# **Special Highlight:**

GOLDEN GLOVES! PAGE 7 **IT'S ALL HERE.** 

The Rahway Review is the definitive go-to-guide for every Rahway resident. Stay informed about what's going on in our City. Right here. Right now. CHAZE PALMINIERI A TS TONE Dale To The Market Market Tale

MAY 9 Chazz Palminteri One Man Show

UNION COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT RAHWAY

PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE

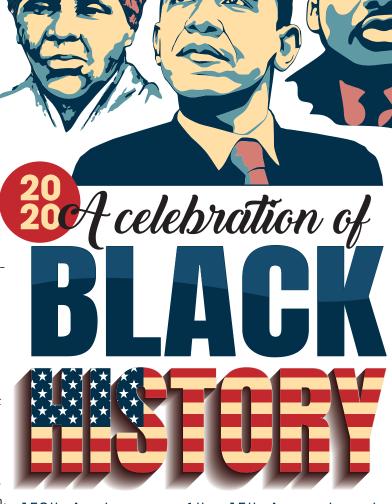
VOL XXX ISSUE 1 WINTER 2020 EDITION

# FEBRUARY 2020 · BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In February 2020, the City of Rahway will join the entire nation in the annual celebration of Black History Month, which has been formally celebrated in the United States since 1976. Black History Month emphasizes and recognizes Black history and its many contributions to the history, society, and culture of our nation.

This year's celebration of Black History Month takes on additional significance as it marks the 150th anniversary of the Fifteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which was ratified on February 3, 1870. The Fifteenth Amendment prohibits the federal government and each state from denying any citizen the right to vote "on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

In Rahway, numerous events will mark the celebration of Black History Month.



150th Anniversary of the 15th Amendment

On January 20, the City's annual celebration of Martin Luther King Day, organized by the Rahway Branch of the NAACP, will take place. The Gallery Space, Rahway's municipal art gallery, will host the exhibit "The Bridge", its second annual celebration of African American Artists. Additional details regarding the exhibit and opening reception appear below.

On Saturday, February 8, the City will once again collaborate with the County of Union and Union County Performing Arts Center for a free annual celebration and performance. This year's event will feature Raisin, a musical adaptation of the play *A Raisin in the Sun*.

In addition to these events, both the Rahway Public Library and Rahway High School will host events celebrating Black History Month. Please see the calendar in this edition of the Rahway Review for details.

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Arts Rahway	7
Rahway Calendar	8
Rahway Senior Scene	1



# **Kids Vote!**

In November, Rahway's kids participated in their very own election at the

The Second Annual Celebration of African American Artists Bisa Wendy Washington, Kimberly Camp, Kara S. Rice, Onnie Strother, Mel Holston, Derek J. Dent, Tino F. Cook, Gannon Crutcher and Xplore Freedom

THE GALLERY SPACE

RAHWAY



# The Bridge

**February Exhibit** 

presents

Exhibition Dates: February 5 – March 6, 2020 Opening Reception: Sunday, February 9, 12PM – 4PM Special Performance at 3PM of *The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass* by The Dunbar Repertory Company

The Gallery Space 1670 Irving St. Rahway • (732) 827-2210 Gallery Hours: Monday – Friday 1– 4PM Rahway Public Library! Over 75 children made their voices heard on important issues: Cats or dogs? Ice cream or pizza? Play at the beach or play in the snow?

Participants were rewarded with their very own "I Voted" pin.

# rahwayreview

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

# **POSTAL PATRON**

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## <u>rahwayreview</u>

WINTER 2020



#### Frahwayreview VOL XXX ISSUE 1 WINTER 2020 EDITION

The Rahway Review is published by the Office of the Mayor, Raymond A. Giacobbe. Its purpose is to keep 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



# from the mayor's desk Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Winter 2020 issue of the Rahway Review. You will find this issue full of highlights of recent happenings in our City over the past few months and a look ahead at the even fuller calendar of events and programs planned as we move into the new decade.

I often speak of my pride in Rahway's diversity and my commitment to ensuring that all cultures in our City are represented and celebrated. February, which marks Black History Month, is an opportunity to recognize the contributions of African Americans not only to our nation, but to our City as well. This issue highlights the numerous events that will take place during the month. These events include the celebration of Martin Luther King Day, a special art exhibit, reception, and performance at the Gallery Space, and a free annual celebration at the Union County Performing Arts Center, presented by the City and the County of Union. Winter weather can be a

challenge for residents and

for the City overall. In this issue, you will read about efforts by our Department of Public Works to prepare our roads in advance of anticipated severe weather, as well as tips for keeping yourself and your vehicle safe and simple steps you can take when clearing snow to help DPW personnel efficiently remove snow from streets.

Among the most important tasks of my Administration are continually evaluating the needs of our residents and developing services and programs to meet those needs. Two programs highlighted in this issue help illustrate this approach. You will read about the City's new Senior Transportation Services, designed to meet the needs of our senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Also highlighted is our new Game Time program, a free, supervised program for Rahway's teens.

Speaking of our youth, please take a moment to read about some of the recent accomplishments of our High School students. Highlighted are their achievements in academics, the arts, and athletics, three important pillars of our educational programs. I would especially like to congratulate our students on a couple of "firsts". These are the first recipient of the newly created William Gawor Perpetual Scholarship, and our boys soccer team's first-ever State Sectional Title.

Our Division of Senior Services works tirelessly throughout the year to provide programming, events, and services to our senior citizen population. In addition to the new transportation service mentioned above, many free scheduled services are highlighted in the Senior Scene section.

Month after month, our business community continues to grow. You will find a robust list of businesses that have opened recently, as well as those slated to open soon. Business highlights also include our upcoming Restaurant Week, the new Get Out for Lunch Rahway initiative, and a collaboration to bring free Lending Libraries to locations around town. Finally, I would like to highlight the arrival of New Jersey Golden Gloves at the Union County Performing Arts Center. Having Golden Gloves choose UCPAC as home base for its annual series of preliminary and championship bouts promises to bringing entertainment, excitement, and visitors to our downtown.

I wish all residents a very happy New Year, and hope you share my excitement about all that is happening in our great City!

What a full issue and a full slate! I wish all residents a very happy New Year, and hope you share my excitement about all that is happening in our great City!

#### MAYOR Raymond A. Giacobbe 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065 732-827-2009 mayor@cityofrahway.com

#### RAHWAY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

**First Ward** *Rodney Farrar* rfarrar@cityofrahway.com

*James Baker Council President* jbaker@cityofrahway.com

At Large

At Large

# RAHWAY MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

If you get an answering machine when calling any of the following numbers, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible. All area codes are 732 unless otherwise specified.

#### **Municipal Offices**

Building Inspector	827-2087
City Clerk	827-2100
Community Development	827-2193
Comptroller/Finance	827-2020
Municipal Court	827-2039

#### **Helpful Numbers**

Board of Education	396-1000
RWJU Hospital at Rahway	381-4200
Rahway Library	340-1551
NJ Transit973-	-275-5555
P.A.L. Hot Line	827-2097
Parking Authority	381-8778
Post Office	388-3264
Rahway Redevelopment Agency	827-2001
Rahway Y.M.C.A.	388-0057
Union County	
Performing Arts Center	499-8226

#### Second Ward

*Michael Cox* mcox@cityofrahway.com

#### Third Ward

*Robert Bresenhan, Jr.,* rbresenhan@cityofrahway.com

#### **Fourth Ward**

David Brown dbrown@cityofrahway.com

# Fifth Ward

Danielle "Danni" Newbury dnewbury@cityofrahway.com

#### **Sixth Ward** Joe Gibilisco jgibilisco@cityofrahway.com

Jeremy Mojica jmojica@cityofrahway.com At Large

*Joanna Miles* jmiles@cityofrahway.com

Publication Design: Wizdom Media

**Publication Print:** Mr. B Printing

Economic Development	
Emergency Management	
Engineering	
Fire (non emergency)	
Fire Prevention Bureau	827-2133
First Aid	
Health Department	827-2085
Mayor's Office	
Municipal Administrator	
Police (non emergency)	
Public Works	
Recreation	
Recycling	
Tax Assessor	
Tax Collector	
United Water	
Vital Statistics	

#### **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
Grover Cleveland School	396-1040
Franklin School	396-1050
Madison School	396-1070
Roosevelt School	396-1060



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Like us! Follow us on social media or contact the City of Rahway on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/CityOfRahwayNJ

WINTER 2020



# 



MAYOR RAYMOND GIACOBBE AND THE CITY COUNCIL WELCOME THESE NEW BUSINESSES TO TOWN!

# New Businesses Opened

The Wannabes Dance Troupe 40 E Cherry St

Action Services 75 E Cherry St Unit A

- Avengers Auto Sales 402 St. Georges Ave
- **Rahway Bagels** 1090 St Georges Ave
- Millie & Joy Clothing Store 1361 Franklin St.

**RV** 89 E Cherry St

AV Supermarket 1277 St Georges Ave

Businesses On the Rise

# Look what's happening downtown..

# Literacy is popping up in Rahway!

You find yourself with an extra few minutes between work or school or running the kids around and decide to relax and enjoy one of the lovely urban parks in Rahway, but if only you had a book to read.... Fret no more. Rahway Reads Lending Libraries (RRLL) will be popping up all over Rahway! Lending Libraries are typically wooden boxes that resemble small houses and provide free books. The concept is to take a book or leave a book and it is all free and encourages reading.

The first installment of libraries will have four locations. One painted by Nick Rosal, will live in the Atelier Rosal shop located at 74 East Cherry Street. (Great if you forgot a book for the train ride!) Three will be in parks. One will be in the gazebo on Milton and Emerson, and just like the Gazebo, will be painted by the Girl Scouts of Troop 54. Another, painted by artist Ellen Avigilano, will live in the Arts Park at the corner of Central and Main, across from the UCPAC. Berzinec Park, at the corner of Central Ave and St. Georges, will host the fourth box painted by Carteret artist Raquel Agatep.



The RRLL is a partnership with the Rahway Chamber of Commerce, the Friends of the Public Library and the Rahway Arts + Business Partnership. For more information about sponsoring a box personally or as a business, contact info@Rahwayishappening.com.

#### Welcome Rahway New Business! Ribbon Cutting at Lala's Attic



Mayor Giacobbe joined representatives of the Rahway Arts and Business Partnership and the Rahway Chamber of Commerce to welcome Lala's Attic to the Rahway business community.



Save the Date for Rahway's



Heaven 169 W Main St

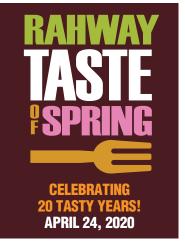
428 W Grand Ave

Shozbe Corp 943 E Hazelwood Ave

Universal Supply Co.
 Shipworx Engineering
 Synergy Cartage Inc.
 329 New Brunswick Ave

RTC Distribution Gluten Free Palace Unique Fine Imports Brach Sportswear My Frame Store DNG Transport Classic Album LLC 313 Regina Ave

Restaurant week! Prix fixe menus
and specials available at your
favorite downtown eateries.
Menus will be posted at
https://www.rahwaytaste.com/ by
mid January so your stomach can
plan out your week!



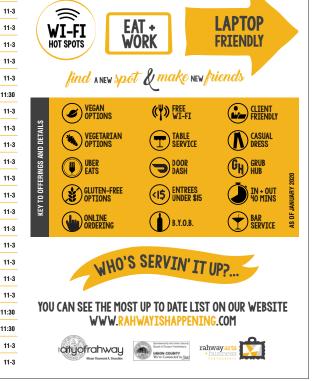
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Just Plain Dave's 78 East Cherry Street	<b>e</b>		000	ÐÐ	(15 <b>)</b>		T-F	11
La Malinche 1588 Irving Street	(		00	•	( <b>5</b> )		M,W-F	11
Luciano's 1579 Main Street	<b>@</b> (†))(		DMC	DƏq	)\$6\$	<b>)</b> (†	T-F	11
Meatballs and Brews 1482 Main Street	<b>@</b> (†)(		00		(15 J	٢	F	11:
Melao Cafe & Creamery 1425 Irving Street	<b>@</b> (4))(		1	094	) <b>\$</b> @ <b>)</b>	<b>b</b>	M-F	11
Michelino's Pizza 79 East Milton Avenue		۲	♪		(15)		M-F	11
Nancy's Townhouse 1453 Main Street	«۳»(		00	•	\$\$ (5)	٢	T-F	11
New Dragon Palace 41 East Milton Avenue		۲	♪		(15)		M-F	11
New Fon Garden 1540 Irving Street		۲			(15)		T-F	11
Olivia's Catering/Dining 85 East Cherry Street	<b>@</b> (†))(				(15)	٢	M-F	11
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The Waiting Room 66 East Cherry Street	<b>@</b> (1))(				١	٢	M-F	11
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M.W-F

Jersey Chicken Fusion 221 West Main Street



# AROUND THE CITY - -

# **HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**\$5,000 grant for senior citizens and up to \$25,000** deferred loans for all income eligible residents

#### **0% DEFERRED LOANS**

This program is available to owner-occupants of one or two family dwellings whose gross income does not exceed the limits of the charts below:

Gross income limits:

\$50,350.00

\$57,550.00

\$64,750.00

\$71,900.00

\$77,700.00

\$83,400.00

Number of fa	mily members:	(
	1	
	2	
	3	
	4	
•	5	
	6	

A mortgage in the amount of the repair contracts will be placed on your home and repayment will be due and payable upon sale, change of title, or if you move from your home.

#### **PROGRAM PROCESS**

Upon review you will be contacted by Community Consultants, and informed of the additional documents needed to complete the application process and an appointment will be scheduled for verification.

Your home will be inspected and a bid package will be assembled and distributed to eligible contractors. The lowest bidder will receive the contract. You may request a registered, certified and insured contractor to bid on your repairs; however if they are not the lowest bidder, you must pay the difference. Following homeowner's approval of the work completed, the city will pay the contractor directly.

No payments are made to the homeowner.

#### For information, please contact:

T: 732-827-2193 or csolomon@cityofrahway.com



A fixed destination, shared-ride transportation service to meet the special needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities.

# **Brine Program Information**

Mayor Giacobbe and the Rahway Department of Public Works are proud to announce that the shared service arrangement with the Township of Kenilworth, Township of Clark and the Borough of Roselle will proceed. These communities have jointly purchased an automated salt brine production system and continue to work together on the distribution process. This system will continue to be utilized by the respective municipal public works crews enabling them to pre-treat their community's roads this winter more efficiently.

Using this quick and efficient method of pre-treating the streets has obvious advantages for motorists and for public works snow and ice control crews. The Department of Public Works in each community will have a more effective means to stay ahead of inclement weather. Salt brine will be sprayed on the streets a day or two before a storm is predicted. The application of salt brine prior to a snow storm will help prevent the bonding of snow and ice to the pavement making streets and roads much safer for everyone.

# "

"Continuing our cost effective efforts to keep our roads clear and safe while reducing the amount of salt utilized benefits everyone both environmentally and economically." said Mayor Giacobbe.

# Salvatore M. Mione Park Dedication

On Saturday, November 16, Mayor Raymond Giacobbe and members of the Rahway City Council joined nearly 200 people to celebrate the dedication of Rahway's newest park, named in honor of Salvatore M. Mione. The crowd gathered included members of Mr. Mione's family, members of veterans' organizations from across the state, and many members of the Rahway community. The new park is located on New Church Street, where Mr. Mione's former home stood. The property is now maintained as open space under New Jersey's Blue Acres program. The City has enhanced the property with the addition of a large, locally sourced boulder adorned with a commemorative plaque, a gravel path, trees, plantings and a flagpole.

Speeches made during the dedication ceremony paid tribute to Mr. Mione and his many contributions to the City and his steadfast advocacy on behalf of veterans. Mr. Mione served as a member of City Council for over 24 years. He also served as a member of the City's Planning Board and as Chair of the City's 9/11 Commission. Mr. Mione entered the United States Army in 1966 and was assigned to the 1st Air Cavalry Division in Vietnam. He served 12 months in combat, earning the Combat Infantryman Badge and Air Medal. Mr. Mione was a member of and served in leadership

roles with veterans' organizations throughout the  $\bar{S}$ tate of New Jersey, including the New York/New Jersey 1st Cavalry Division Association, Vietnam Veterans of America, Rahway Veterans Central Committee, American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was a founding member of the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial Committee and the Bayonne, NJ Vietnam Veterans Monument Committee, and served as Service Officer for the Union County Office of Veterans Affairs. Beyond these official roles, Mr. Mione selflessly dedicated his time to counseling and assisting veterans dealing with mental, emotional, and physical challenges following their service.

In his remarks during the ceremony, Mayor Giacobbe praised Mr. Mione for his contributions, and recognized City Council for authorization of the park and members of the Department of Public Works for their efforts to bring it to fruition.





# SERVICE BEGINS JANUARY 2, 2020

For more information: www.cityofrahway.com/seniortransportation 732-669-3600

# **Senior Bus Service Launched**

The City of Rahway is pleased to announce the January 2, 2020 launch of its Senior Transportation Service, which will provide shared-ride transportation service to meet the special needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities. Eligible residents may utilize the service for non-emergency trips to local doctors, beauty parlors, barbershops, pharmacies, etc. and can take advantage of regularly scheduled trips to popular shopping destinations.

The service will be offered Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 3:30pm. For more information, applications, and reservations, residents should call (732) 669-3600.

# Pothole Repair Program



The Public Works Department is called upon to repair hundreds of potholes throughout the City every year.

Anyone who observes a pothole should call the Rahway Department of Public Works Pothole Hotline at (732) 827-2061, please leave a brief description of the location when calling. Thank you for your cooperation.

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# Driveway Clearing Tips

The following suggestions are intended to make your driveway snow removal easier and safer:

- If possible, wait until the street is completely plowed curb to curb before shoveling the last 5 to 10 feet of your driveway. This way less snow from the street will end up in your driveway. It takes several hours for DPW personnel to completely clear the snow from the street.
- It is best to place snow on the far side of your driveway, away from the direction the plow is traveling. This way the plow will move snow away from your driveway, rather than back into it.
- DO NOT shovel, blow or plow snow from your driveway into or across the street. Remember, you can be held account-

able for your actions as well as your contractor.
DO NOT allow children to play in the snow along the side of the street.
DPW personnel may need to push back snow days after the storm to

days after the storm to create room for the next snow event. Keep your children safe.

# Winter Driving Tips

• Clean your vehicle of all snow and ice, including the roof, required by law in the state of New Jersey.

- Allow extra time to reach your destination.
- During snow storms, travel only when absolutely necessary.
- Keep a safe distance from plow trucks and snow response equipment.
- Don't pass a snow plow vehicle.
- Don't assume the snow plow operator can see

you. Every truck has blind spots which reduce side and rear visibility.

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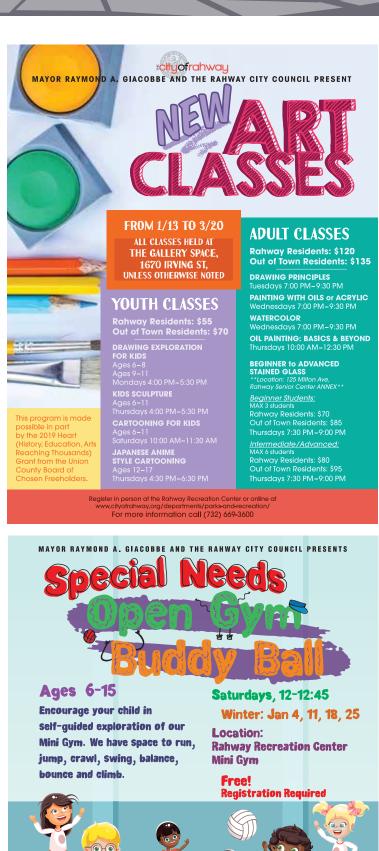
- Allow plenty of stopping distance, don't follow too closely.
- Keep your headlights on.Slow down.

# Checklist of Items for Your Vehicle

- All-season tires on your car.
- Shovel & a sack of sand for generating traction under wheels.
- Flashlight with extra batteries.
- First aid kit and pocket knife.
- Necessary medications.
- Several blankets.
- Sleeping bags.
- Plastic bags.
- Matches.
- Extra gloves, mittens.
- Basic tools, screwdriver, adjustable wrench, etc.
- Booster / jumper cables.
- Bottled water.Snacks.

MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE AND THE RAHWAY CITY COUNCIL PRESENT







# FREE WITH REGISTRATION RAHWAY RECREATION CENTER

Game Time is a sign-yourself-in, adult supervised program for Rahway teens in grades 8–12. Registrants experience the excitement of interactive video games, board games and more in a supervised environment. Two LED screens will allow for an entertaining gaming experience along with an assortment of board games and other age appropriate activities.





Register in person at the Rahway Recreation Center or online at www.cityofrahway.org/departments/parks-and-recreation/ For more information call (732) 669-3600









# RAHWAY EDUCATION SCENE

# Rahway High School Marching Band: They're Playing Our District's Song!

Story by: Rob Kinch | Photo by: Joseph Mudrak



A litany of awards and special recognition attest to the RHS Marching Band's success in composing a winning musical score under the directorship of high school teacher Mr. Miguel Bolivar. Being part of a school district and a town which "prides itself on the arts," notes the students' beloved 'Mr. B.', "It is only fitting that the school system become a beacon of the performing arts for the entire community."

"An education in the fine and performing arts is critical to ALL of our children," affirms Superintendent of Schools Dr. Patricia Camp. "It speaks to helping students develop a different way of thinking."

In synchrony with the spirit of Dr. Camp's beliefs, the Rahway Board of Education has also been instrumental in seeing to it that the arts are provided with what they need to flourish. In particular, the marching band was able to receive a trailer that was budgeted and Board approved in order to make equipment transfer and rehearsals in the county park a less arduous endeavor. "It is this community's commitment to the arts which drew me to Rahway initially," explains 'Mr. B.'.

Crowning a season of competitive wins, the RHS Marching Band proudly garnered First Place Group A Honors at the recent CJMEA, East Brunswick HS Competition, while ALSO winning Best Overall Effect, Best Visual, and Best Music! "After so many hours of practice, sleepless nights, and uncountable tears," offers Drum Major Jamarlia Fuller, "placing First was just overwhelming for us all...we couldn't have done it without 'Mr. B.'!" Rahway HS Principal Mr. John Farinella is quick to offer his praise and respect for his dedicated musicians. "The outstanding achievements of our students on the competitive marching band scene are a reflection of their strong talent, hard work, and dauntless commitment to excellence."

Speaking for both herself and for her fellow band members, Ms. Fuller also gives credit for the band's success to respected teacher Mr. Bolivar for "his support both emotionally and motivationally" as well as to "our school for providing the resources and accommodations which allow us to develop our love for music."



# Newly Created William Gawor Perpetual Scholarship Awarded To Rahway High School Senior

#### Story by: Rob Kinch | Photo by: Joe Brown

Lovingly characterized by her mom, Ms. Anabel Carter, as "the quiet kid always remaining in the back" who "prefers to be out of the spotlight," Rahway High School senior Alexis Carter must now come front and center to be recognized for her diligence, dedication, and impressive scholastic achievement. Ms. Carter was duly honored at this year's RHS graduation ceremonies as the first recipient of the newly established William Gawor Perpetual Scholarship, created in the memory of William "Citizen Bill" Gawor whose sincere wish was to assist in defraying the college tuition expenses of students pursuing a career in one of the four STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields of academic study. The scholarship provides for an initial \$5,000 grant, renewable for 3 years providing the student maintain a 3.0 grade point average and remain in a STEM field. A lifelong career as an electrical systems technician, combined with his true love and respect for education, had guided "Citizen Bill" in his wish to make this remarkable \$20,000 gift to a deserving RHS senior student.

Credited with ensuring that his uncle's vision become an actuality, Mr. Gawor's nephew Major General Stanley Genega, ret. celebrated the formal dedication of the scholarship to the high school in June of this year. Mr. Genega offers, "I am very pleased that we could make Uncle Willy's wishes a reality; I know he would be very pleased." Surprised and deeply touched on learning that she had been selected as recipient of this honor, Ms. Carter, who will be continuing her studies at Rutgers University in the fall, expressed her feelings openly. "I am in awe how an individual could dedicate his estate to a stranger only to support them!" She continues, "I hope one day I can do the same to reciprocate the kindness and generosity that has been bestowed upon me. I am honored that someone has recognized my dedication and commitment to education; one day in the future I wish to do the same."

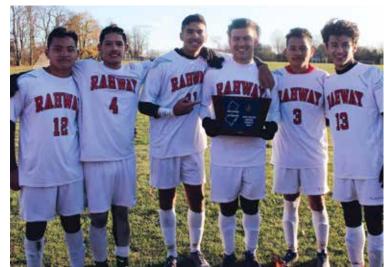
# Rahway Boys Soccer Cap Historic Season with First State Sectional Title

The Rahway High School boys soccer team are NJSIAA Central Group II State Sectional champions. After battling injuries to five starters and overcoming an early exit in the second round of the Union County tournament, the Indians capped a 16-win season with its first state sectional title in school history. Anchored by a sound defense and inspired goalkeeping, Rahway held their opponents scoreless in 14 games as they also laid claim to the Union County Conference's Valley Division title.

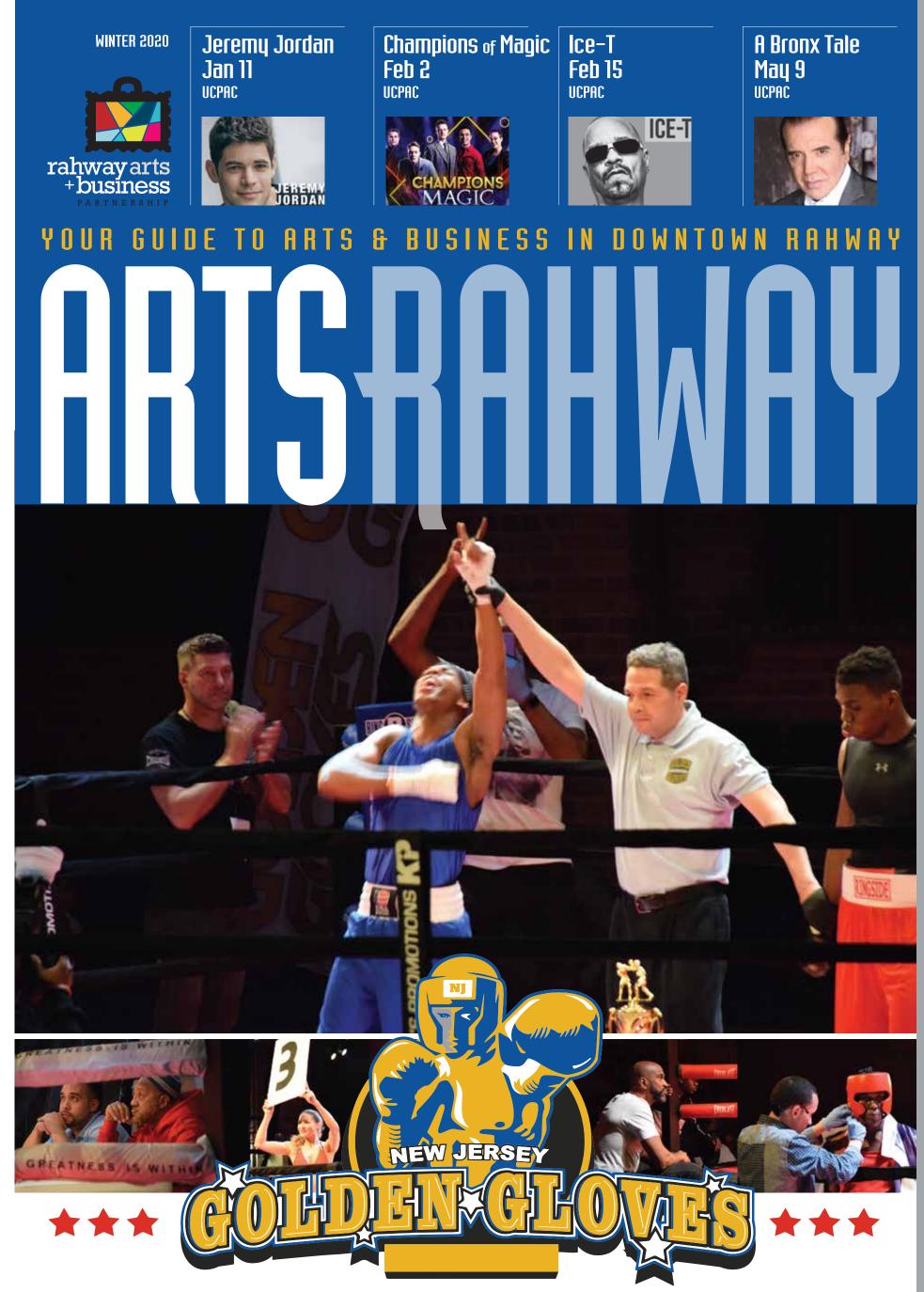
Thrilling home victories over Metuchen, South Plainfield, and Governor Livingston in the state sectional tournament saw fourth-seeded Rahway secure a spot in the finals against second-seeded and presumptive favorites Delaware Valley. There, the team left the comforts of Rahway River Park and ventured to Frenchtown, New Jersey where nearly a hundred fans, family members, and supportive school staff ventured to the Pennsylvania border to witness the historic 1-0 victory.

While Martin St. Fleur, an industrious midfielder who scored in all four state sectional tournament games, was named NJ.com's Central Group II standout player, longtime coach Kevin O'Callahan would proudly point to the contributions of his entire roster, including a number of underclassmen and junior varsity players who were called upon to contribute late in the season as the team chased the elusive state title.

Though the team's Group II state playoff run came to an end with a 2-0 defeat to offensive juggernauts and perennial state title winners Delran, Athletic Director Mr. Thomas Lewis lauded the team's "exciting and rewarding experience" highlighted by the team's humility and graciousness in victory despite its underdog status.



Story and photo by: Mike Clark



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# **New Jersey Golden Gloves Finds a Home at Rahway's UCPAC!**

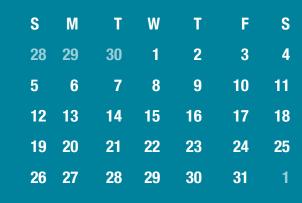
Golden Gloves Boxing is one of the most recognized brands in the sport of boxing, and now New Jersey Golden Gloves is glad to call Rahway home. After hosting the Novice and Open Championship events the last two years, the Union County Performing Arts Center will also be the home for all preliminary rounds as well. The state's most talented boxers will face off in the ring on the historic UCPAC stage.

Beginning Thursday, February 13, the ring will come to life with seven weekly nights of preliminary bouts. On April 4, boxers and fans will gather for after-

noon and night semi-final sessions. Finally, on Friday, April 17, Novice boxers will compete for weight class titles. On Saturday, April 18, the Open Class Championship bouts will be contested.

Tickets for these exciting events start at \$15. Series discounts and VIP options are also available. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit http://www.ucpac.org/golden-gloves-2020 or call (732) 499-8226.

# 









## JANUARY 23

All day DR Restaurant Week

January 31

JANUARY **24** All day DR Restaurant Week

DR Restaurant Week

JANUARY **30** 8:00 PM HS Kicking & Swearing One-Act Festival

# JANUARY 31

**8:00 PM** HS Kicking & Swearing One-Act Festival

#### JANUARY 3

**6:00 PM** HS Bohemian Festival

JANUARY **4 11:30 AM** HS Bohemian Festival

#### JANUARY 5

**2:00 PM** HS Bohemian Festival

JANUARY 9

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ALEND

**10:00 AM - 12:00 PM** SEN ASK Representative from Union County Division on Aging

## JANUARY 10

**7:30 PM** RHS You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

**8:00 PM** UCPAC Classic Film Series on 35mm: Rocky

#### JANUARY 11

**7:30 PM** RHS You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

8:00 PM UCPAC Jeremy Jordan

# JANUARY 12

**1:00 PM - 4:00 PM** GS January Gallery Space Exhibit

#### 4:30 PM LIB Window Painting 6:00 PM

JANUARY **15** 

LIB Financial Literacy Workshop for the New Year! Presented by TD Bank

## JANUARY 18

**2:00 PM** LIB New Book Discussion: Open Wide the Freedom Gates by Doroty Height

# JANUARY 19

**TBD** SEN Martin Luther King Day Celebration



All day DR Restaurant Week

JANUARY 20

JANUARY 22 All day DR Restaurant Week



This Winter is sure to be exciting. Learn more at: www.cityofrahway.com







ADP	Arts District Park, Irving St. & Central Ave.
СР	Cherry Pit, 59 East Cherry Street
СНР	1 City Hall Plaza
DR	Downtown Rahway
DRR	Downtown Rahway Restaurants
GS	The Gallery Space, 1670 Irving St.
HS	Hamilton Stage, 360 Hamilton St.
HSP	Hart Street Park
LIB	Rahway Public Library, 2 City Hall Plaza
LOFT	Loft at UCPAC, 1601 Irving St.
M&D	Museum Merchants & Drovers Museum,
	St. Georges Ave & Westfield Ave
PAS	Paseo btwn. 1501-1492 Main St.
REC	Recreation Center, 3 City Hall Plaza
RHS	Rahway High School, 1012 Madison Ave.
RRWA	Rahway River Watershed Association, 337 E. Milton Ave.
RSI	RSI Bank - Main Branch, 1500 Irving St.
SEN	Rahway Senior Center, 1306 Esterbrook Ave.
SMP	Salvatore M. Mione Park, New Church Street
TSP	Train Station Plaza, Irving St. & E. Milton Ave.
UCPAC	
WH	Watt Hotel, 1403 Irving St.
ҮМСА	The Gateway Family YMCA - Rahway, 1564 Irving St.
	The date has running throng that has have been been been been been been been be

# RAHWAY IS HAPPENING





**2:00 PM** HS Kicking & Swearing One-Act Festival

FEBRUARY **2 3:00 PM** UCPAC Champions of Magic



FEBRUARY **4 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM** SEN AARP Tax Service Begins

FEBRUARY **5** 7:00 PM RHS Cabaret Night

## FEBRUARY 8

**TBD** UCPAC Black History Month Event: Raisin

**2:00 PM** LIB Black History Month Filmmaker Discussion & Documentary Screening: Alice's Ordinary People

**TBD** RHS Necessary Noise Percussion Festival

# FEBRUARY 9

**12:00 PM - 4:00 PM** GS The Bridge: Celebration of African American Artists

# FEBRUARY 12

**4:30 PM** LIB Kids Library Choice Awards

# FEBRUARY 13

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
SEN ASK Representative from Union County Division on Aging
7:30 PM
UCPAC Golden Gloves 2020: Prelimary Bouts Night 1

# FEBRUARY 14

11:00 AM/1:15 PM SEN Valentine's Day Bingo & Luncheon

FEBRUARY **15** 8:00 PM

# UCPAC Ice-T

# FEBRUARY 20

**7:30 PM** UCPAC Golden Gloves 2020: Prelimary Bouts Night 2

**8:00 PM** HS Songs for a New World

# FEBRUARY 21

**5:00 PM** RHS Blue Tri King of Hearts Show

8:00 PM HS Songs for a New World TBD

RHS Black History Month Event

# FEBRUARY 22

**8:00 PM** HS Songs for a New World

# FEBRUARY 23

**3:00 PM** HS Songs for a New World

## FEBRUARY 27

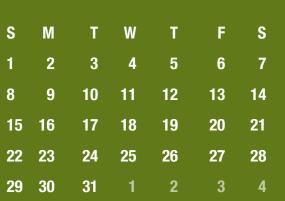
**7:30 PM** UCPAC Golden Gloves 2020: Prelimary Bouts Night 3

FEBRUARY 28

**8:00 PM** UCPAC Classic Film Series on 35mm: Jurassic Park

# FEBRUARY 29

**1:00 PM** LIB African American Geneaology Research







RAHWAY IS HAPPENING

3 4 yshack



**7:00 PM** HS State of the City

# MARCH 5

7:30 PM UCPAC Golden Gloves 2020: Prelimary Bouts Night 4 8:00 PM

HS Culture Crawl Dance Congress

# MARCH 6

8:00 PM HS Culture Crawl Dance Congress

# MARCH 7

2:00 PM & 8:00 PM HS Culture Crawl Dance Congress

## MARCH 12

**10:00am - 12:00 PM** SEN ASK Representative from Union County Division on Aging **7:30 PM** UCPAC Golden Gloves 2020:

Prelimary Bouts Night 5

# MARCH 14

**2:00 PM** LIB Women's History Month Presentation - An Extraordinary Life: Josephine E. Jones

8:00 PM UCPAC Bowling for Soup

MARCH 15

**1:00 PM - 4:00 PM** GS (March Gallery Space Exhibit)

MARCH 16

**6:00 PM RHS** March Money Madness Scholarship Blitz

# MARCH 19

**7:30 PM UCPAC** Golden Gloves 2020: Prelimary Bouts Night 6

MARCH **26 7:30 PM UCPAC** Golden Gloves 2020: Prelimary Bouts Night 7

# MARCH 27

7:30 PM RHS Catch Me If You Can 8:00 PM UCPAC Classic Film Series on 35mm: Caddyshack

#### MARCH 28

**7:30 PM** RHS Catch Me If You Can

# MARCH 29

2:00 PM RHS Catch Me If You Can 4:00 PM RHS Piano Recital

# MARCH 31

**6:00 PM** RHS All City Jazz Experience

# Rahway's Own: Recognizing The Hero In All

Story by: Rob Kinch | Photo by: Joseph Mudrak

"It's doing the little things that makes you a success,' offers retired RHS Social Studies teacher John Odin. "Be a part of something bigger, leave the world a better place, and you will earn the title of hero." Mr. Odin's opening remarks to students at the formal ceremony hosted by the high school to recognize this year's inductees honored as 'Rahway's Own' gave insight into the undeniable spirit of the celebration. "The effects of their achievements done in service to others and to inspire others," affirms Mistress of Ceremonies Ms. Dawn Rogers, "makes this year's inductees true 'exemplars' of what it means to be a hero."

Originally signed as a rookie free agent by the Chicago Bears in May 2015 and later as free agent by the NY Giants in March 2019, defensive tackle and Rahway High School graduate Olsen Pierre, who could not be present due to prior professional commitments, exemplifies Ms. Rogers' portrait of a hero in light of his drive to pursue the dream that was his

first love, his drive not to fear failure, and his opportunity to serve as an inspiration to others.

Although recognized today as a hero in his own right, inductee Gary Gonzalez, Executive Chef at Rahway's own Irving Inn and 'Chopped' champion, humbly describes himself as "just a simple guy who had a dream." In his sincere words shared with the students, Mr. Gonzalez offered this inspirational advice, "Go for what you want, never give up, and do what's best for you and your family."

Recently appointed by the United Soccer Coaches as the new chair of the Youth Coaches Advocacy Group, Soccer Coach Marguerite Ferrell is most definitely living her advice to the RHS students to "make the world a better place because you're in it." In her role as chair, Ms. Ferrell will build a team of coaches from all levels of the youth game to identify the needs of the membership and to advocate on their behalf. She is currently the Club Development manager for U.S. Soccer, overseeing a

13-state region in the Northeast to improve everyday soccer environments for players and to support player development. She caringly reminds the students that, "You are ALL future heroes," and tasks them to "discover your purpose."

Senior Political Strategist Joel Payne has brought more than 14 years of experience in the public and private sector focusing on crisis communication, public affairs, issues management, media strategy, and multicultural outreach. In 2016 he served as director of African-American paid media and advertising for the 'Hillary for America' general election presidential campaign. A frequent guest on FOX news, FOX Business, MSNBC, CBS News, and TV One Newsmax, Mr. Payne is proud to admit that he "stands on the shoulders of heroes," citing his strength as coming from his father and mother, to whom he refers as simply "everyday people." He continues that it was they who "were committed to education, faith, and family and did everything for us...and THAT's a hero.'



Having earned the affectionate monikers of 'Papa Bear' and the 'Cryptologic Warrior' throughout his distinguished career in the United States Marine Corps, General Alfred (Al) M. Gray, Jr. served as the 29th Commandant of the Corps and is a recognized member of the NSA Hall of Fame. The outstanding reputation held by Marine Corps tactical signals intelligence (SIGINT) units today can be directly traced to the pioneering efforts and accomplishments of General Gray

over four decades of dedicated service. In 1962, he commanded the first Marine Corps ground SIGNIT unit to deploy to South Vietnam and implemented and refined doctrine and practice for direct support to combat units in the war in Southeast Asia. His modest advice to students? "Dream big, don't fear failure, and bring others along with you." To help the students in their task to make the world a better place, the sage General shared this secret, "Everything you get done - you get done with people."



# **CITY OF RAHWAY: FLOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION**

The City of Rahway is a participant in a federally subsidized program that enables most property owners to purchase flood insurance with up to a 20% discount on their flood insurance premiums. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), requires that the City adopt specific flood damage reduction education, planning and building criteria.

In an effort to inform residents and property owners of the presence of flood hazards in Rahway and to suggest possible actions that may be taken to protect persons and property, the following article is being sent to you because the City of Rahway has many flood prone areas and your property may be susceptible to flooding

#### Flood Insurance

Most homeowner insurance policies do not cover losses due to floods. However, since Rahway is a participant in the NFIP, it is possible for property owners to obtain federally backed flood insurance. This insurance is available to any owner of insurable property (a building and/or its contents) in Rahway. Tenants may also insure their personal property against flood loss

Branch of the Rahway River, the Orchard St. Brook, Maurice Avenue Brook, Allen Street Brook, Milton Lake, Rahway River Park and certain other watercourses are subject to flooding. Flooding occurs in Rahway because the flood carrying capacities of the river channels are exceeded, which is caused by a number of factors, such as record rainfall intensities and increased impervious surfaces due to upstream development. Floodplain maps, charts, reports and studies that document these areas are available for review in the Department of Engineering and also available for review at the Rahway Public Library.

#### Flood protection assistance

The City Engineer's office can provide technical assistance relating to flood elevations and data on historical flooding, and is available to advise owners of appropriate flood protection measures. The City also has copies of elevation certificates for some properties in the floodplain. City staff members are available to undertake site visits, if requested and authorized, to review flood, drainage, and sewer issues. Please contact the Engineering Department at (732) 827-2176 for this service.

preventative actions to protect life and property.

Residents are urged to monitor frequently weather and flood conditions that are broadcast over local radio and television stations. Residents will be provided with flood watch and flood warning advisories. A flood watch advisory indicates that the potential for a flood exists in the watch area, while a flood warning indicates that a flood has been detected

Comcast Channel 34 covers the City and will issue timely updated information. This station is part of the Emergency Broadcast System (EBS) as are local television stations Channel 5 & 9. Radio station NJ 101.5 FM, NIXLE and UCFIRSTALERT will also carry EBS messages. Please register for these updates at Nixle.com and Ucfirstalert.org.

In extreme situations, personnel of the Rahway Office of Emergency Management or Department of Public Safety will conduct "Route Altering" within flood prone areas to advise residents to move to higher ground prior to water levels reaching critical stages.

Property protection measures There are various actions which can be taken

#### Recognize the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains to help reduce flooding

Floodplains are a natural component of the City of Rahway environment. Understanding and protecting the natural functions of floodplains help reduce flood damage and protect resources. When flooding spreads out across the floodplain, its energy is dissipated which results in lower flood flows downstream, reduced erosion of the stream bank and channel, deposition of sediments higher in the watershed, and improved groundwater recharge. Floodplains are scenic, valued wildlife habitats, and suitable for residential gardening. Poorly planned development in floodplains can lead to stream bank erosion, loss of valuable property, increased risk of flooding to downstream properties, and degradation of water quality. A number of County and Municipal parks like the Rahway River Park and Milton Lake Park preserve the stream corridor and prevent development in perpetuity.

#### Drainage system maintenance

In addition to regulating development and fill within the flood hazard area, the City of Rahway and State of New Jersey have regulations prohibiting dumping in cha obstructing flows or any activity that would adversely effect the water-carrying capacity of any channel, floodway or floodplain. It has been demonstrated that regulating development and maintaining drainage systems can alleviate recurrent flooding which endangers life and damages property and facilities. Any activities that may be in violation of these regulations should be reported to the Department of Engineering at (732) 827-2176.

elevation is caused by a storm having a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year

#### Map of the local flood hazard area:

To determine whether your property is located within a special flood hazard area, FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) are available at the Office of the City Engineer at One City Hall Plaza, Rahway, New Jersey 07065. The maps are also available at the City of Rahway's website at http://www.cityofrahway.org or FEMA's Map Service Center website at www.msc.fema.gov.



#### Important Contact Information:

# City of Rahway

www.cityofrahway.com

Also, most flood insurance policy holders in Rahway benefit from premium discounts. This is due to the City's extensive efforts to obtain credits, through the Community Rating System (CRS), to maintain specific measures for flood damage reduction.

The City strongly urges you to buy flood insurance as needed to protect yourself from devastating losses due to flooding. Following the purchase of flood insurance, NFIP imposes a 30-day waiting period, so residents should purchase insurance before the onset of the rainy season to ensure coverage during the flooding season.

You can find out if your property is located in a special flood hazard area through the Office of the City Engineer at (732) 827-2176. The City can also provide the following: basic information found on FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) needed to write a flood insurance policy, information regarding floodways and other non-insurance rating information displayed on the FIRM, information regarding flood depths, and information on past flooding.

#### The local flood hazard

The areas in and around the North and South Branches of the Rahway River, the Robinson's

#### Flood safety

Following is a list of important considerations that should be followed during times of flooding:

1. Keep children away from flood waters. ditches, culverts and storm drains.

2. Evacuate the flood hazard area in times of impending flood or when advised to do so by the police or fire department

3. In your home, turn off flood prone electrical circuits and shut off the water and gas service valves.

4.Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive; six-inches of moving water can sweep you off your feet. 5.Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Do not drive around road barriers; the road or bridge may be washed out. If your car stalls in high water, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground.

6.During times of heavy rainfall monitor the level of water in the drainage way. 7. Plan escape routes to high ground. Know the following flood warning system.

#### Flood warning system

When the City of Rahway is expecting or experiencing inclement weather that may include heavy rain, residents in flood prone areas or low lying area are urged to plan

to flood-proof structures. Depending upon the situation, location and availability of funds, the following measures can be used: a) Install a sump pump system to dispose of infiltrating water to grade outside of the structure;

b) Move essential items and furniture to the upper floors of your home; c) Elevate electrical and mechanical

equipment in the basement;

d) Flood proof walls, windows and doors; e) Construct flood walls or closures

f) The most effective way to flood-proof a structure is to elevate it.

g) During times of flooding, homes that have not been retrofitted can be protected during emergencies by the installation of sandbags. h) Install flood vents in building walls, doors, or enclosures that are subject to frequent flooding and are not flood-proofed.

#### Floodplain development regulations

Please be advised that all development, including filling of land located in a special flood hazard area, is regulated differently from other areas and may require a permit. Contact the Office of the City Engineer at 732-827-2176 for further information and prior to undertaking any activity within the floodplain or if you see non-permitted building or filling in the floodplain.

#### Substantial improvement requirements

With respect to requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) relative to substantial improvement in the flood plain, please be advised that if the cost of reconstruction, rehabilitation, additions. or other improvement to a building or home equals or exceeds 50 percent of the building's market value, then the building must meet the same flood plain construction requirements as a new building. Substantially damaged buildings must also be brought up to the same standards.

This requirement means elevating the lowest floor, including basement and certain utility systems, one (1) foot above the base flood elevation, which is the 100-year flood elevation. A 100-year flood water surface

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** (425) 487-4600 www.fema.gov

FEMA Map Service Center www.msc.fema.gov

The National Flood Insurance Program www.fema.gov/nfip

City of Rahway Public Library www.rahwaylibrary.org

**Hiring a Contractor** www.state.nj.us/lps/ ca/contractors/ consumercont.htm



# RAHWAY'S UNIQUE SENIORSCENE DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES

# **FREE INCOME TAX HELP**

AARP Volunteers will be preparing income tax returns at the Rahway Senior Center Annex starting on February 4, 2020. This service is available to all Rahway residents. They will be preparing taxes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 AM to 1 PM. Please call (732) 827-2016 after January 22, 2020 for an appointment.

# **Rahway Senior Center Halloween Party**

On October 23, Mayor Giacobbe joined our City's seniors for tricks and treats at the annual Senior Halloween Party.



Bad girls having fun at the Rahway Senior Center Halloween Party.



# For more information on any item listed below, please call the Rahway Division of Senior Services at (732) 827-2016

# UNION COUNTY AGING SERVICES KIOSK

Union County residents seeking information about services for senior adults age 60 and older can visit the Aging Services Kiosk (ASK) at the Rahway Senior Center on the second Thursday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon. A member from the Union County Department of Human Services, Division on Aging will provide information on home delivered meals, respite care, home care, adult day care, energy assistance and support services for caregivers. Assistance with completing applications and forms is also provided. All Union County residents are welcome to attend.

# 2020 BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

hway Library st Tuesday of Month 0 PM – 4:00 PM	Rahway Senior Center Third Wednesday of Month 10:00 AM – 12 Noon
uary 7	January 15
oruary 4	February 19
rch 3	March 18
ril 7	April 15
y 5	May 20
e 2	June 17
v & August - No Screening	July & August - No Screening
otember 1	September 16
tober 6	October 21
vember - No Screening	November 18
cember 1	December 16

# **QUESTIONS about your HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE?**

Unhappy with the plan you selected? YOU CAN STILL MAKE CHANGES! January 1 – March 31

The New Jersey State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) provides FREE help to New Jersey Medicare beneficiaries who need assistance with their health insurance. Assistance is OBJECTIVE and

CONFIDENTIAL.

- If you have any questions about:
- Medicare Part A and B
- Medigap Plans
- Advantage Plans
- Drug Plans

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Apr May

June July

Sept

Octo Nov Dec

- Coordination of Benefits (employer plans)
- Low income subsidies for Medicare

SHIP of UNION COUNTY can help! SHIP Counselors are available at The Rahway Senior Center by appointment only. Please call (732) 827-2016 to set up an appointment.



Sherrill Davis, SHIP Counselor, meets with a client.



Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe congratulates the winners of the costume contest.

# Rahway Senior Clubs Meeting Schedule

The following clubs meet at the Rahway Senior Center:

Rahway Retired Men's Club Meets every Monday at 1 PM Pres. Michael Sheridan (732) 396-4598 Ladies Golden Age Club Meets every Wednesday at 12:15 PM Pres. Pat Carson (908) 906-4472 Union County Minority Task Force Meets 1st Friday of every other month at 12 Noon Elaine Haith (732) 428-4800

AARP Chapter #607 Meets 2nd Thursday of every month at 12:15 PM

Pres. Delores Franklin

(732) 499-7986

Union County Minority Task Force Meets every other first Friday of the month Pres. Elaine Haith (732) 428-4800

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# 1601 IRVING STREET, RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY 07065 BOX OFFICE: 732-499-8226 • WWW.UCPAC.ORG

