



THE

Weekly Newspaper

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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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Discussion on New Bus Depot 11/19/15 Board of Education Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust
PERTH AMBOY – On the Old Business portion of the agenda of the 11/19/15 Board of Education Meeting there was a discussion on a proposed Bus Depot to be built on the corner of East Avenue and New Brunswick Avenue. Presently this is an empty lot and the land is owned by the Board of Education. The proposed Bus Depot would house school vehicles including maintenance vehicles, food service trucks and school buses, etc. The plan is to have an in-house mechanic to service the vehicles plus in-house cleaning services and a storage facility to garage the vehicles thereby extending the life of the vehicle.

The Amboy Guardian reached out to Board Vice-President and Buildings and Grounds Chair Israel Varela. Varela stressed the need of the Bus Depot to help alleviate the problems of outsourcing school vehicles. "It will make things perfect. In the past we had to outsource maintenance vehicles and were at the company's mercy, especially during snowstorms. We had to pay an outsourced company around \$100,000 to plow for a storm. Now we own our own Bobcats and we are paying less than half the money that we were paying before. These Bobcats can be are also being retrofitted to do other things such as landscaping which we are using them for."

The plan is to eventually purchase enough vehicles so that the Board of Education does not need to outsource any vehicles. "We pay around \$80,000 a year to store school vehicles. If we have our own facility, we will have more room. We will be able to maintain vehicles and clean them. What we now pay a contractor to maintain vehicles each year is enormous. The Depot will be a great, great savings."

During the 11/19/15 Board of Education Meeting, Board Member William Ortiz ques-

tioned the Board on the need for the construction of the Bus Depot, "Is there a timetable that this is going to cost?"

Board Secretary Derek Jess answered, "The architect is preparing the renderings. We will get an estimate for the cost and then we will go forward."

Board President Sam Lebreault provided some information, "About 3 years ago it cost \$7.2 million (the amount the BOE spends on transportation). Today, I don't know."

Derek Jess added, "It's in the ballpark."

William Ortiz continued, "How many square feet (will this Bus Depot be)? How much will it cost – from \$2.5 million to \$5 million?"

Jess answered, "We currently own around 30 school buses (plus maintenance vehicles and food service delivery trucks). We outsource around 40 other (vehicles)."

"Buy more buses?" Ortiz asked

Jess replied, "Because then we don't have to outsource it (vehicle services)."

Ortiz continued, "I would like to have a presentation. Once you build, you have to maintain the building and pay health benefits (to employees). What is the starting salary for a bus driver?"

Jess answered, "Around \$28,000/year. Once we have the information from the architect we will know the cost."

Ortiz continued his questioning, "How would this benefit the students if we overspend on it?"

Buildings and Ground Chair and Board Vice President Israel Varela stated the necessity of the building, "A lot of private companies are opening up. There's a large profit in this. In reference to cost, the amount of buses (outsourced) - it's a massive amount of a bill. By having our own, it's very lucrative. We can maintain our own vehicles and keep them more secure. We'll have a nice



Board Vice President
Israel Varela

garage and always be ready for any emergencies."

Ortiz argued, "How are we going to store 70 buses – in this building? It's always cheaper to lease than to own. I know enough to know that this is a Red Herring. At some point, this should be presented to the public. There's no way it's beneficial to the students."

The Amboy Guardian asked Vice President Varela on the need for so much busing in Perth Amboy. Varela answered, "Federal law requires special needs students to be bussed. If a program is far away and a special needs student is required to attend it, the student must be bused. More and more special needs students are coming into Perth Amboy."

When asked about buses being parked all over town, especially recently buses being parked in the Train Station parking lot, Varela answered, "All Perth Amboy Board of Education buses are housed in storage during the day when not in use. They are not parked on the street or in the train station lot. In Perth Amboy, the outsourced vehicles are not required to be stored during the day. If it does not say Perth Amboy Board of Education on the bus or vehicle – it is outsourced and not owned by the Perth Amboy Board of Education."

Demolition Begins at C-Town Property



Demolition of South Amboy C-Town - Photo taken 11/23/15
*Photo by Carolyn Maxwell

By: Joseph L. Kuchie
SOUTH AMBOY - After a long legal process that took months to conclude, the destroyed C-Town property on Bordentown Avenue has finally begun demolition.

Mayor Fred Henry made the initial announcement at last Monday's city council meeting that demolition and debris cleanup would begin on Nov. 18.

"I would like to thank the patience of our citizens. I know it's not an easy process," Henry said. "We have an investigation into the cause of the fire, the insurance companies, the courts involved...It just takes time but Wednesday will be the day they start."

Council President Mickey Gross credited the hard work done by the city's officials for making the demolition happen.

"I don't think people realize the amount of effort our Business Administrator, our Mayor, our Law Director, and our City Engineer put into this,"

Gross said. "It really should be part of the record here tonight. Thank you, it's not something that just happened over night. As always you guys do a great job and I personally want to thank you for your efforts."

The council held a moment of silence for those affected in the Paris terrorist attacks that claimed the lives of 120 people. Mayor Henry sent his condolences to the friends and families of those who lost their lives and hoped that the United States would come to their aid.

"We know that evil exists in the world and there are evil people out there. We offer our prayers and resolve that we will fight these terrorists," Mayor Henry said. "These cowards who perpetrated this atrocity were evil and I hope our country takes the lead to bring them and people like them to an end."

Councilman Applegate was not in attendance for the meeting. The next city council meeting will be held on December 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Link to Spotlight on Mayor Diaz

PERTH AMBOY - <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/nj-latina-her-citys-first-woman-mayor-n451586>

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**Annual
Toy Drive**

SAYREVILLE - Toy Drive November 3rd to December 7th from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday at the Recreation Department on Dolan Street. New toys only please Help us to provide some holiday cheer for those special residents of Sayreville.

**Bell Ringers
Wanted**

PERTH AMBOY – The Salvation Army is looking for Bell Ringer for their Christmas Kettles. The job is seasonal (Nov. 27 thru Dec. 24) and full time \$9/hr. 5 days a week (Tuesdays thru Saturdays) from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. You need to have a Social Security and State ID. Come apply at the Salvation Army, 433 State St., Perth Amboy. Contact: Alex Rodriguez. 732-826-7040.

**Participants
Wanted**

PERTH AMBOY - The City of Perth Amboy is seeking groups, businesses or organizations who would like to participate in the City's Annual Christmas Parade! Event Date: Saturday, December 5, 2015 Rain date: Sunday, December 6, 2015. If interested and for more information please contact Isamar Payano at (732) 826-1690 ext. 4321 or email Ipayano@perthamboynj.org

Senator Vitale Statement on Out-of-Network Bill

News Release 11/23/15
TRENTON – Senator Joseph F. Vitale, chair of the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee, issued the following statement on the advancement of the Out-of-network Consumer Protection, Transparency, Cost Containment and Accountability Act, a bill he is sponsoring. The bill, an Assembly Committee Substitute for A-4444/S-20, which advanced through the Assembly Finance and Insurance Committee today, aims to promote transparency and advance consumer protection by requiring full disclosure of out-of-network health care charges.

“Over the past few months, we have engaged in vigorous conversations with various

stakeholders, including members of the insurance and hospital industries and consumer and business groups, who are just as committed as I am to ensuring New Jersey’s health care consumers are protected and don’t fall into the trap of inadvertent out-of-network use and balance billing.

Along with my Assembly counterparts sponsoring the bill, I am now confident that we have a piece of legislation that will advance through both houses before the end of this legislative session that eliminates surprise out-of-network health care charges and provides greater transparency, full disclosure, and ultimately consumer protection for New Jersey residents.


“People are being forced to

choose between paying off medical bills that they never expected to receive or paying their necessary everyday expenses like rent, mortgage, and food. It’s not a fair choice to have to make.



“New Jersey consumers need to know what they’re getting into, before non-emergent out-of-network medical services are provided, so they can make informed choices rather than being arm-wrestled into damaging debt.”

**Attend Public
Meetings:
Have Your Voice
Heard!**

**Kearny Cottage Celebrates the Arts -
11/20/15 *Photos by Vilma Novak**



Andre Martinez, percussion_Doug Principato, guitar and vocals



Dioris Arlequin, poet_ Andre Martinez, percussionist

Ricardo Solis, artist, percussionist on the the berimbau is a single-string percussion instrument, a musical bow, from Brazil



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#GIVINGTUESDAY #YSOCKS

THE STOCKINGS WERE HUNG BY THE CHIMNEY WITH CARE . . .

Tis the season for giving, but with all of the craziness during the Holidays it can be tough to remember what this time of year is really about.

#GivingTuesday starts on December 1st and runs thru Christmas, it is a day each week in the month of December where we may pause to think about giving to others. This year, the Raritan Bay Area YMCA is participating in **#givingtuesday** in two ways, and we would love your help!

The first initiative is all about socks! Socks are the number one most requested item in homeless shelters, so let's give the gift of warm toasty feet to those experiencing homelessness and poverty. Our goal is to collect 500 pairs of socks - We can do it - TOGETHER!

Starting December 1st, bring NEW socks to the Y, let's show those who are less fortunate how a little warmth may spread so much joy! Also, please help us by sharing this status on your Facebook page or Tweet the info to your followers. Post a picture of you, your family or co-workers with the socks you will donate, and tag it **#YSOCKS**. Get creative! We will pick the best pictures to share with our community!

Keep an eye out for our second initiative - sending 100 kids to summer camp!

Raritan Bay Area YMCA | 357 New Brunswick Avenue Perth Amboy, NJ 08861 | 732.442.3632 | www.rbaymca.org

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Will We Ever Have Another Camelot?



President John F. Kennedy, John Jr., Jackie and Caroline
*Photo Courtesy of The Daily Mail Newspaper

John Fitzgerald Kennedy and his gracious, young and beautiful wife, Jackie were the dream team of the 1960’s. The era when John and Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy was President and First Lady was referred to as Camelot.

Jackie referred to that time in the White House before her husband was assassinated as, “An idyllic and a romantic fairy-tale.”

They had two young beautiful and energetic children. Everyone considered them a perfect match.

On a visit to France, President Kennedy remarked that his wife, Jackie so enchanted the masses that he said he was “The man who accompanied Jackie to Paris.” In essence, she was more of a celebrity than him.

He was President from January 20, 1961 - November 22, 1963.

52 years ago Camelot was forever shattered when an assassin’s bullet ended the dream in Dallas, Texas.

Jack and Jackie were looked on as fresh faces with new ideas to move the nation forward in a positive way.

One of President Kennedy’s most famous quotes during his

time was, “My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.” *John F. Kennedy’s Inaugural Address, January 20, 1961*

We just celebrated Veteran’s Day this past November 11. When you think of the Veterans, they fall under that category automatically. Others have done so by volunteering their time or monetary contributions with charitable organizations.

September 11 is National Day of Service. The day is an annual and forward-looking tribute to the 9/11 victims, survivors, and those who rose up in service in response to the attacks.

When you look at JFK’s inaugural address, it basically said the same thing.

So he is the one who actually originally initiated the National Day of Service.

If he was alive today, President Kennedy would have been 98 years old.

You can’t help but wonder how the country would have turned out if his life had not been cut short.

So this editorial is dedicated to that short Camelot period.
C.M.

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Public Sector Unions Facing Supreme Court Threat With Resolve

When unions are under attack, I think of my 31 years as an elementary school teacher in Perth Amboy and my two sons - a firefighter in Perth Amboy and a Monmouth County corrections officer. Both my sons put their lives on the line every day and depend on union brothers and sisters (mostly brothers) to protect one another. During my career I depended on my union sisters and brother (more sisters than brothers since more women go into teaching) for guidance, camaraderie and—particularly when times became difficult for educators—support and protection.

This term the Supreme Court is considering Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association which could weaken unions and make it harder for working people to come together and negotiate for better wages, benefits and working conditions. States without such provisions lag behind stronger union states such as New Jersey in education attainment for students, health outcomes and higher in family and childhood poverty. Throughout the United States (and in other countries) objective measures show that when unions are weaker working people bring homes less, have fewer benefits and the balance of power shifts to the rich and privileged with disastrous public health and economic outcomes for the overall society.

During my career, the union functioned as a valuable tool for learning my craft as an educator, receiving professional development from my peers and subsequently mentoring new teachers. I learned to help new teachers channel their en-

thusiasm and excitement into developing great lesson plans, mastering the daily routine of reaching out to students as unique individuals and dealing with observations and evaluations.

Many factors influence success in teaching, but I have seen new teachers thrive when mentored through having the confidential support system unions promote. My union helped create a safe space to have frank discussions with my colleagues about what works for each student and how to best maximize their potential, in a much different way than high stakes testing and state-mandated evaluations can count.

Other than being recognized by former students for making a difference in their lives, one of my greatest joys is seeing the success of the volunteer literacy program I helped start for my students’ parents. We stayed late to open the school so they would feel comfortable assisting their children—a program particularly needed in Perth Amboy where a majority of our students are coming from homes where English is not the primary language. The idea came from my union colleagues in other states and our local now sponsors an annual literacy fair along with many voluntary professional development programs.

While my sons depend on their unions to make sure staffing levels are maintained and safety equipment is available, our union advocates for smaller class sizes, nurses in the schools and community services for families.

The union helps balance power when people were unfairly harassed and would have lost their jobs if not for due process protections and a strong union. I have seen good teachers who give back to the district and their students have their careers jeopardized because of heresy and false



Norine Gall

accusations. Fortunately the union made sure they were kept in place and able to continue working with dignity and respect.


My local union does not coddle poor teachers or those with disciplinary problems that rated termination; instead counseling them out and taking responsibility for maintaining the integrity of our profession. In this way, we earned the respect of management so when we stand up for a teacher they knew we are serious.

Those of us who are public workers in the schools, the hospitals and the fire stations cannot influence the legal outcome of Friedrichs or any other well-funded legal attacks on unions. If unions lose rights to court decisions, members and the communities we serve will suffer. What we can and will continue to do is to be committed professionals and engage through our unions to improve the individual and collective impact on the lives we touch. That is the nature of our work and it becomes even more necessary the tougher times become.

Norine Gall, Retired in 2014 from Perth Amboy Public Schools.

*Submitted by Nat T. Bender
American Federation of
Teachers New Jersey*

What Do You Think? Send us a Response!



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Thanksgiving Dinner

PERTH AMBOY - Faith Fellowship Ministries World Outreach Center is having a Thanksgiving Dinner, Thursday, November 26 at the Salvation Army, 433 State St., Perth Amboy from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more info call the Salvation Army 732-826-7040 ext. 16 or Steven Simon of FFMWOC 732-754-2410. All are welcome!!!



Homemade Nut Roll Sale

WOODBIDGE - Hungarian homemade nut rolls sponsored by the Lorantffy Women's Guild of the Calvin Hungarian Reformed Church, (Corner of School Street and No. James Street, Woodbridge. Each roll weighs 1lb 8oz. Available in: English Walnut, Poppy Seed, Prune (Lekvar), Apricot and Raspberry. Price \$16 each. Orders accepted by: Nov. 30th. Orders will be available for pick-up on Friday, December 18th between 12 noon and 4 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall of the Church. Please use Ross Street Entrance. All orders must be paid in full upon ordering. Please call Mrs. Barbara Drotar-Bosques: 732-442-5867.

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Santa Fly-In

Press Release
PRINCETON - Forty years ago, the idea of having Santa fly into the Princeton Airport for the area children to watch was brought to life. Throughout the years, this has evolved into a wonderful annual event for families and those less fortunate.

The tradition will continue this year on Thursday, December 24th, when the Nierenberg family, owners of the airport, will open the hangar doors to children awaiting Santa's arrival. Santa is planned to arrive at 11:00 A.M. Parents are advised to bring the children prior to then, as the Princeton Airport Flying Tigers will be

serving cocoa and cookies, and local folk singer Pat McKinley will be leading the audience in holiday songs during the wait for Santa.

If parents would like to have a gift waiting for their child, they should bring a wrapped gift with the child's name on it in large print to the Princeton Airport lobby. Gifts should be no larger than 12" to accommodate Santa. If parents have more than one child participating, the gifts should be wrapped in the same paper and tied together to speed up the distribution. Also, to have their child participate, parents need to bring a gift for the less fortunate as well. This is the most important feature of this -MORE- event. These gifts must be new and unwrapped, and will be collected by the Mercer County Board of Social Services. Personal checks made out to the "FoodBank Network of Somerset County", as well as canned or boxed food will also be collected at the airport. Donations from nonparticipants are kindly ac-

cepted, as well.

The collection of the gifts will begin the day after Thanksgiving and will end on Thursday, December 17th in order to enable county workers to arrange the best matches for the needy. The gifts can be deposited in the "chimneys" in the lobby of the airport between 8:00 a.m.. and 6:00 p.m.

Once Santa's plane lands, Santa will head into the hangar along with all the participants, to distribute each gift individually. In fairness to all, Santa will distribute the gifts in the order in which they are received at the airport. Children will also have the opportunity to take a picture on Santa's lap. Usually, distribution is completed by 1:00 P.M. and Santa continues his journey.

There is no charge for this event. The Princeton Airport is located in Montgomery Township, 3.5 miles north of Princeton on Route 206. The full address is 41 Airpark Road, Princeton, N.J., 08540. For further information, call 609-921-3100.

Holiday Stroll

WOODBIDGE - Saturday, November 28th from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Main Street, Woodbridge: Horse drawn carriage rides, crafts, vendors, DJ and a visit from Santa & Mrs. Claus.

Pictures With Santa

WOODBIDGE - Donate a non-perishable item and take your picture with Santa Claus! Parker Press (400 Rahway Ave) on Saturday, December 12th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The 55th Annual Holiday Parade

WOODBIDGE - Parade Starts at Woodbridge High School 1:30 p.m. and ends in Town Hall. Sunday, Dec. 6th.



CITY OF PERTH AMBOY
THE HONORABLE MAYOR WILDA DIAZ



Annual Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting Ceremony

Saturday, December 5, 2015 begins at 4:00pm
(Rain date Sunday, December 6, 2015)
Starting at Wilson & Smith Street
(Participants line-up at 3:00 p.m.)

Followed by the Tree lighting Ceremony at 4:30pm

Refreshments & gift bags for children!



For more information please contact:
Department of Human Services, Isamar Payano
732-826-1690 ext. 4321
lpayano@perthamboynj.org

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Holiday Craft Show

WOODBIDGE - The Catholic Daughters of America#769 are having a Craft Show. Vendors/Crafters Wanted for craft show at St. James Church - Lower Level Main Street and Rte. 35, Woodbridge on Saturday, Dec. 5th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Set Up: Sat. Dec. 5th at 8 a.m. Cost: \$20 per table. No Refunds. Includes 1 Table & 2 Chairs (only provided by CDA can be used). For questions email: eileenswingle@yahoo.com

Celebration of Chanukah

PERTH AMBOY - Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy. Come share the richness of the Jewish culture as the Menorah candles are lit and the story of Chanukah is told. ALL ARE WELCOME. For more information, please contact the Office of the Mayor at: 732-826-7121.

Holiday Celebration

SAYREVILLE - Holiday Celebration Sunday, Dec. 6th from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Holiday Parade Main St. to Borough Hall. Come celebrate "The Holiday Season" with musical entertainment, Tree and Menorah lighting at the Borough Hall. Pictures with Santa and refreshments at the Mickey Sedlak Recreation Building. Free admission and Toy drop off for Sayreville Recreation toy drive.

Toys For Tots

EDISON - The United States Marine Corps Reserve will be collecting new unwrapped toys for its Toys For Tots Program every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from November 27 to December 20, 2015, in the Menlo Park Mall, Edison, NJ located by Santa Court of the Nordstrom Wing. Cash Donations are also accepted. For more information call Eddy Androvich Sr. at 908-565-1339. Make checks payable to "Toys For Tots." Mail to: Toys For Tots, 70 Marsh Ave., Sayreville, NJ 08872.

Handel's Messiah

SOUTH AMBOY - Handel's Messiah – Saint Mary Chamber Orchestra and Chorus. "It's just not Christmas for me without hearing Handel's Messiah." "This is my 10th year in a row attending Messiah, and I'll never miss it!" Come join the rest of the South Amboy/Sayreville community for the Saint Mary Chamber Orchestra and Choral Society's presentation of George Frederik Handel's timeless oratorio. Under the direction of Maestro Christopher M. C. Deibert, conductor, the Advent/Christmas portion of this work will be performed in its entirety, along with excerpts from the second and third parts. Don't miss this delightful candlelit concert, set in beautiful Victorian-gothic architectural surroundings. Saturday, December 12th; 7:30 pm, at Saint Mary Church, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy Free admission (\$15 donation suggested).

Merry Christmas

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Holiday Concert

WOODBIDGE - Brothers In Harmony, Friday, Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at Woodbridge Middle school, 525 Barron Ave., Woodbridge. Join us for a concert featuring "Brothers In Harmony," a world class capella chorus of over 100 men from DE, PA, NY & NJ. Traditional standards and holiday favorites. No reservations necessary. FREE Admission.

Holiday Model Train Show

WOODBIDGE - The Holiday Model Train Show 25th Anniversary Year - November 28 - December 27 (closed December 25) at the Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. For more info call 732-634-0413. Exhibit hours M-F 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat & Sun 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Free Admission. Donations Welcome.

Cookie Walk

PERTH AMBOY - St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, Perth Amboy is having a Cookie Walk on Sat. Dec. 19th. Time 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All gourmet items are handmade. Come to the Cookie Walk at 404 Division St, Perth Amboy and buy your Christmas cookies!

Food Pantry

SAYREVILLE - Each month on the 3rd Thursday of the month our Food Pantry "Daily Bread" distributes food for those in need. Between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Faith Fellowship Ministries, 2707 Main St., Sayreville. For more info call (732)727-9500 ext. 1704

Living Nativity

OLD BRIDGE - See costumed characters, animals, and unique scenes while enjoying holiday music and related Scripture verses. Dates: November 27, 28, 29 from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm; December 4, 5 & 6 from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. A completely free event; canned food may be donated. Sponsored by Sayre Woods Bible Church, Route 9 South, ¼ mile north of Route 516 (across from ShopRite). 2290 Highway 9, Old Bridge.

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Christmas Tea

PERTH AMBOY - The Kearny Cottage Historical Society is sponsoring a Christmas Tea at the Cottage, 63 Catalpa Ave., Perth Amboy on Sunday, December 13 at 1 p.m.

Join the Society members for tea and pastries, with Dennis Nanton on the keyboard. Local Authors will be available for signing books.

Donations are appreciated. For more information call 732-293-1090.

Grave Blanket Sale

PERTH AMBOY - The Holy Name Society is sponsoring a sale of grave blankets. Orders must be placed by December 10, 2015. For details call Mark at 732-586-0398 or Charlie at 732-586-0405.

Holiday Lighting Ceremony

HOLMDEL - The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 800 from Bergen County and the Jewish War Veterans Department of New Jersey annually host a Holiday Lighting Ceremony at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Holmdel, N.J. The ceremony includes the lighting of a Christmas tree and Menorah, and a reading about Kwanzaa.

The ceremony will be at the N.J. Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Garden State Parkway, Exit 116 on Saturday, December 5 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. The N.J. Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center are located on the grounds of the PNC Bank Arts Center. The Memorial is open 24 hours, 7 days a week. The Educational Center is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Regular admission to the Museum & Educational Center is FREE for veterans and active-duty military personnel. Regular adult admission is \$7, student and senior citizen admission is \$5 and children under age 10 are admitted FREE.

For more information, please call (732) 335-0033 or visit <http://njvvmf.org/>

Breakfast with Santa

SAYREVILLE - Sayreville United Methodist Church at 406 Main St., Sayreville, will be having 'Breakfast with Santa' on Saturday, December 12 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Cost: Adults \$6; Children under 12: \$3. Breakfast Includes: Pancakes, Sausages, Eggs, Cereal, Coffee, Tea & Juice. Join us for Fun, Fellowship, Food & Gifts. Bring the whole family. Please contact Winsome Melvin at 732-432-9072 for more information.

Christmas Bake Sale

PERTH AMBOY - St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, Perth Amboy is having a Christmas Bake Sale on Nov. 30th, Dec. 1st, Dec. 2nd & Dec. 3rd. Call 732-826-7067 to place your order. Please call between 9 a.m. and 12 Noon. All gourmet items are handmade. Call early before the maximum quota is reached. Cakes: nut, poppyseed, apricot, raspberry and prune. Cakes are \$11 each. Pick up dates: Dec. 8th & Dec. 9th after 2 p.m. Pick up at 404 Division St., Perth Amboy.

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28th NOVEMBER

Mayor Wilda Diaz & the UEZ, BID & JRF
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Book Fair Fundraiser

EDISON - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library is joining with Barnes & Noble at Menlo Park Mall in Edison for a day of fundraising on Saturday, December 5th. A percentage of purchases made that day will go to the Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library. You must present a valid book fair voucher or mention participation in the book fair at the register prior to making your purchase. Vouchers will be available in-store or by contacting the Friends at friendsoperthamboylibrary@gmail.com. If you cannot make it to the store, visit BN.COM/bookfairs from December 5 – December 10 by entering Bookfair ID 11765211 at checkout. Proceeds of this event will benefit the Perth Amboy Free Public Library. Friends volunteers will be available to gift wrap your holiday purchases.

The Friends of the Perth Amboy Library encourage the love of reading and independent learning, play a role in community involvement, sponsor special programs, raise funds for special projects, equipment and materials in excess of the general Library budget. Barnes & Noble is located at 55 Parsonage Rd. The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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Stageright Studios is Now Booking Bands
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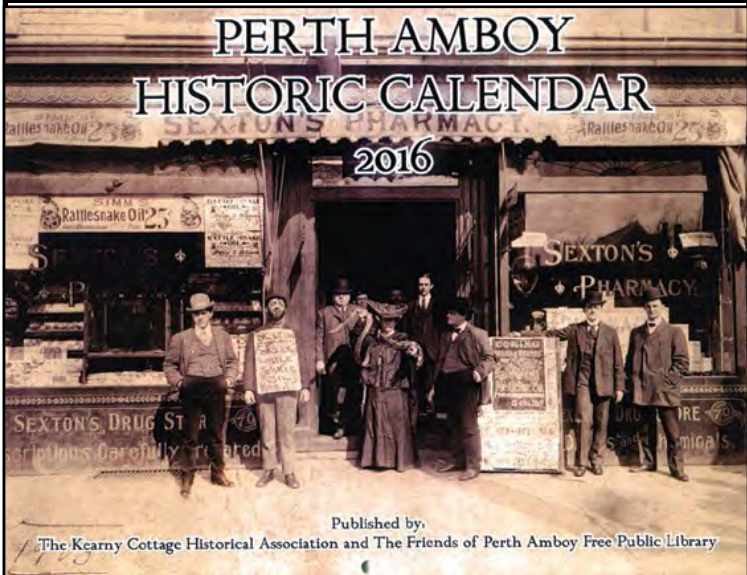
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2016 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars



2016 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars are available at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy 732-442-3000 or at Fertigs Dept. Store, 195 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy 732-442-1079 or Call Paul or Katherine at 732-293-1090. Back by popular demand the Calendars feature old photographs from Perth Amboy. Sponsored by the Kearny Cottage Historical Association and the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library. Calendars are \$10 Each.

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Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk Visits Perth Amboy



Archbishop Stefan Soroka, His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk and Father Ivan Turyk enter Assumption Catholic School

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



School children greet His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk with Bread, Salt and Flowers



Group photo of students, teachers and clergy

By: Katherine Massopust
PERTH AMBOY - His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk is the head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the world since March 25, 2011. He is directly under Pope Francis in charge of all the Ukrainian Catholic Churches worldwide. On Saturday, November 7, 2015 he was at the Holodomor Memorial Dedication in Washington DC. Holodomor translates to Death by Hunger. This memorial is to honor those who suffered during the Forced Famine initiated by Joseph Stalin. From 1932-1933 an estimated over 7 million Ukrainians died in the Holodomor.

While in the United States, His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk visited Assumption Catholic School on Wednesday, November 11, 2015.

According to Assumption Catholic School Principal Michael Szpyhulsky, "It is an immense honor to meet His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk."

Students from Assumption Catholic School greeted His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk with gifts of bread, salt and flowers. Bread represents the good in life and salt represents the bitterness in life. Students also gave a brief program which included one song and a recitation of a poem written by Maria Datsko.

Father Ivan Turyk said, "Two great leaders (Archbishop of Philadelphia Stefan Soroka and His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk) are here. The school and church are for everybody. Our doors are open to everyone who wants a good education. Children of

all races and colors make Assumption Catholic School a beautiful mosaic."

After a brief speech to the students His Beatitude answered questions from the students. His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk is fluent in English, Ukrainian and Spanish and answered questions in all three languages.

Q: When did you become a priest?

A: 23 years ago when I was 24 years old.

Q: How many Ukrainian Churches are there in the world?

A: There are 51 Bishops, 3000 priests in our churches but the number of churches I don't know.

Q: How could we as children of God become leaders?

A: You have to have that gift from God to be a leader. One has to be listen and kind to others or they won't follow you.

A student held up a photo of His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk holding a staff.

Q: What does the staff in your hand symbolize?

A: It's a symbol of the Pastor to lead his people and his service and authority.

Q: When you were young, what did you enjoy?

A: I love music.

Q: Where are you from? Where did you go to school?

A: I was born in Ukraine. I



Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk fields questions from students

was educated in the same town I grew up in. When I became a bishop I was assigned to Buenos Aries, Argentina. When I became a Patriarch I came back to Ukraine. I worked as a nurse in a hospital in Ukraine.

Rev. Ivan Turyk asked one question: Do you foresee Catholic Schools in Ukraine?

A: Until last year (remnants of being under the Soviet Union) it was not allowed for a Catholic Church to have a School in Ukraine. Now there is a new law. In each metropolitan city in Ukraine we do have Catholic Schools starting up. I am overseeing a new school in Kyiv. In the prior Soviet Union controlled education.

Q: What's your favorite part of being a Bishop?

A: To meet all kinds of people.

Fr. Ivan thanked everyone, "History will be made here."

**Please Remember to Forward Us
Your Community Events**

Elks Memorial Service

SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy Elks # 784 will conduct Memorial Services for all members who have passed away since our last service was conducted. On Sunday, December 6, 2015, commencing at 5:00 p.m., #784 Lodge Officers will conduct the service this year as per Grand Lodge stature 2.020. It is required that the bar be closed at 5:00 p.m. and reopen upon the conclusion of the Memorial Services. All are invited to attend this moving ceremony. Thank you for your cooperation. Michael Green, Exalted Ruler.

Green Collaborative

PERTH AMBOY - Mayor Wilda Diaz encourages you to the join the Join the Perth Amboy Green Collaborative to:

- Learn about Green Infrastructure to Guide over \$500k worth of Investment Projects
- Lead Sustainability Efforts to Create a Greener, Healthier City
- Build Partnerships and Make Friends Who are Committed to a Cleaner Future for All Residents
- Receive Training in Brownfield Redevelopment and Re-use
- Help Protect and Enhance the City's Valuable Natural Resource.

Monday, November 16 at 6 p.m., Firehouse Training Room, 357 New Brunswick Ave, 3rd Floor.

Contact: William Kurzenberger, (732) 826 - 0290 Ext. 4048 or email: wkurzenberger@perthamboynj.org

Book Drop/Book Exchange/Book Sale

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library are establishing a use for the books you have read and would like to re-cycle!!! Drop off your books. Exchange them for books you have not read pick up a book or two (\$.50 for paperbacks/\$1 for hard cover) ... or select a "bag of books" for a price of only \$5. Please no text books or reference books.

Visit us at the Brighton Ave. Community Center located at the corner of Brighton Ave. and Sadowski Pkwy. in Perth Amboy. The schedule for the rest of 2015 is as follows: Mondays: Nov, 23, Dec. 7 and 21 and on Saturdays: Nov. 14 and Dec. 12. We will be there from 12 noon until 2 pm (weather permitting).

For more info, e-mail us at friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com

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\$100 Worth of Food for \$40

PERTH AMBOY – The Jolin Food box program is designed to provide families with nationally branded food products at wholesale prices. On behalf of the Cathedral's Community Development Corporation, the Jewish Renaissance Foundation's AmeriCorps is helping promote the Jolin Food Box. Check out <https://jolinfoodbox.com> or contact us at 732-324-2114 x103

PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICE

Note in complying with N.J.S.A. 39:10A-8 et seq., application has been made to the "NJ MVC", Trenton NJ, 08666 to get title papers allowing the sale of a 2005 Toyota Coa vin# 2T1BR30E15C478405. Any objections, are to be made writing to the "NJ, MVC", Special Titles, POB 017, Trenton, NJ 08666.

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December Events



Free Healthy Cooking Demo

ShopRite of Spotswood presents
Healthy Holiday Cooking

Wed., Dec. 2

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Joslin Diabetes Center, Affiliate at RBMC
Suite 420, 2 Hospital Plaza, Old Bridge
Registration required, call 732-360-4070

Childbirth Education Class

Taught by an R.N. with special training,
\$125 per couple

Sat., Dec. 5 – 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Raritan Bay Area Y, Perth Amboy
Registration required, call 1-800-DOCTORS,
reference zip code 08861

Two-Day Reiki I Training Workshop

Become a Reiki provider; a healing practice
promoting well-being

Sat. & Sun., Dec. 5 & 6

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Cost is \$185.

Raritan Bay Area YMCA, Perth Amboy
Registration required, call 732-324-5257

Is Weight Loss Surgery Right for Me?

Mon., Dec. 14 – 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 23 – 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Institute for Weight Loss, Old Bridge
Registration required, call 1-855-TIME-4-ME

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Tues., Dec. 15 – 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Old Bridge

Friday, Dec. 18 – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Perth Amboy

Registration required, call 732-535-4746



Visit rbmc.org/events for a complete schedule of events.

OLD BRIDGE • PERTH AMBOY | WWW.RBMC.ORG | FACEBOOK.COM/MYRBMC



Novena to St. Rita

O holy protectress of those who art in greatest need, thou who shineth as a star of hope in the midst of darkness, blessed Saint Rita, bright mirror of God’s grace, in patience and fortitude thou art a model of all the states in life. I unite my will with the will of God through the merits of my Savior Jesus Christ, and in particular through his patient wearing of the crown of thorns, which with tender devotion thou didst daily contemplate. Through the merits of the holy Virgin Mary and thine own graces and virtues, I ask thee to obtain my earnest petition, provided it be for the greater glory of God and my own sanctification. Guide and purify my intention, O holy protectress and advocate, so that I may obtain the pardon of all my sins and the grace to persevere daily, as thou didst in walking with courage, generosity, and fidelity down the path of life. *(Mention your request.)* Saint Rita, advocate of the impossible, pray for us. Saint Rita, advocate of the helpless, pray for us.
Recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be three times each. K.M. & C.M.

Prayer to the Blessed Mother - Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen. **J.K.P.**

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Spirit of wisdom and understanding, enlighten our minds to perceive the mysteries of the universe in relation to eternity. Spirit of right judgment and courage, guide us and make us firm in our baptismal decision to follow Jesus’ way of love. Spirit of knowledge and reverence, help us to see the lasting value of justice and mercy in our everyday dealings with one another. May we respect life as we work to solve problems of family and nation, economy and ecology. Spirit of God, spark our faith, hope and love into new action each day. Fill our lives with wonder and awe in your presence which penetrates all creation. Amen. **J.K.P.**

Prayer to St. Joseph for Employment

Dear Saint Joseph, you were yourself once faced with the responsibility of providing the necessities of life for Jesus and Mary. Look down with fatherly compassion upon me in my anxiety over my present inability to support my family. Please help me find gainful employment very soon, so that this heavy burden of concern will be lifted from my heart and that I am soon able to provide for those whom God has entrusted to my care. Help us to guard against bitterness and discouragement, so that we may emerge from this trial spiritually enriched and with even greater blessings from God. Amen. **C.M.P.**

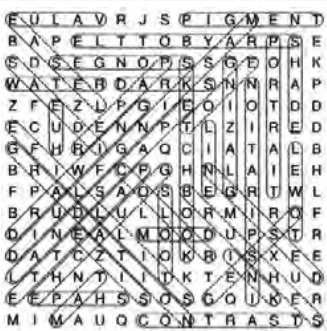
AC Bus Trip

PERTH AMBOY - The monthly trip to Caesar’s Casino, AC will be on Thursday, Dec. 3rd. Bus leaves 12 Noon from KOC, 228 High St., Perth Amboy. Cost: \$30 pp. Receive \$30 slot play. For additional info call Joe: 732-826-0819.

Yoga Classes

SOUTH AMBOY - Help Support Christ Church. YOGA is back at Christ Church. Start Date: November 21st Time: 10:15 a.m. at 210 Main Street, South Amboy Christ Church Memorial Hall. Price: 7 classes for \$55 *Donation non refundable. Join YOGA Teacher/Certified Personal Trainer, Denise Morgan, for a 50 minute full body relaxing workout. All you need is a mat. Never forget your water! For registration info email Denise at healthandfitnesswithdenise@gmail.com or call 732-525-9536.

Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 15



LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Enjoying a pleasant Thanksgiving playing melodies on the piano circa 1950’s.
**Photo Courtesy of Perth Amboy Free Public Library
This Photo was restored under a grant for the Kearny Cottage Archiving project by the Middlesex Cultural and Heritage Commission*

Senior Scene

Happenings

Perth Amboy

- WED. Nov. 25 Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
- St. Stephen’s Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
- MON. Nov. 30 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- TUES. Dec. 1 Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.
- Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
- WED. Dec. 2 Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
- St. Stephen’s Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
 - Holy Trinity Seniors, 1 p.m., Church Hall, Lawrie & Johnstone St.
- THURS. Dec. 3 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

- MON. Nov. 30 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.
- MON. Dec. 7 St. Mary’s Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- WED. Dec. 9 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave

Attn: If Your Club changes Your Schedule due to the Holidays or if you have Community Events to Submit Please give us two weeks advanced notice! 732-896-4446 or 732-261-2610 AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

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AMERICAN CHRONICLES

Stories From Perth Amboy

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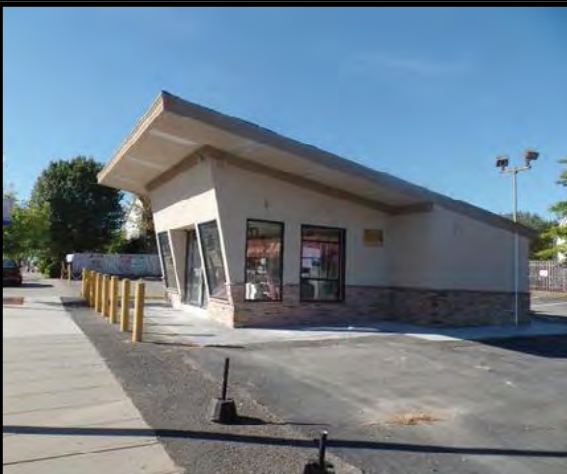
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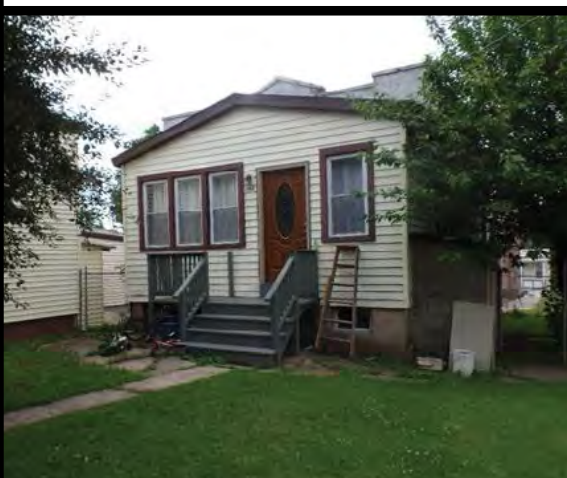
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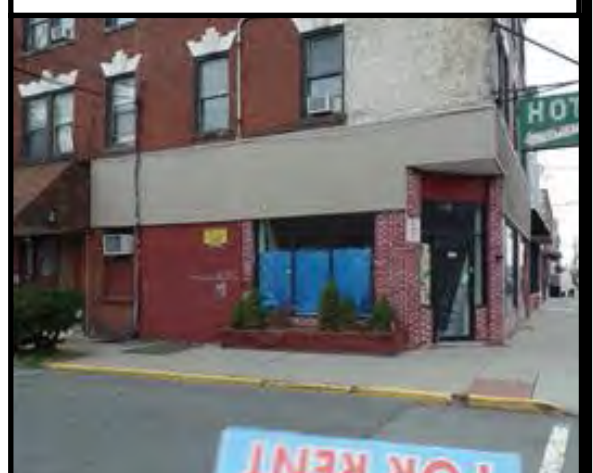
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