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Published by Renna Media

Issue 93 • April 2018

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‘AN EVENING OF SHINING STARS’ SPECIAL NEEDS TALENT SHOW

Submitted by Michael P. Curci

One of the area's most anticipated events, "An Evening of Shining Stars," featuring members of the special needs community from around Union County, will take place on Friday May 4, 2018 at 7 p.m.

Founded by Cranford resident Sally Curci, the 7th annual showcase will feature "Music from the Decades" with the cast set to sing and dance their way into your hearts as they show off their amazing talents.

And for the very first time, the "Shining Stars" cast will take the professional stage at the beautiful and historic Union County Performing Arts Center, where many of America's biggest names have performed.

"We are so excited to give our special cast the chance to perform at such a great venue," noted Sally Curci. "Our audience has grown each and every year, and our cast continues to grow as we spotlight talent from around Union County. It's going to be a night to remember."

When the lights will go up, the "stars" will shine, entertaining you with music from the '20s through today, with solo acts and full cast dance choreography, which is one of the highlights of the show.

Adam Fleissner, who has performed in every show, can't wait to take the stage again, as he prepares to sing "Help!" by the Beatles.

"We meet so many great people," said Fleissner. "We get new people in every year and everyone has a good time meeting each other and performing. All of it is just fantastic."

Caitlin Madden is also excited to team with volunteer buddy Mark Lynch on the Elton John song, "Don't Go Breaking My Heart," with rehearsals in full swing.

"I'm very excited for the show, I like my number," said Madden. "I like all the years I've been doing it. It's fun. Come see us!"

Tickets are on sale now at UCPAC.org/events. Find the Shining Stars logo, select your seats and you'll be in for one of the best nights of the year!

"An Evening of Shining Stars" is presented by Shining Stars Network, Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Union County that shines the light on the special needs community by creating inclusive events such as their annual talent show, dances at local high schools, and our Ambassadors basketball team, which travels to play local first responders to promote friendship and understanding.

SSN will also host their 2nd annual two week performing arts camp, "Camp Shine," from August 20 through August 31 in Scotch Plains. To reserve your spot, or for more information on any of these programs or events, email shiningstarsnetwork@gmail.com, or check out their website at ShiningStarsNetwork.org



(above) Cast to appear at Union County Arts Center 2018 Shining Star Show May 4, 2018

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OUR TOWN *Rahway*

OUR TOWN *Rahway* • Page 2 • April 2018

RAHWAY FIREFIGHTERS TAKE HOME 1ST PLACE IN THE ULTIMATE FIRE DEPARTMENT COOK-OFF

On Monday, February 26, 2018, Rahway firefighters joined together with 24 other teams of firefighters from around New Jersey to compete in 'The Ultimate Fire Department Cook-off,' part of the Cooked and Uncorked Food and Wine Festival held at the Pines Manor in Edison New Jersey. Rahway Firefighters took home 1st Place in the 'Desert' category.

The event benefited the New Jersey State Firefighter's Mutual Benevolent Association and The Burn Center at Saint Barnabas Medical Center.

The Fire Department Cook-off is part of a

culinary extravaganza where participants were able to experience the tastes and flavors of more than 30 of New Jersey's finest restaurants, caterers and dessert shops all in one location.

This event, held at The Pines Manor in Edison, NJ, drew more than 1000 people from across New Jersey.

According to event organizers, \$65,000 was raised this year, St. Barnabas will receive half. The Cooked and Uncorked event has provided The Burn Center at Saint Barnabas Medical Center with over \$170,000 over the past 8 years.



(above, l-r) The Rahway Fire Department team consisting of Daniel Martin, Gerald Vaughan, Steve Niro, and Randy Peterson, took home 1st Place in the 'Desert' category of the 8th Annual Cooked and Uncorked Food and Wine Festival where 25 teams of firefighters competed in the 'The Ultimate Fire Department Cook-off.'

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

6,000 papers are printed monthly, 5,600 are mailed to businesses and homes in Rahway and the remainder are distributed free at the Rahway Public Library and other distribution sites throughout Rahway.

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

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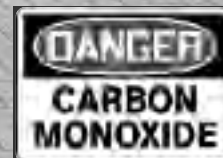
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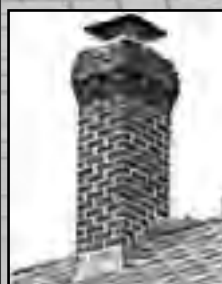
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POSSUMS

Pity the poor possum. Just the site of one is enough to send shivers up the spines of many people, but if you take time to look beyond that, possums are a truly fascinating creature.

Possums are the only marsupials in North America. Like other marsupials such as the kangaroo, possums have a pouch in which they feed and care for their young in the first stages of life.

The mother possum gives birth to 20 bee-sized young. During one of the most dangerous journeys of its life the young must climb from the birth canal up to the safety of its mother's pouch. Once there it will hopefully find and latch onto one of only nine nibbles. The remaining young do not survive. Needless to say, possum have a very high infant death rate. With a life span of only two years, it's not easy being a possum.

Called opossum in many parts of the country, there are many attributes that make possums a partner and ally to farmers, gardeners and home owners.

Possums are the sanitation workers of the wild. Their diet consists of carrion (including the bones), rodents, insects, snails, slugs, eggs, fruit, frogs as well as dog and cat food. Possums eat ticks which is very helpful in the fight against Lyme Disease in our region. It is common for possums to kill rats and cockroaches in their territory.

In intelligence testing possum are better able to remember where they hid their food than rats, rabbits, cats and dogs. They can also find their way faster through a maze than rats and cats.

Possum have opposable thumbs on their hind



Too large for the mothers pouch, young possums ride on her back while she is teaching them to hunt for food.



(above) President of The Rahway Garden Club, James Keane, has been researching and answering garden questions since 1995.

*Visit 'Keane Gardener' blog at:
keanegardener.blogspot.com*

legs which help them climb. The only other mammals with opposable thumb are primates which includes human beings.

Unlike the tails of most critters, possums have a 'prehensile' tail which they use to hang upside down and carry bundles of grass and nesting materials. This control function makes the tail a fifth appendage, like an extra hand.

Possum are mostly immune to rabies and venom from rattlesnakes, cottonmouths and other poisonous snakes.

"Playing possum" is a well know defense which is an involuntary response, like fainting, rather than a conscious act. They roll over, become stiff, close their eyes or stare off into space and bare their teeth while saliva forms around the teeth and a foul-smelling fluid is secreted from their glands. This state can last up to four hours and has proven a deterrent from predators looking for a fresh meal.

Possum prefer to be in the wild and are not home invaders. With these attributes in its favor, possums might be our secret best friend. If you catch a possum in a have-a-heart type trap, don't transport it away, release it where it is. It will control mice and pests in your area.

Please, if you see a possum crossing the road, give it a break. They don't run very fast.

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James

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REMEMBERING RAHWAY'S 1958 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

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



(above) A George Washington reenactor leads a unit of revolutionary uniformed soldiers down Main Street. The historical units were a highlight of the parade.



(above) Bikers get set as Mayor James Egolf (far left) raises the starter's pistol. A field of 75 international racers participated in the centennial event.

On March 12, 1858, the four sections that had made up Rahway Township (Upper Rahway, Bridgetown, Leesville, and Milton) were granted a charter to incorporate as a city through an act of the New Jersey State Legislature. The four communities became known as the City of Rahway and one hundred years later, the citizens of Rahway were eager to celebrate its birthday. Realizing the importance of this anniversary, Mayor James Egolf formed a committee whose goal was to establish and oversee a year-long schedule of activities for the centennial year. John Gallo was chosen to serve as General Chairman. Committee members included Harland Sisler, who served as parade chairman, Albert Goetz, Max Sheld, James Stevens, Charles Post, Frank Shipley, Walter Reul, Abe Reppen, Donald Alvarez, Charles Carroll, and Joseph Szper.

When the committee had finalized the event list, the schedule included a queen contest, a banquet, a parade, a beard growing contest, a 100-kilometer bicycle race, a fishing derby, a concert, and a fireworks display. Bowling championships, marble tournaments, an all-star softball game, track meets, a city swim meet, a synchronized swimming program, and a flower show were also scheduled. Churches held special services, scout troops camped overnight on Veterans' Field, and most every school and community group got involved by participating in the events and by incorporating the centennial theme into their customary annual activities.

The kick-off event for the celebration took place at the Rahway Theater on Saturday, December 28, 1957 with the crowning of the Centennial Queen. Thirty-nine young women had previously enrolled in the contest and by this night the number had been narrowed down to five remaining contestants. When the excitement of the selection process was over, Miss Helen Kerekes was selected to be Rahway's queen to represent the city throughout the year. The other four finalists, Constance Coan, Lynn Guiler, Barbara Petri, and Judy Troost, would serve as attendants.

One of the more unusual events on the calendar was the beard growing contest. In March, contestants registered at John Gallo's

barber shop where they were cleanly shaven. The men were required to remain unshaven until Memorial Day, which was no simple task as beards were not in fashion. By the end of the allotted time, thirty-four contestants remained to be judged. Charles Heller was declared the winner and was awarded a \$100.00 U.S. Savings Bond for having the "Most Outstanding Beard."

Although the program of events would run until the end of October, the Fourth of July weekend featured three major events. The centennial year featured the first 100-kilometer (62 ½ miles) bicycle race held on the morning of the Fourth. Chairman of the event was Rahway resident, Fred Spencer, a world famous cyclist, who in the 1920s and 30s was a winner of three American sprint championships and holder of six world records. The winner of the Centennial Race, which had a field of seventy-five international racers, was Guy Morin of Montreal, Canada. The event was so popular to both bikers and spectators that the city continued to sponsor races for the next two decades.

That night, it seemed like everyone in the city, along with their friends from other surrounding towns and counties, had made their way into the Rahway County Park in anticipation of viewing

the largest display of fireworks in the city's history. The Elizabeth Daily Journal estimated that 40,000 people had assembled to view the spectacular pyrotechnic show.

The highlight of the weekend and of the year, however, was the Centennial Parade that was held the next day. United States Senator Clifford Case, also a Rahway resident, officially started the parade with a brief address given from the reviewing stand on the steps of the Masonic building on Irving Street. The three-hour parade that followed featured over thirty bands, including four mummer units, fifty elaborate floats, long lines of fire engines from twenty-five neighboring communities, marchers representing all groups in the city, and elected officials from the Federal to the local levels. It was reported that over 30,000 people lined the parade route that stretched three miles.

This year Rahway reaches its 160th year as an incorporated city. 2018 is certainly not a banner year in the history of this city nor a milestone that's worthy of a celebration, but it is a good reason to recall, with a touch of nostalgia, the interest, excitement, and fun experienced throughout Rahway during the centennial year of 1958.

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'SIT DOWN' HELPS STUDENTS FACE FUTURE WITHOUT FEAR

By Rob Kinch

"How do you cope with homesickness?" ponders Rahway High School senior Luis Muller.

Oscar Ortiz wonders, "How can I manage my time to address so many priorities?"

Future June '18 graduate Seth Holguin thinks about what he might face as "the disadvantages of being a first-year college student."

Students also worry that they may be embarking upon, and assuming astronomical debt for, higher education when they do not even have a clearly defined idea of their ultimate career goals. Shared by many graduating high school seniors across the country, these apprehensions and anxieties can often cast a shadow over what should be an enthusiastically anticipated start of a college or university career. Rahway Superintendent of Schools Dr. Patricia Camp was not about to let that happen; no, not on her watch.

"Like I did as a first-generation college student," Dr. Camp explains, "our students have many concerns about going away to college; being away from home, family, friends, and community." She continues, "This is essentially a fear of the unknown and a natural response, but it can be seen as an opportunity to stretch and grow in a relatively safe environment." As is her penchant for communicating directly with her students, and for knowing just what would always grab a teenager's attention, Dr. Camp did not miss the chance to help put their minds at ease with the help of some carefully selected, thankfully non-vegetarian this time, pizza and some sage advice.

Sharing many personal stories of her college years, along with those of her niece and her son, Dr. Camp impressed upon a gathering of her students from the 'Leading by Example' program that "their feelings are typical and that others have overcome those doubts to succeed in college and beyond." Addressing their concerns over how to manage their time efficiently, she acknowledged that "time management" would, in fact, be their biggest challenge. "You will now have much more freedom to set your own goals."

Her advice, which she had learned herself from her brother, was, "Study from Sunday evening through Friday day then, unless there is a looming deadline, take Friday night through Sunday day 'off.'"

Also important for students to overcome homesickness, she believes, is to recognize that college is a "time to grow intellectually and psychologically" and "time to explore a new area of the U.S. with new friends," reminding them that "nothing is permanent; very few life decisions are!"

His superintendent's philosophy that one's "past" does not determine one's "future" resonated clearly with Dominick Williams, who is off to study sports management at Wesley in Delaware in the fall. "Dr. Camp has shown me that you're the one who steers your course no matter the circumstances." He adds, "She is a hard-working lady; you can just see it."

Other reassuring insights into maneuvering successfully through those first years included, "trying a bit of many different disciplines" to find

what might light a passion and "finding one person who has done this before (college in this case) whom they can lean on for support or even just talk to."

The students' Superintendent has unwavering confidence in them. "Our students are smart and can figure things out themselves – often they just need reassurance that they are on the right path."

Perhaps it is just that confidence that her students perceive and that keeps her a welcome figure of support in their high school careers. "Dr. Camp is different than most people in power," observes Seth Holguin. "She opens herself up to connect with her students; she likes to be where the students are. She listens to them and truly wants to learn about them."

"When Dr. Camp said she was glad to be gone from home to experience the real world doing something she loved," explains Luis Muller, "that made me realize that I'm going on to do something that I love." (So much for homesickness!) He goes on to admit, "At first I was a little shaky when I met her, but she's a normal person!"

"She's not a 'superintendent'; I could go to her for advice about anything," Caroline Mull offers. "Watching Dr. Camp, I've realized that to be a true leader, we must listen to and be able to consider others' opinions."

With her characteristic 'advice-cum-wit,' Superintendent Camp closed the afternoon with one last well-received note of advice. "In that first year away, tell your parents only half of what you do!" Words, we think, to live by.




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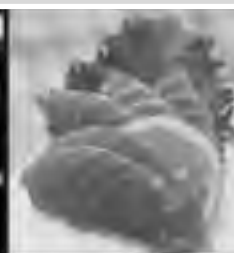
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P.A.L. T-BALL/BASEBALL REGISTRATION



The Rahway Police Athletic League (PAL) has opened registration for the 2018 T-Ball/Baseball Season. The program is open to boys and girls ages 5 to 14.

The league runs from early April through mid-June.

You can register at The Recreation Center, 275 East Milton Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Financial assistance is available by contacting Daniel V. Marchica at 732-669-3610 or by email Sportz7423@comcast.net. Like and follow Rahway PAL on Facebook or visit RahwayPAL.com and click the baseball link for news and updates.

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RAHWAY'S 18TH ANNUAL TASTE OF SPRING

Rahway's 18th annual Taste of Spring is upon us! An annual event featuring over 70 Stations of food, wine, boutique beer, aperitifs, and desserts. Two Bands and a DJ really make this the event you do not want to miss. For the price of an entry, guests can sample from the participating restaurant and beverage vendors. This year there is also an Artisan Market to walk through with Artists selling their wares and a small car show outside brought to us by Miller Buick GMC. We are encouraging those attending to bring a nonperishable for our Rahway Food for Friends Food Bank.

Featuring over 40 restaurants from all over Union County presenting their finest tastes. You can find everything from seafood to pastas, vegetarian options to a meat-lovers dream. In addition, there are a plethora of dessert options

and cheese plates to sample. Along with these amazing tastes are skilled mixologists, sommeliers, and brand ambassadors to walk you through some of their best wines and spirits.

Taste of Spring will be held Friday April 20, 2018, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Rahway Recreation Center, 275 E. Milton Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey.

Tickets are \$30 in advance; \$40 at the door and can be purchased via Eventbrite or in person at: Union County Performing Center Box Office, Witty's Fine Wine & Liquors, Beanas para Siempre, Pinhos Bakery, and the Rahway Recreation Center.

For more info, contact Amy Garcia Phillips at rahwayartsdistrict@gmail.com; or Ann Marie Williams at rahwaybusinessdistrict@gmail.com.

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MARCH READING MADNESS IN RAHWAY



(above) Ms Debra Bridges, a member of the Rahway Board of Education reads to the preschool children in Mrs. Beese's preschool class at Grover Cleveland School in Rahway during "March Reading Madness."

STUDENTS VISIT ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON HOSPITAL'S PEDIATRIC UNIT

Students in the Blue and Gold Club at Franklin Elementary School in Rahway recently visited the pediatric unit at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital on Saturday, March 2, 2018. They dropped off Mugs of Love, pillows, and stuffed animals. The students involved in the school-based volunteer club worked hard to put the mugs together. They volunteered their time and filled the mugs with cocoa, tea, coffee, soup, sugar, oatmeal, snacks, and crackers. The pillows were handmade by the students as well. When parents had to unexpectedly stay overnight because their child is admitted to the hospital, they will be given these thoughtful gifts. The students love knowing that they are helping others.

(right, l-r) Nirvaan Misir, Lissa Ruiz, Jyaziel Quiles, Michelle Attorelli, and Emily Kipness. Adults pictured are Child Life specialists at RWJ Children's Hospital.



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GIOVANNA DEROBERTIS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES GIRL SCOUT PROJECT



Giovanna DeRobertis, an Ambassador Girl Scout from Rahway, New Jersey, who attends Magnet High School in Scotch Plains, New Jersey, has successfully completed her Girl Scout project entitled, “Spirit Alive.” Giovanna has been a Girl Scout for 12 years. This program has an emphasis on prayer, study of scripture, documents of Vatican II, and service to others. It took eight months to complete, including her community service project.

It was her fourth and final Diocesan Award. Girl Scouts and Scouts Leaders from Union County and the entire Diocese of Newark who

have achieved their medals and emblems or have been nominated for various awards are honored each year at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. At this service, usually held the first Sunday of March, Scouts and Leaders are formally presented and recognized with their awards by the Archdiocese. Reverend Timothy Graff presided over the recognition ceremony.

For the 2017-18 school year Girl Scout Sunday Prayer Service and Celebration was held on March 4, 2018, at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

(above) Girl Scout Celebration Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.



(above, l-r) Reverend Timothy Graff and Giovanna DeRobertis.

RAHWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY APRIL 2018 EVENTS

2 City Hall Plz, Rahway, NJ 07065 • Tel: (732) 340-1551 • Fax: (732)340-0393 • www.rahwaylibrary.org

The Friends of the Rahway Public Library

will have their annual book sale

April 11 to 14.

Sale hours will be

Wednesday, April 11, 6 to 8 p.m.

(Member pre-sale);

Thursday, April 12, 6 to 8 p.m.;

Friday, April 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and

Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friends' Group Meeting

The Friends of the Rahway Public Library will meet

at the library at

7 p.m. on Thursday, April 5.

Discovery Studio Crochet Club

Bring your hooks and yarn. Work on a project or learn a new technique! Program is free for teens and adults.

Thursdays, April 5 and 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Pysanky: Ukrainian Egg Decorating Class with

Artist/Instructor Jenny Santa Maria.

Adults. Space is limited, and registration is required.

Wednesday, April 18 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Readers Circle Book Club

Join us for the discussion of "April is Crossing the Horizon" by Laurie Notaro.

Wednesday, April 18 at 2 p.m.

Third Thursday Movie: "Darkest Hour"

(2017) PG-13, 2 hours, 5 min,

Thursday, April 19 at 1 p.m.

Biography, Drama, History starring Academy Award-winner Gary Oldman, Kristin Scott Thomas.

TEEN EVENTS

The Hub in the Teen Circle:

Teens, have ideas for the library?

Monday, April 2 at 6 p.m.

Make your voice heard as a part of our new teen group. Bring a friend, or two, and we will discuss. Snacks, too!

Discovery Studio: Express Yourself! Journaling.

Monday, April 16, at 6 p.m.

Teen Activity in the Teen Circle:

It's Poetry Month!

Thursday, April 19, at 4 p.m.

Chalk Our Walks! Pick a short poem from our notebook or make up one yourself and decorate our sidewalks with chalk.

Teen Screen Presents: Movie in our Auditorium.

PG13, "Thor: Ragnarok."

Monday, April 30 at 5 p.m.

Join us as we screen a recently released feature in our auditorium. All are welcome to attend.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Hocus Pocus Magic Show

Tuesday, April 3 at 3 p.m.

Come to the library for a magic show. Ages 4+.

Toddler Time

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. April 4, 18, and 25.

We will be talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing during this story time.

Ages birth - 4 with caregiver.

STEMtastic Fridays

Friday, April 13 at 4 p.m.

Experiment at the library with a fun S.T.E.M. project. Ages 6+.

Lego Club

Wednesday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Make something out of Legos and put it on display! Ages 2 to 5.

Junior Lego Club

Friday, April 20 at 11 a.m.

Make something out of Legos and put it on display! Ages 2 to 5.

Preschool Dance Party

Tuesday, April 24 at 11 a.m.

Come on out to play instruments and dance! Ages birth to 5.

Kids BINGO


Thursday, April 26 at 4 p.m.

Have a blast playing BINGO at the library! Ages 4+.

Pajama Storytime


Monday, April 30 at 6:30 p.m.

Wear your pajamas to this fun Storytime. All ages.



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Safe environment	😊	😊	😞	😊
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Affordable	😊	?	😊	😞
Homework optional	😊	😊	😞	😞
Real-time progress monitoring	😊	😊	😞	😞
Flexible start and finish times	😊	😊	😞	😞
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RAHWAY HOUSING AUTHORITY RE-OPENING OF IT'S PUBLIC HOUSING WAITING LIST FOR FAMILY UNITS (2 & 3 BEDROOM) LOCATED ALONG LEESVILLE AVENUE & CAPOBIANCO PLAZA, RAHWAY (NOT SECTION 8 VOUCHERS)

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM

- Rahway Residents
- Veterans (Honorably discharged) and/or Widows of Veterans only.

(Official verification is required)

An Application may be picked up in person, or by a representative, on

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2018 FROM 6:30 AM - 9:30 AM

at the Housing Authority office located at 165 East Grand Avenue, Rahway, NJ. Absolutely no applications will be mailed, nor may they be obtained prior to or after the above mentioned dates and times. All completed applications may be returned to the Rahway Housing Authority in person or by mail, but, they must be received and or postmarked no later than May 9, 2018. Any application not signed, incomplete or not readable will be considered null and void.

**ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED/POSTMARKED AFTER MAY 9, 2018
WILL BE REJECTED. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Kenneth Pushko, Executive Director

JACK RACHINSKY NAMED NJ NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STATE BEE SEMIFINALIST

Jack Rachinsky was recently notified by the National Geographic Society that he is one of the semifinalists eligible to compete in the 2018 New Jersey National Geographic State Bee. Jack is from Rahway, New Jersey. He's 13-years-old and a seventh-grade student at St. John Vianney, Colonia, New Jersey.

The contest will be held at Rowan University, Glassboro, New Jersey on Friday, April 6, 2018. This is the second level of the National Geographic Bee competition, which is now in its 30th year. School Bees were held in schools with

fourth- through eighth-grade students throughout the state to determine each school champion. School champions then took a qualifying test, which they submitted to the National Geographic Society. The National Geographic Society has invited up to 100 of the top-scoring students in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense Dependents Schools and U.S. territories to compete in the State Bees.

National Geographic will stream the final round of the National Geographic Bee Championship starting May 24, 2018, at natqobee.org.

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VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR EARTH DAY RAHWAY RIVER CLEAN UP

Submitted by Joe Seebode

All volunteers are invited to celebrate Earth Day with Boy Scout Troop 330, Cub Scout Pack 30, and members of the Rahway River Watershed Association, Rahway Environmental Commission, and Clark Environmental Commission in a clean-up of the Rahway River on Saturday, April 21, 2018, (with a rain date of Sunday, April 22nd). The clean-up will focus on areas upstream and downstream of the dam at Winfield Park, New Jersey. It is our hope to have enough folks participate that we can have teams work as far upstream as the Garden State Parkway and downstream through Rahway River Park in Clark, Linden and Rahway all the way to

Elizabeth Avenue.

Plans are to meet at the parking area adjacent to the waterfall of the Rahway River by the dam at Winfield Park at 8:45. This is a great way to celebrate Earth Day and if you haven't participated in an event like this before, you will find it invigorating, and you will feel good about what you have accomplished...it is also a lot of fun...especially for scouts and young adults as they always find something interesting. This adds both education and adventure to the event.

The clean-up will generally be between 9 a.m. and noon, but any amount of time or effort that folks can volunteer is appreciated. There is always a large volume of floatable debris to pick

up. This includes tires and of course floatables (cans, bottles, plastics, etc.). The County of Union generously supplies gloves and garbage bags, and we solicit material donations (donuts, bagels, coffee, bottled water, paper towels, hand-wipes, etc.) for all volunteers.

Last year, nearly 150 folks participated, including Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, fishermen, local activists and citizens, and we pulled some amazing things from the river. Sponsors came through with coffee, bagels, Danish, donuts, cookies, bottled water, and juice boxes, and we had grilled hot dogs for lunch. We also had other giveaways for the participants.


All participants should wear jeans, long-sleeved shirts, gloves and boots, and waders are welcome for folks who like to get a little wet. Each participant should bring a standard five-gallon carry bucket with a handle (put your name on the bottom). This makes for easy carrying of "stuff" for transfer to the large garbage bags. When we complete the event, we do a basic inventory of the "big stuff" that we removed and within approximately 24 hours Union County Parks removes and disposes of all the trash.

There is no RSVP required but if you need more info or think you will attend please let us know by e-mail at rivercleanup@comcast.net

Please do not hesitate to forward or let us know if there are any questions. Hope to see you on April 21!

EARTH DAY

RIVER CLEAN-UP



All Volunteers are Welcome

**Where... Parking Area Adjacent to Waterfall
on the Rahway River at Winfield Park**

**When... Sat. Apr. 21, 2018 8:45am to 1:00pm
Coffee, Breakfast and Give-aways**

EARTH DAY

Rahway River Clean-Up

For more info Email rivercleanup@comcast.net

TELL A FRIEND

Boy Scout Troop 330 Cub Scout Pack 30




Rahway River Watershed Assoc.
Rahway Environmental Commission

Good Clean Fun!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR A COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Join the Rahway River Watershed Association, NY/NJ Baykeeper and the Rahway Environmental Commission to help clean up the banks of Rahway River behind City Hall and the Library.

**Sunday, April 15, 2018
from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Meet in front of

**Rahway Public Library
2 City Hall Plaza Rahway, NJ at 9:45 AM**

- No registration is required!
- All ages are welcome!
- Please wear a long sleeved shirt, and long pants you won't mind getting dirty or wet.
- High boots or waders will also be appreciated.
- Bags and gloves will be provided.

Lunch provided for volunteers after the clean up.

Call RRWA Executive Director
Clea Carchia at

908.892.7229 for more info!

SAYING GOODBYE TO RAHWAY'S OLDEST REGISTERED GIRL SCOUT

By Robyn Koenig

This article is written in memory of my mother, Margaret Edith McWhorter Woolley.

Margaret was involved in scouting from an early age. She was born in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, in 1941. By the end of the '40s, she joined Girl Scouts at the age of 6 or 7. She would tell me stories about how she earned her badges and how she met girls from all over Rahway, New Jersey.

In 1956, at the age of 14, she was selected to attend the first Girl Scout Roundup that was held in Milford, Michigan. She not only met girls from across the country but also met girls from around the world. She exchanged S.W.A.P.S. with many

girls. What are S.W.A.P.S.? It is a Small Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Someplace. It is a long-standing Girl Scout tradition.

Although Margaret was enjoying traveling with the scouts around the country, she did a lot right in here in her home town of Rahway. She used her skills and talents to earn the highest award to earn in Girl Scouting, the Curved Bar. It is now called the Gold Award and is a very prestigious award. It honors a scout that displays service as well as mature thinking and planning abilities.

As an adult, she joined scouts as a leader. She was a leader of about 30 girls, which a very large troop. She also accepted girls from all races and backgrounds way before the country did. She was a trendsetter and continued that way of life until she passed. She was a role model for the girls, whom she saw great ability and talents which she could foster and help grow into strong women.

Both my sister and I were scouts. Our mom, Margaret, was our leader. I became a scout in the 1980s. I joined at the age of 6 and was a scout for 12 years. With her guidance, I earned my Gold Award. She was my role model in scouting and I felt I owed it not only to myself to earn the Gold Award, but to my mom as well.

In 2008, my oldest daughter was 5, old enough to become a Daisy. I became her leader to uphold our family tradition. When I told my mom, she said, "I want to join your troop." It was a great honor to have her in our troop. For the next 10 years, she was an adult volunteer in Troop 41748 of Rahway. My two daughters were in the troop. We had three generations in the same troop. The whole troop was in awe of her stories. When she spoke, all of us listened. She taught the girls to knit, cook, helped them with badges and was the troop nurse. She worked as an RN for over 50 years.

A story on how she became known as the

"Toughest Scout in Rahway."

In 2016, after our Troop saved for over two years, we went to Savannah, Georgia, the birthplace of Girl Scouting. On day two, Mom fell and hurt her shoulder. We went to take x-rays, and nothing was broken in her shoulder; it was just a sprain. She continued to hike the streets of Savannah with no complaints, just asked to sit down to rest. When we returned to Rahway she was still in pain. More extensive x-rays showed she had a broken rib. She hiked the whole city for six days with not one complaint. This is why she was called, "The Toughest Girl Scout in Rahway."

After being a scout for 70 years, she has definitely left her mark on many people and places. We miss her terribly in Troop 41748 as well as Rahway Service Unit #54, where she held the position of Treasurer as well as worked with council.

With my mom, being so involved in such a great organization, I have some pretty big shoes to fill. But with my mom as my leader role model and inspiration, I know she set me up for success and she is watching, and my girls as we continue her adventures.

Quotes from some girls and a co-leader:

"Ms. Margaret was always doing little things to help other people. She was just a sweet person." Caitlin Welsh, 12, Cadette in Troop 41748.

"Ms. Margaret was fun to be around. She would go camping and roast marshmallows and S'Mores. She was a pleasure to be around." Lily Ternay, 12, Cadette in Troop 41748.

"Amazing. Passion. Love. Fun. We miss you, Ms. Margaret." Gracie Sullivan, 10, Junior in Troop 41748.

"I was grateful to know her. A wonderful lady, an awesome Girl Scout and so kind. I will always cherish the knitted hand towels she made for me." Doris Jellison, Co-leader Troop 41288.



(above) My Mom, Margaret Woolley



(above) Picture of my mother's sash from her youth, with the Curved Bar award. Also, pics of her recognitions and patches from Rahway.



(above) My mom and her troop during a costume event.



(above) My Mom, Margaret (above) My mom (center) with her four grandchildren (l-r) Monyka Koenig, Michaela Woolley, Margaret Woolley, Zachary Woolley, and Charlotte Koenig.



(above) Picture of my mom and her leaders in Merchant and Drover's Tavern aka the Girl Scout house.

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(above, l-r) My mom and a friend.

ONCE UPON A MATTRESS AT CDC THEATRE

If you think you know the classic fairy tale “The Princess and the Pea” by Hans Christian Anderson, the next show at CDC Theatre in Cranford, New Jersey, may surprise you! “Once Upon A Mattress” carries this tale of royal courtship, curses and love along on a wave of wonderful songs composed by Mary Rodgers.

Zach Mazout, who has appeared often on the CDC stage, jumps into the director’s chair for this show. “‘Once Upon a Mattress’ is one of my favorite shows because of its iconic music and tongue-in-cheek humor,” he recently shared. “Although the show was written in the late 1950s and first performed in the early 1960s, at the center of the story is an atypical ingénue, Fred, whose story challenges traditional fairytale princess stereotypes. This theme has only gained popularity among modern audiences. It has the spectacle of a classic Broadway show without feeling dated or boring, and it’s a show that audiences of all ages can enjoy.”

Boasting a large cast of talented local performers, the show opens on Friday, May 4, and runs for three weekends until May 19, 2018. Additional information about the show and ticket purchases can be found by visiting the theatre’s website, cdctheatre.org.

UNION COUNTY NAMI EVENTS APRIL 2018

Union County National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

has a support group for caregivers of loved ones who have a mental health diagnosis. Join our peer led monthly group meetings and gain insight from others facing similar challenges.

Meetings are held

*on the third Tuesday of every month
from 7:30 to 9 p.m.*

at the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, 11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey.

The “ER” Experience

The public is invited to hear Kelly Baker, Director of Psychiatric Emergency Services at Trinitas Regional Medical Center, speak about what to expect in the ER, the screening process/law and how caregivers fit into it. NAMI meetings offer education and support as well as an invaluable opportunity to share with others who understand the challenges of caregivers. This event is

April 24, 7:30 p.m.

at RWJ Rahway Fitness and Wellness Center,
2120 Lamberts Mill Road,
Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

For more information, call 908-233-1628 or email namiunioncounty@yahoo.com.

CDC Theatre

Once Upon a Mattress

May 4-5: 8PM
11: 8PM
12: 2 & 8PM
18-19: 8PM

TICKETS:
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THE NEXT BIG THING!!! JOE RENNA'S HYPER LOCAL NETWORK ON YOUTUBE

OUR TOWN *Rahway* • Page 21 • April 2018

Renna Media has launched a new YouTube channel called Joe Renna's Hyper Local Network! The channel will consist of a variety of shows, each with its own focus. The first episode of each show is up and ready to view.

Mind Your Own Local Business

Mind Your Local Business uses real life examples to illustrate successful techniques for managing and marketing your business. Local businesses will be featured. The first episode is about crafting a 30 second elevator speech. The February 2018 meeting of the Irish Business Association held at Molly Maguire's in Clark, NJ is featured in the first episode. Businesses that would like to be featured in an episode can email Joe at joerenna@rennamedia.com.

The Peterstown Show

The Peterstown show is a video continuation of the Peterstown Newspaper. The show focuses on the 100-year history of an Italian American Neighborhood in Elizabeth, NJ. Like the newspaper, it preserves the culture and traditions while recording the oral history that may be lost. The first episode is an interview with Carmela Lepore who turned 108-years-old on January 30, 2018.

Renna's Arena hosted by Nick Renna

Nick Renna has been the voice of high school sports as a public address announcer and brings that experience to a variety show; an eclectic mix of old and new video about general interests. His first episode is a video he shot of a 5th and 6th grade St. Anthony's Grammar School game from 1989.

The Video Shoebox

As a camera bug from a very young age Joe Renna amassed a collection of VHS tapes and 8 mm film. The first video is of the Linden Debutant Ball that he shot in 1992. There are hundreds of hours of videos to come.

Anyone with 8mm film or VHS tape to transfer should email joerenna@rennamedia.com.

Renna Media will convert film for free if we use it on the show.

PLEASE VIEW / LIKE / COMMENT / SUBSCRIBE.

More shows will be coming in the future! And if you have ideas for what you'd like to see, please comment or email me at JoeRenna@rennamedia.com. ▼ Please SUBSCRIBE to my channel to get regular business insights and networking guidance: youtube.com/channel/UCqJS. ▼ I welcome your likes, shares and comments! You can learn more about me and my business by visiting my website at rennamedia.com.

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 <p>MIND YOUR OWN Local BUSINESS</p> <p>With Host JOE RENNA</p> <p>0:27</p>	 <p>30 Second Elevator Speech</p> <p>Mind Your Own Local Business</p> <p>12:43</p>	 <p>THE Peterstown SHOW</p> <p>ELIZABETH, NJ</p> <p>The Burg</p> <p>0:45</p>	 <p>Carmella Lapore Turns 108 Years Old</p> <p>18:19</p>
<p>Mind Your Own LOCAL Business- Marketing/Sales</p>	<p>How to Give the Perfect Elevator Pitch Examples</p>	<p>Peterstown Show & Book- an Italian-American Community</p>	<p>Carmella Lapore Turns 108 Secrets to Aging Well </p>
 <p>Renna's Arena</p> <p>with Host Nick Renna</p> <p>0:21</p>	 <p>St. A's 1989</p> <p>6:58</p>	 <p>Joe Renna's Video Shoebox</p> <p>Hometown Home Movies</p> <p>Film and Video Archives</p> <p>0:30</p>	 <p>Linden Debutant Ball 1992</p> <p>56:44</p>
<p>Renna's Arena - Introduction to Local Sports Show & More</p>	<p>St Anthony's vs St Rocco's Basketball, Elizabeth NJ</p>	<p>The Video Shoebox 50 years of Hometown Home Movies </p>	<p>Debutante Ball Linden NJ 1992 Video Shoebox Ep#1</p>

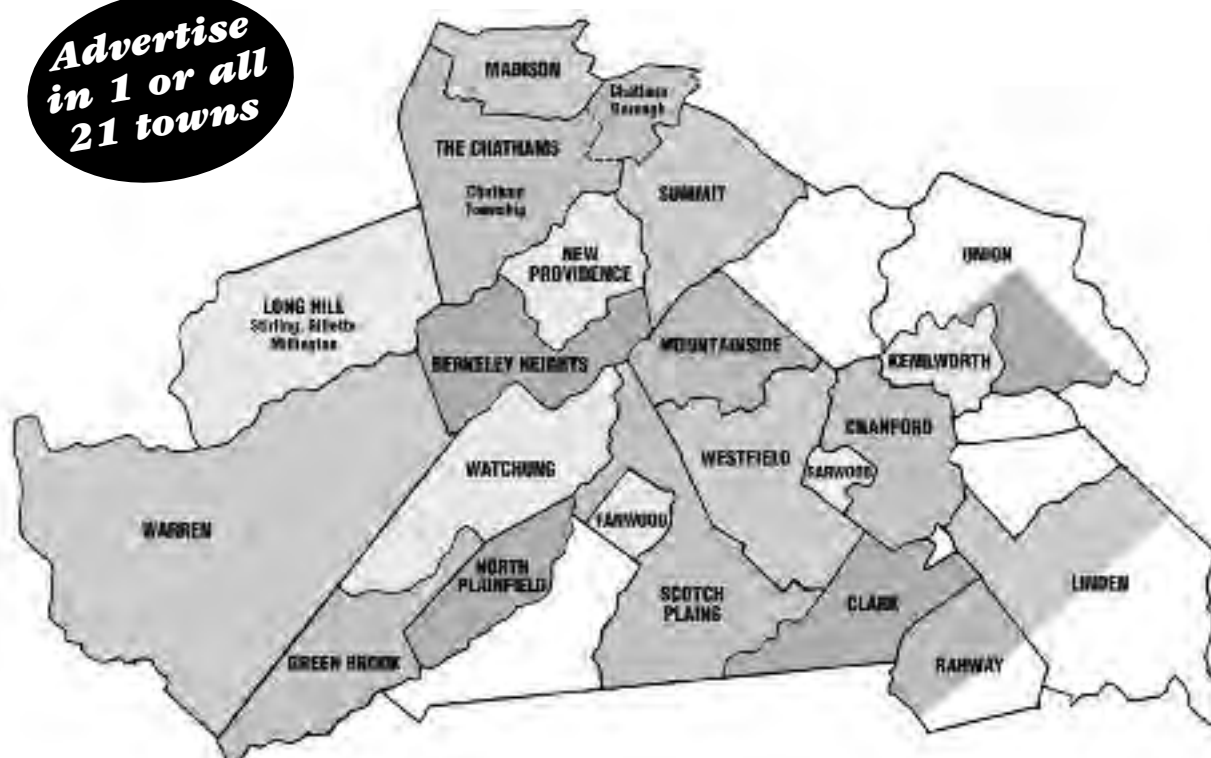
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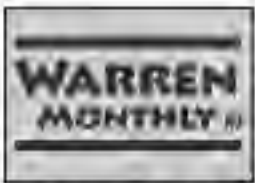
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Josh Cabernet Sauvignon.....	750ml	\$13.99
Joseph Carr Cabernet Sauvignon	750ml	\$22.99
Kendall Jackson Vintners Chardonnay	750ml	\$12.09
Kim Crawford (Sauvignon Blanc)	750ml	\$13.99
Korbel (All Types except Natural and Organic)	750ml	\$11.99
La Crema Sonoma Pinot Noir.....	750ml	\$16.99
Liberty Creek (All Types)	1.5L	\$ 7.99

Louis Jadot Beaujolais	750ml	\$ 9.99
Louis Jadot Beaujolais Villages.....	750ml	\$ 10.99
Louis Jadot Pouilly Fuisse	750ml	\$21.99
Luna di Luna (All Types).....	1.5L	\$13.99
Mark West Pinot Noir.....	750ml	\$ 9.39
Mark West Pinot Noir.....	1.5L	\$17.99
Martini & Rossi Asti	750ml	\$11.99
Menage a Trois Red	750ml	\$ 8.99
Merry Vale (Cabernet)	750ml	\$49.99
Mezzacorona Pinot Grigio.....	1.5L	\$12.99
Mi Amore Red	750ml	\$ 8.99
Moet Imperial Champagne	750ml	\$39.99
Noble Wine 337, 667.....	750ml	\$10.99
Papi (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.98
Real Sangria	1.5L	\$10.99
Rex Goliath (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select	750ml	\$ 8.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select	1.5L	\$16.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Cabernet.....	750ml	\$16.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Chardonnay	750ml	\$11.99
Rombauer Chardonnay	750ml	\$30.99
Ruffino Chianti	750ml	\$ 7.99
Ruffino Chianti	1.5 L	\$13.99
Ruffino Pinot Grigio	1.5L	\$11.99
Ruffino Chianti Gold	750ml	\$30.99
Ruffino Tan label	750ml	\$19.99
Santa Margerita Pinot Grigio.....	750ml	\$20.29
Senor Sangria (All Types)	1.5L	\$11.99
Silver Oak Alexander Valley Cabernet	750ml	\$70.99
Simi Chardonnay.....	750ml	\$12.09
Sonoma Cutrer Chardonnay.....	750ml	\$20.99
Sutter Home (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 8.99
Tom Gore (All Types)	750ml	\$ 9.99
Woodbridge (All Types)	1.5L	\$11.99
Yago Sangria	3L	\$14.99
Yellow Tail (All Types)	1.5L	\$11.49

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