

The Voice of the Rahway Chamber of Commerce.

Issue 43 • January 2014

NEXT CHAMBER MEETING Thursday JAN. 23, 2014 8:30am to 9:30am **Masonic Lodge** 1550 Irving Street Downtown Rahway All Welcome Coffee & bagels on us!



RAHWAY TRACK RELAY TEAM RUNS FASTEST TIME IN NATION THIS SEASON

During the recent holiday break, Rahway High School Track Team members were busy winning at three events, the Spiked Shoe Invitational at New York Armory on December 23, the Marine Corps Holiday Relay held on December 27 also at the New York Armory, and the Holiday Relay Carnival on December 30 at the Jersey City Armory. Overall the Indians and Lady Indians combined took home over 100 medals. These three successful competitions have helped prepare the team for the Union County Relay Championships held in January.

The highlight of the break was at the Marine Corps Relay with a US #1 performance in the Sprint Medley Relay. Deshawne Bunion, Jordan Scott, Thorne Roberts, and Harlan Clarke combined to run the fastest time in the nation this season, running the second fastest time in school history. Also at the same event during the Shuttle Hurdle Relay, the team consisting of Jeff Reyes, Kurt Williams, Greg Roberts, and Ja-Tyre Epps ran the third fastest time in the nation.



(above, l-r) Rahway High School's Sprint Medley Relay team composed of Harlan Clarke, Thorne Roberts, Jordan Scott, and Deshawne Bunion set a record for the fastest time in the nation for this event for this season at the Holiday Relay Carnival on December 30 at the Jersey City Armory. (Photo is from http://armorytrack.com)

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THE RAHWAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS VERY EXCITED **TO ANNOUNCE OUR 3RD ANNUAL RAHWAY DAY!**

Rahway Day and its theme, "Think Rahway First," was conceived by the Chamber to showcase all that Rahway has to offer to our residents and businesses, while also welcoming newcomers to town.

Rahway Day will take place on May 3, 2014, at our city's library and on Library Plaza from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM, rain or shine. The festive atmosphere, as well as activities for all ages, will make this a great event for everyone.

Our host for the event is the Rahway Public Library, with the support of "Friends of the Rahway Library". The "Friends" will be running their fun filled 4th annual "Race Around Rahway" in conjunction with the Rahway Day celebration. The race will begin at 11:00 AM and the registration table will be located on the Library Plaza.

On Behalf of the Rahway Chamber of Commerce, I would like to encourage each Rahway business, school, organization, house of worship, and city department to participate. We are providing table space both inside and outside at a nominal charge to accommodate the first 50 requests. Sponsorships are also available.

Request your registration packet by emailing Cheryl@rahwaychamberofcommerce.com.

Your presence will help make this event even better!



(above, 1-r) Rahway Day Committee members all ready hard at work: Linda Chandler Freeman, Cheryl Smythe, Carmen McClendon and Alex Szydlowski.





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

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LUXURY APARTMENTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Construction is fully underway at Metro Rahway, the 116-unit luxury rental complex near our train station, and is expected to be ready for leasing in summer 2014, according to the developer's website. The four-story, \$18million project on Campbell Street between Elm Avenue and West Cherry Street will replace the former A&M Hardware which was demolished this past June.

"This project shall become another feather in our downtown's cap" noted local real estate broker and former Rahway Chamber of Commerce president Bob Markey. "Proximity to our city's train station further strengthens our downtown's designation as an important 'Transit Village'. The burgeoning Rahway Arts District,



surrounding shops and pubs and fine restaurants, beautiful parks and recreation centers all add up to create a strong reason for moving to Rahway. Being a short 35 minute train ride to NYC is an integral part of the dynamic making our town a vibrant destination" remarked Markey.



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Each month 5,000 newspapers are printed and 4,000 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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TOYS FOR TOTS

Brooke Coehlo and Lucas Cano from the Blue and Gold Club at Franklin School in Rahway ran a Toys For Tots drive throughout December. Franklin Elementary parents, students and staff donated 7 boxes of toys to the Military Toys for Tots program to ensure all children in Rahway will have a toy for the holidays.



(above, 1-r) Brooke Coehlo and Lucas Cano

RAHWAY HIGH SCHOOL MARINE CORP JUNIOR ROTC GROUP SPONSORS TOYS FOR TOTS

During the month of December, cadets from the Rahway High School Marine Corp. Junior ROTC unit solicited donations of toys from the school for distribution to families in need in the Rahway community.

The nurses in the various schools in the

Rahway district assisted in locating families to receive the toys.

Students have been happy to engage in service to the community. Master Sgt. Gregory Mintz and Gunnery Sgt. Cedric Jefferson lead the unit at Rahway.



(above, l-r) Students from period 3 class of Rahway High School's MCJROTC gather behind mounds of toys.
J. Villavicencio, J. Boyle, A. Marques, M. Durham, I. Santos, E. Ferman, D. Johnson, D. Derius Rodriquez, G. Fils-Aime, E. Goodridge, B. Munoz, C. Dehoyas, J.Bundy, M. Myers, T. Morales, and M. Stanford.





(above, l-r) These Rahway High School students are excited seeing the toys that young children from Rahway will be receiving. Cadets A. Cholula, M. Myers, and B. Munoz.)

(left) Smiles light up the faces of MCJOTC students as will recipients of these donated toys. A. Marques, s. McDonald, D. Johnson, E. Ferman, G. Fils-Aime, and T. Morales.



Diana Huang, M.D., FACOG



Priya R. Patel, M.D., MPH

Start The New Year With A "Top Doctor" Practice

Dr. Huang and Dr. Patel have joined the elite staff of The Rubino OB/GYN Group in Clark.

Dr. Huang joins the group from a private practice at Beth Israel Medical Center as Chief Resident. She attended SUNY-Buffalo School of Medicine & Biomedical Education, completed research at Columbia University and has published multiple abstracts. Dr. Huang specializes in minimally invasive laparoscopic procedures and speaks English and Mandarin Chinese.

Dr. Patel joins the group from a private practice in Philadelphia. She attended Stony Brook University and trained at the prestigious Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She received her Master of Public Health at Columbia University, continued her training in Pennsylvania as a fellow in minimally invasive gynecological procedures and published multiple research articles. Dr. Patel specializes in minimally invasive alternatives to surgery and speaks Gujarati and medical/conversational Spanish.

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Still time to register for fall classes

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732-388-0073 or 7337 Fax 732-388-0027 1086 St. Georges Avenue Rahway, NJ 07065



EASY WINTER BIRD FEEDING: GLEANING

Many people would like to help feed birds during the winter, but for various reasons do not want to get involved with tending bird feeders. When the ground is frozen or covered with snow there is a simple technique you will appreciate and birds love. Simply sprinkle seed on the ground.

Gleaning is a type of foraging during which a bird will deliberately and methodically pick over an area to collect food, typically insects or seeds. Many species that overwinter in our area use this method of feeding for at least part of their diet. Dark-eyed Juncos, White-crowned sparrows, Mourning Doves and even Cardinals will frequent your garden to glean seeds off the ground.

The best seed for this type of feeding are



TOO COLD TO GO OUT? HAVE THE WINTER BLUES? MISS GARDENING? Gather together with other like minded folk of the Rahway Garden Club 3rd Thursday of every month @ Rahway Public Library 7 PM until 8:30 PM Come discuss your love of gardening with us. Next meeting: February 20, 2014 Open to the public - Free - Bring a guest

Thomas J. Gulino, DMD

727 Raritan Road, Suite 202 • Clark, NJ

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

black oil sunflower seeds or finch mix, without corn. The popular wild bird mixes contains a lot of corn which attracts many larger aggressive birds such as Starlings and Grackles which will chase your smaller, and more colorful birds away.

Keep it as simple as possible. Scatter a cup or two of seed in the same area and birds will come back when they need to. I don't sprinkle too much at once because I don't want unnecessary and expensive waste. If you have an easily assessable area with a view from a window, that is perfect. Even if you are a devoted back yard bird watcher, tossing some seed on the ground will give your feathered friends more of choice and area in which to feed.

Fruit in winter is impossible to find but greatly appreciated by birds. If you have overripe apples (sliced), grapes or old raisins, rather than putting them in the trash you can feed it to your birds. If you have a lot of grapes put some in the freezer until you need them. Don't be surprised to see a beautiful Mockingbird in your garden every winter day enjoying an apple or grape.

Enjoy the winter and stay warm, James



Dr. Thomas J. Gulino with staff Takirah Cross and Sonia Sajadiam



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"THE HOUR OF CODE"

Ask the students in Mrs. Scannell's Grade 8 computer classes at the Rahway Academy about the "Hour of Code" and they would say it was "awesome". The "Hour of Code" was the brainchild of Hadi and Ali Partovi founders of code.org, a nonprofit organization aimed at encouraging teaching computer science. The goal of the campaign was to expose ten million people, at any age level, to complete at least one hour of computer programming. The "Hour of Code" was endorsed by celebrities, politicians, athletes and even the President. "Don't just buy a new video game-make one", President Obama urges in the video created to kick-off the campaign.

Using free online tutorials featuring Mark Zuckerberg and Bill Gates, the students completed lessons programming different puzzles for "Angry Birds" and "Plants vs. Zombies". Since this was a self-paced activity, as the students became more comfortable with their skills, they were able to move onto different tutorials such as programming an interactive holiday card.

At the end of the week, Mr. Johnson, principal at Rahway Academy and Mrs. Hart, vice principal, congratulated the students on their

4 HS BAND MEMBERS PERFORM WITH REGION BANDS & ORCHESTRA

Four Rahway High School band members, previously selected by audition, performed with the Region II Honors Bands and Orchestra on Sunday, January 12 at Montgomery High School in Skillman, New Jersey. Robert Parson, bassoon and Saahir Fazaluddin, mallets (first chair) were members of the Symphonic Band while Gabriel Rolon, percussion and Phillip Schroeder, trumpet (second place overall) performed with the Wind Ensemble. accomplishments and by presenting them with certificates on their completion of the "Hour of Code".

The campaign was a tremendous success with 15 million people in 170 countries participating in this event. Students wrote over 500 million lines of code and 1 in 5 US students did the "Hour of Code".

Included in these statistics are the students in Mrs. Scannell's Grade 8 computer classes at the Rahway Academy.



(above, l-r) Shammarah Bellande and Mrs. Hart



(above, l-r) Region II Band and Orchestra performers from Rahway High School from left, Philip Schroeder, Gabriel Rolon, Saahir Fazaluddin, and Robert Parson.



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T-SHIRT BOOK REPORT



(above) Students at Madison School in Mrs. Klein's fourth grade class are paring both their minds and artistic talents by making a "t-shirt book report," on the Weird School Series stories written by Dan Gutman. Gutman will be visiting the school in January and all are excited for him to see their finished work.

"COOL THINGS TO DO INSTEAD OF DRUGS"

Fourth grade students at Franklin Elementary School in Rahway competed in a "Cool Things to Do Instead of Drugs" poster contest. Students drew pictures about fun things to do instead of drugs. Their peers voted for their favorite poster.



(above) The Franklin School winners were Ejay Kearney, Donerah Nazaire, Ariann Munoz, Natalia Grisales. The winning posters were then submitted to a county-wide contest.

JEANS FOR TROOPS

Franklin School in Rahway recently participated in the Jeans for Troops fund raiser which was run by Matthew Mendez, a member of the school's Blue and Gold Club. Faculty and staff members donated money and in exchange were allowed to wear jeans to work. The school collected \$122 which will be donated to the GI GO Fund, a non-profit organization that assists veterans with their return home.



(above) Matthew Mendez

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COAT DRIVE BENEFITS RAHWAY CHILDREN

reminder that winter is upon us. The Rahway Police Department joined forces with a local clothing company in an effort to help keep the children of Rahway warm this winter.

Daron Fashions Inc. generously donated over 125 coats that went directly to less fortunate children in the Rahway community. Members of the Rahway Police Department Detective Bureau reached out to the Rahway school nurses, who helped to identify children in the

The cold and bitter weather is a harsh school system that were truly in need of a warm winter coat. The need this year was much greater than in the past, but Daron Fashions Inc., was able to fulfill their needs entirely. Rahway Mayor Samson Steinman is proud of this joint effort stating, "This is an opportunity to help







Rahway, NJ 07065

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GREETINGS FOR TROOPS



(above, l-r) Yeiser Vega and Semaj Clark, and the rest of the students in Mrs. Faver's class at Roosevelt School in Rahway, made Christmas cards for US Marines stationed in Afghanistan.



Earth Materials, the fourth grade students of Ogdensburg, NJ. Part of the group stops for a Roosevelt School in Rahway recently took a photo op outside the museum.

As a culminating activity to a unit of study of class trip to The Sterling Hill Mining Museum in



(above, back, l-r) Judy Nguyen, Saoirse O'Hara, Brian Alicea, Kevin Quain, Sa-Maya Knordle, Marlynn Dorielan; (front, l-r) Lourdes Torres, Jared Carvajal, Domonic Innocent, Nicole Moncada, Clive Campbell.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY GEARED UP FOR 2014 Submitted by Colin Gittens, President of the Friends of the Rahway Public Library.

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Colin Gittens

The new year is just getting under way, and the Friends of the Rahway Public Library is also getting geared up to begin our work. This year we will be taking on new events in addition to the "regular" events that have

helped spread the gospel of the library in the past few years.

To begin with, our annual book sale will be held in April, and though it may seem early to be talking about that already, we will need your help to ensure the sale's success. We depend on your donations of gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles to provide the stock of the sale. So if you have these things laying around, are considering downsizing, or have moved on to new musical formats, please bring your unwanted items to the library and help us turn them into funds that can help to build the library's future.

As in years past, if you have large numbers of items or especially heavy items, please call ahead (732-340-1551) so we can arrange assistance with getting them directly into storage. If you are homebound or unable to get items to the library, please call 732-221-0205 to arrange a pickup.

Finally, note that this year we are unable to take VHS tapes and cassettes. The demand for these has lessened over the past several years, and we no longer have the space to hold these



The new year is just given the diminishing returns.

In the realm of the new, I have noted briefly in the past several columns that the library will be celebrating its 10th anniversary in the present location at 2 City Hall Plaza. As planning for this proceeds and the date gets closer, I wanted to put out a formal Save the Date notice. So if you have enjoyed using this facility over time, and if you believe in the mission of the library, please come out and show that support at a 10th Anniversary Celebration to be held on Saturday, March 22, at 7 pm. Although planning is still under way, I wanted to be sure that this registers

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on	your	radar,	and	ask	you	to	consider
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The evening will feature light hors d'oeuvres, the bossa-nova stylings of jazz combo Framework, special guest speakers, and tours of the library. Wine, beer, and dessert will also be included in the modestly priced ticket.

Finally, if you wish to participate in the planning of this event, or to simply become a Friend of the Library, please ask for a membership form next time you're in the library or call me at 732-221-0205. We look forward to seeing you at an event coming soon!



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RAHWAY IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Submitted by Al Shipley, City historian and Rahway Library Research Consultant

Those residing in Rahway during the years of the American Revolution must have found life to be extremely difficult. Located between the Loyalist towns of Woodbridge and Perth Amboy to our south and Staten Island to our east, and rebel controlled territories to our north and west, Rahway was in a precarious position. Throughout the war years there were many accounts of harassment by marauding troops, but it was in the first half of 1777 that the inhabitants experienced "real war" within their borders.

For several months prior to 1777, General George Washington had been corresponding with Brigadier General William Maxwell, the officer in charge of this area, in regard to the control of the towns and settlements in Central Jersey. Washington continually stressed the importance of maintaining a sufficient militia made up of men from these places. This was no easy task since British troops were presently in control of much of the area and morale was low.

Washington's surprise attack victory at Trenton on the morning of December, 26, 1776 and his follow-up success at Princeton in early January,1777, however, did much to enliven the spirits of the militia. Washington could sense the tide of affairs swing his way and saw the opportunity to continue his offensive. Immediately after the Princeton battle, the general wrote Maxwell ordering him to gather as many men as possible and chase the British out of Central Jersey. Maxwell began his campaign by driving the British troops down from the Short Hills, through Newark, Springfield, and Elizabethtown, eventually fighting them at Spanktown.

The name Spanktown was in use only during the time of the revolution and was used with relative inconsistency. The derivation of the term might be explained by a number of theories or legends. The most popular relates that the militia marched through the town at a "spanking



rate" (quick trot) while in pursuit of the enemy. The term could also come from the theory that many homes had their roofs covered with a type of shingle called "spanking." Another tale has it that a Quaker preacher paddled his disobedient wife with a pancake turner one morning before breakfast. Regardless of how the name came about, it is the term found in the letters of Washington to his various commanders, used perhaps as a code name to confuse the enemy. Spanktown also appeared in newspaper accounts and on maps of the period.

By Sunday, January 5, Maxwell and a body of Jersey militia had driven the British as far south as the village of Spanktown. When the retreating forces reached the village they were reinforced by troops from Woodbridge and turned to make a stand. Maxwell was not to be denied a victory that day and was successful in forcing the enemy back. The two-hour battle was fought near what is today the Union County Park off St. Georges Avenue.

On Sunday morning, February 23, fifteen hundred British soldiers marched out of Perth Amboy in an attempt to secure a foothold in the area. Before entering Rahway, the British force split in half with one unit marching north towards the heart of the rebel camp and the other half flanking to the west. Even though the diversion was made, both columns met opposition as Maxwell's army had been alerted and was ready for the approaching army. The northern flank fell under fire as it moved along St. Georges Avenue, and was only able to get as far as the Robninson's branch of the river. The other column had moved up the New Brunswick/Trenton road (Route 27), but was unable to achieve a strategic purpose. Eight Americans were killed and several wounded in the battle which lasted twelve hours. The British lost close to 100 men who were killed or wounded.

The final engagement occurred on June 26-27. The British had been routed at Ash Swamp and were forced to retreat in a direction that took them right into Rahway where they entered at the intersection of Ross Street and St. Georges Avenue. The militia continued to pursue the British along Linden Avenue and drove them to the bridge at Monroe Street. After a sharp skirmish at the bridge, the enemy was pushed down Main Street to the point where Main Street and New Brunswick Avenue meet. At that fork, the redcoats were joined by a British division which had been fleeing from Ash Swamp by way of Lake Avenue. With the unexpected increase in numbers, the British turned on their pursuers and fought a battle which lasted two hours. The rebels were once again successful and forced the enemy to retreat, engaging in yet another skirmish in the area near the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles Station.

This ended the serious fighting done in Rahway and, although the battles may seem insignificant, they were important for several reasons. The British were never able to take firm control over the area which made it more difficult when trying to accomplish anything further north or west. The victories also did a great deal to help keep the morale of the militia high and strengthened their resolve that independence and freedom could actually become a reality.





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COMING TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY Submitted by: Rahway Food For Friends

This past October, 2013 Rahway Food For Friends was in dire need of funding to keep our doors open. We applied for our 501(c) (3) and are awaiting the determination letter. We are on a backlog list due to the government shutdown. In the process we have been fundraising locally and the community of Rahway has stepped up like never before so this noble charity can survive. 100% of the donations are used in either the food pantry or soup kitchen. We are 100% volunteer based and there are no salaries. We are 100% dedicated and committed to our Our motto is "Feeding the Whole cause. Person". Our founders are the late Elder William Talbot and our current leader is Rosann Tremarco, who goes beyond the call of duty on every side to make sure this program succeeds.

First, Pastor Erin Hayes and the entire congregation of First Presbyterian Church waived our rent for six months and hosted a coat/hat/glove/scarf drive. The Spanish Seventh Day Adventist reduced our rent. The Rahway Recreation Center led by Andrea Zapowicz, hosted a Food Drive and a Toy drive. The City of Rahway led by Mona Johnson, stepped in and collected toys for all the needy children at the Christmas Dinner. The local PBA and the Police Department, Auxillary, SDI, led by Sgt. Dawn Rodger and Detective William Eicholz, hosted a food drive along with toys and coats. The St. Agnes School, led by Irene, in Clark, hosted a food and toy drive. The Rahway Fire Department gave toys. Rahway Public Library, a food drive. The Franklin Elementary School hosted a food drive along with Roosevelt Elementary and Rahway 7th and 8th Grade Academy (Rahway Middle School). Grover Cleveland hosted a coat drive and hat and gloves. Each project from the schools were led by the school nurses of Rahway. Rahway High School JROTC is always faithfully assisting Rahway Food For Friends monthly by helping distribute food packages to those needy families at the distribution center. Merck employees

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donated so much of their time to each kitchen shift continously to make it a success and contributed financially and hosted a food drive. The Spice Co gave food. The Waiting Room donated food for the holidays. Audra and the team at Century 21-JRS, Will-it Concierge hosted a food drive, Woodbridge Auto Body hosted food drives, Rahway Arts hosted a food drive, American Legion hosted a food drive, Liberty Harley Davidson hosted a food drive, St. Thomas hosted a food drive, coat drive, and gave toys. St. Mary's hosted a food drive. Maria and Lisa who did individual food drives that exceeded some of the others. Donations came in from those near and those far, individuals who heard of our need made donations and it is what is keeping us alive. The Rahway Post Office continually hosts a drive in May of each year on our behalf and we are eternally grateful for the out pouring of love shown to our organization during the holidays and most of all our time of need. Tom Bayone of Mr. B's Printing who helped us with our signs and finding the Our Town Rahway newspaper.

We were able to forge ahead and serve bags of food since October with each collection of food. We are currently feeding 200 families in the community on a monthly basis. We were able to sustain in our Soup Kitchen and prepare 100 meals each Saturday from your generous donations and the ongoing support and funding we receive from the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, Hillside, NJ. And the Second Presbyterian Mission Fund and Bonner Foundation.

Because of each of you in the community, we had our Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings and it was a great success! The Christmas Dinner was such a wonderful turnout with over 175 guests. Each child received 2 toys, a book, hat/gloves/scarf/sock combo, and got to spend time with Santa and Mrs. Claus. They enjoyed a skit and listened to T'was the Night before Christmas.

Volunteers of every age participated and dressed as a Santa's helper, elves or reindeers; as we performed the skit "Where's Santa" and sang Christmas carols. We were blessed by the presence of our honorary Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, Hanna Brancaccio. Hanna heard our story on the news and donated all the funds from her Bah Mitzvah to Rahway Food For Friends. Our eyes filled with tears while our hearts smiled as she exhibited the true meaning of Christmas and did not choose to receive but to give a gift that would feed an entire community with one act of kindness.

We are still moving ahead and look forward to our continued support from our wonderful community here in Rahway and the surrounding area. We will not quit in our mission to end hunger and food insecurity but we will commit to Making A Difference.

ABOUT RAHWAY FOOD FOR FRIENDS: The Mission for Rahway Food For Friends Inc. is to feed the hungry, clothe the needy, help the hurting and nurture people to self-sufficiency.

SOUP KITCHEN: Every Saturday a team of volunteers prepare a hot meal for 75-130 people-this program if opened to anyone within the community.

The location is: First Presbyterian Church, 1731 Church Street Rahway, New Jersey 07065 FOOD DISTRIBUTION: On Monday and Tuesday of the last FULL week of the month there is a food distribution program where we distributed over 200 bags of food. This program is available for Rahway's residents only. This program is available at our main headquarters office:

Seventh Day Adventist Church,

1221 New Brunswick Ave.,

Rahway, New Jersey 07065

HOW YOU CAN HELP: To donate time, food, services, ideas, funds, holiday gifts, and encouragement please call or write: Rahway Food for Friends, 1221 New Brunswick Ave. Rahway, New Jersey 07065, 732-381-7201



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Casal Garcia Vinho Verde		Mi Amore Red	
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Caymus Napa Valley (Cabernet Sauvignon)		Nando Asti	
Chateau ste Michelle Columbia Valley Cabernet and M		Nando Asti	1 .5L \$17.99
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Chateau Ste. Michelle Columbia Valley Riesling		Papi (All Types)	-
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