

# OUR TOWN

RAHWAY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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Issue 172 • November 2024

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The Rahway Chamber of Commerce sponsored 'Rahway Day' on October 19th at the Rahway Community Center. The free event featured dozens of vendors who set up tables promoting Rahway businesses, organizations, schools, and services, reminding Rahway residents to Think Rahway. First!



Photos from this and other events can be found online at [rennamedia.com](http://rennamedia.com) and on the Our Town Rahway page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com). Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

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# OUR TOWN *Rahway*

Renna Media LLC, Publishers  
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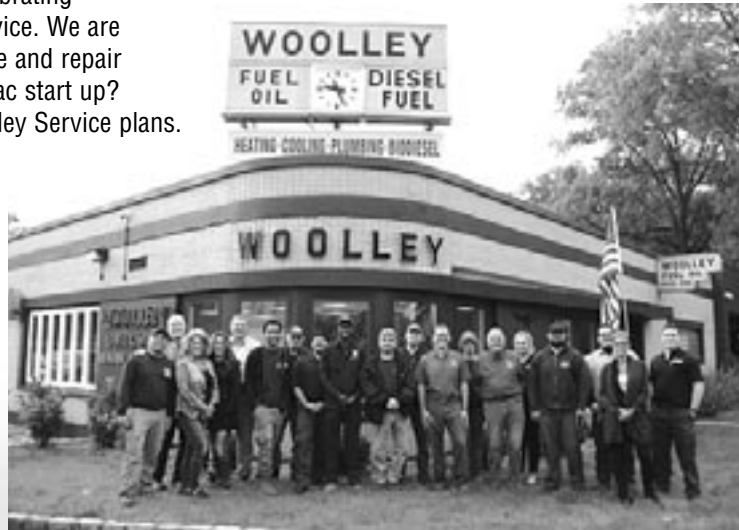
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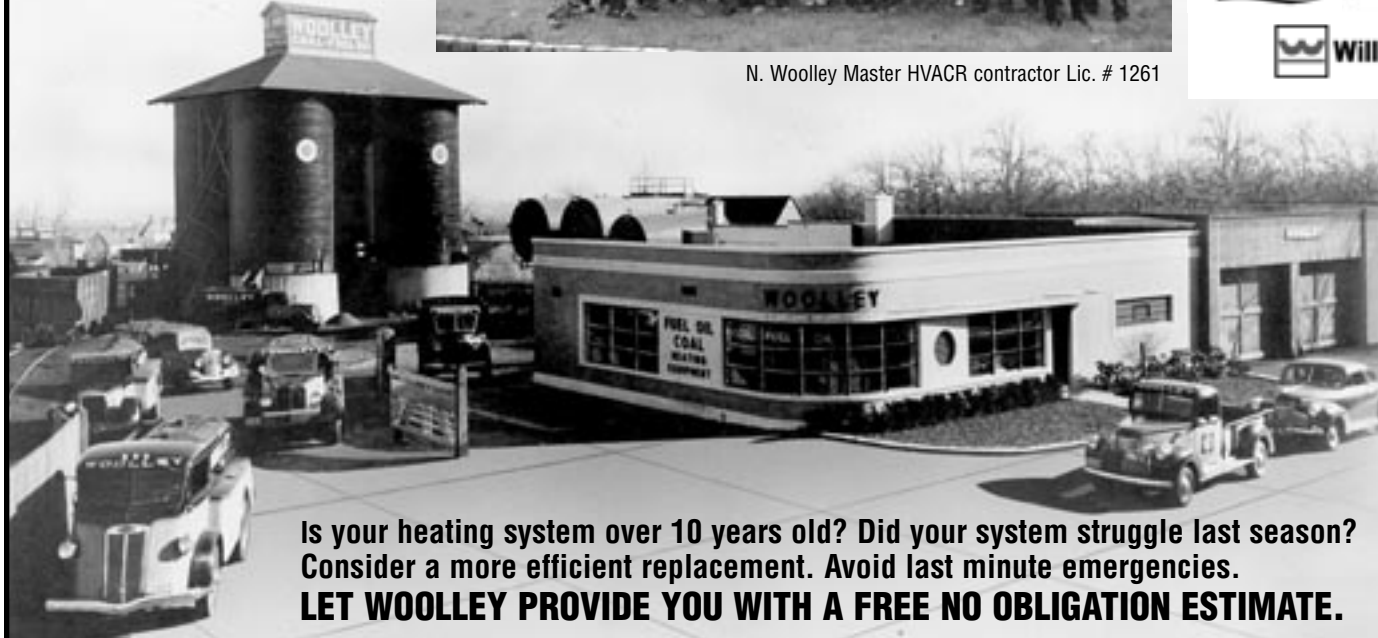
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## CENTRAL JERSEY MED CENTER DEDICATES PAVILION TO RONALD G. RIOS

The Ronald G. Rios Central Jersey Medical Center at Carteret has been dedicated in honor of Middlesex County Commissioner Director Ronald G. Rios, who has been a resident of the Borough for over 50 years. The West Carteret health care facility was dedicated to the Commissioner Director on Friday, Sept. 27, 2024 with a grand opening celebration and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

A longtime service provider in Central New Jersey, the comprehensive, yet affordable Central Jersey Medical Center recently expanded to Carteret this year.

CJMC CEO Jack O'Leary said he was excited about dedicating the satellite medical center to Director Rios because he's an outstanding leader. "That's what you need in government today," O'Leary said, "someone who understands the people who he serves. That's one thing I can say about Ronnie: he's a good listener, and he gets things done."

NJ State Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin added, "It is truly fitting to have a place named after him while he's still here to be celebrated and hear all of the things that we all have to say. Ron makes a difference. This building and the services it provides will make a difference. I look forward to all the things that CJMC does."

In a letter read by Carteret Mayor Reiman, Senate President Nicholas Scutari said he was grateful for Director Rios' "tireless commitment to this project and the vision you brought to

make this a reality here in Carteret for the residents of Middlesex County. I have no doubt that this new medical center will provide much-needed access to health care for your residents and help ensure your community is better equipped to meet its medical needs. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to the people of Carteret, Middlesex County and the State of New Jersey."

Director Rios has served on the Middlesex County Board of Commissioners since 2008. He was appointed Commissioner Director in 2013.

Prior to that tenure, Director Rios served for many years on the Carteret Borough Council, including as Council President from 2003 to 2008. He also worked for more than 30 years for Conrail, during which time, he held many offices for the Oak Island Local 6965 Transportation Communications International Union AFL-CIO, including as president for 10 years from 1993 to 2003.

"To the board of directors of the Central Jersey Medical Center and the Jewish Renaissance Foundation for this dedication of this brand new state-of-the-art medical center in my beloved hometown of Carteret, I'm truly humbled by this honor," Director Rios said. "If you told me 50 years ago when I first moved to Carteret, there would be a medical center or any building for that matter dedicated in my name, I'd say you're trying to pull a fast one on me, and you're crazy. Today is a dream that my parents

could never have imagined for the Rios family name when they moved here from Puerto Rico. It's a dream that I couldn't conceive as a blue-collar worker all of my life and a public servant on the Carteret Borough Council for many years and for the past 16 years on the Board of County Commissioners, a job I dearly love."

Central Jersey Medical Center's services are vast ranging from primary health to dental to preventive services. As a federally qualified health center, CJMC opens its doors to everyone who is need of medical care whether they can afford it or not, O'Leary said.

"That's the truth of a federally qualified health center," he said. "We don't turn people away. We make sure that they're being taken care of on a medical basis. We consider ourselves a medical home where people not only come here when they're sick but are receiving the care that keeps them healthy each and every year."

In addition to the speakers, dignitaries at the dedication ceremony included councilmen Vincent Bellino, AJ Johal, Jorge Diaz, and Randy Krum, Middlesex County Democratic Chairman Kevin McCabe, County Clerk Nancy Pinkin, County Surrogate Claribel Cortes, and South Amboy Councilwoman Zusette Dato.

Middlesex County Commissioner Director Ronald G. Rios, center, is pictured with dignitaries during a dedication ceremony for the The Ronald G. Rios Central Jersey Medical Center at Carteret.

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## SHAKE IT UP WITH A HOLIDAY COCKTAIL FUNDRAISER

### The Gateway Family YMCA

The Gateway Family YMCA announced reservations are available now for their Virtual Holiday Cocktail Fundraiser for Housing For All Financial Assistance that will be held on Thursday, November 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Holiday Cocktail Creation Kit reservations are available for purchase through November 12th at [tgfymca.org/events](http://tgfymca.org/events) or EventBrite and in Y branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union. Each Creation Kit includes a specially selected full-size bottle of spirit & mini liquor, shaking tin + jigger and citrus for cocktails and mocktails, available for \$100 including a fun and educational virtual class. Kits can be picked up at The Gateway Family YMCA branches on November 20th 4:00-7:00 p.m., or November 21st 1:00-5:00 p.m., but must be reserved in advance. All participants must be age 21+ and provide photo identification.

The Virtual event, held on November 21st will be hosted by Christine Zubris, Owner, Versi Vino Wine Bar & Kitchen in Maple Shade, NJ. A recording will be available for participants unable to attend live. The virtual event is intended to provide educational and fun facts about select cocktails and mocktails. The Columbia Bank Foundation is the Grand Sponsor for the Virtual Holiday Cocktail Fundraiser. Additional sponsors include Statewide Sanitation Services, Elberon Development Group and the Northfield Bank Foundation.

“This fundraiser supports individuals, families and veterans in our community, providing necessary emergency assistance and Housing For All,” stated Melynda A. Disla, President/CEO,

The Gateway Family YMCA. “YMCA financial assistance provides the opportunity for everyone to be safe, secure and nourished. Our community partners, members and friends can join us for a fun and educational evening for a great cause.”

The unique event combines individual or small-group social gatherings from home with speakers, socialization, engaging content and educational information online. Virtual Holiday Cocktail Fundraiser Sponsorships are available to local businesses and community organizations at [tgfymca.org/sponsorships](http://tgfymca.org/sponsorships) in further support of Housing For All Financial Assistance.

The Gateway Family YMCA has served the community since 1900, and provided over \$339,000 in financial assistance in 2023, ensuring that Y membership, housing, child care, WISE community services and senior socialization is available to all. As a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening

community in Eastern Union County and Northern Middlesex County, The Gateway Family YMCA served over 18,000 individuals, families, children and veterans last year.

The Gateway Family YMCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, health and community service organization of caring staff and volunteers dedicated to strengthening community through Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility. The Gateway Family YMCA impacts the community by providing quality services for all. The Y doesn't just strengthen bodies – it strengthens people, families and communities.

For more information about The Gateway Family YMCA, visit [tgfymca.org](http://tgfymca.org) or contact the Elizabeth Branch 908-355-9622, Five Points Branch 908-688-9622, Rahway Branch 732-388-0057 or the Wellness Center and WISE Center Branch at 908-349-9622.

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## PANCAKE BREAKFAST NOVEMBER 17, 2024

Come to a Pancake Breakfast, hosted by the American Legion Auxiliary - Unit 102, on Sunday, November 17, 2024 at the American Legion Post 102, located at 112 West Elizabeth Ave., from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. This month's special is S.O.S. Donations: Adults \$8.00 / Seniors & Children \$7.00 / Ages 5 & Under Free. Take outs are available.

This event is open to the public, so come out and enjoy a home cooked breakfast, and support our veterans!

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST NOVEMBER 23, 2024

Come one, come all to the VFW#1397 Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, November 23, 2024 for the VFW Post #1397, which will be held at the American Legion Post 102, located at 112 West Elizabeth Ave in Linden from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Donations: Adults \$7.00 / Seniors & Children \$6.00/ Ages 5 & Under Free. Take outs are available.

This event is open to the public, so come out and enjoy a home cooked breakfast, and support our veterans!

## SHOP LOCAL FARMERS' MARKETS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The New Jersey Council of Farmers and Communities (NJFCF) is excited to highlight the abundant offerings of local farmers' markets, where residents can access the freshest produce the Garden State has to offer.

By visiting [jerseyfarmersmarket.com](http://jerseyfarmersmarket.com), consumers can easily locate farmers' markets in their area and explore a wide array of locally-grown fruits and vegetables, along with delicious recipes that enhance the farm-to-table experience. Look for the unmistakable Jersey Fresh sign, it insures the purchase of authentic New Jersey produce.

New Jersey boasts over 715,000 acres of dedicated farmland and is renowned for its diverse specialty crops, producing an impressive 1.2 billion pounds of tomatoes, 74 million pounds of blueberries, and 400 million pounds of sweet corn annually. With its unique climate and fertile soil, New Jersey's farmers are devoted to sustainable practices that not only elevate the flavor and quality of their crops but also support environmental stewardship. Specialty crops from New Jersey play a crucial role in both local consumption and national markets, significantly bolstering the state's economy.

The NJCFC supports numerous farmers' markets across the state, fostering community engagement and promoting sustainable living. "New Jersey's agricultural industry is thriving, and our specialty crops are among the best in the nation," said Joseph Mikulewicz, President of NJCFC. "By choosing local produce, consumers invest in their health while supporting our



dedicated farmers and strengthening their communities."

Buying local produce provides numerous advantages: it minimizes carbon footprints thanks to shorter transportation distances, stimulates local economies, and guarantees access to fresher, nutrient-rich food. Research shows that locally grown fruits and vegetables often have higher nutrient levels compared to those transported over long distances.

Farmers' markets, along with local restaurants and grocery stores throughout New Jersey, proudly feature locally sourced produce that encourages healthier eating habits while nurturing a sense of community connection. The state remains committed to upholding its leadership in specialty crop production through initiatives centered on education, sustainability, and making fresh food accessible to all residents.

*For more information on New Jersey's specialty crops and the benefits of purchasing local produce, please visit [jerseyfarmersmarket.com](http://jerseyfarmersmarket.com).*

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# ALL AREA VETERANS ARE INVITED TO CRANFORD VFW VETS BREAKFAST

On Sunday, November 10, 2024, Cranford VFW Post #335 will be holding its annual Veterans Breakfast, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Post Home at 479 South Ave. East in Cranford. This free event is open to all area veterans, and a full “sit down” breakfast will be served by the Post Auxiliary.

Several notable speakers will be on hand, while the featured speaker will be U.S. Air National Guard Colonel Yvonne Mays who is currently the Acting Adjutant General of New Jersey and the Commissioner of the NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. She previously held the position of Deputy Adjutant

Colonel Mays began her career in 1983 as an enlisted airman and was deployed overseas during Operation Desert Storm. Through her

own tenacity she earned her officer’s commission at the Palmetto Military Academy, Fort Jackson, SC in 1999. She began her National Guard career as Director of Personnel and Commander of the Mission Support Flight of the 177th Fighter Wing and within four years went on to become the Executive Officer of the Wing. She has been Deputy Chief of Staff of the NJ National Guard while supporting Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. As today’s Acting Adjutant Colonel Mays commands more

than 8,400 soldiers and airmen of the NJ National Guard. She is currently awaiting Governor Murphy’s actions deeming her permanent in this prestigious position.

This highly attended event is a great chance to meet and greet other veterans. If you are a veteran of any era, VFW Post #335 encourages you to attend this important, fulfilling event. There is no reservation required and more information may be obtained at the Post website at [vfw335.org](http://vfw335.org).



(above) Acting Adjutant General of New Jersey Colonel Yvonne Mays..

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- Frutti di Bosco**  
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Comes with 4 stacked potato pancakes  
Served with homemade applesauce & sour cream **12.95**
- Cioccolato Luxe**  
Comes with 4 stacked chocolate pancakes  
Served with chocolate chips, chocolate syrup, & whipped cream **13.95**
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Comes with 4 stacked Oreo pancakes  
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Comes with 4 stacked Reese's pancakes  
Served with Reese's, whipped cream & powdered sugar **14.95**

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Made with almond milk. Topped with fresh fruits **10.95**
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Served with granola, fresh fruit & honey **13.95**
- Grits**  
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## ROOTS GO BACK TO LAFAYETTE'S VISIT IN 1824

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

Two hundred years ago, in 1824, a Masonic Lodge was established in Rahway. The lodge was named in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette, who on August 24th of that year visited Rahway during his triumphant tour of the United States. Lafayette was a close member of General George Washington's staff during the American Revolution and an important representative between our French allies and the American colonies.

In the early part of 1824, with the 50-year anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence just two years away, Lafayette was invited by President James Monroe to return to the states, "To see for himself the fruit born on the tree of Liberty." Accepting the invitation, Lafayette, who by this time was 63 years old, did come back and on August 15, 1824 set out on a thirteen month tour of the United States in which he would visit all twenty-four states covering a total of 6,000 miles. He would arrive in Rahway on August 24. (Note: for a full account of Lafayette's visit to Rahway, go to the August 2015 issue of "Our Town".)

This timely visit influenced the local Masons to select his name for their lodge which was formally granted a charter on November 9, 1824, as Lafayette Lodge # 49 of Free and Accepted Masons.

Freemasonry or Masonry refers to fraternal organizations that trace their origins to the local guilds of stonemasons that date back to the end of the 14th century. The Masonic Lodges are guided by four important principles: Integrity, Friendship, Respect, and Service. The organization stresses the members' duty to their families, their country, and their fellow men and women, as well as the importance of religious belief.

Over the next thirty years (1824–1854) membership in the lodge would increase and decrease with the fluctuating social, economic, and religious trends of the times. The lodge experienced a low point in the fall of 1842 when membership numbers declined to a level where their charter could not be maintained. Fortunately, by 1854 membership numbers rebounded and a new charter was granted creating Lodge #27, the number it holds to this day.

Lodge meetings were held in several different buildings during the group's first 100 years

including Military Hall, a building that stood on Mechanic Street (Grand Avenue) and in the large residence of John R. Chapin that was located on Esterbrook Avenue on the present site of the Rahway Senior Center. In 1867 the group moved to the third floor of the Rahway Savings Bank which at that time stood on the south east corner of Main and Monroe Streets.

In 1904, a committee was formed to select a suitable location to construct a new facility they could call their own. An ideal spot was found on Irving Street facing Elizabeth Avenue and on November 24, 1924 a formal opening dedication ceremony took place. The cornerstone, laid a few months before on June 14, has a special significance. It was cut from a stone taken from the ruins of a structure in Windsor, New York that was used as a headquarters for General Lafayette

during the Revolutionary War. Another noteworthy aspect of the new temple is that it was designed by noted local architect Seymour Williams (see "Our Town, August 2021 issue) in the handsome Neo-Classical Greek Revival style.

Freemasonry in Rahway has a rich and active history and is still alive and well today. Taking a cue from the ideals and regulations laid out by those members over 200 years ago, Lafayette Lodge is still striving to be a beacon of hope for all. The members still believe in the core values of Freemasonry like Faith, Brotherly love, and Charity. With these values in mind, they continue to endeavor to help not only the lodge members but also all that may be in need.

All past issues of Our Town Rahway can be found on-line at: [rennamedia.com](http://rennamedia.com)

## KEEPING THE MEMORY OF MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE ALIVE

*Submitted by Chirs Sands*

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

Two hundred years ago Major General Marquis Lafayette returned to America. He was supposed to visit for three months, but he was overwhelmed by the crowds of people who came out to welcome him. He ended up staying in America for thirteen months. The American Friends of Lafayette (AFL) are conducting ceremonies at cities the General visited on those dates two hundred years ago.

The New Jersey Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard helped support six General Lafayette 1824 Bicentennial Visit ceremonies in September 2024. On Monday, Sep. 23rd, the Westfield Daughters of the American Revolution, AFL, and the Union County Historical Society held a ceremony at Boxwood Hall NJ State Historic site in Elizabeth. Abraham Clark Chapter President NJSSAR.

On Tuesday morning, The Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route-NJ (WR3-NJ), the AFL, and Lafayette Lodge #27 held a ceremony at Lafayette Lodge #27 in Rahway. Then at 1:00 p.m. General Lafayette arrived at the Woodbridge History Museum for a ceremony.

On Wednesday General Lafayette was in the Assembly Hall of the State House in Trenton, NJ, for a speech. At 6:00 p.m. a Grand Reception was held at the Trenton Masonic Temple recreating the Grand Reception from 200 years ago that day.

On Thursday morning the AFL and the NJ Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons held a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of David Brearley and then a ribbon cutting ceremony for the David Brearley Center for the American Constitution at St Michaels Episcopalian Church in Trenton. David Brearley was a Founding Father, as a Colonel in the New Jersey Regiment he fought with General Lafayette at the battles of Brandywine and Monmouth. Brearley was also the first New Jersey Grand Master of Masons, the first Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court, a Delegate to the Constitutional Convention and voted for the Constitution.



(above) The home of Rahway Masonic Lodge #27. Photo circa 1925



(above, l-r) General Lafayette, Chris Sands NJSSAR, and W3R-NJ vice Chair Catherine Paretti in front of Lafayette Lodge #27 in Rahway.

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## NJ ELKS & ANTLERS SPECIAL CHILDRENS ZOO TRIP

*Submitted by Kristina Patti*

Students with special needs from Roosevelt, Cleveland, The Rahway Academy, and The Rahway High School Claw Program attended this year's NJ Elks Friendship Day at the Turtle Back Zoo on Monday, September 30, 2024. This is a collaborative event hosted by the East Central and North Central District Elks Lodges. What made this event even more special this year was that it was the first of many years to come that students from 7th-12th grade attended.

Also, six of the Rahway Antlers attended the trip with Lead Antler Advisor, Kristina Petti, and Advisor, Mary Murray. The Antlers helped to serve a full lunch, made and donated by the East Central District Elks lodges and members, to over 1,700 people who attended the Friendship Day experience.

The East Central District of the New Jersey Elks consists of seven lodges, fondly called the Magnificent Seven- Stirling, Summit, Mountainside, Springfield, Cranford, Union, and Rahway. The Special Childrens committee chairpeople of these lodges have been meeting for months to discuss all of the logistics of buying, preparing, and serving 1,700 meals. These incredibly dedicated members were at the zoo by 9am, ready to start setting up for a full day. Lunch groups were served from 10:45am-1:15pm in 30 minute intervals. Many of the members who were volunteering did not leave

until after 2pm.

This year, the Rahway Elks Lodge gifted shirts for all of the students and staff attending the trip from the Rahway Academy, since it would be their first time going.

Many of the students were so happy to see past teachers and our Academy students, who shared a bus with the high school students, had the opportunity to meet their future teachers. It was such a fun experience for everyone involved!

If you are interested in learning more about our organization or becoming a member, please visit our website [rahwayelks.org](http://rahwayelks.org) and follow us on Facebook: Rahway Elks #1075. To become a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks you must be 21 or over, an American citizen, and believe in God. To become a member of the Rahway Antlers #39, you must be between the ages of 12 and 20 years old and have an interest in community service.



*(above) Members of the Rahway Antlers #39 having a photo opt with the Turtle Back of the Zoo.*

Courtesy photo

## ELKS FAMILY FUN DAY FOR HOMELESS VETERANS DELIVERS

On Saturday September 28th, hundreds of residents in the area enjoyed an impressive array of entertainment, food, and beverage options for a very worthy cause. This fabulous event, the 2nd annual Elks ECD Family Fun Day, raised over \$45,000 to Benefit Homeless Veterans. Hosted at the Stirling Elks in Stirling NJ, the event was organized by The Elks East Central District Veterans Committee of NJ.

The organizing committee procured help from over 25 different in-kind donors enabling every dollar raised to go directly to the cause. This occasion truly had entertainment for everyone and a wide assortment of great food and beverages.

There was a fabulous Pig Roast courtesy of Dealaman's Enterprises, professionally grilled hamburgers and hot dogs from Applebee's-Union, salivating sausage & peppers, Assorted Trays from the Committed Pig, Sandwiches from Towne Deli-Summit. Assorted sides, corn & pies from Jonathan Sage, Tasticakes & pies from Tasticakes, scrumptious desserts from Baba's Bakery-Madison, Natale's-Summit and Bake-Summit. There were plentiful refreshing beverages: beer donated by Traprock-Berkeley Heights, Wine from Cambridge Wines, and Sangria as well as water and soft drinks.

Guests of all ages enjoyed an amazing lineup of donated entertainment that included: DJ Mr. Socks, Live performance from New Jersey's AMP'D, the national anthem by singing prodigy

Sasha Capobianco, full military honor guard, Manville Fire Dept. hoisting the American Flag, and Bagpipers from the Essex County Emerald Society. There was a Silent Auction, a 50/50, a closest to the pin golf contest, Mgr. Tom Boehm on hand for Cornhole, Bocce Ball, a Dunk Tank from Paddy the Brush, Face Painting, Seeing Eye Puppies, Elroy the Elk, and other fun entertainment for the little ones.

This event was the result of planning and preparation by an Elks East Central District Committee of - 40 members spearheaded by Apollo Hrehorovich and Rocco DiPiano of the Summit Elks.

If you didn't get a chance to attend or contribute to the 'Family Fun Day' event and would like to help a veteran in need, please scan

the attached QR code or send a check payable to: ECD Veterans Committee.

Mailing address: Attn: Doreen Duffy, Elks ECD Veterans Committee, 87 Harrison Ave., Colonia, NJ 07067.

Any questions email Summit Elks member: [apolloh99@yahoo.com](mailto:apolloh99@yahoo.com)



## TRICKY TRAY EVENT - NOVEMBER 15

Parish Council members from Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Rahway are preparing for their Tricky Tray event scheduled for Friday, November 15, 2024. The event will be held at St Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Church, 1407 St George's Avenue, Rahway.

This auction will feature a variety of merchandise that includes bakeware, a cordless hand vac, basket of cleaning products, and a quesadilla maker. There will be four special tables offering more expensive items, such as jewelry, Echo earbuds, wines and various theme baskets.

In addition, there will be drawings for a liquor basket, a "Mystery Prize", and a TV. A fifty- fifty

drawing will top off the evening.

The kitchen will be selling hot sandwiches, including kielbasi and sauerkraut, hot dogs, meatball sandwiches, and hot sausage along with snacks, water and soda.

Treat yourself to a fun evening that will include many winners!

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Auction begins at 7:30 p.m.

Advance purchase of tickets is advised.

Admission Tickets cost \$20 (includes a sheet of 25 tickets for the merchandise tables.)

For tickets call Judy 908-337-9107 or Paula 732-453-4802.



(above) Parish Council members from Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Rahway are preparing for their Tricky Tray event scheduled for Friday, November 15, 2024.

## FISHING FLEA MARKET

The Rahway Fall Fishing Flea Market will be held on Saturday, November 23, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. Thomas Church Hall, 1405 St. Georges Ave., Rahway, NJ.

Door prizes will be given away throughout the day which include rods, reels, tackle and much more. Food and refreshments are sponsored by St. Thomas Holy Name Society. Admission price is \$5 per adult, children 12 and under are free.

For show or vendor information visit [fishingfleamarkets.com](http://fishingfleamarkets.com) or call Jerry at 718-702-5838.

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## RAHWAY CRAFT AND ART FAIR – NOV. 2 CITY OF RAHWAY

Rahway residents and neighbors are encouraged to start their holiday shopping early this year with one-of-a kind gifts for friends and family at the 2024 Rahway Craft and Art Fair. This highly anticipated event is back for its annual showcase of unique, handmade crafts and original artwork.

Saturday, Nov 2, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Rahway Recreation Center located at 275 E Milton Ave.

Admission to this exciting event is free, offering an opportunity for everyone to explore the vibrant world of over 65 local crafters, artisans, and fine artists. From paintings and photography to mixed media, jewelry, pottery, quilts, and more, the fair promises a diverse range of artistic expressions. What sets this event apart is the emphasis on handmade items, ensuring that visitors will find only one-of-a-kind treasures, with no mass-produced products in sight.

For more information about the fair, please contact (732) 827-2210. Mark your calendars and get ready to immerse yourself in a day of creativity, inspiration, and community spirit at the Rahway Craft and Art Fair.

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**Saturday, November 2, 2024**  
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# SENIOR HALLOWEEN PARTY

Rahway Seniors were invited to attend the annual Senior Halloween Party held at the Rahway Recreation Center on Thursday, October 17th. The event featured an afternoon of music, lunch, and exciting door prizes. About 180 seniors participated.



Photos from this and other events can be found online at [rennamedia.com](http://rennamedia.com) and on the Our Town Rahway page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com). Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

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## RAKING LEAVES & NEW ENVIROMENTAL THEORIES

When the European Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth they had no knowledge of the land or how to survive a harsh Northeastern winter. They owed their survival to the Native Americans who taught them about corn and other native food crops. Just as importantly, the Indians showed the settlers which plants to avoid such as poison ivy.

A few years later the Europeans had their first bumper crop of corn, insuring their survival during the future winters.

As thanks, the Pilgrims invited the Natives to a great three day feast that we now celebrate every November as Thanksgiving Day.

Sadly, although the friendship of the Pilgrims and Natives was strong, future arrivals from England had no such bond and within one hundred years there were no Indians left in the area.

One of these crops, the American Cranberry, is still part of the classic Thanksgiving feast.

The Wampanoag, Lenni-Lenape, Algonquin, Chippewa, and Cree, among others, gathered wild cranberries where they could find them in what is now Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Wisconsin, all the way west to Oregon and Washington, and north into Canada. The berry was called 'sassamenes' by the Algonquin, which translates literally as "bitter" or "sour berries." Cranberries were used for everything from cooking to dyes for textiles to medicines.

Harnessing the nutritional power of the fruit, cranberries are extremely high in antioxidants and are thought to help prevent heart disease. Iroquois and Chippewa used cranberries for an assortment of medicinal purposes such as blood purifiers, as a laxative, and for treating fever, stomach cramps, and a slew of childbirth-related illnesses.

One of the more intriguing ways the Indians prepared cranberries was in a mixture called pemmican which was sort of like a modern day energy bar. They would pound cranberries into a mixture of equal parts ground dried deer meat and fat tallow, then store the mixture in animal skin pouches. The pemmican would last for months and could be eaten on long journeys as a reliable source of protein and fat.

The colonists had a few names for the

cranberry. "Crane berries", for the way the flower bloomed in early June before the fruit grows, resembles the head and bill of a sandhill crane and "bearberries", for the bears that were, apparently, often seen snacking on them.

But the colonists were indifferent to the Indians' wide range of uses for the cranberry. In fact, they were mostly adapting the fruit to fit the recipes and uses they knew from the Old World. The Europeans used cranberries the way they would have used similar fruits, as a sour fruit sauce with wild fowl.

In 1622, the British brought honeybees to North America, changing the ways the colonists could use the fruit. "Once there was a consistent form of sweetening," says Cole, "the cranberry takes off. It gets used as a slightly tart side dish and ends up in pies and tarts." Soon, it's featured on the tables of high society. William Tudor, a satirist and well-known figure among Boston society in the early 19th century, wrote mockingly of cranberry sauce that it "is eaten with almost every species of roasted meat, particularly the white meats of turkeys. Some even eat it with boiled fish, and I knew one person, otherwise a very worthy man, who eats it with lobsters, for supper!"

By the mid-19th century the European settlers began formally cultivating the cranberry for commercial use.

The cranberry industry that began over 250 years ago has thrived, and today is worth over \$300 million.

There are YouTube videos of "Cranberry Harvest" that are very informative to watch.

There are independently owned cranberry farms across the northern United States and southern Canada—and some Indian tribes have kept their connection to the berry. An organic cranberry farm in Oregon, Coquille Cranberries, is owned and operated by members of the Coquille tribe. Each year, on the second Tuesday in October, the Wampanoag celebrate Cranberry Day on Martha's Vineyard.

Information in this article is from Smithsonian. Have a Great Autumn,

*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](http://keanegardener.blogspot.com)



(above) Cranberries are "power food" which contain high nutrients, such as vitamins, minerals, fiber, and protein, and are low in calories. Power foods can help with digestion, energy levels and the immune system.

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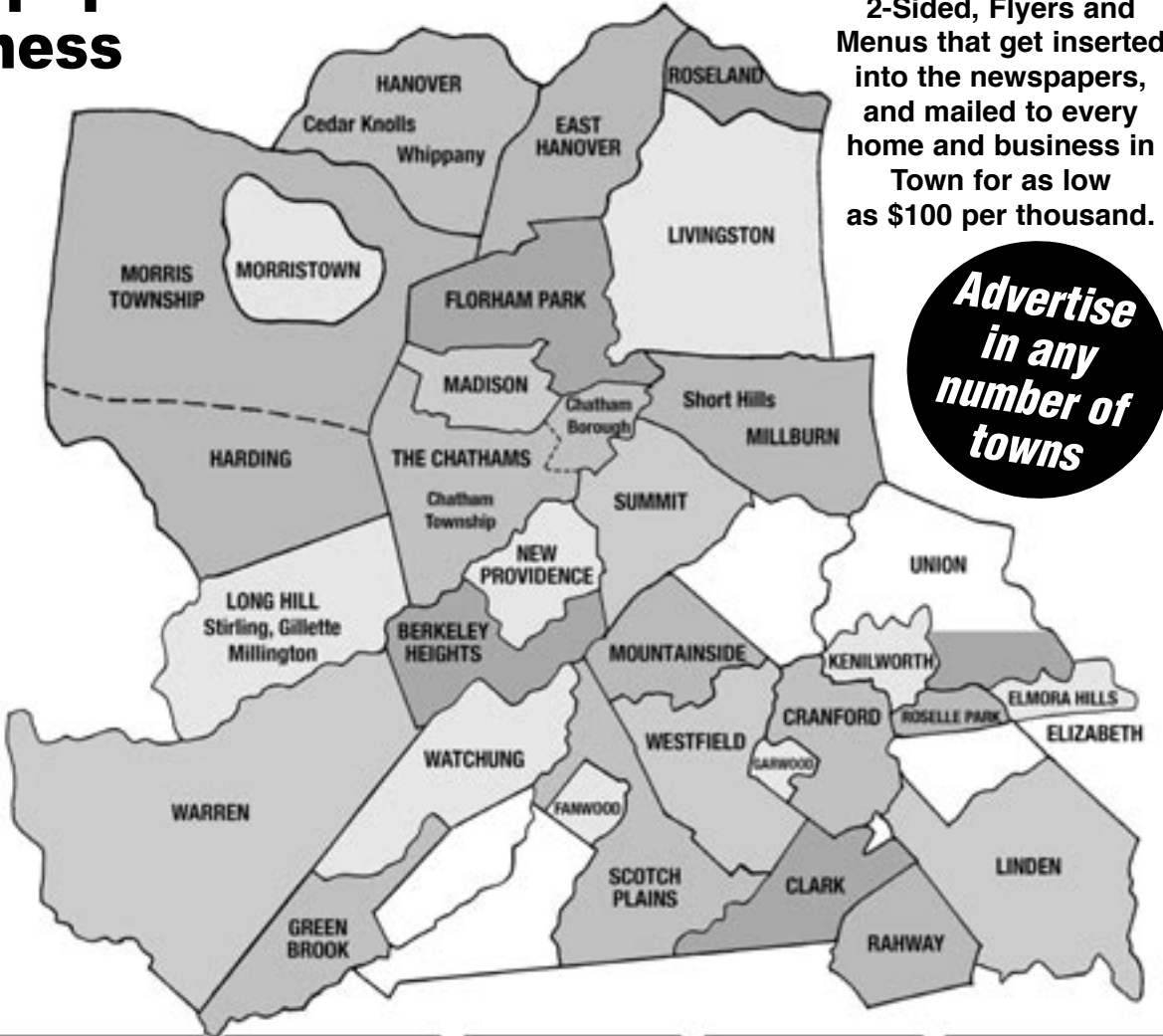
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<b>Fanwood Post NJ</b> Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07023	<b>Florham Park Press NJ</b> Qty: 6,000 Zip: 07932	<b>Garwood NJ Times</b> Qty: 2,500 Zip: 07027	<b>Green Brook NJ Gazette</b> Qty: 3,300 Zip: 08812	<b>HANOVER TOWNSHIP PRESS NJ</b> CEDAR KNOLLS WHIPPANY Qty: 2,000 Zips: 07927	<b>BUSINESS • LIFE KENILWORTH NJ</b> Qty: 3,500 Zip: 07033	<b>NJ LIFE in LINDEN</b> Qty: 18,000 Zip: 07036	<b>Life in Roseland NJ</b> Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07068
<b>Livingston NJ Monthly</b> Qty: 12,100 Zip: 07039	<b>Long Hill LEADER NJ</b> Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980	<b>MADISON NJ MONTHLY</b> Qty: 6,300 Zip: 07940	<b>Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY NJ</b> Qty: 8,200 Zips: 07041, 07078	<b>MORRIS TOWNSHIP TIMES NJ</b> Qty: 13,500 Zip: 07960, Harding 07976	<b>MORRISTOWN MONTHLY NJ</b> Qty: 7,000 Zip: 07960	<b>MOUNTAINSIDE NJ VIEW</b> Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07092	<b>New Providence NEWS NJ</b> Qty: 5,100 Zip: 07974
<b>OUR TOWN Rahway, NJ</b> Qty: 13,100 Zip: 07065	<b>ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY</b> Qty: 5,600 Zip: 07204	<b>Scotch Plains NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY</b> Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07076	<b>Summit NJ Times</b> Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07901	<b>Spirit of UNION NJ</b> Qty: 7,800 Zip: 07083 (partial)	<b>WARREN MONTHLY NJ</b> Qty: 6,500 Zip: 07059	<b>Watchung Post NJ</b> Qty: 2,700 Zip: 07069	<b>Westfield NJ MONTHLY</b> Qty: 12,000 Zip: 07090

NEWSPAPER AD RATES		1 TOWN	3 TOWNS	6 TOWNS	9 TOWNS	12 TOWNS	15 TOWNS	18 TOWNS	21 TOWNS	24 TOWNS	27 TOWNS	30 TOWNS
Units (wide x High)	Size											
1 Unit (Business card)	3.25"x2"0	100	260	360	460	560	600	660	700	800	900	1000
2 Units	6.5" x 2" or 3.25"x4"	150	360	560	600	700	800	900	1000	1100	1200	1300
4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
12 Units	6.5"x14"	400	960	1400	1800	2100	2400	2700	3000	3300	3600	3900
18 FULL PAGE	10"x14"	500	1200	1800	2200	2500	2800	3000	3300	3600	3900	4300
2-PAGE SPREAD	21"x14"	800										
BACK PAGE	10"x14"	600										
FRONT PAGE BANNER	8.25"x2"	360										
FRONT PAGE BOX	1.5"x4.5"	320										

**PREPAY 6 MONTHS AND GET 1 MORE FREE  
PREPAY 12 MONTHS AND GET 3 MORE FREE**

Rates are per month. Artwork included in price. Newspapers are black on white.

Back cover, Front Page Banner and Front Box reserved on first-come, first-served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

Rates effective November 1, 2024. See RennaMedia.com for most up to date pricing.

Make Checks payable to Renna Media • Venmo • Zelle •

# BIG NEWS: RENNA MEDIA IS LAUNCHING SIX MORE NEWSPAPERS IN DECEMBER

Renna Media will be launching six new newspapers in December 2024. The new towns joining Renna Media's family of newspapers are Livingston, Roseland, Hanover, East Hanover, Morristown, and Morris Township. The newspapers are Every Door Direct Mailing (EDDM) to every home and business in town.

The new monthly publications will add over 40,000 new postal patrons for a new total of over 200,000 newspapers mailed to 30 towns in Union, Somerset and Morris Counties.

The publications are "hyperlocal" in nature in that they contain information focused on each individual town and are direct mailed within those towns. The newspaper's goal is to have a positive influence on the economic development and overall well-being of the town. Our publications exist to share community service news and the good things that are happening in the community.

The concept of being hyper-local is to give local businesses a venue to promote services. Reaching local customers gives you the highest return for your advertising dollars. The black and white newspapers are designed to keep the cost of an advertisement to a minimum. Ads in one town start at \$100. Regional businesses can take advantage of discounted rates for advertising in multiple towns.

Renna Media also prints full-color flyers and tri-fold menus that get mailed along with the newspapers. A cost effective alternative to mailing postcards.

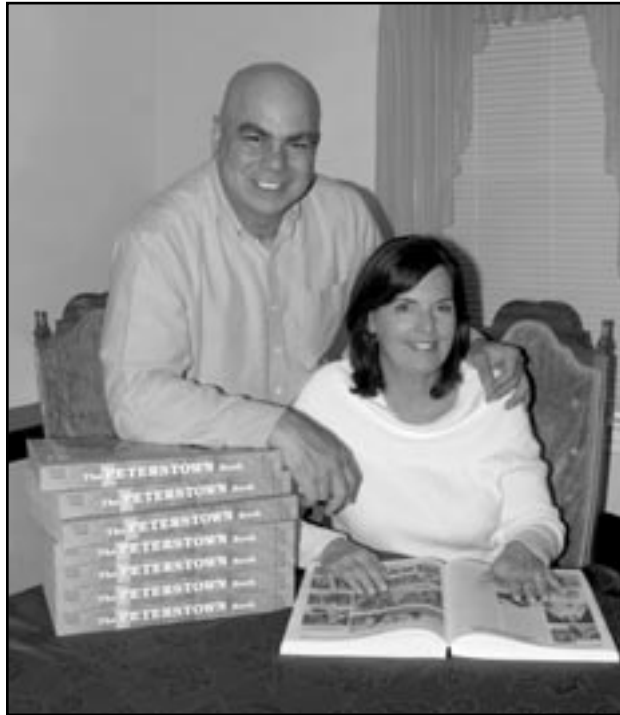
Renna Media is a Cranford, NJ based business

owned and operated by husband-and-wife team of Joe and Tina Renna. They are celebrating 40 years in business.

For more information about Renna Media publications, please visit [RennaMedia.com](http://RennaMedia.com).

Press releases with community service news can be emailed to [editor@rennamedia.com](mailto:editor@rennamedia.com).

Businesses interested in advertising can call Joe Renna at 908-447-1295, or email [joerenna@rennamedia.com](mailto:joerenna@rennamedia.com).



(above, l-r) Joe and Tina Renna, owners of Renna Media, LLC, are celebrating 40 years in business.

# FUNDRAISER GALA FEATURES ONLINE AUCTION

Hearts for Emma a 501©3 in Cranford, NJ is having a gala fundraising evening featuring cocktails, dinner, live music, sensational raffles, & a silent auction featuring original artwork on November 23, 2024, at Galloping Hill Golf Course in Kenilworth, New Jersey.

Hearts for Emma was founded by Cranford residents Nancie & Emma Rothman after Emma received a lifesaving heart transplant at the age of 12. Hearts for Emma provides assistance to families with children in crisis due to cardiac illness and creates and distributes educational materials in support of organ and tissue donation.

Co-founder Nancie Rothman states, "When Emma received her heart transplant, we were and continue to be so grateful to have the support of our family and community to help us through what was the most difficult time in our lives. Hearts for Emma was founded to help us live every day with purpose and to give back. Our gala fundraiser will be a wonderful evening and a way to support a great cause. We invite anyone interested in attending, donating, and purchasing raffle tickets as well as bidding online for the below painting & other exciting items to do so."

For further information, visit: [heartsforemma.org](http://heartsforemma.org)



(above) Joe Renna holds an original 36" x 24" oil painting of the 18th Hole at Galloping Hill he created for Hearts for Emma 2024 Auction.

## FULL COLOR FLYERS / BROCHURES / MENUS

PRINTING & MAILING TO EVERY HOME & BUSINESS **\$120** per thousand



Minimum of 10,000 Inserted in Renna Media Newspapers.  
**8.5" x 11" / full color 2 sided**  
**60lb gloss coated stock**  
 Printing only = \$60 per k  
 Inserting only = \$60 per k  
 Tri-folding add \$15 per k  
**Large Size Printing / Inserting:**  
**\$160 per thousand**  
**11" x 17" / full color / 2 sided**  
**60lb gloss coated stock**  
 Printing only = \$100 per k  
 Inserting only = \$60 per k  
 1/2, 1/4, Tri-Folding included with or without coupons tab.

**ARTWORK: \$300**  
**Custom illustration, photography available.**  
 Rates based on customer supplied PDFs.

**STAND-ALONE EDDM**  
 Artwork/Printing  
 Mail Prep/Shipping/Postage  
 All inclusive price:  
**\$400 per thousand**

Rates effective November 1, 2024. Subject to change. See [RennaMedia.com](http://RennaMedia.com) for most up to date pricing.

[JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com](mailto:JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com)

### SOME OF THE ITEMS BEING AUCTIONED

As of this printing 11/1/24

- 10 days in Steamboat Colorado (September 19th-29th, 2025,
- Oura Ring
- Shackamaxon Round of Golf, pickle ball lesson, Hold Now gift certificate
- Pet Art -unique rendering of your pet
- Bonnie-Leigh Jones painting: Beach Scene
- Original oil painting of the 18th Hole at Galloping Hill



**Scan QR code to**

- Purchase Tickets to the Gala
- Bid on an Auction Item
- Enter Our Raffle
- Purchase Merchandise
- Make a Donation

**RENNAMEDIA.COM** Joe Renna 908-447-1295



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Hours: Mon. thru Wed. 9am - 9pm, Thur. - Sat. 9am - 10pm, Sun. 10am - 7pm

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 email: wittyswines@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook: Facebook.com/metro Linden and Facebook.com/wittyswines

### WHISKY

Ballantine	1.75L	\$30.99
Buchanan's 12yrs old	750ml	\$29.99
Buchanan's 12yrs old	1.75L	\$57.99
Bushmill's Irish	1.75L	\$46.99
Chivas Regal	750 ml	\$31.99
Chivas Regal	1.75L	\$62.99
Chivas Regal 18 yrs old	750 ml	\$82.99
Crown Royal	750ml	\$29.99
Crown Royal	1.75L	\$50.99
Dewars 12 yrs old	750ml	\$26.99
Dewars 12 yrs old	1.75L	\$45.99
Dewars White Label	750 ml	\$20.99
Dewars White Label	1.75L	\$33.99
Gentleman Jack	750ml	\$29.99
Gentleman Jack	1.75L	\$52.99
Glenmorangie 10 yrs old	750ml	\$44.99
Glenlivet 12 yrs old	750 ml	\$56.99
Glenlivet 12 yrs old	1.75L	\$104.99
Grants	750ml	\$15.99
Grants	1.75L	\$24.99
Jack Daniels	750ml	\$27.99
Jack Daniels	1.75L	\$48.99
Jack Daniels Fire	750ml	\$27.99
Jack Daniels Fire	1.75L	\$48.99
Jameson	750ml	\$29.99
Jameson	1.75L	\$58.99
Jim Beam Whisky	1.75L	\$32.99
Johnnie Walker Blue	750ml	\$193.99
Johnnie Walker Blue	1.75L	\$449.99
Johnnie Walker Black	750ml	\$29.99
Johnnie Walker Black	1.75L	\$59.99
Johnnie Walker Double Black	750ml	\$35.99
Johnnie Walker Red	750ml	\$19.99
Johnnie Walker Red	1.75L	\$33.99
Macallan 12yrs old (double cask)	750ml	\$74.99
Makers Mark	750ml	\$29.99
Makers Mark	1.75L	\$56.99

### GIN

Beefeater	1.75L	\$36.99
Bombay Sapphire	1.75L	\$39.99
Seagram's gin	1.75L	\$24.99
Tanqueray	750ml	\$22.99
Tanqueray	1.75L	\$38.99

### COGNAC & BRANDY

Courvoisier V.S.	750ml	\$35.99
Courvoisier V.S.	1.75L	\$66.99
Remy Martin V.S.O.P.	750ml	\$50.99
Remy Martin V.S.O.P.	1.75L	\$129.99

### CORDIALS

Bailey's Irish Cream	1.75L	\$47.99
Duggan's Irish Cream	1.75L	\$32.99
Kahlua	1.75L	\$45.99
Krupnik	750ml	\$20.99
Licor 43	750ml	\$27.99
Licor 43	1.75L	\$45.99

### VODKA

Absolut (regular)	750ml	\$21.99
Absolut (regular)	1.75L	\$31.99
Belvedere Organic Vodka	1L	\$39.99
Belvedere Organic Vodka	1.75L	\$49.99
Ciroc (all types)	750ml	\$29.99
Ciroc (all types)	1.75L	\$57.99
Finlandia	750ml	\$16.99
Finlandia	1.75L	\$28.99
Grey Goose	750ml	\$25.99
Grey Goose	1.75L	\$39.99
Ketel One	750ml	\$19.99
Ketel One	1.75L	\$39.99
Luksusowa Vodka	1.75L	\$25.99
Pinnacle (all types)	750ml	\$11.99
Pinnacle (80 proof)	1.75L	\$17.99
Skyy	1.75L	\$21.99
Sobieski	750ml	\$12.99
Sobieski	1.75L	\$19.99
Stolichnaya (all types)	1.75L	\$30.99
Tanqueray Sterling	750ml	\$19.99
Tanqueray Sterling	1.75L	\$30.99
Three Olives (all types)	1L	\$19.99
Tito's Vodka	1.75L	\$31.99

### RUM

Bacardi Light & Gold	750ml	\$13.99
Bacardi Light & Gold	1.75L	\$20.99
Captain Morgan Spice	1.75L	\$27.99
Malibu	750ml	\$20.99
Malibu	1.75L	\$30.99

### TEQUILA

Deleon Blanco Tequila	750ml	\$37.99
Deleon Blanco Tequila	1.75L	\$59.99
Patron Silver	750ml	\$44.99
Patron Silver	1.75L	\$81.99
Cantera Negra Coffee Tequila	750ml	\$29.99

### BEER

Becks (12oz) 24pk	24pk	\$29.99
Blue Moon	24pk	\$36.49
Bud and Bud Lite cans	30pk	\$27.99
Bud and Bud Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$24.99
Coors Lite (24oz) cans	12pk	\$19.99
Coors Lite/Miller Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$23.99
Coors Lite/Miller Lite	30pk	\$27.99
Corona/Corona Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$32.99
Dab (16oz) cans	24pk	\$26.99
Founders All Day IPA	15pk	\$17.49
Heineken/Heineken Lite bottles	24pk	\$31.99
Land Shark	24pk	\$29.99
Modelo Especial cans	24pk	\$29.99
Pabst Blue Ribbon cans	30pk	\$20.99
Pilsner Urquell	24pk	\$35.99
Sam Adams Boston Lager	24pk	\$37.99
Stella Artois loose bottles	24pk	\$32.99
Super Bock	24pk	\$32.99
Tarczyn (16oz) cans	24pk	\$27.99
Yuengling Lager bottles	24pk	\$23.99
Zywiec (11.2oz)	24pk	\$21.99

### WINE

Bartenura Moscato	750ml	\$12.99
Barone Fini Pinot Grigio	750ml	\$11.99
Bell Adagio Pinot Grigio	1.5L	\$10.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	750ml	\$ 6.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	1.5L	\$10.99
Black Box (All Types)	3L	\$19.99
Bonanza Cabernet	1.5L	\$40.99
Carnivor Cabernet Sauvignon	750ml	\$10.99
Casal Garcia Vinho Verde	1L	\$ 6.99
Cavit (All Types)	1.5L	\$15.99
Clos du Bois Chardonnay	1.5 L	\$19.99
Dom Perignon	750ml	\$264.99
Dreaming Tree (All Types)	750ml	\$13.99
Ecco Domani Pinot Grigio	750ml	\$11.99
Freixenet Brut, Extra, Extra Dry	750ml	\$11.99
Gato Negro (All Types)	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Gazela Vinho Verde	750ml	\$ 6.49
Joseph Carr Cabernet Sauvignon	750ml	\$21.99
Kendall Jackson Vintners Chardonnay	750ml	\$13.99
Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc	750ml	\$14.99
Louis Jadot Beaujolais Villages	750ml	\$14.99
Louis Jadot Pouilly Fuisse	750ml	\$26.99
Martini & Rossi Asti	750ml	\$11.97
Menage a Trois Red	750ml	\$10.99
Mi Amore Red	750ml	\$ 8.99
Moet Imperial Champagne	750ml	\$46.99
Noble Wine 337, 667	750ml	\$11.99
Papi (All Types)	1.5L	\$11.99
Ruffino Chianti	1.5L	\$14.99
Ruffino Tan label	750ml	\$19.99
Santa Margerita Pinot Grigio	750ml	\$22.09
Silver Oak Alexander Valley Cabernet	750ml	\$115.99
Simi Chardonnay	750ml	\$13.09
Woodbridge (All Types)	1.5L	\$12.49

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<b>10% OFF</b>	<b>15% OFF</b>
Any purchase of <b>6 bottles of wine</b>	Any purchase of <b>12 bottles of wine</b>
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Coupons not valid on sale items.	Coupons not valid on sale items.
Visit our facebook page for news of next tasting event: facebook.com/metro Linden	

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*“Visit the store for more In-Store Specials!”*

ABC prices prevail other prices, limited to store inventory.

Not responsible for typographical errors.

Prices may vary.