

# OUR TOWN

RAHWAY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER **FREE**

The Voice of the Rahway Chamber of Commerce.

Issue 41 • November 2013

## Rahway Chamber of Commerce HOLIDAY PARTY & NETWORKING EVENT

Tuesday  
**DECEMBER 10**  
6:00 to 7:30 pm  
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## RAHWAY SOPHOMORE ATTENDS NATIONAL 4-H SCIENCE DAY

Christopher Stardford, a Rahway High School sophomore, joined other students from New Jersey and around the country at the annual 4-H National Youth Science Day held on Wednesday, October 9, 2013 in Washington, DC. He and another Rahway sophomore, Sean Penaranda, were both nominated to represent Union County but Sean was not able to attend because of scheduling conflicts. The event was an opportunity for learning more about Geographic Information System (GIS) and for sharing what had been learned through the Samsung 4-H Summer Science Program which the students had attended at Rutgers in July.

Both Christopher and Sean, along with Rahway High School sophomore Osaze Morris, took part in the Samsung Rutgers summer program. Initially, they spent a week doing experiments relating about how Hurricane Sandy impacted trees at the Rutgers Ecological Preserve. The information they gathered on the damage was put into the GIS through Samsung phones.

Later, Sean and Chris went out to local communities, Sean to the Elizabeth Public Library and Christopher to the Rahway Recreation Center with the Union County 4-H Agent, Jim Nichnadowicz, to teach other young people about engineering. Christopher helped youth build paper bridges that were able to support much more weight than one would expect, while Sean helped children make cardstock gliders that travelled significant distances.

The annual 4-H National Science Day gathering of students and educators is the highlight of 4-H STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programs. For over a hundred years 4-H has provided youth with out-of-school science education through the county extension programs of the Department of Agriculture, reaching every



(above, l-r) Sean Penaranda and Christopher Stradford, Rahway High School sophomores, who were nominated to attend the annual 4-H National Science Day in Washington based on their activities last summer that included attendance at the Samsung Rutgers Science program and teaching other young people in the county about engineering.

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## Message from the President

### SPECIAL OFFER TO NEW MEMBERS

As president of the Chamber, I am very familiar with Rahway's businesses and the individuals who own them, as well as many other individuals and organizations that help comprise this community. And as anyone holding this office should be, I am certain of the value of this organization provides—in connecting individuals, in strengthening community bonds, and in boosting the environment for business and quality of life.

But many readers of this publication may not be as well plugged in as me. That's why I have been happy to hear recent testimonials of the Chamber's worth and see examples of how it is beginning to succeed only a few short years after its reformation.

To that end, I'm happy to announce a new feature in each issue of Our Town that will spotlight in practical terms how the Chamber is fostering connections and boosting business. Individuals and businesses who have worked with Chamber businesses/members will recount their success stories in brief vignettes detailing how the connection was made, the work that was done, and the (hopefully) the lasting impact of this new connection.

The Chamber provides numerous opportunities to network and socialize during the course of the year, and it will be great to be able to tell others how these opportunities panned out. If you've had a success story (ie, you made a connection using the chamber business directory or through a general meeting or networking event) that you'd like to share with other members, please get in touch with me and I'll get you started with this pain-free process.

Read the first testimonial below.

For more information about the Rahway Chamber of Commerce, visit our website at [www.rahwaychamberofcommerce.com](http://www.rahwaychamberofcommerce.com). You can attend a general meeting for free. Our next general meeting will be Thursday, November 21st, 8:30 am at the Masonic Lodge on Irving Street. I look forward to seeing you there.

*Tom Bayone*

Tom Bayone can be reached by calling 732-396-3990, by e-mail at [tom@mrbprinting.com](mailto:tom@mrbprinting.com), or by mail at PO Box #277, Rahway, NJ 07065.

**[www.rahwaychamberofcommerce.com](http://www.rahwaychamberofcommerce.com)**

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TESTIMONIAL *Submitted by Colin Gittens*

Like many others in town, I lost a large tree last year during Superstorm Sandy. Although a tree company had removed most of it, a massive stump remained. At a chamber networking event earlier this year, I was introduced to John Bond of Hanson Contracting. In speaking with John, I learned that in addition to carpentry / construction, another part of his business involved heavy equipment and excavation. I described the situation in my backyard, and he agreed to come over and take a look. Just last

weekend, John and his crew came in, dug out the stump, and disposed of it in no time at all - neatly, professionally, and at reasonable cost. And perhaps because of the Chamber introduction, it felt less like hiring an unknown entity than it did having your buddy over to help you out.

I highly recommend them and if you need their service, please call John at 732-727-2382. Hanson Contracting has been a member of the Chamber since 2011.

## Advertise in this newspaper

Each month 4,000 newspapers are printed and 3,000 are mailed free to businesses and homes in Rahway with the balance being distributed free throughout town. Drop off points include the Library, Senior Center, City Hall, Recreation Center.

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**FARM & CRAFT  
MARKET THURSDAYS**

Rahway's Farmers Market will run through the summer at the Train Station Plaza, located at the intersection of Irving and Main Streets in downtown Rahway. The Market will be held on Thursdays through October from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. and features locally-produced from New Jersey, as well as baked goods and crafts.

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**COYOTES  
IN UNION COUNTY**

Just as deer are now often seen in our area, coyotes have also expanded their range, living and hunting in our parks and woodlands.

Scared and elusive of humans, most coyotes are never directly seen by the public. In the west, howling is a sure sign there is a pack in the region, but adjusting to their new environments most coyotes do not howl in urban areas. This makes their presence much harder to detect.

Coyotes are a natural predator to much of the wildlife we find in Rahway; rabbits, rodents, groundhogs, Canada geese and deer fawns in the spring. This helps keep down the populations of these animals which can become a nuisance.

Sadly coyotes will also take pets, small dogs and cats. If you live in an area where coyotes might roam take extra caution, especially at night. Fencing in your yard and keeping cats indoors will help avoid heartbreak. Missing cats are one of the first signs of coyotes in the area.

Some Eastern coyotes have fur that is black or reddish. This hybridization was caused by coyotes interbreeding with domesticated dogs.



*Coyotes are predominantly brownish gray, with erect ears, a slender muzzle and a bushy tail. Eastern coyote males average 45 pound and females 30 lbs. In body form and size coyotes resemble a small collie dog.*



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

**IF YOU SEE A COYOTE DO NOT TURN YOUR BACK  
AND DO NOT RUN AWAY**

Coyotes can reach a speed of 40 MPH. Instead, stand tall and straight and never look away. Clap your hands, wave your arms, scream, shout, and if possible throw rocks and sticks at it. This will scare it away and help increase its fear of humans. Do not chase coyotes. If cornered they will turn on you. Thankfully, coyotes are afraid of humans and will quickly scurry away.

For more information on coyotes contact Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County Helpline. 908-654-9852

**AUTUMN GARDEN CLEAN-UP**

As well as raking leaves a thorough clean-up will help keep your garden healthy. Pests and diseases overwinter in dead plants. Be sure to remove dead vegetable plants and cut your flowers down to the ground. If you know that your plants were diseased, put them into the trash and not into your compost bin. This will help prevent it from recurring next season. Stop soil fungus and disease by rotating your vegetable plants every year.

*Happy Gardening, James*

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## NJ HALL OF FAME'S MOBILE MUSEUM MAKES A STOP AT RAHWAY SCHOOL

Students from Franklin Elementary in Rahway school enjoyed an exclusive tour of the NJ Hall of Fame's (NJHOF) Mobile Museum. The visit was an extension activity aligned with the students' Social Studies curriculum. Students were invited to explore the 850 square foot expandable trailer, which was parked right outside their school!

The "field trip on wheels" allowed students to interact with many multimedia exhibits, images, and artifacts showcasing everyone from Bruce Springsteen and Buzz Aldrin to Thomas Edison and Rahway's own Carl Sagan. After learning all about notable New Jersey residents, the students returned to their classrooms and used the knowledge they gained to work on various projects, including reports, essays, and even NJ Hall of Fame trading cards.

After school, parents were invited to

accompany their children aboard, as well.

The New Jersey Hall of Fame was created to honor citizens who have made invaluable contributions to society and the world beyond. The Hall of Fame reinforces the message to children that they can and should strive for excellence in any endeavor of their choosing. By presenting significant and powerful role models and teaching young people about the voting process, the Hall of Fame is a source of learning, inspiration and hope for children.

The Mobile Museum was designed by two giants in the world of architecture and museum design: Hall of Fame architect and designer Michael Graves, and Ralph Appelbaum Associates, renowned planner and designer of museum exhibitions.

For more information, please log on to [www.njhalloffame.org](http://www.njhalloffame.org).




**THANKSGIVING  
FOOD BASKET GIVEAWAY**  
Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> | noon - 7pm

Last year the Thanksgiving Baskets provided all the ingredients for a traditional meal to over 800 families. This year we plan to distribute more to local families in need. Bring names & addresses of those families you wish to receive baskets & turkeys. FOR REGISTRATION REQUIRED!

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## RAHWAY'S FALL FISHING FLEA MARKET


On Saturday, November 23, 2013, the Rahway Fall Fishing Flea Market will celebrate their 17th year at St. Thomas Church Hall at 1400 St. Georges Ave., Rahway, NJ. A wide variety of salt and fresh water fishing tackle will be on display for anglers looking for great buys. New, used, antique, custom fishing and boating items will be available to all. Door prizes will be given away every half hour which include rods, reels, tackle and much more. Food and refreshments are sponsored by St. Thomas Holy Name Society. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission price is \$4.00 per adult, children 12 and under are free. For show or vendor information to go [www.fishingfleamarkets.com](http://www.fishingfleamarkets.com) or call 732-381-2165.

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## RAHWAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – TONY HALL

Interested in all modes of transportation at an early age, Tony Hall has declared that “It’s hidden in my genes” and claims that, regarding vehicles, he is attracted to “anything that moves!” With an Uncle and several neighbors who worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad, it’s also no wonder that Tony was entranced by the fascination of tracks and trains.

His Uncle was a Master Passenger Agent and made accommodations for the New York Yankees, the Giants, and the Brooklyn Dodgers. Tony recalled that his Uncle Don had several stories about all the Yankee greats of the 1920’s and 30’s, including none other than Babe Ruth himself. En route home from yet another wildly victorious road trip, another well-oiled party erupted in the Yankees’ private observation car at the end of the train. After a series of double dares, Babe and some others lifted the diminutive manager, Miller Huggins aloft and dangled him by the ankles over the rear platform of the open-end car, his face clearing the roadbed below by mere inches at speeds approaching 100 miles per hour. This incident was portrayed in the 1992 John Goodman film, “The Babe.” No one was injured, incredibly. Tony went on to say that his Uncle should’ve written a book chronicling his time on the rails with the teams.

Tony traces his interest in streetcars to seemingly interminable shopping trips when he

was “dragged” to Newark as a young child where he and his mother reached Kresge’s Basement via the City subway’s trolley cars.

Forty years ago Tony and some friends purchased a derelict trolley body from a Long Valley farmer and began a life-long project of restoring it. In 1985, he founded Rahway’s North Jersey Electric Railroad Historical Society, now grown to over 150 members, coast-to-coast. The group meets monthly here in town and has collected half a dozen vintage streetcars each in various stages of restoration.

Tony was invited to join the Rahway Chamber of Commerce by Bob Markey in 2011 and was subsequently appointed to the Board of Trustees. He has been reporting to the Chamber at its monthly meetings on transit topics affecting Rahway and the vicinity. He also serves on several transportation panels statewide and represents Rahway on the Union County Transportation Advisory Board.

Tony recognizes the advances that we’ve made in recent years, but hastens to add that more remains to be done. “With more and more people choosing a lifestyle less dependent on the automobile, we need to be planning and funding additional bus routes to connect our railroad stations with their surrounding areas. Planning for future transit needs will assure a prominent place for Rahway in the changing world to come,” Hall says.

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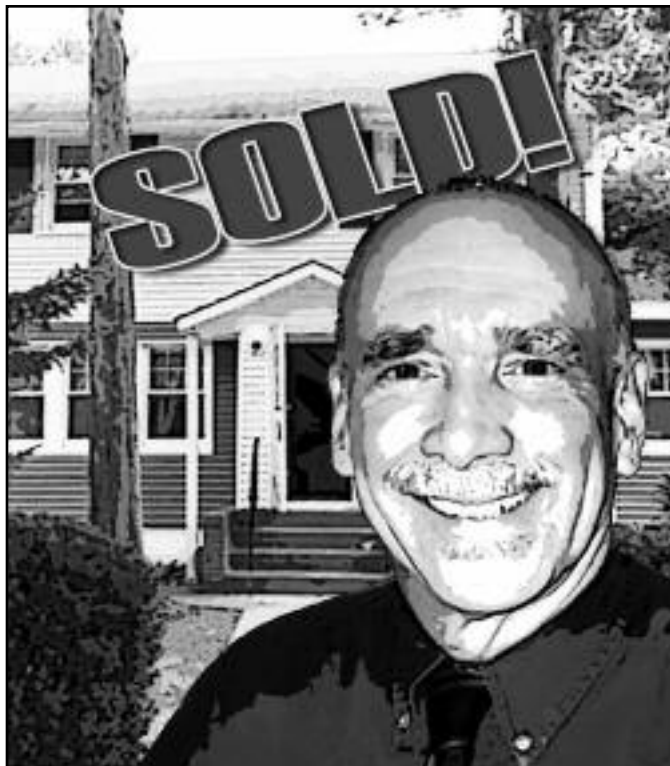
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# HIGH SCHOOL TO PERFORM COMEDY RUMORS

## Rahway High School to Present “SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD”

Submitted by: Alison Dooley-Director  
**JAN. 10 & 11, 2014 -7:30 PM**

Rahway High School Musical Theatre class will present a production of “Songs for a New World,” a 1995 Off-Broadway Musical with music, lyrics and book by Jason Robert Brown.

Although many refer to this piece as a musical revue or song cycle. Each song tells a story, which can be mined for meaning and for personal interpretation as well.

The book presents diverse characters at various times and situations facing different choices. Jason Robert Brown has said of his show, “It’s about one moment. It’s about hitting a wall and having to make a choice to take a stand, or to turn around and go back.”

Our cast of “Songs for a New World” has chosen not to go back but to go forward and find the moment in each of these songs to shine!

We hope you can join us in that MOMENT!

For tickets call our Box Office @  
732-396-2966-General Admission \$8.00

The Performing Arts Department at Rahway High School will be performing Rumors as its first play in its brand new Performing Arts facility. Neil Simon’s Rumors is a fast paced, hilarious romp through misunderstandings and miscommunications, pratfalls and slamming doors.

Performances will be on Friday November 22 and Saturday November 23 at 7:30 pm in the Rahway High School auditorium at 1012 Madison Avenue, Rahway NJ 07065. General admission tickets are \$7.00 and can be reserved by calling the RHS box office at 732-396-2966. Contact: Jeffrey Romano, email jromano@rahway.net. Cell # 908-240-6656.



(above, l-r) Emmy Melendez and Shanice Williams from the cast of Rahway High School’s production of Rumors rehearses as the set, an upscale house in Westchester New York, goes up behind them.

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## THE PETERSTOWN BOOK RECORDS 100 YEARS OF ORAL HISTORY OF AN ITALIAN AMERICAN NEIGHBORHOOD

*The Peterstown Book, Published by Joe & Tina Renna*

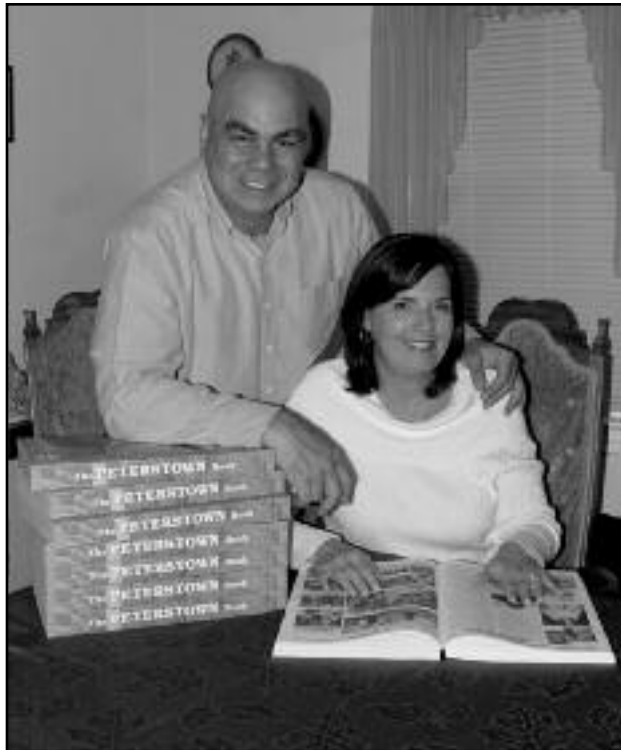
The Peterstown Book is the 100-year history of an Italian-American neighborhood told through stories about the people and families who lived there. The book records the oral history in danger of being lost and illustrates the traditions and customs of the community through thousands of photos, hundreds of recipes, and anecdotes shared by residents past and present.

The book has mass appeal to anyone interested in American history and how the rich Italian culture was weaved into it by those who arrived since the turn of the 20th century and their descendants. Every aspect of life is represented in its chapters, especially the dynamics of the family, social clubs and of the church. The book shows the contributions that were made to society in the arts and entertainment fields, sports, science, humanities and of course "the food." Over 200 recipes accompanied by background stories fill a hundred-page chapter.

People of all ethnicities can relate to universal themes addressed in the book highlighting the struggles and triumphs of families in search of the American dream, which was achieved through hard work, a strong family value system and dedication to the church.

This book is not only about the greatest

generation but also of those who gave rise to them and the generations that followed. It is a nostalgic look at The Great Depression, WWII and Baby Boomers. It also serves as a guide to future generations who, sadly, will not experience the sense of community that was prevalent in these old-time neighborhoods. The Peterstown Book intends to preserve the great Italian-American culture of the past century.



## MERCHANTS AND DROVERS TAVERN 4TH GRADE TRIP



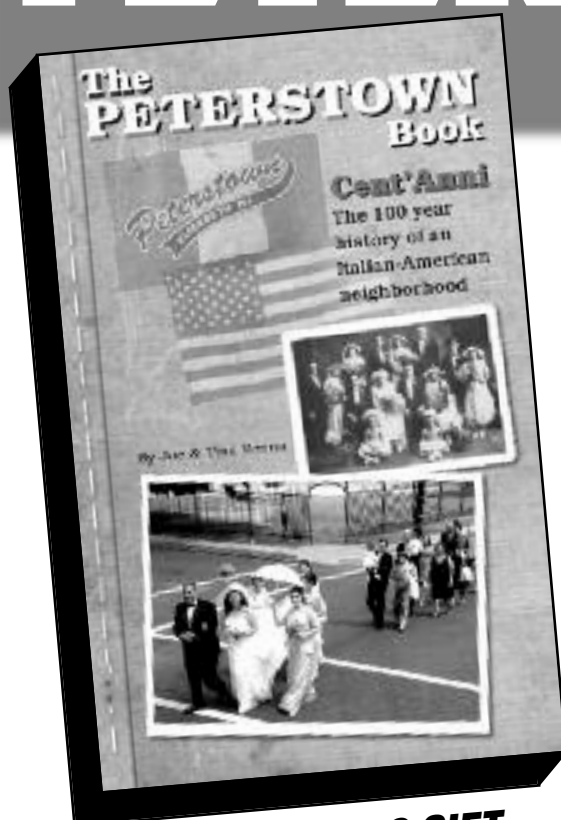
Fourth grade students at Madison Elementary School in Rahway, NJ visited Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum. Mrs. Ann Horner, a museum volunteer helped explain to the students what the tavern looked like and what life was like when it was first built in 1795.

Also, Mr. Shipley, a life-long resident, teacher, and historian of Rahway led the students through the cemetery. He explained that five signers of the Declaration of Independence were from New Jersey. One being, Abraham Clark, whose headstone happens to be here in Rahway. A great time was had by all and the students went back to their classrooms with an abundance of knowledge they learned from both volunteers.

Anyone who would like to retail the book in their place of business should contact Joe at 908-447-1295 or email [info@rennamedia.com](mailto:info@rennamedia.com)

# The PETERSTOWN Book

By Joe & Tina Renna



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## PRE-THANKSGIVING GIVING

Mrs. Jennifer Stout, the school nurse at Roosevelt School in Rahway, has been donating to the Rahway "Food For Friends" food bank. The school has collected over 1050 lbs. of collecting non-perishable food items to be food.



(above, l-r) Gina DelBene, Caitlyn Sorber, Anna Daniels, Roksana Najjar, Aidan Evans, and Mrs. Stout, School Nurse Mrs. Jennifer Stout.

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## RED RIBBON WEEK



(above) Students at Madison Elementary School kicked off Red Ribbon week on Monday, October 21st 2013, by sporting red bracelets that read, "A Healthy Me is Drug Free!" to promote a happy and healthy lifestyle that says, "No to Drugs!" A full week of events included, wearing red, an Hawaiian day, "to catch the wave of a drug free life," showing good character by bringing in can goods for the food bank, and crazy hair day to,



(above) Franklin School teacher, Mrs. Laura Lopez and 5th grade students, Oscar Dominguez and Kaylee Van Pelt with their crazy hair to celebrate, "Hair's to a drug free life" to celebrate Red Ribbon Week.



(above) Students at Madison School "Caught the Wave of a Drug Free Life," and wore Hawaiian style clothes to school during Red Ribbon Week.

## SIXTH GRADE FALL FESTIVAL

Roosevelt Elementary School in Rahway held their Sixth Grade Fall Festival recently. Sixth graders had the opportunity to take part in an afternoon filled with various fall activities. First, students were able to choose a pumpkin to their liking. After that, they enjoyed tasty apple cider and apple cider doughnuts. When students finished their refreshments, they took part in three activities. Each activity had an educational focus relating to math, science, and language arts. In the math activity, students had to measure the girth and weight of their pumpkin and estimate the weight of the large pumpkin. The largest pumpkin was awarded to Donye Jones estimating the nearest weight of 32.8 pounds. The science activity comprised of the life cycle of a pumpkin. Students drew out the process in a booklet that they created. In the language arts activity, students received a pumpkin acrostic in which they had to write adjectives to describe their pumpkins. In all, students were full of smiles and laughter while learning.



(above) Donye Thorpe, who was awarded the prize for estimating the correct weight of the pumpkin.

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# THE YMCA OF EASTERN UNION COUNTY SUPPORTS MILITARY FAMILIES

OUR TOWN *Rahway* • Page 15 • November 2013

The YMCA of Eastern Union County offers opportunities to help military families during Military Family Month and beyond

Union County, November 2013 – Military Family Month provides all Americans the opportunity to recognize the dedication, sacrifice and service of military personnel and their families. The YMCA of Eastern Union County recognizes military families this November, and all year round, by bringing families together to have fun, grow, strengthen their relationships and build connections with other families waiting at home.

“The Y encourages everyone to recognize the sacrifices that military members and their families make in service to our country,” said Alane McCahey, Senior Director of Association Communication, YMCA of Eastern Union County, “Residents of Union County can also show support for military personnel by getting involved with the Y or other local organizations that help military families here in our community.”

In support of military families, the YMCA offers a free family membership to qualifying Title 10 personnel and their families, through the Military Outreach Initiative. Those currently eligible to participate in the initiative include: All families of joint deployed National Guard and Reserves; Active Duty Independent Duty station personnel (single or family members); Relocated spouses and family members of deployed Active Duty personnel; and Community Based Wounded Warrior Transition Unit personnel and their families. All branches of the YMCA of Eastern Union County in Elizabeth, Union and Rahway participate in this program for the surrounding communities, allowing families to participate in programs that advance development and healthy living.

To learn more about the YMCA of Eastern Union County and its programming that supports military families, please contact the YMCA of Eastern Union County Rahway Branch at rahwayinfo@ymcaeuc.org, 908-388-0057, or visit us at www.ymcaeuc.org.



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**The library will be closed on December 24 and 25  
and will close at 1 pm on December 31.**

### BOOK BINGO:

For ages 18+; everyone wins!  
Tuesday, December 10 at 2:00 pm

### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING:

All are welcome to attend.  
Thursday, December 12 at 7:00 pm

### READER'S CIRCLE BOOK GROUP:

This month's title: "The Secret Daughter"  
by Shilpi Somaya Gowda  
Wednesday, December 18 at 2:00 pm

## TEEN EVENTS

### COUNT THE CANDY CANES CONTEST!:

Guess how many are in our jar.  
Closest guess wins it at the end of the month  
December 1-30  
Happy Holidays from the Teen Circle!

### CHILDREN'S EVENTS

TODDLER TIME: Story and craft ages 3 and under  
Tuesday, December 3, 10, and 17 at 10:30 am

### COOKS AND BOOKS PRESENTS: Lots of latkes

Registration Required  
Thursday, December 5 at 6:30 pm

### CHRISTMAS STORY & CRAFT:

Holiday themed story & craft  
Wednesday, December 18 at 6:30 pm

### DROP-IN HOLIDAY CRAFT: Holiday themed craft

Saturday, December 21 9-5 pm

### LEARN ABOUT KWANZAA:

Saturday, December 28 at 1:00 pm

### NEW YEARS NOON:

Tuesday, December 31 at 11:00 am

## THE LIBRARY, THE FRIENDS - AND YOU - MATTER

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



Colin Gittens

In the course of many of these columns, I may point out that the Friends of the Library "exist to provide financial support for the library and its programs." As president of this group, I have some idea of the fiscal workings of the library, but it recently occurred to me that many of you may not. So when I say "financial support," I'd like you to know what that is, and how that differs from the "normal" means of support. And in a larger sense, why does financial support through the Friends of the Library matter?

In short, as a public municipal facility, the city provides its funding. So employee salaries, utilities, building maintenance, and monies for books, periodicals, and other media are all provided for under the city budget. And

although these monies have kept the library operating, you can imagine when thinking about your own personal finances that circumstances change and budgets do too. Even though city funding has increased in the current year (hooray!), the previous 4 years saw a budget that remained flat.

And as in our personal lives and finances, where there are needs and then there are wants, so too for our library. It is essential that the staff be paid, the lights kept on, and the Internet connected. But is a summer reading program, or a Halloween celebration that draws families into the library absolutely essential?

Perhaps not, in a narrow reading of that term... But if you had been at last month's Halloween program (which was supported by the Friends), and saw the faces of the children as stories were told... If you had marveled at the joy they expressed... If you had seen families coming together through group costumes in our town's little hub of community...then, I'll bet, you'd understand what a blessing these extra programs can be!

But the fact is that money is not always available for such events. In those instances, the Friends are very pleased to support these community-bonding programs.

And just to be clear—we are only the facilitators. The ideas for these programs come from the library staff, and the Friends are very fortunate to work with such a dynamic bunch, which put these events together, staffs them, and does all the hard work.

So if you'd also like to put your support behind the library, why not fill out the form on this page and return it with your donation? Better yet, bring it with you and join us at our next regularly scheduled meeting (we meet the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the library). On Dec. 12, we'll have Christmas cookies and other temptations to draw you out. Please join us!

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# THE EMPIRE THEATER

*Submitted by Al Shipley, City historian and Rahway Library research consultant*

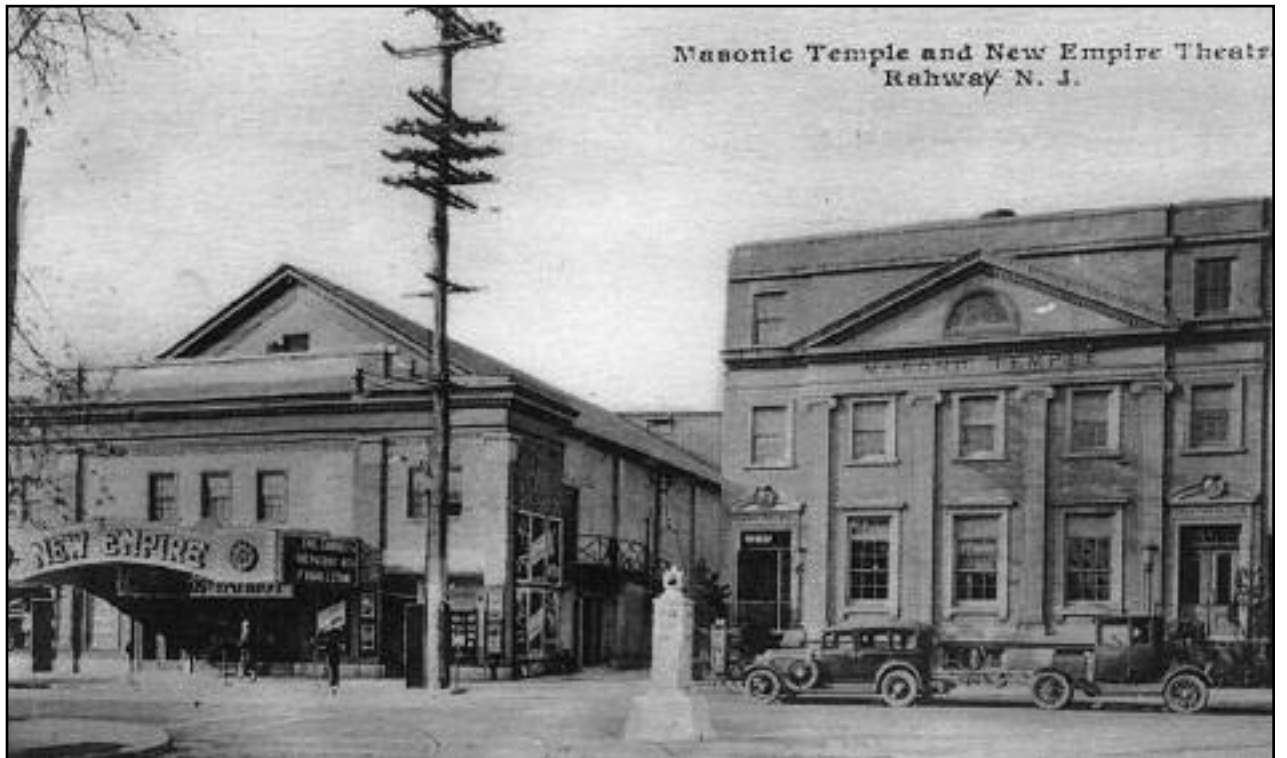
Growing up in Rahway and reaching an age in the mid nineteen fifties when I could go to the movies with friends, the only operating theater in the city was the huge Rahway Theater on Irving Street. Had I grown up some ten years earlier in the mid-forties I would have had a choice of patronizing one of two local theaters. Just down the street from the “Rahway” opposite Elizabeth Avenue and next to the Masonic Temple was the Empire Theater, a movie house that dated back to 1913.

When the Empire opened on the night of Monday, February 3, 1913 the sellout crowd must have been impressed as they entered one of the most up-to-date theaters in Union County. The 817 seat auditorium had a large stage that could accommodate all manner of live shows. There was room for an eighteen piece orchestra to accompany the performers. The opening night feature, “The Parisienne Minstrels,” was advertised as a show “not like anything else you have ever seen.” Second on the billing was a musical gem in three settings titled “Sweethearts.” Tickets for opening night ranged in price from thirty-five cents to one dollar.

In its early years the Empire showcased the finest entertainment in the area and is credited with having shown the first moving picture in Rahway on March 25, 1913. Four motion pictures were presented that evening as part of a ten feature schedule which included six live acts.

By the twenties the business was doing so well the owners remodeled and enlarged the theater. Between 1923 and 1924 the outside façade and marquee were modernized and approximately one hundred fifty seats were added. The Grand Opening of the “New Empire” was held on Monday, December 15, 1924 featuring the movie “Welcome Stranger” along with several clever vaudeville acts.

What looked like a promising future, however, was short lived. On October 16, 1928 the Rahway Theater opened creating



competition that would begin the steady demise of the Empire.

Throughout the 1930s and 1940s ticket sales at the Empire sagged and as revenues dropped it became difficult to maintain and improve the facility. Never able to compete with the newer and larger “Rahway,” the Empire quickly took on the reputation of being antiquated, if not seedy. While their neighbor down the street was showing first run movies seven days a week, the Empire, now open on weekends only, was resigned to show second-rate westerns, horror films and war dramas. In its last few years the usual staple of titles included westerns such as “Black Bart” and “Fury of Furnace Creek,” war flicks like “Gung Ho” and “Eagle Squadron,” and from the horror genre, “House of Frankenstein,” “White Gorilla,” and “Unknown Island.” Having no prospect of improving their failing situation the Empire closed on Sunday, March 2, 1952. The last shows were “Sante Fe” and “A Yank in Korea.”

Ownership had plans to convert the building

into a roller skating rink, as skating was a popular activity in the early fifties, but Irving Street merchants protested the conversion. The store owners cited parking problems, traffic congestion and the potential problems associated with the juvenile crowd. When a variance was brought before the city council, the elected officials sided with the merchants and rejected the application.

The building remained vacant for almost two years becoming a magnet for teens that would congregate in the abandoned theater before and after school. On the morning of February 5, 1954 a fire, perhaps accidentally set by the young intruders, ignited the rear portion of the theater. Although the building was not lost a Rahway fireman died as a result of fighting the blaze.

In the mid-fifties, the Empire was renovated for commercial and office use. Today the building still stands and presently houses a Chinese restaurant, a nail salon and spa, and has office space for several businesses.

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 Includes Beer, Wine, Soda, Coffee & Dessert  
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## POLICE DEPT JOINS FACEBOOK & TWITTER

The Rahway Police Department has joined the popular social networking sites Facebook and Twitter to more effectively provide timely information to the community.

The Facebook and Twitter pages will have information on recent news releases, department events, road closures, emergency information, severe weather alerts, along with other programs and services offered by our department. Twitter users can follow us at [twitter.com/RahwayPolice](https://twitter.com/RahwayPolice), and Facebook users can "like" us at <https://www.facebook.com/RahwayPolice> to receive updates as soon as they are posted.

"The Rahway Police Department understands the public's desire to stay informed on events in their community, especially when emergency conditions exist. Utilizing social networking is just another way for the Rahway Police Department to help keep residents informed on what's going on in their neighborhoods," said Rahway Police Chief John Rodger.

We will also continue to use the Nixle notification system, which provides real time

notifications through email and text messaging to the public free of charge. In order to receive Nixle alerts, users must register at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com).

Rahway Mayor Samson Steinman wholeheartedly supports these efforts. "During the power outage resulting from Superstorm Sandy, communication with citizens proved difficult. These steps being undertaken by the Rahway Police Department are a continuing effort to be able to inform our citizens of events occurring in their community."

Additionally, the Rahway Police Department will be utilizing "door hanger" tags to notify residents of important incidents. The door hangers alert residents that the police are investigating an incident or suspicious activity in their neighborhood.

Residents can call the police department "TIPS" Line at 732/ 388-1553 (confidential) with information about crimes and suspicious activities. They can also email us at [neighborhoodwatch@rahwaypolice.com](mailto:neighborhoodwatch@rahwaypolice.com).

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Ballantine	1.75L	\$28.99	Cardenal Mendoza	750ml	\$39.99	Bailey's Irish Cream	750ml	\$19.99
Black & White	1.75L	\$28.99	Courvoisier V.S.	750ml	\$24.99	Bailey's Irish Cream	1.75L	\$39.99
Buchanan's 12yrs old	750ml	\$27.99	Courvoisier V.S.	1.75L	\$54.99	Carolans Irish Cream	750ml	\$10.99
Bushmill's Irish	1.75L	\$39.99	E & J V.S. Brandy	750ml	\$ 8.99	Carolans Irish Cream	1.75L	\$19.99
Canadian Club	1.75L	\$19.99	E & J V.S. Brandy	1.75L	\$20.99	Kahlua	750ml	\$19.99
Canadian Mist	1.75L	\$17.99	E & J V.S.O.P. Brandy	750ml	\$10.99	Kahlua	1.75L	\$32.99
Chivas Regal	750ml	\$31.99	E & J V.S.O.P. Brandy	1.75L	\$21.99	Krupnik	750ml	\$13.99
Chivas Regal	1.75L	\$56.99	Hennessy V.S.	750ml	\$29.99	Licor 43	750ml	\$19.99
Chivas Regal 18 yrs old	750 ml	\$64.99	Hennessy V.S.	1.75L	\$59.99	Licor 43	1.75L	\$39.99
Clan Macgregor	750ml	\$11.99	Leroux Blackberry	750ml	\$11.99	Patron XO Café	750ml	\$22.99
Clan Macgregor	1.75L	\$19.99	Leroux Blackberry	1.75L	\$19.99	Patron XO Café	1.75L	\$47.99
Crown Royal	750ml	\$26.99	Paul Masson Amber	750ml	\$10.99	Southern Comfort	750ml	\$17.99
Crown Royal	1.75L	\$45.99	Paul Masson Amber	1.75L	\$19.99	Southern Comfort	1.75L	\$26.99
Dewars 12yrs old	750ml	\$29.97	Remy Martin 1738	750ml	\$49.99	RUM		
Dewars 12yrs old	1.75L	\$59.99	Remy Martin V.S.O.P.	750ml	\$37.99	Bacardi Light & Gold	750ml	\$13.99
Dewars White Label	750 ml	\$19.99	Remy Martin V.S.O.P.	1.75L	\$84.99	Bacardi Light & Gold	1.75L	\$19.99
Dewars White Label	1.75L	\$31.99	VODKA			Captain Morgan Spice	1.75L	\$25.99
Famous Grouse	750ml	\$19.99	Absolut (regular)	750ml	\$19.99	Malibu	750ml	\$16.99
Famous Grouse	1.75L	\$31.99	Absolut (regular)	1.75L	\$29.99	Malibu	1.75L	\$24.99
Gentleman Jack	750ml	\$28.99	Belvedere Vodka	750ml	\$28.99	TEQUILA		
Gentleman Jack	1.75L	\$49.99	Belvedere Vodka	1.75L	\$45.99	Avion Silver	750ml	\$33.99
Glenfiddich 12 yrs old	750ml	\$43.99	Ciroc (all types)	750ml	\$29.99	El Jimador Reposado	750ml	\$19.99
Glenlivet 12yrs old	750 ml	\$37.99	Ciroc (all types)	1.75L	\$55.99	El Jimador Reposado	1.75L	\$29.99
Glenlivet 12yrs old	1.75L	\$72.99	Finlandia	750ml	\$15.99	Jose Cuervo	750ml	\$19.99
Grants	750ml	\$13.99	Finlandia	1.75L	\$25.99	Jose Cuervo	1.75L	\$32.99
Grants	1.75L	\$23.99	Fris	1.75L	\$18.99	Patron Silver	750ml	\$39.99
Jack Daniels	750ml	\$23.99	Grey Goose	750ml	\$29.99	Patron Silver	1.75L	\$79.99
Jack Daniels	1.75L	\$42.99	Grey Goose (all types)	1.75L	\$55.99	BEER		
Jameson	750ml	\$26.99	Ketel One	750ml	\$26.99	Becks (12oz) 24pk	24pk	\$22.99
Jameson	1.75L	\$48.99	Ketel One	1.75L	\$37.99	Budweiser Family cans	30pk	\$21.99
Jim Beam Whisky	1.75L	\$28.99	Majorska	750ml	\$ 8.99	Budweiser loose bottle	24pk	\$16.99
Johnnie Walker Blue	750ml	\$174.99	Majorska	1.75L	\$13.99	Coors Lite (24oz) can	12pk	\$10.99
Johnnie Walker Blue	1.75L	\$399.99	Pinnacle (all types)	750ml	\$13.99	Coors Lite can/Miller Lite can	30pk	\$21.99
John Barr Red	1.75L	\$19.99	Pinnacle (all types)	1.75L	\$19.99	Coors Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$16.99
Johnnie Walker Black	750ml	\$32.99	Sky	1.75L	\$22.99	Corona/Corona Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$25.99
Johnnie Walker Black	1.75L	\$61.99	Smirnoff Vodka 80 proof	750ml	\$10.99	Dab (16oz) cans	24pk	\$20.99
Johnnie Walker Double Black	750ml	\$39.99	Smirnoff Vodka (all types)	1.75L	\$19.99	Famosa Lager cans	24pk	\$18.99
Johnnie Walker Gold	750ml	\$84.99	Sobieski	750ml	\$11.99	Guinness Pub cans (14.9oz)	24pk	\$29.99
Johnnie Walker Gold	1.75L	\$129.99	Sobieski	1.75L	\$18.99	Heineken/Heineken Lite	24pk	\$24.99
Johnnie Walker Red	750ml	\$19.99	Soplica	750ml	\$ 9.99	Lech (500ml)	20pk	\$26.99
Johnnie Walker Red	1.75L	\$32.99	Soplica	1.75L	\$18.99	Pilsner Urquell	24pk	\$27.99
Knob Creek 9 yrs old	750ml	\$31.99	Stolichnaya (all types)	1.75L	\$31.99	Sagres Beer	24pk	\$16.99
Macallan 12yrs old	750ml	\$47.99	Svedka (all types)	750ml	\$11.99	Sam Adams Lager	24pk	\$26.99
Makers Mark	750ml	\$26.99	Svedka (all types)	1.75L	\$19.99	Stella Artois bottles	24pk	\$26.99
Makers Mark	1.75L	\$47.99	Tanqueray Sterling	750ml	\$22.99	Super Bock	24pk	\$21.99
Old Smuggler	1.75L	\$19.99	Tanqueray Sterling	1.75L	\$31.99	Tecate cans	24pk	\$16.99
Seagram V.O.	1.75L	\$20.99	Three Olives (all types)	1L	\$22.99	Tyskie (500ml)	20pk	\$24.99
Seagrams 7	1.75L	\$19.99	Three Olives (all types)	1.75L	\$26.99	Warka Radler (500ml) cans	24pk	\$23.99
GIN			Traveler's Vodka	1.75L	\$10.99	Yuengling Lager cans and bottles	24pk	\$17.99
Beefeater	1.75L	\$32.99	“Cold or warm Beer = Same Price”			Zywiec (11.2oz)	24pk	\$19.99
Bombay Sapphire	1.75L	\$39.99	“Visit the store for more In-Store Specials!”					
Seagram's gin	1.75L	\$17.99						
Tanqueray	1.75L	\$37.99						

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<b>Alamos Malbec</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 7.99</b>	<b>Kendall Jackson Vintners Chardonnay</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$11.99</b>
<b>Alta Luna Pinot Grigio</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>	<b>Korbel (All Types except Natural and Organic)</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$11.99</b>
<b>Andre (All Types)</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 5.49</b>	<b>La Crema Sonoma Pinot Noir</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$17.99</b>
<b>Apothic Red</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>	<b>Liberty Creek (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 7.99</b>
<b>Barefoot All Types</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$10.99</b>	<b>Lindemans (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$10.99</b>
<b>Bartenura Moscato</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$10.99</b>	<b>Louis Jadot Beaujolais</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>
<b>Beringer White Zinfandel</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 4.99</b>	<b>Louis Jadot Beaujolais Villages</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 10.99</b>
<b>Beringer White Zinfandel</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>	<b>Louis Jadot Pouilly Fuisse</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$19.99</b>
<b>Black Box (All Types)</b> .....3L .....	<b>\$21.99</b>	<b>Luna di Luna (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$13.99</b>
<b>Blackstone (All Types)</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 7.99</b>	<b>Mark West Pinot Noir</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>
<b>Blackstone (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$14.99</b>	<b>Mark West Pinot Noir</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$18.99</b>
<b>Bogle Chardonnay</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>	<b>Martini &amp; Rossi Asti</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$11.99</b>
<b>Bolla</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$12.99</b>	<b>Martini &amp; Rossi Asti</b> .....1.5 L .....	<b>\$21.99</b>
<b>Campo Viejo Rioja</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>	<b>Menage a Trois Red and Rose</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$10.99</b>
<b>Carlo Rossi (Chablis, Burgundy, Sangria, Blush)</b> .....4L .....	<b>\$13.99</b>	<b>Mezzacorona Pinot Grigio</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$11.99</b>
<b>Casal Garcia Vinho Verde</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 5.99</b>	<b>Mi Amore Red</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>
<b>Cavit (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$13.99</b>	<b>Moet Imperial Champagne</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$36.99</b>
<b>Caymus Napa Valley (Cabernet Sauvignon)</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$65.99</b>	<b>Nando Asti</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>
<b>Chateau ste Michelle Columbia Valley Cabernet and Merlot</b> 750ml .....	<b>\$13.99</b>	<b>Nando Asti</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$15.99</b>
<b>Chateau Ste. Michelle Columbia Valley Chardonnay</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.95</b>	<b>Noble Wine 337, 181, 667</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$10.99</b>
<b>Chateau Ste. Michelle Columbia Valley Riesling</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>	<b>Papi (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 9.95</b>
<b>Che Gaucho (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 7.99</b>	<b>Ravenswood (All Types)</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>
<b>Clos du Bois Chardonnay</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>	<b>Real Sangria</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$10.99</b>
<b>Clos du Bois Chardonnay</b> .....1.5 L .....	<b>\$18.99</b>	<b>Rex Goliath (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>
<b>Clos du Bois Cabernet, Merlot</b> .....750m .....	<b>\$13.99</b>	<b>RM Private Select</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.95</b>
<b>Cockburns Ruby and Tawny Porto</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$10.99</b>	<b>RM Private Select</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$18.99</b>
<b>Concha Y Toro Frontera</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>	<b>Rodney Strong Sonoma Cabernet &amp; Merlot</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$14.95</b>
<b>Coppola Diamond Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$13.99</b>	<b>Rodney Strong Sonoma Chardonnay</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$10.99</b>
<b>Coppola Diamond Chardonnay</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$11.99</b>	<b>Ruffino Chianti</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>
<b>Corbett Canyon (AllTypes)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 7.99</b>	<b>Ruffino Chianti</b> .....1.5 L .....	<b>\$13.99</b>
<b>Cupcake (all types)</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>	<b>Ruffino Pinot Grigio</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$12.99</b>
<b>Don Perignon</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$149.99</b>	<b>Ruffino Chianti Gold</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$27.99</b>
<b>Dreaming Tree (All Types)</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$13.99</b>	<b>Ruffino Tan label</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$19.99</b>
<b>Eco Domani (Pinot Grigio)</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>	<b>Santa Margerita Pinot Grigio</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$19.99</b>
<b>Estancia (Cabernet Sauvignon)</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$12.99</b>	<b>Senor Sangria (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$10.99</b>
<b>Fish Eye (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>	<b>Simi Chardonnay</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$13.99</b>
<b>Flip Flop (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>	<b>Sonoma Cutrer Chardonnay</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$19.99</b>
<b>Franzia (Crisp White,Blush, Sangria, Chilable red)</b> .....5L .....	<b>\$12.99</b>	<b>Sutter Home Moscato/White Zinf</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>
<b>Freixenet</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>	<b>Woodbridge (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$10.99</b>
<b>Gato Negro (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>	<b>Yago Sangria</b> .....3L .....	<b>\$13.99</b>
<b>Gazela Vinho Verde</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 4.95</b>	<b>Yellow Tail (All Types)</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$11.99</b>
<b>Hess Select Chardonnay</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 8.99</b>	<b>Zonin Pinot Grigio</b> .....1.5L .....	<b>\$10.99</b>
<b>J. Lohr Cabernet and Merlot</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$13.99</b>	<b>Zonin Prosecco</b> .....750ml .....	<b>\$ 9.99</b>

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