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CHARLOTTE KOENIG AND LILY TERNAY COMPLETE "GIRL SCOUT PARK"

Submitted by Robyn E. Koenig

On September 14, 2019, Charlotte Koenig and Lily Ternay of Girl Scout Troop 41748 of Rahway reopened a small park that they had been working on since July. They have completed their Silver Award Project which is the second highest award a Girl Scout can receive. They needed to complete 50+ hours of a community project in which they came up with, executed with help of their team of community members and follow through with their plan.

The girls' project was to make a local park located at the junction of West Emerson and West Milton more colorful for Rahway and make it more usable for the community. The park consisted of a gazebo and not much else. The girls' plan was to redo the gazebo and fix any problems with its structure, add seating to the park so the community can use it more and also add a bridge so local Girl Scout troops can use it for their Bridging ceremonies.

Back in July, Lily and Charlotte met with Mayor Giacobbe and Joe Brown to discuss their project and get approval. They were on board and loved the girl's ideas from day one. The Rahway DPW was also an integral part in this project. They completed all of the repairs that the gazebo required. Throughout the summer, the girls received about \$1800 in donations, goods and services. Many members of the community came to the park to watch the girls complete their project. The girls worked through heat and sun to complete this by September. The last coat of paint was put on September 7.

On September 14, the girls reopened the park with about 40 people from the community in attendance.



(above) Charlotte Koenig and Lily Ternay revitalized Rahway Girl Scout Park to earn their Silver Awards.



(above) A bridge was added to the park so that local Girl Scout troops could use it for their Bridging ceremonies.

(left) Charlotte Koenig and Lily Ternay had the gazebo repaired and repainted to brighten up the park.

Mayor Giacobbe, who was present along with council members Mr. Bresenhan and Mr. Brown, announced that the park will officially be called "Rahway Girl Scout Park." Along with the gazebo repairs and new paint, the girls added two wooden benches, to increase seating, that were made by Rahway local, Matt Brophy. The benches were dedicated to Margaret M. Woolley and Cathy Rozanski, who were an integral part of the youth in Rahway through girl scouting and school work, respectively. They also painted the bridge with the words of the Girl Scout Law.

The community came together to help Lily and Charlotte's plan and dream come true. The girls are done with the process and are required to complete paperwork about their experience and submit it to council.

The girls would like to thank all of Rahway for their support and togetherness over the past few months. The reason they called their project, "Project Speedboat" is because that is the name of the blue color on the gazebo and it was their favorite.

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Over 12,600 papers are printed monthly, and mailed to every businesses and home in 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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FRANKLIN SCHOOL RECEIVES BUDDY BENCHES

Submitted by Linda Lospinoso Lampert

Cadette Girl Scout, Isabella Scipioni, from Troop 40186 in Westfield, made Franklin Elementary School in Rahway two hardwood Buddy Benches as part of her effort to complete her Silver Award Project for Girl Scouts.

The Silver Award is the highest award a Cadette Girl Scout can earn. The award requires a Cadette to spend at least fifty hours or more completing a sustainable community project.

Isabella decided she wanted to promote kindness and inclusion on the playground by creating Buddy Benches. Isabella met with Franklin School's Principal, Aleya Shoieb, who jumped on board with the idea. Principal Shoieb invited Isabella to speak about the concept of Buddy Benches and how they promote social-emotional learning to the Rahway Public School's Education Committee this past May. Now, after working hard all summer, Isabella's project is finally complete. Isabella proudly delivered the two benches in time for the school's opening day.

Franklin School's students and staff were very excited to learn about the new additions to their playground. Isabella's PowerPoint presentation, along with a movie that she made, demonstrated and helped train the students and staff about the Buddy Bench's proper use.

Isabella said she is very thankful for all the donations and support she received to create her benches. Home Depot in Colonia donated all the wood, nails, glue and blueprints to build the

benches. Lowe's Home Improvement in Woodbridge donated all the exterior paint. Principal Shoieb expressed her gratitude for the Buddy Benches and can't wait to see them in action.



(above) Westfield Cadette Girl Scout, Isabella Scipioni, poses with her completed Buddy Benches, which she made for Franklin Elementary School in Rahway to earn her Silver Award..

Photos courtesy of Alicia Scipioni



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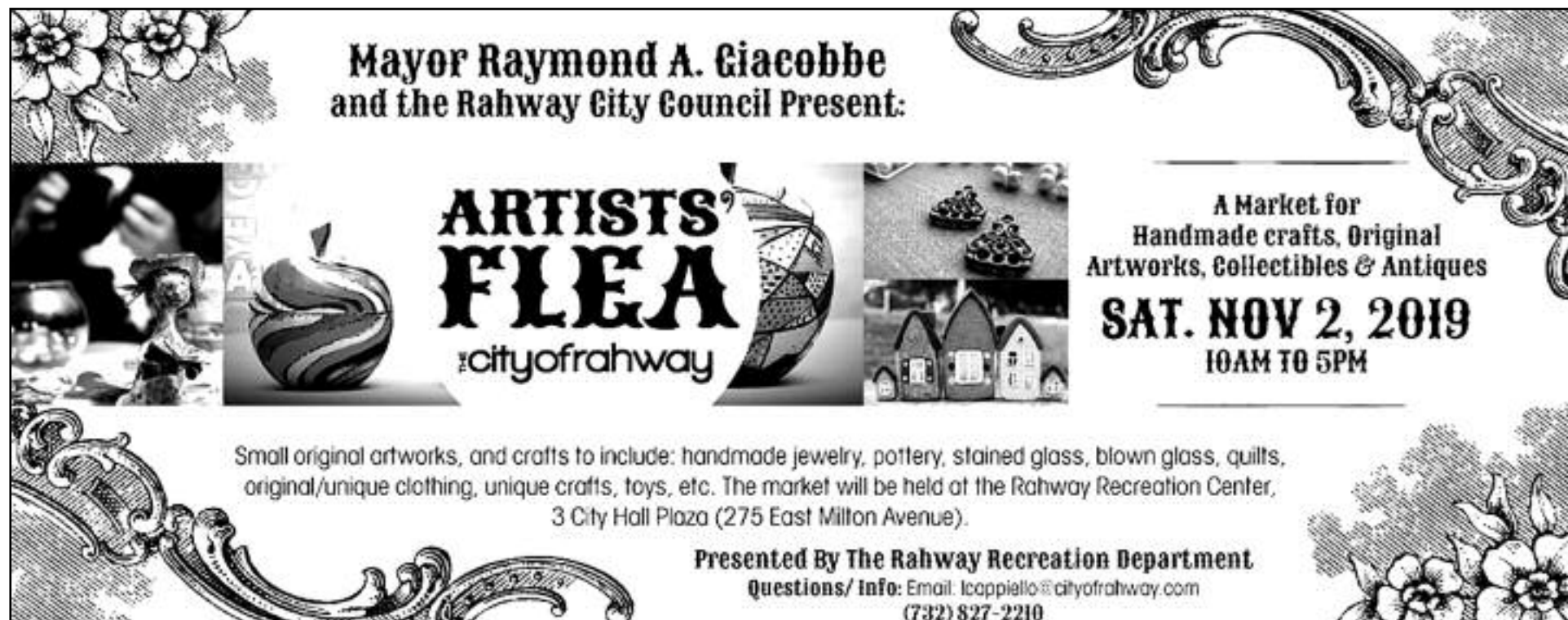
The Rahway Department of Recreation presents The Artists' Flea, a Marketplace for Quality, Handmade Crafts & Original Fine Art on Saturday, November 2, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Craft & Art Market will include small original artworks: paintings, prints, photographs, mixed media, drawings, children-oriented illustrations and decorations. Crafts

will include handmade jewelry, handmade pottery, handmade glass plates, bowls etc., original/unique clothing, wooden toys and crafts, home décor, hand sewn pillows, homemade soaps and body lotions, soy candles, homemade chocolates, other assorted crafts and much more. Over 40 crafters and artists will be selling their goods at The Artists' Flea, with over 50 tables with unique items for purchase.

The Artists' Flea will be held at the Rahway Recreation Center, 3 City Hall Plaza (275 E. Milton Ave.). Convenient parking is available in front of the Recreation Center in the City Hall Parking Lot. Admission is free. Light refreshments will be for sale at the Recreation Center kitchen located in the front lobby.

For questions and information, call 732-827-2210 or email lcappiello@cityofrahway.com.



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Presented By The Rahway Recreation Department
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FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SEEKS VENDORS

Franklin Elementary School in Rahway is hosting a Vendor Fair in order to raise funds for the school's Blue and Gold Club and Leadership Academy. The Blue and Gold Club is made up of students that volunteer their time throughout the year to help with many different community service activities. The school's Leadership Academy is a student government group that is just getting started this year.

The school is looking for vendors to join them on Friday, November 15, 2019, from 4:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Franklin School Gymnasium, 1809 St. Georges Avenue in Rahway. Anyone interested please contact Mrs. Barbara Maher at bmaher@rahway.net.

Senior Chief Sonar Technician Shane Garland, a native of Rahway, NJ, assigned to the Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser USS Princeton (CG 59), talks with students from the Soledad High School Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) in Salinas, California, on the forecastle of the ship during a tour at San Francisco Fleet Week 2019. (SFFW).

SFFW provides an opportunity for the Marine Corps and Navy to demonstrate the quality of personnel to the citizens of San Francisco and surrounding areas.

Through fleet weeks, the military gains the opportunity to educate area leaders and the general public about the Marine Corps and Navy.



Photo by U.S. Navy Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Benjamin K. Kittleson



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BEGIN THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

The fully staged version of the classic holiday movie *It's A Wonderful Life*, adapted by Philip Grecian, will bring George Bailey, his family, friends and the town of Bedford Falls to life on the CDC Theatre stage beginning December 6, 2019. Located at 78 Winans Ave., in Cranford, NJ the theatre is celebrating its 101st season.

The beloved Everyman, George Bailey, who had dreams of adventure and travel has given his entire life to his community, only to have it unravel through the machinations of the selfish banker Mr. Potter. In his despair, George questions whether it would have been better had he never been born. Clarence, a befuddled angel who hasn't earned his wings yet, arrives to show him exactly what this wish might really mean.

When asked what inspired him to return to direct at CDC Theatre, Maurice Moran responded "I have always loved the movie version of this story – and the play follows that script very well – because I think it is important that we stop and take stock of our lives now and then. How did we get from there to here? Who changed our lives by a word or work? And more importantly, whose lives have we touched along the way? And, keeping that in mind, how do we continue to affect people we meet? When my parents passed away, I was comforted by those who attended the funerals, illustrating how much these two people touched so many lives from so many walks of life. And I thought, wouldn't it have been nice for them to see that, too? George gets to see that and discovers that we all make a difference on this earth."

Boasting a large cast that ranges from 8 to 80, including a children's chorus of carolers singing holiday favorites, *It's A Wonderful Life* is a great way to usher in the holiday season! Running from December 6-15, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. with 2 p.m. matinees on December 8, 14, 15. Ticket and group sales information can be found by visiting cdctheatre.org.



(above, l-r) The Bailey family is getting ready for Christmas at CDC Theatre. Ben Bouffard as George Bailey, Rachel Zuckerman as Mary, Geovanna Ayala as Tammy, Olivia Kelly as Janie and Katia Bergstrom-Shaw as Zuzu.



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UNITED WAY OF GREATER UNION COUNTY HONORS GHALY-PEARYER



Submitted by Jonathan Supranowitz

Aneesha Ghaly-Pearyer, executive director of the Rahway Community Action Organization (RCAO), was recently honored by United Way of Greater Union County (UWGUC) during its inaugural “Ladies That Give a Hoot Dinner” at Shackamaxon Country Club. Ms. Ghaly-Pearyer was recognized for her tireless work supporting and strengthening individuals and families in Union County, empowering them to acquire the knowledge, skills and resources they need to provide an optimal environment for their children’s development. The law firm of Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper, P.C., in Westfield, supports RCAO through its various programs and is represented on its Board of Directors. Pictured are UWGUC’s President and CEO James W. Horne Jr., honoree Ghaly-Pearyer of RCAO and UWGUC VP of Programs and Operations Juanita Ayala-Vargas.

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THREE RAHWAY COMPANIES AWARDED ARMY-NAVY “E” AWARD DURING WWII

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



(above) Photo taken from the railroad elevation showing the large gathering at the Regina Award ceremony on Tuesday, August 25, 1942.



(above, l-r) Lt. Col. Chester Mueller, A.U.S.; Lawrence C. Ward, N.J.W.P.B. Director; Hon. Charles Edison, Governor of NJ; John E. Barger, Rahway Mayor; Alfred E. Norris, Regina President; Lannon F. Mead, Regina V.P.; and Lt. J.D. Gessford, U.S.N.R., display the Army-Navy “E” flag awarded to Regina Corp.

The Regina Corporation, National Pneumatic, and Merck & Co., Inc. were each awarded the coveted Army-Navy “E” Award for their exceptional performance in the manufacture of vital war materials during World War II. It was indeed a special honor to receive this award as only about 5% of the more than 85,000 companies engaged in war work throughout the country were so recognized.

Seven months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the War Department announced a new Army-Navy “E” Award that would be given to factories engaged in war production whose facilities achieved “Excellence in Production.” The award was created to encourage industrial mobilization and production of materials needed to support the war effort.

Standards for receiving the award were high and included factors such as quality and quantity of production, limiting and overcoming production obstacles, avoidance of work stoppages, maintaining fair labor standards, training of additional labor forces, and accurate record keeping regarding health and safety issues. Plants would be recommended by several

select government agencies who would then forward applications to an Award Board for approval.

Once the recipients were announced, companies would host elaborate ceremonies inviting distinguished guests from federal, state, and local levels to officially present the award to company officials and employees. The ceremony would include the presentation of an Army-Navy “E” flag to be flown outside the plant. Each employee would also receive a lapel pin bearing the “E” symbol. If a company maintained their record of performance for a six-month period after receiving their initial award, they would receive a white star to affix on their flag. Only a very small percentage of companies would earn stars with an even smaller number receiving multiple stars.

On Monday, August 10, 1942, Regina became the first company in Rahway and the first in the New York Ordinance District to receive the award. Two weeks later, on Tuesday, August 25, an official presentation ceremony was held in the area adjacent to the plant on Campbell Street. Many high ranking Army and Navy officers, the Governor of New Jersey, Charles Edison, and other state and municipal officials were in attendance to congratulate the Regina administration and employees. In his address, Governor Edison, who was the son of famous inventor, Thomas Edison, remarked, “Extra-ordinary production records such as yours show that we shall soon have enough to fight with. Having the spirit, the production and resources for victory, we cannot fail.” Each month over the course of the war, Regina turned out tens of thousands of infallible bomb fuses. Before the end of the war, Regina would earn four white stars to add to their flag.

A crowd of 6,000 attended the presentation ceremony held on Monday, September 14 at the National Pneumatic Company. The affair was staged in the Pennsylvania Rail Road freight yard in the rear of the company’s New Brunswick Avenue plant. Colonel J.K. Clement, former head of the New York

Ordinance District, told the gathering, “The Army-Navy “E” Award is a military decoration for accomplishment over and beyond the call of duty.” National Pneumatic had transitioned their plant to manufacture gun equipment and ammunition, 37 mm armor piercing shot, shells for trench mortars, 37 mm anti-aircraft guns, and cannon. The company which had employed 600 workers prior to the war increased its employment number to over 3,000. The company also expanded its facility by constructing a large addition along W. Hazelwood Avenue. National Pneumatic would eventually be awarded three white stars.

Merck & Co., Inc., employers of over 3,000 men and women who “devoted themselves with every effort that could be put forth to winning the war,” received their “E” Award in January, 1943 and held an elaborate presentation ceremony on the plant grounds on Tuesday, February 9. Lowell Thomas, preeminent radio commentator, explorer, author, and journalist, served as Master of Ceremonies. During his introductory remarks he observed, “I have attended many similar occasions, when the “E” Award was made, but this is the first time that a General of the Army (Major General James T. Magee) and an Admiral of the Navy (Rear Admiral Luther Sheldon) have participated in the exercises.”

Merck, one of the largest manufacturers of chemical products in the country, supplied the Army and Navy with drugs and chemicals found to be effectual in saving the lives of wounded men in the hospitals, on the fields, and at the front lines. It was noted that “where ever American soldiers and sailors are sent in this war, some of the products of Merck are sure to follow to take care of them.” Merck was awarded a total of four white stars.

The three leading industries in Rahway answered the call to the service of their country and established a reputation for meritorious production. As a result, they continually received the praise of the United States Government in the work they did and the manner in which they did it.

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AUTUMN PLANTING - DAFFODILS

A glorious bed of spring bulbs brightens your garden every year. This is well worth the time and energy you put into it now in the autumn.

Leading the pack are the showstoppers, tulips and daffodils, followed by a long list of early flowers such as crocus, snowdrops, grape hyacinth and alliums just to name a few. By planting clusters of different blubs around your garden you will enjoy a long display of flowers every spring.

Of all the beautiful spring flowering bulbs few are more dependable than daffodils. For a reliable display you can count on year after year, these popular perennials will give you 'the big bang' for your time and money. Once properly planted daffodils will come back for many years, blooming in early spring with very little care.

There is a long-standing debate on the correct name, narcissus, daffodils or jonquils. In this article I am simply going to use the most common name in our area, daffodils for all of them.

Trumpet shape flowers which begin to bloom in April, daffodils have a large selection of color patterns to choose from. The most popular yellow will brighten up any garden from the front door to large displays in backyards or even in open fields. In addition, pure white flowers are available as well as mixed trumpets that blend two or three colors on the same flower.

Easy to plant, place the 'bottom' of the bulbs six inches in the ground, 5" to 6" apart. They will fill in quickly. In our clay soil add a handful of chopped leaves or compost. This will lighten the soil and help with drainage. If you don't have leaves take advantage of your neighbors who mow their leaves and put them on the street. Add some bone meal to promote strong root systems.

After daffodils have bloomed leave the green leaves until they turn yellow before cutting them back. These leaves will supply the energy for next year's bloom. One of the few drawbacks of daffodils is that these leaves will remain until early June. When planting my summer flowering plants, I simply push the greens aside and put the new flowers between them. They quickly over grow the yellowing leaves and draw attention away from them.

One of the few yearly tasks you should do to help your daffodils remain viable is to cut off the dead flowers after they have bloomed. This will force the bulbs to transfer major energy from setting seeds into producing next year's flowers. As a result, a healthier bulb will survive the winter.

If your flowers begin to dwindle it is time to dig up the bulbs and divide them. This chore is only required once every ten years and will increase your daffodil display.

After planting your daffodils you should water them. Watering your blubs encourages them to establish roots before the ground freezes. This will give your plants a strong head start when the



(above) Past 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

ground warms up in early spring.

Autumn is also the best time to plant summer flowering bulbs such as lilies. You can find them in catalogs and garden centers. If you want to herald in the end of winter, plant snowdrops by your front door. A small simple white flower, snowdrops are one of the first to bloom in late February and early March. If they are covered by snow they become dormant and then bounce back as good as new.

Happy Autumn,

James



Daffodils are deer and animal resistant that will bloom for many years to come. This makes them well worth the time and effort of planting them in your garden now.



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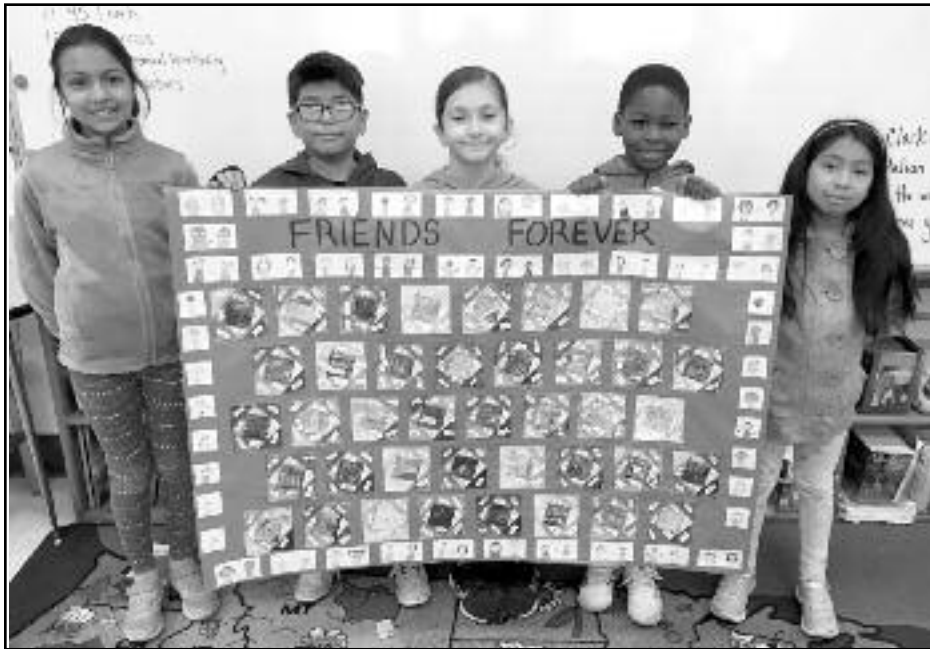
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RESPECT WEEK CELEBRATED AT ROOSEVELT SCHOOL

Respect Week was celebrated at Roosevelt School in Rahway, October 7 - 11. During the week the students and staff were invited to wear a blue t-shirt for World Day of Bullying

Prevention, dress as their favorite character on Show Your Character Day, try to dress like their classmates on Matchy Matchy Day, and wear school colors on Be A Roosevelt Fan Day, which

was also when class friendship quilts were made. Different classes were excited to win prizes throughout the week for exceptional participation.



(above) Riya Desai, Zaidell Garcia, Zofia Ehrig, Jhons Acedieu, Emely Meneses

Photos by Rahway Public Schools



(above) Rey Perez, Julian Piersall, Jhons Acedieu, Mrs. Prakapas, Riya Desai, Samantha Deshommes, Fabio Suarez front: Bre Sterling, Zaidell Garcia, Emely Meneses, Zofia Ehrig

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RAHWAY'S OWN - RECOGNIZING THE HERO IN ALL

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

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

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

Recently appointed by the United Soccer Coaches as the new chair of the Youth Coaches Advocacy Group, Soccer Coach Marguerite Ferrell is most definitely living her advice to the RHS students to "make the world a better place because you're in it." In her role as chair, Ms. Ferrell will build a team of coaches from all levels of the youth game to identify the needs of the membership and to advocate on their behalf. As a member of the Advocacy Council, she will also represent youth coaches and is currently the Club Development manager for U.S. Soccer, overseeing a 13-state region in the Northeast working directly with clubs to improve everyday

soccer environments for players and to support player development. She caringly reminds the students that, "You are all future heroes," and tasks them to "discover your purpose."

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

Having earned the affectionate monikers of 'Papa Bear' and the 'Cryptologic Warrior' throughout his distinguished career in the United States Marine Corps, General Alfred "Al" M. Gray, Jr. served as the 29th Commandant of the Corps and is a recognized member of the NSA Hall of Fame. The outstanding reputation held by Marine Corps tactical signals intelligence (SIGINT) units today can be directly traced to the pioneering efforts and accomplishments of General Gray over four decades of dedicated service. In 1962, he commanded the first Marine Corps ground SIGNIT unit to deploy to South Vietnam and implemented and refined doctrine and practice for direct support to combat units in the war in Southeast Asia. His modest advice to students? "Dream big, don't fear failure, and bring others along with you." To help the students in their task to make the world a better place, the sage General shared this secret, "Everything you get done – you get done with people."

The inductees being honored as 'Rahway's Own' at the day's celebration continued to underscore why they, through their heartfelt and extremely moving words of encouragement to students, can truly be recognized as 'inspirational' heroes. Senior Andres Barco-Cardona thoughtfully observed, "The people we saw on the stage were ordinary, simple people who did really extraordinary things." Junior Jamarlia Fuller clearly echoed Andres' sentiment. "I never realized that Rahway produces so many great individuals who go out into the world and become such exceptional people." Junior Victor Motino made a more personal, and realistic, discovery. "I learned that your passions don't have to be great; you can still pursue them and be an inspiration to others." RHS junior Stephanie Ferreira made a discovery of her own about her local community, summing up the impact of the growing coterie of 'heroes' honored as 'Rahway's Own'. "For such a small town, Rahway sure produces big people!"



(above, l-r) Rahway Mayor Raymond Giacobbe congratulates inductees Marguerite Ferrell, Joel Payne, General Alfred "Al" M. Gray, Jr., and Gary Gonzalez.

Photo by David Brighthouse

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CULTURE CRAWL 2019: ARTISTS, MUSICIANS, MAGICIANS AND MORE

Submitted by Amy Garcia Phillips

This Year's Culture Crawl was one you did not want to miss! As you strolled about on this gorgeous September day, there was something for everyone at this arts and music festival. Artists, dancers, impersonators, musicians, magicians and more, tantalized festival goers with their talents.

The Queer Space, sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Office of LGBTQ Affairs, hosted a repeat visit of Harmonica Sunbeam's Drag Queen Story Hour as well as art activities and a special project, Youth Out Loud, where LGBTQ share their coming out experiences through art.

Main Street's Latin Party at Cubanu and the Litehouse's Four Elements of Hip Hop energized this central street with music, dance and live art. Cherry Street's businesses displayed their passion for their craft. Atelier Rosal hosted a curated conglomerate of artisans while The Wannabes illustrated the high quality of Hip Hop dance instruction that will be taught at The Hive Studio opening soon in the Gramercy building.

"This is a great event because it uses art to showcase the businesses of Rahway's downtown," commented Rahway's Mayor, Raymond Giacobbe.

More shopping was available to the crowds at the Vendor Village while select bands played on

the Wizdom Media Main Stage of Music at the Rahway Train Station Plaza.

Sponsored by Northfield Bank and hosted in their parking lot, ACP Arts brought ideas, thoughts and feelings to life through music, dance and spoken word. Featured Artists, RADI, Letitia, Rob Hylton, John Burke, Myster E, James Ellerbe and Etcetera drew audiences from all over to hear what they had to say at What's the Word at Culture Crawl.

Ladies were asked to sit down and relax at the OMG Pop Up Lounge for Women and Girls. Transforming the Arts District Park with whimsical decoration, guests were invited to take in

dance performances by Amber Sol Bellydance and Rangamandala, or engage with illustrator Nina Mata or Shakira Johnson, founder of The OMG Tea Party.

As in past years, this year's festival was friendly towards four legged friends, too. Witty's Fine Wines and Liquors sponsored the Pints and Paws Beer & Wine Garden and Pop Up Dog Park. We hope to make this a repeat performance.

Steps away, at the Hamilton Stage, the Rahway Reel Short Film Festival presented Jersey Fresh! A bushel assortment of tasty flicks from New Jersey filmmakers. Curated by Lisa Vandever, these short films played every hour with a Q&A with the directors at the end of the

day.

Bellydance, Contemporary, Step, Afro-Fusion, Kuchipudi (a traditional Indian dance), and Hip Hop performances showcased the cultural tapestry surrounding Rahway. Workshops by selected groups encouraged festival attendees to take part in the art. Young percussionist, PJ Pagan, illustrated how he got his name, "Little Mr. Rhythm" by playing solo in addition to partnering with dancers Amber Sol Bellydance and Rahway Dance Theater's adult dance group.

This year dance could not be contained in just one space and the movers were set free throughout the downtown and encouraged to improv or freestyle with festival musicians. Performing for the first time at Culture Crawl, ReFrame Dance Theatre created a custom, rain or shine, choreography on and around the train trestles at the corner of Irving and Cherry.

Occupying the corner at Irving and Seminary, Earl's Cuts and Curls entertained audiences with the Earl's Girls Vaudeville Spectacular which included Rahway's resident magician, The Great Carlini. Curators, Dana Holland and Tajiana Spann transformed this area around The Gallery Space with food trucks, music and art into something truly spectacular!

To see more photos from the day and to tell the RABP about your favorite parts of the festival, visit culturecrawl.org.



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CULTURE CRAWL
2019: PICS



(above) ACP Arts What's the Word at Northfield Bank.
Photo by Joe Brown.



(above) Wizdom Medias Main Stage at the Train Station Plaza.
Photo by Joe Brown.



(above) The Hive Studio at Cherry Street.
Photo by Joe Brown.



(above) Harmonica Sunbeam returned to Rahway for Drag Queen Story Hour at part of the activites at the Queer Space.
Photo by Joe Brown.



(above) Pints and Paws Beer & Wine Garden and Pop Up Dog Park.
Photo by Joe Brown.



(above) ReFrame Dance Theater created a site specific piece.

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Rahway P.A.L. Basketball Registration for the 2020 Season is now open.

Boys and girls in 1st through 8th grade can register at the Recreation Center Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays from

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Other options for registration along with P.A.L. news and information are listed on Rahway P.A.L.'s Facebook Page.

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TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR 21ST ANNUAL PIPES OF CHRISTMAS

The Pipes of Christmas will celebrate its 21st season with performances in New Jersey and New York this December. The holiday favorite opens on Saturday, December 14 at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 921 Madison Avenue (at 73rd Street) for a 2 p.m. performance. The concert moves across the Hudson River on Sunday, December 15 to Central Presbyterian Church located at 70 Maple Street in Summit, NJ with performances at 2 and 7 p.m.

For those weary of the ceaseless stream of secular seasonal music from department stores to TV, the Pipes of Christmas offers a spiritual and traditional take on the season that connects concertgoers to the holiday in a fresh,

meaningful way. The show features tunes such as, "Highland Cathedral," Joy to the World, and Amazing Grace, all performed live on pipes and drums, harp and fiddle, and organ and brass and more. Not only does the performance define Christmas cheer, but also it inspires those of Celtic descent to retrace and reconnect to their ancestry.

The 2019 production will also mark the world premiere of "Mystical Nativity," an original composition inspired by the 16th century masterpiece painted by Italian Renaissance master, Sandro Botticelli.

The concert presents the music of Christmas accompanied by readings taken from the Celtic literature of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales.

Featured performers include singer Maddy Kearns of Glasgow, Scotland making her concert debut, James Robinson from the film "Braveheart," New England fiddle champion Paul Woodiel, champion harpist Rachel Clemente, and the Pipe Major Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band from Redlands, CA among many more.

PROCEEDS SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE

Proceeds from the concert support an extensive music scholarship program, which includes the Carol Hassert Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship at Summit (NJ) High School as well as annual gifts to the National Piping Centre and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (both located in Glasgow, Scotland) the Gaelic College of Nova Scotia and Lyon College in Batesville, Arkansas.

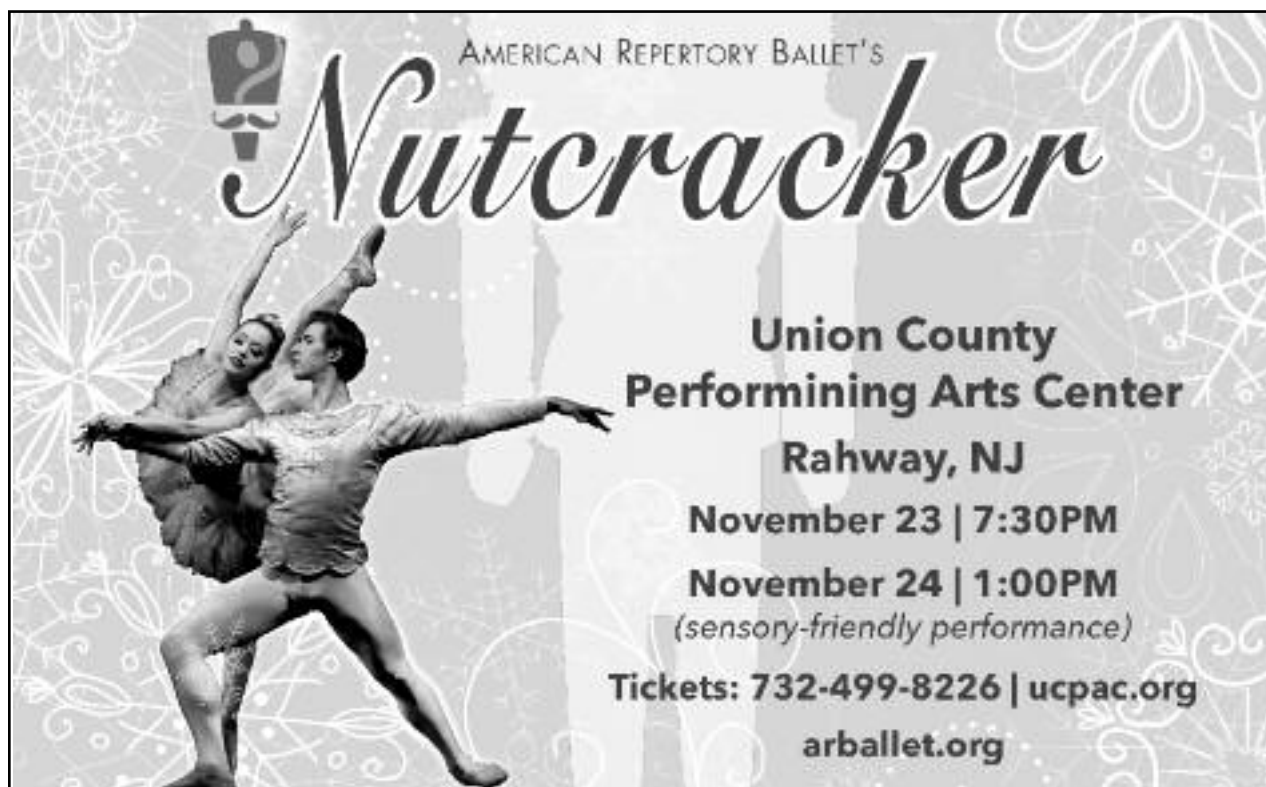
Proceeds also support the Society's sponsorship of the US National Scottish Harp Championship, the Gaelic Literature Competition at Scotland's Royal National Mod and an annual academic research prize at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Scotland's Gaelic college on the Isle of Skye.

Each year, concert highlights are webcast in hi-definition over the Christmas holiday to a global audience. In cooperation with HomeTowne Television, the 2018 production was the recipient of two prestigious Telly Awards for webcast excellence.

The concert is still accepting Title Sponsors as well as Program Ads. These gifts help offset production expenses and add help fund our scholarships.

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I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER! ARE YOU?

"Every day, nearly 22 veterans take their own lives. Our team is saving lives and providing a better way of life for our uniformed heroes."

Michael D. Boll, Director of New Jersey Veterans Network and United States Marine Corps Veteran

A few years ago, I was approached by a friend and co-worker of mine who expressed how extremely depressed he was and that he wanted to take his own life. Initially, I was completely shocked because this guy always seemed to be upbeat and happy all the time. Immediately, I asked him to come with me to a private office so we could talk about his awful situation. This was the first time in my life that I had a friend talk to me about suicide, and I knew I had to really do my best to help him get through this horrible ordeal. We spoke for a few hours and I listened closely to everything he said. I was able to convince him to immediately get some help and we went to the hospital. I stayed with him at the hospital and met with him when he was released. I did everything to show my friend that I had his back and because of this he is alive today. This awful situation inspired me to do whatever I possibly can to help others in need and shortly after we created our mobile outreach program.

In today's day and age, most of you have known a veteran or first responder that has taken their own life. Every day we lose nearly twenty-two veterans and approximately three hundred first responders every year to suicide. Even with all the awareness and new anti-suicide programs available, this number has not changed and, in some cases, has increased. The Veteran Hospitals' PTSD and mental health programs are packed with patients and unfortunately, they continue to grow. More of our first responders are also seeking help and utilizing some of the state programs being offered. So many people want to help and put an end to this crisis but sadly there isn't a foolproof program available that will stop this ever-growing crisis from destroying our uniformed heroes and their family's lives.

For the last two years our team has been working tirelessly with other charities to come up with a better solution to help prevent this epidemic from continuing. Personally, we believe our "Mobile Outreach Team" is really making a difference and everyday it helps our uniformed

heroes live a better way of life.

The first thing we learned is to lose your "EGO" and seek out other groups and organizations that are looking to save lives. Then we find the right volunteers who are committed and dedicated with being a mentor to a person in crisis. Volunteers are extremely valuable because they want to be there, and they usually care more than the people who get paid for their services.

To date, we have been able to change and save countless lives because of the incredible commitment from the volunteers and other supporting groups.

Our approach is to aggressively seek out and contact a veteran or first responder in crisis. Our goal is to immediately work on building trust by being completely honest with the person in crisis. Using our network is wonderful, but it's more important to show the person in need that we are there for them and won't give up. Usually, we go out and meet with those in crisis and spend whatever time is needed to help them get in a better frame of mind. Bottom line "Human Contact" and "Friendship" is the key to saving a life.

Our Mobile Outreach Team is unique because

it consists of mentors from all over the state that are willing to do whatever it takes to save and change a life.

If you are interested in joining our team please feel free to contact me at (973)-332-1556 or email mdbollio@optonline.net. To learn more visit njvn.org.

About New Jersey Veterans Network

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our team is raising awareness of our veterans needs by organizing public speaking engagements, meeting with business and political leaders across the state and sponsoring fundraising events. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. To ensure that EVERY single one of our veterans, who have sacrificed so much for this great country, receives the resources that they require and deserve. If you are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contributing to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email mdbollio@optonline.net. To learn more visit njvn.org.



(above) Operation Rebound is a mobile outreach team of mentors who help at-risk veterans and first responders to live a better life. The team has made huge strides with suicide prevention simply by building trust and cementing friendships with people in need. If you are interested with joining the Operation Rebound Racing Team please feel free to contact Michael Boll at mdbollio@optonline.net or call 973-332-1556.

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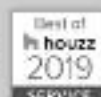


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NOVEMBER 2019 EVENTS AT RAHWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 City Hall Plz, Rahway, NJ 07065 Tel: 732-340-1551 • Fax: 732-340-0393 • Visit us at www.rahwaylibrary.org
Library hours are Monday, Wednesday & Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday & Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday, Closed

Mocktails ~ Non-alcoholic Mixology for Holiday Gatherings

Saturday, November 9 at 11:00am.

Get in the holiday spirit while you sample a seasonal mocktail. Vanessa Young of Thirsty Radish will join us to discuss the art of making drinks, syrups, infusions, and edible garnishes.

Guests will learn how to make flavorful and sophisticated non-alcoholic drinks for everyday enjoyment and holiday entertaining.

Progressive Dinner

Wednesday, November 13 at 7:00pm

Support the Friends of Rahway Public Library and eat some great food! The evening starts with appetizers at Cubanu Restaurant & Lounge, followed by entrees at Luciano's, and dessert at The Lounge at Watt Hotel. Tickets are \$50 each and are available at the Reference Desk or online.

Readers Circle Book Club

Monday, November 18 at 2:00pm.

Join us for the discussion of A Well-behaved Woman by Theresa Fowler.

Third Thursday Movie for Adults

Thursday, November 21 at 1:00pm.

Special screening of this long-awaited documentary release. Join us for this soulful and amazing music documentary about the Gospel roots of one of music's greatest voices. 2019, Rated "G", run-time 1h 29 min.

Call library for movie title.

Friends' Group Meeting

7:00 pm on Thursday, November 21.

The Friends of the Rahway Public Library will meet at the library

DISCOVERY STUDIO (TEENS & ADULTS)

Crochet Club

Thursdays, November 7 & 21 at 6:30pm

: Bring your hooks and yarn. Work on a project or learn a new technique! Ages 16+ & adults.

Needle Felting Workshop

Saturday, November 9 at 2:00pm.

With Christine Hsaio. Registration required at the Reference Desk. For ages 16-Adult.

Celebrate

Monday, November 25 at 6:00pm

Create an awesome holiday craft!

For ages 13-19.

TEEN EVENTS

Teen Screen

Monday, November 18 at 5:00pm.

Join us in the auditorium for a recently released movie! Rated PG-13. All are welcome.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Toddler Time

Wednesdays, November 11/6, 11/13, 11/20 & 11/27 at 10:30am.

We will be talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing during this literacy readiness storytime. Ages birth - 4 with caregiver.

Kids BINGO

Thursday, November 7 at 4:00pm.

Play BINGO and win prizes! Ages 5-12.

Frozen Party

Friday, November 8 at 11:00am.

Come celebrate all things Frozen at the library!

Saturday Science

Saturday, November 9 at 11:00am.

Experiment with science. All ages.

Preschool Dance Party

Friday, November 14 at 11:00am.

Play instruments and dance! Ages birth - 5.

Creation Station

Thursday, November 14, at 4:30pm.

Work on a fun DIY project. Ages 7-12.

LEGO Engineers

Saturday, November 16 at 2:00pm.

Complete this month's LEGO builder challenge and test your structure. Ages 7-12.

Family Fun Night

Monday, November 18 at 6:30pm.

Fun activity! All ages.

Junior Lego Club

Tuesday, November 19 at 11:00am.

Bring your little engineer to the library and build! Ages 2-5.

Graphic Novel Book Club

Wednesday, November 20 at 4:00pm.

Read this month's book and take part in discussion and group activities. Call the library for the title and to reserve a copy of the book.

Ages 8-12. Registration required.

Art Party

Thursday, November 21 at 6:30pm.

Make a beautiful piece of art. All ages.

Junior Bingo

Friday, November 22 at 11:00am.

Bring your little one to Junior BINGO - perfect for learning shapes, numbers, and pictures. Ages 1-5.

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UNION MUNICIPAL BAND CONCERT NOV 11TH

Invitation for new members.

The Union Municipal Band, under the direction Howard Toplansky will present a concert on Monday evening, November 11, 2019. The concert will be held at Hannah Caldwell School Auditorium, 1120 Commerce Avenue, Union, NJ at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free and the public is cordially invited to attend. This autumn concert will feature music from the Broadway stage, marches and overtures.

The concert will include the following selections: The Star Spangled Banner, Brighton

Beach March, Amazon Overture, Gypsy Fantasy, Variag March, Amazing Grace, Strenuous Life Rag, The Girl From Ipanema and Third Man Theme.

The band would like to invite musicians from Union and the surrounding communities to join the group.

If you are interested please call the band director Howard Toplansky at 908-415-4939. Please call the Recreation Department at 908-686-4200 with any inquiries.

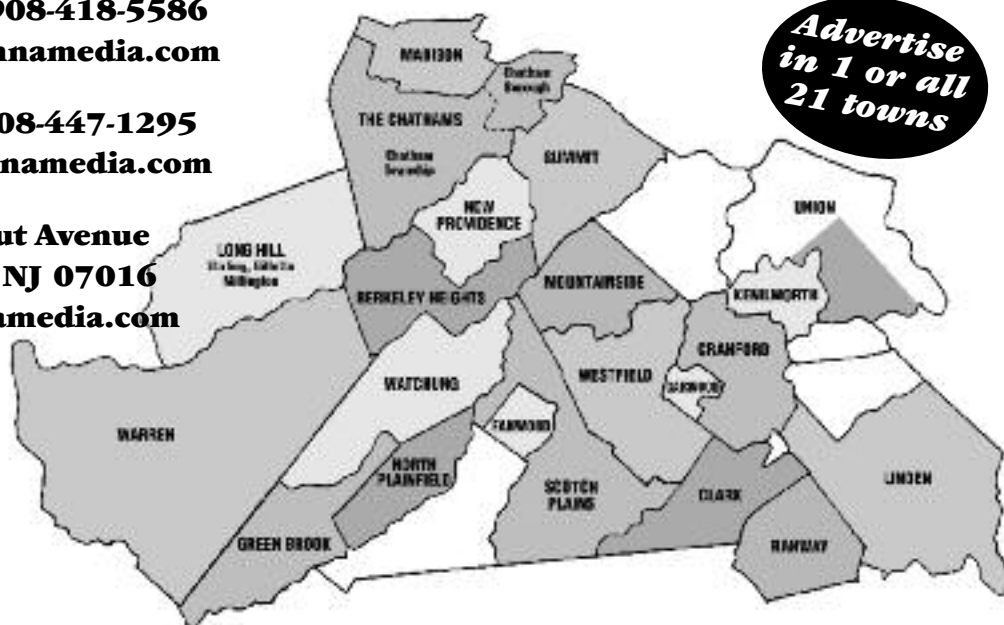
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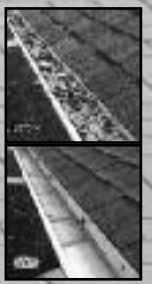
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