

OUR TOWN

RAHWAY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

FREE

Distributed as a community service by the Rahway Chamber of Commerce.

Issue 4 • September 2010

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT CELEBRATION WAS HELD ON AUGUST 5TH



Officer Frank Catena and "Justice" of the Union County Police Department.

(above) United States Coast Guard mascot "Harry" stood on the deck of their 25 foot RHI boat on Irving Street.

Rahway and thousands of communities nationwide participated in the "27th Annual National Night Out" (NNO), crime and drug prevention event.

This event showcased a display of emergency vehicles from various local, county, state and national agencies, included Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Rahway and Members of the NJ Transit Police Department who performed a demonstration of a hazardous material spill. The bloodmobile was also on site for much needed blood donations.

**COME ON OUT TO OUR
NEXT CHAMBER MEETING!
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD
8:30 AM TILL 9:30AM AT THE MASONIC TEMPLE
1550 Irving Street • Downtown Rahway
ALL BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS WELCOME**

OurTownRahway.com
CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE
The website features up to date articles, a calendar of events, archives of Our Town and photo albums of events, along with advertising opportunities.
Businesses and residents are encouraged to submit items for publication through the site.



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
Acting Chairman: Bob Markey
 732 388 1765
 Bob@SaligaMarkey.com

CITY OF RAHWAY

1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065
 www.cityofrahway.com
Mayor: James Kennedy
 732-827-2000

RAHWAY CITY COUNCIL

- First Ward: Robert Rachlin**
2215 Allen Street • (732) 499-7389
- Second Ward: Michael Cox**
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, Vice President**
1104 Plymouth Drive • (732) 388-4475
- At Large: James Baker, Council 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

- Emergency911
- 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 Chairman



The following letter was delivered to Rahway City Clerk on August 24, 2010 for distribution to the Mayor and City Council Members and the Rahway Arts District, Inc.

As owner of three downtown properties that contribute to the SID assessment I received a notice of the SID public hearing. As advised in this notice, I arrived at City Hall at 7: PM on August 9 to inquire about the District Management Corp’s budget for the upcoming year. Those of us in attendance were informed by the City Clerk that the ordinance approving the SID assessment had been pulled. I am now of the understanding that the ordinance was not acted upon due to the fact that there had been no SID budget presented for public consideration as required by statute. The Special Improvement District Ordinance #97-8 speaks to the various duties of the District Management Corp to provide a detailed upcoming annual budget and to make it available for public hearing.

I believe that the majority of the residents and businesses located in our downtown are feeling in the fog as to what the newly formed “The Rahway Arts District, Inc.” is all about and how it intends to spend the \$130,000 being raised from the SID assessment. Further questions are being asked about what’s going on with the old Rahway Center Partnership and when do they meet and what is their new agenda.

I am of the understanding that a Rahway Arts District, Inc budget will be presented for public hearing in the near future. Here is a wonderful opportunity for the city administration and those involved in both the old RCP and The Rahway Arts District, Inc to be present at the upcoming public hearing and inform us of their plans for the next year while also being available to discuss issues and answer questions. As a SID contributor I am very much in favor of the above dialogue taking place. In addition, as acting chairman of the Rahway Chamber of Commerce I can assure you that the Chamber also supports the same open and transparent discussions. Many good things are happening in our downtown today. Having said that there are also many challenges that we all need to deal with. The greatest good can come to our downtown only if we are all working together toward the same goals. In order to accomplish this all players need to be on the same page and in consensus.

Sincerely,
Bob Markey
 Acting Chairman

I can be reached by calling 732-388-1765, By email at Bob@SaligaMarkey.com or by mail at PO Box #277, Rahway, NJ 07065

ADVERTISING & PRESS RELEASES

Each month 3,000 newspapers are printed and 1,200 are mailed free to every business in Rahway with the balance being distributed free throughout town. The ads are affordably priced with a special lower rate for members of the Chamber of Commerce. Call today to reserve your space in the next issue.

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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.

Monday, September 13, Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 5, Pre-Meeting Conference

Monday, October 12, Regular Meeting

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.

Tuesday, September 14

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 September 14, Monthly Caucus

Tuesday September 21, Regular Board Meeting

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meetings are held at 7:00 PM at Rahway City Hall (2nd floor conference room). Please call (732) 827-2000 for any inquiries.

Thursday, September, 9

Thursday, October 14

HOUSING AUTHORITY

All Meetings will be held on Thursdays in the Regular Meeting Room of the Housing Authority of the City of Rahway at 165 East Grand Avenue at 7:00 p.m. Please call (732) 499-0066 for any inquiries.

Thursday, September 9

Thursday, October 14

SENIORS TRIP TO LIGRECI'S STAATEN IN STATEN ISLAND

The Rahway Division of Senior Services is sponsoring a trip to LiGreci's Staaten in Staten Island, NY on Thursday, October 21, 2010. The trip is \$55.00 with no refunds after Thursday, October 1, 2010. The trip includes bus transportation, show and a lunch (appetizer, entree, dessert and beverage). Mike Byrne's All-Star Productions will present the show, Golden Oldies, with music from the 50's and 60's performed by Mikey & The Reflections. The bus will leave from the Rahway Senior Center at 10:30 am. and return at approximately 4:30 pm.

For more information please call the Rahway Division of Senior Services at 732-827-2016.

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, September 21

PARKING AUTHORITY

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

Wednesday, October 6

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, September 28

RAHWAY CENTER PARTNERSHIP

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at Hotel Indigo, 1 Carriage City Plaza, 2nd Floor. Please call (732) 396-3545 for any inquiries.

Check for meetings; www.cityofrahway.com/rahway_center_partnership.htm

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Meetings are held in the Municipal Council Chambers, 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway. Please call (732) 827-2193 for any inquiries.

Wednesday, October 6

FREE ATTORNEY SERVICE FOR RAHWAY SENIORS

Estate Attorney, Joseph Ascione, from the Union County Division on Aging will be at the Rahway Senior Center, 1306 Esterbrook Ave., on Thursday, September 23, 2010 to prepare or review wills, powers of attorney or advance medical directives. This is a free service for Rahway Seniors. For appointments call (732)827-2016.

ANNUAL SENIOR PICNIC



(above) The Mayor's Picnic which is sponsored by RSI Bank is an annual event. This year it was attended by 190 seniors. The picnic is catered by Leon's Catering Service and entertainment was by D.J.'s Sandy & Lou of Dance-a-Lot. It was a beautiful day for the seniors to enjoy the food, music and the company of others.

6th Annual
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732.388.0057

3rd ANNUAL RHS ALUMNI CELEBRATION

Saturday, September 25, 2010

At Historic Rahway Elks

For information visit www.rahwayhigh.com

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Can you imagine not being able to read the back of a medicine bottle, fill out a job application or talk with your child's teacher?

In Union County, 26% of the adult population lives with these limitations every day. Literacy Volunteers of Union County is a volunteer-driven, non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the literacy of adults and their families in our community. Through our network of over 200 volunteer tutors, Literacy Volunteers of Union County is enhancing the lives of more than 600 adult learners.

Join us for our next New Tutor Training Workshop Series. This four part series will be held at St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church located at 1407 St. George Avenue, Rahway, NJ. The first session of the four part series begins on Tuesday, September 21 from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm. The remaining sessions are Thursday, September 23 from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm, and Saturdays, September 25 and October 2 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Attendance is required at all sessions.

Upon completion of the workshop, new tutors will be certified to teach be assigned an adult learner to tutor. There is a \$40 non-refundable registration fee to cover the cost of materials used for training. Need based scholarships are available to cover the cost of registration.

To learn more about how Literacy Changes Lives visit our website at www.lvaunion.org. Click on the link in Upcoming Events to register for the fall workshop. You may also call Susan at 909-755-7998 or email susan@lvaunion.org.



Roll Out the Welcome Mat is a regular feature of "Our Town" welcoming new residents and businesses.

DR. MICHELLE WILLIAMS OPENS OFFICES

Michelle and her family have a long association with Rahway. Growing up in Hillside, New Jersey she spent lots of summer days having fun swimming at our County Park pool. Her family also celebrated many a reunion under the tall oak trees that shade the same park's picnic sites. They were good memories of Rahway but the future doctor never would imagine that someday she would be opening an optometry practice less than a mile away from the park that she and her family knew so well.

Michelle was the baby of the family living with Mom and Dad and her two older sisters. "I knew as a child that I wanted to do something in my life where I would be helping others" said Michelle. "When I became twelve years old I knew even more deeply that I wished to take care of people. The seed was planted in me to become an eye doctor by my family's optometrist Dr. Sinoway of South Orange. It was his encouragement more than anything else that led me to this profession that I love so dearly". Dr. Michelle continues contact with Dr. Sinoway and from time to time they'll meet with a smile while attending the same continuing education classes for optometrists.

After graduating from Hillside High School,

Michelle was off to Upsala College in East Orange. She worked hard, commuted by bus from home to college each day and finished with a degree in only three years. Next, she attended medical school for four years at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in Philadelphia.

Dr. Michelle began practicing optometry in 2000. She returned to Union County and began working for well known larger commercial practices. In 2008 Michelle decided that she really wanted to do her own thing and start up a local practice. "I began looking for space and one weekend I headed down Elizabeth Avenue from Linden and ended up at its intersection with Irving Street in downtown Rahway. I looked around and saw this beautiful new building under construction called Park Square and something kinda clicked for me. I saw corner commercial space at the sidewalk level and said to myself that's for me". So Dr. Michelle called the telephone number on the window sign and made arrangements to view the space with local Realtor Matt Dobrowolski. Things continued to move forward and a lease was signed and the space was fitted up for an optometrist's office for Michelle. The offices

opened in January, 2010.

Dr. Williams still faces her challenges. "I never took on something this big but I love it and I feel confident that all will come together". Michelle's staff consists of her sister Valerie who is an



accountant and provides bookkeeping services and Adrian who is the optician.

Michelle is happy to have her offices located in downtown. "I love the arts and maybe when I can catch my breath a bit I'll return to playing piano."

Dr. Michelle was trained classically and played piano from the age of three through the end of High School. Dr. Michelle and her husband Miguel live a short ride away just over the Raritan Bay Bridge. They share their home with their two year old animal companion Milo, a long haired Chihuahua. Eyes on You family Eyecare and Optical is located at 1535 Irving Street and can be contacted at 732-388-3900.

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CHAMBER AND RPD DEVELOP GRAFFITI REMOVAL STRATEGY

Businesses and residents asked to help out!

Downtown visitor Arlene Everett recently shared her observation that “it’s so nice not to see graffiti everywhere as in so many of the older cities like Trenton and Elizabeth”. Rahway can count itself fortunate that its graffiti problem is a small problem as compared to many other towns around our state. However it is a problem that must be dealt with. “Graffiti defaces our public and private properties and lessens our quality of life” noted Chamber’s acting chairman Bob Markey. “It’s a form of pollution not unlike lights that are too bright, bad air quality or loud mufflers and the more we can do to reduce its impact the nicer it is to live and work here in Rahway. By all of us removing graffiti promptly we’re working together to keep our neighborhoods looking healthy” Markey remarked.

The Chamber of Commerce and Rahway Police Department have agreed to work together to address the graffiti issue. “If it’s on private property first photograph the graffiti with date and location and deliver the photo to the RPD

either by email or you can drop it off at Police Headquarters’ desk. If you can’t provide us with a photo then we’ll send an officer over to take the picture. The photos are then categorized for future use. Sometimes the graffiti is a gang’s marking, other times just vandalism and sometimes an expression of art” noted Rahway Police Captain Kevin Sherwood. Captain Sherwood pointed out that graffiti on public properties must be addressed by those responsible for their upkeep.

To report graffiti please call the non emergency line at Rahway Police headquarters at (732) 827 2200 and indicate that you are calling regarding a graffiti incident or you may email your photo, location and contact information to neighborhoodwatch@rahwaypolice.com.

(right) Jayesh “Jay” Patel longtime owner/operator of Rahway News and Food located at the corner of Maple Avenue and St. Georges Avenue.



“OUR TOWN’S” WACHOVIA/ WELLS FARGO ATM PHOTO RECEIVES KUDOS

“Foxybrown” Steals the Show

On page five of our August issue we did a piece on new ATM at the downtown branch of Wachovia/Wells Fargo. The photo, taken Joe Renna of Renna Media, featured the new ATM and Irving Street Branch Service Manager Cassandra Gilchrist alongside customer Gloria Gross with Gloria’s mini Pomeranian dog named “Foxybrown”. The Chamber emailed Wachovia/Wells Fargo headquarters to make sure that they had received a hard copy of August’s issue. The following email was received by Acting Chairman Markey in late August:

“Thanks Bob! Not only did I get it, I sent it to our corporate communications team in San Francisco and it was included on our daily “Wells Fargo in the News,” which is emailed to all employees every day! It was a great story, and I can’t thank you enough for doing it!”

*Fran Durst
Northeast Communications Manager
Wachovia, A Wells Fargo Company*



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SHE'S GONNA DANCE HER WAY THROUGH COLLEGE!

As students get ready to go off to school and college, Daphne Lee of Rahway is surprised to find her picture on the Alvin Ailey School website.

After going through the Rahway education system; Madison Elementary, Rahway Middle and then graduating Rahway High School in the top ten, Daphne was all set to study medicine. However she had danced all her life taking lessons at the Rahway Dance Theatre located in downtown Rahway and had a change of mind. She had studied Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip-Hop Modern, Pointe and Pas de Deux which is ballet

Daphne Lee accepted at Fordham Ailey

partnering and being lifted in the air by male dancer partners.

So at the last hour as her father Sgt. Osvaldo Lee, was called to the Iraq War, she decided to try dance rather than medicine. She tried out for Montclair, Rutgers and Fordham Ailey dance programs and was accepted to all three gaining scholarships. Daphne decided that Ailey had a prestigious company, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and that maybe she would be able to audition for them in the future.

Daphne also found out she was the only dancer from New Jersey to get into Fordham / Ailey, and when asked why she said "basic dance training is the key and Rahway Dance Theatre has a strong program." The focus is on being artistic, and performing, dancing for former Gov. Corzine and traveling to Scotland as well as being on News 12. Competitions are not the focus; dance requires constant repetition and years of patience from the student as well as the parents. "I've seen and heard parents badger the dance teacher that my child is doing the same steps over and over. Well at Ailey I'm still doing the same steps but better by now" as she smiles. "At Rahway Dance Theater we travel to theaters, watch videos and have access to professional dancers, such as Savion Glover the famous tap dancer and Bebe Neuwirth from TV's Frazier, who is also a ballet dancer" noted Daphne.

Daphne wants people to know she still thinks of a medical career but nowadays people often have two dreams and after dance she can still go



back to that dream. For students who want to dance professionally, she says "get into a local school that will train you right from the start so you can focus on being the best dancer that you can be". I love living in NYC it's great. I live at the Lincoln Center Campus and from my dorm I can see Broadway and the Trump Tower, I can also see Jersey and get a little home sick, for Rahway. Before you know it Thanksgiving will be here and I'll be home with my mom and dad. Dad is now back from the Iraq War. Hurrah!"



- Ballet
- Tap
- Jazz
- Modern
- Hip-Hop
- Ppointe
- Pas de Deux

Still time to register for fall classes - save before September 15th!
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www.Rahwaydancetheatre.org

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RAHWAY HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR IS A STAR THAT IS RISING!

"I believe that if you apply yourself anything is possible" Samantha Fiel.

Sammy Fiel, Rahway High School Senior and daughter of Thomas and Lisa Jedic of Rahway was one of the select few chosen to attend "Girls State". The event lasted one week and took place this past June at Georgian Court University in Lakewood, New Jersey. The Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion sponsored "Girls State" which strives to teach young people the duties, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship in an authentic fashion.

The basic idea has remained the same over the decades. Bring young adults together from all parts of the state to a college campus that has been transformed into a mythical fifty-first state, and then teach them to use the process by which they will govern themselves. It is a teaching experience that does not use traditional methods such as textbooks, lectures and quizzes. Instead, it depends on hands-on participation in the democratic process. Participants learn civics by actually putting into practice the fundamentals of government and democracy they've been learning over the years in their social studies courses. As they arrive, each teen is assigned to one of two fictional political parties, the Federalists or the Nationalists, and to a city in an imaginary state. Politicking begins at once and intensifies as the week progresses. Delegates organize into city and county governments. They write party platforms, they caucus, campaign for elected positions, rally for their candidates at the various levels, make and debate legislation, and more.

At seventeen years old Samantha Fiel is the



typical high school girl with an abundance of energy and goals plus a huge heart. During the school year Sammy is busy with her studies and advanced placement in American History and English Literature. She just recently won \$100 for passing the AP test for English and Composition with a 3.

Samantha is active in Rahway High Student Government, Heroes and Cool kids, Peer Group and both the High School Tennis Team and Swim Team. Samantha is currently looking at colleges and wishes to specialize in the music business as an Artist Manager. Samantha also

holds down a part-time job at Luciano's Italian Restaurant in downtown Rahway. When Samantha has free time she loves to spend it with her boyfriend LCPL Thomas Drake when he is home on leave. LCP Drake, also from Rahway, is currently stationed at the Marine Corp's Camp Pendleton in San Diego, California.

Samantha shares her Rahway home with Mom and Dad and her thirteen year old sister Lexi, her five year old brother Tommy, four fish, a rabbit named Bun and a bird called Woodstock.



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THE UNKNOWN WOMAN MURDER MYSTERY BOOK NOW AVAILABLE

The Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum Association (MDTMA) is proud to announce that Alex Shipley, their Director of Museum Operations has just had his fourth book on local history published this month. The book titled “The Unknown Woman Murder Mystery” is a non-fiction work focused entirely on a real and unsolved murder that took place in Rahway 123 years ago and is now available through the Museum beginning September 2nd. The Museum will host a book signing that evening from 6 – 9 p.m. at it’s location on the corners of St. Georges and Westfield Avenues, and the book will also be available through the Museum Gift Shop by calling 732-381-0441. It can also be found in other book outlets such as Amazon, Barnes & Nobel and Borders after this date.

Alex, also the Rahway city historian had spent years researching and documenting all known information on this cold case and weaves the story so that readers can see how this event unfolded, who was involved and how it captured the attention of the media as well as the average 19th century citizen. This unusual and intriguing local event has fascinated people all these years, across the nation and internationally and still attracts the attention of criminal science students and historians to this day. The mystery begins on March 26, 1887, when the frozen corpse of a young woman was found by four brothers near the Central Avenue Bridge and Jefferson Avenue in Rahway, her throat slashed

and body covered in bruises. A brutal murder such as this would get much attention at any time, especially under these circumstances, however, that no one was ever convicted, nor a motive established makes it even more intriguing. The most bizarre element of this murder is that no one was ever able to give a positive identification of the poor victim.

This strange case focused world-wide attention on Rahway, particularly noteworthy in a time without television or radio. As many as ten thousand people from outside the city came and filed past her coffin. Rewards were offered, photos of the young victim were published in leading newspapers around the country, hearings were held, hundreds of witnesses called, dozens of suspects questioned and both professional and amateur detectives flocked to Rahway to weigh in with their theories. In the years following the murder, new names and theories came forward, but none were conclusive enough to close the case. To this day both the victim and murderer remain unknown and her body lies in Rahway Cemetery in a grave with the sad epitaph of “Unknown Woman Murdered March 1887”.

Alex began researching the event for the Museum’s annual and very popular Ghosts of the Past Cemetery Tours held in October in the circa 1724 Rahway Cemetery. The tour in 2006, which drew 500 people, was devoted to those interred in the cemetery that had some connection to the case, including the victim, the police chief, the coroner and the boy who found the body.

“The 123 year old murder mystery of an ‘unknown woman’ by an ‘unknown assailant’ still captures the attention and imagination of people today”, noted Alex. “While researching

this event I was surprised to find a great number of people who were not only aware of it, but had theories and possible solutions as well. I knew then I had to write the book and pull all the events and clues together.” The author also noted that throughout the past century, national and local newspapers such as the New York Times and the New Jersey Star-Ledger have run several articles noting the history of this yet unsolved case, and keeping the mystery alive for yet another generation.

Book signings and sales are slated throughout the city in September and October. On October 9 and 10, the Museum will host the annual Ghosts of the Past Cemetery Tours once again devoting it to the Unknown Woman Murder Mystery. The book will be on sale and Alex will be on hand to autograph copies. To learn more about the book signings, sales of the book and the Cemetery Tour, please call 732-381-0441 or go to the MDTMA website: www.merchantsanddrovers.org.

The Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum Association (MDTMA) is dedicated to preserving the Merchants and Drovers Tavern (c. 1795), the Terrill Tavern (c. 1750), developing the site as a tavern museum and to interpreting the important role played by taverns in early American history; to provide a regional education, cultural and historic resource; and to preserve local history. The tavern, located at St. Georges Avenue (Rt. 27) and Westfield Avenue, is recorded in the Historic American Buildings Survey and listed in the National Register of Historic Places. To learn more about the Museum’s exhibits, guided tours, events and openings go to: www.merchantsanddrovers.org, or call 732-381-0441.

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Call the museum for drop off information.

All proceeds from this event will benefit the restoration of the Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum.

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Meet the author who wrote the book “The Unknown Woman Murder Mystery”, Alex Shipley.

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SHARING THE BOUNTY

Rahway Community Gardeners and Rahway "Food for Friends" have teamed up.

Every Saturday morning at 9 am a volunteer from the "Food for Friends" stops by the Rahway Community Garden on Central Avenue and picks up a few bags of fresh veggies for the noon Saturday lunch that is held for the needy at Second Presbyterian Church. Community

Gardeners are asked each Saturday to place any fresh excess crop in a cooler that's provided in the garden.

Since the Community Gardeners agree to grow their crops organically not only is the produce fresh and just picked, it is also free of

chemicals. The produce is then added to the salads that day at the lunchtime meal.

The Rahway Community Garden is in its second season and by all accounts an overwhelming success. There are twenty-eight raised bed plots built using the specifications of "Square Foot Gardening", an intensive method of natural gardening that produces high yield in only 20% of the space normally used by row gardeners as well as using only 20% of the water and very little weeding. Twenty-eight families are involved, one of which is our local Girl Scout Troop #1274, and there is a waiting list at Rahway Recreation Department for next year. Gardeners pay a modest fee for the use of their plot for one year. A water spigot is provided within the garden as well as composters for garden scraps. The garden is located on city parkland and across from the Berzinec Park tennis courts and playground. The idea is the brainstorm of local resident Cheyenne Busch who approached City Council with her thoughts last spring. Mayor Kennedy got wind of things and loved the concept gave it his blessing and the result is a finished product that rivals any community garden in our country.



(above) Rahway resident Andreana Hawkins and her two children, young gardeners Akyliah and Alijah.



(above) Jose Calidonio resident of West Milton Avenue and a Food for Friends volunteer.



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 Fitness trainer Daniela Iannone conducted a Fit Body Integration Bootcamp to benefit the Susan B Koman Foundation and Children of China Pediatrics Foundation in Rahway Park on September 1, 2010. She raised \$270 in the one hour workout.

Daniela runs classes at Rahway YMCA on Irving Street on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00 to 6:45p.m. The Bootcamp includes Cardio Conditioning and Body Weight Strength Training, Drills, and Kickboxing. This class is for anyone up for something new, fun and challenging to get out of their comfort zone and help shed weight fast.

Anyone interested in trying Daniela's work out can contact her through her website fitbodyintegration.com or by contacting the Rahway YMCA directly at 732-388-0057.

(left) Daniela Iannone (center) with Bootcamp participants.

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A SIGN THAT ART IS HAPPENING

(below, left) A sign, "ART", designed by Arts Guild New Jersey Executive Director Larry Cappiello was built and erected by Rahway Recreation Department employee Angel Rivera, sits in front of the Guilds' home at 1670 Irving Street in Rahway.



(above) Artist Gina Minichino of Westfield adds her brand of art to the piece,



(above, l-r) Artist Neal Korn joined Gina along with Larry Cappiello to paint the eye catching sculpture.

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ARTSPEAK

the artists, the events and the buzz about rahway's artstown

"JOHN JR." BEADLING: RAHWAY'S SWINGING SAX PRODIGY WOWS 'EM AT THE NEST!

His grandfather was a saxophone player who jammed with Les Paul, so it's only fitting that grandson John Jr. would carry on the family tradition. As a child, he took up the drums but when middle school already had a drummer - he switched to the sax and never looked back.

John graduated from Rahway High School last year where he'd kept busy in the Jazz Lab, the Jazz Ensemble, the Pit Orchestra, the Wind Symphony, and, of course, the Marching Band which may have influenced his major: Band Instrument Repair at Western Iowa Tech.

"I've always loved taking things apart to figure out what's wrong, so why not do it with something I love," says Beadling. "Someone's always gonna have a broken instrument they need patched up, right?"

To gather experience "playing out" in the real world, John joined the Jersey Shore Jazz & Blues Foundation's Youth Project where he played local events, but his big break came when his dad, John Sr., heard news of a music venue opening up right here in Linden.

"My dad's a music-lover, so when he heard about this cool blues club, The Robin's Nest, he stopped in there to talk to the owners about me," John Jr. recalls. "Robin and Eric are so great, so giving, they want to give everyone a chance to play and put your heart out there so they said I could come jam - as long as I only drank soda.

Which I did."

The Robin's Nest Rhythm and Blues calls itself the only juke joint in Jersey and it lives up to the great press it's been getting. Nestled back there on Tremley Point Road, tucked in behind the refineries, the Nest is a small but beautifully refurbished blues bar & restaurant that has become home to Jersey talent as well as highly respected jazz and blues artists.

It's on this tiny stage that 17 year old John Jr. first got the chance to hone his chops with the big guys at Dean Shot's weekly Wednesday Night Jam. John Jr. describes the experience like this; "When I play at the Nest, I'm not this little kid and I feel like people really see who I am. And it gets easier the more you play with people you know, you feel more comfortable to take chances. And that's what jamming is."

That was certainly the case when renowned blues aficionado & radio host Mike Stokes discovered him at the Nest and hooked him up with Nikki Armstrong who invited a thrilled John Jr. to join her on stage at the legendary BB King's in NYC.

This is just the beginning for the heartfelt musician who feels that all music tells a story. "When I can make my sax sing, I'm telling a story through my playing. I think of things going on in my life and try to put them into the music. After, I feel better I got those feelings out."

(right) John Beadling, Jr. and his saxophone.



(above) In the Rahway High School Marching Band.



(above) John Jr. blows off some steam at The Robin's Nest.

CONTACT: john_beadling@mywitcc.com
Article & photos by Francesca Rizzo

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AUXILIARY POLICE FALL CLOTHING DRIVE

The Rahway Police Auxiliary Police fall clothing drive was completed on August 28th. New donated clothing was shared with 3 local churches. The Rahway Police Auxiliary is planning a coat drive from the end of 2010. If you would like to donate coats to the program please call Detective William Eicholz at (732)827-2079.

(right, l-r) Father Oscar Ramirez from Divine Mercy Parish (formerly St. Mary's) Detective William Eicholz Rahway Auxiliary Police Coordinator, Project Coordinator Aux. Sgt. Ricky Caleron, Auxiliary Officer Dion Smith, Janet Castillo from the Iglesia Biblica of Rahway, and Pastor Mario Calderon from the Ministry Cristiano.



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UPCOMING EXHIBIT: COMMUTERS

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RAHWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY SEPTEMBER 2010 EVENTS

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING:

All are welcome to attend.

Thursday, September 9 at 6:30 pm

THE CASE OF THE UNKNOWN WOMAN:

Author visit and book signing.

Local historian F. Alexander Shipley will discuss his new book.

Monday, September 13 at 6:30 pm

READER'S CIRCLE BOOK GROUP

Wednesday, September 15 at 2:00 pm

THE CARING, SHARING NETWORK:

Vital information for Seniors

Wednesday, September 22 at 2:00 pm

LEGAL RIGHTS OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

presented by Ralph Gerstein, Special Education Lawyer

Monday, September 27 at 6:00 pm

BOOK BINGO: Everyone wins! Open to adults, age 18+.

Tuesday, September 28 at 2:00 pm

TEEN EVENTS

ANIME CLUB:

Watch anime, have a snack. Bring a friend!

Saturday, September 25 at 2:00 pm

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

SCHOOL'S OUT MOVIE:

Thursday, September 9 at 2:00 pm

BACK TO SCHOOL BINGO:

Thursday, September 9 at 6:30 pm

MOTHER GOOSE TODDLER TIME:

Thursdays, September 16 and 23 at 10:30 am

LOL BACK-TO-SCHOOL STORIES: for all ages

Wednesday, September 29 at 4:00 pm

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Thursday, September 30 at 10:30 am

Whether you work 9 - 5, the late shift or even overnight, one thing is for certain about your workday - You have to get TO the job, and get there we do...by car, train, bus, subway, ferry, shuttle, maybe even by helicopter or plane. And the process of making our way to work is all too familiar to most of us - endless delays on the road, bumper to bumper traffic, gridlock, breakdowns, detours, construction, late trains or buses, overcrowded subway cars - yes, we've probably seen more than one of these practically every day we go to our job.

The COMMUTERS exhibit at Arts Guild New Jersey documents, comments on, and illuminates the many paths we take to work each day. Gathered are seven photographers whose work in black & white or color shows the many variations of the start of our workdays. Each photograph focuses on some aspect of the phenomenon of commuting to work, and viewers will find images that vividly represent or record many of the sights we come across each workday - people staring out the windows, napping on the train, reading a paper, crowding the escalators, getting crammed into a subway car or moving to the rear of the bus.

Lawrence Cappiello, curator of the exhibit and executive director of Arts Guild New Jersey, says, "For many, [commuting] might be the most unpleasant part of the day, but in order to keep our jobs, we repeat this activity for most of our lives. COMMUTERS is a celebration of our toils and travails - the job of getting to the job."

Artists: Jeff Evans, Maren Friedman, Andrew Glickman, Donald Lokuta, Marco Munoz, Elizabeth Niesuchouski, and Garry Waller.

ARTS GUILD NEW JERSEY

Arts Guild New Jersey is a non-profit multidisciplinary center for the arts presenting a yearly series of art exhibits primarily featuring New Jersey based emerging artists, as well as winter, spring and summer semesters of studio art classes for adults, children, and teens at all levels of experience. In addition the organization presents a selection of secondary arts and cultural events and activities throughout the year.

Arts Guild New Jersey is accessible from the Garden State Parkway, Turnpike, Routes 1 & 9, St. Georges Avenue (Route 27/35) and by train, via New Jersey Transit Northeast Corridor and Jersey Shore Lines. Arts Guild New Jersey is located six blocks from the Rahway train station. Click here for directions.


For more information call (732) 381-7511, email artsguild1670@verizon.net or go to www.agnj.org.

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You can use a soaker hose if you have one or the spray nozzle adjusted to medium pressure on your garden hose.

Deep watering to a depth of 12" inches below the soil surface is recommended.

Saturate the soil around the tree within the "dripline" (the outer edges of the tree's

branches) to disperse water down toward the roots.

The objective is to water slowly, dispersing the flow of water to get the water deep down to the trees roots. Watering for short periods of time only encourages shallow rooting which can lead to more drought damage.

Add mulch but avoid mounding it up the trunk "volcano style".

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RAPHAEL ORTIZ IS A BIG BROTHER ON THE FIELD AND AT HOME.

The below story was reprinted from an article entitled Leading Man from E-Sports media.com dated 6/21/2010 and written by Anthony Bonelli.

The quarterback of a football team is proclaimed to be the captain, much like a big brother towards his teammates. Quarterbacks take control of each play, control the offense and lead their team down the field. Team members look to their quarterback for order, plan, structure, support and guidance, much like a sibling would to his or her big brother.

In any scenario, on or off the field, Raphael Ortiz has been a remarkable young man. Ortiz has shown a massive amount of self-control, dedication, determination and willpower.

Being the oldest of six, a big brother and also a football star, Ortiz is someone to look up to. Not only is he looked up to by his teammates, but by his siblings as well, which is why a player may be affected by family life.

Ortiz is no stranger to the unexpected events that could happen in some one's life whether it is able to be controlled or not. He has both.

His family has endured a lot more than anyone should. With his sister Julia, who was diagnosed from birth with cerebral palsy, and his other sister Molly being struck by a boat in a tragic accident which paralyzed her, Ortiz and his family have embraced each other with comfort and support.

"Something good always comes out of something bad, but I would never have been able to do it without that guy", Ortiz's mother said as she pointed to her husband.

Surprisingly, the whole family supported her feelings on both situations and everyone has a role they play in their family. In fact, Raphael Ortiz has practiced harder, played better and focused and dedicated more time on his goals because of the inspiration his sisters give him.

Dedication was when the whole football team, after St. Peters beat Bergen Catholic in the state semifinals, went to visit Molly in the hospital after her accident, and when told by a nurse only family members were allowed, one of the players turned around and said, "we are family." That goes to show that brotherhood on the field is as strong as off the field and true teammates support each other and always have each other's backs in times of need. A bond shared by teammates is as strong as the bond between siblings. His team was there for him, while he was there for his sister.

There are some things life throws at you that are hard to understand and adjust to in the beginning, but over time it becomes your way of life. For instance, cerebral palsy is not a disability you are prepared for, but the journey is a learning experience and a person and their family gets use to it.

As Mrs. Ortiz stated, "In our own conscious mind we think, 'Why me?' When something bad happens that is uncontrollable, but a person also thinks of the gifts that were given in life too."

"I know Julia cannot see or talk to me, but I know she hears me and when she smiles it means everything," Raphael said.

A gift all on its own and why certain people meet and are thankful for the joy they bring in good times and bad. As if Ortiz's sister Julia's diagnosis was not enough for the family to understand, at the time of Raphael's knee surgery, his sister Molly suffered her tragic accident.

Raphael's surgery went fine and the knee is good, but the end result was bittersweet. Ortiz could be happy his surgery did not affect playing football, but was sad to learn of his sister's debilitating condition. He described the situation as devastating, not being able to erase the sadness that swept over his face.

Beating Bergen Catholic High School in the state semifinals has been one of the many memorable moments in Ortiz's football career.

"Making the state championship game in my senior year was amazing," Ortiz proclaimed, as a smile grew across his face when thinking about his football journey. He had not just gone to the state championship; he has implemented himself, along with his teammates, into a spiraling string of events that play major parts in his life.

"Making Madison Square Garden's (MSG) high school weekly all tri-state team and named Hudson County player of the year are honors," he said.

St. Peter's Prep had a 9-3 record and was ranked third on the New Jersey Star Ledger top 20 lists with Ortiz at the helm. He threw for 1,620 yards and 18 touchdowns.

Since he was a young boy, Ortiz has wanted to play ball. As he matured, he drew inspiration from watching Drew Brees and Peyton

Manning, along with the support from his family his dreams have become a lifestyle.

One of his rituals to prepare for a game is watching the movie, "Friday Night Lights." When asked why, Ortiz replied with a smile, "Texas is high school football."

Growing up, he would not have expected so much success playing football, but he has had loads of it over the past few years. A person's life journey can entail many unexpected events. The good thing is they are not always bad.

Ortiz and his family said he "could not have asked for a better coach or teammates." The school, along with many others, has been great and very supportive throughout the whole situation."

All of Ortiz's success helps with the pain," Mr. Ortiz said about his sons strive for success. "While Mom and Dad were busy with the other five kids, Raphael was making his own path for the future. He did all of it on his own with us only making sure one was always in the stands to cheer him on."

According to Mrs. Ortiz, college is the next step for Raphael, as he plans to attend William and Mary in Virginia and play Division I AA football. "He looks forward to the beautiful campus and the great coaching staff," Mrs. Ortiz said. "He loves the game of football and I want him to be happy."

Playing at Giants Stadium for the state championship was not enough for Ortiz, as he wants to go far and beyond with his career. Nothing could make him happier then walking onto a football field, erasing any bad thoughts and playing to his full potential.

No matter what turmoil or series of unexpected events come his way, Ortiz is an inspirational football quarterback and a person that gives new meaning to the word Big Brother, as he is one on and off the field.

Thanks to the Ortiz Family.

