

The Rahway Review

spring 2004

Published by the Office of the Mayor of the City of Rahway

Volume XII, Issue 2



At Home 2004

HOLIDAY



**Sunday, July 4
4 P.M.-11 P.M.**

**Rahway's Third Annual
Independence Day Celebration
at the City Hall Parking Lot**
**Food! Fun!
Games! Rides!**

Tim Gillis Band (7:30 P.M.), Greg Forney & Temporary Grace (5 P.M.), Rahway's own Chico Mendez (6 P.M.). The night ends with a spectacular 9:30 P.M. fireworks show over the Rahway River.

Free Admission
Bring your lawn chairs and blankets! No coolers, backpacks or pets, please.

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Mayor's Summer Concert Series Returns

Free Admission

**In case of rain the concert will be held inside
the Arts Center.**



**Jobonanno & The Godsons of
Soul—Aug. 12**

New Library Opens Behind City Hall



*Fourth Ward Councilman Dave Brown joins
Mayor Kennedy in the ribbon cutting.*

On March 20, Mayor James Kennedy joined Congressman Donald Payne, members of the Library Board of Trustees and other guests to open the city's new \$15 million library/office complex behind city hall.

The 75,000 square foot building was designed by the Summit-based architectural firm, The Biber Partnership. The 32,000 square foot

library is wired for high-speed Internet access, contains an attractive fireplace, a coffee shop and café and boasts terraces that overlook the Rahway River for patrons to read and relax. The children's department has been nearly doubled in size—from 2,800 square feet to 5,400 square feet—resulting in expanded and improved programs for younger residents.

The new library is a revolutionary public-private partnership that

Continued on back page

When:
**Thursdays in August
@ 7:30 P.M.**

Where:
**Corner of W. Main &
Irving Streets,
behind the Union
County Arts Center.**

Who:
**Aug. 5—The Belmonts
(Doo-Wop)**

**Aug. 12—Jobonanno
& The Godsons of
Soul**

**Aug. 19—52nd Street
(Billy Joel Tribute)**

**Aug. 26—The Tokens
("The Lion Sleeps
Tonight")**

The Rahway Review
City of Rahway
City Hall Plaza
Rahway, NJ 07065

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**The
Rahway Review**

The Rahway Review is published by the Office of the Mayor of the City of Rahway. Its purpose is to keep the citizens informed of important programs and events that the administration has developed in efforts to improve the quality of life in Rahway.

Eleven thousand newsletters are printed and mailed to every postal patron in the City of Rahway. The balance is distributed by request to individuals and companies interested in living or doing business in Rahway.

Although great care has been taken to insure the information contained within is accurate, the City of Rahway assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

The Rahway Review welcomes the comments and concerns of its readers put into writing and sent to:

The Rahway Review

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382-6499

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574-1328

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574-3188

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396-3524

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515 Albermarle Street
381-1924

David Brown, Ward 4
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388-6545

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Volume XII, Issue 2

Mayor's

“Cranes, trains and automobiles”

There is a certain excitement in the air when I hear from residents and business owners about the new economic outlook for Rahway. Drawing boards have been replaced by construction cranes as several major redevelopment projects are now underway in Rahway and will be completed in the next 12 months.

Of course, the most significant development is our new library. After opening with great fanfare in March, the library has been getting rave reviews from Rahway residents. Our library staff is working hard on adding hundreds of new books to the shelves each week, and the integration of technology at the facility is a long way from the days of card catalogues and encyclopedias. The Library Board of Trustees plans to award a contract this summer to a private vendor who will provide coffee and snacks in a small café in the building for library patrons.

There has been a great buzz over the River Place apartment complex being built on Dock and Lewis Streets downtown. These 150 market-rate luxury units are designed to attract young professionals who commute to work via NJ Transit. Our \$15 million train station sits just one block away from this new development and has attracted the attention of dozens of private developers who are interested in our easy 40-minute commute to Midtown Manhattan and our walkable, transit-friendly central business district.

The Rahway Parking Authority recently broke ground on a new, 524-car parking deck that will increase the number of parking spaces downtown for

here in the *Rahway Review* and on the city's web site.

After merging with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Rahway Hospital is now a partner with one of New Jersey's most prestigious health care facilities.

An ambitious expansion of the hospital's emergency room will mean shorter waiting times and better services for Rahway residents when they are in need of critical medical care.



These exciting projects have spurred additional interest in Rahway. The former Wheatena/Quinn & Boden property on Elizabeth Avenue has been vacant for over 30 years. Following a review of five proposals, the Redevelopment Agency recently named a developer to construct an innovative mix of residential and commercial buildings on the site that will be a short walk from both the train station and Merck & Co.

Just about everyone in Rahway seems to be excited over the redevelopment of the old Hamilton Laundry site. You may have read in the newspapers that Joe Piscopo and a group of investors plan to transform this former industrial laundry into a comedy club, black box theater and restaurant. Mr. Piscopo is a New Jersey native who has always wanted to open such a club and feels strongly about giving back to his home state. We also recently hosted an operator of locally-based movie theatres who is considering establishing a theater on the site to show independent and art films.

Children and families are also included as well. 2003 saw new play equipment installed at Skarrow Field (behind Grover Cleveland School), Brennan Field and Berzinec Park. Thanks to the leadership of Third Ward Councilman Jerry Scaturo, Tully and Stein Fields received new playground equipment and new landscaping this spring for the first time since their rededication in 1994. Brennan Field will receive a new fence and have its basketball court resurfaced this summer thanks to the guidance of Fourth Ward Councilman Dave Brown.

There are many, many other projects that will begin in 2004 that will continue to improve the quality of life for all residents of Rahway. At the same time, the city continues to enjoy one of the lowest property tax rates in Union County. I encourage you to stay informed of happenings in your city by visiting our web site and tuning into Comcast Cable Channel 34 for

updates and events. On behalf of my family and your municipal employees, I look forward to seeing you this August at our Mayor's Summer Concert Series and throughout our entire city.

“There are many, many other projects that will begin in 2004 that will continue to improve the quality of life for all residents of Rahway.”

—Mayor James Kennedy



Third Ward Councilman Jerry Scaturo, left, and Recreation Director John Ludington, right, inspect the installation of new playground equipment at Tully and Stein fields.

commuters, residents, businesses and shoppers by some 200 percent. The parking deck is expected to be completed by the end of this year and is located across the street from the train station.

Seniors have been contacting my office with inquiries about the two new senior housing developments being built in Rahway that will add almost 300 new housing units for Rahway seniors who wish to remain here in our community close to their friends and loved ones. Information on both Park Terrace and Rosegate can be found

James J. Kennedy **MAYOR**

Visit Rahway on the Internet!
www.cityofraahway.com

Rahway Public Library Summer Reading Clubs

“Discover New Trails at Your Library”

Teen Summer Reading Club Open to Residents of Rahway and Clark Grades 6-12

Schedule

- June 28** Sign-up begins. Sign-up and get a prize!
- June 29** Make a banner and/or memory book
- July 6** Handwriting Analysis— Learn what your handwriting says about you!
- July 13** Make a Worry Doll or Temari Ball
- July 20** Design your own T-shirt (bring a blank t-shirt)
- July 27** Mystery in the library... A mystery you have to solve!
- August 3** The Lost Treasure Scavenger Hunt
- August 10** Come celebrate the end of the club at our Luau!
(Must have participated in club to attend.)

**Meets every Wednesday at 11:00 A.M.
June 30-August 11**

- Are you going through 6th through 12th grades?
Join the Book Buddy Team!**
- Enjoy reading to young children?
Become a Book Buddy!**

- Monday, June 28**Registration begins
- Wednesday, June 30**Opening Event: Brian Richards (Magician)—6:30 P.M.
- Tuesday, July 6**.....Time for Fours & Fives—9:30 & 10:30 A.M.
Trail Bingo—afternoon
- Wednesday, July 7**.....Book Buddies—11 A.M.
Readers’ Theatre—2:30 P.M.
- Monday, July 12**Time for Twos & Threes—9:30 & 10:30 A.M.
Big Kids Craft—afternoon
- Tuesday, July 13**Time for Fours & Fives—9:30 & 10:30 A.M.
Trail Bingo—afternoon
- Wednesday, July 14**.....Book Buddies—11 A.M.
Readers Theatre—2:30 P.M.
- Monday, July 19**Time for Twos & Threes—9:30 & 10:30 A.M.
Big Kids Craft—afternoon
- Tuesday, July 20**Time for Fours & Fives—9:30 & 10:30 A.M.
Trail Bingo—afternoon
- Wednesday, July 21**.....Book Buddies—11 A.M.
Readers Theatre—2:30 P.M.
- Monday, July 26**Time for Twos & Threes—9:30 & 10:30 A.M.
Big Kids Craft—afternoon
- Tuesday, July 27**Time for Fours & Fives—9:30 & 10:30 A.M.
Trail Bingo—afternoon
- Wednesday, July 28**.....Book Buddies—11 A.M.
Readers Theatre—2:30 P.M.
- Monday, August 2**Time for Twos & Threes—9:30 & 10:30 A.M.
Big Kids Craft—afternoon
- Tuesday, August 3**Time for Fours & Fives—9:30 & 10:30 A.M.
Trail Bingo—afternoon
- Wednesday, Aug. 4**.....Book Buddies—11 A.M.
Readers Theatre—2:30 P.M.
- Wednesday, Aug. 11**Closing Event—Performer to Be Announced
For more information, call (732) 340-1551, extension 204.

Rahway Public Schools Wrap Up New Construction

This school year marks the completion of the construction of the Rahway Public Schools’ early childhood centers. They are designed to improve the district’s educational offerings for Rahway’s youngest students and to upgrade some of our outdated elementary schools, according to Frank Buglione, Assistant Superintendent in charge of the project.

Here is a brief rundown of each new addition:

- **Franklin School:** Dr. P. Roy Vagelos Early Childhood Center (Sept. 2003)
21,800 square feet of new classrooms, nurse’s suite, small group instructional areas (SGIs), elevator and cafeteria expansion.
Named after retired Merck CEO and RHS graduate Dr. P. Roy Vagelos.
- **Grover Cleveland School:** Early Childhood Center (Sept. 2003)
10,750 square feet of new classrooms, faculty room, SGIs, elevator and cafeteria expansion.
- **Madison School:** Early Childhood Center (Feb. 2004)
4,660 square feet of new classrooms
- **Roosevelt School:** Early Childhood Center (Sept. 2004)
The \$15.7 million project was funded with \$6.6 million received in Early Childhood Program Aid (ECPA) and a \$9.1 million lease.

In addition to the construction of early childhood wings at each elementary school, the construction project provided for roof replacement at Franklin, Grover Cleveland and the Rahway Middle School.



Madison School Principal Christine Salcito shows off the school’s new addition.

Construction Begins on New Parking Deck



Mayor James Kennedy was joined by members of the City Council and Parking Authority recently to break ground on the Parking Authority's 524-car parking deck downtown. The deck will be bounded by Irving, Lewis and Main Streets, across from the NJ Transit train station.

"The goal of the parking deck is to create more parking spaces downtown while reducing our dependence on surface parking lots that are not conducive to transit-friendly land use," said the Mayor. Old tax-exempt asphalt parking lots will soon be home to new

residential and commercial developments that will add new vitality to our downtown and provide some property tax relief for Rahway taxpayers."

The cost of the \$8.8 million deck is being shared between the Parking Authority and NJ Transit. The station, which serves some 3,000 riders daily, is one of the busiest in the state.

"Due to the demands of our rail riders who use the Rahway train station, parking permits for downtown Rahway have traditionally been as hard to come by as Giants season tickets," said Parking Authority Chairman Gregory Hardoby. "This deck will more than double the number of permit parking spaces available to the public and is good news for commuters, merchants, residents and shoppers."

The deck was designed by Timothy Haahs & Associates of Philadelphia and is being built by Fitzpatrick & Associates of Eatontown. Weather permitting, the deck is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Day Camp Begins at the Rahway YMCA

School is out and children are ready for fun in the summer. The Rahway YMCA, of Eastern Union County has 3 different camps, which provide quality, safe and fun programs for children ages 3-12.

Programs operate from June 28-September 3.

All of the Y's camps promote the traditional YMCA values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.

This summer the camps have added new and exciting program changes, such as instructional swim classes, sports instruction and fine arts classes.

All camps also have trained staff people who will be with your child all summer and lead them through varied activities and trip days.

For more information call the Rahway YMCA at (732) 388-0057 or visit the Y at 1564 Irving Street.

Healthy Living at the "Y"

Do you ever feel tired and a little out of shape? Come and join the members of the Rahway YMCA as they swim, work out and socialize.

Everyone knows that they will feel better once they begin to exercise and commit to a healthy lifestyle. The Rahway YMCA would love to help you get started. Come take a tour, our staff would be delighted to show you around and give you the information you need to take the first step. The first step is always the hardest. We can make it easier. Our pictures show our members enjoying their workouts and their time together with each other and our staff.

Call (732) 388-0057 and ask for Cindy or drop in at 1564 Irving Street. Ask about a free trial week.



**Don't miss
52nd Street
Appearing
August 19 in
the Mayor's
Concert
Series!**

MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

**POLICE, FIRE & FIRST AID
EMERGENCIES
DIAL: 9-1-1**

When dialing one of the following numbers below and you get an answering machine please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

Accounts Payable	827-2017
Building Inspector	827-2087
City Clerk.....	827-2100
Community Development	827-2193
Comptroller/Finance	827-2022
Court	827-2039
Economic Development	827-2160
Engineering	827-2176
Fire (non emergency)	827-2155
Health Department	827-2085
Mayor	827-2009
Municipal Administrator	827-2001
Police (non-emergency)	827-2200
Police (CAT Team).....	827-2179
Public Works.....	827-2060
Recreation	669-3600
Recreation (Hot Line).....	827-2095
Recycling	827-2159
Senior Center	827-2016
Tax Assessor	827-2030
Tax Collector	827-2050
Vital Statistics.....	827-2172
Water	877-303-2435

OTHER HELPFUL NUMBERS

Board of Education.....	396-1000
Hospital.....	381-4200
Library	340-1551
NJ Transit	800-772-2222
P.A.L.	669-3610
P.A.L. (Hot Line).....	827-2097
Parking Authority	381-8778
Post Office.....	388-3264
Rahway Center Partnership	396-3545
Rahway Y.M.C.A.....	388-0057
Rahway Youth Soccer	827-2099
U.C. Arts Center	499-8226

RAHWAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS KLINE PLACE

Dr. William Petrino Superintendent	396-1020
Al DiGiorgio Business Administrator	396-1010
Eleanor Peris, Director Services for Children	396-1035

SCHOOLS

Rahway High School 1012 Madison Ave	396-1100
Intermediate School Kline Place	396-1025
Grover Cleveland School 486 E. Milton Ave	396-1040
Franklin School 1809 St. Georges Ave	396-1050
Madison School 944 Madison Ave	396-1070
Roosevelt School 811 St. Georges Ave	396-1060

**POLICE, FIRE & FIRST AID
EMERGENCIES
DIAL: 9-1-1**

City Resident Honored For River Rescue

City resident William Thomas (third from left) received a Resolution from the City Council during a recent regular meeting. Thomas was honored for rescuing a motorist whose car ended up in the chilly waters of the Rahway River in November 2003. Joining him are, from left, Police Chief Edward Hudak; Maketha Thomas, his mother; Fourth Ward Councilman David Brown and Jamelia Thomas, his wife.

On November 25, 2003, a 1999 Toyota Camry driven by 28-year-old Folashade Oyefeso of Newark was struck by another vehicle and veered off the road into the Rahway River in the vicinity of East Hazelwood Avenue and Routes 1 & 9 shortly after 7:20 A.M. Thomas, a coworker of Oyefeso at the Woodbridge Developmental Center in Avenel, entered the water and pulled her to safety. She was taken to Rahway Hospital where she was treated and released. The vehicle was pulled from the water around 12:30 P.M.

Since the incident, Thomas has been recognized by Governor James E. McGreevey, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Rahway Kiwanis Club, the New Jersey Police Chiefs Association, the Rahway Masonic Lodge, the Woodbridge Developmental Center and the Russ Berrie Award for Making a Difference.



Routes 1 & 9 Realignment Begins

Transportation Commissioner Jack Lettiere, joined by state and local officials, recently broke ground on the long-awaited Route 1/9 Rahway River Bridge replacement project – highlighting safety and congestion issues associated with this vital river span.



The \$20.5 million federally funded project will address structural deficiencies and traffic issues associated with the existing bridge, which was built in 1929, while also replicating the bridge's historic aesthetics. Union Paving and Construction Company, a local, county-based business, was selected to complete the job that will take approximately two years. The bridge replacement project is part of an overall \$270 million investment to improve the Route 1 corridor from Interstate 287 in Middlesex County to the Route 1/9 Bridge.

"This project is just another example of how Governor McGreevey and the Department of Transportation are building a better New Jersey," said Lettiere. "With the help of our delegation in Washington, we are following through on our commitment to the residents and commuters of this region to improve safety and ease congestion on our state highway system."

Union Paving will construct a new six-lane bridge over the Rahway River on a new alignment adjacent to the existing bridge structure. The new construction is the first phase of a two-phase plan to improve a 1.5-mile stretch of Route 1/9.

"This long-awaited project will go a long way in making this highway safer and more efficient through Rahway," said Mayor James Kennedy. "It's good news for property owners in the area who deserve better access to and from their homes and workplaces, and good news for motorists who will not have to traverse an 80-year-old highway handling 21st Century traffic."

Throughout the project, NJDOT officials worked closely with the New Jersey's Historic Preservation Office to develop a bridge plan that incorporates aesthetic features such as ornamental lighting, decorative parapets and concrete colored steel to match the character of the old bridge.

Lettiere was also joined at the ground breaking by State Senator Nick Scutari and Assembly Members Jerry Green and Linda Stender.

"Residents and commuters have relied on this bridge for many years as a critical Union County river crossing," said Stender. "With the bridge reaching the end of its service life, this is a wise investment of transportation dollars."

The second phase of the Route 1/9 improvement will rebuild the old 1/9 bridge as a connector ramp and widen and realign Route 1 from Production Way in Woodbridge Township north through the City of Rahway to East Lincoln Avenue in the City of Linden.

The second phase of the Route 1/9 improvement will rebuild the old 1/9 bridge as a connector ramp and widen and realign Route 1 from Production Way in Woodbridge Township north through the City of Rahway to East Lincoln Avenue in the City of Linden.

Street Light Not Working?

To report a street light out in your neighborhood, visit <http://www.pseg.com> or call (800) 436-PSEG (7734).

Please have the following information available:

- The location of the street light
- The nearest cross street
- The pole number (usually located on a metal strip attached to the pole)

New Emergency Room Under Way

Last December, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Rahway (RWJUH Rahway) broke ground for a new Emergency Center, marking the beginning of expanded emergency its community. The major project triples the size of the current Emergency Center, expanding the facility from 5,000 square feet into



a completely new 15,000-squarefoot building, adding 12 patient areas, for a total of 23. The facility is expected to open in January, 2005.

RWJUH Rahway's Emergency Center staff treat close to 30,000 patients per year in a space that hospital President & CEO Kirk C. Tice

describes as challenging. "Despite the space limitations, the emergency personnel do an exceptional job and we're extremely proud of them," he said. "However, the new facility will make it much easier for us to provide vital services to the community." While the year-long construction of the new \$8.1 million facility is underway, the day-to-day operations of the existing unit will not be affected in any way. "I would like to assure the communities we serve that they will continue to experience the hospital's historically excellent care during our expansion efforts," said Tice.

RWJUH Rahway Foundation has raised approximately \$1.2 million from corporate and community sources, and the hospital has borrowed the remaining funds for the construction project. Approximately \$6.9 million is earmarked for construction and related expenses, and \$1.2 million for equipment upgrades such as new monitors,

stretchers and furniture. "We are extremely excited about this new facility," says G. Allen Geyer, RWJUH Rahway's Board of Governors Chairman. "And we are grateful to our new parent company, the Robert Wood Johnson Health Care Corp. for supporting our need for an expanded Emergency Center and assisting in our identification of funding sources."

The hospital's existing Emergency Center was completed in 1988 and designed to accommodate approximately 26,000 patient visits annually. The center has experienced more than a 10 percent increase in that number in subsequent years. The new center will serve a variety of medical needs, including cardiac, major medical and surgical, and pediatrics. A dedicated "Fast Track" area will allow staff to process and treat patients in a significantly expedited manner. The expanded space will be able to accommodate 45,000 patients per year.

**Don't miss
The Tokens
Appearing August 28
in the
Mayor's Concert Series!**



Streetscapes, Resurfacing Planned for Fall

Mayor James Kennedy announced recently that the city plans to install new streetscapes downtown and resurface 13 city streets this fall as part of its annual capital commitment to restoring Rahway's municipal infrastructure.

The \$550,000 streetscape project is being funded through a bond ordinance approved by the City Council in June and grants from the Community Development program and the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The streetscapes include new sidewalks, curbs, trees, benches and lighting and will be installed along the following locations:

- East Milton Avenue between Broad and Main Streets
- Main Street between East Milton Avenue and Coach Street
- Irving Street between Elm and East Milton Avenues
- Broad Street between East Milton Avenue and Irving Street

Thirteen sections of city streets are also expected to be resurfaced this fall as well. They include:

- Allen Street between West Lincoln and Wilson Avenues
- Campbell Street between Broad and West Cherry Street
- Canterbury Lane (entire length)
- East Milton Avenue between Beacon Street and the city line
- Fulton Street, between East Milton and East Hazelwood Avenues
- Henry Street between East Milton and Barnett Street
- Jaques Avenue between West Maple and West Hazelwood Avenues
- Jefferson Avenue between Lake and West Meadow Avenues and between West Hazelwood Avenue and Race Street
- Lambert Street between Westfield Avenue and Harold Street
- Main Street between East Stearns Street and East Lake Avenues
- Murray Street between Jefferson and Madison Avenues
- West Lincoln Avenue between Ludlow and Winfield Streets

More information will be provided on the city's Web site and on channel 34 later this year or by calling (732) 827-2160.

Discount Prescription Card Available to Rahway Seniors

Applications are still being accepted for enrollment into Rahway's own Senior Preferred Prescription Card program offered by the Garden State Pharmacy Owners Providers Services (GSPOPS). The program allows Rahway residents over the age of 55 to obtain a discount of between 10 and 50 percent for the cost of prescription drugs. The program is also available to city residents who are receiving Social Security Disability benefits.

The GSPOPS savings card is accepted by most pharmacists throughout the nation. No mail-order forms are required. The annual membership fee for the program is only \$20. The service will be provided to Rahway seniors at no cost to the city. There are no income restrictions for membership in GSPOPS and no exclusions for pre-

existing conditions. There are no limits on the quantities or refills and requires no deductibles to be met. All Federal Legend brand name and generic drugs are included.

Working residents who are already covered by their employer's prescription plan can still take advantage of the discounts offered by GSPOPS for prescription drugs not covered by their plan or in cases where generic medicine would cost more under their co-payment than it would if filled with GSPOPS.

Information brochures, which include a registration form, are available at the Senior Citizens Center, City Hall and other public buildings in Rahway. Information on the GSPOPS card is also posted on the city's web site, www.cityofrahway.com and Comcast Channel 34.

THEATRE



**Puck and company, from Shakespeare's
*A Midsummer Night's Dream.***

Union County Arts Center

Presents

Summer Theatre Program

(In conjunction with the City of Rahway)

• July 12-14

A Midsummer Night's Dream

• July 19-24

Androcles and the Lion

Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving Street, Rahway

For more information please call 732-499-8226

www.UCAC.org

Kids Summer Art Camp

Sign up your child for one or more of these weeks:

WEEK 1: JULY 19- JULY 23

WEEK 2: JULY 26- JULY 30

WEEK 3: AUG. 2- AUG. 6

WEEK 4: AUG. 9- AUG. 13

Art is the gateway to the world and an appreciation of the wonders of life. If your child has shown an interest in making pictures or other forms of art, the Kids Art Camp offers a fun-filled journey for your child to learn beyond the limited time allowed in most classrooms. Drawing, painting, collage, watercolor, and printmaking will be the subject of some of the projects in this terrific week-long adventure into the world of creativity for your child.

For four weeks this year the Arts Guild of Rahway is making available a fun opportunity for young children to receive high-level instruction about creating art from a staff of talented artists and teaching professionals!

During a typical one-week session of the camp, children will explore their creativity as they work on exciting projects in drawing, acrylic painting, printmaking, watercolor, collage, assemblage and other creative avenues. Special 'guest artist' teachers will visit each week for additional activities in silkscreen printing, creating with clay, mosaic designs and more!

If your child has been interested in drawing or painting, or making art of any kind, whether or not they have received art instruction in school, the Art Camp projects will introduce them to another level of artistry and new possibilities for their budding talents.

- Available for children ages 7-14
- Weekly camp hours: Monday through Friday: 9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.
- Rates: \$295.00 per week (25 hours)
- A \$40.00 non-refundable deposit is required at registration. Full payment must be received two (2) weeks prior to your chosen art camp week(s).

This fee is for the 25 hours of camp per week and includes all art materials and supplies needed as well as drinks and snacks for a daily break. Students are asked to bring their own lunch; drinks will be provided. On Friday afternoon each week, students will participate in a pizza party. Parents are invited to come and see the wonderful artworks their children have created during the week.

For information and registration please call (732) 381-7511, online at www.rahwayartsguild.org, or by e-mail at artsguild1670@earthlink.net.

If you are interested in becoming a member or if you would like to volunteer your time to assist with some of the programs at the Arts Guild of Rahway, please visit or call us.

The Arts Guild of Rahway is a non-profit multidisciplinary center for the arts located at 1670 Irving Street in Downtown Rahway. It is the mission of the Arts Guild of Rahway to present high quality arts programs for the communities of Central and Northern New Jersey. The Arts Guild presents a yearly season of arts activities including fine art exhibits, a music series, art classes and workshops and lectures/seminars about arts and cultural topics.



ARTS
GUILD

Visit Rahway Arts Online
Union County Arts Center
www.ucac.org

Arts Online
The Rahway Arts Guild
www.rahwayartsguild.org

DOWNTOWN



UPDATE

RAHWAY CENTER PARTNERSHIP

Making a Difference Downtown

Downtown Rahway On the Move! 'Be a Part of It'

Donald Anderson
Chairman, Rahway Center Partnership

Ray Mikell
Executive Director, Rahway Center Partnership

"It's an exciting time for Downtown Rahway"

As you are all aware, Downtown Rahway is being redeveloped, revitalized, rejuvenated and restructured. The Rahway Center Partnership is very proud of the developments and revitalization efforts that are moving forward in the Business District. While challenges always remain, Rahway has continued to strengthen its plans on Economic and Community Development. While the economic structure of the downtown is being rejuvenated, new businesses are beginning to be recruited. All of this is part of an ongoing rebirth. With ground floor store occupancies continuing to grow, special events that are attracting more and more people, and with property values increasing, downtown is the place to be. It's an exciting time for Downtown Rahway. In this section of the *Rahway Review* we will show you that Rahway Is On The Move...Be A Part Of It!

Ray Mikell
Executive Director

Welcome New Merchants!



Big Belly Deli (78 E. Cherry Street) is Rahway's newest eatery, specializing in overstuffed sandwiches and New York-style corned beef and pastrami. From left are owner Gerry Kirk and Brett Holson and Carlo Rivera of J&M Air of Somerset.



Jumbo Computer (88 E. Cherry Street) offers sales and services on new and used PCs. Web site hosting, hardware upgrades, digital surveillance systems and much more are also available. Pictured is Jumbo Computer President Peter Hun.



Slip Into Ceramics (1548 Main Street) is a full ceramics studio offering a wide range of services. The shop is open five days a week and is closed on Sunday and Monday. Stop by and meet owner Debby Ferraiolo.

You Can Now Check Us Out On Our NEW Web Site!

Rahway Center Partnership
www.rcpnj.org

The Rahway Center Partnership web site is sponsored & paid for by:

PJC Monogram Co., Inc.
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PARTNERSHIP



River Place, which includes 136 one and two-bedroom luxury apartments and over 115 new public parking spaces, rises on Dock and Lewis Streets. The complex will be completed this summer. Rents begin at \$1,325 for a one-bedroom unit. For more information, call (732) 669-1700.



The new 524-car parking deck being built at the corner of Main and Lewis Streets will be completed by the end of 2004.



Fourteen luxury apartments and a new Italian restaurant are now under construction at the corner of Main and Monroe Streets.

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FARMERS' MARKET

Train Station Plaza
 Thursdays beginning July 15
 12 to 6 P.M.



Over 7,500 people filled downtown Rahway on Saturday, May 15 to enjoy "Hot Rods & Harleys," which was sponsored by Commerce Bank in association with the Rahway Center Partnership and the Union County Arts Center with the cooperation of Liberty Harley Davidson. Some 150 classic cars and hundreds of motorcycles were also on display, as well as music, food and products sold by downtown merchants. Over 400 trophies were awarded for winners of various auto and motorcycle categories.

RAHWAY

New Children's Safety Corner

ChildrenSafetyCorner.com has been created to act as a link to some of the best public access Web pages dealing with children's fire safety and other life safety issues. Children, parents, teachers, and safety educators should find this a valuable and efficient resource.

Fun and learning are used to promote the importance and proper use of fire and life safety in children as well as adults. To access the sites listed, young people need only to click on the links provided to instantly connect to this valuable information. The links include access to a variety of fun and games, information, facts, and educational tools, which all promote child safety issues. The site is an easy and efficient site for children and adults to navigate. Furthermore, this information can be downloaded and printed effortlessly.

The library's fire desk was built by Keith Anderson of Rahway's Lafayette Masonic Lodge #27 with the assistance of the Rahway Fire Department. The information provided on ChildrenSafetyCorner.com has been gathered and viewed by the Fire Prevention Bureau of the Rahway Fire Department in support of the Rahway Public Library. The Union County Fire Prevention and Protection Association is hosting the Web page.



Fire Safety Official Robert Latherow and some Rahway students learn about fire safety with the web site childrenSafetyCorner.com at the Rahway Fire Department's workstation recently installed at the new Public Library.

Police Crack Down on False Alarms

Nationwide, 98.4 percent of the time when police are dispatched for an alarm call, the alarm is false. Rahway is no different. In 2002, 98.4 percent of the city's alarm calls were also false alarms. A relatively low number of business and residential addresses generate the vast majority of repeat false alarm calls.

False alarms cost the city of Rahway and its citizens thousands of dollars per year and take police officers and firefighters away from actual emergencies. To prevent unnecessary emergency response to false alarms, the city adopted an ordinance similar to ones passed in hundreds of municipalities to encourage all alarm users to maintain the mechanical reliability of and to properly use their alarm equipment.

On December 8, 2003, Chapter 125 of the Rahway City Code was adopted by the City Council, which establishes business and residential alarm code requirements. The ordinance requires business and residential alarm users to register their systems, pay a \$25 annual registration fee and a fee for excessive false alarms during each registration period. The fee structure is: 3-5 alarms \$50 per occurrence; 6-10 \$100 per occurrence and 11 or more alarms, \$250 per occurrence. In addition, late fees and fees for non-compliance may be assessed. Each alarm user will be allowed two false alarm responses per year. A warning notice will be issued after the second offense. There will be a \$30.00 fee for all returned checks.

Infrequent severe weather may result in sporadic invalid alarm activations. In such cases, the false alarm fee may be waived. An appeal process is included in the ordinance and will be provided to you in writing if you are assessed a fee for which you believe an exception should be made. There are no exceptions for malfunctioning equipment.

The city has contracted with Alarm Tracking and Billing Services in Colorado Springs, Colorado to work with your alarm company to identify all alarm system users in the City of Rahway. Once identified, you will receive a registration notice on behalf of the city from Alarm Tracking and Billing Services. Alarm Tracking and Billing's notification will provide instructions on how to properly register alarms. All other communications regarding applicable false alarm fees will also be made in writing and will be mailed to you.

It would be cost prohibitive for Rahway to build, operate, and maintain a false alarm tracking and ticketing system. This service is provided at no cost to the taxpayers of Rahway. This is a self-funding program to reduce the number of false alarm calls.

False alarms include:

- Negligently or accidentally activated signals.
- Signals resulting from mechanical or electronic failure, malfunction, improper installation, improper adjustment, or improper maintenance.
- Signals that are purposely activated in non-emergency situations.

Some commonly negligent acts include: weak system batteries; open, unlocked, or loose fitting doors and windows; helium-filled balloons; wandering pets

For more information contact Alarm Tracking and Billing at (800) 861-5944.

Crossing Guards Wanted!

The Rahway Police Department is now accepting applications for the position of School Crossing Guard. Uniforms and training provided. Fifteen hours per week from September to June. Applications can be picked up at Rahway Police Department or call (732) 827-2074 for more information.

Visit the
Rahway Police Department
online
www.rahwaypolice.com

Pedestrian Safety Is a Shared Responsibility!

There is no one cause of crashes involving pedestrians. Pedestrians and motorists must both do their part to keep pedestrians safe. Children and senior citizens are at a higher risk of being struck by a motor vehicle. Special emphasis must be made to educate children and seniors about the importance of walking safely.

Pedestrians:

- Always cross at corners, within marked crosswalks where available.
- Look left, right and left again before crossing. Watch for turning cars.
- Obey traffic signals, especially "Walk/Don't Walk."
- Remain alert! Don't assume that cars are going to stop.
- Wear reflective clothing when walking at night.
- Stay sober. Walking while impaired greatly increases your chances of being struck.

Motorists:

- Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. Failure to yield carries a \$44 fine and 2-point license penalty (39:4-36).
- Watch for pedestrians when turning right on red.
- Obey speed limits.
- Do not block or park in crosswalks.
- Be alert for pedestrian at all times.

Children:

- Cross at intersections only.
- Never cross from in-between parked cars.
- Before crossing, look left, right and left again and listen for traffic.
- Wear light colored or reflective clothing at night.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Avoid playing in driveways or on sidewalks near roadways.

Seniors:

- Walk on sidewalks and cross only at corners, within marked crosswalks.
- Wear bright-colored or reflective clothing, especially at night.
- Look left, right and left again before crossing and be on the lookout for turning vehicles.
- Make eye contact with the driver before crossing in front of a vehicle.
- Learn the proper use of "Walk/Don't Walk" signals.
- Use the buddy system. Walk and cross with others when possible.
- If possible do not walk at night or during bad weather such as snow, rain or ice.

Senior Stuff

We need your talents!

The Rahway Division of Senior Services is seeking skilled instructors for senior programs. If your expertise included crafts, fitness, arts & leisure, and others, please let us know. Be creative! New ideas are always welcome. Send your resume and course synopsis to the Rahway Senior Center, 1306 Esterbrook Avenue.

Geriatric Nurse Specialist Available

Geriatric Nurse Specialist Kara Kaldawi, R.N., M.S.C. is available every Thursday at the Senior Center Annex, located at the corner of Esterbrook and West Milton Avenue, from 9:30 to 11:30 A.M. There is no cost for this program, which is sponsored by Rahway Hospital and the Rahway Department of Community Services.

Senior I.D. Cards Offered

Free photo I.D. cards are available to all Rahway seniors aged 62 and older. Call or stop by the Senior Center to schedule an appointment.

Notary Public at Senior Center

The Rahway Senior Center has a Notary Public of New Jersey on the premises. Any Rahway senior 62 years of age or older can use this free service. Call the Senior Center at (732) 827-2016 for more information.

Senior Citizen Bus Transportation

Transportation is available to all Rahway residents 62 years of age and older. Please call Tina at (732) 499-7930 between 8:00 A.M. and 12 noon to arrange transportation (shopping, doctor's appointments, etc.).

Mayor Kennedy's Birthday Breakfast Club

One of the favorite special events run by the division of senior services is Mayor Kennedy's birthday breakfast. Depending on what month your birthday falls, you and a guest will be invited to the Rahway Senior Center and treated to a full breakfast along with other members of the club. To register, please call (732) 827-2016. Everyone registered will receive an invitation in the mail with the date and time of the particular birthday breakfast. Anyone previously registered who has not responded to the invitation in the last year must re-register.

Senior Dining at Rahway Hospital

Meals are available from 4:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. seven days a week for seniors aged 60 and older. Meals cost an average of \$4. Registration is required. Registration forms are available at the Senior Center. The hospital's menu hotline is (732) 499-6222.

NJ Transit Discounts Available

The Rahway Senior Center has applications for seniors (62 and over) for NJ Transit rail and bus transportation discounts. For more information, call the center at (732) 827-2016.

Upcoming Blood Pressure Screenings

Rahway Senior Center
Third Wednesday of the month
10:00 A.M.—12 noon

July & August—NO SCREENING
September 15 November 17
October 17 December 15

Rahway Recreation center
First Tuesday of the month
3:00 P.M.—5:00 P.M.

July & August—NO SCREENING
September 7 Nov.—No Screening
October 5 December 7

Rahway Senior Clubs

Rahway Retired Men's Club
Meets every Monday at 1:00 P.M.
Pres. Paul Riekehof (732) 388-6523

Merck Retirees
Meets 1st Tue. of each month at 1 P.M.
Pres. Ed Kross (732) 381-3525

Ladies Golden Age Club
Meets every Wednesday at 12:15 P.M.
Pres. Bernice Valentine (732) 388-3981

Retired Railroaders (Group #2)
Meets 1st Sat. of the month at 11 A.M.
Pres. Conrad Kreisel (732) 634-1804

A.A.R.P. Chapter #607
Meets 2nd Thur. of the mo. at noon.
Pres. Ann Lukaszewski (732) 382-8960

Retired Carpenters and Millwrights
Meets 3rd Thurs. of the mo. 1—3 P.M.
Pres. Bill Wolf (732) 388-6859

St. Joseph's Guild
Meets 3rd Tue. of the mo. at 12:30 P.M.
Pr. Catherine McGuire (908) 352-0478

UC Minority Task Force on Aging
Meets 1st Friday of the mo. at 12 noon
Lillian Wilder (732) 381-7406



Mayor Kennedy congratulates George Ryan, Rahway's 2003 Senior Citizen of the Year! At left is his wife, Rita.

New Senior Housing Rises in Rahway

Two new senior housing developments in Rahway will add nearly 300 new housing units for seniors when they are completed next year.

Along East Hazelwood Avenue, Rosegate will address the growing need for income-restricted senior housing in the region (a specific need identified in the city's Housing Element and Master Plan) with 150 rental apartments, a variety of residential services, and a community garden, for all the residents to tend themselves. Rosegate Associates is the partnership between Community Investment Strategies and Procida Realty Construction Corporation, and brings many years of quality construction and aesthetically appealing design to various residential communities throughout New Jersey.



"Rosegate meets Rahway's growing demand for quality senior housing for our residents, who for various reasons outgrow their homes and want to stay within their community," said Mayor James J. Kennedy. "The East Hazelwood Redevelopment Zone is the ideal place for this too since it fits our overall growth strategy for the city, which recently saw the construction of the new Agape Family Worship Center in the same neighborhood and the new library and new recreation center in the downtown."

There will be 134 one-bedroom apartments with rents ranging from \$740 to \$900, and 16 two-bedroom units ranging \$880 to \$950. The size of the units ranges from 650 to 835 sq. ft. Amenities will include air conditioning, appliances, and ample closet space. Rosegate will also feature a community center/meeting room, fitness center, wellness room, multiple lounges, a library and laundry facilities.

The former Huffman Koos site on St. Georges Avenue will also give way to a new 150-unit market-rate senior housing complex known as Park Terrace. This luxury development will feature broadband Internet access, security system, exercise facility, library, recreation room, off-street parking, easy access to local highways and is adjacent to the Rahway River Parkway county park. It is being constructed by Atlantic Realty Development Corporation of Woodbridge.

"Both Rosegate and Park Terrace meet our need to provide additional housing for our seniors," said Kennedy. "As the Baby Boomers enter retirement, we are finding that they want to remain active members of their hometown and spend more quality time with their children, grandchildren, friends and other loved ones. These two developments will help fulfill those wishes and provide quality residences for seniors for years to come."

To learn more, please leave your name and contact information and a representative will get back to you:

**Park Terrace (732) 396-0007
Rosegate (609) 424-3115**



The Rahway Division of Senior Services recently took a trip to the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City. Front row, from left, are Norma Catanzaro, Sadie Knlandt, Regina Hibell, Beverly Dolan and Wanda Proctor. Back row, from left, are Mary Peter, Betty Arcuri Alice Bongiovanni and Marie Jazwa.

Continued from front page involves selling the top two floors to a private firm and using the remainder of the building as public library space. This is the first such agreement in New Jersey and only one of a handful throughout the nation. The sale is expected to net \$3 million to help fund the building's construction.

The city has received approximately \$7.4 million from the federal and state governments, with \$3 million to come from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and \$1.4 million from the state Office of Emergency Management. The United States Economic Development

Administration is contributing \$1 million, and the New Jersey State Library is providing \$2 million.

"Rahway now has the finest library in Union County and perhaps the entire state of New Jersey," said Kennedy. "Our partnership with the state and federal governments, as well as the private sector, made this day possible. Furthermore, this is the only public library in the state that will generate tax revenues, helping city taxpayers recover a significant amount of the cost of running a library."

For more information, please call the library at (732) 340-1551.

Library Hours
Summer 2004
Monday & Tuesday 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.
Wednesday 9 A.M. - 8 P.M.
Saturday 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.

The Rahway Review is provided by the City of Rahway and the generous support of these advertisers.

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