

RAHWAY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

FREE

OUR TOWN

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Issue 68 • March 2016

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STUDENTS BROADEN THEIR HOLOCAUST / GENOCIDE STUDIES

Story by Rob Kinch

The true impact and lasting effects on society of historical events, be they tragic or revolutionary, cannot always be learned in a classroom. In her desire to see that her students become "inspired" and "witnesses themselves" to the atrocities of the Holocaust, Debra Maller, Rahway High School teacher, brought 48 of her students to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC on January 19 "to plant the seeds of interest and understanding in a new generation."

Ms. Maller's fascination with this area of study began in her childhood and she now teaches English and Holocaust/Genocide Studies at the high school. Along with two other teachers and several parents, the students were accompanied by Fred Heyman of Morris Plains, a 'hidden child' Holocaust survivor, who shared his story with the students as they traveled by bus to DC. In answer to numerous student questions Mr. Heyman offered, "If I can teach one kid not to stand by when they see someone being bullied, and not to initiate that kind of behavior, that's what I'm after."

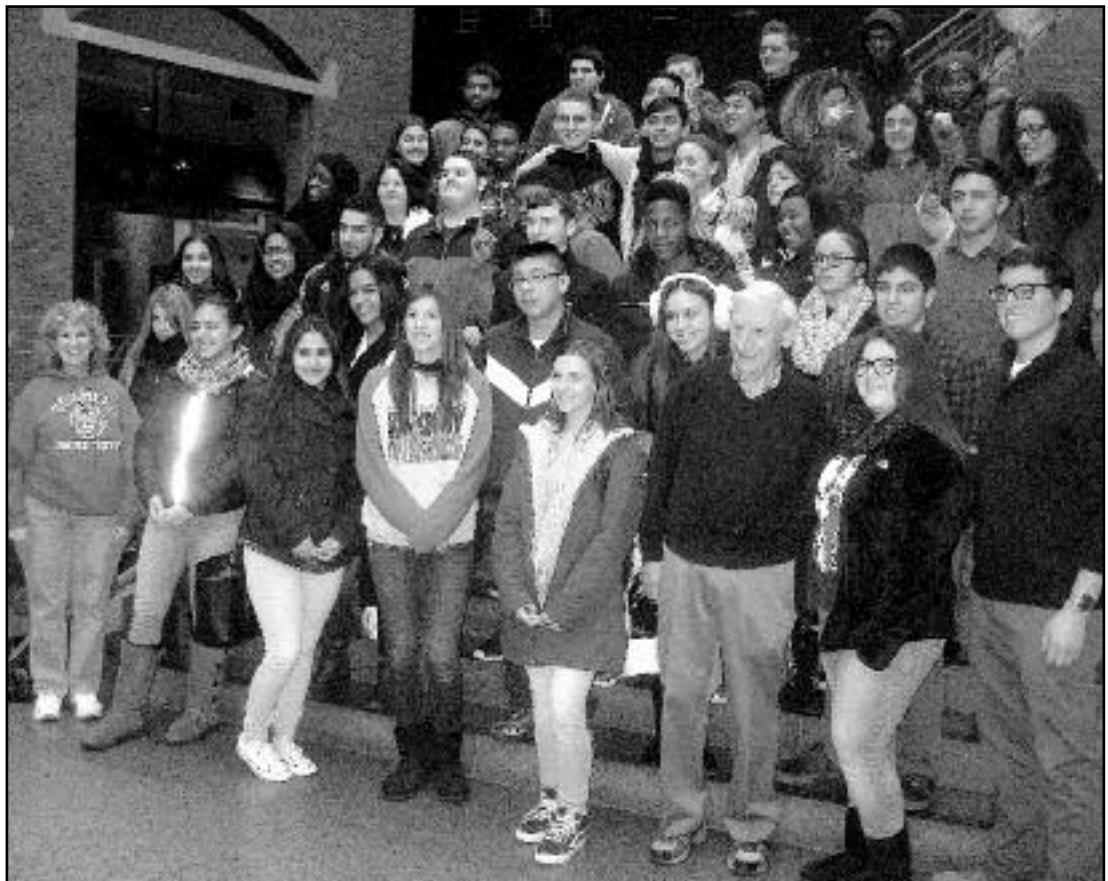
The three hour tour of the museum brought many emotional

moments to the students. Particularly moving for them were the cattle car on display and the pile of shoes taken from camp inmates which were, as Ms. Maller describes, "artifacts that truly spoke volumes in their silence." Student Gabrielle Gonzales adds, "The way they teach us in school about the Holocaust is completely different from going to the museum, seeing the shoes, seeing the candles, seeing actual photos, seeing THEIR things. When you think and see numbers, it's not the same as seeing those shoes."

Following the museum, the group went to the Lincoln Memorial where two students solemnly read the Gettysburg address and paid tribute to those whose lives were destroyed during the Holocaust. As their visit came to an end, students shared the feeling that this experience was not merely a window into history but also into their todays and tomorrows as well. Student Marissa Grady offered that she had been given "a different mind-set of life" and that she would now "put greater value on the things I've been taking for granted." Michael Durham adds, "I have realized that not only do I owe it to change myself but to try and change this society to make sure nothing like that happens again."



(above) Scott Marcondes Cesar Ferreyra Chantal Hernandez and David Tobar examine the identity cards of victims and survivors of the Holocaust.



Photos courtesy of Debra Maller

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

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Tina & Joe Renna, Publishers
202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016
(908) 418-5586
Fax: (908) 709-9209

E-mail: info@rennmedia.com

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MARCH ISSUE DEADLINES

March Issue in post office:

Friday, March 4th

Content deadline:

Friday, February 19th

Ad placement deadline:

Wednesday, February 24th

Art for insert deadline:

Friday, February 19th

Printed Insert deadline:

Friday, February 26th

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The Union County Performing Arts Center (UCPAC) held its 2016 Winter Gala on February 12, 2016 to recognize its supporters and outstanding individuals for their achievements throughout the years. Award recipients of the evening were Vinil Patel and Mahesh Amin of Witty's Fine Wine & Liquors, and Metro Liquors; Rink Patel, Manager, Witty's Fine Wine & Liquors; Sanjay Patel, Manager, Metro Liquors; Jeffrey Genovese of Crown Cadillac; Lindt & Sprungli (USA); and Emmi Roth USA. Congratulations to all!

The UCPAC provides exciting live performances that are educational, affordable and responsive to the diverse interests of the communities for which it serves. With four performance venues, UCPAC is dedicated to making Rahway the choice for the performing arts – for education, inspiration and entertainment.

The Winter Gala was held at Luciano's Italian Ristorante in the heart of Rahway's Arts & Business District and featured a five course dinner and live entertainment by Karickter.



(above) Award recipients - Sanjay Patel, Vinil Patel Mahesh Amin, and Rink Patel.

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11 CRITICAL HOME INSPECTION TRAPS TO BE AWARE OF WEEKS BEFORE LISTING YOUR HOME FOR SALE

Rahway NJ - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away altogether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homesellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To order a FREE Special Report, visit www.njhomeinspectiontraps.com or to hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-888-243-5861 and enter 3000. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

This report is courtesy of All Towne Realty Realtor. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright © 2014

GATEWAY CHAMBER PRESENTS BUSINESS OF THE YEARS AWARDS

Written by Chris Reardon

The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce last night honored three local businesses at its 104th Annual Awards Dinner, held at the Renaissance Hotel in Elizabeth on February 17, 2016.

Trinitas Regional Medical center was honored as the Large Company of the Year. Trinitas, a Catholic teaching medical center sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth in partnership with Elizabethtown Healthcare Foundation, each year serves more than 17,000 inpatients and administers 2,200 births, 73,000 emergencies and 450,000 outpatient visits.

Recognized as a Top Hospital by Castle Connolly, Ltd., Trinitas serves both the local community and every county in New Jersey through its 80 service locations. The medical center employs more than 2,800 employees and has a medical staff numbering more than 500 physicians. Trinitas also is a teaching hospital instructing more than 50 medical residents through a program affiliated with Seton Hall.

The Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel was honored as the Medium Company of the Year. The Renaissance is a three-star hotel catering to both business and social travelers. In addition to luxury rooms with marble bathrooms, the hotel features 17,000 square feet of event space, 24-hour business and fitness centers, an indoor pool and its signature restaurant, Ironbound.

Bevan, Mosca & Giuditta, P.C. was honored as the Small Company of the Year. Founded in 2007, the law firm is headquartered in Basking Ridge and has offices in Trenton, New York City, Washington, D. C. and Winchester, VA. The firm provides legal guidance and services with a

special focus in those areas where law, government and public policy intersect. Affiliate bmgzstrategies is a strategic communications agency with services in public affairs, business development and graphic design.

"With more than 1,200 members, the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce is one of the largest regional chambers in the New York metropolitan area," said James Coyle, Gateway president. "These three businesses are prime examples of the outstanding performance that defines our membership. Their level of success and service to their customers and clients is unmatched."



(above) Bill Mosca of Bevan, Mosca & Giuditta, P.C. (left), Jeff Plamondon, general manager at the Renaissance Hotel (center), and Glenn Nacion, vice president human resources at Trinitas Regional Medical Center accepted awards on behalf of their companies at the 104th Annual Awards Dinner of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce.

When others couldn't help...

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A black and white photograph of a man with his arms outstretched wide, looking up towards the sky with a joyful expression. He appears to be on a beach or near a body of water. In the bottom left corner, there is a logo consisting of three upward-pointing triangles above the word "TRINITAS". Below the word "TRINITAS" is the text "Center for Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Medicine". At the bottom left, there is a phone number "(908) 994-5480" and a website "www.WoundHealingCenter.org". In the bottom right corner, there is a circular seal with a scalloped edge. Inside the seal, the number "98%" is prominently displayed in the center. Around the perimeter of the seal, the words "Heal Rate for Problem Wounds" are written in a circular path, and there are three small stars at the bottom.



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1173 Westfield Ave	183 Concord St	493 Jefferson Ave	2128 Prospect St
135 Rudolph Ave	1472 Jefferson Ave	741 Hemlock St	569 Grove St
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490 Jefferson Ave	1036 Elm Ter	832 Nicholas Pl	634 Sycamore St
2313 Price St	262 Plainfield Ave	642 W. Meadow Ave	1202 Broadway
361 Sullivan Ct	1183 Stone St	671 W. Meadow Ave	2304 Ward Dr
898 Bryant St	800 Hillside Rd	383 Albermarle St	126 Colonia Blvd
92 Cornell Ave	777 Jefferson Ave	879 Grove St	829 Hamilton St
1459 St Georges Ave	105 Cornell Ave	802 Moses Dr	741 Jefferson Ave
120 Jensen Ave	246 Jensen Ave	1117 Milton Blvd	272 Forbes St
802 Moses Dr	631 Hamilton St	468 Stalevicz Ln	1062 Bryant St
376 Madison Ave	1085 Milton Blvd	137 Jackson Ave	501 Jefferson Ave
874 Grove St	471 Albermarle St	724 W. Scott Ave	245 Forbes St
649 W. Grand Ave	467 Grove St	2346 Elizabeth Ave	802 Kaminski Dr
2224 Price St	245 Forbes St	538 Teneyke Pl	406 Elm Ave
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(above) Dahlias add dramatic form and color to your summer garden when many other plants have stopped blooming. The choice seems as



DAHLIAS

Dahlias, pronounced 'Dah-lee-uh' are native to Mexico, Central America and Columbia.

Although they are not hardy enough to survive winter in our area, they bring a blast of color to your garden that last from early summer until the frost strikes in autumn. The color range is so varied it would take this entire article to list them all, including blends and markings that look hand painted. When planning your 2016 garden you should certainly consider adding dahlias on your list.

Dahlias grow from *tubers, which should be planted once the ground temperature reaches 60 degrees. In our area that would be in May when it's time to plant tomatoes and summer vegetables. Mother's Day is considered a good time to plant these items.

Once the heat of summer approaches Dahlias grow at a rapid pace and the hardest task is deadheading, cutting off dead flowers at least once weekly. Although this practice is helpful to many flowering plants, dahlias will not be as dramatic without it, soon turning all their energy into producing seeds rather than flowers.

Plant the tubers at recommended depth and pinch them back to the ground when they reach three inches. This will force the plant to produce more stems and double the amount of flowers. Many gardeners dig the hole a few inches deeper and leave a drench to be filled in as the stems grow. This helps induce stronger shoots. Taller dahlia plants need staking. It is recommended to place the stake at planting time to avoid injuring the tubers.

From less than one foot to four or six feet there are dahlias that can fit into almost every garden with enough sun. There is even a dahlia tree, 'Dahlia Imperialis'.

For longer lasting cut flowers, set blossoms in hot water for a few minutes before placing them



(above) President of The Rahway Garden Club, James Keane has been researching and answering garden questions since 1995. Visit 'Keane Gardener' blog at: keanegardener.blogspot.com

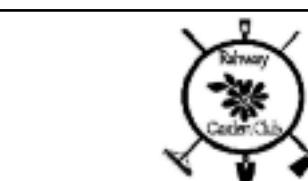
in an arrangement.

For the most spectacular results don't let the plants dry out, providing one inch of water a week.

*A tuber and a bulb are different in how they look and grow but their function is the same, which is to store food and energy which helps the plants survive.

Many tender bulbs and tubers can be dug up and stored indoors over winter to be replanted the following year.

*Enjoy your garden
all year long, James*



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MINI BOWLING IS BIG HIT

Jersey Lanes Bowling Center opened the next big thing, mini-bowling, a mini-version of the regular game in a circus atmosphere. The private party room hosted its first kid's birthday party on February 21, 2016. But before the big day the lanes were tested by players from the Junior Bowling League.

The test went perfect and the teens enjoyed

the novelty of playing on the mini lanes designed to accommodate kids from preschool on up.

Jersey Lanes is located at 30 Park Avenue in Linden. Visit www.JerseyLanes.com for more information or connect with Jersey Lanes on Facebook. The party room can be reserved by calling 908-486-6300.

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A COMFY CANNED GOODS COLLECTION

Catherine Mejia, a Blue and Gold Club Member at Franklin Elementary School in Rahway led a project to collect canned food. She proposed that teachers and staff could wear jeans to school on January 15, 2016 in exchange for bringing in a canned good. Due to her efforts, over 60 cans were donated and given to the Rahway Food Pantry and families in need at Franklin School.

Franklin School's Blue and Gold Club is a school based club made up of students that volunteer their time throughout the year to help with different community service activities. The club is overseen by the school's nurse, Mrs. Barbara Maher. Keep up the great work kids!



(above) Mejia, sporting her jeans, with some of what she collected.

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AUDRA LOCCISANO NEW CHAMBER PRESIDENT



(above l-r) Amy Garcia Phillips of Contento Dance, Newly Elected President Audra Loccisano of Century 21 JRS Realty and Jilletta Riley of Legal Shield

FROM THE CHAMBER PRESIDENT

Dear Rahway Chamber of Commerce Members,

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your new president for 2016. I am grateful for the good work of Andy Baron, our outgoing president, and to all the board members and committee members who work tirelessly to ensure this is one of the most welcoming, fun and interconnected chambers in our area!

I would like to remind everyone to "Think Rahway First!". If you need to purchase an item, service, or are looking for a place to dine out, please patronize one of our local businesses. Shopping locally is the easiest way you can help Rahway's small business community succeed and prosper.

Here's to a great 2016!

Respectfully,
Audra Loccisano

CLEVELAND SCHOOL CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY

In honor of Black History Month, Grover Cleveland Elementary school presented two engaging and rewarding school assemblies. On February 5th, there was an incredible display of artifacts presented by Ms. Gwen Ragsdale, curator of the Lest We Forget Slavery Museum from Philadelphia PA. Ms. Ragsdale shared historical relics with our 4th, 5th and 6th grade students. She provided a timeline of artifacts that spanned from slavery to the civil rights era. Students were enthralled with her presentation.

On February 10th, the 6th grade class was greeted by several African American

professionals for the first annual career day. Students had a chance to engage with people of very diverse work backgrounds. They shared their academic and professional experiences with our students.

Thanks to the following individuals for sharing your time: Mr. David Hall – Director Covenant House NJ, Ms. Mirna White- Attorney, Mr. Wayne Bullock-Playwright, Mr. Marlon Terrell – Owner/Operator Chic-Fil-A, Badia Farha – Singer/Performer. Our students were left with a lasting impression that with hard work and determination anything is possible.



CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH WITH "MARTHA WASHINGTON" SAT., MARCH 26

Martha is back to share some stories about her eight years as the first lady of the land and to tell a few tales about some of the other first ladies who have followed in her footsteps. Humorous, lively and poignant, Martha is sure to inspire young and old.

Actress and international cabaret and jazz singer, Maggie Worsdale brings to life the iconic Lady Washington. Dressed in period attire and having



done extensive research into the lives of Martha Washington and the first ladies, Worsdale presents a program that both entertains and educates.

This program is free and open to all. The Rahway Public Library is located at 2 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ.

Additional information is available by calling 732-340-1551 or by visiting the website, www.rahwaylibrary.org.

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RAHWAY HOSPITAL, ESTABLISHED IN 1916, REACHES 100 YEAR MILESTONE

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

The beginnings of a hospital facility in Rahway can be linked to the plans for the construction of a World War I military hospital (General Hospital No. 3) that was built in Colonia, not far from the Rahway border. Superintendent of the project, Doctor Frederick Albee, the famous orthopedic surgeon, was a resident of the area and felt there was also a need for a local civilian hospital that would serve a population who had to otherwise travel to Elizabeth or Perth Amboy to receive hospital services. To rectify the situation, Dr. Albee founded an association of thirteen physicians from Rahway, Woodbridge, Colonia, and Carteret for the purpose of locating a suitable site for a community hospital.

This newly formed Rahway Hospital Association soon found a three-story, Mansard style building located on the corner of Jaques Avenue and West Hazelwood Avenue which they planned to convert into a hospital. They succeeded in transforming the home into a modern twelve bed hospital consisting of two wards and three private rooms and included maternity, operating, sterilizing, reception and office rooms, a physicians' dressing room and a kitchen. The building was even equipped with a private telephone. The house next door was purchased and made into living quarters for the competent corps of nurses who would staff the hospital. The formal opening, which was attended by over 1,000 citizens, was held on Saturday, June 24, 1916. An area newspaper article touted, "The institution is one of the most complete that any city in the country the size of Rahway can boast of."

By 1926, the Rahway Hospital was treating more than 1,000 patients per year and it was obvious a larger, more modern facility was needed. To meet this end, a fundraising campaign was organized with a goal of raising \$500,000. The drive was enthusiastically supported by all segments of the city and eventually raised \$506,190. The main donors were Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Squier who gave \$53,000 and also donated the seven plus acre parcel of land on Stone Street between Jefferson and Madison Avenues on which the structure would be built.

On the afternoon of July 27, 1928, Rahway Hospital President, Frank W. Kidd drove a gilt spade into the earth to break ground for the new building which officially opened a little more than a year later, on October 26, 1929. The new hospital contained over fifty beds and every amenity associated with hospitals of the period. The facility contained semi-private and ward accommodations, a complete operating department, maternity ward, x-ray department, laboratories, drug room, diet kitchen, storage, and reception rooms. The facility, officially called Rahway Memorial Hospital, would serve the community well, and besides the expected minor modifications and modernizations, it would be twenty-five years before major additions were made to the original structure.

In 1953 a building campaign was organized to raise funds for the construction, in stages, of a service building to house Civil Defense units,



(above) Rahway Hospital as it looked shortly after its opening in 1929.

garages, workshops, storage, a dormitory for male employees and a lounge for female employees. Also planned for construction was a wing which would provide an emergency center, central sterile supply, a pharmacy, medical records, x-ray room, operating rooms, labor and delivery rooms and a recovery room. A third construction would offer a new lobby, offices, hospitality shop, pediatrics, private rooms, admitting office, day rooms and semi-private rooms. The five story project took four years to complete and cost \$1.75 million. On November 30, 1958 a public viewing was held after which a reporter from the Elizabeth Daily Journal wrote, "a complete floor for men and another for women and another for children indicates the ability of the hospital to handle all types of cases."

During the next three decades, major construction projects would be completed that allowed the hospital to continue to serve the community at the highest level. In 1963 a \$1.5 million addition was undertaken that increased the bed complement to 221. A \$5.5 million expansion took place ten years later further increasing the bed total to 311. In the 1980s, a new west wing was added as the result of a major “Expansion and Modernization” project.

In 2003 Rahway Hospital became officially affiliated with the Robert Wood Johnson Health System enabling the facility to broaden its scope and enlarge and expand its ability to provide even better care to an even greater number.

Today, the hospital still embodies the words spoken by former Governor A. Harry Moore at the opening ceremonies back in 1929 when he said, "This building really forms the soul of Rahway. It represents the very best that is in our lives, the will to do something for the good of others."

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EDRIECE PATTERSON APPOINTED TO ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

Story and photos by Joseph Mudrak

Since the conception of the United States of America as a sovereign nation, The United States Military Academy at West Point has trained cadets to become leaders on the battlefield, football field, and the board room. Now Rahway High School's Edriece Patterson will join the likes of President Dwight Eisenhower and General Douglas MacArthur as a cadet at West Point after signing his athletic letter of intent.

During his illustrious career at Rahway High School, Patterson lettered in both basketball and football, and began to garner the attention of college scouts during his Junior year at Rahway. With a unique blend of size, speed, and intelligence (he is currently enrolled in AP Statistics) Edriece was approached by a plethora of Division I college programs, but a West Point Cadet must possess traits other than brains and brawn. Leadership, integrity, character, selflessness all are adjectives that have been used to describe Edriece. Rahway High School football coach Brian Russo stated, "Edriece exemplifies the character necessary to compete." Russo went on to explain that Edriece was injured for a majority of his senior football season but still was a vocal supporter and a presence at practice and games. That presence was testimony to his leadership skills and his status as the captain of the football team. Patterson's perseverance also enabled him to recover from

his injury to be able to compete during the current basketball season.

Patterson was joined by friends, family, coaches, school administrators, and teachers in a ceremony to celebrate his appointment and his decision to join an elite group at West Point.

Edriece Patterson will be the first student athlete from Rahway High School to be appointed to the United States Military Academy. This rare feat is explanation in itself of the type of young man Edriece is, and will become as a member of the United States Army.



(above) Members of Rahway Administration and Coaching Staff Back Row From left to right Al Reinoso, Thomas Lewis, John Farinella, Patricia Camp, Brian Russo, and Daniel Garay. Front: Ginelle Patterson and Edriece Patterson

ROOSEVELT GIVES BACK WITH HEART

On Wednesday, Jan 20th Roosevelt School in Rahway had a school wide assembly in which students were "giving back" in a different way. During the assembly, the school honored the

military heroes of Roosevelt School families. To give thanks to these heroes for the sacrifices they make daily, the students made Valentine cards to send them.



(above l-r) front row: From Mrs. Fidecaro's class, Demetrius Smith, Lisandra Rodriguez, Jesse Alvarez, Jaylene Martinez, Kiam Taylor-Vasquez. Back row: Lemuel Belfon, Pablo Galarza, Jessica Vasquez, Demetri Thebodeau, Alyssa Gonzalez.

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RHS Band Booster Fundraiser

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2016

5:00PM TO 8:00 PM

AMERICAN LEGION POST #5

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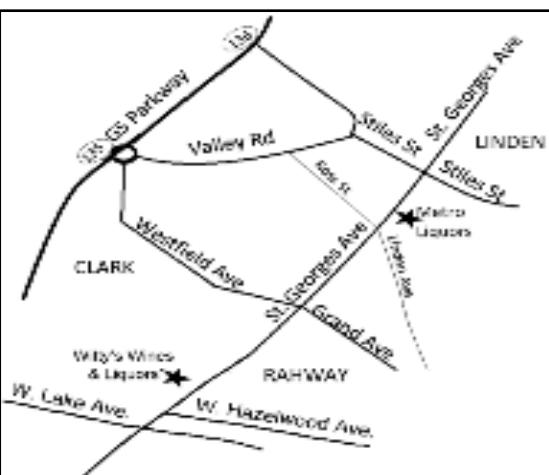
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Knob Creek 9 yrs old	1.75L	\$58.99
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Seagrams 7	1.75L	\$19.99
Woodford Reserve	1L	\$44.99

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Tanqueray	1.75L	\$37.99

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Absolut (regular)	1.75L	\$29.09
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Finlandia	1.75L	\$24.99
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