PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE

IT'S ALL HERE.

The Rahway Preview and Review are your definitive go-to-guides for what's happening in our City. Right here. Right now.

review

Rahway is.

Seasons of Strength.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Greetings Rahway Residents!

As our city continues to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and Hurricane Ida, we look forward to continuing our Fall traditions of spooky and festive events. These events are not only a way for our community to enjoy the holidays, but to also remind us that we are not only united during the tough times, but during the joyous times as well, and celebrating that is important.

Over the last two years, our community has seen its share of hardships and challenges. However, I have seen our residents continue to step up for each other through checking in on our neighbors, donating items to those who have suffered loss.

and supporting local businesses. As your mayor, it is awe-inspiring to see our community come together and support one another. I also commend our businesses and non-profit organizations for the unity and support they have provided during these challenging times.

It is also important for our residents to know that myself, our City Council, and all city employees have been working tirelessly to ensure that our community has the support and resources needed to continue moving forward. Our Department of Public Works, Fire Department, and Police Department have also been working around the clock to ensure our city remains safe.

With all that happens in the day-to-day operations of our city, I believe it is also vital that our traditional seasonal events continue to provide adults and children with light-hearted fun and an opportunity to create new memories with loved ones. This year, we are very excited to continue with our Halloween Spooktacular, Santa Parade, Tree Lighting, and Winter Wonderland Series. The City will also be hosting live music and poetry events through the coming months.

I look forward to continuing to celebrate our community at our upcoming events.

MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE



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Раћwау, **МJ** 07065 1 City Hall Plaza City of Rahway Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe



Mayor Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council Present

Stay in the know with upcoming events that are added to the calendar throughout the year.

Please visit the City of Rahway, Rahway Recreation Center, the Rahway Public Library, Rahway Special Improvement District and UCPAC on the web and social media for latest information.



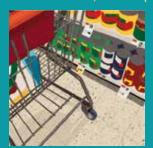
THE GALLERY SPACE

RAHWAY

presents

November Exhibit he Maximum Minimum

Matilda Forsberg, Lisa Lackey, Laura Lou Levy, Jennifer Macblain Malone, Hunter Mckee, Alex Melo, Arthur Paxton, Anna Ryabtsov, Francisco Silva, Gwen Yip







Gallery Hours:

Exhibition Dates: November 14 – December 10, 2021 Opening Reception: Sunday, November 14, 1:00PM - 4:00PM Monday - Friday 1:00PM - 4:00PM

Or by appointment for groups

Admission is Free to the Public

Any Covid restrictions during exhibition dates will be observed. Masks required.

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



The Rahway Review is published by the Office of the Mayor, Raymond A. Giacobbe. Its purpose is to keep citizens informed of important programs and events that the administration has developed in efforts to improve the quality of life in Rahway.

13,000 newsletters are printed and mailed to each postal customer in the City of Rahway. Others are distributed by request to individuals, companies and organizations interested in living or doing business in the City.

Although great care has been taken to ensure that information contained in this newsletter is accurate, the City of Rahway assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

The Rahway Review welcomes comments and concerns from its readers. These may be sent to:

City of Rahway • Office of the Mayor • 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065

RAHWAY MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

If you get an answering machine when calling any of the following numbers, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible. All area codes are 732 unless otherwise specified.

Municipal Offices

Building Inspector	827-2087
City Clerk	
Economic Development	827-2193
Comptroller/Finance	827-2020
Municipal Court	
Economic Development	
Emergency Management	827-2120
Engineering	827-2176
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
Police (non emergency)	827-2200
Property Maintenance	827-2199
Public Works	
Rahway Special Improvem	nent
District	827-2193
Recreation	669-3600
Recycling	827-2159
Tax Assessor	827-2030
Tax Collector	827-2050
SUEZ-Rahway	(877) 303-2435

Vital Statistics 827-2172

Helpful Numbers

Board of Education	396-1000
RWJU Hospital at Rahway	381-4200
Rahway Library	340-1551
NJ Transit9	73-275-5555
P.A.L. Hot Line	827-2097
Parking Utility	381-8778
Post Office	388-3264
Rahway Redevelopment Ager	ncy 827-2001
Rahway Y.M.C.A	388-0057
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
Grover Cleveland School	396-1040
Franklin School	396-1050
Madison School	396-1070
Roosevelt School	396-1060



Like us! Follow us on social media or contact the City of Rahway on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/CityOfRahwayNJ

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OT·NOV-DEC2021







OCT 12

11:00AM **Storytime on the Go** Between Rec / Library



OCT **13**

5:30PM - 7:00PM Rain date 10/14 **Playground Reopening** Madden Field

OCT 16

9:30AM Sonic Bliss Yoga on Cherry Street

East Cherry Street

6:00PM

What's the Word on Cherry Street

The Gallery Space

8:00PM
POSTMODERN
JUKEBOX
UCPAC Main Stage

OCT 17

1:00PM & 4:00PM **BUBBLE TROUBLE** UCPAC Main Stage

OCT 19

11:00AM **Storytime on the Go** Between Rec / Library

OCT 20

6:30PM - 9:00PM **Baile** with live spanish language music East Cherry Street

OCT 22

8:00PM
THE ITALIAN CHICKS
UCPAC Main Stage

OCT 23

9:30AM

Sonic Bliss Yoga on Cherry Street

East Cherry Street 8:00PM A BRONX TALE



OCT **26**

11:00AM **Storytime on the Go** Between Rec / Library

OCT 30

9:30AM

Sonic Bliss Yoga on Cherry Street

East Cherry Street

12:00PM - 3:00PM **Halloween Spooktacular** Between Rec / Library

NOV 6

11:00AM – 5:00PM **Rahway Craft and Art Fair** Rahway Recreation Center

8:00PM **ASIA FT. JOHN PAYNE** UCPAC Main Stage

NOV 7

3:30PM CHAMPIONS OF MAGIC

UCPAC Main Stage

NOV 14

The Maximum Minimum Exhibit

Reception: Sunday 11/14 1:00-4:00PM Runs through December 10

The Gallery Space

NOV 19

8:00PM

Jazz Concert with Junior Mack

The Gallery Space

NOV 20

6:00PM

What's the Word on Cherry Street

The Gallery Space

Santa on Parade

Beginning at 12:00PM Rain Date 11/21



NOV **26**

5:00PM - 7:00PM **Tree Lighting**

Santa lights the tree at 7:00PM

Downtown Rahway

NOV **27**

12:00PM - 4:00PM Small Business Saturday Downtown Rahway

DEC 3

4:00-7:00PM

Winter Wonderland Series

Train Station/East Cherry Street

DEC 4

8:00PM

ORCHESTRA OF ST.
PETER BYTHE SEA
UCPAC Main Stage



DEC 10

4:00-7:00PM

Winter Wonderland Series

Train Station/East Cherry Street

DEC 11

8:00PM

CEDRIC THE ENTERTAINER

UCPAC Main Stage

DEC 17

4:00-7:00PM

Winter Wonderland Series

Train Station/East Cherry Street

DEC 18

6:00PM

What's the Word on

Cherry StreetThe Gallery Space

Rahwayis. live!



ABSalute House Rahway Train Station Plaza 4-8pm

Oct 9, 4 - 8pm DJ Beloved Tennant & DJ Mark Francis

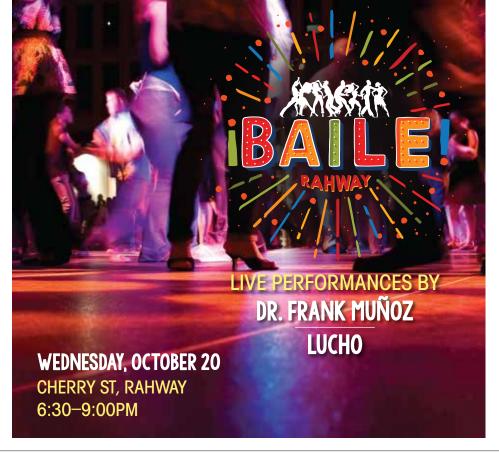




Rahway Musicfest for Restaurants Train Station Plaza 2-8pm

Live Music • Oct 2





A LOOK BACK AT Summer Events

Summer 2021 was a season of new and returning events in Rahway's downtown. After many 2020 events were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mayor Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council worked tirelessly to ensure that the events of Summer 2021 were planned with the perfect balance of safety and community spirit. Kicking off the summer events was Living Well, a health-focused resource fair that offered those in need mental and physical health resources and support for working through the COVID-19 pandemic and returning to a sense of

normalcy in the community.

Following up Rahway's Living Well event was the return of the popular Mayor's Concert Series. For three consecutive Thursdays in August, artists including Terron Brooks, En Vogue and Pop2K Tour hosted by Lance Bass of *NSYNC, took the stage in front of the **Union County** Performing Arts Center to play for thousands of Rahway residents and visitors, who were looking for some summer fun. Mayor Giacobbe took the stage with several of the artists and noted "it was truly amazing to see Rahway come

back to life after a year of canceled events. Safety precautions, such as mask wearing, hand sanitizing and social distancing, were still strongly advised, but you could see joy return to the streets through the dancing and singing along to the music."

Following the Mayor's Concert Series, The Rahway River Watershed Association in partnership with the City of Rahway co-hosted an eight-day celebration of the Rahway River. Despite some rain that caused the cancelation of a few events, the first annual Rahway RiverFest went off smoothly,

with a wide range of events for just about everyone. Activities included a Big Community Cleanup, nature walk in Rahway River Park, eco-art classes for kids, yoga by the river, RiverLore (perspectives on the history of the Rahway River at Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum), The Swamp Soiree (a showing of the camp movie classic The Creature From the Black Lagoon), Rhythm and Brews (a water quality awareness event at Wet nature photography walk at Lower Essex Street Park.

In addition, several art

exhibits and an art installation brought attention to the river and the environment at large, by highlighting nature's beauty. A pop-up gallery on Main Street, Art on Main, included stunning realistic and abstract photos of water in its many forms in Water: The Real & The Abstract. Atelier Rosal on Cherry Street offered a mixed media collection in their exhibit From Water. Found object sculptures were featured at the RRWA headquarters Ticket Brewing), and a on East Milton Avenue in Uses for Household Trash. Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, a partner of the New

Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the City of Rahway, funded a mural as part of RiverFest. The mural, located on Main Street at the Paseo, depicts a mermaid frolicking in the river, and was painted by Porkchop, a well-known muralist from Asbury Park.

As the City moves into the Fall season, we will continue to host and support local events that celebrate the community. Upcoming events include the Annual Halloween Spooktacular, Baile, House Music Festival, Santa on Parade, Tree Lighting, Winter Wonderland Series, and so much more.



















1- "Living Well" with City Council Members Joanna Miles and David Brown 2-Fun at "Living Well" event 3-Mayor Giacobbe at the Summer Concert Series Soul of Broadway: Terron Brooks live at the MSCS 5-En Vogue live at the MSCS 6-POP2K Tour live at the MSCS

7-"Art on Main" at Rahway RiverFest 8-Big Community Cleanup at Rahway RiverFest 9-"Hudson City Rats" live at Wet Ticket Brewing - Rahway RiverFest

*rahwayreview

Rahway is staying safe

Mayor Raymond
Giacobbe and the
Rahway City Council
would like to remind all
residents that

COVID-19 vaccinations are available

every Thursday from 3:00pm-6:00pm at the Rahway Senior Center, located at 1306 Esterbrook Avenue. To date, more than 7,500 Rahway residents have been vaccinated. With frequent announcements regarding FDA approvals and booster shots becoming available, the City of Rahway would also like to

provide ways for our residents to obtain accurate information from reliable sources: The City of Rahway's website reports case counts and vaccination rates within our community and provides additional local information regarding COVID-19. Please visit cityofrahway.com/covid. The State of New Jersey also has detailed information about where to receive vaccinations, assistance with scheduling a vaccination appoint-

ment, state-wide vaccination statistics, and general vaccination information. Please visit https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine. Our COVID-19 Clinic is currently providing first doses and second doses of Moderna vaccine for individuals 18 and over as well as booster shots for the immunocompromised. No proof of immunosuppression required. The clinic also offers the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

The City of Rahway is now offering free COVID-19 testing

which is available in a trailer located in the City Hall Plaza parking lot. The trailer is situated near the entrance to the Recreation Center. Testing is available on Mondays from 8:00am to 6:00pm, Tuesday through Friday from 9:00am to 6:00pm, and Saturdays from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Pre-registration is available at https://testnj.online/. Practices such as hand

washing, social distancing, and wearing masks when social distancing is not possible have all helped in our fight against the virus. However, vaccination is the key to ultimately defeating the disease. If any other assistance is needed or if you have any questions about receiving the COVID-19 Vaccination, please contact the Rahway Health Department at (732) 827-2085 or email health@cityofrahway.com.







Rahway Community Stepping Up During Ida Flooding

"Community" is ultimately defined as a unified body of individuals. When referring to Rahway residents, many have exemplified the word unity by continually showcasing their perseverance and heart for one another despite any challenge that has come their way.

One Rahway resident, Nadine "Dee" Smalling, has become an anchor for this community in crisis working with Mayor Raymond Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council providing her expertise and experience in disaster relief to provide for her community. Once the flooding began to pool on September 2, Dee immediately began to act in reaching out to the team of contacts she developed in her years working with the Independent Disaster
Response Team
[IDRT] and compiling
resources that would
be needed once the
water subsided.
Acting quickly, she set
up shop at the Rahway
Recreation Center
and began coordinating donations to
distribute to those
affected by the heavy
rain and severe
flooding.

Countless donations

have been received from Rahway residents and beyond and have been picked up at the Rahway Recreation Center. **Donations** including cleaning supplies, food items, clothing, blankets, toiletries, school supplies, bottled water, personal hygiene items and baby products, including diapers, wipes, and formula have provided essen-

tial aid to those who suffered losses from the historic flooding.

One donation came from two young Rahway residents who, a week prior to the flooding, hosted a lemonade stand. They then took their profits from the stand and purchased four cases of bottled water, sponges, cleaners, and dish soap.

Along with donations, members of the community are also coming forward to donate their time. One community member cooked 150 meals for residents in need. Local restaurants also began to step up by providing hot meals to those in need, including 32 displaced seniors from the Rahway Housing Authority's Kennedy Apartments.











CITY OF RAHWAY: FLOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION

The City of Rahway is a participant in a federally subsidized program that has allowed most property owners to purchase flood insurance with up to a 20% discount on their flood insurance premiums. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), requires that the City adopt specific flood damage reduction education, planning and building criteria.

In an effort to inform residents and property owners of the presence of flood hazards in Rahway and to suggest possible actions that may be taken to protect persons and property, the following article is being sent to you because the City of Rahway has many flood prone areas and your property may be susceptible to flooding.

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 policy holders in Rahy 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 or engineering@ cityofrahway.com.

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 can 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. Please contact the Engineering Division at (732) 827-2176 or engineering@ cityofrahway.com for this service.

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 area 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 and 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 which 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) Flood proof 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 all development, including filling of land located in a special flood hazard area, is regulated differently from other areas and may require a permit. Contact the Office of the City Engineer at 732-827-2176 for further information and prior to undertaking any activity within the floodplain or if you see non-permitted building or filling in the floodplain.

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 State of New Jersey have regulations prohibiting dumping in channels, obstructing flows or any activity that would adversely effect 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. Any activities that may be in violation of these regulations should be reported to the Division of Engineering at (732) 827-2176 or engineering@cityofrahway.com.

Substantial improvement requirements

With respect to requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) relative to substantial improvement in the flood plain, please be advised that if the cost of reconstruction, rehabilitation, additions, or other improvement to a building or home equals or exceeds 50 percent of the building's market value, then the building must meet the same flood plain construction requirements as a new building. Substantially damaged. buildings must also be brought up to the same standards. This requirement means elevating the lowest floor, including basement and certain utility systems, at least one (1) foot above the base flood elevation, which is the 100-year flood elevation. A 100-year flood water surface elevation is caused by a storm having a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

Map of the local flood hazard area:

To determine whether your property is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are available at the Office of the City Engineer at One City Hall Plaza, Rahway, New Jersey 07065. The maps are also available online at FEMA's Map Service Center website at www.msc.fema.gov, and a FEMA map specialist is available to assist you by phone (at 877-336-2627). In addition, the effective base flood elevation and location of the SFHA on the effective FIRM are mapped on the City's website at www.cityofrahway.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Flood-Hazard-Area-Mapping-website.pdf. A comparison of the effective vs. preliminary FIRM is available from FEMA's website at https://fema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index. html?id=e7a7dc3ebd7f4ad39bb8e485bb64ce44.



Important Contact Information:

City of Rahway Internet Home Page: www.cityofrahway.com

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Phone: (425) 487-4600 Web: www.fema.gov/nfip

FEMA Map Service Center:

The National Flood Insurance

www.fema.gov/business.nfip

City of Rahway Public Library: http://catalog.rahway library.org

Hiring a Contractor: www.state.nj.us/lps/ ca/contractors/ consumercont.htm