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UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL FOR FALLEN OFFICERS - APRIL 11

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

The Rahway Police Department was established on June 8, 1858 and in the department's 161 year history, nine officers have lost their lives while in the service of their city. On April 11, 2026, The Rahway Honorary PBA Local #31 and Rahway PBA Local #31 will hold an unveiling of a memorial dedicated to two Rahway officers killed in the line of duty, Officer Harry, J. Orr and Sergeant Frank Remer. The public is cordially invited to attend the event at the Memorial Site located on St. Georges Avenue, between Forbes and Pierpont Street at 10:00 a.m.

Officer Harry J. Orr (d. December 4, 1922) was killed when he was thrown from his motorcycle after it crashed into a vehicle which was operating without required rear lights.

It was a few minutes before 11:00 a.m. when Officer Orr, who was observing traffic while parked on his motorcycle on the side of St. Georges Avenue, spotted a truck turning onto the north bound lane of St. Georges from Route 27. The truck was hauling a small trailer which the officer noticed was not equipped with proper rear safety lights. After waiting for a number of



(above) The funeral procession for traffic sergeant Frank Remer, Killed while on duty, was the longest in the city's history. Here it passes along St. Georges Avenue near the corner of Westfield Avenue. The picture was taken from the old porch of the Merchants and Drivers Tavern. The home shown in the left of the photo was the Squier residence.

automobiles to pass, Officer Orr kick started his machine and sped after the truck. The vehicle had gotten as far as Sycamore Street when Orr's racing motorcycle slammed into the rear of the trailer. It was alleged that the truck was slowing, but because there were no rear lights on the trailer, Orr had no warning and was unable to stop. Grievously injured, Orr was rushed to Rahway Hospital where he died shortly after twelve noon. Officer Orr was survived by a wife and three young sons. He was thirty-six years old.

Sergeant Frank Remer (d. April 12, 1926) was killed on his motorcycle when he was cut off by a delivery truck that was attempting to make a left turn from St. Georges Avenue onto Sycamore Street. The accident occurred only yards from where Officer Orr was killed four years earlier.

Coming from Woodbridge on Route 27, a delivery truck blew a tire as it turned onto St. Georges Avenue heading north. The driver, realizing he would have to get off the main road to make repairs, drove a few blocks looking for a quiet side street. When he came to Sycamore Street, he initiated a quick left turn. Sgt. Remer, who was riding behind the truck, was caught unaware and crashed into the side of the vehicle. Remer never regained consciousness after the collision and died three hours later at Rahway Hospital. Sgt. Remer had a wife and one daughter. He was thirty-seven.

(Note: By the late 1920s eleven states made brake lights a requirement on automobiles. Flashing turn signals were not introduced until 1939).

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 &
SERGEANT FRANK REMER

April 11, 2026
 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Memorial Site:
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 Between Forbes St.
 & Pierpont St.,
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OUR TOWN *Rahway*

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STUDENTS OFFERED UP TO \$2,000

Scholarship applications are open for local high school seniors

For the year 2026, the Bayway Complex Community Advisory Panel (CAP) is offering 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 \$2,000 each, to students in these four municipalities represented by the CAP. It is a onetime \$2,000 award.

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 have all sections completed; Academics (transcript); Essay (AI generated prohibited); Science/Math Teacher Recommendation Letter(s) and confirmation of the student's area of study.

This scholarship is open to candidates who will be pursuing a college, university, career, or vocational school education in the Industrial,

Process Technology, Computer Science or Engineering, i.e., Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, or Environmental fields. Please contact your high school guidance counselor for more information or go to shorturl.at/01b4l to access the application. The deadline to submit applications is April 17, 2026.

The Bayway CAP is a committee of interested stakeholders including community representatives from Linden, Rahway, Elizabeth, and Staten Island representing various sectors of the community including neighbors, educators, retirees, public officials, emergency responders, and environmental organization representatives. The group meets quarterly for face-to-face dialogue between the community and company representatives from Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery, Infineum USA L.P., Cogen Technologies, Sunoco LP, Linden Venture, Nexpera, Solutia, Linden VFT LLC, and Parkway Generation.

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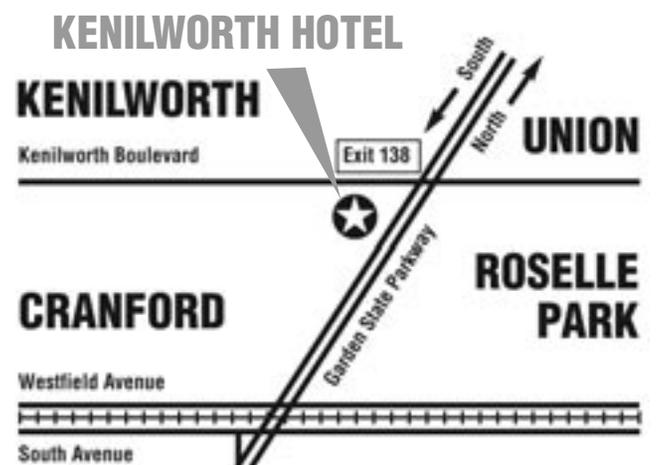
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SPIRIT OF MILANO BROUGHT TO LIFE THROUGH ART, ATHLETICS, & POETRY

Rahway Public Schools

While the world turns its eyes to the Winter Olympics in Milano-Cortina, students at Rahway Academy have been bringing the heart of Italy directly into the classroom. Under the guidance of Italian teacher Mrs. Curcio, students recently completed a multi-disciplinary project celebrating the culture, history, and message of the Olympic host city.

The classroom was transformed into a vibrant gallery of student-created posters. These visual guides invited viewers to explore the rich heritage of Milan, featuring: Iconic Landmarks: Research on the Duomo di Milano and the historic Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II. Regional Flavors: Showcases of piatti tipici (typical dishes) such as Risotto alla Milanese and Panettone. Fun Facts: Insights into Milan's status as a global fashion capital and its unique system of canals.

The lessons moved from the desk to the "arena" as Mrs. Curcio organized a series of in-

class "Olympic" games. Students demonstrated teamwork and perseverance, culminating in a podium ceremony where high achievers were awarded Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals for their accomplishments.

Adding a layer of deep literary significance, the class studied the anti-war poem "Promemoria" by the celebrated Italian author Gianni Rodari. The poem carries modern weight, as it was performed by the popular Italian singer

Ghali during the Olympic Opening Ceremony. By learning the verses, students connected with the Olympic ideal of global unity and peace.

"Integrating the Olympics into our curriculum allows students to see Italian culture as a living, breathing experience," said Mrs. Curcio. "From the architecture of Milan to the powerful words of Rodari, they are learning that being a student of language is also about being a citizen of the world."



(above) Iconic Landmarks, Regional Flavors, and Fun Facts brought the spirit of Milano to life for Rahway Academy students.

Photo by Rahway Public Schools

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SUSAN SCOTT BRAXTON RETIRES

City of Linden

Congratulations to Linden Fire Department Principal Account Clerk Susan Scott Braxton. Susan officially retired on March 1, 2026. Susan began her career with the City of Linden as a clerk on November 29, 1999. On November 17, 2003 Susan transferred to the Linden Fire Department, becoming the first African American civilian clerk in its history. She proudly served in the Fire Prevention Bureau for over 22 years. Thank you for your 26 years and 3 months of service to the City of Linden and we wish you a happy and healthy retirement. - Fire Chief William Hasko Jr.



(above) Susan Scott Braxton, Fire Official Deputy Chief Christopher Rooney, and Fire Chief William Hasko Jr.

Photo by City of Linden

STUDENTS SELECTED FOR ART EXHIBIT AT NJPAC

Rahway Public Schools

Grover Cleveland Elementary School is proud to announce that two of its burgeoning young artists, Isaiah Pierre (3rd Grade) and Bianca Lynch (2nd Grade), have been selected to feature their work in the Art Educators of New Jersey (AENJ) Winter Exhibit at the New Jersey



(above) The Rahway community joins in celebrating Isaiah and Bianca's success and continues to support the vital role of arts education in developing critical thinking and self-expression in all students.

Photo by Rahway Public Schools

Performing Arts Center (NJPAC).

This recognition is a significant achievement in the New Jersey student art community. Out of hundreds of submissions from across the state, only 30 artworks were chosen through a rigorous juried selection process. The exhibit highlights exceptional talent from students in Kindergarten through 12th grade, making the selection of two elementary students from the same program a rare and impressive feat.

The AENJ NJPAC Winter Exhibit serves as a premier platform for young creators to showcase their vision to the public. Isaiah and Bianca's pieces were judged on originality, technical skill, and expressive quality.

"Watching Isaiah and Bianca develop their unique voices in the classroom has been a joy," said Mrs. Septimus, Art Educator at Grover Cleveland Elementary School. "Being selected for a statewide exhibition at such a young age is a testament to their dedication and the way they see the world. It's one thing to create art in a classroom, but seeing their work on the walls of a world-class venue like NJPAC is an experience that will stay with them forever. We are incredibly proud of their hard work."

The artwork will be on display at the NJPAC gallery spaces in Newark, NJ, during the winter season, allowing visitors from across the tri-state area to appreciate the creative output of New Jersey's youth.



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MEMBERS BRING HEART, STYLE AND SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Westfield Service League

The Westfield Service League continues to prove that community service can be as joyful as it is meaningful. While local grants each year are made possible through our thriving Thrift & Consignment Shops, our members' impact stretches far beyond our storefronts.

This past year, our volunteers brought smiles and style to Cranford Senior Housing with a lively fashion show and pop-up boutique. Residents enjoyed a front-row seat as our members modeled curated looks — fun, fashionable and all from our Shops. The boutique allowed seniors to browse beautiful, affordable pieces right in their community, making the afternoon entertaining and empowering.

Our outreach didn't stop there. Members gathered much-needed items for Sir Henry's Closet at Rutgers Basic Needs Center, before closing for the summer. These clothes and accessories help college students access essentials that support their well-being and academic success and extend our mission of care to young adults building their futures.

In addition, volunteers delivered Mobile Meals each week to homebound seniors, as well as worked the Westfield Food Pantry each month to those experiencing food insecurity.

So whether we're hosting events, stocking shelves, delivering meals or uplifting individuals, we take pride in strengthening our community through hands-on service.

To learn more about the Westfield Service League, visit our website at: thewestfieldserviceleague.org. Or visit us at 114 Elmer Street in Westfield. We are open Tuesday - Friday, 9:30-4 and Saturday, 10-4.

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NJIO's three orchestras (Prelude, Intermezzo, and Symphony) will present music by Mozart, Grieg, Vaughn Williams, and more, culminating in Sibelius's Symphony no.2.

NJIO concerts provide a relaxed concert atmosphere: no dress code, assigned seating, ticketing, or shushing. To ensure all audience members feel comfortable, NJIO offers a Concert Comfort Station in the concert lobby where attendees can borrow additional cushions, fidget toys, coloring pages and crayons, and large print program books.

This concert is the final performance for NJIO's 2025-2026 season. Information on NJIO's summer education programs is available now at www.njio.org/summer and an announcement about the 2026-2027 concert season will be available in July.

This free concert is made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and our season sponsors: the Frank and Lydia Bergen Foundation, the Plainfield Foundation, The Henry S. and Agnes M.

Truzack Foundation, Standish Foundation, and many other generous supporters. NJIO is a proud participating organization in the Families First Discovery Pass Program, a program of the NJ Departments of Health and Human Services.

EVENT DETAILS:

NJIO's Spring Concert: "The National Spirit"
Sunday, May 3rd, 2026 at 3pm
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NJIO is committed to ensuring that its programs and concerts are accessible. For more information regarding the concert or to inquire about patron services, please contact NJIO at info@njio.org, or visit NJIO's website www.njio.org

ABOUT NJ INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA:

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YMCA FREE FAMILY EVENT OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY - APRIL 18

The Gateway Family YMCA is hosting the Y's annual Healthy Kids Day® on Saturday, April 18th at YMCA Branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union, NJ. This free, annual event features a variety of family-friendly activities to encourage healthy kids, healthy families, and a healthy start to the summer season.



(above) The Gateway Family YMCA Invites Families to Kick Off a Healthy, Active Summer at Healthy Kids Day. A Free Family Event Open to the Community on April 18th.

Courtesy Photo

Hosted at The Gateway Family YMCA – Elizabeth Branch, 135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, Five Points Branch, 201 Tucker Avenue, Union, Rahway Branch, 1564 Irving Street, Rahway, and Wellness Center Branch, 1000 Galloping Hill, Union, The Gateway Family YMCA's Healthy Kids Day takes place on April 18th.

The Gateway Family YMCA is offering a one-day Membership Sale in honor of Healthy Kids Day on all memberships with code HKD at www.tgfymca.org/join-the-Y on April 18th.

“It is very important for kids to stay active over the summer, both physically and mentally,” stated Melynda A. Disla, President/CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA. “At the Y, we believe in providing resources for families to create healthy habits, no matter the time of year. Healthy Kids Day is a fun, free community-wide event that encourages families to take advantage of all the great summer activities the Y has to offer.”

Sponsored nationally by Peanuts and Gatorade, Healthy Kids Day's mission is to prepare community families for a safe, healthy and fun summer. Some featured activities at The Gateway Family YMCA include Family Yoga, Swimming, Basketball, and a Summer Day Camp Parent Information Session 12:00-2:00pm.

In honor of the YMCA's 175th anniversary in the United States, YMCAs nationwide are expanding their commitment to nurturing healthy,

confident kids through their annual Healthy Kids Day celebration. Healthy Kids Day reflects the Y's long-standing mission of strengthening communities and helping youth reach their full potential, a mission that has guided the organization for 175 years and continues to shape its work today. Locally, The Gateway Family YMCA has been serving the community for 126 years.

In addition to the Healthy Kids Day event, YMCA programs including Child Care, School Age Before/After School Care, Swimming Lessons, STEAM and Youth Sports will be celebrating Healthy Kids Day activities with youth and families throughout the week.

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 www.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.



FIND YOUR FUN AT THE Y!

YMCA Healthy Kids Day Open House

Bring your family to the Y for fun games, information on Summer Camp and more! Join us on 4/18 at all branches!

SO JOINER FEE
on ALL Full Memberships
April 18, 2026
Join the Y & Use Code HKD

THE GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA tgfymca.org

YMCA Summer Camp 2026
Register NOW!

Summer Camp Open House Parent Information
4/18 12-2pm
5/20 6-8pm
Virtual 5/6 12pm & 6pm

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The Gateway Family YMCA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening community.

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USEFUL GARDENING INFORMATION

SEE A TICK? SEND A TICK!

Google NJ TICKS 4 SCIENCE or call the Helpline for more information for proper tick identification. This is an extremely valuable service as the deer and tick population continue to grow in and New Jersey.

Even landscape professionals occasionally need assistance identifying problems. Diseases of trees, shrubs or insects need to be properly diagnosed before they can be cured or controlled. Luckily for us, Rutgers Cooperative Extension has county offices throughout New Jersey. Your county office can be found in the yellow pages or online. Rutgers Garden Helpline is staffed by trained volunteers to assist the citizens of their county with continuing educational opportunities supplied by Rutgers agricultural department agents during the year.

THE OFFICE HAS MOVED: Rutgers Garden Helpline of Union County is now located at 151 Grant Street, Berkeley Heights, NJ.

There are three ways you can reach the garden helpline with your questions.

You can call them at 908-654-9852. If you are coming to the office please call before making the trip to confirm someone will be there to help you.

Secondly you can e-mail questions and photographs to: mastergardeners@ucnj.org

Or citizens can bring a plant, lawn or insect samples to the office. Specimens are the surest way to guarantee a proper identification.

Summer hours are Monday to Thursday (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.) Friday (10 a.m. - Noon).

The Garden Helpline volunteers are well trained to identify insect species and how you can control them. Along with garden critters, the Helpline will identify house infesting insects such as carpenter ants, termites and food infesting pests

START WITH THE SOIL

Whether your goal is a plush green lawn or a large harvest of vegetables, soil fertility testing is the place to start. It helps by determining a soil's pH and need for lime and fertilizer. The best time to take a soil sample is before spring fertilization or after harvest in the fall. Do not sample shortly after lime, fertilizer, or manure applications or when the soil is excessively wet. For lawns, late summer sampling will prepare you for fall fertilization.

The Rutgers Soils Laboratory uses state-of-the-art instruments and methods of soil analysis. They suggest soil testing be repeated every 2-3 years.

WHY DOES SOIL PH MATTER?

Soil pH is a scale to measure how acidic or alkaline the soil is. Soil pH of 7 is neutral, below 7 is acidic and a pH above is alkaline. Plants, vegetables and grass grow better, are healthier and produce more within their own pH range. The proper pH permits plants to absorb minerals from the soil. Evergreens require an acidic pH around 4.5 while tomatoes need a pH of 7.0. By knowing the plant nutrition needs of your lawn and garden plots, you can prevent the over-application of

fertilizers.

Soil test sampling kits are available for a fee of \$20 Rutgers Cooperative Extension at their Garden Helpline offices or by mail.

USING WEED GARDEN CHEMICALS WISELY

Take a ride around your neighborhood on a hot summer's day and it won't take long to see someone spraying weed control on their lawn wearing short pants and sandals. I have seen this happen while the children were playing just a few feet away. Chemicals are so readily available and abundant in America we take them for granted. This is as true for the sellers as it is for us, the consumers. We are encouraged by the manufacturers to use their chemicals as often as possible.

Sadly many people use these chemicals without taking the time to read the label. If they did read the label they would know that these weed control chemicals become less effective as the temperatures get higher. The grass and weeds undergo stress and stop absorbing the chemicals. The toxins slowly evaporate creating a mist over your lawn where your children are playing. By the time the temperature reaches 90 they are not affective at all.

These chemicals work by attaching themselves to the weeds and then become absorbed into the cell tissues, working their way into the plant and finally the root system. When you apply them in short pants you are exposing your leg's cell tissue to the same chemicals. Removing weeds from your garden beds has multiple benefits. Weeds compete with garden plants and vegetables for space, nutrients, sunlight and water. Worst of all for many gardeners, weeds make your beds look messy and untended. Basically weeds are plants growing where you don't want them. This can apply to wildflowers, shrubs and even trees, such as the Norway maple. Whenever possible use safer weed control practices such as hand weeding and mulching in the spring.

USE AND STORAGE OF GARDEN CHEMICALS

Read and follow the directions on the label.

Store all chemicals properly as directed on the label. **THE LABEL IS THE LAW.**

Don't let liquids freeze or get too hot and don't allow dried chemicals to get moist. If you go to a store and their chemicals are sitting in the sun or are not properly stored, go to another store.

Always wear gloves when mixing any chemical.

Cover your nose and eyes, arms and legs, especially when spraying.

Even though your mix may be 100% organic don't breathe it in. Most organics contain microorganisms you want in your soil, but not in your lungs.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"

Happy & Safe Gardening,

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



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THE SECOND BATTLE OF SPANKTOWN

*A Chronology of the Revolution (Part IV • February 23, 1777 - March 16, 1777
Submitted by Al Shipley, City Historian and Rahway Library Research Consultant*

Not much had changed in the daily lives of the inhabitants living in Rahway/Spanktown following the rebel success at the January 5th battle. Even though the town was now rid of British control and fortified by Continentals and militia, the Tories were still very troublesome. Local residents who remained sympathetic to the crown, continued to give the redcoats the locations of rebel homes and when it was safest to raid them. The rebels were never out of danger of having their homes looted or burned, their barns emptied, their animals driven off, and their boats commandeered. However, the biggest threat was the fact that British troops commanded by General William Howe were stationed just seven miles to the south. By the middle of February, Howe decided to make his move north to regain control of the land now in the hands of the rebels.

On Sunday morning, February 23, roughly 1500 British soldiers marched out of Perth Amboy under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Mawhood. The large contingent was made up of a battalion of grenadiers, a battalion of light infantry and members of the 10th, 37th, and 38th regiments. Three field pieces were brought along to support the attacking army.

By 8:30 a.m., General William Maxwell had been alerted that an attack was imminent and readied his troops. Portions of his army had remained in Rahway/Spanktown since the January 5th battle and were now joined by the 3rd Brigade, a battalion of grenadiers and another of light infantry all skilled in rapid maneuvering.

Before entering the village, Mawhood split his force in half, taking one group towards the rebel encampments and sending the other half west. This second portion moved up the New Brunswick/Trenton Road (Route 27) with a purpose of drawing attention away from Mawhood's remaining troops which would advance along the main road (St. Georges Avenue). Even with the diversion, both columns met opposition from the rebels. Mawhood immediately came under fire and only got as far as the Robinson's Branch of the river. The diversion column fared little better and was unable to achieve its objective. After several hours of fighting the rebels were able to position themselves between the enemy and their home base. By mid-afternoon, the British had become weary of the fight and started their retreat. But waiting along the way was the rebel militia to cut them off and pick away at their beleaguered lines. The pesky militia would continue to harass the enemy flanks well into the evening ending the threat.

After the battle, General Washington, who maintained constant contact with his generals, sent encouraging news to Major General Horatio Gates writing, "General Maxwell writes me that today he has secured seven prisoners and spilt much blood."

The Pennsylvania Journal, a rebel publication, reported that five Americans were killed and nine wounded during the 12 hours of battle and ensuing skirmishes. The British suffered close to



(above) Brig. General William Maxwell, officer who was in command of much of the area that is today Morris, Essex, and Union Counties.

100 men killed or wounded with ten taken as prisoners. The article added that the enemy needed more than twenty wagons to carry off their dead and wounded.

After the successful defense of the town on the 23rd, and with Maxwell's army camped in the area, the morale of the rebels was greatly bolstered. They could not, however, savor the sense of security for very long. On the 8th of March the British made another attack with a goal of depleting the ranks of the Continentals.

Two thousand British troops were camped in Amboy waiting for orders to march to Brunswick to reinforce troops stationed there. Shortly after setting out, the officer in command came up with an ambitious plan. His grand design was to go 14 miles out of his way, make a quick strike and capture as many rebels as he could. Following his raid, he envisioned a triumphant entry into Brunswick leading his captives in the manor of "an old Roman general." Unfortunately for the misguided officer, the rebels he planned to capture were waiting in the Rahway/Spanktown

camps and as soon as they approached the village, he realized he had made a tragic mistake. Maxwell's men were perfectly positioned to meet them and the redcoats soon found they had walked into "a nest of American hornets." The rebels not only routed them but pursued them back into Amboy. As a result, the greatly reduced British troops reached Brunswick much later than ordered and without their parade of American prisoners.

While the Rahway/Spanktown area was proving to be a tough nut to crack for British officers, they gave no indication they were going to quit trying. Another attempt was made only a week after the failure on the 8th. On Sunday the 16th, a party of the King's troops under the command of Major General John Vaughan left Amboy and again headed for Rahway/Spanktown. His mission was to surprise the rebels posted there and capture as many as possible. Second in command on this mission was Lieutenant Colonel Mawhood who must have had the defeat he suffered at the end of February still fresh in his mind. He was assigned to cut off any rebels trying to retreat.

Vaughan and Mawhood experienced partial success and might have had a more substantial victory had it not been for the poor traveling conditions they encountered. The roads had thawed during the previous three weeks making maneuvering over the muddy terrain extremely difficult. The main body, however, did fall upon a detachment of rebels and were able to kill several and take fifteen prisoners.

The engagements between military forces in the area would cease over the next two months. However, the inhabitants would continue to live under a cloud of uneasy calm. Foraging raids and property destruction was not about to stop as the distrust and hatred against their former neighbors was becoming ingrained in Tories and rebels alike

(Coming in the May issue of Our Town – "The Third Battle of Spanktown")

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YOUTH FISHING DERBY APRIL 11

The Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club's Annual Youth Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2026 at Echo Lake Park in Westfield, NJ. The event is free for children under 16, and \$10 for adults who wish to participate. Monies from this derby is used for stocking in 2027 and adult prizes. Sign up will start at 6:30 a.m. and will end around 2 p.m. Prizes will be awarded at 1 p.m. to all children present. Grand prizes and Adult prizes will be awarded at our June meeting. Sign up can be in-person at the lake, on line at nbfcc.org.

Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club was founded in 1907 and is one of the oldest clubs in the nation. As a 501(c)3 we provide outings to support veterans, adults and children as well as people with disabilities which focus on environmental education, fishing knowledge and practice. We are always looking for new members, donations and volunteers if anyone would like to get involved. Our monthly meetings are held at the Kenilworth VFW, located at 33 S. 21st. Street, Kenilworth, NJ, On the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (except July & August). There is no fee for attending a meeting. For more information visit nbfcc.org or contact Bob Jones bjonesjrj@hotmail.com or 908-403-0787.



MADISON ELEMENTARY CELEBRATES 100 DAYS

Rahway Public Schools

If you walked through the halls of Madison Elementary when they celebrated the 100th Day of School, you might have done a double-take. Instead of the usual energetic crowd of youngsters, the hallways were filled with tiny students sporting gray hair, cardigans, and canes.

The annual milestone marks the official crossing of the 100-day mark in the academic calendar. To honor the achievement, students and faculty traded in their backpacks and sneakers for pearls, suspenders, and "wrinkles," transforming the school into a lively—if slightly slower-moving—celebration of wisdom and learning.

The "dress like you're 100" tradition serves as a creative way to engage students in a variety of math-based and reflective curriculum activities. Throughout the day, classrooms participated in 100-themed challenges.

Seeing the kids and teachers lean into the '100 years old' theme with such spirit shows the tight-knit, joyful community at Madison Elementary.



Photo by Rahway Public Schools

LIBRARY MARCH EVENTS

Crochet Club

April 6 & 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Bring your own projects or learn a new pattern! Recommended for ages 16+.

Making Money Monday

Monday 4/6 @ 6:00 p.m.

The Blueprint for Family Financial Success, Light refreshments to enjoy and complimentary gift and resources for all attendees. Hosted by Kelia Catching, M.E.d. Licensed Community Financial Educator.

"Our Voices" Book Group

Wednesday 4/8 @ 6:30 p.m.

Discussion of "Bandit Queens" by Parini Shroff
Viewing of the documentary "The Librarians"

Saturday, April 11 at 2:00 p.m.

Open to the public and free to attend.

A Journey In Their Footsteps

Monday 4/13 @ 6:00 p.m.

Holocaust Photo Essay & Discussion with Ann-Margaret Shannon

Civil War Medicine & Surgery

Wednesday 4/15 @ 6:00 p.m.

presented by The Art Institute of Middlesex County Historical Society

Teen Discovery Studio Sepia Coffee Painting!

Monday, April 27 @ 6:00 pm:

For ages 13-17!

Monday Night Music

April 27, 6:00 p.m.

In the Library Cafe. with return musical guests Pork Roll Stompers. Open to the public and free to attend. No registration is required.

Union County Division on Aging - ASK Kiosk

Wednesday 4/29, 10 am to 12 noon

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STUDENTS SHINE AT NJ STATE ELKS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

Submitted by Rahway Public Schools

Students from Rahway Academy and Rahway High School recently represented their community at the New Jersey State Elks' premier leadership events, gaining valuable skills in resilience, decision-making, and community service.

RAHWAY ACADEMY ATTENDS "PATH TO LEADERSHIP"

On Thursday, February 5, 2026, eight students from the Rahway Academy traveled to the NJ State Elks Path to Leadership Conference, along with 550 other students from across New Jersey. A record-setting attendance for the 12th annual middle school experience.

The students were accompanied by Ms. Petti, a Rahway teacher and dedicated Elk, and Ms. Lysenko, Rahway Academy's Student Council Advisor and teacher. Many of the attendees are either on the student council or members of the Rahway Antlers #39 program.

The one-day intensive program focused on shifting mindsets and overcoming challenges. The students participated in the following high-energy sessions led by Jesse LeBeau, also known as "The Celebrity Teen Coach".

"The Attitude Advantage: Turning Obstacles into Assets": A keynote designed to help students replace self-limiting beliefs with a focus on opportunity.

"Own It: Creating the Life You Deserve": An interactive workshop challenging students to take 100% ownership of their choices and actions.

The students also enjoyed a buffet breakfast and lunch in the beautiful Ocean Place Resort in Long Branch, NJ. The peer youth staff engaged the students in games during the downtime after lunch. "The trip was not only fun but also inspiring. I enjoyed watching Jesse's performance and discussing it with my friends. Seeing someone relatable talk to us was very inspiring," remarked Academy Student Council Vice-President, Jeison Hernandez.

Student Council Corresponding Secretary Sebastian Mayes recounted, "Jesse mentioned an interesting quote that stuck with me, 'One man



(above, l-r) Alexa Carbonaro, Sanaa Singh, and Elise Grimes

Courtesy Photo

said he could do it, another said that he couldn't, they were both right." It is all about mindset."

RAHWAY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN "PEER LEADERSHIP" WEEKEND

The leadership momentum continued as three students from Rahway High School attended the Elks Peer Leadership Conference, a three-day event held from Friday, February 6, 2026, to Sunday, February 8, 2026. This was another record-setting event, with over 480 students attending the lock-in-style event at the beachfront Ocean Place Resort. During the chilly weekend, students stayed at the hotel, were served delicious meals, and took part in workshops, activities, and networking opportunities.

The weekend was packed with insights from world-class motivational speakers and blended serious workshops with engaging activities, including "Mad Skills for Student Success" by Patrick Perez and a unique comedy hypnosis session with Derrick Watkins to demonstrate the power of the mind.

For the Rahway High School attendees, the conference was as much about connection as it was about curriculum. Alexa Carbonaro, Sanaa Singh, and Elise Grimes are all founding members and officers of the Rahway Antlers #39. Their dedication to charitable works in our community contributed to their selection to be sponsored by the Rahway Elks Lodge #1075.

Alexa Carbonaro, a repeat attendee, noted that the impact of the conference remains just as strong the second time around. "Going back for a second year only made me love it more!" Carbonaro said. "It was even more special this year because I got to experience it with my two best friends, Sanaa and Elise! Each of the speakers had inspirational messages, and their workshops focused on skills to be successful. The speakers who impacted me the most were Kyle Willkom and Erin Pompa. Their workshops were engaging and inspiring."

First-time attendee Elise Grimes reflected on the multiple collaboration and networking opportunities, exclaiming how much "fun it was

to meet so many new people."

The positive environment left a lasting impression on Sanaa Singh, who noticed a shift in the entire group's energy. "It was amazing to see how much of an impact this experience had over the weekend," Singh rejoiced. "There was such a huge change in everyone's mood! Everyone was giving me compliments when I was in the bathroom or on my way down from my room!" This serves as a testament to how the conference atmosphere encouraged a culture of kindness and positive reinforcement.

Rahway Elks #1075 Chaperone, Trisha Grimes, was a first-time attendee. She was excited for the experience, especially after her daughter, Elise, attended the Path to Leadership conference last year as an 8th grader. As the Rahway Elks secretary and the Lead Advisor to the Rahway Antlers #39, her role was instrumental in getting funds passed through the lodge, transporting the attendees to the conference, and providing support to the Peer Leadership Volunteers. When asked about the experience, she remarked, "I came from the event just as inspired as the students to become a better Antler advisor by networking more among nearby Elk lodges and recommitting to charity endeavors as the primary focus of our mission."

ABOUT THE CONFERENCES

The NJ Elks Peer and Path to Leadership conferences are designed to empower the next generation of leaders by providing them with the tools to stay drug- and alcohol-free while making a positive impact on their schools and communities. The New Jersey State Elks Drug Awareness Committee is the only state Elks committee to run a program like this in the country.

"We are incredibly proud of our students for their commitment to personal growth and leadership," remarked Ms. Petti, teacher, alumnus, and lifelong resident of Rahway. "The lessons learned this weekend will undoubtedly benefit our school halls and the Rahway community at large."

CASTING CALL

UGLY HOMES WANTED

A television and streaming renovation project is seeking a limited number of homeowners in this area with outdated or distressed homes requiring substantial remodeling. This opportunity is for full-scale renovations only-not cosmetic repairs.

Selected projects may qualify for professionally documented renovations, special project pricing, and potential homeowner compensation in exchange for filming participation and release.

Call 833-375-1472

Ask for the TV Project Department
Serious inquiries only.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF COMING IN MAY

The final production of the 107th season at CDC Theatre in Cranford will be the wonderful musical *Fiddler On The Roof*. The multi-award-winning tale of Tevye the Dairyman and his family's struggles in a changing Russia is a true musical theatre "tradition."

Premiering on Broadway in 1964, it became one of the longest-running shows of its time. Featuring memorable songs like "Tradition," "If I Were A Rich Man" and "Sunrise, Sunset," this beloved work explores the universal human struggles of tradition and change, family love, generational conflict and displacement and migration. Using strong cultural storytelling to blend serious social issues with music and humor, *Fiddler on the Roof* is a poignant exploration of family, community, and the enduring human spirit in the face of adversity.

Director Emma Taylor Schwartz, a Cranford native, shared "This is my fifth production of *Fiddler*, and I only love it more and more each time. You could call me a superfan. What a gorgeous show that is both classic and contemporary, with nuance in every scene. It is a non-traditional love story, one that features romantic love, but also love of culture, love of community, love of family and love of identity. I've always resonated with the story and find that anyone of any background can find something to relate to. You don't have to be Jewish to connect with it on a deep level. If you have or had a parent, a child, a family, or a community,

you'll relate to these characters."

Continuing a new program at CDC Theatre, the final performance on May 17th will feature a talented quartet of ASL interpreters. ASL interpreters in theatre do more than translate dialogue; they bring the emotional and artistic essence of a performance to Deaf audiences, making live theatre a truly inclusive experience. While making the performance accessible to Deaf and hearing-impaired audiences they are also performers in their own right, contributing artistically to the performance and we are pleased to welcome them back to CDC Theatre.

The show will run from May 1st through the 17th with 8pm curtains on Fridays and Saturdays and 2pm matinees on Saturday the 9th and Sundays May 10th and 17th.

The company will be led by Larry Brustofski as Tevye and Elle Michaeli as his wife Golde. Their older daughters will be played by Gabrielle Traub (Tzeitel), Katherine Hope Stelma (Hodel), and Nina Randazzo (Chava). Mark Zebro Jr is Lazar Wolf, Bill Geltzeiler, Max Kopla and James Hahn will portray Motel, Perchik and Fyedka. Lori Travers and Rachel Love, Fruma Sarah and Grandma Tzeitel with Gloria Schnure taking the part of Yente.

Visit cdctheatre.org for more details and ticket information. These performances are made possible by funds from the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

42ND ANNUAL QUILT SHOW - APRIL 11

Harvest Quilters of Central NJ will present their 42nd annual Quilt Show on Saturday, April 11, 2026. Sharing the Quilts 42 will be held at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, NJ from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$3 for children under twelve.

At 10:30 a.m., Katherine Evans will present "My Journey - Stitching Together an International Community of Quilters." Evans' talk will cover her years living in Brazil, Costa Rica and Mexico from 2007 to 2025. She'll highlight her outreach to local women who together developed sewing and design skills creating one-of-a-kind group quilts, many of which will be on display.

Wendy Sheridan of Rahway will be recognized as 2026's Featured Quilter.

Sheridan is an award-winning multidisciplinary artist whose work spans fiber, watercolor, ink, and acrylics. With a lifetime of experience in fabric and fiber arts, she has created quilts, housewares, and costumes, serving as costume mistress for the Union County Academy for the Performing Arts from 2008-2012.

Her fiber art installation "What We Did This Summer," in collaboration with Lauren Reidy, has been on display at the New Jersey Transit Rahway station in the fall/winter of 2025-2026. "I love bold color, an explosion of color shows up in all my art forms," said Sheridan, a retired electrical engineer and technical writer.

Local charities will benefit from drawings for a traditional queen-sized quilt with a modern flair, gift cards and craft themed gift baskets.

In addition to viewing a full array of modern, traditional, art and wall-hanging quilts, attendees can participate in viewer's choice awards, kid's crafting table and vendor sales area.

A tearoom offering lunch, snacks, homemade baked goods, and beverages will benefit Willow Grove Church programs.

For additional information, please contact harvestquilters.com or with questions email: harvestquiltersnj@gmail.com.



(above) *Featured Quilter, Wendy Sheridan of Rahway*

Courtesy Photo



CDC Theatre

presents

Fiddler

on the Roof

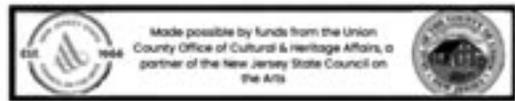


Book by JOSEPH STEIN Music by JERRY BOCK Lyrics by SHELDON HARNICK

Fri/Sat. May 1,2,8,15,16-8pm

Sat. May 9/Sun. May 10+17-2pm

78 Winans Ave
Cranford, NJ



Made possible by funds from the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts

cdctheatre.org
908-276-7611

Based on Sholem Aleichem stories by special permission of Arnold Perl Produced on the New York stage by Harold Prince Portions of the original choreography reproduced by Emma Taylor Schwartz *Fiddler On The Roof* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

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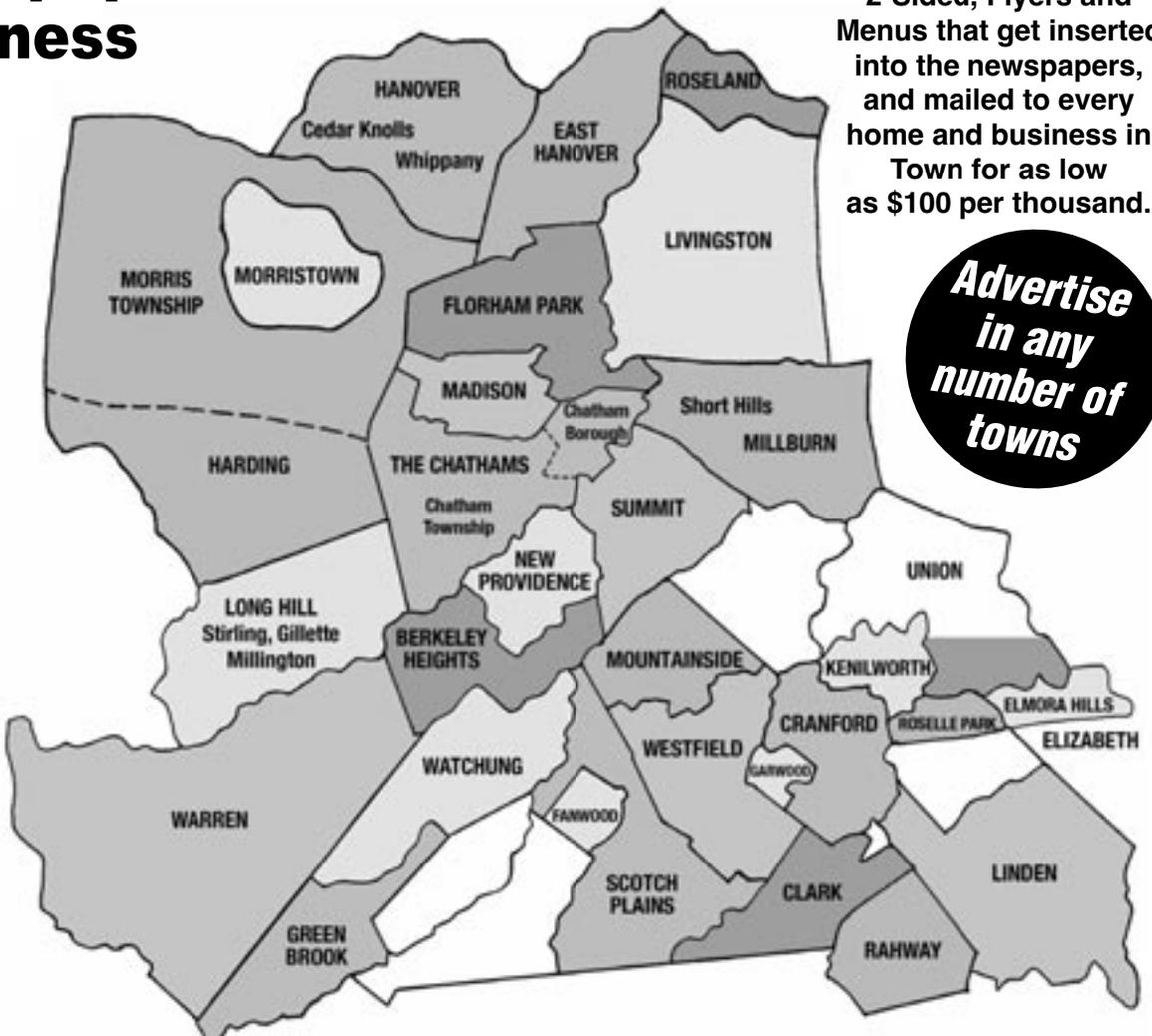
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6 Units 6.5"x6.25" or 10"x4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE 6.5"x9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
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Our 3rd Annual
**FRIENDS OF WHEATENA
PARK CLEAN-UP**
Organized by the Rahway Garden Club



SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026
(Rain Date: Sat, May 2)
10 AM - 1 PM
Wheatena Park, Rahway 07065

We will meet at the Wheatena Park sign on the corner of Elizabeth Ave and West Grand Ave. Gloves, bags and other cleanup supplies will be provided by the Union County Parks Department.




EVENT

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**RAHWAY RAIN GARDEN
NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

**VOLUNTEERS:
NEWCOMERS, EXPERIENCED
GARDENERS & FAMILIES WELCOME!**



Corner of St Georges Ave & Central Ave, Rahway, NJ 07065

Rahway is the home to New Jersey's largest Rain Garden, located at the corner of St. Georges and Central Avenues. The *native plant* rain garden was created in 2015 through state funding and design work by Rutgers University.

Today, our city's rain garden has matured and is a great benefit to Rahway's environment as well as a breathtaking sight when seen in full bloom during July and August.

Starting this spring, our volunteers will meet regularly for an hour to help with maintenance. At the same time, volunteers will learn 'best gardening practices' through instruction provided by Rutgers Certified Master Gardeners.

FOR INFO PLEASE EMAIL BOB MARKEY:
bob@mrbobthegardener.com



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BrookArts.org

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GENE DINAPOLI PRESENTS



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3:00 PM**

SWINGING WITH
THE RAT PACK
DINO, SAMMY, SINATRA & MARILYN



APRIL 11

Angels Among Us
with Medium Gail Lionetti



Brook Orchestra
THOMAS VACCA, CONDUCTOR

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
Overture Fidelio

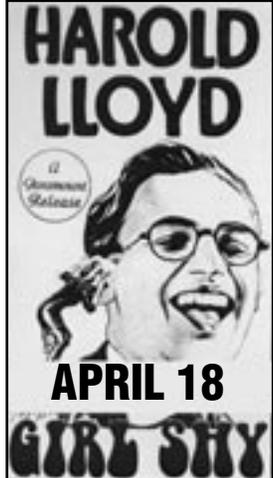
GEORGES BIZET
L'Arlesienne Suite #1

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY
Symphony #4 in F Minor

3 PM

APRIL 12

Brook Arts Center
10 Hamilton St., Bound Brook, NJ
Tickets brookarts.org



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APRIL 25



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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
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Gentleman Jack	1.75L	\$52.99
Glenmorangie 12 yrs old	750ml	\$46.99
Glenlivet 12 yrs old	750 ml	\$56.99
Glenlivet 12 yrs old	1.75L	\$104.99
Grants	750ml	\$15.99
Grants	1.75L	\$25.99
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	\$176.99
Johnnie Walker Blue	1.75L	\$419.99
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	\$30.99
Courvoisier V.S.	1.75L	\$59.99
Remy Martin V.S.O.P.	750ml	\$44.99
Remy Martin V.S.O.P.	1.75L	\$99.99

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	\$28.99
Licor 43	1.75L	\$45.99

VODKA

Absolut (regular)	750ml	\$17.99
Absolut (regular)	1.75L	\$29.99
Belvedere Organic Vodka	1L	\$39.99
Belvedere Organic Vodka	1.75L	\$46.99
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	\$16.99
Malibu	1.75L	\$25.99

TEQUILA

Cantera Negra Coffee Tequila	750ml	\$29.99
Deleon Blanco Tequila	750ml	\$37.99
Patron Silver	750ml	\$44.99
Patron Silver	1.75L	\$81.99
Suave Lunar Tequila	750ml	\$117.99

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Bud and Bud Lite cans	30pk	\$27.99
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Coors Lite (24oz) cans	12pk	\$19.99
Coors Lite/Miller Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$24.99
Coors Lite/Miller Lite	30pk	\$27.99
Corona/Corona Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$32.99
Dab (16oz) cans	24pk	\$28.99
Founders All Day IPA	15pk	\$20.99
Heineken/Heineken Lite bottles	24pk	\$32.99
Land Shark	24pk	\$30.49
Modelo Especial cans	24pk	\$30.99
Pabst Blue Ribbon cans	30pk	\$24.99
Pilsner Urquell	24pk	\$35.99
Sam Adams Boston Lager	24pk	\$37.99
Stella Artois loose bottles	24pk	\$32.99
Super Bock	24pk	\$34.99
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	\$10.99
Bell Adagio Pinot Grigio	1.5L	\$11.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	750ml	\$ 6.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	1.5L	\$10.99
Black Box (All Types)	3L	\$19.99
Carnivor Cabernet Sauvignon	750ml	\$10.99
Casal Garcia Vinho Verde	1L	\$ 6.99
Cavit (All Types)	1.5L	\$16.99
Clos du Bois Chardonnay	1.5 L	\$19.99
Dom Perignon	750ml	\$239.99
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	\$ 8.99
Gratsi Red, Rose, White	3L	\$34.99
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