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# YMCA IS OFFERING SUMMER CAMP OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

The Gateway Family YMCA is gearing up for a summer of fun with the theme, "Ready, Set, Summer", and is inviting the community to learn more about summer day camp at an open house this spring. Summer Day Camp and Power Scholars Academy Open House dates are scheduled for March 25 6-8 p.m., April 18 12-3 p.m. and May 20 6-8 p.m. Summer day camp is available at the Rahway Branch 1564 Irving Street, as well as the Elizabeth and Union branches.

The Gateway Family YMCA summer camp programs offer fun and unique experiences for preschool, youth and teens, with an opportunity to explore the outdoors, meet lifelong friends, discover new experiences and create lasting memories. Attending an open house is a first step in selecting a summer camp experience that complements a child and their individual interests and personality. Optional specialty camp experiences include sports camps, arts camp, dance camp and swim camp along with the Power Scholars Academy to meet a child's unique skills and interests.

"Attending summer camp is beneficial to every child's personal development. The experience teaches essential leadership and social skills and helps youth develop confidence independence," stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO of The Gateway Family YMCA. "Summer camp fosters peer friendships and adult mentoring relationships that have positive youth development effects, build resiliency and encourage healthy decision making. We provide caring role models in a safe environment where children can develop character and discover their potential."

The Gateway Family YMCA serves the local communities surrounding Eastern Union County and Northern Middlesex County and offers summer day camp experiences for preschool through grade 11 and specialty camps for varying ages. To ensure that all children have the chance to experience camp, The Gateway Family YMCA offers financial assistance to those in need, as well as a multi-sibling rate for families.

"We encourage parents to give their kids the



experience of summer camp and provide financial assistance so that every child can benefit from the unique and beneficial activities," added Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO. "Through our YMCA Annual Support Campaign, our volunteers work to ensure our Y receives the donations required to provide financial assistance for programs and services throughout our community."

Summer is the ideal time for kids to get up, get out and explore the world around them. Unfortunately, for some kids summer means no access to recreational and educational activities to help them learn, grow and thrive during out-of-school time. As a result, some kids can experience summer learning loss and gain weight twice as fast than during the school year. A leading nonprofit committed to nurturing the potential of youth, the Y has been a leader in providing summer camp for nearly 130 years. Through summer camp, The Gateway Family YMCA is helping to combat childhood obesity, summer learning loss and food insecurity.

#### **ALSO MEMBERSHIPMADNESS OPEN HOUSE**

The Gateway Family YMCA branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union will celebrate healthy families with a Membership Madness Open House March 27 – March 30. The Y will be hosting activities that are open to the community including family exercise programs, healthy recipe and nutrition tips, art activities, family swimming and basketball. In addition, the Y will waive the joiner fee for all new members during the open house in person and online at www.tgfymca.org.

For more information, visit tgfymca.org/day-camp or contact The Gateway Family YMCA Rahway Branch 732-388-0057.

30 Brant Avenue, Clark, NJ 07066



# OUR TOWN Zahway

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

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.

Tina & Joe Renna, Publishers 202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016 (908) 418-5586 Fax: (908) 709-9209

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Photo albums of current and past Community Events are available to view, download and share.

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Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com

# SAMSEL & ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE SERVICES NAMED SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Clark business owner John Samsel of Samsel & Associates Real Estate Services was presented with the Small Company of the Year award by the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce during their annual awards dinner held on Monday, February 10, 2020.

John Grew up in Linden and now lives in Rahway with his wife Jennifer and 2 children. He serves on the Board of Trustees for the Gateway Chamber of Commerce as well as many other organizations.

John Samsel opened Samsel & Associates Real Estate Services in November of 2017 with only 2 agents and the goal of providing superior white glove service and contributing to the community, all while growing the company. 26 months later, Samsel & Associates is represented by 49 licensees helping people buy and sell real estate all over New Jersey.

Clients who choose Samsel and Associates agents are navigated through their real estate transactions by experienced, knowledgeable, and well-trained agents who work tirelessly, loyally, reliably, and honestly.

"We know that long term relationships with our clients and the community is the key to a successful company and to a successful life. Our agents are actively involved in several Chambers and service organizations around Union County and beyond." Samsel told Renna Media.

On any given day, Samsel and Associates agents can be spotted sponsoring a little league team or a Rotary fundraiser, helping with a PTA event, collecting shoes for the less fortunate, or volunteering with Kiwanis. In a highly competitive industry, their integrity before profitability mindset produces an unsurpassed level of professionalism and performance to deliver more value for their clients.

Samsel has been featured on three HGTV House Hunters episodes with more in the works. You can find the agents at Samsel & Associates on bill boards all over Union and Middlesex Counties. Samsel hosts a weekly web-show called "Samsel Life" where he features other local businesses, events and attractions throughout New Jersey.



(above) Jean and Wayne Zuhl with Small Business of the Year recipient John Samsel and wife Jennifer. Wayne is Chairperson of the Clark Chamber of Commerce, he accepted the award on behalf of Samsel and Associates Real Estate.



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This Duplex was successfully sold by Jill Guzman 420 3rd Ave.,

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This home was successfully marketed by Jhonatan 480 Grove St., Rahway, NJ

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This home was successfully marketed by Jill Guzman 798 Old Lake Rd. Ave., Rahway, NJ **List Price:** \$315,000

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This home was successfully marketed by Sergio 167 Emerson, Carteret, NJ **List Price:** \$315,000 **Sold Price** \$319,000



This condo was successfully sold by Erik

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164 Berwyn St., Roselle Park, NJ

> **List Price:** \$525,000 **Sold Price** \$515.000

For more than 30 years, Jill Guzman Realty proudly serves NJ homeowners and buyers with all of their real estate needs. Jill's trilingual fulltime staff prides themselves on their outstanding "Good Old Fashioned Service."

Jill, who lives in Rahway, NJ, had the honor of teaching at Rahway High School in her early career!!! Trusted and loved by clientele for three decades, sellers, investors, first time buyers and renters will find that this Real Estate office is committed to working harder and caring totally for YOU!

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- **MULTI FAMILY**
- **BUILDINGS**
- **LANDS**

# CASA INVITES PUBLIC TO WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON MARCH 11

Submitted by Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County will host its second annual Women's Leadership Luncheon on Wednesday, March 11 — the heart of Women's History Month — to highlight two Union County women whose contributions positively impact their community.

Among them is Tina Renna, Cranford resident and owner of Renna Media, publisher of 21 community newspapers including tOur Town Rahway.

Renna, who coordinates content for more than 135,000-issues circulated to towns in Union, Somerset and Morris counties, uses her writing, editing and photography, she says, "to tell the stories of ordinary people who do extraordinary things, big or small, that inspire others and their communities. Whether reporting news from town departments, schools and libraries,



(above) Tina Renna, owner of Renna Media, publisher of 21 community newspapers including Our Town Rahway, will be recognized by CASA at their Women's Leadership Luncheon.



(above) Sue Adler, Summit resident and CEO of The Sue Adler Team of Keller Williams in Chatham, will be recognized by CASA at their Women's Leadership Luncheon on Wednesday, March 11.

giving voice to local organizations raising awareness, or highlighting accomplishments of businesses, residents and all those who share a community — no matter strength or size — I strive to make a positive impact on each town's well-being and economic development."

Also being honored is Summit's Sue Adler, CEO of The Sue Adler Team of Keller Williams in Chatham. Currently ranked 10 worldwide out of 175,000 Keller Williams agents, Adler focuses on the community's train line towns and incorporates an in-house, team-treatment approach for clients.

Ilyse DiChiara, owner of Green Healthy Living and certified integrative nutrition, health and wellness coach, will provide the keynote address. Prior to switching professional course, DiChiara ran her nationwide trial consulting business, Litigation Support Solutions, for more than 20 years. Other participants include Summit Mayor Nora Radest and Westfield Councilwoman Joann Neylan.

Tickets are available now for the luncheon, which begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Grand Summit Hotel. Seats are \$65; tables of 10 and sponsorships are available.

To purchase, log on to casaleadershipluncheon.eventbrite.com. For luncheon details, contact Alexis at aslade@casaofunioncounty.org.

CASA of Union County recruits, trains, supervises and supports community volunteers to advocate for abused, neglected and abandoned children placed in foster homes or residential facilities. There are more than 500 Union County youth, from birth to age 21, in foster care. With court-ordered access to a foster child and all parties in their life, volunteer advocates report findings to the judge so as to ensure best interests remain a priority, needs are met, and already experienced trauma is not exacerbated.

Contact Courtney at cgreen@casaofunioncounty.org or 908-293-8136 to learn more about CASA of Union County.



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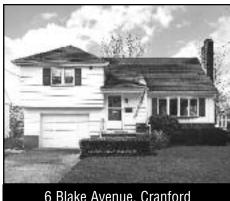
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Wheelie Good Pierogi recently celebrated mainly take out and delivery, but they are happy Rahway. Next up, food truck! to share their front counter for a quick bite.

> Also offering Kielbasa sandwiches, platters and homemade stuffed cabbage (Golabki), they're thrilled to be creating their new home in

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# FRANCO REINOSO SPREADS **KINDNESS THROUGH DONATION**

Madison Elementary School, is well known for his active roles in his school community through his participation in the Gifted & Talented Program and the School Star Club. He is also known for his long and vivacious hair.

His decision to grow his hair out three years ago as a second grade student was aligned with a purpose. He grew out his hair with the intention to donate his hair to the Locks of Love Foundation. He personally chose the Locks of Love organization after having experienced those close to him having and overcoming their personal battles.

Franco acknowledges that these patients go through both "physical and mental battles." He wants to help them feel good because he feels that "when someone feels good, it helps them to work and fight harder against the disease."

The Locks of Love Foundation "is a public non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children in the United States and Canada under age 21 suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis. We meet a unique need for children by using donated hair to create the highest quality hair prosthetics. The prostheses we provide help to restore their self-esteem and their confidence, enabling them to face the world and their peers."

Eleven year old Franco is looking to demonstrate to children that even children can

Franco Reinoso, a fifth grade student at participate in acts of kindness because kindness spreads. He strongly believes that "kindness can create a ripple effect." In addition to cutting and donating his hair the month, Franco also organized a GoFundMe page.

This fundraising act is to sponsor a child from Locks of Love Child. Fundraising efforts to sponsor a child "will not only provide a child with a custom prostheses, but provide the opportunity for them to face each day on the same terms as the world and their peers" according to the Locks of Love Foundation.



(above) Franco Reinoso decided to grow his hair three years ago so that he could donate it to Locks of Love. Thanks to Franco, a child in need will now have access to a custom prostheses.

Photo by Rahway Public Schools

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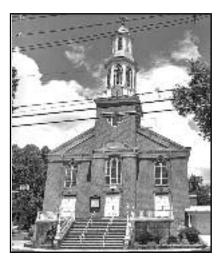
# RAHWAY CHURCHES FEATURE VARIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

Part 1 of 2. - Submitted by Al Shipley, city historian and Rahway Library Research Consultant

- 1. First Presbyterian Church: In 1741, a Presbyterian community formed a congregation and worshipped in a small sanctuary on St. Georges Avenue. That property is presently on the grounds of the Rahway Cemetery. In 1832, the congregation moved into their new church at 1731 Church Street. Built in the Georgian style, the structure is masculine and proportionally balanced with little ornamentation. High steps lead to a patio with three recessed doors with stained glass transom windows. Pointed arched Gothic style windows stand over each door. The central tower features a quatrefoil window. A tall polygonal belfry rises with pointed and louvered openings and clocks in each side of the base. A cupola with multi-paned pointed arched windows sits above the belfry.
- 2. Family Center Christian Church (formerly First Methodist Church): Located at 466 West Grand Avenue, the church was built in 1856 by a Methodist congregation that replaced their old church that stood on the same site since their founding in 1798. The one and a half story Greek revival church displays the dignity of an ancient Greek temple. Originally, steep steps led to the main recessed double-leaf doors of a Greek revival entrance. The entrance has a segmented arch pediment supported by incised brackets. Four Doric, brick pilasters grace the façade. The triangular pediment on the roof level has a wide band along its bottom (entablature) with dentil molding. A diamond window is centered in the pediment.
- 3. Divine Mercy (formerly St. Mary's): In 1845, a Roman Catholic community built a small church at 236 Central Avenue where they would worship for the next thirty-seven years. When a larger sanctuary was needed, a new church was built on the same site and dedicated in 1882. Built in the ornate Romanesque style, the brick church features triple arched windows on the sides, slate roof, and a high bell tower. The three round arched entrances with foliated brick panels are typical of the style. A large arched opening on the second level features an intricate rose window. Three narrow vertical windows are set in the gable peak. The five story tower has sets of narrow windows that lead to a belfry with a steep polygonal roof.
- 4. St. John's the Baptist Russian Orthodox Church: In 1915, a group of Slavic Orthodox Christians purchased a church at 211 West Grand Avenue that had been home to a German Reformed congregation since 1852. congregation of St. John's would worship in the old building until 1972 when they moved into their new home, a contemporary styled Russian Orthodox temple, built on the same property. The three onion-shaped domes are the most obvious and striking characteristic. It is believed that the domes symbolize burning candles, and the three represent the holy trinity. Each brightly painted gold dome is topped with the distinctly Orthodox cross. The frosted glass doors and crackled glass windows above and to either side of the entrance add to the contemporary look.

5. Ebenezer A.M.E.: Founded in 1827, Ebenezer A.M.E. is one of the earliest A.M.E. churches in the country. Their current sanctuary is the third in their history, all of which have stood on the approximate location of 253 Central Avenue. The present contemporary sanctuary was built in 1997. The façade is highlighted by the distinctive sharp sloping roofline of the left front. The dark grey vertical panel is made up of small, thin, vertical, rough-cut bricks. The rest of the front consists of larger rough-cut, light grey horizontal blocks. A glass double door entrance with multi-pane glass above the doors and two tall, thin windows on the front right facade add to the modern appearance. The right portion has a hip roof with a tall steeple.

6. First Baptist Church: Located at 177 Elm Avenue, the church is the third building that served the congregation. Founded in 1833, the first and second churches were built on East Milton Avenue opposite Fulton Street. In 1906 the congregation purchased property on Elm Avenue and built an L-shaped, brick and shingle Tudor styled sanctuary. The three story corner bell entrance tower is a prominent feature with pointed arched multi-paneled doors and six shouldered windows on the second level. The Esterbrook Avenue side has a large pointed arch window with three panes of stained glass flanked by single windows. The Belfry story has triple pointed arch vent openings and projecting eaves. A tent roof sits atop the bell tower.



(above, l-r) 1. First Presbyterian Church



(above) 2. Family Center Christian Church (formerly First Methodist Church)



(above) 3. Divine Mercy (formerly St. Mary's)



(above) 4. St. John's the Baptist Russian Orthodox



(above) 5. Ebenezer A.M.E.



(above) 6. First Baptist Church

# Meeting every Thursday night starting at 8:00 pm KENILWORTH COMMUNITY CENTER AND RECREATION BUILDING 575 Boulevard in Kenilworth, NJ at corner of 24th Street Visitors are always welcome, beginner to master. Membership is not required to play. KENILWORTH CHESS CLUB www.kenilworthchessclub.org



# **EARTH DAY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY - APR 22**

During the 1960's Americans became aware and alarmed at the deteriorating condition of the environment.

In the decades leading up to the first Earth Day, Americans were consuming vast amounts of leaded gas through massive and inefficient automobiles. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of the consequences from either the law or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. Until this point, mainstream America remained largely oblivious to environmental concerns and how a polluted environment threatens human health.

However, the stage was set for change with the publication of Rachel Carson's bestseller Silent Spring in 1962. The book represented a watershed moment, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries as it raised public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and the inextricable links between pollution and public health.

Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson came up with the idea for a national day to focus on the environment after Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, witnessed the ravages of a massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California, in 1969. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, Senator Nelson realized that if he could infuse the energy of anti-war protests with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution, it would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda. He then persuaded Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair.

Earth Day, April 22,1970 gave a voice to an emerging public consciousness about the state of our planet. Today on April 22, we celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement.

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans, 10% of the total population of the United States, took to the streets, parks and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies. Thousands of colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment.

Groups that had been fighting individually against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness and the extinction of wildlife united on Earth Day around these shared common values. Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, urban dwellers and farmers, business and labor leaders. By the end of 1970, the first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the

passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts. "It was a gamble," Senator Gaylord recalled, "but it worked."

In 1990, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. Earth Day 1990 gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide and helped pave the way for the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. President Bill Clinton awarded Senator Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor given to civilians in the United States, for his role as Earth Day founder.

As the millennium approached, Hayes agreed to spearhead another campaign, this time focused on global warming and a push for clean energy. With 5,000 environmental groups in a record 184 countries reaching out to hundreds of millions of people, Earth Day 2000 built both global and local conversations, leveraging the power of the internet to organize activists around the world. Hundreds of thousands of people also gathered on the National Mall in Washington DC, for a First Amendment Rally.

Today, Earth Day is widely recognized as the largest secular observance in the world, marked by more than a billion people every year as a day of action to change human behavior and provoke policy changes.

Now, the fight for a clean environment continues with increasing urgency, as the ravages of climate change become more and more apparent every day.

The social and cultural environments we saw in 1970 are rising up again today, a fresh and frustrated generation of young people such as Greta Thunberg are refusing to settle for platitudes, instead taking to the streets by the millions to demand a new way forward. Digital and social media are bringing these conversations, protests, strikes and mobilizations to a global audience, uniting a concerned citizenry as never before and catalyzing generations to join together to take on the greatest challenge that humankind has faced.

By tapping into some of the legacy of the first Earth Day while also channeling the energy, excitement, and coordination of the youth climate strikes, we can build a movement going into the 50th anniversary that goes to the very heart of what Earth Day is all about, empowering individuals with the information, the tools, the messaging and the communities needed to make an impact and drive change.

For more information on the history of Earth Day go to: www.earthday,org/history

Give a hoot, don't pollute,

James



(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



(above) In the 1970"s the "Crying Indian" TV commercial became the face of the antipollution campaign.



# **RAHWAY GARDEN CLUB**

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Submitted by Navy Office of Community Outreach

Boatswain's Mate Seaman Taylor Madison, from Rahway, New Jersey, cuts away a wirestopper line while the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Carney (DDG 64) connects with the Henry J. Kaiser-class fleet replenishment oiler USNS Kanawha (T-AO-196)

for a replenishment-at-sea, January 13, 2020. Carney, forward-deployed to Rota, Spain, is on its seventh forward deployed naval force patrol in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations in support of regional allies and partners as well as U.S. national security interests in Europe and Africa.



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Fred Gray

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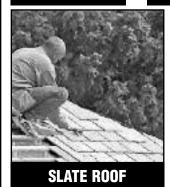






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# **BAYWAY COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL OFFERING SCHOLARSHIPS**

For the year 2020, the Bayway Community Advisory Panel (CAP) has elected to offer High School Seniors who are residents of Linden, Rahway, Elizabeth, and Staten Island the opportunity to be awarded a CAP scholarship. Several one-year scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000 each, to students in the four municipalities represented by the CAP.

The winners will be selected by the CAP Scholarship Committee, who will be taking the following areas into consideration when reviewing the applications: The Applications must be Computer-Generated and All Sections Completed; Academics (transcript/SAT/ACT scores); Financial Need; Essay; Science/Math Teacher Recommendation Letter(s). This scholarship is open to candidates who will be

pursuing a college, university, career or vocational school education in the Industrial, **Process** Technology, or Engineering (Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, Environmental, Computer) fields. Please see your high school guidance counselor for more information and the application forms.

The Bayway CAP is a committee of community representatives from Linden, Rahway, Elizabeth, and Staten Island including neighbors, educators, retirees, public officials, emergency responders, and environmentalists who attend quarterly meetings that serve as a forum for dialogue between the community and company representatives from Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery, Infineum USA L.P., Linden Cogeneration Plant, Veolia North America, Solutia, and Linden VFT LLC.



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# FRANKLIN STUDENTS PENNIES FOR PATIENTS

# Submitted by Linda Lospinoso Lampert

During the month of February, students at Franklin Elementary School in Rahway brought in their loose change to help raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

They recently held a kick-off assembly for the annual "Pennies for Patients" fundraiser. Students learned about what they are raising money for and heard about how their

fundraising efforts impact the lives of others.

Each year, the school does a great job and raises about \$2,000 to help with this great cause. Pictured here are Blue and Gold Club members, which is a volunteer-based community service club. They are pictured with Kerry Richardson, Campaign Manager, Student Series from the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Photo by Rahway Public Schools



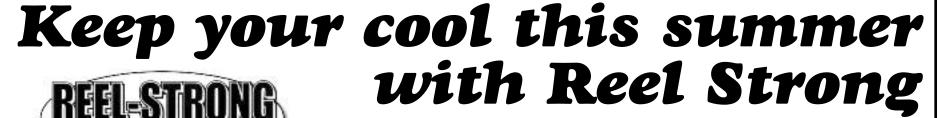
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(above) Painters show off their "Paint With Your Sweetheart" finished work.

# **PAINT WITH YOUR SWEETHEART**

Submitted by Linda Lospinoso Lampert

On the evening of January 15, 2020, Franklin Elementary School in Rahway hosted their very first "Paint With Your Sweetheart" event.

This parent-student engagement activity was led by Dean Nisenbaum, a Franklin School parent and local artist in Rahway, as well as Ms. Laura Croce, the school's art teacher.

Approximately 85 parents, students, and teachers came out to paint and had a great time. The school's principal, Mrs. Aleya Shoieb said that she was extremely pleased with the turnout and success of the event and looks forward to having the school host future painting events. The special memories that were made are priceless!



(above) Approximately 85 parents, students, and teachers came out for the first "Paint With Your Sweetheart" event. Photos by Rahway Public Schools

# **MARCH 2020 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

## **Renew and Restore Yoga with Kathleen**

Wed., March 4, 11, 18 & 25, 6:30pm. Join us for restorative sessions of gentle chair yoga, guided meditation, and breathing techniques for stress reduction. Free.

# Friends of the Library Fundraiser Friday, March 13, 7:00pm

Join us for a Friends of Rahway Public Library Magical Murder Mystery Dinner! Must be 21+. Ticket price: \$50. Held at Rahway Public Library. Purchase tickets at bit.ly/2sQ1wxl.

# Women's History Month Event ~ An Extraordinary Life

Saturday, March 14, 2:00pm.

Josephine E. Jones Author Wendy Jones shares a Great Migration story, a Black family's story. Free and open to all, light refreshments served.

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# **Third Thursday Movie for Adults**

Thursday, March 19, 1:00pm.

Join us for a screening of this hit film, fresh from the theaters. Free.

# Discovery Studio (Teens & Adults)

Thursdays, March 5 & 19, 6:30pm. Crochet Club: Bring your hooks and yarn. Work on a project or learn a new technique!

# Ages 16+ & adults. **Discovery Studio**

Thursday, March 12, 6:00pm.

March is Nutrition Month! Join us as we welcome Shop Rite of Clark Registered

Dietitian Lauren Faiella! Lauren will provide us with tips and ideas on how to improve our lives with healthy foods in 2020! Free, ages 16+.

# **Discovery Studio Teens**

Monday, March 16, 6:00pm.

Spring is in the air! Join us in the Discovery Studio and make an easy, decorative wreath for the season! Ages 13-17.

# **TEEN EVENTS**

### **Teen Screen**

Monday, March 2, 5:00pm.

Bring a friend or two and watch a new to DVD feature on our big screen in our auditorium! This acclaimed film will have you guessing "who done it". Free, all are welcome. PG-13.

# **CHILDREN'S EVENTS**

# **Toddler Time**

Wed., March 4, 11, 18 & 25, 10:30am. We will be talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing during this literacy readiness storytime. Ages birth - 4 with caregiver.

# **Kids BINGO**

Thursday, March 5, 4:00pm. Play BINGO and win prizes! Ages 5-12.

# **Family Fun Night**

Monday, March 16, 6:30pm. Bring your family to the library for a fun activity! All ages.

# **Preschool Dance Party**

Friday, March 20, 11:00am. Dance to the music! Ages 1-5.

# **Graphic Novel Book Club**

Wednesday, March 25, 4:00pm. Read this month's book and take part in discussion and group activities. Ages 8-12.

#### **Junior Bingo**

Friday, March 27, 11:00am.
Perfect for learning shapes, numbers, and pictures. Ages 1-5.

#### **Pajama Storytime**

Monday, March 30, 6:30pm.
Wear your pjs to the library for this storytime.

Ages birth – 6.

# RAHWAY HS SENIORS AWARDED GLOBAL SEAL OF BILITERACY

being fluent in another language in today's global economy." The value Rahway Superintendent of Schools Dr. Patricia Camp has placed on a strong World Language program is clearly evidenced by her desire to acknowledge laudable student achievement in world language studies. "I believe our students should be very proud and need to be recognized for the things they have learned and mastered." To that end, Dr. Camp has afforded her junior and senior students, for the first time at the high school, the opportunity to take a test to qualify for the State Seal of Biliteracy. If successful, those students would also receive a Global Seal of Biliteracy – an international credential that conveys proficiency with language skills in two or more languages. This credential offers a competitive advantage for students, helping them earn scholarships, higher pay, college credits, and increased opportunities for study

"I want our students to share in the benefits of abroad. Dr. Camp is proud to announce that 17 RHS seniors have earned this seal in languages ranging from Spanish and French to Brazilian perintendent of Schools Dr. Patricia Camp Portuguese and Haitian Creole.

Also delighted with his students' accomplishments, RHS Principal John Farinella avers that this Global Seal of Biliteracy "validates the role we place on World Language in our high school." He adds, "I believe this Seal will bear fruit in ways the students have yet to envision."

Senior Miguel Garcia already foresees the intrinsic value of his Biliteracy Seal. "Knowing two languages, I now realize I will be able to assist more people in the workplace as there is more of a need for those who are bilingual. I'm pleased to know that I will be contributing to this need for representation."

Senior Karla Arias Justiano, arriving in the USA from Peru only two years ago and already an Honors English student, is "very proud" to use her speaking skills. "I know this is very important

for so many careers; some people only speak Spanish and I can help!"

In addition to being awarded the Global Seal of Biliteracy for their achievements in the French language, seniors Andrew Santacruz and Olivier Diegue were also recognized for their fluency in one additional language as well. Andrew was cited for his 'Working fluency for Spanish' and Olivier for his 'Working fluency for Haitian Creole'.

Considering his facility with three languages, Olivier comments, "Due to technology in today's world, we have become disconnected as a society. However, being trilingual now allows me to serve as a bridge to other cultures." As Superintendent Camp firmly believes "being fluent in another language will definitely help students to discover new ways of thinking and to become better problem solvers," these seniors' noteworthy accomplishments most assuredly prove that they are well on their way.



(above) Seniors celebrating their language achievements with Superintendent Camp and Principal Farinella.

Photos by Rahway Public Schools, Joseph Mudrak



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# YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR MAGICAL MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

Once again the Friends of the Rahway Public Library is sponsoring a murder mystery dinner. On March 13, 2020 a magical mishap leaves a million dollar inheritance up for grabs so that guests will be asked to figure out who the lucky winner is and who will end up behind bars for malicious magical mayhem. Spend the evening navigating through the smoke and mirrors to gather information, trade clues with fellow

diners and solve the crime before the murderous magician gets away.

You are encouraged to come dressed as a rival magician, a lovely assistant, or even a detective and to use all your best tricks to solve the crime.

Join the festivities on Friday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rahway Public Library. Tickets are \$50 and include a dinner buffet and complimentary wine, beer and soda.

All guests must be 21 or older. You can purchase tickets at the Rahway Library reference desk or online through the tickets link. (Please note that online purchases are subject to a \$1.55 processing fee.) Ticket Link: bit.ly/2sQ1wxl.

The Friends of the Rahway Public Library is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing volunteer and fundraising support to the library.

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The Union County Post Offices that offer passport application service include: Berkeley Heights, Cranford, Elizabeth Main Post Office, Fanwood, Garwood, Linden Main Post Office, Netherwood Station in Plainfield, Scotch Plains, Springfield, Summit, Union Main Post Office, and Westfield.

Although some Union County Post Offices like Garwood, Netherwood Station, and Scotch Plains accept walk-ins, many Post Offices offering passport services require an appointment. For appointments during regular passport processing hours, the U.S. Postal Service has made scheduling easier with the USPS Retail Customer Appointment Scheduler tool (RCAS) at usps.com/scheduler.

The RCAS tool will display available appointment times for participating Post Office locations that offer passport appointment services within the selected radius. Users will receive notifications of their scheduled appointment via email or text.

Application forms and information on the costs and how to apply for a passport can be found at usps.com/passport.

The U.S. Department of State's National Passport Information Center is available to answer passport questions by phone or email in English or Spanish. If you have a question about passports you can call toll-free 1-877-487-2778 or email NPIC@state.gov.

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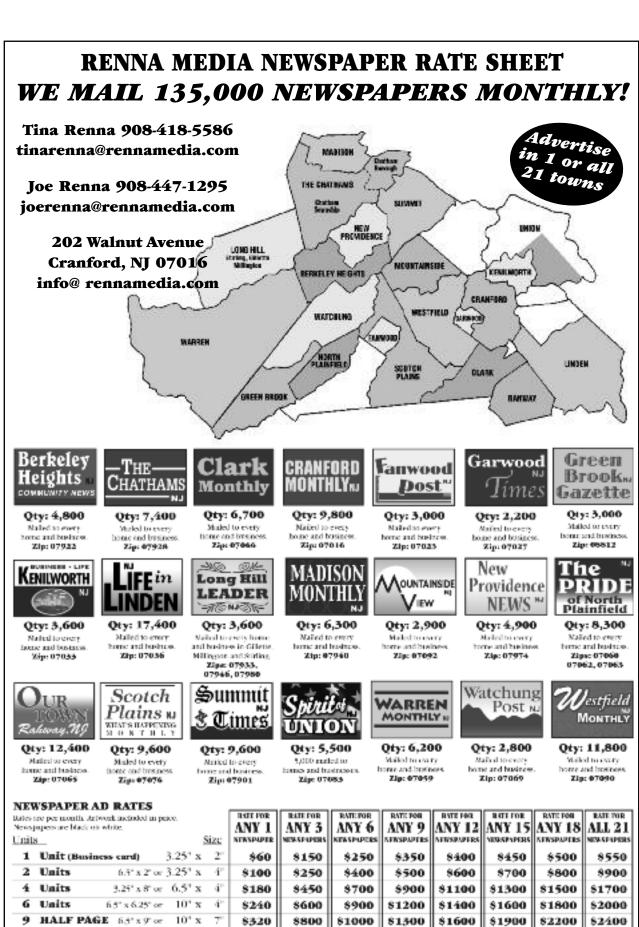
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# **TASTE OF SPRING**

Rahway's Taste of Spring has been pleasing pallets for twenty years! Certainly one of the largest and well attended food, wine and aperitif tastings, in New Jersey, this sellout event is a foodies heaven!

This annual event features over 70 Stations of food, wine, boutique beer, aperitifs and desserts. For the price of an entry, guests, twelve years of age and older, can sample from over 40 restaurants from all over Union and Middlesex Counties presenting their finest tastes. One 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.

This culinary celebration tempts taste buds, introducing patrons to eateries from over 14 different communities, while stations of libations are peppered throughout the event to make sure everyone stays in good spirits!

This year the Taste of Spring is partnering with the county to promote its 'Choose to Reuse' campaign, continuing its focus on source reduction, recycling and sustainability.

Last year the reusable "multi-tensil" that each ticket holder received and was encouraged to reuse throughout the event, was a big success. This year, they are working on eliminating plastic water bottles by providing water stations with paper cups for hydration. Reducing the need for single use plastics.

Get your tickets early, as this event was sold out last year before the doors even opened!

WHEN: FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 5:30 - 9:00 P.M. WHERE: RAHWAY RECREATION CENTER, 275 E. MILTON AVENUE, RAHWAY NJ

Price: Tickets are \$40 in advance; \$45 at the door and can be purchased via Eventbrite or in person at: Witty's Fine Wine & Liquors, Pinhos Bakery, and the Rahway Recreation Center.

# RAHWAY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS UPCOMING EVENTS

Rahway Knights of Columbus Council #1146 will be holding Lenten dinners every Friday evening during Lent, right up to Good Friday on April 10. Cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for kids under 10. Dinners will be held from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.

On Sunday, March 15 we will be holding our annual Saint Patrick's day corned beef and cabbage event during the hours of 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. There will be a choice of either a sandwich or dinner, eat in or take out. Cost is \$10.00.

The Lenten dinners and Saint Patrick's day meal will be held at the Rahway Columbian Club located at the corner of Jaques and Inman avenues. Proceeds to go to our various charities.



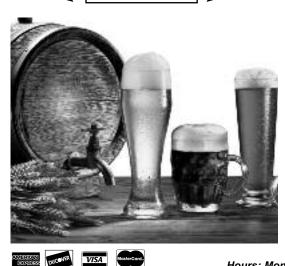
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