



**2 NEW BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**  
New places to enjoy in our City



**7 EVENTS 2024**  
Rahway Happenings! Oct - Dec



**12 RAHWAY IS AT WORK**  
Behind-the-scenes: The City at work



# The Rahway Review

YOUR DEFINITIVE GO-TO-GUIDE FOR WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CITY OF RAHWAY. **RIGHT HERE. RIGHT NOW.**



## A Message from The Mayor: **Reimagining Investments in Arts, Business, Culture, and Community** A look at where we are, and where we're headed

Residents of Rahway,

As we near end of 2024, it is my pleasure to share the Fall/Winter edition of the Rahway Review. In this issue, you will see highlights from this past summer, as well as a calendar of events for the remainder of the year.

There are many opportunities to come together, while we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with many scheduled events, the Halloween Spooktacular, the Craft and Art Fair, Paint the Town Pink Breast Cancer Walk, the Annual Rahway Tree Lighting, and more. This summer, we worked hard to offer a variety of initiatives to help beat the heat. Rahway welcomed back the Heart of the City festival where residents and neighbors alike were captivated by the remarkable talent of local artists. We were intentional about expanding our accessible programming, including the debut of a new

event, Spray Day, for members of our community with special needs and disabilities. I had the privilege of joining our Senior residents at their ice cream social and enjoyed catching up with many of you at the Mayor's Summer Concert Series. Due to the tireless efforts of the Rahway Special Improvement District, we have welcomed over 25 businesses to Rahway so far this year. Check out pages 2-3 for a special feature on the great work our SID does to meet the needs of our vibrant business and arts communities.

Stay tuned for new and exciting ways to get involved in the City of Rahway. I hope you are able to enjoy the holiday season with those you love and I look forward to closing out 2024 with all of you.

.....  
**Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe**



Rahway is.  
CHERRY STREET SOIRÉE EN BLANC 2024

PRSRRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #105  
RAHWAY, NJ

**POSTAL PATRON**

Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe  
City of Rahway  
1 City Hall Plaza  
Rahway, NJ 07065



# The Rahway Special Improvement District

## Economic Investment

As the management entity of the SID, the City Council offers various financial and resource assistance programs, such as the **Business Improvement Program (BIP)** and the **Façade Improvement Program (FIP)**, designed to enhance business viability and property aesthetics.

**\$279K+**

Since October 2023, over \$279,000 has been awarded through these programs.

## Social Media and Branding Program

The SID assists businesses with social media services, training, and strategic branding analysis to boost their presence and success.

The SID is an incredibly helpful and resourceful organization for small businesses like ours. They maintain regular communication with businesses in town, providing information on available financial assistance and grants. Their support has significantly helped our restaurant, as we have received two grants that were used towards the improvement of our facade and our new interior dining area. We couldn't be happier to see the results of SID and our restaurant team's work.

- Johanny Fonseca,

Owner of Quilla by Sabor Peruano

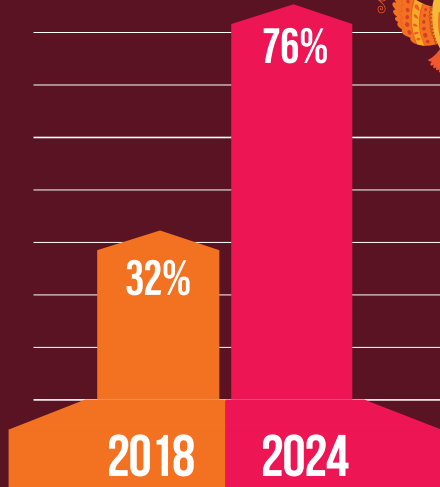
## Connecting Programming to Economic and Community Development

The SID helps businesses connect with city events and the community through permit assistance, cross-promotional campaigns, access to state and federal resources, and personalized support.

## Strategic Improvements to Existing Events

The SID has increased the involvement of Rahway businesses at the Rahway Taste of Spring and promoted foot traffic to those businesses.

## % of Rahway Businesses at Rahway Taste of Spring



From 2018 to 2024 the percentage of Rahway-Based businesses that participated in The Rahway Taste of Spring increased

**137.5%** ↑



In July of 2021, the Rahway City Council dared to reimagine what strategic investments in arts and business communities meant for the Rahway Special Improvement District (SID). Since its formal reorganization, the SID has worked each day to rise to the occasion and meet the growing needs of the arts and business communities who invest in the City of Rahway.

## What Does the SID Do?

The purpose of the SID is to promote, grow, and support local businesses and commercial property owners to the benefit of residents and patrons within the City of Rahway. The SID works to enhance the vibrancy and longevity of the business and arts communities that call Rahway home.

## Partnerships Beyond the Ribbon Cuttings

The relationship between local businesses and the City expands past the ribbon cutting ceremony, ensuring that both new and existing businesses have the support they need to thrive in Rahway.



## RahwayIsHappening.com!

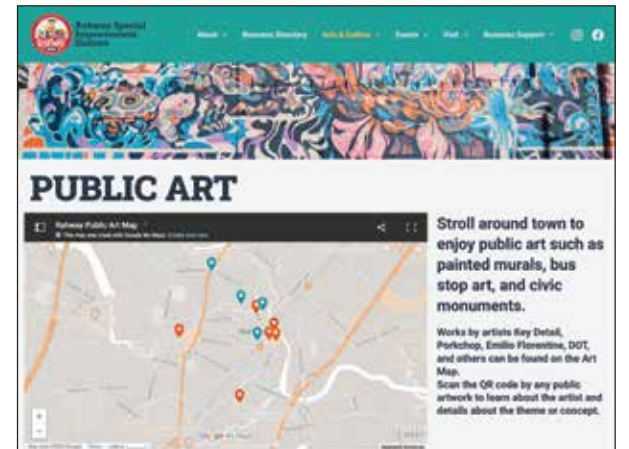
The SID is excited to announce the launch of the redesigned RahwayIsHappening.com. The website offers a more user-friendly experience, easier navigation, and a modern look. The updated Events Calendar now features both City-sponsored and local business events, showcasing the vibrant activity in Rahway. The revamped business guide includes a comprehensive list of over 650 local businesses, making it easier for residents and visitors to find what they need while supporting the local economy. For more information, interested parties can email [RahwaySid@cityofrahway.com](mailto:RahwaySid@cityofrahway.com) or call (732) 827-2181.



## Public Art Inventory and Online Map

The SID has launched an interactive map on the Rahway Is Happening website, showcasing public art locations throughout downtown. To access, please visit:

[www.rahwayishappening.com/public-art](http://www.rahwayishappening.com/public-art)



## Live Music

The SID organizes the Mayor's Music Series, which offers live music from June to September - free to all Rahway residents. In the last few years, the SID has worked to curate acts that are more representative of Rahway residents and appeal to Rahway's unique audiences. The Mayor's Music Series includes the Latin Stroll, the Mayor's Concert Series, Live at the Paseo, and Rahway Arts District Park. Residents enjoy original music and covers by a variety of both seasoned musicians and up-and-coming local acts.



## Collaboration + Communication

### Better Programs for Rahway residents.

Under the direction of City Council, the SID has collected data about the Rahway Arts community, local artists, and art audiences.

This information influences the Arts District Strategic Planning and has been shared with Rahway nonprofit partners to help create and sustain vibrant artistic communities and influence future programming.



Rahway Arts District Park Mural

## Artist CONVENING | OCT 24

The Fall 2024 Artist Convening mixer will be held at the Gallery Space on October 24, 2024, 5:30-7:00 PM. Light food will be provided. The exhibit "Into the Light: Emerging Artists" will be on display in the gallery. Scan QR code for more info.



Stay in the know by following us on social media @Rahwayishappening on Instagram and Facebook and by visiting us at [Rahwayishappening.com](http://Rahwayishappening.com).

# Celebrating 3 years Reimagined...

Above: Elizabeth Avenue Mural



## Honoring the Lasting Impact of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Last year, the SID proudly unveiled a new sculpture celebrating the enduring legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The sculpture features three of his quotes in mirror-finish stainless steel, allowing viewers to see themselves in his ideals and serving as a reminder of the ongoing pursuit of a just and equitable society.

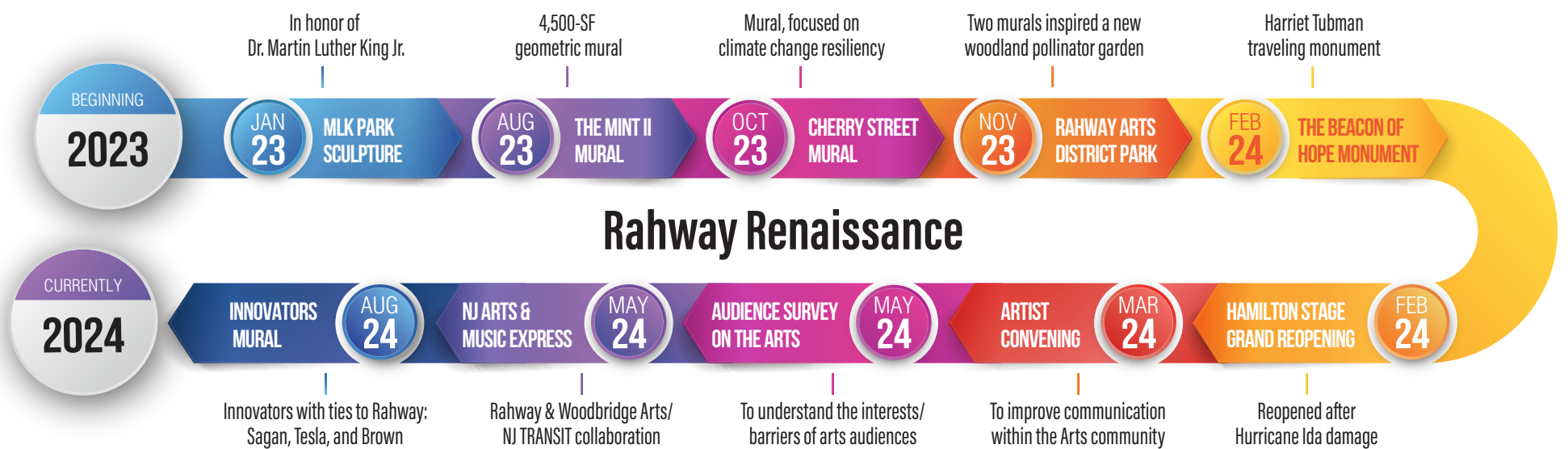
## Public Art and Placemaking

The SID works to connect arts, history, science and cultural identities in a way that meaningfully enriches the community. For example, the City's most recent mural on Elizabeth Avenue (only viewable by train) recognizes Rahway as a place where innovative thinkers can call home. The mural features three notable innovators with ties to Rahway: Nikola Tesla, Carl Sagan, and Jeannette E. Brown.

“For this mural, I got to tap into the similarities between science and art. The spirit of exploration and creativity embodied by the work of Nikola Tesla has been a great source of inspiration and the more I find out about his life, the more interesting it gets.”  
- DISTORT, Artist

## Maximizing Arts and Business Partnerships

The City Council has dedicated valuable resources towards creating and sustaining public, visual, and performing arts in Rahway. The SID invests in strategic arts planning, identifying both artist and art audience communities, and offering unique and representative arts and culture experiences.



## NEW BUSINESS: The City welcomes you!

### R & J Pizzeria

1300 Westfield Ave.  
On May 14th, Mayor Giacobbe and the Special Improvement District welcomed



R & J Pizzeria, Rahway's newest pizzeria. Owners Rose and Jose Melendez have brought delicious thin-crust pizza made with the freshest ingredients, back to the corner of 1300 Westfield Avenue. They offer a full menu of quality Italian dishes to satisfy all appetites including their house specialty, Chicken Francese and Penne Bolognese.

### Diamond XY Nails

332 St. Georges Ave.  
On May 29th, Rahway welcomed business owner



Yoexis Godinez and Diamond XY Nails to 332 St Georges Avenue. Dedicated nail technicians work with clients to achieve a personal look in a relaxed environment. Beauty and quality meet for the best in nail fashion.

### World of Beauty

84 Monroe St.  
On June 3rd, Mayor Giacobbe officially welcomed World of Beauty to



downtown Rahway. Owner Teresa Grande and their team of licensed professionals offer the latest beauty services and treatments for all ages and styles. To feel and look your best, stop by to say hello and indulge in a world of beauty!

### Lymphatic Massage

1544 Irving St. #204  
On June 5th, Rahway welcomed Lymphatic Massage and



Yamilca Montero to the heart of Rahway. They specialize in medical and therapeutic modalities, post operative and lymphatic drainage massage, and offer a full menu of beneficial techniques.

### Asaka Yoga

208 Central Ave.  
On June 26th, Mayor Giacobbe welcomed Akasa Yoga Studio, located at 208



Central Avenue. Akasa offers a safe place for all to connect their mind, body, soul and heart through the beautiful practice of yoga. Owner Melanie Gonzalez Kennedy strives to bring the community together through movement. She proved this intention by inviting Mayor Giacobbe to get on the mat to practice Downward Facing Dog.

### The Chicken Box

47 E. Cherry St.  
Located in the heart of Rahway,



The Chicken Box serves up soulful dishes with love. Officially opening their doors, owner Melvin Crawley creates his signature dishes from recipes learned from his mother. On July 19th, family and staff joined Mayor Giacobbe as he cut the welcome ribbon.

## The City of Rahway Thanks You!

This success is thanks to the residents who support the arts and local businesses. Together, we continue to strengthen the Rahway community, offering expansive programming and tools for artists and business owners to thrive.

# Rahway City Council: For the Community...



*Councilman Brooks giving remarks at Juneteenth Flag Raising.*



*Councilman Al Parker and community residents at the Back to School Bookbag & Supply Giveaway at ¡Celebración!*



*Councilman Brown and Mayor at the tour of a new United Way of Greater Union County facility set to open in Rahway in Fall 2024.*

“ As we reflect on 2024, the Rahway City Council and I are filled with gratitude for the countless opportunities we've had to cultivate genuine connections with our residents. We thank you for helping us to create and sustain spaces to celebrate, learn, and have open and honest conversations. Together, we can continue to foster a community we are proud to call home. ”

— Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe



*Councilwoman Miles at Union County Performing Arts Center.*



*Council President Parson and Mayor at 112 MSCS.*



*Councilwoman Newbury at the Back to School Bookbag & Supply Giveaway at ¡Celebración!*



*Councilwoman Timmons at Bruno Mars MSCS with a BellaKind Foundation Volunteer.*



*Councilmembers Brooks, Timmons, and Gibilisco at AB Salute House MSCS.*



*Councilman Mojica addressing the crowd at The Latin Stroll.*

# Get to know Your Representative

Our Councilmembers' dedication to Rahway is a driving force that continues to push our great City forward. From cultural celebrations to art and music festivals, these collaborative efforts showcase the vibrance, diversity, and charm of our City to provide memorable experiences for individuals of all backgrounds.



Mayor  
Raymond A. Giacobbe

## Rahway City Council



<b>Al Parker</b> First Ward 732-713-6356 aparker@cityofrahway.com	<b>Karla Timmons</b> Second Ward 848-467-8475 ktimmons@cityofrahway.com	<b>Vannie Deloris Parson</b> Third Ward Council President 732-853-5971 vdparson@cityofrahway.com	<b>David Brown</b> Fourth Ward 732-484-5485 dbrown@cityofrahway.com	<b>Danni Newbury</b> Fifth Ward 732-735-5884 dnewbury@cityofrahway.com	<b>Joseph D. Gibilisco</b> Sixth Ward Council Vice-President 732-259-3144 jgibilisco@cityofrahway.com
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## Councilmembers At-Large

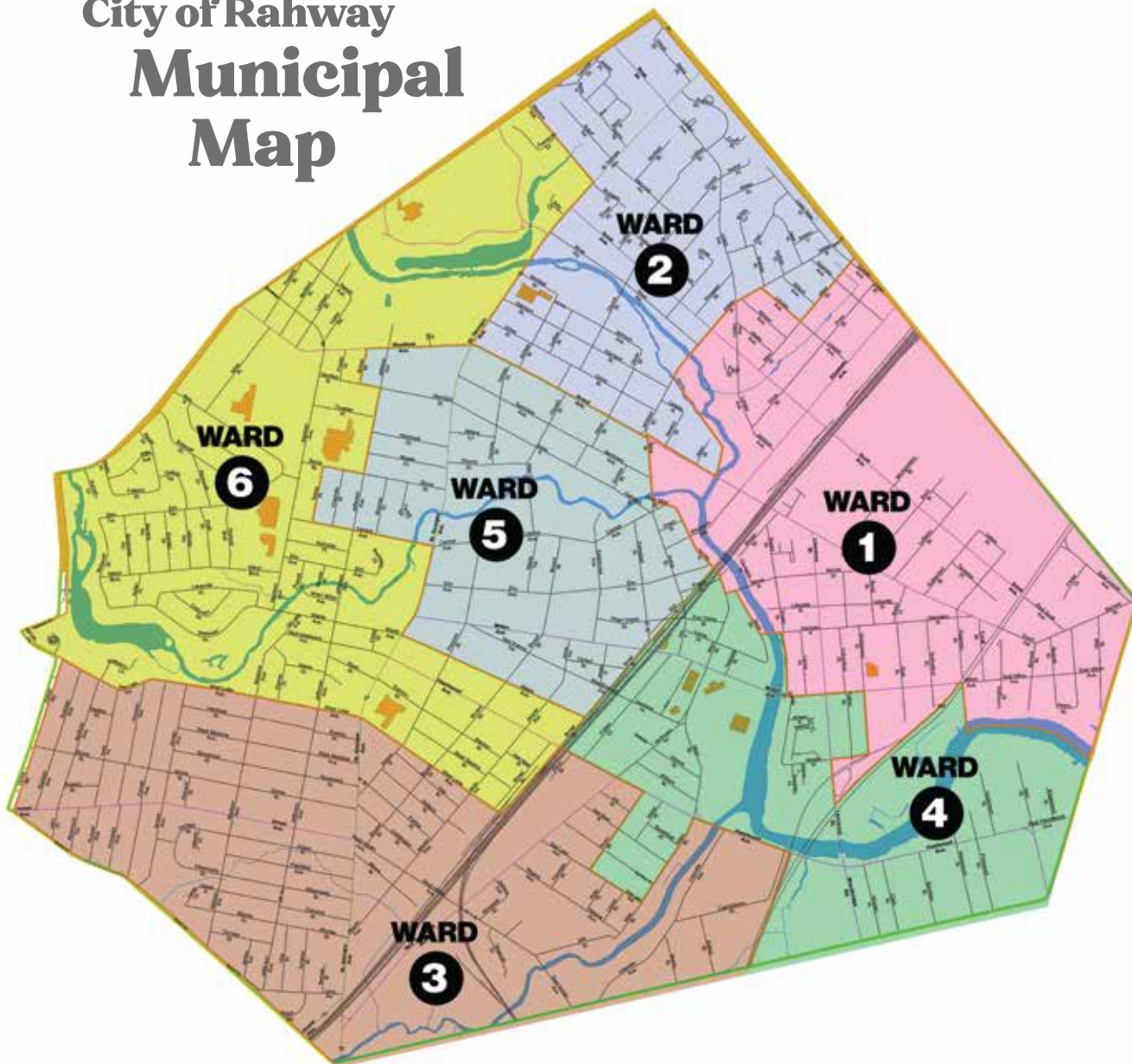


<b>Jeffrey Brooks</b> 732-688-9116 jbrooks@cityofrahway.com	<b>Joanna Miles</b> 732-822-2050 jmiles@cityofrahway.com	<b>Jeremy Mojica</b> 732-882-7472 jmojica@cityofrahway.com
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The Rahway City Council is made up of nine members elected by the citizens of Rahway. There are six wards in the City of Rahway and a Councilmember is elected by the citizens from each respective ward.

There are three Councilmembers-at-large who represent the entire City. The City Council considers the City's goals, authorizes major projects, infrastructure improvements, land use, finances, and strategic planning for the community.

## City of Rahway Municipal Map



## CITY OF RAHWAY Municipal Directory

### Municipal Offices

Building Inspector.....	827-2087
City Clerk.....	827-2100
Economic Development.....	827-2193
Emergency Management.....	827-2120
Engineering and Land Use.....	827-2176
Finance.....	827-2020
Fire (non-emergency).....	827-2155
Fire Prevention Bureau.....	827-2133
First Aid.....	911
Health Department.....	827-2085
Mayor's Office.....	827-2009
Municipal Administrator.....	827-2001
Municipal Court.....	827-2039
Police (non-emergency).....	827-2200
Property Maintenance.....	827-2199
Public Works.....	827-2060
Rahway Special Improvement District.....	827-2193
Recreation.....	669-3600
Recycling.....	827-2159
Tax Assessor.....	827-2030
Tax Collector.....	827-2050
SUEZ-Rahway (Veolia).....	(877) 303-2435
Vital Statistics.....	827-2172

### Helpful Numbers

City of Rahway Customer Service.....	827-2000
Board of Education.....	396-1000
NJ Transit.....	973-275-5555
Parking Division.....	381-8778
Police Athletic League.....	827-2097
Post Office.....	388-3264
Rahway Library.....	340-1551
Rahway Redevelopment Agency.....	827-2001
Rahway Y.M.C.A.....	388-0057
RWJU Hospital at Rahway.....	381-4200
Union County Performing Arts Center.....	499-8226

### Rahway Schools

Superintendent's Office.....	396-1020
Business Administrator.....	396-1010
Services for Children.....	396-1035
Rahway High School.....	396-1090
7th & 8th Grade Academy.....	396-1025
Franklin School.....	396-1050
Grover Cleveland School.....	396-1040
Madison School.....	396-1070
Roosevelt School.....	396-1060

# Where the Community Comes Alive!

A look at recent events

## Heart of the City

Rain could not stop the 4th Annual Heart of the City festival from captivating the Rahway community once again. On Saturday, August 10th, residents enjoyed an incredible lineup of talented performers, creators, and vendors at Hamilton Stage. Founded by Rahway local, Parris Dawkins, the Heart of the City Festival seeks to highlight creatives by curating a space filled with hope, confidence, and positivity with the local community.



DJ welcomes attendees at The Heart of the City Festival

## The Latin Stroll

On June 22nd, the City of Rahway partners with NJ Salsa to host The Latin Stroll, a multicultural celebration of Latin music, art, and community. The event began at the Rahway Recreation Center with a live concert from Grupo K'ndela, a New Jersey-based salsa orchestra featuring world-renowned trombonist and composer, Jimmy Bosch. This year's event included stops at Romero's restaurant, The Waiting Room, and The Lounge at Watt, located at The Watt Hotel. Each stop along the stroll had curated experiences accompanied by music from DJs, social dancing, choreographed performances, a social dance competition, and a select menu designed to stimulate support for local businesses.



Participants dance at the 2024 Latin Stroll

# Arts, Culture and Community



## Celebration of Hispanic and Latin Artists

Join us for SALUDOS! From Our Neighbors: 6th Annual Celebration

of Hispanic & Latin Artists running from **September 15th through October 11th, 2024**. It features exciting and dramatic artworks by eight artists. October's exhibit, Into The Light: Emerging Artists, runs from **October 20th - November 15th** and can be viewed Monday - Friday from **1:00 PM - 4:00 PM** or by appointment.



## Trekking Mexico

Join us for Mexico Beyond Mariachi's Trekking Mexico at Union County Performing Arts Center Main Stage on **Saturday, October 12, 2024, at 3:00 PM**. This colorful educational show takes you on a Mexican expedition of history and geographic regions through folkloric music and dance. From feeling the rumbling drums of Tenochtitlan to the sweet sounds of the stringed Jaranas of Veracruz, audiences are transported to the jungles of Tabasco and trek the mountains of Guerrero. This multimedia show will whisk you away on a joyful ride through this culturally rich republic.



## Halloween Bash 2024

On **October 18th from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**, the Union County Board of County Commissioners and the City of Rahway invite residents with disabilities and special needs ages 16 and older to enjoy the 2024 Halloween Bash. The event features a dance party with games, activities, haunted rooms, costume contests, and arts and crafts projects. This event is free but pre-registration is required online at <http://ucnj.org/opdsn-reg>. For more information about the Halloween Bash, contact the Union County Office for Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs at 908-527-4781.



## Halloween Parade and Spooktacular

On **October 26th**, residents are formally invited to the Halloween Parade and Spooktacular. Residents are encouraged to dress up and meet at the Hamilton Stage parking lot at 360 Hamilton Street, for the parade departure at **1:00 PM**. The parade will continue down Irving Street stopping at the Train Station Plaza where the Spooktacular festivities will continue until **4:00 PM**. The Spooktacular will feature carnival-style games, stilt walkers, face painters, Halloween music, goody bags, strolling characters, and prizes for the best costumes. Registration is required. For more information and registration please visit [www.cityofrahway.com/halloween](http://www.cityofrahway.com/halloween)



## Rahway's Annual Craft & Art Fair

Organized by The Gallery Space staff, Rahway's Annual Craft & Art Fair returns **Saturday, November 2nd from 11:00 AM-4:00 PM**. The event features over 60 vendors and will be held inside the Rahway Recreation Center located at 275 East Milton Avenue. The fair offers a wide range of original handmade crafts and artworks which will include hand-sewn quilts, stained glass objects, handmade jewelry, wood crafts, crocheted items, handbags, decorative bottles, and much more. Fine art such as drawings, small paintings, photographs, silkscreen prints, etchings, linocuts, small sculptures, and more will be available as well. Vendors are both selected and screened prior to registration to assure a certain level of overall quality of the goods being sold and to limit duplicate item types. All crafts and artworks are original. Vendors selling mass-produced items are prohibited. For more information about the Craft & Art Fair, art programming, and exhibits, please visit [www.galleryspacerahway.com](http://www.galleryspacerahway.com)

Mark your calendars for The Annual Rahway Tree Lighting on Friday, **November 29th**. Festivities begin at **2:00 PM** and will include bounce houses, live performances, pictures with the Grinch, Stilt Walkers, carolers, hot chocolate giveaways, and more. Then at **6:00 PM**, Santa will lead a short parade down Milton Avenue ending at City Hall Plaza where he will light the tree and then stick around for photos. Children with disabilities and special needs are welcome to meet Santa in a more sensory-friendly environment at the Rahway Recreation Center on Saturday, **November 30th** for photos with Sensory Friendly Santa from **12:00 PM - 3:00 PM**.



## Rahway Annual Tree Lighting

include bounce houses, live performances, pictures with the Grinch, Stilt Walkers, carolers, hot chocolate giveaways, and more. Then at **6:00 PM**, Santa will lead a short parade down Milton Avenue ending at City Hall Plaza where he will light the tree and then stick around for photos. Children with disabilities and special needs are welcome to meet Santa in a more sensory-friendly environment at the Rahway Recreation Center on Saturday, **November 30th** for photos with Sensory Friendly Santa from **12:00 PM - 3:00 PM**.



## Santa Comes to Town

The holiday spirit continues with the Santa Comes to Town event from **4:00 PM - 7:00 PM on Friday, December 6th** at the Rahway Recreation Center. There will be pictures with bilingual Santa, the Grinch, live carolers, hot chocolate, giveaways, face painting, stilt walkers, and more.



## Santa On Parade!

On **Saturday, December 14th**, Santa returns one more time for the annual Santa on Parade. He will make his way around Rahway starting at **12:00 PM** and attendees can track his whereabouts live at: <https://www.facebook.com/CityOfRahwayNJ>

# RAHWAY IS HAPPENING OCTOBER

2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2



## TINY BITES, BIG CULTURE!

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month in Rahway  
- con sabor!

**SAT OCT 5 AND SAT OCT 12**

\$4 - \$8 Small Bites from Local Eateries • Live Music • Latin Heritage  
Visit [RahwaysHappening.com/LatinFoodStroll](http://RahwaysHappening.com/LatinFoodStroll)

## FLIGHT NIGHT

DRINK FLIGHTS AND LIGHT BITES

TO BENEFIT UNION COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Tickets and info at: [ucpac.org/event/flight-night](http://ucpac.org/event/flight-night)

**THURSDAY  
OCTOBER  
10  
6PM-9PM**

**UC<sup>2</sup>PAC** UNION COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER HAMILTON STAGE

**MERCK**

Hamilton Stage • 360 Hamilton St., Rahway

- OCT 1**  
TSP 4:00 PM-5:15 PM  
PRP Breast Cancer Awareness Flag Raising
- OCT 3**  
SEN 12:00 PM-1:00 PM  
Mayor's Birthday Luncheon  
DR 2:00 PM  
The Senior Success Program at Clifford P. Case Apts
- OCT 4**  
TGS 8:00 PM  
Prime Time Concert Series: Swing Sabroso  
UCPAC 8:00 PM  
The Rascals
- OCT 5**  
REC 10:00 AM-1:00 PM  
Mind Your Wellness  
DR 1:00 PM-4:00 PM  
No Sin Mi Bocado  
Delicious small bites from local Rahway restaurants.  
UCPAC 8:00 PM  
Rick Wakeman

- OCT 6**  
M&D 12:00 PM-4:00 PM  
Daytime Cemetery Tours
- OCT 9**  
DR 3:00 PM-5:00 PM  
Hispanic Business Owner Networking Event @ Cubanu
- OCT 10**  
SEN 2:00 PM  
The Senior Success Program  
HS 6:00 PM-9:00 PM  
Flight Night  
LIB 6:00 PM  
Breast Cancer Presentation  
SEN 6:30 PM  
Senior Salsa Night
- OCT 11**  
HS 8:00 PM  
Drive In Movie Night - Encanto
- OCT 12**  
TSP 10:00 AM  
PRP Breast Cancer Walk  
Rain date 10/19  
DR 1:00 PM-4:00 PM  
No Sin Mi Bocado  
Delicious small bites from participating restaurants.

- OCT 12 (cont'd)**  
UCPAC 3:00 PM  
Mexico Beyond Mariachi: Trekking Mexico
- OCT 17**  
REC 12:00 PM-2:00 PM  
Senior Halloween Dance  
DR 2:00 PM  
The Senior Success Program at the Clifford P. Case Apartments  
UCPAC 7:00 PM  
Metropolis with Organ Accompaniment
- OCT 18**  
REC 6:00 PM-8:00 PM  
Disabilities/Special needs Halloween Dance
- OCT 19**  
REC 11:00 AM-3:00 PM  
Rahway Day  
M&D 12:00 PM-4:00 PM  
Free Four Centuries in a Weekend  
DR 6:00 PM-9:00 PM  
What's the Word @Melao  
UCPAC 8:00 PM  
Stephanie J. Block

### CALENDAR LOCATION KEY

ADP	Arts District Park: Irving St/Central Ave
BF	Brennan Field: 741 Ferndale Pl
CHP	City Hall Plaza: 1 City Hall Plaza
CS	East Cherry St
DR	Downtown Rahway
EAME	Ebenezer AME Church: 253 Central Ave
FF	Flanagan Field: 2039 Wall St
HF	Howard Field: 1292 Stockton St
HS	Hamilton Stage: 360 Hamilton St
LIB	Rahway Public Library: 2 City Hall Plaza
M&D	Merchants & Drovers Tavern Museum: 1632 St Georges Ave
PAS	Rahway Paseo: Main St Near Cherry St
REC	Rahway Rec Center: 3 City Hall Plaza
RFF	Rahway Food for Friends: 1221 New Brunswick Ave
RRP	Rahway River Park: St. Georges Ave
SEN	Rahway Senior Center: 1306 Esterbrook Ave
TGS	The Gallery Space: 1670 Irving St
TSP	Train Station Plaza: Irving St & E. Milton Ave
UCPAC	Union County Performing Arts Center: 1601 Irving St
VP	Veterans Park: West Grand/Saint Georges Ave
YMCA	Gateway Family YMCA/Rahway: 1564 Irving St

**USE THIS CODE FOR MORE INFO ON EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS**

[www.cityofrahway.com](http://www.cityofrahway.com)  
 Facebook: CityofRahwayNJ Instagram: CityofRahway

## City of Rahway Health Department

### PAINT RAHWAY PINK BREAST CANCER WALK

Join the City of Rahway and the Rahway Health Department for the second annual Paint the Town Pink Breast Cancer Walk on October 12th from 10:00AM-1:00PM (rain date 10/19) at the Rahway Train Station Plaza. This event is a great way to show support, raise awareness, and learn more about breast cancer prevention. For more information and to register, visit [cityofrahway.org/health](http://cityofrahway.org/health)

### Early Detection and Healthy Habits: Keys to Fighting Breast Cancer

Finding breast cancer early can make a big difference. Regular mammograms and monthly self-breast exams are important steps to stay healthy.

- Schedule routine mammograms, which can detect lumps before you can feel them, helping doctors treat cancer sooner.
- Eat a balanced diet with lots of fruits and vegetables, regular exercise, and avoid smoking and consuming too much alcohol.
- Learn how to conduct self-breast exams monthly to help you notice any changes in your body right away.
- Discuss your family history with your doctor. If breast cancer runs in your family, you might need to start screenings earlier.

**Community Needs Assessment Survey** Please complete our Community Needs Assessment Survey, by November 15th. Your input is crucial in helping us understand and address the needs for social services such as housing, utility assistance, and more. Thank you for your participation!

SCAN THIS QR CODE FOR SURVEY

# RAHWAY IS HAPPENING

# NOVEMBER

2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



**NOV 2**  
**REC 11:00 PM-4:00 PM**  
 Rahway Craft and Art Fair  
**THE RAHWAY CRAFT AND ART FAIR**

**NOV 7**  
**DR 2:00 PM**  
 The Senior Success Program at the Clifford P. Case Apartments

**NOV 11**  
**VP 10:30 AM**  
 Veterans Day Ceremony

**RAHWAY FARMERS MARKET**  
**THURSDAYS NOON TILL 7 PM**  
 June – November  
 RAHWAY TRAIN STATION PLAZA

*Special Holiday Market Every November!*

**NOV 14**  
**SEN 2:00 PM**  
 The Senior Success Program

**NOV 16**  
**DR 6:00 PM-9:00 PM**  
 What's the Word @Melao

**UCPAC 7:00 PM**  
 Ultimate Elvis Tribute

**NOV 21**  
**DR 2:00 PM**  
 The Senior Success Program at the Clifford P. Case Apartments

**UCPAC 7:00 PM**  
 The Nightmare Before Christmas in 35mm



**NOV 23**  
**M&D 10:00 AM-2:00 PM**  
 Holiday Bazaar

**NOV 23 (cont'd)**  
**UCPAC 8:00 PM**  
 Who's Bad 20th Ann. Tour Michael Jackson Tribute

**NOV 26**  
**SEN 12:00 PM-1:00 PM**  
 Mayor's Birthday Luncheon

**NOV 29**  
**DR 2:00 PM-6:30 PM**  
 Annual Tree Lighting

**NOV 30**  
**REC 12:00 PM-3:00 PM**  
 Sensory Friendly Santa

**DR 11:00 AM-4:00 PM**  
 Small Business Saturday

**UCPAC 3:00 PM**  
 Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea

The City kicks off the 2024 Holiday Shopping Season with specials, raffles, giveaways and pop-up events starting on **Small Business Weekend Nov 29-Dec 2 and continuing throughout the Holiday Season!**

**JOIN US**

**DOWNTOWN RAHWAY Holiday MARKET**  
 SAT-NOV 30 11AM - 3PM  
 CHERRY STREET MALL

Visit [rahwayishappening.com/shoplocal](http://rahwayishappening.com/shoplocal) to explore the unique shopping, dining and entertainment that Rahway has to offer.

## CALENDAR LOCATION KEY

- ADP** Arts District Park: Irving St/Central Ave
- BF** Brennan Field: 741 Ferndale Pl
- CHP** City Hall Plaza: 1 City Hall Plaza
- CS** East Cherry St
- DR** Downtown Rahway
- EAME** Ebenezer AME Church: 253 Central Ave
- FF** Flanagan Field: 2039 Wall St
- HF** Howard Field: 1292 Stockton St
- HS** Hamilton Stage: 360 Hamilton St
- LIB** Rahway Public Library: 2 City Hall Plaza
- M&D** Merchants & Drovers Tavern Museum: 1632 St Georges Ave
- PAS** Rahway Paseo: Main St Near Cherry St
- REC** Rahway Rec Center: 3 City Hall Plaza
- RFF** Rahway Food for Friends: 1221 New Brunswick Ave
- RRP** Rahway River Park: St. Georges Ave
- SEN** Rahway Senior Center: 1306 Esterbrook Ave
- TGS** The Gallery Space: 1670 Irving St
- TSP** Train Station Plaza: Irving St & E. Milton Ave
- UCPAC** Union County Performing Arts Center: 1601 Irving St
- VP** Veterans Park: West Grand/Saint Georges Ave
- YMCA** Gateway Family YMCA/Rahway: 1564 Irving St



USE THIS CODE FOR MORE INFO ON EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

[www.cityofrahway.com](http://www.cityofrahway.com)

CityofRahwayNJ CityofRahway

Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council Present

# Annual Rahway Tree Lighting!

- Bounce Houses 2-5pm
- Live Performances
- Ice Sculptor
- Fire Pits
- Hot Chocolate

- Strolling Characters
- Pictures with Santa
- Carolers
- Giveaways and more!

**Friday Nov. 29 2-6PM**  
 City Hall Plaza  
 Tree Lighting at 6pm



# RAHWAY IS HAPPENING DECEMBER

2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4



**DEC 1**

**UCPAC 2:00 PM**

NJ Ballet "The Nutcracker - Sensory Friendly Performance"



**DEC 5**

**DR 2:00 PM**

The Senior Success Program at the Clifford P. Case Apartments

**DEC 6**

**REC 4:00 PM-7:00 PM**

Santa Comes to Town



**DEC 7**

**M&D 7:00 PM-10:30 PM**

Holiday Candlelight Evening



**DEC 8**

**M&D 3:00 PM**

Cherish the Ladies Celtic Christmas

**DEC 9**

**REC 10:00 AM-11:00 AM Eng**

**11:00 AM-12:00 PM SPAN**

Food Handlers Training Course

**DEC 11**

**REC 12:00 PM-2:00 PM**

Senior Christmas Party

**DEC 12**

**SEN 2:00 PM**

The Senior Success Program

**DEC 13**

**UCPAC 7:00 PM**

A Rahway Nutcracker Starring Daphne Lee Rahway Dance Theatre

**DEC 14**

**DR 12:00 PM-3:00 PM**

Santa on Parade!  
Rain Date December 15

**HS 7:00 PM**

Hodges & Hodges Productions presents:  
A Christmas to Remember

**DEC 15**

**M&D 3:00 PM**

Amahl and the Night Visitors 2024

**DEC 19**

**DR 2:00 PM**

The Senior Success Program at the Clifford P. Case Apartments

**UCPAC 7:00 PM**

The Muppet Christmas Carol in 35mm



**DEC 21**

**MEL 6:00 PM-9:00 PM**

What's the Word  
*WHAT'S THE WORD*

**DEC 26**

**SEN 2:00 PM**

The Senior Success Program

## CALENDAR LOCATION KEY

<b>ADP</b>	Arts District Park: Irving St/Central Ave
<b>BF</b>	Brennan Field: 741 Ferndale Pl
<b>CHP</b>	City Hall Plaza: 1 City Hall Plaza
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<b>EAME</b>	Ebenezer AME Church: 253 Central Ave
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<b>HF</b>	Howard Field: 1292 Stockton St
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<b>TGS</b>	The Gallery Space: 1670 Irving St
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<b>UCPAC</b>	Union County Performing Arts Center: 1601 Irving St
<b>VP</b>	Veterans Park: West Grand/Saint Georges Ave
<b>YMCA</b>	Gateway Family YMCA/Rahway: 1564 Irving St



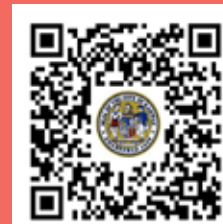
USE THIS CODE FOR MORE INFO ON EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

[www.cityofrahway.com](http://www.cityofrahway.com)

CityofRahwayNJ

CityofRahway

## STAY CONNECTED WITH THE CITY OF RAHWAY!



We're expanding our presence on social media to bring you more exciting updates, community news, and events. Whether it's a behind-the-scenes look at City projects, important announcements, or highlights from local events, there's something for everyone. Follow, like, and subscribe to stay up-to-date with everything happening in Rahway!

Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council Present

**SANTA Comes to Town!**

Photos with Bilingual Santa Frankie and Santa Dennis At the Rahway Recreation Center

*Come and Meet Santa!*

**FRIDAY DEC. 6 4PM - 7PM**

**Santa on Parade in Rahway!**

**SATURDAY DEC. 14 12PM - 3PM**

As he prepares for his Christmas Eve rounds, Santa will tour Rahway, escorted by the Mayor, City Council members, Rahway PD, Rahway FD, and Rahway EMS. For everyone's safety, Santa will not be making any stops. The route will be passing several City parks as well as through Rahway River Park. Visit [www.CityOfRahway.com/santaonparade](http://www.CityOfRahway.com/santaonparade) to see Santa's route.



# COFFEE WITH A COP

Our community spirit shone at this summer's *Coffee with a Cop* event at The Coffee Box - Rahway. It was heartwarming to see Rahway residents and visitors from Tulsa connect with local law enforcement, showcasing the inclusivity and warmth that define our city. In Rahway, you're family no matter where you're from.



# YOUTH BOXING

In July, The City of Rahway kicked off our Youth Boxing Fundamentals program! This initiative aims to give kids confidence, self-defense skills, and most importantly, fun this summer.



# City of Rahway Police Department

## YOUTH ACADEMY

RAHWAY POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Rahway Police Department hosted the 2024 Youth Academy at the beginning of July for Rahway residents between the ages of 11 and 14. Led by Officer Ken Akeru, Lt. Frank Pauling, and Joey Gesumaria, more than 20 kids got the chance to see what it takes to be a Rahway Police Officer. Anchored in the tenets of discipline, duty, and honor, participants started every morning with physical training before getting a chance to partake in activities that provide more exposure to the profession of law enforcement such as defensive tactics, life-saving medical training, tactical equipment and vehicles, and drone operations,



among many others. Their week was capped off with a graduation ceremony that left them with a great sense of accomplishment. The Rahway Police Department thanks Mayor Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council for supporting this endeavor and the many officers, supervisors, and civilians from the department who helped make this event a huge success!

## NEW OFFICERS

LARGEST RECRUITMENT TO DATE!

The Rahway Police Department is proud to welcome its largest recruitment class to date! In June 2024, eight officers from Class joined the distinguished ranks of the Rahway Police Department. The Rahway Police Department congratulates Officer Erik Libbey, Officer Caleb Davis, Officer Anthony Hozer, Officer Anthony Rambhajan, and Officer Ravell Batchelor on graduating from the John H. Stamler Police

Academy. Special recognition goes to Officer Hozer who was acknowledged as the top academic recruit in Class #130. These officers will now enter the police department's field training officer program where they will begin training with their corporals before being released for solo patrol. In addition, the Rahway Police Department welcomed two additional officers: Officer Joseph Arancio, who was already certified as a Special Law Enforcement Officer II, will begin training with corporals, and Officer Tyrah Graves, who served as a corrections officer, will participate in a modified curriculum between the police academy and the police department.

RPD   KEY IMPROVEMENTS AND REFORMS 2023-2024	SUBJECT	2023	2024	CHANGE
	TICKETS	4518	5356	18.55%
	PARK, WALK & TALK	2133	5023	135.49%
	DWI	83	66	-20.48%
	FATAL MVAs	3	0	-100.00%

# City of Rahway Engineering Division

## WATER QUALITY ASSURANCE INITIATIVE

PROGRESS UPDATE

The City of Rahway is proud to report that there have been 4,750 test pits completed since November 2023. As of August 2024, there are approximately 750 test pits that must still be completed. Of the test pits completed, 48 lead service lines will be replaced by the City at no cost to property owners. Up to 52 additional services remain in this phase. Restoration of test pits is also still underway. This phase of the project is expected to be complete by November 2024. At that time, the City will have determined the material type for every service line and replaced up to 100 lead services lines. To find out the material composition of your service line (as of July 10, 2024) please visit <https://www.rahwaynj.gov/590/WQAI>

For any safety concerns or test pits that need to be restored, please contact the City's consulting engineer, Steven Amos, from ENGenuity Infrastructure at [admin@engenuitynj.com](mailto:admin@engenuitynj.com) or 732-741-3176.

**Next Steps for Residents:** In this next phase of replacing identified service lines, the City asks for your ongoing patience and participation. If your property was identified as having a "Customer Side" lead or galvanized service line, you must provide consent to the City to enter your property and replace the customer side portion of the water service line. These services will be at no cost to you while grant funding remains available. If your property was identified, you should have received



a consent form in the mail in August 2024.

The consent form can also be found on the City's website at <https://www.rahwaynj.gov/590/WQAI>

Please complete and return the consent form to the Rahway Engineering Department at [engineering@cityofrahway.com](mailto:engineering@cityofrahway.com) or 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065.

Have more questions? Please scan the QR code to watch a short video!



# Rahway's Unique Senior Scene



## Come Join a Club!

The Rahway Senior Center is home to 6 different clubs. Participation in clubs has been shown to be good for your mental and physical health. Come join a club, meet new people, stay informed and enjoy!

### Rahway Retired Men's Club

The Rahway Retired Men's Club started in 1961, and is still going strong. They meet every Monday at 1:00pm and you must be 55 or older to join. They host bus trips to the casino the first Wednesday of every month and luncheons throughout the year. For more information, please contact Jim Ivers (201)214-2181.

### Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays from 10:00AM to 12:15PM. All women age 55 or older are encouraged to join. Enjoy a friendly game of Bingo and laughter! For more information, please contact Miriam Hausman (631) 905-5070.

### AARP Rahway Chapter #607

AARP Rahway Chapter #607 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11:30AM. Many topics are covered, as you enjoy a light lunch of hot dogs, donuts and a soft drink. New members and new ideas are always welcomed. For more information, please contact Delores Franklin at (732) 208-7632.

### Rahway Valley Jerseyaires

The Rahway Valley Jerseyaires are an acapella group with a barbershop-style sound that has been around for 75 years. If you love to sing, please join them on Monday night at 6:00PM; no need to read music. Learning tracks are available to help you learn songs. For more information, please contact Al Muller (732) 991-6952.

### Union County Minority Task Force

The Union County Minority Task Force was formed 30 years ago to educate seniors on available services and programs. They meet the first Friday of every other month to discuss how they can help and support the needs of seniors. They also have representatives from social and government agencies that speak at the meetings on topics of interest. If you are interested in joining, please call Elaine Haith (732)428-4800.

### The Garden State Theatre Organ Society

The Garden State Theatre Organ Society (GSTOS) was founded in 1973 to preserve the historic tradition of the Theatre Pipe Organ in American music. Why Get Involved? To hear fabulous organ music, to play and preserve these fabulous units and to meet interesting people of all ages. You can join them on Wednesdays at 3:00PM - they are well known for their sociability and good food!

## EDUCATIONAL AND MORE!

### RAHWAY DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES

Rahway proudly offers a wide range of informative and enjoyable Senior programs that cater to the diverse interests and needs of our community's esteemed elders. Our Senior programs include educational seminars, social gatherings, and recreational outings, providing opportunities for learning, connecting, and making cherished memories.

### Miles of Smiles from Our Recent Past Events



- 1 - Our senior ladies and gentlemen took the dance floor by storm during our Thursday Social Night
- 2 - Senior Ice Cream Social Karaoke
- 3 - The city's Teen Works' employees and our seniors displaying the Origami art they created in our origami class

### HALLOWEEN

Join us at 12:00PM for the Senior Halloween Party on Thursday, October 17th, at the Rahway Recreation Center. Tickets are available for purchase at the Rahway Senior Center at 1306 Esterbrook Ave. The party will include music, lunch, and door prizes. Costumes are optional. For more information please call (732) 827-2016.



### NOTARY PUBLIC

The Rahway Senior Center has a Notary Public of New Jersey on the premises. This service is available for free to Rahway seniors.



HUNTERDON HILLS PLAYHOUSE

### HUNTERDON HILLS

On December 5th, there is a trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, Hampton, NJ, to see "Christmas at the Playhouse 2024". The show is filled with original, hilarious, and heartwarming stories and is sure to be the perfect complement to your holiday season. There's something for everyone - traditional holiday favorites, pop Christmas hits, seasonal spirituals, spectacular dance numbers, and more. Attendees will leave the Rahway Senior Center at 10:00AM and return at approximately 5:00PM. The cost is \$80 and includes bus transportation, lunch, and the show. Sign-up starts Wednesday, October 30th.



### CITY OF RAHWAY SENIOR BUS TRANSPORTATION

The City of Rahway offers a Senior Transportation Service, which provides shared-ride transportation services to meet the special needs of people 60 years or older and persons with disabilities. Eligible residents may utilize the service for non-emergency trips to local doctors, beauty parlors, barbershops, and pharmacies. There are also scheduled trips to ShopRite on Tuesdays, Walmart on Wednesdays, Dollar Tree on Thursdays, and Aldi's on Fridays. Please call (732) 669-3605 for more information or to arrange transportation.

For more information on Senior Services and Programs, please call the Rahway Division of Senior Services: (732) 827-2016



## RFD NEWS AND REVIEWS



On July 19th, the Rahway Fire Department welcomed a brand-new Engine 1 to their fleet of emergency response vehicles, fashioned with a 110-foot aerial ladder.

# Rahway is... at work for You

## KEEPING OUR CITY **STREETS CLEAN**

### CITY STREET SWEEPING AND LEAF COLLECTION

Leaf collection in the City of Rahway begins on November 6, 2024, and runs through December 30, 2024.

Leaves and grass should be placed in piles along the curb or placed in biodegradable paper leaf bags. Branches will be collected separately during the leaf collection process and must be kept separate from leaf piles, tied and bundled in 4-foot lengths, and weigh less than 60lbs. Leaf bags will be available at no charge for Rahway residents with proper identification at the Rahway Department of Public Works, located at 999 Hart Street. Leaves and grass placed in plastic bags or trash cans will not be collected. Residents who live along a road maintained by Union County should check the Union County leaf collection schedule at [www.ucnj.org](http://www.ucnj.org). Leaf piles are not to be placed in roadways prior to November 4, 2024, and only when we will be in your area to help prevent flooding in case of rain.



**Leaf Collection Hotline:  
732-827-2063**

The Rahway Public Works  
Facebook page will be updated daily.  
[www.facebook.com/RahwayDPW](http://www.facebook.com/RahwayDPW)



Are you using the Recycle Coach app? For more information and to download the app, visit [www.recyclecoach.com](http://www.recyclecoach.com) or scan the QR code >



## CITY OF RAHWAY: FLOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION

### Flood Insurance

Most homeowner insurance policies do not cover losses due to floods. However, since Rahway is a participant in the NFIP, it is possible for property owners to obtain federally-backed flood insurance. This insurance is available to any owner of insurable property (a building and/or its contents) in Rahway. Tenants may also insure their personal property against flood loss. Also, most flood insurance policyholders in Rahway benefit from premium discounts. This is due to the City's extensive efforts to obtain credits, through the Community Rating System (CRS), to maintain specific measures for flood damage reduction.

The City strongly urges you to buy flood insurance as needed to protect yourself from devastating losses due to flooding. Following the purchase of flood insurance, NFIP imposes a 30-day waiting period, so residents should purchase insurance before the onset of the rainy season to ensure coverage during the flooding season. You can find out if your property is located in a special flood hazard area through the Office of the City Engineer at (732) 827-2176.

### The local flood hazard

The areas in and around the North and South Branches of the Rahway River, the Robinson's Branch of the Rahway River, the Orchard St. Brook, Maurice Avenue Brook, Allen Street Brook, Milton Lake, Rahway River Park, and certain other watercourses are subject to flooding. Flooding occurs in Rahway because the flood-carrying capacities of the river channels are exceeded, which is caused by a number of factors, such as record rainfall intensities and increased impervious surfaces due to upstream development. Floodplain maps, charts, reports, and studies that document these areas are available for review in the Division of Engineering and also available for review at the Rahway Public Library.

### Flood protection assistance

The City Engineer's office will provide technical assistance relating to flood elevations and data on historical flooding and is available to advise owners of appropriate flood protection measures. The City also has copies of elevation certificates for some properties in the floodplain. City staff members are available to undertake site visits, if requested and authorized, to review flood, drainage, and sewer issues. All requests for technical assistance

must be made in writing to the City Engineer's Office at 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065, or via email at [engineering@cityofrahway.com](mailto:engineering@cityofrahway.com) for this service.

### Flood safety

Following is a list of important considerations that should be followed during times of flooding:

1. Keep children away from flood waters, ditches, culverts, and storm drains.
2. Evacuate the flood hazard area in times of impending flood or when advised to do so by the police or fire department.
3. In your home, turn off flood-prone electrical circuits and shut off the water and gas service valves.
4. Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can sweep you off your feet.
5. Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Do not drive around road barriers; the road or bridge may be washed out. If your car stalls in high water, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground.
6. During times of heavy rainfall monitor the level of water in the drainage way.
7. Plan escape routes to high ground.
8. Know the following flood warning system.

### Flood warning system

When the City of Rahway is expecting or experiencing inclement weather that may include heavy rain, residents in flood-prone areas or low-lying areas are urged to plan preventative actions to protect life and property. Residents are urged to monitor frequently weather and flood conditions that are broadcast over local radio and television stations. Residents will be provided with flood watch and flood warning advisories. A flood watch advisory indicates that the potential for a flood exists in the watch area, while a flood warning indicates that a flood has been detected. Comcast Channel 34 covers the City and will issue timely updated information. This station is part of the Emergency Broadcast System (EBS) as are local television stations Channel 5 & 9. Radio station NJ 101.5 FM, NIXLE, and UCFIRSTALERT will also carry EBS messages. Please register for these updates at [Nixle.com](http://Nixle.com) and [Ucfirstalert.org](http://Ucfirstalert.org). In extreme situations, personnel of the Rahway Office of Emergency Management or Department of Public Safety will conduct "Route Altering" within flood-prone areas to advise

residents to move to higher ground prior to water levels reaching critical stages.

### Property protection measures

There are various actions that can be taken to flood-proof structures. Depending upon the situation, location, and availability of funds, the following measures can be used:

- a) Install a sump pump system to dispose of infiltrating water to grade outside of the structure;
- b) Move essential items and furniture to the upper floors of your home;
- c) Elevate electrical and mechanical equipment in the basement;
- d) Floodproof walls, windows, and doors;
- e) Construct flood walls or closures;
- f) The most effective way to flood-proof a structure is to elevate it.
- g) During times of flooding, homes that have not been retrofitted can be protected during emergencies by the installation of sandbags.
- h) Install flood vents in building walls, doors, or enclosures that are subject to frequent flooding and are not flood-proofed.

### Floodplain development regulations

Please be advised that you must submit a permit application to the City's building department for all development, including filling of land located in a FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and/or an NJDEP Flood Hazard Area (FHA) for studied streams. Please contact the City's floodplain management consultant (Joseph DiLorenzo) by phone at (732) 389-0220 or by email at [dilorenzo@najarian.com](mailto:dilorenzo@najarian.com) for further information and prior to undertaking any activity within such regulated areas, or if you see a non-permitted building or filling in the floodplain.

### Map of the local flood hazard area for the City's coastal and fluvial floodplains

In most of the Rahway River's tidal floodplain, you may determine whether your property is located within a SFHA by using FEMA's Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (PFIRMs), which are available at the Office of the City Engineer at One City Hall Plaza, Rahway, New Jersey 07065. These maps are also available online at FEMA's Map Service Center website at [www.msc.fema.gov](http://www.msc.fema.gov), and a FEMA map specialist is available to assist you by phone

In the City's fluvial floodplains, please be advised that the regulated FHA has recently

expanded due to updated NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Control Act (FHACA) Rules (N.J.A.C. 7:13). A map showing the approximate extent of the expanded FHA is available at the Office of the City Engineer. Please note that detailed local topography, and regulatory flood elevations, must be used to confirm whether your property is in an FHA. For more information about the Rules, or for a jurisdictional determination of whether your property is located within a regulated area, you may contact NJDEP by phone at 609-984-6216 or visit [dep.nj.gov/wlm/lrp/flood-hazard-areas/](http://dep.nj.gov/wlm/lrp/flood-hazard-areas/).

### Recognize the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains to help reduce flooding

Floodplains are a natural component of the City of Rahway environment. Understanding and protecting the natural functions of floodplains help reduce flood damage and protect resources. When flooding spreads out across the floodplain, its energy is dissipated, which results in lower flood flows downstream, reduced erosion of the stream bank and channel, deposition of sediments higher in the watershed, and improved groundwater recharge. Floodplains are scenic, valued wildlife habitats, and suitable for residential gardening. Poorly planned development in floodplains can lead to stream bank erosion, loss of valuable property, increased risk of flooding to downstream properties, and degradation of water quality. A number of County and Municipal parks like the Rahway River Park and Milton Lake Park preserve the stream corridor and prevent development in perpetuity.

### Drainage system maintenance

In addition to regulating development and fill within the flood hazard area, the City of Rahway and the State of New Jersey have regulations prohibiting dumping in channels, obstructing flows, or any activity that would adversely affect the water-carrying capacity of any channel, floodway, or floodplain. It has been demonstrated that regulating development and maintaining drainage systems can alleviate recurrent flooding which endangers life and damages property and facilities. Please report any activities that may be in violation of these regulations to the City's certified floodplain management consultant (Joseph DiLorenzo) at Najarian Associates at (732) 389-0220.

**Substantial improvement requirements**  
The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

considers building improvements (or damages) to be "substantial" if the market cost of construction, additions, or other improvements to existing buildings (or cost of restoration for damaged buildings) equals or exceeds 50 percent of the building's market value prior to the improvement (or damage). Both Substantially Improved and Substantially Damaged (SI/SD) buildings must meet the same construction-code requirements as new buildings. In coastal areas, this requirement usually means elevating the lowest floor, including the basement and certain utility systems, at least one (1) foot above the base flood elevation (BFE) displayed on the most recent (Preliminary) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (PFIRMs). In riverine settings, an even higher design flood elevation (DFE) is usually applied. If you are planning to improve a building in either an SFHA or FHA (or had significant flood damage), you must contact the City's floodplain management consultant for an SI/SD determination.



### Important Contact Information:

**City of Rahway  
Internet Home Page:**  
[www.cityofrahway.com](http://www.cityofrahway.com)

**Federal Emergency  
Management Agency (FEMA):**  
(425) 487-4600  
[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

**FEMA Map Service Center:**  
[www.msc.fema.gov](http://www.msc.fema.gov)

**The National Flood Insurance  
Program:**  
[www.fema.gov/flood-insurance](http://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance)

**City of Rahway Public Library:**  
[catalog.rahwaylibrary.org](http://catalog.rahwaylibrary.org)

**Hiring a Contractor:**  
[www.fema.gov/-fact-sheet/tips-hiring-contractor-home-repair-0](http://www.fema.gov/-fact-sheet/tips-hiring-contractor-home-repair-0)