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VIBRANT NEW MURAL BY ARTIST JADE RIVERA UNVEILED

On December 6, 2024, the City of Rahway proudly joined the owners of QUILLA by Sabor Peruano for the unveiling of a remarkable new mural on Irving Street.

Renowned artist Jade Rivera traveled from Lima, Peru, to create the piece, which is a vibrant tribute to Peruvian culture. Rivera is recognized internationally, and particularly in Peru, for his artistic vision and signature style. He typically depicts folklore, mythology, and indigenous wildlife of his homeland alongside scenes of everyday life.

The unveiling ceremony was attended by Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe, members of the Rahway City Council, Assemblyman James Kennedy, and Vice Consul Ms. Maria Alejandra Malatesta from the Consulado General de Perú en Paterson. Also present were members of the Rahway Chamber of Commerce and members of the local community who gathered to celebrate this powerful blend of art and culture.

The artwork is rich in symbolism related to Peruvian cultural heritage and history. Rivera incorporated flora and fauna native to the Andes, such as Peruvian lilies and the iconic Andean flamingo (parihuana). The parihuana is also a symbol of the Peruvian flag, which is said to have been designed by General José de San Martín after witnessing a flock of flamingos take flight in Paracas.

Another emblematic element is the crescent moon. The moon refers to Mama Quilla, the Incan goddess of the moon and fertility, and a protector of women. This connection is especially poignant given that the restaurant QUILLA is named in honor of the goddess.

This project was made possible in part by a grant from the Rahway Special Improvement District (SID). The SID's Public Art Initiative supports commercial property owners in the development of new and unique public artworks throughout Rahway, ensuring that such art is visible



and accessible to the wider public.

"We take pride in the vibrant tapestry of ethnic diversity within the Rahway community," said Mayor Giacobbe. "This mural is a powerful example of how public art can deepen our understanding of cultural traditions and perspectives, uniting and inspiring us all."

The mural will be permanently displayed at QUILLA by Sabor Peruano, 1576 Irving Street, further solidifying Rahway's growing reputation as a hub for public art and cultural expression.

Visit rahwayishappening.com/public-art for a map of public art.

Photos by City of Rahway



(above) Members of the Rahway community joined Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe, Rahway City Council, and QUILLA by Sabor Peruano for the unveiling of a new mural by Peruvian artist Jade Rivera. Distinguished guests included Vice Consul Maria Alejandra Malatesta (Consulado General del Perú en Paterson) and Assemblyman James Kennedy.

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HICKORY TREE CHORUS WINTER SING-ALONG

Stay warm this winter by putting some music in your life in 2025! Join the Hickory Tree Chorus for a Winter Sing-Along, which will include a meet-and-greet, warm-ups and, of course, some wonderful singing. Dates are January 8 and 15, 2025, from 6:45 to 9:30 p.m. at The Shrine of St Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ. The chorus sings a variety of music, including old-fashioned love songs, Broadway, Disney, Beatles, and more, in a fun, supportive community. Come sing with us and share the joy of music together! Stay for friendship and fun!

And the event is free!

Hickory Tree is an award-winning women's chorus singing four-part a cappella harmony in the barbershop style. We are passionate about music, performance, fun and friendship. We believe every voice counts and encourage women singers of all ages, colors, ethnicities, and orientations to visit us and share our joy of music.

Please contact the Chorus for the Winter Sing-Along by email at info@hickorytreechorus.org. Find more information at hickorytreechorus.org.



(above) The Hickory Tree award-winning women's chorus is hosting free events on January 8 and 15, 2025, from 6:45 to 9:30 p.m. at The Shrine of St Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ.

Courtesy photo



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NEW JERSEY YOUTH CHORUS TO HOLD AUDITIONS IN JANUARY 2025



The New Jersey Youth Chorus, a program of Wharton Arts, will hold mid-year auditions in January 2025 for singers in grades 3-12. To register for an audition for one of its five auditioned ensembles, visit NJYC.org.

Special events this season for NJYC choristers include travel to Princeton and Philadelphia, choral festivals at Carnegie Hall and the University of Connecticut, and collaborations with the St. Louis Children's Choir and the Rhode Island Children's Choir. Additionally, Coriste and Camerata will embark on an international tour to Germany, Belgium, and The Netherlands. For more information, call (973) 998-5670 or email info@njyc.org.

Wharton Arts' mission is to offer accessible, high quality performing arts education that sparks personal growth and builds inclusive communities.

Wharton Arts' vision is for a transformative performing arts education in an inclusive community to be accessible for everyone.

Wharton Arts is New Jersey's largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center serving nearly 2,000 students through a range of classes and ensembles. The 5 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Chorus, an auditioned choral ensemble program for students in grades 3-12, encourage a love and appreciation of choral music while nurturing personal growth and creative

development. The 15 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony, which serve over 500 students in grades 3-12 by audition, inspire young people to achieve musical excellence through high-level ensemble training and performance opportunities. Based in Paterson, the Paterson Music Project is an El Sistema-inspired program of Wharton Arts that uses music education as a vehicle for social action by empowering and inspiring young people to achieve their full potential through the community experience of ensemble learning and playing. From Pathways classes for young children to Lifelong Learning programs for adults, the Wharton Performing Arts School has a robust musical theater and drama program and offers both private and group classes for instruments and voice for all ages and all abilities. With the belief in the positive and unifying influence of music and that performing arts education should be accessible to all people regardless of their ability to pay, Wharton Arts offers need-based scholarships.

Wharton Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence, and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 12 counties. All of Wharton Arts' extraordinary teaching artists, faculty members, and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best.

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(above) Diane R. recently donated a car to the NJVN. She handed the keys over to "Sarge".

CAR DONATIONS HELP VETERANS

Submitted by Michael Boll, Director New Jersey Veterans Network

The New Jersey Veterans Network (NJVN) has received countless donations and other awesome support from Renna Media News readers. We are extremely fortunate to have so many readers that love helping our veterans live a better way of life. To date articles in Renna Media publications have resulted in 4 car donations. Veteran "Sarge" is the most recent recipient of a car donation after the donor read an article in a March publication.

We are blessed to have such a generous following, donations like this will help our veterans get to work, and their medical appointments.

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 mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. Help us save Vets! We are always looking for volunteers, with various skills, to join the team. If you are a veteran or family member that's in need of assistance; or are interested in volunteering, would like us to speak at your event, or contribute to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email mdbollio@optonline.net. To learn more visit njvn.org.

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EVENTS IN RAHWAY 100, 75, AND 50 YEARS AGO

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

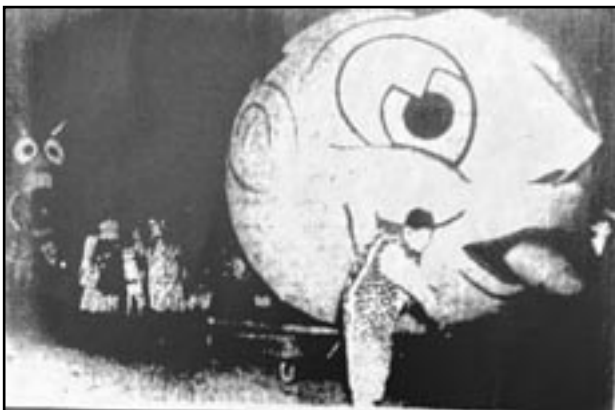
1925

Student vaccinations - Superintendent William F. Little announced in June that unvaccinated children would not be allowed to register for school when classes opened in the fall. He stated the directive was necessary to protect the public school children and the citizens at large from an outbreak of smallpox. Superintendent Little told Board of Education members, "We cannot force a child to be vaccinated, but we can keep the child from entering the public schools. There is no reason why Rahway should be behind in the matter of prevention against the spread of smallpox."

The Board of Health had previously sent letters to the Education Board disclosing the alarming fact that over 50% of the school children were not vaccinated. At their July meeting, the Board of Ed. members voted to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.

Civil War group disbands - The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Barry Post disbanded on October 30 after 56 years of service to the community. The post was organized after the end of the Civil War by Rahway veterans who had served during the bloody conflict. Barry Post would become an active and highly respected organization for over five decades. By the 1920s, however, most of the members had passed and the few who remained were well up in their years. Rahway's World War I vets, members of Mulvey/Ditmars Post 681, attempted to assist the Post so it could retain its charter, but the organization's time had come to an end.

KKK presence in Rahway - The noxious presence of the Ku Klux Klan reared its ugly head throughout Union County in the summer of 1924 and their hate-filled activities continued in 1925. (Look for a full article on this subject in a future issue of "Our Town.")



(above) The 1950 Halloween Parade featured 22 large inflatables.



(above) An 80' Sea Serpent inflatable makes its way down Main Street in the 1950 Halloween Parade.

1950

City breaks construction records - Nineteen hundred and fifty saw Rahway break all records for the building of new homes. In the first quarter, the city experienced a gain of 122% over the same period in 1949, a year that had itself set records. Construction would continue throughout the year ending with a value of new construction projects reaching \$3,614,802. The three massive developments on the west side of St. Georges Avenue (Madison Hill, Oak Manor, and Milton Lake) stretching from Colonia Boulevard to Westfield Avenue would change the landscape of the city.

Horrors of the Atomic Bomb - "The Atomic Bomb and all the Horrors of Modern Warfare" was the topic of a presentation given before the Medical Staff of Rahway Hospital on Wednesday, February 8, during a meeting of the Board of Governors. Dr. R.M. Freeman, of the Army Medical College at Washington D.C. and a Rahway resident, spoke about the effects of atom bombs on the human body. Dr. Freeman reported, "The real danger from atomic explosions to the survivors comes from burns to the body."

First Halloween Parade - Planned as an event to bring fun instead of mischief to Halloween night, the city hosted a spectacular Halloween parade that was viewed by an estimated crowd of over 25,000 citizens from Rahway and

neighboring towns who lined the 2.3 mile parade route. Another 5,000 participated in the line of march. Parade entries included twelve bands, 22 inflated figures including an 80' sea serpent, a 30' bug, and a 30' dachshund, many floats, and hundreds of costumed marchers. Parade participants assembled at Roosevelt School, marched along many city streets to the shopping district, and ended at Riverside Park (Veterans Field) where prizes and awards were presented. The Halloween parade would be a scheduled event on the city calendar for the next several years.

1975

Bicentennial City - At the start of the new year, Rahway was one of the first communities in the country to be recognized as a "Bicentennial City." The designation was awarded to communities that demonstrated their involvement covering a number of historical criteria. An official flag commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the birth of the Republic was presented to Mayor Daniel Martin and members of the Rahway Historical Society. The city would go on to host a full year of major events throughout 1976, the Bicentennial year.

Train station renovations - On August 28, a dedication ceremony for the newly renovated Penn Central Railroad Station was held at the corner of Milton Avenue and Irving Street. State Transportation Commissioner, Alan Sanger was the featured speaker. The renovations included a modern brick facade, renovated interior, new walls, ceiling, lighting and restrooms. A new waiting shelter was constructed on the west platform and a new ticket agent office and taxi service was added to the east side. The one million dollar plus project was financed through 1968 transportation bond funds.

RHS Basketball team sets season record - The RHS Basketball team ended with a record of 23 -5, the best win/loss record in the school's history. The squad reached the finals in the Union County Tournament and the Group 2, Section 3 State Tournament, but came up short in both contests. The team tied the heavily favored, top seeded Plainfield Cardinals after regulation play, but fell 69-64 in overtime. In an exciting back-and-forth contest, they lost to the top seeded East Orange Panthers 55-54 on a last second buzzer beater. The team was led by seniors Don Aikins, Mark Slonaker, Vic Kurylak, Ray Brown, Ken Farrell, John Parker, and sophomore, John Solomon. The team was coached by Dave Arnold.

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The Gateway Family YMCA Provides Unique Opportunities for Everyone this Winter

At The Gateway Family YMCA, individuals and families find more than just a place to work out. With opportunities to connect with new people, develop new skills and explore new interests, the Y facilitates the discovery of new passions and assists in gaining a greater sense of purpose and belonging for all. This January, The Gateway Family YMCA is helping everyone in the community start strong with new programs, new hours, community initiatives and a membership special!

Winter programs at The Gateway Family YMCA include new options that introduce Arts, Enrichment and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) in addition to traditional YMCA programs like Dance, Gymnastics, Swimming Lessons, Youth Sports, and Group Exercise. With registration available now, for winter programs, childcare and summer camp, January is the ideal time to get ahead and plan for an exciting 2025. Beginning January 2nd, The Gateway Family YMCA has announced expanded facility hours in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union to better serve the local community. In addition, January 1 – 15, everyone can join the YMCA with \$0 Joiner fee using promo code JAN at tgfymca.org/join-the-Y. This offer is available on all membership types, including Family Memberships with one to four adults. For local families, The Gateway Family YMCA provides a fun and unique opportunity to support all ages, together or apart, within the same organization.

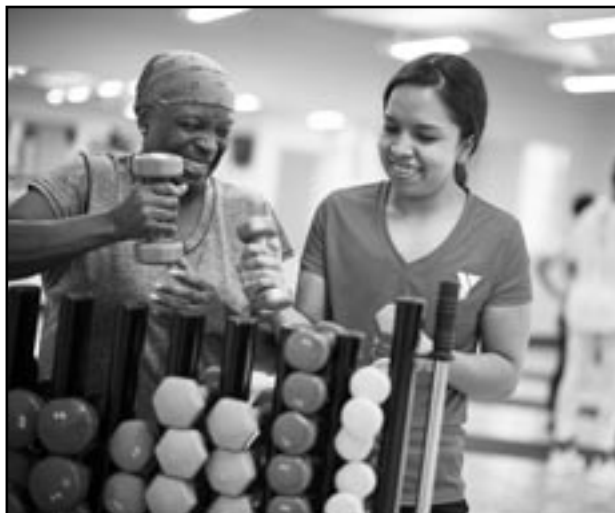
The Gateway Family YMCA provides alternative solutions for busy families, including virtual group exercise, a mobile app with 24-hour access to thousands of recorded seminars, skill drills, group exercise, art and motivational programming.

Unique programs for specialized communities is at the heart of the Y's mission. Through WISE Community Services programs individuals with Alzheimer's, Dementia, Mild Cognitive Impairment, or those who would benefit from additional assistance and their caregivers receive specialized services and support to ensure they

remain healthy, active and independent. This March, The Gateway Family YMCA will launch a Veterans Wellness Initiative. For interested individuals, the Wellness Center Branch is collecting an interest list at 908-349-9622 or veterans@tgfymca.org. Chronic Disease prevention and management programs like Enhance Fitness for Arthritis, Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring and LiveSTRONG at the YMCA provide a comprehensive community resource without the additional burden of travel. The 7th Grade initiative, Boys and Young Men of Color Strategy (BYMOC) and innovative programs like Esports ensure that everyone receives the support and commitment of caring role models, leadership opportunities and life-skills necessary for a bright future.

"Our mission is to serve and support all individuals in our community, and we have a unique opportunity to ensure equitable access is available through financial assistance supported by community partners and donors in our Annual Support Campaign," stated Colleen A. Clayton, Chief Development and Strategy Officer.

To learn more about The Gateway Family YMCA, visit 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 Branch 908-349-9622 for more information.



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ALL YOU CAN EAT PASTA BUFFET- JAN 12

The Rahway Knights of Columbus will host an all you can eat pasta buffet on

Sunday, January 12th
from 3 to 7 p.m.

the cost is \$15 for adults, \$10 for children under 10. Price includes coffee, tea, and dessert.

The club house is located at 80 West Inman Ave., Rahway.

RAHWAY WELCOMES IN THE HOLIDAYS WITH ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING



Santa made his first annual visit to Rahway to begin the holiday season the Friday after Thanksgiving. The Rahway Christmas tree lighting celebration was held in front of City Hall on November 24th, 2023. The family-friendly event featured merchants opening their

doors to visitors, bounce houses, carolers, bumper cars, live ice sculpture creation, face painting, and more!

The grand finale was Santa lighting the Christmas tree from the ladder of a Rahway Fire Department truck.



GRIEF FACILITATORS WELCOMED; VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

The staff at Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss are so pleased to welcome 10 new facilitators to their wonderful team of volunteers! The new facilitators completed three full days of training where they learned about Dr. Alan Wolfelt's Companioning Model practiced at

Imagine, and role-played situations in which they used their new facilitation skills assisted by members of the Imagine staff.

One of the participants in the training shared a bit about her experience saying: "I was amazed by the way a group of strangers could feel so safe

in a non-judgmental environment to share their most vulnerable feelings and stories." Another spoke about the Imagine staff who facilitated the training sharing: "All three facilitators were more than generous of heart and spirit."

Each of the new volunteers is now facilitating a grief support group on one of Imagine's Nights of Support in Mountainside or Newark. The staff at Imagine are so grateful to welcome this new team of volunteers! One of the largest hurdles the staff at Imagine faces in meeting the demand for their services is finding compassionate individuals like those above, who can dedicate their time and talents to volunteer.

If you would like to explore the possibility of joining Imagine's incredible team of volunteers, please visit their website at imaginejnj.org to complete their interest form, or contact Imagine's Communications and Volunteer Engagement Manager, Val Stierhoff at val@imaginejnj.org. Additional trainings are planned for youth facilitators in January, and for adults in February and May 2025.

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss is a 501c3 that offers grief and loss education and training to the community and free year-round grief support groups who are coping with a loss due to death. For more information, please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginejnj.org or visit our website at imaginejnj.org.



(above, l-r) Participants in Imagine's recent facilitator training. Back Row: Indira Jagoo, Imagine's Newark Clinical Program Director; Cynthia White; Zeinab Fattahi; Virginia Farnum; Arlette Rodriguez; Tikeisha Johnson; Rena Jordan, Imagine's Chief Development Officer; Sonia Nunez, Imagine's Bilingual Program Manager; Ruth Lushen; Front Row: Abigail Preece, Imagine's Clinical Program Supervisor; Tracy Maitin; Teanna Johnson and Caroline Hislip

Courtesy photo

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SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS AND THERAYOUTH FOUNDATION

The Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery provided a \$10,250 grant to the Special Olympics of New Jersey.

This grant is for general support of their year-round programs throughout Union County. Programs are free to all registered athletes. This grant helps with the cost of insurance, facilities, equipment, uniforms, housing and meals at

events, awards, sports, and education. At Phillips 66, we understand that we share our communities and take responsibility for our neighbors' safety and well-being.

Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery provided a \$10,000 grant to the TheraYouth Foundation. This grant is for general support of their programs. TheraYouth is a nonprofit foundation

offering children of low-income families, with or without insurance, outpatient therapy to overcome physical and developmental barriers. They solve the problem of scarce and costly therapeutic care in high-density neighborhoods by offering affordable occupational, physical, and speech therapy. To learn more about TheraYouth visit therayouth.org.



(above) Lisa Barra, Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery, and Beth Starr, Special Olympics of New Jersey

Courtesy photo



(above, l-r) Jennifer Allen, TheraYouth Volunteer; Lisa Barra & John Allen,

Courtesy photo

SPIRITUAL? CURIOUS? SEEKING?

Do you consider yourself spiritual? Are you curious about what people are talking about when they speak of having faith or being spiritual? Are you seeking peace of mind, of heart of soul?

Come and see for yourself. Come and explore the Christian faith. Come and discuss with other seekers what is on your mind, what you cannot talk about except with other seekers. Come to an Alpha gathering.

Alpha is for everybody that wants to discuss seeking answers to life's big questions. Why are we here? Is this all there is to life? Where are we going? How do I attain peace of mind, heart, and soul? Whether you are young or old, have faith or are atheist or agnostic, Alpha provides a safe environment for exploring our big questions about life.

We begin by sharing a meal together and getting to know each other. We watch a video together then break into small groups for uninhibited discussion about what is on our minds.

The series runs for 12 weeks on Monday nights beginning at 7:30 p.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m. It will begin February 3rd, 2025, and end May 12th, 2025. Three of the sessions are live in



person and the remainder are on Zoom. There is no cost to participate. You will need a desire for frank discussion, a willingness to participate and a commitment to attend. You will also need a computer or smartphone capable of Zoom sessions.

The live in person sessions will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 1571 S. Martine Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

To register go onto IHMParish.net. If you have any questions, please call 908-889-2100.

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Monday February 3, 2025

7:00 PM LIVE SCREENING + DINNER

@ The Nazareth Center
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
1571 South Martine Ave. Scotch Plains, NJ

More details available at www.ihmparish.net/alpha



EASY WINTER BIRD FEEDING

Many people would like to help feed birds during the winter, but for various reasons they do not want to get involved with the expense and hassles of tending to feeders. Here's a simple technique you will appreciate, and birds will love. Simply sprinkle seed on the ground. An area that is mulched will be the easiest to clean when the season is over.

Gleaning is a type of foraging during which a bird will deliberately and methodically pick over an area to collect food, typically insects or seeds. Many species that overwinter in our area use this method of feeding for at least part of their diet. Dark-eyed Juncos, White-crowned sparrows, Mourning Doves and even Cardinals will frequent your garden to glean seeds off the ground.

The best seed for this type of feeding are black oil sunflower seeds or finch mix, without corn. The popular wild bird mixes contains a lot of corn which attracts many larger aggressive birds such as Starlings and Grackles which will chase your smaller, and more colorful birds away.

Keep it as simple as possible. Scatter a cup or two of seed in the same area and birds will come back when they need to. I don't sprinkle too much at once because I don't want unnecessary and expensive waste. If you have an easily assessable area with a view from a window, that is perfect. Even if you are a devoted back yard bird watcher, tossing some seed on the ground will give your feathered friends more of choice of areas in which to feed.

EASY WINTER BIRD FEEDING: FRUIT

Mockingbirds, Cardinals and Purple Finches are a few of our local back yard birds that eat fruit. Bountiful in the summer, a planting of fruiting trees and shrubs is a sure way to bring

these and many other beautiful migrating birds into our gardens. Most birds follow these fruiting trees and flowers as they migrate south in the winter months.

For the birds that don't migrate, fruit in winter is impossible to find but still greatly appreciated if you can supply it.

Apples, grapes, raisins are the best choice for winter bird feeding.*

Raisins are the easiest fruit to supply. Just put a few in the same area each day and your birds will make a daily visit to that area.

If you have extra apples, rather than putting those in the trash feed them to birds. Apples store for a long period of time so keep them in your crisper until you want them. They don't have to be perfect. Over-ripe apples with a few brown spots are fine. Birds aren't picky. Simply cut off the top or slice them if you prefer. You can toss them out the door but I put them on a spike where I have a good view from my window.

If you have a lot of extra grapes put some in the freezer until you need them. I only put out three or four grapes a day. You can also serve blueberries or cranberries if available.

I try to avoid waste that can attract unwanted visitors at night, such as mice.

Don't be surprised to see a beautiful Mockingbird in your garden every winter day enjoying an apple or a few grapes.

*Our local birds do not eat bananas and other tropical fruit so don't put them out. They will only attract unwanted critters.

Enjoy your garden all year long,
Happy New Year,

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) Easy winter bird feeding. I sprinkle seeds on a mulched area. When it's time to clean up in the spring I just rake up the old seed husks and put new mulch on top.



MEETING

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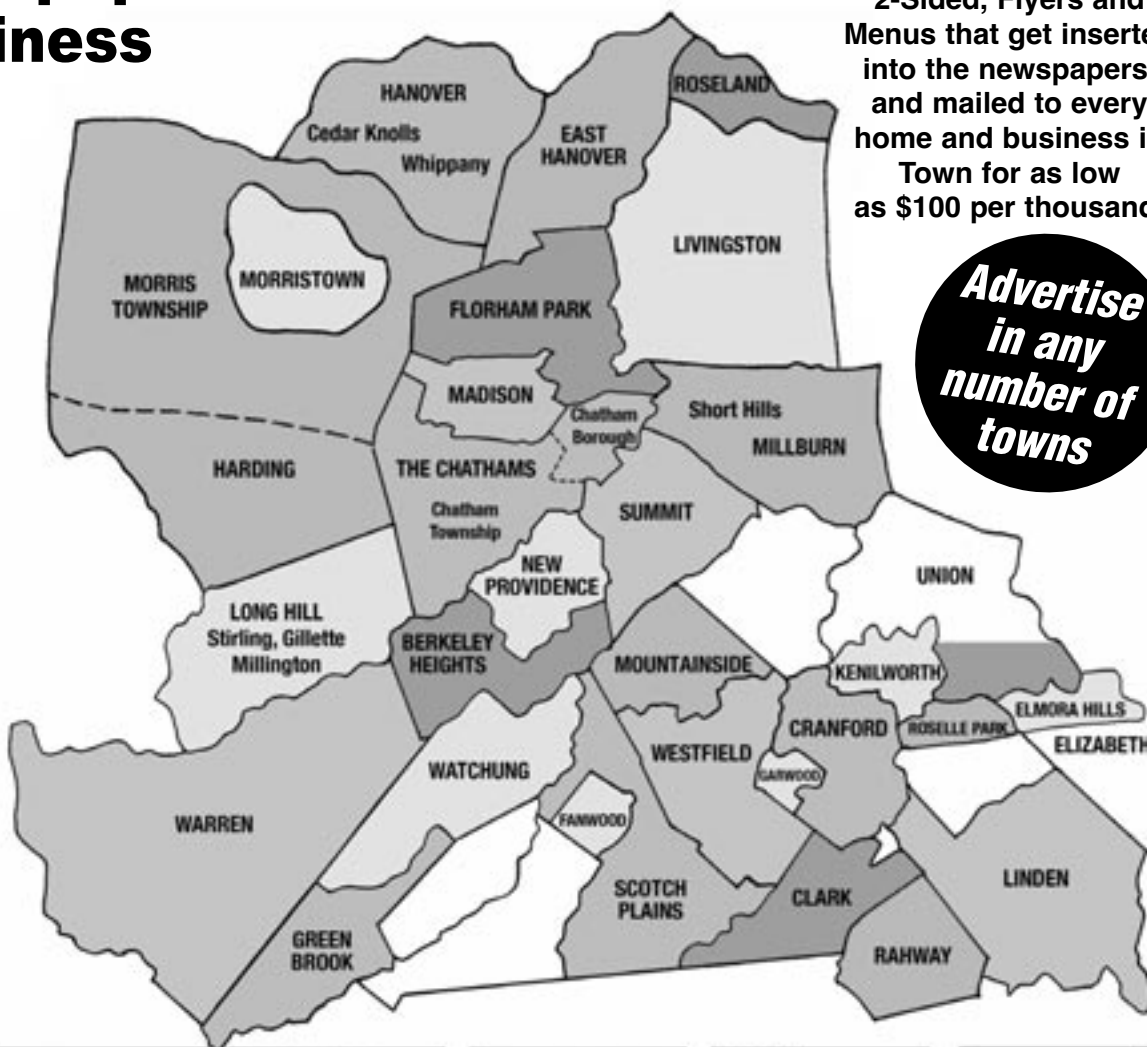
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AN UNUSUAL GOOSE REHABBED AND RELEASED

The Raptor Trust

The Brant goose, with its compact size and striking black-and-white plumage, is a remarkable bird. Adapted to drink saltwater, these geese embark on long migratory journeys from their Arctic breeding grounds to coastal winter

habitats. Look for them in estuaries, mudflats, and saltmarshes, where they thrive throughout the winter months.

Recently, The Raptor Trust treated a Brant goose (Admit #21-4190) found in Long Valley with wounds from a predator attack. After intensive care, including suturing lacerations, treating an eye injury and parasites, this resilient bird was successfully released at Sandy Hook on November 2nd.

ABOUT THE RAPTOR TRUST

The Raptor Trust is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located at 1390 White Bridge Rd., Millington, NJ. They provide free care and assistance to injured, sick, or orphaned wild birds. They offer educational programs to the public about wild birds, especially birds of prey. They strive to provide a human example for others. For more information about upcoming events, to make a donation, and volunteer opportunities visit info@theraptortrust.org. To report an injured wild bird call 908-647-2353.



(above) We're thrilled to see this Brant goose take to the skies (or water) once more! It was a charming patient.

Photo by The Raptor Trust

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS NIGHT SKY GAZING

Amateur Astronomers, Inc (AAI) of Cranford, NJ celebrated their 75th Anniversary on Sunday, November 17, 2024, at The Westwood Caterers of Garwood, NJ. In attendance were 53 past and current members who range from teenagers to seniors.

AAI has always interested anyone who loves looking and learning about the night sky. Housed in the William Miller Sperry Observatory on the Union College campus in Cranford, the observatory is open to the public every Friday night with their twin domes looking at the heavens. One of the domes houses a 24-inch reflector and the other dome houses a refractor, which was constructed by club members. Public lectures start at 8:30 p.m. on Fridays, they are on current topics in Astronomy.

Youth lectures are presented by the club at 7:00 p.m. to preregistered scout groups to help them earn their patches in science. If you are interested in preregistering a scout group, please contact info@asterism.org.

The club also celebrates celestial events such as eclipses by opening the Observatory and having numerous telescopes outside the building. For more information about AAI email, membership@asterism.org or visit asterism.org.

ASTRONOMY DAY - MAY 17, 2025

Amateur Astronomers, Inc. along with the North Jersey Astronomical Group, two amateur astronomy clubs located in New Jersey, are once again holding their annual Astronomy Day on Saturday, May 17, 2025. The event will be held in 2 locations: Trailside Nature & Science Center in Mountainside in the afternoon and at William Miller Sperry Observatory on the campus of Union College in Cranford in the evening. The theme is "Solar Max, Unlocking the Secrets of the Sun." This is a family friendly event that focuses on learning about our Sun and its impact on us, and also about astronomy and related sciences in a fun and easy to understand atmosphere. This event appeals to both children and adults. The event is free and open to the public and does not require preregistration. So, mark your calendars for Saturday, May 17, 2025, and come out to learn more about the Sun and our universe!



(above) AAI has always interested anyone who loves learning about the night sky. Housed in the William Miller Sperry Observatory on the Union College campus in Cranford, the observatory is open to the public every Friday nights. One of the domes houses a 24-inch reflector and the other dome houses a refractor. Public lectures start at 8:30 p.m. on Fridays, on current topics in Astronomy.

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