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THE

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GUARDIAN

• VOL. 1 NO. 38 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2011 •



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Season's Greetings to Our Advertisers, Readers, Subscribers & Contributors



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## \$90,000 Settlement to be Investigated Further

PERTH AMBOY - At several City Council Meetings at least four members of the audience stood up and talked about the \$90,000 Settlement brought up against a former City Councilman. The Amboy Guardian is sending a reporter to get the actual documentation regarding this matter.

We will be reporting the pertinent details of this case in future issues. This way the public will know exactly what occurred so that all parties will have a voice in the matter.

## Orientation & Registration For the Multicultural Grand Cotillion, Scholarship Society Inc

PERTH AMBOY - The Cotillion will be on Sunday May 20, 2012 from 3 p.m. to 7 pm at the Renaissance Woodbridge Hotel, 515 US Highway One South, Iselin. Registration for the Cotillion will be on Saturday's January 14 & 21, 2012 at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 365 New Brunswick Ave, Perth Amboy from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. For children/teens ages 5yrs to 17 years - Male and Female. For more information contact Mrs. Barbara Walker at 732-277-9576.

## Attorney Billy Delgado Will Challenge Mayor Diaz in 2012

PERTH AMBOY- Today Attorney Billy Delgado personally hand delivered a letter to Mayor Diaz at City Hall informing her of his intentions to challenge the Mayor in the 2012 Mayoral campaign.

"I gave her this letter personally because I feel that the Mayor deserves the respect to be the first individual to know my official intentions to run for Mayor on November 6th, 2012. Mayor Diaz has been a friend for over twenty years and I wanted her to know that I will run a campaign based upon a vision with a plan for the future of the City of Perth Amboy." Delgado said.

Delgado believes that true leadership requires that accountability rests with the top elected official and not with

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## Memorials a Quality of Life Problem

PERTH AMBOY - Local Resident Dot Daniels spoke in front of the City Council in reference to memorials put up to a deceased individual. "The memorials eventually become junk because after awhile they become abandoned or ignored. It is really not a legacy to the deceased. I respect the fact that individuals are mourning the loss of their loved ones with candles, flowers and ribbons. The memorials also become to a hazard when cars come to a sudden stop to look at them." Ms. Daniels made reference to one particular memorial lo-

cated at Penn and Washington St. that has been neglected. "When Candles are lit and left unattended they can become a danger to the area. I can understand a plaque being placed to remember the deceased but not items that are left that have to be constantly upkept."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez said, "This is a national problem and I discussed the situation with Senator Joe Vitale."

Ms. Daniels concluded that maybe a timeframe should be enforced on when Memorials have to be removed.

## City Attorney Named in U.S. News & World Report

PERTH AMBOY - City Attorney Mark J. Blunda, Esq. has been selected for inclusion in the 2011-2012 U.S. News and World Report Best Lawyers in America, in three separate practice areas.

overpaid out of town consultants. "This status quo must change and I am committed to the simple idea that the responsibility of being Mayor cannot be delegated, but rather assumed and accounted for", Delgado indicated. Delgado noted that he expects several challengers to the Mayor, but that the opposition will face a formidable Delgado For Mayor team of the most qualified individuals dedicated to make the common sense changes that this city has needed for a long time.

"The real issues we need to discuss are the onerous property tax increases of the past years, the need to stabilize our tax base, the decreased quality of life in town, lack of a smart

growth plan for the City, effective use of our industrial zone to create high paying jobs and the need to have a plan for our business district, among others. The Diaz administration in four years has failed to propose a master plan nor a vision for Perth Amboy's future. At the same time, the administration rushed to privatize City services, exporting jobs outside of Perth Amboy, with little regard to privatization's impact upon our City workers, especially those who own property in Perth Amboy" Delgado concluded.

Follow us on Twitter@DelgadoforMayor and in Facebook@BillyDelgado

press release



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## Telephone Survey

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Branch YMCA is dedicated to nurturing young children, supporting local families, and strengthening our community. We'd love to hear your ideas about how to make our community healthier! You may be among a random sampling of households that will be called and asked to participate in a telephone survey. If you are called, please share your ideas with us! Your responses will help the Y to better understand the community and its needs.

## Watch Our Blog [www.AmboyGuardian.Blogspot.com](http://www.AmboyGuardian.Blogspot.com)

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# How, Not What - The Problem Continues

## The Perth Amboy School Board Meeting of Dec. 15th

PERTH AMBOY - Boo's, hissing, cat calls and ignoring the five minute speaking time limit abounded at the Dec. 15th Perth Amboy School Board Meeting. Audience members claimed their uproar was over how Superintendent Dr. Janine Walker Caffrey recently communicated her opinion regarding tenure reform and not what her opinion is. This was ironic considering that the crowd yelled, ignored requests to end their speech when their time was up and addressed their comments to Dr. Caffrey, although instructed to address the Board and not the Superintendent. Tenure, a state-level decision, was not even on the meeting's agenda; however significant time was spent on the reaction to Caffrey's articles.

Before delving into the agenda, a statement was read by Dr. Caffrey during which she stated her recent comments in the Star Ledger were hers and hers alone; she had not consulted with the Board beforehand. She added that she values all of the great teachers in our district and that teaching is a noble profession. Tireless evaluation is part of the profession and she would like to keep honest dialogue

going. "Ask for her resignation!" Cried someone from the audience. Samuel Lebrault, Board President, reiterated that the comments made were solely Dr. Caffrey's. He added that, "The Board stands behind our staff. We document and take swift action when necessary. We demand all staff report issues to the appropriate party, be it the administration, the police, or the Division of Family and Youth Services (DYFS)." "What?! Fire her!" Yelled someone. Lebrault concluded that "All children's education and safety is of utmost importance and we will not let our community to be stereotyped based upon the behavior of a few." (Applause and cheering erupted.)

The first agenda item was recognition for the sixty plus students (all present) who earned a perfect score on one, two or all three sections (Math, Science and Language Arts) of the New Jersey State Standard Assessment. Victoria Tang (see photo) scored a perfect score in all three areas; her brother, Kevin Tang (photo), scored 300 in each area and Gianna Pellot received perfect scores in Math and Language Arts. A reception had been provided beforehand in the

cafeteria. All sixty-eight students were called up by name and provided a certificate. During the first public comment session, Donna Chiera, President of the Perth Amboy American Federation of Teachers, suggested these students ride on a float during the Christmas parade, or receive some form of greater recognition next year. The Board liked the idea as it would send the message that "Doing well in school is cool."

The second agenda item was a presentation by Carlos Rojas, Co-Founder of the NJ Dream Act, a group dedicated to assisting students with documentation status issues. This program operates in our high school currently. Mr. Rojas explained that undocumented K thru 12 students are entitled to education throughout the United States and access to the same resources and information about higher education and grants is part of this right. Guidance counselors need to be more familiar with such information needs of undocumented, college bound students.

Based on an inquiry by Israel Varela, Secretary Derek Jess stated that a shared services plan is moving ahead with the

City on items such as snow plowing. Board interviews for new candidates were postponed to the January meeting. Mr. Lebrault also made a call to all parents to attend the new and re-energized PTO. During Dr. Caffrey's report, she stated that suspensions are down to 32 from 683 last year. ("She doesn't allow it!", Came a cry from the back.) Dr. Caffrey continued that a visit by a State Team to the Shull School revealed Perth Amboy is on track with its goals as their summary was very positive, showing a high level of critical thinking and student engagement in the classrooms. Student Rep Angelina Burgos reported that some students were accepted "on the spot" by Ivy League schools at their recent campus visits. Also, the school is now open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and students are grateful to the access to study rooms and other resources. Student Rep Jonathan Parr reported that a partnership with Merck is in the works to provide 8-week internships there during the summer. He also reported that Perth Amboy was strong, prepared and professional during a United Nations style debate team event against Princeton. When



Dr. Janine Walker  
Caffrey

asked, High School Principal Dr. Nestor Collazo, reported that the Learning Center is up and running but tutoring needs to be added. By keeping the center open 4 hours a day, it's like adding 92 days of instructional time. "If we have a high level curriculum now, we need high level support to be there." Board Member Dianne Roman asked how the visits to other schools where our students are sent are progressing. Dr. Caffrey reported 10 of the 36 schools have been visited; 8 are providing the opportunities that our students need and two were not. No further

(Continued on Page 6)



## LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

## EDITORIAL

**Politics on the Front Cover -  
NOT FOR THIS ISSUE**

At the 12/14/2011 Perth Amboy City Council Meeting there was an explosive revelation brought about from one of the speakers in regards to a \$90,000 Settlement brought against a former Councilman. At previous Council Meetings other audience members spoke about the subject and made references to who the former Council Member was that had charges brought against him. Local resident and Businessman David Caba was the only one who actually revealed the defendant's name in the suit. Mr. Caba told me that I probably would have this on the front page since it was very explosive. I politely told him, "No way." It's not that I was trying to be rude, but you see this is a very special issue. When I worked for the Amboy Beacon, Publisher and Owner Bill George used the last issue of the year as a way to acknowledge all who made his paper a success and politics was not allowed on the front cover.

This is the one issue I wholeheartedly agreed with him about and this is our last issue of 2011 and I wish to acknowledge all that were involved in making the Amboy Guardian come to life. Also on the front cover besides having photos, I have "Merry Christmas" Greeting.

Growing up in Perth Amboy I remember the time when Merry Christmas Greetings was strung on poles across Smith Street. To say Merry Christmas was not controversial as it is today which I really can't quite understand.

Personally I love seeing the Christmas Decorations no matter if they are simple or multicolor lights and if a home is decorated with animated figures or with a religious theme. There is nothing more joyous than seeing a child or even adults smiling,

ooh-ing and ahh-ing at a house that is well decorated.

At this time of the year there are many organizations that collect toys to give to children and that may be the only gift they get all year. So when people take offense at those who say, "Merry Christmas!" It puzzles me that a holiday that can bring so much joy to a child would ever offend anyone. You may find this hard to believe, but not every child wants a gadget that would set you back a couple of hundred dollars. I've been to some of the events where a child would receive a very simple doll or a battery operated vehicle and would be just as happy as those who received a more expensive present.

For Christmas my parents would have a section for each child set aside on the sofa where some of our presents would be. Coming from a large family made utilizing the sofa was necessary because all of the gifts could not fit under our tree. Our house was also the last place that family and friends would visit. It was considered to be the place to go to have the most fun and to end the holiday on an upbeat note. There was always plenty of food, fun, laughter, friends and family. I was fortunate to grow up in such a home where everyone who came through the door felt welcome, comfortable and made to feel like family. This is something I hope every child can experience at least once in their lifetime.

So I say to everyone Merry Christmas! Because it brings back childhood memories that make me smile and that is something that I really need at this time of the year. Merry Christmas to Bill and Richard as this is your first Christmas in Heaven. I miss you both.

C.M

## THE COMMUNITY VOICE

**Ask Your  
Editor Or  
Journalist For  
The Answer**

I wrote my first article for my school newspaper back in Dec. of 1942. I wrote, "I like going to school in Dec. because each day gets closer to Christmas." Around this time of the year, I think about journalists that I have known in my lifetime. Their work is writing and some people question the word work. It is work all night but they love what they are doing. Before the Korean War I was fortunate to spend time with the Perth Amboy Evening News and the New Brunswick Daily Home News which is now the Home News Tribune. I did all kind of odd jobs but was mostly in circulation. I was making about \$40 to \$45 a week and having a ball. What a great feeling to see those papers rolling off the press. Next thing I knew, I was in the U.S. Army and the only writing I did was a quick letter to home.

If you read your daily newspaper every day, you probably have a favorite journalist. My Dad used to buy the N.Y. Sun and Grantland Rice was his favorite. Rice became famous for the many sports stories he wrote. Another Journalist

was working for the N.Y. Sun back in 1897. His name was Francis Pharcellus Church. Most readers will say, "Who was he?" I love this newsman because he became famous on one shot. Just like Bobby Thompson did for the gotta believe Mets, Thompson became famous for one Home Run. It was and still is called the shot that was heard around the world.

Back in 1897 eight year old Virginia O'Hanlon wrote a letter to the Editor of the N.Y. Sun. She wrote, "Dear Editor: I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, if you see it in the Sun it's so. Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?" There were many newsmen in the office that day, but Church just happened to be the journalist that picked Virginia's letter up and answered it. It was printed as an unsigned Editorial. The Punch line of his answer was, "Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus." I think one of the most important things that Church explained was, "Even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down the chimney on Christmas Eve, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus."

I was talking to my grandson the other day. He is six years old, "Santa's coming," he said and then he gave me

details, "Santa's coming from the North Pole on his sleigh pulled by a bunch of reindeer." He also told me with his little serious face: "Santa will only need Rudolph if it get's foggy." I've been fortunate to spend many hours with little kids. Most of them are true believers, but somewhere along the line these little minds can be affected by skeptical older kids or adults. They have to see to believe. If you don't believe or have faith, you're in for a bumpy ride my friends.

A pitcher named Tug McGraw coined a phrase while pitching for the N.Y. Mets in 1973. He said, "You gotta believe!" This phrase has carried over into sports ever since I have always said, "If you don't believe you are closer before you start."

Things could be better in our country in 2011, but at this time of the year there is something different out there. It's a Happy Feeling and I'll tell you why: "It's because Santa Claus is coming to town."

If you don't believe me, just ask the Editor of your newspaper. If they say it is so, the answer is yes.

Oh yes my friends, Santa Claus is coming to town and you better believe it.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thomas Francis Clark

**No Hard  
Feelings**

T'is the season to "Let Go! Let God! Give patience and peace a try.

The years have brought about many conflicts in our lives which never seem to fade away. The old grudges, family feuds and misunderstandings

stay with us because we don't take the time or are afraid to talk about the unresolved hurts from the past.

Now is the time to set about righting the old hard feelings. I assure you all parties will come away stronger, happier and with a better understanding of what really matters in life. Reach out. You will be amazed to learn that the other party has wanted to forgive

and forget but was afraid to make the first move.

Let Go! Let God. He will show you the way.

Respectfully:

Robert A. Brown

**Symbols of the  
Holidays**

There is a menorah in front of City Hall which commemorates Hanukkah, the Jewish festival of rededication. This is a religious symbol and is appropriate for this time of year.

A Christmas tree is next to it, and the building is decorated with evergreens. Such decorations are secular symbols, not religiously significant to Christians of our city. A more fitting symbol is the crèche, with a statue of the infant Je-

sus in its center. It would be fitting to see this symbol before City Hall as well. In this way, the traditions and beliefs of both Jews and Christians would be reflected.

Marianne Zanko Komek

**THE AMBOY GUARDIAN**

Published by Amboy Guardian LLC  
P. O. Box 127 • Perth Amboy • New Jersey 08862  
(732) 896-4446 Email - CRLYNMXWLL@AOL.COM

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Production & Blog Meister Layout & Asst. Writer Staff Photographer

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Kidz Wii Club

SOUTH AMBOY - The Kidz Wii Club will meet every Friday at 3:30 p.m. at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060.

Volunteer Firefighters Needed

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Fire Department: Volunteer Division needs members. Accepting men and women ages 18 years or older. Volunteers must be a Perth Amboy resident. For more information please contact 732-442-3430.

Tea Room Open

PERTH AMBOY — The Tea Room at the historic Proprietary House, Kearny Avenue, is open on Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m.

For \$7 per person, visitors can enjoy assorted teas and delicious homemade desserts served by hostesses Helen, Dorothy and Kathy. Take a tour of the only remaining Royal Governor's Mansion in the U.S.

The Proprietary House, which was built between 1762 and 1764, and is on the State and National Registers of Historic Places, is owned by the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Parks & Forestry.

For more information or group reservations, call (732) 826-5527.

Kearny Cottage Open

PERTH AMBOY - Come visit the historic home of Commodore Lawrence Kearny. The Cottage is located at 63 Catalpa Ave, Perth Amboy, and is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. and the last Sunday of the month from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. The Kearny Cottage needs your help. Anyone interested in joining the Kearny Cottage Historical Society please contact 732-675-8826.

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Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

TODAY, Dec. 21 Municipal Court, 1:30 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave.  
Special UEZ/BID Meeting, 5.p.m.  
City Hall, High St.  
THURS. Dec. 22 Municipal Court, 6 p.m.,  
Court House, New Brunswick Ave  
TUES. Dec. 27 Municipal Court, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.,  
Court House, New Brunswick Ave.  
WED. Dec. 28 Municipal Court, 1:30 p.m., Court House,  
New Brunswick Ave.  
THURS. Dec. 29 Municipal Court, 6 p.m.,  
Court House, New Brunswick Ave.

South Amboy

TODAY Dec. 21 City Council Reg., 7 p.m.  
City Hall, N. Broadway

No Paper Next Week!  
See You January 4, 2012

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# Board of Ed

(Continued from Page 3)

Referrals will be made to those two. Lastly, Board Member Kurt Rebovich, Jr., asked if a Staff Relations Committee could be re-established. Mr. Jess looked in the manual to affirm that there is already a committee in existence called Personnel/Staff Relations. Mr. Rebovich suggested this committee be split in two as it had been and he offered to chair it. Discussion on this will occur at the next board meeting.

The second public session then followed where angry parents, current or retired teachers or staff and community members expressed their concern over Dr. Caffrey's tenure opinion pieces. Linda Naggy, Counselor at Richardson School, agreed with tenure reform but stated the pieces did horrible things to Perth Amboy staff morale, driving it down at a time when student achievement is on the rise. "Trashing teachers benefits no one," she said and "Tenure doesn't protect a person from a jail cell." Cecilia Crespo raised

the idea that the tenure pieces were questionable and believes Perth Amboy was used to raise a platform on tenure. Ms. Crespo also called for district benchmarks across schools. When Crespo's five minutes were up, she continued. "Let her talk!" Came yells from the audience. "If the schools are acting like independent islands, that's a district ripe for takeover – do you want this?" Elaine Audet mentioned that Perth Amboy leads NJ in National Board Certified Teachers, of which she is one. Perth Amboy has 13. While she agreed that everyone is entitled to an opinion and accountability is needed in the tenure arena, "Dr. Caffrey was hired to lead but her second article added insult to injury and shed such a negative light on Perth Amboy. What is the agenda behind these pieces?" Citizen Ali Rodriguez shouted from the podium that Dr. Caffrey had embarrassed the Board, the teachers, everyone. Linda Ferreira, parent, asked "Why not say what you need to say to the staff, not the whole world?" Parent

Ida Betay expressed shock at the reduction in suspensions: "680 to 32? That is not possible. You took away the power from the principals – what are they there for, then? I want an explanation." Yudelka Collado stated that it is Caffrey's duty to work with underperforming teachers, yet Caffrey seemed to complain in her article about spending 15-20% of her time dealing with bad teachers. Jerry Chismar, retired staff, said "I drove 40 miles to come here tonight. In my town, at a coffee shop, someone I didn't even know said, Hey, didn't you work in Perth Amboy? That Superintendent really threw the teachers, the board and the real estate agents there under the bus." Finally, retired administrator Michael George told a story about how he was able to fire a 32-year tenured teacher in his time: "Her lesson plans were immaculate; her classroom was decorated beautifully, but she turned to the blackboard with her back to the students and wrote the whole time.



Victoria Tang



Kevin Tang

\*photos by Tracy Jordan

She wasn't teaching! It took three years, but I got her fired," his point being that with documentation, bad teachers can be removed. Of the many speakers, PTO President Cecil Graham was one of the few who stated he was disappointed by the continued outbursts during the meeting and that "We all should give Dr. Caffrey a chance", which produced further jeering. Graham told the Board, "Don't be taken in by all this rhetoric. We should support her (Caffrey)."

Donna Chiera concluded, "Ironically, most of us believe

tenure reform is needed. The issue is that Caffrey made Perth Amboy's district seem dysfunctional. The Op-Ed pieces she wrote created the perception that the 4 or 5 bad examples she mentioned are Perth Amboy and it is not." Afterward, Chiera wondered "At no point did Dr. Caffrey ever say those two words - I'm sorry. That's all most people wanted. And it leaves me asking – what's next? Now what?"

by Tracy Jordan

## Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to All of Our Advertisers, Subscribers & Readers

photos by Bob Ned, Paul W. Wang, Carolyn Maxwell, Aaron Beers, & Katherine Massopust, & submitted by David's Touch Foundation



No Paper Next Week!



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to All of Our Advertisers, Subscribers & Readers

photos by Bob Ned, Paul W. Wang, Carolyn Maxwell, Aaron Beers, Katherine Massopust, Det. Mark Celecki & Angel Robledo



No Paper Next Week!





*The Guardian Wishes Everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year*

**Tot Time & Storytime**

SOUTH AMBOY - There will be Tot Time - (Ages 0-2) on Mondays at 11:30 a.m. and Storytime (Ages 3-5) on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. and Fridays Ages (Ages 6+) at 3:30 p.m. at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060.

**Monthly Minutes**

SAYREVILLE - The ladies auxiliary Post #4699 of 575 Jernee Mill Road will hold their monthly minutes on December 27 at 8PM. Ladies from auxiliary are invited to attend under the leadership President Lorraine Rock. A light refreshment will be served. any information call 732-264- 3041.

**Czech Experience**

PERTH AMBOY - You are invited to a Czech Experience on Tuesday, January 24 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Raritan Bay Coffee Company, 233 Smith St., Perth Amboy. Inside the Historic Train Station NY Side. Free Parking after 6 p.m. Visit the Darling of Central Europe - The Czech Republic presented by Paul Kosar, Director of the National Czech Tourism Authority. Presentation, Film and Q&A period. The Event is FREE however seating is limited. RSVP to Raritan-BayCoffee@gmail.com. We will send a confirmation. For more info call 732-343-1717. Don't miss this trip to Europe from your chair.



**City of Perth Amboy  
2012 RECYCLING SCHEDULE**

MONTH	BOTTLES, CANS & PLASTIC CONTAINERS	NEWSPAPER, CARDBOARD & MIXED PAPER CONTAINERS
JANUARY	11 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>
FEBRUARY	8 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>
MARCH	7 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>
APRIL	4 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>
MAY	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup>
JUNE	13 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup>
JULY	11 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup> ONLY
AUGUST	8 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>nd</sup>
SEPTEMBER	5 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>
OCTOBER	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>
NOVEMBER	14 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup>
DECEMBER	12 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>

**2012 NO GARBAGE COLLECTION DATES**

**REMINDER TO RESIDENTS**

WE WILL NOT COLLECT GARBAGE ON THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS DURING 2012.  
IF A HOLIDAY FALLS ON YOUR GARBAGE COLLECTION DAY, YOUR GARBAGE WILL BE PICKED UP ON YOUR NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED GARBAGE COLLECTION PICK-UP.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 16	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20	PRESIDENT'S DAY
MONDAY, MAY 28	MEMORIAL DAY
WEDNESDAY, JULY 4	INDEPENDENCE DAY
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3	LABOR DAY
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8	COLUMBUS DAY
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12	VETERAN'S DAY
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22	THANKSGIVING DAY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25	CHRISTMAS DAY

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THERE WILL NO GARBAGE COLLECTION ON BOTH MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2011 AND MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2012.  
Your garbage will be picked-up on your next regular scheduled garbage collection day. Be green for the holidays! Remember to recycle all your gift boxes and wrapping paper on Wednesday, January 4, 2012. Do not place them in the garbage.  
Thank you.



**PERTH AMBOY  
SIDEWALK SALE**



**December 23, 24 , & 25 Christmas day**



**FOR PARTICPATING STORES,  
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## HIV Support

PERTH AMBOY — Raritan Bay Medical Center is sponsoring an HIV support group meeting on Monday, Dec. 26, at 6 p.m.

Anyone diagnosed with or caring for someone infected with HIV is welcome to attend.

Meetings are held at the hospital's Perth Amboy Division, New Brunswick Avenue.

To register or for more information, call (732) 324-5022.

## Book Sale

PERTH AMBOY - There is an ongoing book sale at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library, 196 Jefferson St., Perth Amboy. Fill a bag for \$5. Book Dealers Welcome. For more info call 732-826-2600.

## New Year's Eve Fireworks Extravaganza

METUCHEN - The Borough of Metuchen Invites you to a New Year's Eve Fireworks Extravaganza on December 31 at midnight at Downtown Metuchen. Sponsored by the Metuchen Savings Bank. Make your dinner reservations early! Contact your favorite dining establishment to inquire about their special plans for New Year's Eve.



PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Free Public Library finally gets a roof replacement after long years of leaks causing damage to the interior.

*\*photo by Carolyn Maxwell*

## No Paper Next Week!

### Kid's Bingo

SEWAREN - The Sewaren Free Public Library welcomes kids in grades K-5 and their accompanying adults & siblings for a fun night of BINGO! This event will be on the 1st Friday of every month at 7 p.m. from October through May. The remaining dates are 1/6, 2/3, 3/2, 4/6 & 5/4. Come one, come all, but sign up is required every time. For more info or to register call 732-634-7571. Sewaren Library welcomes patrons from all towns, not just Sewaren. The Sewaren Free Public Library is located at 546 West Ave., Sewaren.

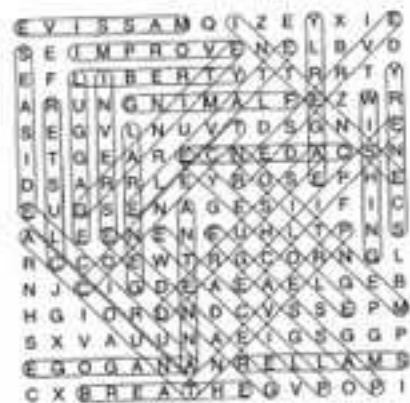
## Historic Postcards Of South Amboy

SOUTH AMBOY - the friends of the Dowdell library present— historic postcards of South Amboy. Series 1 – contain 9 different historic scenes depicting businesses and buildings on Broadway. The scenes for these postcards were chosen from photographs donated to the Sadie Pope Dowdell public library of South Amboy by our residents. Do you remember the Eagle Package Company, Safeway, or Scully's Beauty Salon? Visit them again in this limited edition postcards collection which are now on sale now at the Dowdell Library for only \$5. The library is located (adjacent to high/middle school) 100 Hoffman plaza, South Amboy NJ. For additional info 732-721-6060 or e-mail southamboyfol@yahoo.com.

## Correction

The Looking Back Photo from the December 7, 2011 issue was taken by Louis T. Booz III.

Answers  
From Puzzle  
On Page 12



## LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Eagleswood Friends: Caroline Severance, Founder of the Women's Clubs of America, Rebecca Spring, Cofounder of Eagleswood & Susan B. Anthony, Leader of the Women's Rights Movement. Eagleswood was located in Perth Amboy from 1854 to 1888. Susan B. Anthony & Harriet Beecher Stowe used it as one of the headquarters of the Women's Rights Movement.

*\*Photo Courtesy of John K. Dyke*

# Senior Scene

## Happenings

### Perth Amboy

- TODAY, Dec. 21 Simpson Seniors, 10 a.m., Williamson Hall, High St.
- 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 Sts.
- MON., Dec. 26 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- TUES., Dec. 27 Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.
- Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
- WED Dec. 28 Simpson Seniors, 10 a.m., Williamson Hall, High St.
- Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
  - St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
- THURS., Dec. 29 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

### South Amboy

- TODAY, Dec. 21 South Amboy Seniors, noon, YMCA building, John T. O'Leary Boulevard.
- MON., Dec. 26 St. Mary's Seniors, noon, Senior Resource Center, S. Stevens Ave.

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## A.A.R.P. Meeting

SAYREVILLE - The Sayreville Chapter #4853 of A.A.R.P. Meetings are held at the Sayreville Senior Center (Main St.) on the 3rd Thursday of each month starting at 12 NOON. There are different informative speakers at each meeting. Food and coffee are offered at reasonable prices. Membership is \$5 per year. New members are welcomed at every meeting. Come and make some new friends.

## Literary Evening

PERTH AMBOY - There will be a Literary Evening with Poet Charles Lobaito Commemorating the Spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King on Friday, January 13 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Raritan Bay Coffee Company, 233 Smith St, Perth Amboy. Inside the Historic Train Station NY Side. Free Parking after 6 p.m. There will be a mini-writing workshop for all, featured reading by Charles Lobaito, Open Mic - Limit 2 poems. We welcome works acknowledging Dr. Martin Luther King. Refreshments will be available. For more info call 732-343-1717.

## Open Mic

PERTH AMBOY - There will be an Poetry and Music Open Mic Night every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Perth Amboy Gallery for the Arts, 339 Reade St., Perth Amboy. Come show off your talent. For more information contact 732-826-1690 ext. 4325.

## Storytime with Mia

SEWAREN - Storytime with Mia is a fun, free event for children ages 3-7 and their accompanying adult & siblings. Families get to enjoy story, snack, games, crafts and more on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. from October through March. The 2012 dates are: 1/14, 2/11 & 3/10. This event is free but requires a sign up by calling the library at 732-634-7571 or emailing sewarenlibrary@gmail.com. The Sewaren Library welcomes patrons from all towns, not just Sewaren and has a large variety of free events every month. Check out our website at <http://sewarenlibrarynj.com>/Sewaren Library, 546 West Ave, in the Sewaren section of Woodbridge Township.

## Perth Amboy Volunteer Fire Department Parade Committee

will be holding a

## Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, January 14, 2012 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
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May the sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of Miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.

*Thank you, St. Jude  
F.M.J.*

Prayer To St. Jude

Novena To St. Anthony

Novena To St. Joseph

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ning Condition - Sayre-  
ville -732-254-1329

Love Seat - reclining  
small blue print - \$65.  
Please Call 732-254-5640

Deluxe Walker with Seat  
- \$45 Bedrail - \$45 Please  
Call 732-727-1639

8 Ft. A-Frame Ladder 300  
lb Capacity \$75 - 732-  
570-5199

TORO 12" Electric Snow  
Blower - Like New - \$50  
- 732-727-5056

Electric Hospital Bed \$50  
- 732-442-2939

Dehumidifier in Good  
Condition - \$35 - 732-  
826-9363 (call after 4:30  
p.m.)

Dining Set - White Wick-  
er Glass Top - Cushion  
Chairs \$65 - 732-826-  
8522

Compressor Panasonic  
for Refrigerator \$40 -  
732-826-6324

Sears Treadmill works  
fine - \$50 Weedner Ski  
Exercise - \$20 - 732-257-  
8062

Free Wedding Gown,  
Quad Cane - \$35 - 732-  
238-8439





ENRIQUE HERNANDEZ  
Broker/Owner



*Happy Holidays  
from  
Petra Best  
Realty!*



*Wishing All Of My Employees  
A Joyous Holiday Season!  
Thank You For Making PETRA REALTY A Success!  
-Enrique*



*Congratulations to  
Petra's #1 Agent for 2011  
Maurice "Moe" Day &  
Petra's #2 Agent for 2011  
Indira Marine*



*Merry Christmas & Have A Happy New Year!*