw hat, and a parasol. A small willow basket and nine eggs, all but three of which were broken, were strewn among the other effects.

While Tooker was making his survey, two men came up to him with objects they had uncovered. One handed him a small black bag which he said he found in the river by the Jefferson Avenue Bridge. The other man gave the chief an item of even greater interest. It was a bloody knife. These items; the clothes, the eggs and basket, the black bag and the bloody knife would make up the primary bits of evidence as the search would begin for the killer.

There was, however, an unusual and unsettling development. Of the several hundred who viewed the corpse during the course of the morning, no one recognized the woman. It was this unusual twist that would take the crime out of the realm of a local story and make it pique the interest of a nation-wide audience.

By noon on the morning of the murder, beat

reporters from the Elizabeth, Newark, and New York City papers had arrived and by the next day reporters from as far off as Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington D.C. were in town to try to break the story. Professional and amateur detectives hurried to the community. Rewards were offered by the state of New Jersey, the local city council, wealthy citizens, and crime magazines. Photos of the woman would soon be circulated throughout the major cities on the east coast and as far west as San Francisco. Readers in Salt Lake City, Fort Worth, Chicago, and Atlanta followed the story in their local dailies.

Public viewings were held in Ryno's Funeral Home on the two Sundays after the body was found with the hope someone would identify the victim. Although over 7,000 visitors came to Rahway on each of those Sundays and stood on long lines to get a glimpse of the woman, no one could offer a conclusive identification.

The Rahway religious community, upset by the lack of dignity and decorum during the public viewings, urged the authorities to give the woman a proper funeral service and burial. The powers-to-be did allow a funeral service to take place on April 11, but would not give permission to bury the body. There was still a chance someone would recognize the victim.

Early on, a jury had been selected with the assumption that witnesses would be forthcoming. On Monday, April 18, the first of a

series of six sessions began. Twenty-five citizens were called to testify, but nothing ever came out of the inquest. As many as fifteen men were pursued as suspected killers. The ones apprehended were questioned and a few spent a night or two in jail. But in the end, no one was ever convicted.

On Tuesday, May 3rd, thirty-eight days after the body was found, the unknown woman was finally buried in a rear section of the Rahway Cemetery. Six New York reporters served as pall bearers. Of the three dozen people who attended the burial, two women swore they knew the name of the victim. The only problem—each argued it was a different person.

In the months that followed more leads would come forward. One story surfaced which named the owner of the basket, and in June, a man in Salem, Illinois confessed to the crime. Both stories led to dead ends. Ownership of the basket was never proven, and when the confession of the Illinois man was checked out, it was surmised he was a “crank” looking for free passage back to the east coast. In the next fifteen years, identifications continued to come forth, but with the body interred and the passage of time, it was becoming next to impossible to give the woman a rightful name.

Who was the woman? Who killed her? What was the motive? No one to this day has been able to solve the uncanny mystery.

THE UNKNOWN WOMAN MURDER MYSTERY TOUR

In observance of the 125th Anniversary of the crime that intrigued the nation, the Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum invites you to a special cemetery tour based on this 1887 unsolved murder

SUNDAY, MARCH 25TH

At the circa 1724 Rahway Cemetery

Corner of St. Georges and Westfield Avenues, Rahway, NJ

Guests will be guided to gravesites where costumed actors will present stories of over a dozen people

who had a connection with the crime

Meet F. Alexander Shipley, author of the book

The Case of the Unknown Woman

Tours begin at Noon and go off every 15 minutes.

The last tour leaves at 4 P.M.

Reservations Recommended

Call the Museum at 732-381-0441

Adults \$10 – Seniors \$8 – Students \$5

All proceeds to benefit the Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum.



BOOK SALE SURE TO BE BIG EVENT!

Submitted by Colin Gittens, President of the Friends of the Rahway Public Library

The Friends of the Rahway Public Library is currently preparing for our biggest event of the year - our annual book sale, April 18-21. And in order to ensure its success, we'll need your help.

First, for those of you not familiar with our group, the Friends exist to support the library through fundraising and volunteer activities. We are a 501(3)(c) nonprofit organization, and a key role for us is raising funds that pay for extra activities and items that might not be supported by municipal budgeting. The book sale is the means by which we raise the bulk of our funds, and it is an enormous undertaking. So how might you be able to assist?

Well, we do count on donations from the community to supply our stock. So please take a

look around your home, and if you've been meaning to get rid of books, CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, or books on tape that you no longer want, you now have the perfect opportunity to declutter your home and benefit the library!

Small donations can be brought directly to the library; for larger donations, please call ahead to ensure we can put the items into storage. If you cannot bring the items to the library, contact me at 732-221-0205 to arrange a pickup.

Second, volunteers for the sale are needed. You don't have to be a member of the Friends in order to help out (although we'd love to have new, "official" members, and you can pick up a membership form at the library reference desk). We will be sorting through donations in the

OUR TOWN *Rahway* • Page 11 • March 2012

weeks leading up to April 18th, and help is always needed for this.

Staffing during the 4 days of the sale (especially during the day on Friday, April 20th) is another need. Volunteers will provide help with straightening, book replenishing, and customer assistance. If you prefer to work behind the scenes (and have baking talents!), we'll also be selling baked goods, so you can make donations of this kind as well.

Although the book sale is a big undertaking, it is hugely beneficial to the library. It is also a lot of fun and extremely fulfilling for the Friends, as we get to showcase our group and meet a lot of new people in the community in service of a great cause. Please join us in this effort—donate, volunteer, become a Friend. See you in April!!

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Sun: Closed

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| • Aetna | • NVA | • Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ |
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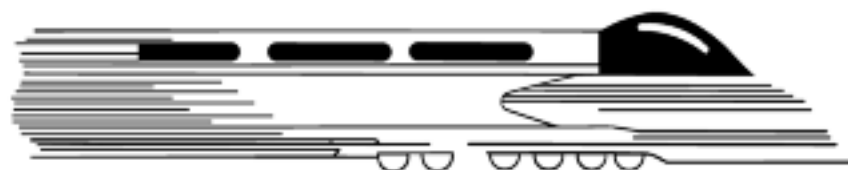
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HAPPY READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."

Students at Roosevelt School in Rahway celebrated Read Across America. Day with a visit from the Cat in the Hat and guest readers from Elizabethtown Gas Company and Rahway High School.

"Dr. Seuss epitomizes a love of children and learning. Also, his use of rhyme makes his books an effective tool for teaching young children the basic skills they need to be successful. When we celebrate Dr. Seuss and reading, we send a clear message to America's children that reading is fun and important."



(above) First graders Krystie Barwick, Richard Kluse, and Tristan Argueta with Rahway High School students Casmir Kaminski and Lindsay Reese with the Cat in the Hat.

RAHWAY LIBRARY

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Hours:

Monday 12-8 • Tuesday 9-5 • Wednesday 9-8

Thursday 9-8 • Friday 9-5 • Saturday 9-5

APRIL EVENTS

JUMPSTART YOUR JOB SEARCH

Presented by Chrystal McArthur of Rutgers University Career Services.

Part 1: "Righting" a Resume

Monday, April 2 at 6:30 pm

Part 2: Interview With Confidence

Monday, April 9 at 6:30 pm

COLLEGE PLANNING

Presented by financial advisor Janelle Pavon.

Wednesday, April 11 at 6:00 pm

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING

All are welcome to attend.

Thursday, April 12 at 7:00 pm

CAFÉ MUSIC SERIES

Autoharpists: Music, lecture, and sing-along

Saturday, April 14 at 2:00 pm

Karickter: Enjoy a wide range of jazz styles

Saturday, April 28 at 2:00 pm

BOOK SALE:

Run by The Friends of the Rahway Public Library

Thursday, April 19 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Friday, April 20 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Saturday, April 21 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm:

Fill a bag with books for just \$7.00!

Pre-sale for members of the Friends:

Wednesday, April 18 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

READER'S CIRCLE BOOK GROUP

This month's title: "The Hearts of Horses"

Wednesday, April 18 at 2:00 pm

BOOK BINGO

for ages 18+; everyone wins!

Tuesday, April 24 at 2:00 pm

SPICE TOUR AROUND THE WORLD:

TEEN EVENTS

JELLY BEAN CONTEST

Guess how many! Win the jar!

Pick up a form at the Reference Desk.

Contest ends April 30th.

miYEAR: ATTITUDE AND ACTION

presented by Hazel A. Hector,

President at Jubilee Mobile Institute

Positive imprints to change

the attitudes and behavior of your life!

Saturday, April 21 at 2:00 pm

TEEN MOVIE

"MISSION IMPOSSIBLE: GHOST PROTOCOL":

Rated PG13. All are welcome.

Monday, April 23 at 5:00 pm

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

APRIL FOOL'S LOL

Funny Stories and Jokes. Refreshments too!

Thursday, April 2 at 4:30 pm and 6:00 pm

HOLIDAY STORY AND CRAFT

Thursday, April 5 at 6:30 pm

KIDS' POETRY SLAM

Share your original poetry or bring a favorite to read.

Monday, April 9 at 2:00 pm

LIVE OWL

From the Raptor Trust.

Young children must be accompanied by an adult.

Tuesday, April 10 at 1:00 pm

SCHOOL'S OUT MOVIE

Call for title. Popcorn will be served.

Wednesday, April 11 at 2:00 pm

BOOK BINGO FOR KIDS

Thursday, April 12 at 6:30 pm

BOARD GAME CHALLENGE

Friday, April 13 from 1:30 till 3:00 pm

FAMOUS FROGS: Stories and Craft

Thursday, April 19 at 6:30 pm

TODDLER TIME

No registration required.

Tuesdays; April 17 and April 24 at 10:30 am

KIDS' EARTH DAY RECYCLED ART

Thursday, April 26 at 6:30 pm



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DRESSED FOR SUCCESS

Students and staff at Roosevelt School in Rahway dressed for success in celebration of Black History Month. The school was decorated with the students' creative poetry, pictures, research reports, and pictures revolving around the theme Stepping into the Harlem Renaissance while the children and staffed donned their finest and or theme clothes.



(above, l-r) Devin Echavarria, Ashley Evans, Samuel Dorielan, Jaydah Edwards, Tattyanna Vega, Viviana Arbelaez, and C'era Joe show off their finery and are ready to work!



(left, l-r) Jennifer Lopez, Javen Cabral, and Matthew Walsh enter their 4th grade classroom anxious to learn

Photos from Mrs. Deborah Prakapas's fourth grade class at Roosevelt School

MENTAL MARATHON

Grade 4 Gifted and Talented students from Roosevelt School in Rahway participated in the Union County Mental Marathon on February 22nd. Participating in this convocation were academically gifted students from Cranford, Linden, Rahway, Roselle, Elizabeth, and Westfield. Students worked on teams to enhance problem solving and critical thinking skills. Activities included tangrams, analogies, logic, and research.



(above, l-r) Devin Echavarria, Ashley Evans, Imoni Elliotte, Atiya Jackson, and Jordan Bell.

THE STARRY ROAD TO FREEDOM



(above) Gianna and Kayla from Mrs. Brenner's first grade class.

In celebration of Black History Month, Roosevelt School in Rahway presented a school assembly program titled "Frederick Douglas: The Starry Road to Freedom". The life and times of this great American is a one man show based on the life and writings of Frederick Douglas. Following the performance students asked questions about Douglas's life.

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RAHWAY HS STUDENT IN ALL-STATE BAND

On Saturday, February 25, Rahway High School sophomore percussionist, Gabriel Rolon performed at NJPAC with the New Jersey All-State Symphonic Band. Gabe auditioned at the end of January and was selected as the principal percussionist (first chair). According to Gabe, "This was a unique experience where I learned to be a better musician. I cannot wait for the auditions next year."



(above) Rahway High School's Gabriel Rolon, (last row, left, seated) performing as principal percussionist in the All-State Symphonic Band.

DEMYSTIFYING THE HYPE AROUND CLOUD COMPUTING

The New Jersey Small Business Association of Kean University will be presenting a free seminar at the Rahway Public Library called Demystifying the Hype Around Cloud Computing. Wednesday, March 14 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Registration is Required: Call: (908-737-4220 or email: sbdc@kean.edu

RAHWAY CHAMBER THANKS LITTLE PORTUGAL FOR HOSTING BOARD MEETING

Little Portugal BBQ & Restaurant located in the rear of 1507 Main Street hosted the Rahway Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting in the morning of February 23rd. The Chamber encourages member businesses to host events which bring together the business community while at the same time showcasing their



(above, l-r) Chamber Trustees Carmen McClendon, Striker Realty; Tom "Mr. B" Bayone, Mr. B Printing; Howard Becker, Bank America and Clea Carchia, Chameleon Design.



(above, l-r) Little Portugal is family owned and operated by Carlos Batista, Anthony Gomes and Elisabete Batista.

establishment. These events are a great opportunity to network and an effective way for the host business to attract potential customers. Anyone interested in joining the Chamber or hosting an event can reach Chamber President Bob Markey by calling 732-388-1765, by email at BobMarkey@StrikerRealty.com.

OLD IRISH BLESSING

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields and,
Until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

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SOUNDWAVES RECORDING STUDIO OF UNION OPENS MUSIC VENUE 10TH STREET LIVE

Saturday, April 14th 2012 will witness the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony at “10th Street Live” in Kenilworth. The newly renovated venue, located at 104 N. 10th Street, has made fast progress in establishing itself as the premier spot for “Music, Food, & Drink” in the area. Kenilworth Mayor Kathi Fiamingo will perform the honors of cutting the ribbon.

The bar formerly known as “Apples” was purchased over the summer and given a complete facelift from top to bottom. Construction on “10th Street Live” was completed in November, and little by little the surrounding community has come into its doors to experience first hand the plan to transform the establishment from another local bar to a full service pub and grill that caters to many different demographics.

There is a deep respect and passion for the arts within the facility. In 2009, the owners at 10th Street Live opened “Soundwaves Recording Studio” in Union, which has been host to creative projects from many areas of the arts. “Little Steven” Van Zandt chose Soundwaves to launch his video project “Fuzztopia,” which over time has hosted over 50 bands and songwriters. Most recently, Hollywood Records artists “Allstar Weekend” completed production on an upcoming EP.

Soundwaves also features rehearsal studios that are booked solid on most nights. The artists had a constant gripe: “there is nowhere around here to make an honest buck doing what we

love.” The purchase of “Apples” was made in response of this desire.

There are four partners in this venture, all of which are life- long residents of Cranford and Springfield. Bobby Vetter and Steven Blau have been in business together for the better part of a decade. Their other businesses are in construction and delivery services respectively. Tommy Stratton and Kevin Bryan were brought into the mix at the inception of the Soundwaves project. They came in as music industry veterans, spending their coming of age traveling around the world performing and recording albums with their band “Socratic.” Their insight into the music business, combined with the business experience of Vetter and Blau has emerged into a truly unique and productive partnership. They also strive to have a family-oriented attitude in all of their decisions, oftentimes relying on their seven collective children and families when deciding how to move forward. This philosophy has gone a long way towards providing the community with a positive place to spend time, and the reception from the community has been nothing but positive since the project began.

Currently, live music can be enjoyed at 10th Street Live almost every day. The schedule is up on the website at 10thstreetlive.com.

The event on Saturday April 14th is open to the public, and all are encouraged to come. Festivities run from 3pm – 6pm. Please call (908) 272-2664 for more information.



(above, l-r) Barmaid Erin Leonard and Manager Ryan McNulty lean on the newly designed bar made from the original from Apples. Half of the bar was recycled and serves as trim and wood accents throughout the club.

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- Eggplant Rollantini • Potato Croquets
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UNSIGHTLY ROOF STAINS CAN BE REMOVED SAFELY AND INEXPENSIVELY

All over New Jersey, the appearance of black streaks on roofs is becoming more and more evident. Dark streaking and staining make a perfectly good roof appear to be in need of replacement as well as unattractive. There is a safe and inexpensive solution to homeowners who are frustrated by this problem.

The most common cause of these unsightly stains on asphalt roofs is a blue-green algae called *Gloeocapsa Magma*. Over the past 25 years this strain of algae has become hardier. It has now become a common sight on asphalt roofs across 80% of the United States. The unsightly growth usually occurs on the north or

west side as well as shaded areas of the roof. As the algae grows and decomposes, it holds moisture, which accelerates its growth.

Contributing to this problem is the change that occurred about 30 years ago in the way asphalt shingles were manufactured. In the early 70's roofing manufacturers began using a fiberglass mat. With the fiberglass mat, and higher oil prices, came the use of finely crushed limestone. It was added to the asphalt coating as a filler or extender. Unfortunately, limestone is a favorite food source for this strain of algae. Often, these black or dark brown stains are mistakenly thought to be dirt, tree droppings, mold, fungus or mildew. Actually, they are caused when the algae begins to decompose.

Although most homeowners are concerned about aesthetics or curb appeal, the algae is actually eating away at the limestone filler in the asphalt which in time will loosen up and the granules will begin to fall away much faster than they should, taking away years of the expected

life of the roof. The dark growth also draws in more heat, which will also shorten the life of the shingle. Curb appeal is a big consideration to anyone who may be looking to sell their home. A potential buyer may truly believe they will need to replace that roof for thousands of dollars, when in reality it could be taken care of for a small fraction of that.

Roof Cleaning Pro's of Clark, NJ has developed a safe, inexpensive system of removing roof stains caused by algae. In only a few hours, an unsightly roof can be restored to its natural state. Roof shingle manufacturers do not recommend powerwashing a roof as it damages the granules of the shingle. The system used by Roof Cleaning Pro's is the only system recommended by manufacturers such as GAF. The results we have seen have been stunning. The before and after pictures say it all.

For more information and to view the before and after photos go to: Roofcleaningpronj.com or call 732-499-0814



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2



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No Clog Gutter Covers are maintenance free and easily intalled on new or existing gutters.

With no holes or mesh to clog, they keep ice and snow out of your gutters, prevent birds and animals from nesting and strengthens the gutters.



3



Don't get a new roof just yet!

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Most roof stains are caused by Gloeocapsa Magma. Our soft wash cleaning system does not use pressure which can damage your roof. Find out more at roofcleaningpronj.com.

RUTGERS' 4-H AGENT PROVIDES FREE GARDEN WORKSHOP

Best Ways to Start a Healthy Veggie Garden Children Welcome!



Jim Nichnadowicz

The Rahway Garden Club is pleased to invite all to their Thursday, March 15th monthly meeting which starts at 7 pm at the Rahway Public Library. Guest speaker will be Rutgers Cooperative Union County Extension 4-H Agent Jim Nichnadowicz who will provide a free garden workshop entitled "Best Ways to Start A Healthy Vegetable Garden". Jim will share his wealth of experience and knowledge and provide hands on training for all in attendance. The workshop is geared to all ages and levels of experience. There will be something new to learn for all whether you're brand new to gardening or an old gardening pro.

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.



THE GARDEN AWAKES

As winter turns into spring it is now time to start planning our gardens. Early March is a good time to take care of the most important aspect of your lawn, vegetable garden and landscape, the soil.

A soil test can benefit every garden, new or established. Soil test results provide homeowners valuable information on your soil's requirement for fertilizer or lime. All garden plants, including lawns grow best when they have the correct soil PH and proper fertilizer application. This information will cut down on the amount of chemicals you apply to your lawns, keep your plants healthy and help your vegetables produce higher yields. Autumn is also a good season to take soil tests.

For more information on soil testing or to buy soil test kits contact your local Cooperative Extension service. Citizens of Rahway should contact Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County, located in the county office building in Westfield. E-mail Mastergardeners@ucnj.org or call the Garden Helpline at 908-654-9852.

March is time to start spring clean-up. Keeping the garden tidy helps curtail the spread of disease and kills insects that breed over winter in garden debris. Many shrubs benefit from early spring pruning before new growth



Rahway resident gardener "Extraordinaire" James Keane, has been researching and answering garden questions since 1995

begins. Butterfly bushes and Crepe Myrtle will produce many more flowers during the summer if correctly pruned now.

Although it is still too early for most flowers, a pot of pansies will add a splash of color to brighten up the last days of winter. Keep a nice pot of pansies by the front door to greet family and visitors. In case of a late winter snow storm you can simply move the pots closer to the house for added protection. Pansies planted now will flower until late May or early June. If you take a few minutes every week to pick off the dead flowers (deadheading) you'll have a magnificent display of color.

Happy Gardening!

➡➡➡➡➡➡ INTRODUCING NEW FEATURE ➡➡➡➡➡➡

BUSINESS DIRECTORY: IN PRINT AND ON-LINE

<p>AFFORDABLE</p> <p>This space is only \$10 per month per town!</p> <p>6 months contract. All five towns. \$300 total. Multi-units available.</p>	<p>DISTRIBUTION</p> <p>Total of 25,000 newspapers per month.</p> <p>19,000 mailed.</p>	<p>THRIFT SHOP</p> <p>Kenilworth Community United Methodist Church</p> <p>10 AM - 3 PM Saturdays 455 Boulevard, Kenilworth Donations Welcome</p>	<p>CALL FOR AD</p> <p>Call Tina to place an ad 908-418-5586</p> <p>Fax: 908-709-9209</p> <p>Email: tinarennna@rennamedia.com</p> <p>Renna Media, LLC 202 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016</p> <p> </p>	<p>RENNA MEDIA PUBLICATIONS</p> <div data-bbox="1398 1700 1560 1809"> <p>CLARK MONTHLY 6,500 printed and mailed to every home and business in Clark.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1398 1829 1560 1939"> <p>KENILWORTH BUSINESS LIFE 3,500 printed and mailed to every home and business in Kenilworth.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1398 1958 1560 2068"> <p>LIFE IN LINDEN 6,000 are printed with 4,000 mailed to businesses and residents and 2,000 papers distributed free throughout Linden.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1398 2087 1560 2197"> <p>OUR TOWN RAHWAY 4,000 are printed with 1,200 mailed to every business. 1,800 are distributed free throughout Rahway.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1398 2216 1560 2326"> <p>SPIRIT OF UNION 5,000 are printed with 4,000 mailed to businesses and residents and 1,000 papers distributed free throughout Union.</p> </div>						
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WINE

Alice White (All Types) 1.5lt	\$ 9 ⁹⁹
Arbor Mist (All Types) 1.5lt	\$ 6 ⁹⁹
Barefoot (All Types) 1.5lt	\$ 9 ⁹⁹
Beringer White Zinfandel 1.5lt	\$ 8 ⁹⁹
Carlo Rossi 4lt	\$11 ⁹⁹
(chablis, burgundy, paisano, blush, sangria)	
Casillero Del Diablo 750ml	\$ 8 ⁹⁹
(cab, chard, merlot)	
Cavit Pinot Grigio 1.5lt	\$12 ⁹⁹
Chateau Ste Michelle (cab., merlot) 750ml	\$12 ⁹⁹
Chateau Ste Michelle chardonnay 750ml	\$ 9 ⁹⁹
Concha Y Toro Frontera (All Types) 1.5lt	\$ 8 ⁹⁹
Corbett Canyon (All Types) 1.5lt	\$ 5 ⁹⁹
Cupcake (All Types) 750ml	\$ 8 ⁹⁹
Fetzer (All Types) 1.5lt	\$10 ⁹⁹
Franzia 5lt	\$11 ⁹⁹
(crisp white, blush, chablis, sangria, chilable red)	
Kendall Jackson Chardonnay 750ml	\$11 ⁹⁹
Korbel 750ml	\$11 ⁹⁹
(All Types except Natural and Organic)	
Liberty Creek (All Types) 1.5lt	\$ 5 ⁹⁹
Louis Jadot Beaujolais 750ml	\$ 8 ⁹⁹
Louis Jadot Pouilly Fuisse 750ml	\$19 ⁹⁹
M&R Asti 750ml	\$11 ⁹⁹
M&R Asti 1.5lt	\$21 ⁹⁹
Mark West Pinot Noir 750ml	\$10 ⁹⁹
Menage Trois Red Rose 750ml	\$ 9 ⁹⁹
Nando Asti Sumante 750ml	\$ 8 ⁹⁹
Robert Mondavi Private Selection 750ml	\$ 9 ⁹⁹
Robert Mondavi Private Selection 1.5lt	\$18 ⁹⁹
Ruffino Chianti 1.5lt	\$13 ⁹⁹
Ruffino Chianti classico	\$19 ⁹⁹
Santa Margerita Pinot Grigio 750ml	\$19 ⁹⁹
Sebastiani Chardonnay 750ml	\$ 9 ⁹⁹
Sutter Home (All Varieties) 1.5lt	\$ 9 ⁹⁹
Sutter Home White Zinfandel 1.5lt	\$ 7 ⁹⁹
Sutter Home Moscato 1.5lt	\$ 8 ⁹⁹
Veuve Clicquot Brut 750ml	\$41 ⁹⁹
Woodbridge (All Types) 1.5lt	\$10 ⁹⁹
Yellow Tail (All Types) 1.5lt	\$10 ⁹⁹
Zonin Pinot Grigio 1.5lt	\$ 9 ⁹⁹

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and our fine wine
selections!*

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Courvoisier VS 750ml	\$27 ⁹⁹
Courvoisier VS 1.75lt	\$52 ⁹⁹
Hennessy 750ml	\$28 ⁹⁹
Hennessy 1lt	\$35 ⁹⁹
Hennessy 1.75lt	\$59 ⁹⁹
JC VSOP 750ml	\$19 ⁹⁹
Paul Masson VS 750ml	\$ 9 ⁹⁹
Paul Masson VS 1.75lt	\$19 ⁹⁹
Remy Martin VSOP 750ml	\$36 ⁹⁹
Remy Martin VSOP 1lt	\$49 ⁹⁹

VODKA

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

CORDIALS

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

GIN

Bombay Sapphire 1.75lt	\$38 ⁹⁹
Seagram's 1.75lt	\$16 ⁹⁹
Tanqueray 1.75lt	\$37 ⁹⁹

RUM

Bacardi Lt, Gold, Select 1.75lt	\$19 ⁹⁹
Captain Morgan 1.75lt	\$23 ⁹⁹
Malibu 750ml	\$18 ⁹⁹
Malibu 1.75lt	\$24 ⁹⁹

WHISKEY

Ballantine Finest 1.75lt	\$28 ⁹⁹
Canadian Club 1.75lt	\$19 ⁹⁹
Canadian Mist 1.75lt	\$18 ⁹⁹
Chivas Regal 12 Year 750ml	\$27 ⁹⁹
Chivas Regal 12 Year 1.75lt	\$49 ⁹⁹
Crown Royal 1.75lt	\$45 ⁹⁹
Dewar's White Label 750ml	\$19 ⁹⁹
Dewar's White Label 1.75lt	\$29 ⁹⁹
Dewar's 12 Year 750ml	\$29 ⁹⁹
Dewar's 12 Year 1.75lt	\$49 ⁹⁹
Gentleman Jack 750ml	\$26 ⁹⁹
Gentleman Jack 1.75lt	\$49 ⁹⁹
Grant's 750ml	\$13 ⁹⁹
Grant's 1.75lt	\$23 ⁹⁹
Jack Daniel's Black 750ml	\$21 ⁹⁹
Jack Daniel's Black 1.75lt	\$40 ⁹⁹
Jameson 750ml	\$25 ⁹⁹
Jim Beam Whisky 1.75lt	\$29 ⁹⁹
Johnnie Walker Black 750ml	\$31 ⁹⁹
Johnnie Walker Black 1.75lt	\$59 ⁹⁹
Johnnie Walker Blue 750ml	\$169 ⁹⁹
Johnnie Walker Red 750ml	\$19 ⁹⁹
Johnnie Walker Red 1.75lt	\$31 ⁹⁹
Maker's Mark 750ml	\$25 ⁹⁹
Maker's Mark 1.75lt	\$46 ⁹⁹
Seagram's 7 1.75lt	\$18 ⁹⁹

TEQUILA

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

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Coors Lt & Bud Family (Loose Bottles)	\$16 ⁹⁹
Coors Lite (Cans) 30pk	\$20 ⁹⁹
Corona 24pk (Bottles)	\$24 ⁹⁹
Guinness Pub (Bottles) 24pk	\$26 ⁹⁹
Heineken and Amstel Lt 24pk	\$24 ⁹⁹
Miller Lite (Cans) 30pk	\$20 ⁹⁹
Sargres 24pk (Bottles)	\$16 ⁹⁹
Smithwick's 24pk	\$27 ⁹⁹
Sam Adams Lager 24pk	\$25 ⁹⁹
Stella Artois 24pk	\$24 ⁹⁹
Tecate 24pk (Cans)	\$15 ⁹⁹
Yuengling Lager (Loose Bottles) 24pk	\$16 ⁹⁹
Zyweic (11.2oz) 24pk	\$18 ⁹⁹

*We also have a large
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European beers
and kegs on sale!*

