## SUMMER | FALL 2023

THE RAHWAY REVIEW IS A PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICE OF MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE





YOUR DEFINITIVE GO-TO-GUIDE FOR WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CITY OF RAHWAY. RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW.

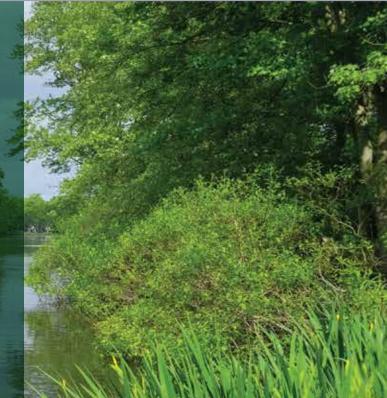
## A Message from The Mayor: **Showcasing Rahway's Vibrant Community**

A Remarkable Journey of Our History and Progress

Greetings Rahway residents! In this edition of the Rahway Review, you will discover everything our great City has to offer throughout the rest of summer, a glimpse of what you can look forward to this fall, and highlights from the last few months. We are looking forward to our annual Independence Day celebration, the Mayor's Concert Series, the return of ArtsFest, and so much more.

2023 marks a significant year in Rahway's history as DPW's Division of Sanitation celebrates their 25th Anniversary and the Rahway Fire Department celebrates their 200th Anniversary. Meanwhile, the Rahway Police Department has been hard at work launching the Park, Walk, and Talk Initiative and one of the country's first PAL Jiujitsu programs.

Lastly, I would like to invite the Rahway



As we enter July, the Mayor's Music Series is in full swing with weekly performances at the Paseo and Arts District Park. The Brennan Field Spray Park has officially opened to provide countless hours of fun to our youth, while the Division of Senior Services kicked off the season with a Hawaiian-themed Summer Party, and the Special Improvement District successfully relaunched the ever-popular Taste of Spring for the first time since 2019.

#### community to attend the Mayor's Concert Series, taking place on Thursdays from July 27 through August 24 at 7:30 PM in front of the Union County Performing Arts Center for big name acts to showcase our growing arts community.

I hope everyone has a safe, happy, and fun summer, and I look forward to seeing you!

**Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe** 



SUMMER IN RAHWAY | PHOTO: BILLY GEORGE

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#### **NOATA9 JATZO9**



Rahway, NJ 07065 1 City Hall Plaza City of Rahway Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe

## CITY OF RAHWAY **Municipal Directory**

If you are prompted to leave a message when calling any of the following numbers, please be assured that your call will be returned as soon as possible. All area codes are 732 unless otherwise specified.

#### **Municipal Offices**

municipal onices	
Building Inspector	827-2087
City Clerk	827-2100
Economic Development	827-2193
Emergency Management	827-2120
Engineering and Land Use	827-2176
Finance	
Fire (non-emergency)	
Fire Prevention Bureau	
First Aid	
Health Department	
Mayor's Office	
Municipal Administrator	
Municipal Court	
Police (non-emergency)	
Property Maintenance	
Public Works	
Rahway Special Improvement	
District	827-2193
Recreation	
Recycling	
Tax Assessor	
Tax Collector	
SUEZ-Rahway (Veolia)(877)	
Vital Statistics	

#### Helpful Numbers

Board of Education	396-1000
NJ Transit	973-275-5555
Parking Utility	381-8778
Police Athletic League	827-2097
Post Office	388-3264
Rahway Library	340-1551
Rahway Redevelopment Agenc	y 827-2001
Rahway Y.M.C.A.	388-0057
RWJU Hospital at Rahway	381-4200
Union County	
Performing Arts Center	499-8226

#### **Rahway Schools**

Superintendent's Office	396-1020
Business Administrator	396-1010
Services for Children	396-1035
Rahway High School	396-1090
7th & 8th Grade Academy	396-1025
Franklin School	396-1050
Grover Cleveland School	396-1040
Madison School	396-1070
Roosevelt School	396-1060

# **Rahway Special Improvement District**



The Rahway Special Improvement District (SID) seeks to support the rich and diverse business community of the City of Rahway. Integrating community events with participating businesses helps to foster a healthy economy and an enriched downtown experience. Partnering with the Office of Economic Development, the SID works to attract businesses that improve and support the quality of life for all residents and visitors to the City. If you are looking to open a business in Rahway, we can help you navigate the process and assist with any questions. Prospective entrepreneurs can reach out to our office by email at RahwaySid@cityofrahway.com or phone at (732) 827-2181.

## **NEW** BUSINESS: The City welcomes you!

#### **Sub House** 85

85 E. Cherry St. Sub House 85 officially opened their doors on



February 14 to bring a classic deli-style sandwich shop to the heart of Rahway. Located at 85 E. Cherry Street, Sub House 85 crafts delicious sandwiches that feature the freshest ingredients, locally baked breads, and Boar's Head meats. Stop in for a variety of breakfast, brunch, hot sandwiches, and cold subs options.

#### Alfonso's Catering **Services** 952 St. Georges Ave. On March 24, Giselle Alfonso

and her staff were



welcomed to the City of Rahway in their newly renovated space at 952 St. Georges Avenue. Friends and family were on hand to celebrate and sample the many culinary creations prepared by the talented team. Alfonso's Catering offers takeout and traditional catering services, as well as a food truck that is available for private parties and events.

#### Tasa



AMA

celebrated 10 years of business as they moved into their beautifully renovated location at 1530 Irving Street. AMA offers professional specialty training for those honing their craft to work in media entertainment, including theatrical make-up arts, the fashion industry, and traditional salons, as well as a business marketing program to provide full support for professional advancement.

#### Dayrin **Decoration**

35 A E. Milton Ave. Conveniently located across from the train station at 35A E. Milton



Ave., Dayrin Decorations specializes in event décor and gifts featuring flowers, balloons, and more. Dayrin Decorations had their official ribbon cutting and grand opening on April 19 as owner Juanita Vasquez and family were welcomed to Rahway's growing business community.

The Rahway Review keeps citizens informed of important programs and events that the administration has developed in efforts to improve the quality of life in Rahway. 13,000 newsletters are printed and mailed to each postal customer in the City of Rahway. Others are distributed by request to individuals, companies and organizations interested in living or doing business in the City. Although great care has been taken to ensure that information contained in this newsletter is accurate, the City of Rahway assumes no liability for errors or omissions. The Rahway Review welcomes comments and concerns from its readers. These may be sent to:

City of Rahway • Office of the Mayor 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065

www.cityofrahway.com F CityofRahwayNJ 🛛 🔿 CityofRahway

#### Teahouse 1431 Irving St. Adding to the growing specialty drink locations in Rahway, Tasa Teahouse's inviting



environment is the perfect place to meet up with friends to enjoy a sweet treat and relax with a delicious cup of tea. Tasa, who celebrated their ribbon cutting and grand opening on March 28, is conveniently located at 1431 Irving Street, near the train station and offers bubble teas, hot and cold fruit teas, sweet teas, desserts, and more.

#### Garden

#### of Ink 75 E Cherry St. As home to a thriving arts community, Rahway continues



to attract creative talent to our downtown. On April 22, we welcomed Garden of Ink to the Mall at 75 E. Cherry Street. Owner and artist Diana Kunz's work speaks for itself demonstrating precise detail and vibrant, rich color depicting a wide variety of artistic skill. Customers walk out with personalized body art fit for a gallery.

Stay in the know by following us on social media @Rahwayishappening on Instagram and Facebook and by visiting us at Rahwayishappening.com.

# Rahway Arts and Community



#### Rahway Spray Park

Rahway's brand-new spray park debuts at Brennan Field and will be open to Rahway residents seven days

a week throughout the summer! The Brennan Field Spray Park is a water-enhanced playground that features water fixtures such as: Mushroom Maze, Silly Shower, Water Web, Water Sprout, Water Wickets, Fill N' Spill, Touch & Go, and more. Registration for entry badges is only available in-person at the Rahway Rec Center, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM, with select evening hours. For more information, please visit www.cityofrahway.com/spray.



#### Independence Day Celebration!

Celebrate Independence Day at the quadrangle section of Rahway River Park this year on Monday, July 3rd from 6:00-9:00

PM with carnival style games, face painters, lawn games, food trucks, stilt walkers, and giveaways, with the annual fireworks display scheduled to start around 9:00 PM. Walking into the park is recommended as entrances and exits will be restricted for the fireworks. For more information, please call the Department of Recreation at (732) 669-3600. A rain date is set for July 5th.



#### Mayor's Summer Concert Series

Mayor Raymond Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council officially announced the return of

the Mayor's Summer Concert Series on Thursdays from July 27 through August 24. Main acts begin at 7:30pm in front of the Union County Performing Arts Center located at 1601 Irving Street. Admission for the Mayor's Concert Series is free. In the event of inclement weather, the performances will be moved inside the Union County Performing Arts Center.



Heart of the City

Rahway's Heart of the City Festival will take place on August 5 from 12:00-6:00 PM on E. Cherry Street. This festival highlights local Black and Brown New

Jersey area artists with an emphasis on Rahway creatives and will feature vendors, including small businesses and artists, musical performances by local artists, a live DJ, giveaways, and a community art project that all are welcome to participate in. Heart of the City is a not-for-profit event that aims to create a safe and inclusive environment for artists, local businesses, and attendees, while uplifting creative endeavors.

#### Soiree en Blanc



You are cordially invited to join us for a dinner under the stars at this year's Cherry Street Soiree en Blanc on Sunday, August 27th from 7:00–10:00 PM. Wear your best white outfit,

bring your own food, drinks, and table set-up, and the fun will follow. We'll provide the tables, chairs, and entertainment! Consider choosing a meal from any one of the many restaurants in Rahway. Participants will be entered into a raffle for a chance to win gift cards to a Rahway based business. There will be free event parking on Broad St. Please visit register.communitypass.net/rahway to register starting August 1.

#### **ArtsFest Rahway!**



On Saturday, September 25, 2023, from 2:00-6:00 PM, ArtsFest: Art in All Dimensions takes the arts to new heights in the City of Rahway with an array of

performance artists showcasing their talents, including a gravity defying aerialist, a skillful contortionist, and live music. Visual Artists will have their creativity and talent on display and some of Irving Street's local restaurants will show off their culinary skills with creations from their kitchens. With over 50 accomplished and amateur artists and local vendors displaying their work and selling hand-crafted items, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Those in attendance will be able to create art as well with live art classes, demonstrations, and interactive community art pieces. Be sure to follow @Rahwayishappening on Instagram and Facebook for updates, info on artists and vendors and more!



#### A Successful Return for a 20 Year Celebration!

On April 14, the Rahway Taste of Spring returned for the first time since 2019, featuring delicious food, desserts, drinks, and live music. The event highlighted the city's growing business community and its economic recovery from the pandemic.

Nearly 40 local eateries and bakeries participated, with an additional 40 stations of national distributors of fine wine, beer, and alcohol.

With a successful return, the Taste of Spring has been firmly reestablished as one of Rahway's premier events and an influential, yearly platform for new and existing local businesses to showcase their work to a wider audience.





Please visit www.cityofrahway.com/music and the calendar section of this Rahway Review for more detailed info and performance schedule.



Kids Workshops: Ages 6-11 • Teen Workshops: Ages 12-16 WEEK 1: July 24–July 28 • WEEK 2: July 31–August 4 Each Class/Workshop runs Mon–Fri (One-Week Sessions) Kids: \$45 Residents / \$55 Non-Residents Teens: \$55 Residents / \$65 Non-Residents *All prices are for one 5-day workshop* ALL ART SUPPLIES PROVIDED

DRAWING • PAINTING • SCULPTURE • CARTOONING • JAPANES MANGA CARTOONING • ACRYLIC PAINTING • SCULPTURE/3D

Ecityofrahway MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE Register in person at the Rahway Recreation Center or online at cityofrahway.com Call (732) 827-2210 for more information.





CELEBRATING **2**<sup>®</sup> TASTY YEARS!



### Mayor of the Year



Congratulations to Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe on winning the Mayor of the Year Award at the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce's 33rd Annual Mayor's Dinner!



Miles & Parson – RFD!

Councilwoman Joanna Miles (left) and Council President Vannie Deloris Parson (middle) visited the Rahway Fire Department after the Memorial Day Parade to talk with our firefighters. Councilwoman Parson got the full experience and tried on their gear!



**Block Party 2023!** Councilwoman Joanna Miles and Councilman Jeff Brooks at the Grover Cleveland Block Party following the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the new playground.

**Rahway City Council** 

# Working together for you! Rahway City Council

# **COUNCIL** PRESIDENT ELECTION

HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT FOR VANNIE DELORIS PARSON

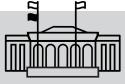


On May 24, the Rahway City Council hosted a special meeting where Third Ward Councilmember Vannie Deloris Parson was elected to serve as Council President. Her election is a historic achievement as

Vannie Deloris Parson she has become the first African American woman to hold the role in our City. Councilwoman Parson has served

on the Rahway City Council since November 2020, where she first made history by becoming the first African American woman to serve on City Council. Her extensive experience and commitment to the Rahway community made her an ideal choice for this role as she was unanimously elected by the other members of City Council. Councilwoman Parson will serve as City Council President for the remainder of the 2023 calendar year.

### A Letter from The Council President



#### Dear Rahway Residents,

As your newly elected City Council President, I am honored to serve and represent the Rahway community. I would like to take a moment to explain the role of City Council and how we can work together to keep pushing our City forward.

First and foremost, I want to emphasize that each member of City Council is accessible and available to listen to your concerns and address any issues you may have. We serve as advocates for our residents to City Administration with whom we work for the betterment of Rahway. Your voice matters, and we are here to actively engage with you and ensure your needs are heard and understood.

Our monthly City Council meetings provide a platform for open dialogue and discussion. They are an opportunity for you, as residents, to voice your opinions, concerns, and ideas. Your active participation is invaluable, as it helps us make informed decisions as we pass policies and address local concerns to truly represent the will of our community.

Lastly, serving the community is at the core of our roles as Councilmembers. We are committed to working together to implement positive change and ensure a bright future for us all.

Our contact information can be found alongside the Ward Map in this edition of the Rahway Review or online at www.CityofRahway.com/CityCouncil. Please feel free to reach out to your ward representative with any questions, suggestions, or concerns.

Sincerely, Vannie Deloris Parson Rahway City Council President

## WELCOME NEW COUNCILWOMAN

KARLA TIMMONS BEGINS ROLE AS NEW SECOND WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

At Large Joanna Miles 732-822-2050 jmiles@cityofrahway.com

Third Ward Vannie Deloris Parson Council President 732-853-5971 vdparson@cityofrahway.com

#### At Large

*Jeffrey Brooks* 732-688-9116 jbrooks@cityofrahway.com

#### At Large

*Jeremy Mojica* 732-882-7472 jmojica@cityofrahway.com

First Ward Al Parker 732-713-6356 aparker@cityofrahway.com

#### Second Ward *Karla Timmons* 848-467-8475

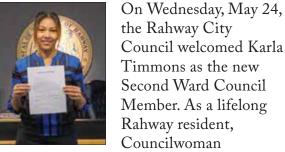
ktimmons@cityofrahway.com

#### Fourth Ward *David Brown* 732-484-5485 dbrown@cityofrahway.com

Fifth Ward Danielle "Danni" Newbury Council Vice-President 732-735-5884 dnewbury@cityofrahway.com

#### Sixth Ward *Joseph D. Gibilisco* 732-259-3144 jgibilisco@cityofrahway.com

Rahway Municipal Clerk Jeffrey Jotz 732-827-2100 CityClerkDepartment@cityofrahway.com



Karla Timmons

passionate about the community and the past, present, and future of Rahway. Her goal as a member of City Council is to offer diversity and inclusion, while continuing the legacy of representation of women of color

Timmons is very

in Rahway. Councilwoman Timmons has a background in Real Estate with over 20 years of experience in Property Management. As a woman of many interests, she is the owner of a beverage catering company, Quench, as well as an Interior Designer. In addition to her professional career, she is a proud wife and mother and enjoys spending time with her family and friends, traveling, coordinating events, and volunteering as the Creative Director of IMPACT Women's Forum non-profit organization and Commissioner of the Rahway Planning Board.

#### **The Rahway Review** Summer - Fall 2023

# **City of Rahway Ward Map:** Get to know your Representative



Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe

#### **Rahway City Council**

First Ward

Al Parker







Fourth Ward dbrown@cityofrahway.com

**Fifth Ward** Danni Newbury

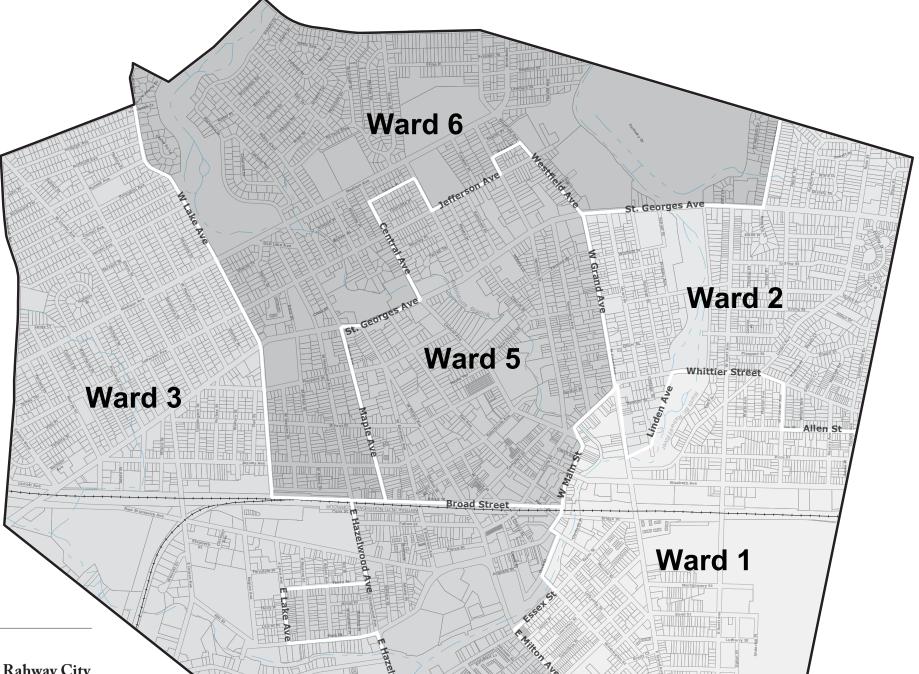
Sixth Ward Joe Gibilisco

jgibilisco@cityofrahway.com

**Councilmembers At-Large** 



Jeremy Moiica



Second Ward Karla Timmons

**Third Ward** aparker@cityofrahway.com ktimmons@cityofrahway.com Council President

Vannie Deloris Parson David Brown vdparson@cityofrahway.com

**Council Vice-President** dnewbury@cityofrahway.com

**Jeffrey Brooks** Joanna Miles jbrooks@cityofrahway.com jmiles@cityofrahway.com jmojica@cityofrahway.com

The Rahway City **Council** is made up of nine members elected by the citizens of Rahway. There are six wards in the City of Rahway and a Councilmember is elected by the citizens from each respective ward.

There are three Councilmembers-at-large who represent the entire City. The City Council considers the City's goals, authorizes major projects, infrastructure improvements, land use, finances, and strategic planning for the community.

The Rahway Municipal Clerk is Secretary to both City Council and Administration. The Clerk is tasked with preparing and distributing meeting agendas, attending all meetings of the governing body, maintaining minutes of the proceedings of every meeting, certifying, and retaining the original copies of all ordinances and resolutions, and placing legal notices. To contact the Rahway Municipal Clerk's Office, please call 732-827-2100.

Ence Ave

Ward 4

State Hwy Route 1

Rannay River

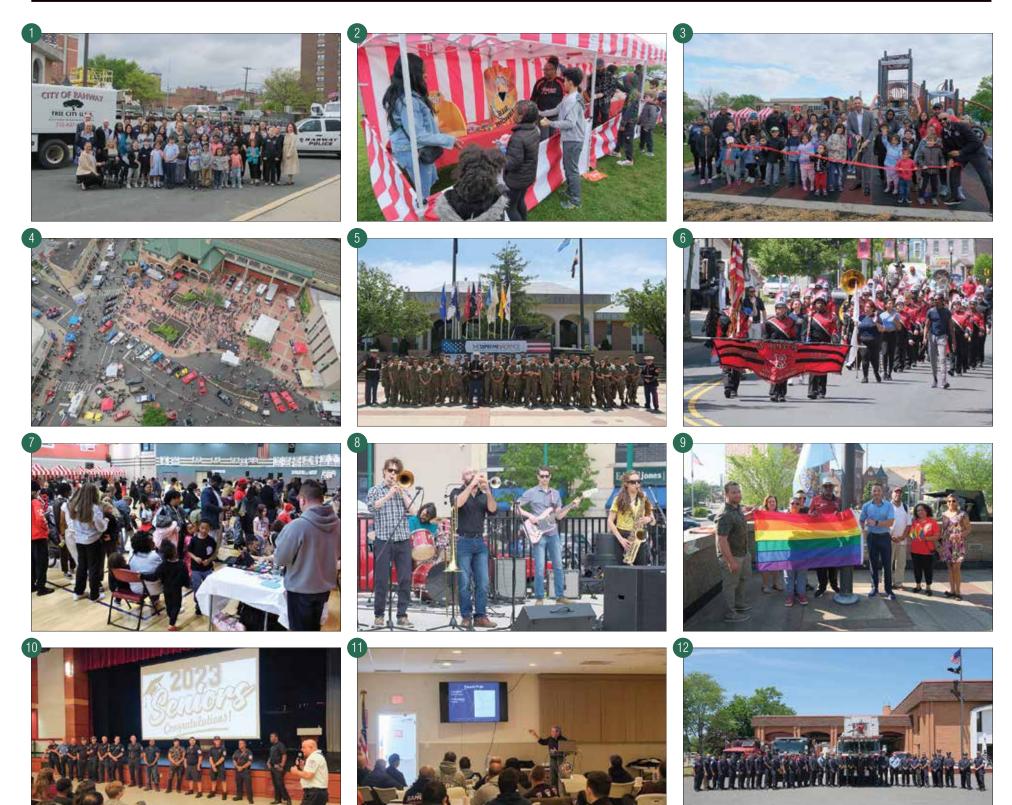
Ave

State Hwy Route 1



## **Reflecting on a Vibrant Community:** Rahway's Unforgettable Events and Connections

**Calling all Rahway residents!** Don't miss out on the incredible array of fun-filled family events happening right here in our beloved City. From lively festivals to engaging workshops and everything in between, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Our unique Rahway events not only provide endless entertainment but also offer a unique opportunity to strengthen the bond with our community. Feeling connected to your hometown is essential as it fosters a sense of belonging, builds lasting relationships, and creates a vibrant and united environment. So, come on out and make unforgettable memories with your fellow Rahway residents. Check the calendar pages that follow, or visit CityofRahway.com for up-to-the-minute details. Let's celebrate the beauty of our City and create lasting connections that will leave a positive impact on residents, old and new.





1-Bring Your Child to Work Day
2-Grover Cleveland Block Party
3-Grove Cleveland Ribbon Cutting
4-Hot Rods and Harleys 20th Anniversary
5-JROTC
6-Memorial Day Parade
7-Munch Madness (Photo credit: ILuvThatPhotoLLC)
8-Downtown MusicFest
9-Pride Flag Raising
10-Rahway Fire Department - After the Fire Documentary
11-Rahway Fire Department - Training Session
12-Rahway Fire Department
13-Rahway Police Department - Jiujitsu Club
14-Rahway Police Department - Presentation to Seniors
15-Walk with The Mayor

# RAHWAY IS HAPPENING 2023

S	М	т	W	т	F	S
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5







JUL 1 LIB 1:30-4:00 PM Afternoon Trivia



JUL 3 RRP 6-9:00 PM Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks

LIB 6:00 PM Crochet Club

JUL 6 SEN 1:00 PM Ice Cream Social

LIB 1:00-3:00 PM Afternoon Movie at the Library

HSL Dusk Drive in/ Walk up Movies "Moana"

JUL 7 PAS 6:30-9:30 PM Live Music at the Paseo "James Matheson"

#### JUL 10

LIB 5:00 PM Teen Movie Night!

LIB 6:00 PM Monday Night Music

JUL 11 LIB 10:00 AM Toddler Time

SEN 1:30 PM Scam Seminar/Luncheon

LIB 3:00 PM Tween Scene

JUL 12 LIB 2:00 PM Discovery Studio Teen

LIB 5:30-7:30 PM Board Game Night

**JUL 13** SEN 1:00 PM Bingo

LIB 6:00 PM Family Fun Night

HSL Dusk Drive in/ Walk up Movies "Minions the Rise of Gru"



JUI 14 PAS 6:30-9:30 PM Live Music at the Paseo "Erika Sherger Duo"



**JUL 18** LIB 10:00 AM Toddler Time

LIB 3:00 PM Tween Scene

JUL 19 LIB 2:00 PM Discovery Studio Teen

JUL 20 ML 8:30 AM Rahway Chamber of Commerce: General Membership Meeting

SEN 1:00 PM Movie: "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever"

LIB 6:00 PM Family Fun Night

LIB 6:00 PM Rahway Writer's Circle

HSL Dusk Drive in/ Walk up Movies "Turning Red"



JUL 21 PAS 6:30-9:30 PM Live Music at the Paseo "Rick Barth"

4





UCPAC 7:30PM Mayor's Summer Concert Series "Lisette Melendez/ Coro"

#### JUL 28 PAS 6:30-9:30 PM Live Music at the Paseo "Dinky"

### JUL 31

LIB 6:00 PM Retro Teen Storytime



CHP 7:00 PM-8:00 PM Rahway Municipal Council Combined Meeting



	JUL <b>24</b>
JUL 15	LIB 5:00 PM
EAME 10:00 AM-1:00 PM	Teen Movie Nigh
Ebenezer AME 2nd	JUL 25
Annual Community Resource Fair	LIB 10:00 AM
	Toddler Time
YMCA 8:00 AM-3:00 PM	JUL <b>26</b>
Gateway YMCA: Open House	LIB 2:00 PM
	Discovery Studio
JUL 16	, in the second s
YMCA 8:00 AM-1:00 PM	LIB 2:00-3:00 PM
Gateway YMCA: Open	Reader's Room B
House	Discussion
JUL <b>17</b>	LIB <b>3:00 PM</b>
LIB 6:00 PM	Graphic Novel Bo
Teen Game Night	JUL 27
LIB <b>6:00 PM</b>	SEN 1:00 PM
Crochet Club	Coffee & Canvas

24			
<b>0 PM</b> ⁄Iovie Night		ENDAR LOCATION KEY	ത്രങ്ങ
25	ADP CHP	Arts District Park: Irving St/Central Ave City Hall Plaza: 1 City Hall Plaza	
<b>00 AM</b> er Time	CS DR EAME	East Cherry St Downtown Rahway Ebenezer AME Church: 253 Central Ave	
26	HSL	Hamilton Stage Lot: 360 Hamilton St	
<b>0 PM</b> rery Studio Teen	LIB ML PAS	Rahway Public Library: 2 City Hall Plaza Masonic Lodge: 1550 Irving St Rahway Paseo: Main St Near Cherry St	USE THIS FOR MORE
<b>0-3:00 PM</b> 's Room Book sion	REC RRP SEN TGS	Rahway Rec Center: 3 City Hall Plaza Rahway River Park: St. Georges Ave Rahway Senior Center: 1306 Esterbrook Ave The Gallery Space: 1670 Irving St	ON EVENTS HAPPENI
<b>0 PM</b> ic Novel Book Club	TSP UCPAC YMCA	Train Station Plaza: Irving St & E. Milton Ave Union County Performing Arts Center: 1601 In Gateway Family YMCA/Rahway: 1564 Irving St	
27 DO PM		www.cityofrahway.cityofRahway.g	



**USE THIS CODE FOR MORE INFO ON EVENTS AND** HAPPENINGS

# RAHWAY IS HAPPENING 2023

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AUG 1 LIB 10:00 AM Toddler Time

LIB 3:00 PM Tween Scene

AUG 2 LIB 2:00 PM Discovery Studio Teen

AUG 3 **SEN 1:00 PM** Organ Concert

LIB 6:00 PM Family Fun Night

UCPAC 7:30 PM Mayor's Summer Concert Series "La Pachamambo"



AUG4 PAS 6:30-9:30 PM Live Music at the Paseo "Kayka"

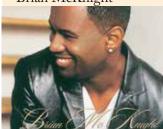
AUG 5 CS 12-6:00 PM The Heart of the City

AUG 7 LIB 6:00 PM

AUG **10** (cont'd) LIB 1:00-3:00 PM Afternoon Movie at the Library

LIB 6:00 PM Family Fun Night

UCPAC 7:30 PM Mayor's Summer Concert Series "Brian McKnight"



AUG 11 PAS 6:30-9:30 PM Live Music at the Paseo "Al Reynolds"

AUG 12 LIB 1:30-4:00 PM Afternoon Trivia

AUG 13 YMCA 2:00 PM-4:00 PM Gateway YMCA: Cardboard Boat Regatta

AUG 14 LIB 5:00 PM Teen Movie Night

CHP 7:00 PM-8:00 PM Rahway Municipal Council Combined Meeting

AUG 20 LIB 6:00 PM Crochet Club

YMCA 2:00 PM-4:00 PM Gateway YMCA: Puppy Swim

AUG 21 LIB 6:00 PM Crochet Club

AUG 22 LIB 10:00 AM Toddler Time

LIB 3:00 PM Tween Scene

AUG 23 LIB 2:00 PM Discovery Studio Teen

LIB 2:00-3:00 PM Reader's Room Book Discussion

AUG 24 **SEN 1:00 PM** Movie: "80 for Brady"



LIB 6:00 PM Family Fun Night

**UCPAC 7:30 PM** Mayor's Summer Concert Series "Day One, Midnight Rock



Make a peace sign mosaic

LIB 6:00 PM Crochet Club

AUG 8 LIB 10:00 AM Toddler Time

LIB 3:00 PM Tween Scene

AUG 9 LIB 2:00 PM Discovery Studio Teen

AUG 10 SEN 10:00 AM-1:00 PM **RWJ** Wellness on Wheels & Arista Yoga: Greenhouse & Cooking School on Wheels

LIB 2:00 PM Discovery Studio Teen

AUG 16

LIB 5:30-7:30 PM Board Game Night

AUG 17 **SEN 1:00 PM** Bingo

LIB 6:00 PM Rahway Writer's Circle

**UCPAC 7:30 PM** Mayor's Summer Concert Series "Rusty Monks and ABSalute House"

AUG 18

PAS 6:30-9:30 PM

Live Music at the Paseo "Baby Maurice"

Show, Kings of Queen"

AUG 25 PAS 6:30-9:30 PM

Live Music at the Paseo "Swamp Eddie & Nina"

AUG 27 CS 7-10:00 PM ジ Soiree en Blanc

AUG 29 LIB 10:00 AM Toddler Time

LIB 3:00 PM Tween Scene

AUG 30 LIB 3:00 PM Graphic Novel Book Club

ADP	Arts District Park: Irving St/Central Ave	إلكا
CHP	City Hall Plaza: 1 City Hall Plaza	
CS	East Cherry St	
DR	Downtown Rahway	
EAME	Ebenezer AME Church: 253 Central Ave	
HSL	Hamilton Stage Lot: 360 Hamilton St	
LIB	Rahway Public Library: 2 City Hall Plaza	USE
ML	Masonic Lodge: 1550 Irving St	FOR
PAS	Rahway Paseo: Main St Near Cherry St	
REC	Rahway Rec Center: 3 City Hall Plaza	ON E
RRP	Rahway River Park: St. Georges Ave	HA
SEN	Rahway Senior Center: 1306 Esterbrook Ave	
TGS	The Gallery Space: 1670 Irving St	
TSP	Train Station Plaza: Irving St & E. Milton Ave	
UCPAC	Union County Performing Arts Center: 1601 In	ving St
YMCA	Gateway Family YMCA/Rahway: 1564 Irving St	t
	www.cityofrahway.o	com

**CityofRahwayNJ CityofRahway** 



**USE THIS CODE FOR MORE INFO ON EVENTS AND** HAPPENINGS

# RAHWAY IS HAPPENING SEP' 2023

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



#### **CALENDAR LOCATION KEY**

ADP	Arts District Park: Irving St/Central Ave	
CHP	City Hall Plaza: 1 City Hall Plaza	
CS	East Cherry St	
DR	Downtown Rahway	1.7.7
EAME	Ebenezer AME Church: 253 Central Ave	
HSL	Hamilton Stage Lot: 360 Hamilton St	
LIB	Rahway Public Library: 2 City Hall Plaza	USE
ML	Masonic Lodge: 1550 Irving St	
PAS	Rahway Paseo: Main St Near Cherry St	FOR
REC	Rahway Rec Center: 3 City Hall Plaza	ON
RRP	Rahway River Park: St. Georges Ave	HA
SEN	Rahway Senior Center: 1306 Esterbrook Ave	
TGS	The Gallery Space: 1670 Irving St	
TSP	Train Station Plaza: Irving St & E. Milton Ave	
UCPAC	Union County Performing Arts Center: 1601 In	ving St
YMCA	Gateway Family YMCA/Rahway: 1564 Irving S	t

#### www.cityofrahway.com f CityofRahwayNJ 🕑 🖸 CityofRahway

#### SEPT 1

TSP 5:00 PM Hispanic Heritage Month Flag Raising

PAS 6:30-9:30 PM Live Music at the Paseo "Noop"

#### SEPT 5

LIB 10:00 AM Toddler Time

CHP 7:00 PM-8:00 PM Rahway Municipal Council Pre-Conference Meeting

SEPT 7

LIB 1:00-3:00 PM Afternoon Movie at the



**USE THIS CODE FOR MORE INFO ON EVENTS AND** HAPPENINGS

Reader's Room Book Discussion

ADP 6:30-8:30 PM Celebración!

SEPT TBA CHP/REC 6:30-8:30 PM

SEPT 23 ADP 2-6:00 PM ArtsFest Rahway!

SEPT 25 LIB 6:00 PM

Crochet Club

Gateway YMCA: Preschool Family Swim

SEPT 26 Toddler Time

SEPT 27

Discovery Studio for Teens!



### Saturday Sept. 23

2PM to 6PM Irving Street From **ONE EXCITING DAY. 50+ ARTISTS. 2 LIVE PERFORMANCE AREAS. GOOD VIBES.** 

artist marketplace  $\bullet$  emerging artists  $\bullet$  urban and eclectic Irving Street Fromperformance and interactive art • wearable art and giftsCentral Ave. to Elizabeth Ave.culinary arts • face painters • art classes and more

> More info at: www.RahwayIsHappening.com/artsfest Free Parking a at Hamilton Stage, RSI Bank, The Gallery Spac tandard rates apply at Rahway Parking Garage

IF YOU LITTER IN THE STREET, YOU MIGHT AS WELL LITTER IN THE RIVER.

#### YMCA Times Listed Below Welcoming Week 9/8-9/17

SEPT9

M-F (6am-9pm), Sat (8am-3pm), Sun (8am-1pm) REC 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Community Health Fair

#### SEPT 10 TGS 1-4:00 PM

WE+THEY=US!: 5th Annual Celebration of Hispanic & Latin Artists: Sept. 10-Oct. 6, 2023

SEPT 11 LIB 6:00 PM Crochet Club

LIB 5:30-7:30 PM Board Game Night

SEPT 13

SEPT 14 ADP 6:30-8:30 PM Celebración!

SEPT 19 LIB 10:00 AM Toddler Time

SEPT 20

LIB 2:00-3:00 PM

SEPT 21

Hispanic Heritage event

YMCA 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

LIB 10:00 AM

LIB 4:00 PM





## NEW POLICE DIRECTOR



The City of Rahway welcomed newly appointed Director of Police Nicholas Breiner to the department on March 1st. Director Breiner served with the Belleville Police Department for more than 25 years before

Nicholas Breiner

retiring in March of 2021 and then taking on the role of Assistant Township Administrator for Montville Township in November of that year. The progressive evolution of the police department that began under now-Business Administrator Jonathan Parham continues to grow as the agency seeks to protect and serve the Rahway community with the utmost professionalism, integrity, and respect.

Director Breiner has served our country and the community throughout his professional career and personal life as a law enforcement executive, local government administrator, and U.S. Air Force officer. The Director holds a B.A. from Rutgers University, a M.A. from Seton Hall University, is a graduate of executive education at the prestigious Harvard-Kennedy School of Government, and is a Rutgers University nationally-accredited Certified Public Manager. He is married and has three children and enjoys reading, exercising and traveling. Please contact the Director's office for any public safety questions or concerns at (732) 827-2105.

## DEDICATED SERVICE

A heartfelt thank you to the retiring members of the Rahway Police Department for their years of commitment and contribution to our community's safety.



# City of Rahway Police Department

### **NEW INITIATIVE** PARK, WALK & TALK BUILDING A STRONGER BOND OF TRUST AND SAFETY

As the Rahway Police Department continues its mission to serve the public with an emphasis on quality and safety, this summer will see officers engaging in more targeted safe driving initiatives. The Operations Division, consisting of the Patrol and Traffic Units, will be aggressively monitoring city streets, especially Route 1 and St. Georges Avenue, for DUI and speeding violations in an effort to keep our citizens and travelers safe. The police department urges all of its residents and visiting motorists to obey posted speed limits, taking an Uber, Lyft, or taxi if necessary, and to drive safely.

With warm weather comes the opportunity to be more engaged with the public, which will be achieved through the department's Park, Walk, and Talk Initiative. This endeavor encourages officers to hit the street on foot to



stop in local businesses, connect with owners and employees, and to speak with residents they come across during their patrols. It is these types of efforts that the City supports as a way for the department and residents to build a stronger bond of trust and foster an atmosphere of safety.

If you see a Rahway officer out and about, ask to take a selfie, tag @rahwaypolicedepartment on Instagram and stay tuned for the chance to be entered into prize giveaways and other opportunities.

## **NEW PROGRAM** HIGHLIGHT

JIUJITSU + PAL JIUJITSU PROGRAM

## Fostering A Safer Rahway Community: Empowering Our Police with De-escalation Techniques to Promote Peaceful Resolutions

As communities around the country struggle with eroding confidence in public safety, Rahway has taken a progressive approach to bridging that divide. In response to the state's new use of force policy, which places an emphasis on de-escalation and using the least amount of force necessary, the Rahway Police Department implemented a Jiujitsu-based defensive tactics training program to meet such standards. The program launched in 2021 and has gone on to influence training programs throughout the United States, develop connections throughout the world, and led to the establishment one of the country's first PAL Jiujitsu Programs. RPD's Jiujitsu Program revolutionizes law enforcement training by empowering officers with confidence, knowledge, and techniques through a unique curriculum consisting of lessons from the Police Training Commission, Gracie Survival Tactics, and Use of Force policies. With a focus on de-escalation, officers learn how to defend themselves without using lethal force. A key feature of the Jiujitsu

program is its scenario-based training, providing officers with practical skills for real-world situations. This dynamic approach sharpens decision-making abilities, enhances situational awareness, and promotes effective communication, enabling officers to handle diverse encounters confidently and professionally.

Building on its success, the RPD successfully launched the PAL Jiujitsu program in the Spring of 2023 for children from second to eighth grade. Jiujitsu training not only teaches youth how to defend themselves but instills confidence and long-term growth that extends beyond the mat. Participants develop crucial skills such as avoiding conflicts, conflict resolution, a sense of

Patrol Captain Robert Zarzycki – 29 Years



Captain Marie Deering – 25 Years



teamwork and support, and wise decision-making in challenging situations.

The Rahway Police Jiujitsu Program and its PAL extension have made a significant impact on both officers and youth in Rahway and highlight the City's commitment to creating a safer environment while building stronger connections between law enforcement and the community, shaping a brighter future for all.



# Rahway's Unique Senior Scene

## **JOIN THE FUN!**

#### RAHWAY DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES

Rahway proudly offers a wide range of engaging and enjoyable Senior programs that cater to the diverse interests and needs of our esteemed older community members. Our Senior programs include educational seminars, social gatherings, and recreational outings, providing opportunities for learning, connecting, and making cherished memories.







#### **Senior Picnic**

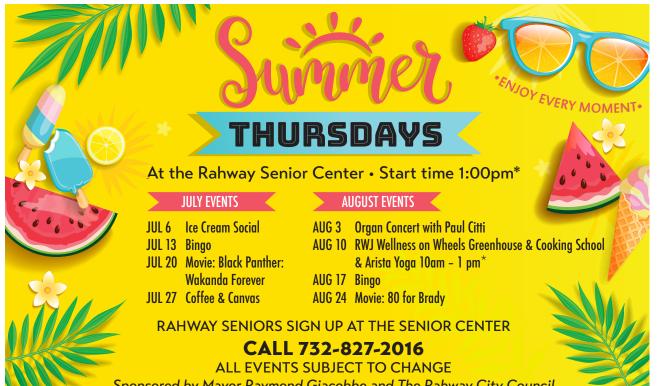
On May 12th, Rahway's Division of Senior Services kicked off summer celebrations with its annual Summer Picnic presented by Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council. This year's Hawaiian-themed party featured an array of entertainment including a live DJ, dance performances, and raffles. After burning calories on the dance floor, the seniors were served a delicious lunch from the Waiting Room and dessert from the Good Humor Ice Cream Truck. Safe to say, the seniors brought Hawaiian style to Rahway! Please call (732) 827-2016 for information regarding upcoming events, trips, and classes that the Senior Center is offering this summer.

#### **Senior of the Year**

Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council are pleased to announce that Dorothy Kelly has been selected as Outstanding Rahway Senior Citizen of the Year for 2022. Dorothy Kelly was born in Flushing, NY and attended grade school in Corona, NY and High School in Elmhurst, NY. After high school she started working at William Sadlier where she met her husband, Gerry. They relocated to Rahway after their wedding and have remained here for 45 years. As an active member of the Knights of Columbus you will often see Dorothy cook, clean, bartend, and pitch in wherever she is

needed. Dorothy also spends her time volunteering, both at the Union County Performing Arts Center as an usher, and previously at the Rahway Hospital Gift Shop until its closure. She is a member of AARP where she serves as Vice-President and arranges trips. Most recently, she helped organize a fundraiser for a displaced Ukrainian Family that moved to Rahway. Her selflessness and dedication to making Rahway a better place is why the Rahway Senior Center's Board of Trustees selected Dorothy Kelly as the Outstanding Rahway Senior Citizen of the Year for 2022.







11:30 am Lunch will be served immediately

following the presentation.

#### Rahway Senior Center • 1306 Esterbrook Ave. For more information or to register, call (732) 827-2016



Sponsored by Mayor Raymond Giacobbe and The Rahway City Council

#### Rahway Senior Clubs Meeting Schedule The following clubs meet at the Rahway Senior Center:

Rahway Retired Men's Club	Ladies Golden Age Club	A.A.R.P. Chapter #607	Union County
Meets every Monday at 1 PM	Meets every Weds. at 12:15PM	Meets 2nd Thurs. of month at 12PM	Minority Task Force
Pres. Charles Sweetman	Pres. Miriam Hausman	Pres. Delores Franklin	Pres. Elaine Haith
(732) 574-8976	(908) 906-4472	(732) 499-7986	(732)428-4800

For more information on Senior Services and Programs, please call the Rahway Division of Senior Services: (732) 827-2016



## RAHWAY FIRE Celebrating 200 years

In 2023, the Rahway Fire Department celebrates its 200th anniversary, marking two centuries of dedicated service to our community. Originally established in 1823, the Rahway Fire Department is recognized as New Jersey's first incorporated fire department. Throughout the years, our firefighters have continued to evolve by implementing the newest technologies and training practices to keep their skills sharp and stay prepared to respond to emergencies.

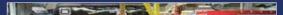
This milestone is a testament to the unwavering commitment displayed by generations of firefighters that have protected and served our City.

## AFTER THE FIRE:

On Thursday, June 1, the Rahway Fire Department and Rahway High School welcomed Alvaro Llanos and Shawn Simons, survivors of the 2000 Seton Hall University dormitory fire, to show their documentary, "After the Fire" and teach the class of 2023 about fire safety before they go off to college. On January 19, 2000, Alvaro and Shawn's lives would change forever when the 3rd-floor lounge of Boland Hall was set ablaze by an arson fire. During their visit, Alvaro and Shawn shared their personal stories, recounting the terrifying moments of the fire, its aftermath, and their roads to recovery. They emphasized the importance of fire safety measures and highlighted the profound impact that fire incidents can have on individuals, families, and communities. The session concluded with a Q&A where students were able to ask questions and engage in meaningful discussions about fire safety.

## DEDICATED **SERVICE**

A sincere thank you to the retiring members of the Rahway Fire Department for their years of commitment and contribution to our community's safety.



# Rahway is... at work for You

# **DPW** RAHWAY • 25th ANNIVERSARY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS • WASTE • RECYCLING

#### Sanitation Division Celebrates 25 Years of Service to the City!

This year marks a significant milestone for the Rahway Division of Solid Waste and Recycling as it proudly celebrates its 25th anniversary. Established on April 1, 1998, this division introduced a city-wide refuse and recycling collection system that aimed to reduce the municipal solid waste and recycling budget, while prioritizing cost-effectiveness and quality service to our City.

The value of the division was realized very early on during the Labor Day Storm of 1998, where the newly established team played a critical role in the removal of massive amounts of downed branches, working hand in hand with the Department



of Public Works. This event highlighted another benefit of the division; an increase in our abilities to respond to natural disasters and emergencies.

The Division of Solid Waste and Recycling bears the responsibility of collecting and transporting various types of waste, including household garbage/trash, bulky waste, yard waste/grass/branches, and recyclables such as bottles and cans, paper products, electronics, and rechargeable batteries. They continue to provide a vital resource to our community as they work tirelessly to maintain the cleanliness and sustainability of our City. Congratulations on 25 years!



## **PRESERVING** OUR PAST

DPW AND THE RAHWAY TREE COMMITTEE PLANT SALEM OAK SEEDLING

On June 6, 2019, one of New Jersey's most historic and iconic landmarks, the 500-year-old Salem Oak fell after years of declining health. The fallen tree dates back to 1675 and served as a peace treaty between Quaker John Fenwick and the Lenni Lenape Native Americans, the same tribe that once inhabited Rahway. Before the legendary tree reached its end, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the New Jersey Forest Service created a joint program to ensure the tree's legacy would live on. Through this program, foresters cultivated approximately 1,200 seedlings to be distributed to municipalities across the state. As a part of this program, the Rahway Department of Public Works (DPW) was able to obtain a seedling in April 2022, which was cared for by master gardener James Keane and certified Master Tree Steward Michael Smanko until it was ready for planting in April 2023. DPW and the Rahway Tree Committee planted the seedling behind the Rahway River Watershed Association building on E. Milton Ave. Through DPW's efforts, this seedling will serve as a reminder of the rich





Battalion Chief Cliff Schlosser – 25 Years



Captain Chris Hammell – 26 Years

heritage and natural beauty that has endured throughout the centuries, providing New Jersey with its "Garden State" nickname.