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Weekly Newspaper

AMBOY



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Perth Amboy

Saturday Board of Education Retreat Meetings Come Under Fire

Staff Morale Also Discussed



A Teacher Speaks



**Ms. Nagy
Richardson School
Counselor**



**Reinaldo Aviles
"Saturday Meetings
More Relaxed"**

PERTH AMBOY - According to School Richardson School Counselor, Ms. Nagy she gets e-mails from school staff saying that there will be repercussions for them speaking out. "The Staff wants to be involved but we feel that no one is listening." We need to form a committee to counterattack adult harassment and bullying. She quoted Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

Another Educator said that she found out about the Saturday Retreat/Meeting through the grapevine. "Because I happened to be attending a meeting in the High School. This was a very important

Board of Education Meeting and the Home Page was down. I did not receive an e-mail informing me of this meeting."

The Board of Education Attorney replied that, "The Saturday Meetings which are also Retreats are a more relaxed atmosphere between the Superintendent and Board Members to create long term goals. We are reluctant to send e-mails to people out of their non-contractual hours. When you receive these e-mails, you are not obligated to attend the meetings."

Resident Reinaldo Aviles said he was here for the whole Saturday Session held on February 4, 2012. "School Board Member Dianne Roman was almost in tears that

Saturday because the student grade numbers were dismal. The mission statement that President Lebreault read (see *Pages 2 & 6 for Pres. Sam Lebreault's Statement*) at tonight's meeting should be at the top the Agenda at each Board Meeting. Just because we are an economically distressed area is no excuse for poor performances."

Perth Amboy PTO President Cecil Graham also applauded President Sam Lebreault for his statement. He wanted to thank the Board of Education for working with the new Superintendent. Mr. Graham also said, "The PTO intends to make the School System what it should be for all our Students."

Perth Amboy Looks to Create Small Source of Revenue with Recycling Containers

PERTH AMBOY - B.A. Greg Fehrenbach gave an overview of Creative Outdoor Advertising, a company that offers recycling and garbage containers services. Representatives from the company came to the City about 14 to 16 months ago to explain their services. They supply containers at no cost to the City. They will be placed in the downtown area for Residents to use to encourage recycling. Edison, Springfield and Bloomfield have been using

their services.

They collect the value of recyclables and get rid of the waste materials. They also will maintain and service the containers.

If the City is not satisfied with their services they have 60 days to remove the program.

"Any advertisements that are placed on the containers the City would get 5% of the Gross Revenue from that." According to Attorney Mark Blunda.



B.A. Greg Fehrenbach

South Amboy

Baseball Field Rehabilitation Raises Questions



Mayor Fred Henry



**Councilman
Donald Applegate**

SOUTH AMBOY - R-54-2012, a resolution that will rehabilitate four local baseball fields in South Amboy, was the topic of discussion at the last council meeting on February 15th.

The resolution, which will be enabled by the state's Green Acres Program, will completely recover the three baseball fields near South Amboy High School plus Veteran's Field within the next year. Each location will receive new grass, fences, dugouts, and flagpoles plus maintenance around the area.

"We are looking to renovate the area and make it a great complex again, something that would be help the city of South Amboy," Mayor Fred Henry told the public. "We look forward to fixing them up and potentially see more activities like tournaments and such to get people to come into our city."

The total cost of the project will be \$900,000, but the city will seek a 25 percent match from Green Acres and another 50 percent match from Middlesex County. Despite a potential 75 percent support, resident Vince Mackiel believed it should have been covered in the school redevelopment

plans years ago.

"A few years ago we had a redevelopment plan for all the public schools, so why wasn't this included in those plans instead of a separate funding plan?" Mackiel asked the council. "Why are we strictly going through Green Acres for funding, and how long is it going to take for them to make something happen?"

The council explained that the money would be supplied within the next year and that the ball fields were not included in the school reform because they are all city owned. Resident Tom Cross did not question how long it would take but why it was costing so much to fix four fields in the area.

"I just feel \$900,000 is a lot of money for four fields," Cross said. "Are these fields going to be agricultural or synthetic, and where is all that money going?"

The council confirmed that the fields would all have grass outfields, and the rest of the money would go to the structure of the fields and a new irrigation system that would prevent flooding. The fields will also receive a new sprinkler system to keep the grass green and reduce the amount

Continued on Page 2

Perth Amboy City Council Meeting Tonight - Caucus 4:30 p.m. Regular - 7 p.m.

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**Perth Amboy to Hold
Energy Port Signing
Welcoming Viridian Partners**

PERTH AMBOY— Mayor Wilda Diaz and Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency (PARA) approved Viridian Partners, a Brownfield Development Company, as the developer for the ePort (“e” for energy) site. A redeveloper agreement signing will be held on Wednesday, February 22 at 2 p.m. in the Office of the Mayor at City Hall followed by a press conference in the Perth Amboy Council Chambers.

The prime 100+ acre site bound by the Arthur Kill, Crane Creek, 440 Bridge and the High Street extension is focused on attracting businesses in the renewable energy sector, to create an environmentally responsible Perth Amboy, given its 100 year history of industrial and maritime use.

In addition to this project, Viridian Partners will be donating an acre of property value to the City to be used for open space and recreation.

According to Viridian Partners, Perth Amboy is ideally situated for the growing port industry as the 2014 expansion of the Panama Canal will progressively lessen demand for inland regional distribution

centers and proportionately increase demand in Port Market.

The site in Redevelopment Area 3 features approximately 1,700 linear feet of shoreline, rail access and a deep-water port on the Arthur Kill, a major shipping route within the Port of New York and New Jersey, the East’s largest port. It’s centrally located among the 10 eastern states, ranging from Maine to North Carolina, that have formed an Offshore Wind Energy Consortium to promote the development of offshore wind energy generation.

While the majority of the site was never developed, it was partially occupied for industrial and commercial use by National Lead and as a result is environmentally challenged. Viridian’s approximate \$90 million investment will begin Phase 1 with its nearly 18-month remediation process. Phase 2 will include the construction of three buildings for logistical space, such as fabrication and warehouse distribution, office space, and/or light manufacturing.

news release

**South Amboy
Council
Meeting**
(Continued from Page 1)

of watering that had to be done manually.

South Amboy Police Chief Darren Lavigne also made comments during the council meeting, questioning the decision to make the fields all grass. Lavigne believes that some of the fields should have turf installed in the outfield to prevent rainouts and reduce maintenance work.

“The amount of labor that is required by having to cut the grass and rake leaves is intensive, and most of the work is voluntary,” Lavigne said. “Councilman Applegate has done a large amount of the work on these fields, and I just ask that before anything is submitted that this change is considered.”

The Green Acres Program was developed in 1961 to meet New Jersey’s growing recreation and conservation needs. According to the Green Acres website, the program has protected almost 640,000 acres of open space and provided hundreds of recreational facilities in communities around the state.

by Joseph L. Kuchie

**Board of Ed President Samuel Lebreault read this
Public Statement at the Perth Amboy Board of Education – February 9, 2012**

The last several months have been extremely challenging for the Board of Education, the administration, the staff and the community.

Due to the immediate needs of our students, the Board through the guidance of the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Caffrey, has implemented many new educational initiatives. These initiatives were presented by the administration during last Saturday’s retreat. These presentations were extremely well-received by those members of the public who attended the Board meeting. We strongly encourage every teacher, staff member, parent and every member of this community to watch the Board meeting of February 4th to learn more about the exciting positive initiatives taking place in Perth Amboy Public schools under the guidance and direction of Dr. Caffrey. The meeting can be viewed in its entirety on the Perth Amboy Public School’s website.

In addition to these initiatives, there have been many changes over the last school year. First and foremost, our schools are led by a new Su-

perintendent, in addition to many new administrators. For the first time, in a very long time, this new Board of Education recognized that something drastic had to be done to move our children forward. And although difficult, this Board and this administration had to admit that our schools are at risk of failing many of our students. This new Board of Education, as leaders and as parents, could no longer “bury our heads in the sand” and just keep the status quo.

However, these drastic and quick changes also presented the Board of Education, the administration, the staff and the community with many difficulties. When faced with controversial issues, all of us at this table have had difficulty communicating with each other and at times, have behaved in a less than exemplary manner before the public. For this we apologize. This will stop now. And although we are not perfect, each member of this Board of Education has an unwavering commitment to the children of Perth Amboy. Each and every member of this Board of Education has

committed to working cooperatively with each other to ensure efficient communication and conduct during Board meetings.

There has been discord between members of this Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools. There has been a significant break down in communications, which is imperative to the efficient operation of this school system. This too will stop now. The Superintendent must be given deference with respect to the educational decisions made to better our schools. In turn, the Superintendent must defer to the Board of Education on important issues that directly impact our unique community and staff. Over the last several months, members of the Board and the

Superintendent have met to discuss the strained relationship. The Board’s concerns have been firmly conveyed to the Superintendent. Both the Board of Education and the Superintendent have committed to a plan of action which includes effective and timely communications, to avoid

Continued on Page 6

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Open House

PERTH AMBOY - Assumption Catholic School will have an Open House on Sunday's, February 26 from Noon to 4 p.m. as part of Catholic School's Week Celebrations. Light refreshments, school tours, and a Power Point presentation will be available for prospective parents and students. For more info about the school, registration, or any events call 732-826-8721 or email acschooloffice@gmail.com.

Massage for Couples Classes

PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center's Division of Integrative Medicine is offering a Massage for Couples Tuesday, March 13 and Wednesday, March 14, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 365 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy. Participants will learn massage techniques to relax, decrease their stress level and improve their quality time together. Presented by Anna Biteye, CMT. Cost is \$95 per couple for two-night class. For more information and to register, call 1-800-362-8677.

We are on the Web!
www.AmboyGuardian.com

Attn: Perth Amboy Residents Important Notice: NJ TRANSIT Bus 815

PERTH AMBOY - "There is no truth whatsoever to this rumor and we have no idea where it came from. To reassure our loyal, local customers, they can be assured that there are no plans to reroute the 815 line away from Hall Avenue in Perth Amboy." — John Durso, Jr., spokesperson for NJ TRANSIT

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Remembering My Guys

Late Owner/Publisher/
Editor Amboy Beacon



Bill George
2/15/47 - 2/17/11

Businessman &
WWII Veteran



Rockwell Maxwell
Sr. 2/8/15 - 3/26/10

City Board Member &
Community Activist



Richard Piatkowski
9/13/45 - 2/24/11

February 14, 2011 seemed like such a long time ago. I remember exactly what I was doing that evening. Bill George and I had stopped at a store in downtown Perth Amboy to purchase a big Valentine's Day balloon. We were on our way to see Richard Piatkowski who was a patient at Alameda Care Center on Elm Street. We knew that Richard was very ill but we wanted to cheer him up that evening.

Vilma Novak was in his room as she always was when we went to visit. I remember her tying the balloon to the railing of Richard's bed. He wasn't feeling that well this evening but Bill and I felt the need just to be there. When we went to visit Richard in the past at Alameda although he was in a lot of pain he knew exactly what was going on in the City.

Alan Silber and Kenny Balut would also visit Richard to keep him abreast of what was going on at the various City meetings. Richard also had a laptop which he would do research on different laws going into effect. Not only in Middlesex County but the State as well.

After leaving Richard on Valentine's Evening. I remember saying to Bill, "I think the end is near for Richard. We have to make sure that we write a fitting tribute

to him in the Beacon." Bill agreed with me and I also said to him I have plenty of photos that we could use.

That evening in my wildest dreams I could not imagine that Bill would leave this Earth before Richard did. Even today it seems unreal that Bill is not here. There was a special connection between Richard and Bill. Bill knew Richard before he ran for political office. Bill told me that Richard had worked as an office manager for Dan-Mar Realty Group in New Jersey. Richard was also on of the people that Bill could count on to do research for him in regards to finding out information pertaining to changes in laws, resolutions and ordinances amongst other things.

At the Council meetings you always knew where Richard Piatkowski stood on the issues. Anytime he spoke at any meetings he always had information on hand. He did research on Agenda items that he thought would be of the utmost importance to the citizens of Perth Amboy.

Each year Richard would be in charge of the Ides of March Dinner, which is put on by the Republican Party. What I like most about attending this event is that the honorees were picked for their contributions to the City and not because of their political affiliations. I remember one year a diehard

Democrat was honored by this organization. He was so honored to be recognized for his contributions that he remarked privately that not even his own Party recognized his contributions to the City.

Before I met Bill I personally never went to one political function or for that matter attended a Council or Board of Education Meeting. My involvement in politics was working the polls and voting - period.

I must say I looked forward to those Ides of March Dinners due mostly to the fact that Richard Piatkowski was the M.C. Richard would always have these humorous anecdotes and sometimes would poke fun at himself. He was very good at speaking off the cuff and you never knew what was going to come out of his mouth. It will be one year on 2/24/12 that Richard left this Earth.

I can only go by my relationship with Richard and it was a very good one. The most important thing that someone can possess is the ability to make me laugh and Richard more than filled that requirement.

The circumstances of my working for Bill George was quite unusual. I committed a no-no by disobeying his rules. I had some items to sell and I put two free classified ads in one envelope. One day when I was checking my voice mail, there was a message from Mr. George who I had never met before. He told me that I was not supposed to have two ads in one envelope and that was stated in the paper. When I called back to apologize for my big mistake his machine came on. Two days later I received a phone call from Mr. George and he told me that he liked my voice. He asked if I would I be interested in selling advertising. I said one word

Continued on Page 12

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Work Ethics

Since the advent of our social welfare programs, lazy Americans have been enabled to a tragic level. For example, my friend Ed has filed for disability which he is more than entitled to. He not only suffers from painful arthritis but has also had a stroke and experiences chronic, random seizures. He is in the CWEP (Community Work Experience Program) and by continuing to work for this program, he receives Medicaid, housing, general assistance and food stamps. This is pret-

ty much the only way for him to receive these "benefits". He has worked only two jobs in his entire life; one for 18 years and the other for 13 years. At his present age (55), his work ethic is twice as strong as some people who are half his age. Meanwhile, other recipients of benefits use the system, refuse to work and have a sense of entitlement. The bottom line is that there are people who want to work and can't and there are also people who should work and don't.

Mark Mazur

Obama Care: UNITS?

Make enough noise and Birth Control is covered.

I have no great concern about this issue as we have passed in the years when that was an issue in our family. My concern is about being called a UNIT.

In case those reading this letter are unfamiliar with the term UNIT, it represents all Americans age seventy (70) or over. President Obama has determined that we are expendable. Obama Care does not cover UNITS. I have paid Social Security since 1939. I have never failed to pay my taxes nor have I failed to wholeheartedly support my country. I spent four years in the Navy during the Korean War. My wife and I are active in religious, political, social and family affairs. My children will be thrilled to learn that although we pay \$12,000 per year for health coverage that we have become UNITS not worth caring for.

Where is the Congress of the United States? Why are they not yelling their heads off about the future of their UNITS? I assume they are not orphans. Some of them have parents who are still alive. Many Members of the Congress are UNITS. They have spouses who may not be covered in the future.

AARP is silent on the issue. They are supposed to be the defenders of the Senior Citizens. Every State, County and most municipalities have Senior services. They too are silent.

ALL UNITS MUST STAND UP NOW. ABORTIONIST WON. UNITS ARE ALIVE BUT NO THANKS TO OBAMA CARE. WE MAY NOT BE FOR MUCH LONGER.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert A. Brown, President
Senior Republican Club
of Middlesex Co., Inc.


To The Taxpayers of Sayreville:

Having read the recent articles in the Suburban News and watched the broadcasts of the also-recent Sayreville Borough council meetings, I have a warning for all Sayreville residents who care about their town. We have a woman on the council that has all the earmarks of being a self-centered dictator. Starting with not being reasonable, not being compassionate, and not being understanding in recognizing the job that Mr. Bertrand has done while serving in his position as our business administrator. I think his record speaks for itself regarding saving the borough 11 million dollars.

Therefore, to be terminated without good reason and not advising the mayor in a timely manner of this so-called "decision" by the council is a disgrace and misuse of power by those elected by the residents of Sayreville. You've torn apart a man that gave 100% of his love for our town, and I'm sure the termination caused him a great amount of embarrassment and humiliation.

I think the Sayreville residents should be as fair with you as you were with Mr. Bertrand and be allowed to vote on our feelings about this matter, to either confirm the decision you made or demand that you reinstate him to his former position. My personal opinion is that we need to look at the big picture here. There is one

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Carolyn Maxwell
Acting Editor, Publisher & Advertising Manager

Katherine Massopust Layout & Asst. Writer	Paul W. Wang Staff Photographer	Lori Miskoff Website Manager
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114 MAIN BAGELS	114 MAIN ST.
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ST. JOSEPH'S SENIORS RESIDENCE	1 ST. JOSEPH'S TERR.
WOODBIDGE VETERINARY GROUP	424 AMBOY AVE.

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.

ADS SELL! CALL CAROLYN 732-896-4446

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

TODAY Feb. 22	Municipal Court, 1:30 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave. City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m. City Hall, High St. City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
THURS. Feb. 23	Municipal Court, 6 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave. Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
TUES. Feb. 28	Municipal Court, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave.
WED. Feb. 29	Municipal Court, 1:30 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave.
THURS. Mar 1	Municipal Court, 6 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave.

South Amboy

MON. Mar 5	City Council, Business, 6 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway
WED. Mar 7	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway

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Sam Lebreault

Continued from page 2

such conflict in the future. Our attempt to improve the culture and environment of our schools was met with resistance by a portion of the staff. This in turn failed to improve morale. We recognize that our attempts to empower the staff and teachers in the schools with strong professional development programs were disfavored by some staff members. We share your concern with staff morale. Events over the last several months have caused a significant disconnect between our teaching staff, administrators, and Superintendent. We implore the teaching staff, our administration and the Superintendent of Schools to stop.

Let's be clear. The Board did not support the Superintendent's unilateral writing of the articles for the Star-Ledger. We also heard the community and took appropriate action. However, it is now time to stop the harshly negative comments, the inappropriate references and the writing campaigns against our leadership. The Superintendent has admitted to making mistakes, the Board took appropriate action and she has apologized for the hurt it has caused our community. We challenge our staff to keep the Board informed through the meetings to be jointly held with the Board under the Staff Relations Committee, to continue to attend our Board meetings, and to make constructive comments so that we know what areas continue to need our focus and attention. Each member of this Board of Education is committed to improving staff morale. It will not be easy. But, we believe each and every one of you will see a difference. The Board of Education also challenges the Association and the Negotiating Committee to settle the contract. Let's work together to move this school district forward.

Lastly, we challenge the parents and community to get involved and find out about all the wonderful positive things that are happening in Perth Amboy Public Schools. Please come to our Board meetings and ask questions. Tell us where you need to see improvement. We encourage our PTOs in each and every one of our schools to work with the Board of Education in identifying areas in need of improvement. However, also celebrate your school's accomplishments and let us know the positive things that are happening.

The Perth Amboy Board of Education will continue to be vigilant and assertive in continuing to monitor and address these challenges. The Superintendent and the administration know that this Board will hold them accountable for the implemented initiatives and increasing staff morale. However, the Superintendent has advised the Board that she welcomes this accountability. And although the last several months have been difficult, the Board of Education is confident that these difficulties can be overcome with effective communication, cooperation, leadership and a focus on the children of Perth Amboy.

Thank you.

HIV Support

PERTH AMBOY — Raritan Bay Medical Center is sponsoring an HIV support group meeting on Monday, Feb 27 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.

We are on the Web!

www.AmboyGuardian.com

OLV Seniors Trip to American Music Theater

Featuring Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons

SAYREVILLE - The OLV Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to the American Music Theater in Lancaster, Pennsylvania to see Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. The date of the trip is Thursday, May 17. The price of the trip is \$150 which includes: the price of the show ticket, bus transportation, bus gratuity, dinner at Shady Maple, and snacks on the bus. The bus will leave OLV lower parking lot at 2 p.m. and return approximately at 12:30 a.m. For further information or to make a reservation, please contact (732) 727-7639.

Movie Time

SOUTH AMBOY - There will be a movie "Puss in Boots" Rated PG at 1 p.m. on Friday, February 25 at the Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060.

Family Communion Breakfast

HOPELAWN - The Holy Name Society of Our Lady of Most Holy Rosary Church is having its annual Family Communion Breakfast on Sunday March 25, after 8:30 a.m. mass in the Holy Rosary Auditorium on Florida Grove Road, Hopelawn. Donation for adults is \$8, Children under 12 are \$4. For tickets please call 732-826-9466.

South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade

SOUTH AMBOY - Preparations for the 2012 South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade are underway. This year's parade will be held on Saturday March 10th and will step off at 2 p.m. The rain date is scheduled for March 24th. This event is one of the city's highlights each year. The parade continues to be a success because of donations received from local businesses and corporations covering the cost of the numerous marching bands that participate every year. Along with the bands, there will be many floats and thousands of marchers.

The South Amboy Parade Committee has announced that Rob McQuade and Ed O'Connor will be serving as Grand Marshal and Deputy Grand Marshal respectively and Owner of Main Liquors Hershey Patel has been named the Honorary Grand Marshal.

Several fund raisers will be held in the New Year, including Grand Marshals' night celebrating the parade's honorees being held at St. Mary's Hall on Friday Feb 3rd, Sunday Feb 19th "Hoist a Pint afternoon" at the Landmark Inn and Thursday, March 8th "Hoist a Pint Nite" at the Munck-ee Bar in South Amboy.

If you have a group interested in being a part of this great event or for additional information, please visit the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade website at southamboyparade.com or you can contact the parade committee chairperson, Betty Sturgis at 732-261-7350 or rbsturgis@optonline.net.

Pedestrian Safety Program

PERTH AMBOY - On Thursday, 09 February 2012 the Perth Amboy Police Department started the final stage of its Pedestrian Safety Program initiative which was started last year. The first stage took place in the spring of 2011 which included a press conference introducing the program to the public. This stage continued till the fall of 2011 during which time the focus was on educating pedestrians to use crosswalks and drivers to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. This stage also included an audit sponsored by the NJ Department of Transportation which focused on the reduction of motor vehicle accidents which involved pedestrians. In the fall of 2011 the City's Business Improvement District purchased pedestrian crossing signs which were placed along Smith Street advising drivers to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. At this time the second stage of the program was initiated. After receiving numerous complaints from our senior community of motorist not allowing or stopping to allow them to cross the street, officers from the Special Services Bureau monitored the signs and looked for driver compliance; violators were stopped and re-educated as to the requirements of the law. After several months of attempting to educate the driving public the final stage the "enforcement" stage was started this past Thursday, 09 February 2012 on Smith Street between High Street and King Street, which was the area in which we received the highest number of complaints from senior residents of the City. The Police Department is once again requesting that pedestrians use the crosswalks and that drivers yield the right of way to pedestrians within the crosswalks. For additional information contact the Special Services Bureau of the Perth Amboy Police Department at 732-324-3810.

News Release

Dowdell Library Foundation Dinner

SOUTH AMBOY - On Thursday, February 23, Broadway Bistro in South Amboy in collaboration with the Dowdell Library Foundation will host a Dining to Donate fundraiser to benefit the South Amboy Dowdell Library. When presented with a flier, Broadway Bistro, a proud library supporter, will donate 10% of the check to the Dowdell Library Foundation. The flier can be presented in the dining room from the hours of 2 p.m.. until 8 p.m. Fliers are available at the library and Broadway Bistro. Broadway Bistro is located at 126 North Broadway, South Amboy. The Dowdell Library Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. For more info, visit www.DowdellFoundation.org or call (732) 316-1078.

Save Money This Tax Season Get your Taxes Done for FREE!

PERTH AMBOY - Avoid using a paid tax preparer and save up to \$300. If you made less than \$60,000 in 2011, you can get your taxes done for free by IRS-certified volunteers at locations throughout the community. The free tax sites also help eligible taxpayers claim important tax credits and increase their income. Some of the credits include: 1 The Earned Income Tax Credit, 1 Energy Credit, 1 Childcare Credit. Get your tax return prepared at the Jewish Renaissance Foundation, 149 Kearny Avenue, Perth Amboy, Schedule an appointment for free tax preparation. Call Tania 732 324-2180 Sponsored by the United Way of Central Jersey and the Jewish Renaissance Foundation.

Send Your Events to Carolyn at Crlynmxwll@aol.com and to Katherine at KMass514@gmail.com

Committee For Educational Justice Organized In Perth Amboy

PERTH AMBOY- Perth Amboy parents, leaders, educators and community advocates interested in advancing the momentum of education reform in the City have joined together to form the Committee for Educational Justice. The Steering Committee elected Reyes Ortega and Cecil Graham as Co-Chairmen.

Last summer the Perth Amboy Board of Education, a newly constituted body of forward minded individuals, embarked on an aggressive path of reform with the goal of closing gaps that exist in student performance. "I commend this new board of education for making such bold moves in recognizing that change is needed and that it starts at the top. The new direction marked by the hiring of the new superintendent, new principals at the high school and Richardson School, and new department heads raises parents' hopes that the decades old achievement gap can and will be closed." said Cecil Graham, committee co-chair. Co-chairman, Reyes Ortega added: "Past boards have slept, this board dreams. Failing student outcome indicators have plagued generations of students, as well as the marketability of Perth Amboy residential real estate. Just look at the latest data revealed at the Board's retreat on Saturday."

In 2010-2011:
-- only 23% of high school grades in core subjects exceed a D;
-- a whopping 70% of 5th and 7th graders cannot pass the state's language arts test;
-- the rate of student out of school suspensions exceeded Camden's - but for mostly minor infractions;
-- only half of the class of 2010 were able to pass the standard state mandated graduation test, a test that, according to former Education Commissioner Davy, tests 8th grade level skills.



**Reyes Ortega
Co-Chairman**

The Committee for Educational Justice is lead by a steering committee of Perth Amboy residents who represent the full panoply of public education stakeholders. A number of the members are district educational professionals. Their perspective, from inside the schools, is critical and adds the clearest picture of why reform cannot come soon enough for Perth Amboy students. The Committee has resolved to support and defend the many newly implemented and planned programs and policies that require greater accountability and that promise to finally deliver the educational opportunity Perth Amboy students deserve.

In the coming weeks CEJ will be holding teach-ins for parents and residents to learn about the challenges facing our schools and hear why plans for addressing them are necessary.

These sessions will educate residents about Perth Amboy's educational reality, organize support for the Board's bold new path, and dispel the emerging disinformation that aims to preserve the status quo and stall reform. The CEJ will support and work with all stakeholders who are committed to ensuring that student outcomes remain the first priority of the Board and meaningful education reform is implemented with all deliberate speed.

news release

Public Meeting for Tennis Interest

PERTH AMBOY— Mayor Wilda Diaz invites you to attend our first Community Tennis Interest meeting in recent past on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at 6 p.m. in the Alexander F. Jankowski Community Center, 1 Olive Street. There will be a discussion on the restitution of the City's tennis program as well as mention of future recreational plans and goals.

We look forward to all our residents of Perth Amboy attending. Now that we're building the new community center are welcome to join the discussion.

"Whether you have never picked up a racquet or have been playing for years, the sport of tennis provides more than just physical benefits. Tennis helps to instill core values such as, respect, sportsmanship and responsibility in players of all ages," said Kenneth Ortiz, Director of Recreation

Your attendance and feedback are appreciated. For more information, please contact the Office of Recreation at: (732) 826-1690 or reclader@perthamboynj.org. For additional information about the City of Perth Amboy, please visit: www.ci.perthamboynj.us.



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Annual Fish & Chicken Fry Dinner

PERTH AMBOY - The Holy Spirit Rosary Altar Society is holding their annual fish & Chicken Fry Dinner on Wednesday, March 21 at the Holy Spirit Church Basement on Hazel and Brace Ave., Perth Amboy. Back by popular demand from our previous years Thistle Catering. Take out time: 4:30 p.m. Open for enjoyment of dinner atmosphere socializing 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets in advance are \$15 Adults, \$7 for Children under 10 yrs. Advanced tickets are sold at weekend mass or rectory during the week. For more info call 832-826-4859. Price at the Door \$16 Adults, \$7 Children under 10 yrs.

Happy Hour Workshop

PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center's Division of Integrative Medicine is offering a Happy Hour Wednesdays, March 14 and 28, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 365 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy. Join Denise Reisert, EMP/RCP and Robin Matteo, EMP for an hour of positivity, transformation, and connection with like-minded souls that will leave you feeling more open, uplifted and lighter of spirit. Each individual workshop will be filled with activities and thoughtful conversation. Cost is \$10 per person. For more information and to register, call 1-800-362-8677

CITY OF PERTH AMBOY HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Housing assistance programs are available for Perth Amboy residents who meet HUD-CDBG or HOME income eligibility and program criteria.

Walk-ins welcome. No appointments necessary.

Please be advised that this assistance is **NOT** available for Public Housing or Section 8 programs.

.....

For applications and more information contact:

Department of Human Services | Office of Housing & Social Services
1 Olive Street 2nd Floor

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Office: (732)-826-4300 | Fax: (732)-826-6192

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- For ALL owner-occupied residents.
- Home insurance policy must be current.
- Municipal taxes, water and sewer bills must be paid to date.
- Maximum assistance per recipient is up to **\$24,999** for qualified homeowners.

FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- First-time homebuyer only.
- Must occupy the property as a principal residence and whose family qualifies as a low/moderate income family at the time of purchase.
- Down payment assistance **\$8,000.**

EXTERIOR PAINT REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

- For ALL owner-occupied residents.
- Municipal taxes, water and sewer bills must be paid-To-date.
- Program available from March 1st- September 30th
- Maximum reimbursement is **\$400.**

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Celebration of New Ministry
The Rev. Anne-Marie Jeffrey
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
2/19/12 photos by Paul W. Wang



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African-American History Celebration
PERTH AMBOY - The NAACP Perth Amboy Area Branch & the City of Perth Amboy Dept. of Human Services presents an African-American History Month Program Saturday, February 25, 2012 at the Jankowski Community Center, 1 Olive St. from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Free Admission. African Percussion & Dance, Spoken Word, Gospel, Interpretive Dance, Refreshments and Vendors. For more info call Calvin Knight at 917-971-1849 or e-mail: cknight59@comcast.net or go to www.naacp-perthamboyarea.org

Comedy Night
PERTH AMBOY - There will be a Comedy Night featuring Otto & George and Johnny O. to benefit the Perth Amboy Happy Home Shelter on Friday, March 9, 2012. at the Knights of Columbus, 228 High St., Perth Amboy. Buffet at 8 p.m. Show at 9 p.m. Cash Bar Available \$25 per person. Adult Themed Entertainment. No one under 18 admitted. For more info call 732-826-1124. Come Show Your Love!

Titanic: The Latest Chapters
SOUTH AMBOY - There will be a program on the Titanic: The Latest Chapters at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library on Monday, March 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. This interesting program will be highlighted by author Charles Haas - who will takes us aboard the lost liner to discuss the 1985 discovery to the present day. Find out about the artifacts that were recovered on recent expeditions, the identification of the unknown child, and the last survivors. April 2012 will be the 100th Anniversary of Titanic's sinking. Commemorative events are planned around the world. For more Info call 732-721-6060 comments@dowdell.org. The Dowdell Library is located adjacent to the South Amboy High School. Sponsored by the Friends of the Dowdell Library

We are on the Web!
www.AmboyGuardian.com
Rescuing the River
Civil War Round Table

PERTH AMBOY - There will be a film and discussion about the decline of the Raritan River and the efforts to restore it followed by a Q&A with producer Eric Schultz, Raritan Riverkeeper Bill Schultz, and Bob Spiegel of the Edison Wetlands Association on Thursday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m. at the Perth Amboy YMCA Theater, 357 New Brunswick Ave. Perth Amboy. FREE Parking at the Municipal Complex Parking Lot. DON'T MISS IT! Admission is free, but space is limited. To reserve a seat, send an email to pethamboykayak@hotmail.com or RescuingRiver@aol.com by March 18.

WOODBIDGE - The next meeting of the Robert E. Lee Civil War Round Table of Central New Jersey will be held on at 7 p.m. in the Woodbridge Public Library, George Frederick Plaza, Woodbridge. All are welcome! The upcoming speaker schedule is: March 5, Dick Simpson, "Battle of Pea Ridge" April 2, John Hoptak, "Battle of South Mountain" May 7, John Quarstein, "Battle of Williamsburg" June 4, Steve Laird, "Lee & Jackson at Chancellorsville" July 2, David Koch, "Lincoln, the Gettysburg Address & Transformation of the Civil War" August 6, Gail Stephens, "Lew Wallace at Shiloh"

Police Blotter: Robbery
PERTH AMBOY - On Saturday, 02/11/2012 at approximately 1:58 am Police Officers D. Gonzalez and J. Sassine were traveling west on Washington Street approaching the entrance to the parking lot of the Salvation Army located at 433 State Street. At that time they observed a male lying on the ground in the parking lot with his hands stretched out and his legs bent. They approached the male and observed blood coming from his mouth, nose and had bruises on his face. The officers also notice his front pockets of his jeans turned inside out. They asked what happened to him and the victim said that he was attacked by two Hispanic males wearing dark clothing. The victim stated he was punched several times by both males and fell to the ground. While on the ground, the suspects went through his pockets and stole his wallet containing approximately \$40.00 cash, his bank card, and a black LG Virgin Mobile cell phone. Several units searched the area for the suspects. Police Officers F. Hernandez and M. Bucior were traveling south on Miller Street approaching the intersection of William Street which is one city block from the scene of the robbery when they observed the defendant Kelvin Almonte and another walking west on William Street. Both males fit the description of the suspects. Officer Hernandez stated he observed Kelvin Almonte looking down at a cell phone which was in his hand. When Kelvin Almonte observed the marked police vehicle he quickly tossed the cell phone in the bushes in front of 129 William Street. Kelvin Almonte quickly turned around and started walking east on William Street. Both males were detained and Officer M. Bucior recovered a black LG Virgin Mobile cell phone from the bushes of 129 William Street. The victim stated the number of his cell phone. Officer Hernandez then called the number and the black LG Virgin mobile cell phone which was recovered from the bushes of 131 William Street started to ring. The victim was transported to the scene and positively identified Kelvin Almonte of Catalpa Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ age 19 as the male who struck him several times, and went through his pockets. The victim was able to identify his black LG Virgin Mobile cell phone. The victim was then transported to Raritan Bay Medical Center for his injuries. Kelvin Almonte was placed under arrest, transported to Police Headquarters, and charged with strong arm robbery. Almonte was charged with robbery and possession of Marijuana bail was set by Honorable Judge Emery Toth at 15,000.00 no 10% The defendant was issued summons for possession of marijuana under 50 grams.

news release

New Jersey Flower & Garden Show, Expo Center, Edison 2/16/12 - 2/19/12

Photos by Paul W. Wang



South Amboy, NJ Happenings - Tip a Pint at the Landmark Inn and Dueling Organists at St. Mary's Church

Photos by Aaron Beers



South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade Honorees at Tip a Pint (L to R) Harshey Patel - Hon. Dep. Grand Marshal, Rob McQuade, Grand Marshal, AnnaMae O'Connor - the AOH Irishwoman of the year, Ed O'Connor, Deputy Grand Marshal

Dueling organists David McCarthy & Christopher Deibert performed music by Bach, Sumsion, Mozart and Widor

Shroud of Turin Exhibit, Ukrainian Assumption Church, Perth Amboy

Photos by Katherine Massopust



Valentine's Day Dance at Olive Street Perth Amboy Senior Center

Photos by Bob Ned



Raritan Bay

Paddlers Club

PERTH AMBOY - There will be a meeting of the Raritan Bay Paddlers Club (Formation Meeting), Mon. Feb. 27 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Raritan Bay Coffee Company, (Inside the historic Train Station). The meeting is open to anyone over 18 years old interested. New club forming.

Journey with-in Meditation

PERTH AMBOY... Raritan Bay Medical Center's Division of Integrative Medicine is offering a Journey within Meditation workshop Thursdays, February 2 through February 23, 7 to 8 p.m., at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 365 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy. Class facilitator Vivian Lynch, RN, Reiki practitioner and integrative imagery therapist, will discuss inner wisdom, spiritual guides and inner strength with participants teaching techniques on how to quiet the mind, relax the body and tap into the spirit. Cost is \$50 for all four sessions. Individual classes are \$15. For more information and to register call 1-800-DOCTORS (1-800-362-8677).

Central NJ

Prom & Sweet

16 Expo 2012

SOUTH AMBOY - Central NJ - MCS Productions, JerseyFashionista, and Club Pure have collaborated to bring New Jersey residents their first Central NJ Prom & Sweet 16 Expo. The event will be held on March 18 from one o'clock in the afternoon and end at eight o'clock in the evening at Club Pure, 1970 US Highway 35, South Amboy. (732) 952-2628. Admission is free and open to the public.

The expo will feature the very best New Jersey has to offer in first class transportation, baked goods, fine and international cuisine, designer gowns and party dresses, accessories, top notch salon services and much more.

For info on showcasing in the fashion show or on the red carpet, please contact Lillie Morales-Torres at 908-279-9125 or info@jerseyfashionista. The fashion shows will be hosted by Miss National Miss American Coed NJ, Kayla Marie. Special guests include Quinceanera Magazine and Vinny Buzzetta of WeTV's 'Staten Island Cakes'.

For more information on the event visit www.MyMCSEvent.com. To become a vendor or sponsor contact Cassandra Alvelo at 732-925-4935 or plan@mymcsevent.com

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**“The Case
That Never
Dies -
The Lindberg
Kidnapping”**

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Ferry Slip Museum is pleased to announce that Lloyd C. Gardner, Ph.D., Professor of History at Rutgers University, distinguished lecturer, American historian and author and editor of 16 books, will be guest speaker on March 4, at 2 P.M.. To comfortably accommodate attendees, this event will be held off site. The theater of the new Perth Amboy YMCA located at 357 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861 will be the venue. A minimum \$5. donation is requested and Vopak Terminal is sponsoring refreshments following the lecture.

Professor Gardner will speak on the subject of his book by the same name, printed by Rutgers Press:

Gardner will describe the case, built mostly with circumstantial evidence. Learn the importance of the role Perth Amboy resident David T. Wilentz, then Attorney General of New Jersey and Chief Prosecutor at the 1935 Lindbergh kidnapping trial, played in the often-disputed execution of Bruno Hauptmann in the electric chair, April 3, 1936. For many years David T. Wilentz and his distinguished family resided in the grand and impeccably restored 1908 Colonial Revival house at the corner of High Street and Harrison Place.

**Ads Sell
Call Carolyn
732-896-4446**

Blood Drive

SOUTH AMBOY - There will be a Blood Drive on February 28th at the South Amboy ELKS, 601 Washington Ave. from 4 p.m.-9 p.m. We need everyone’s support...one of our Active Members needs a Full Blood transfusion.

**Community
Blood Drive**

PERTH AMBOY - There will be a Blood Drive at Robert N. Wilentz School, 51 First St., Perth Amboy from 11a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28. Blood Mobile will be located outside of the school on First St. Be a lifesaver and give the gift of life. *All donors will receive a Chick-Fil-A coupon for a free chicken sandwich. For more info call 732-376-6070.

**Royal Garden
Club March
Meeting**

PERTH AMBOY - There will be a Royal Garden Club Meeting with Guest Lecturer Pat Tratebas, Landscape Designer on Wed., March 7 at 7:30 pm at St. Peter’s Rectory, 183 Rector St., Perth Amboy NJ 08861. The topic will be Historic Gardens and Heirloom Plants. Donation are Appreciated. For more info visit the site of Ms. Tratebas: cottagegardens-landscapedesign.com or email asilmo08861@hotmail.com. The 2012 season work schedule for the Royal Garden Club will be available soon. Volunteers are always needed and welcome. No experience necessary. You can increase your knowledge of gardening by assisting the Club in its design, planting and maintenance of eleven public gardens.

**Nurse Navigators Providing Patient
Satisfaction at Medical Center**

PERTH AMBOY - February 15, 2012... Raritan Bay Medical Center (RBMC), with locations in Old Bridge and Perth Amboy, NJ, has joined select hospitals around the nation that are employing nurse navigators to assist patients and coordinating their care. As health-care continues to evolve in its complexity, and with the myriad of physician specialists and treatment options available, nurse navigators can play an important role in helping patients make informed medical decisions, understand treatment and by providing emotional support. As suggested in their title, nurse navigators guide patients and their families through their healthcare experience at RBMC, providing an overview of services and facility locations, explaining diagnosis’s, scheduling visits, providing advice and following up to support patients after they leave the medical center. The goals of the nurse navigator coincide with RBMC’s national Magnet nursing status and the Patient Family Centered Care Model followed by the medical center.

RBMC’s specialty services, the Human Motion Institute (HMI), Institute for Weight Loss and Center for Women currently employ nurse navigators who share common goals but have unique perspectives derived from their specialties. As navigator for HMI, a program providing comprehensive musculoskeletal healthcare, Clare Schuld, RN, BSN, ONC, is focused on coordinating care for patients during initial referral from acute injury or elective surgery through postopera-

tive physical therapy and return to normal function. She works in cooperation with physicians and a multidisciplinary team to schedule patient appointments, provide preoperative education and community outreach and serve as a liaison between patients and the entire HMI healthcare team. “Our patients are taught how to prepare for surgery, what they can expect and the daily goals they need to accomplish throughout their entire surgical stay to help ensure the best clinical outcomes,” says Schuld. “Also important, I track and review patient outcomes with our specialized teams to reduce complication rates and enhance care.”

Center for Women navigator Melissa Scholz’s, RN, BSN, BHN, CBPN-IC, role encompasses more of a preventative and educational aspect in line with the Center’s focus on women’s specific healthcare needs and goal of early diagnosis of cancer. She provides comprehensive and holistic care to patients receiving their first mammogram to those diagnosed with breast cancer. During treatment Scholz ensures patient’s needs are being met from diagnosis to survivorship; providing education, support, resources and referrals and advocacy services to patients and their families. “I believe in reducing fear and anxiety by providing empowerment through education, providing a non-judgmental ear to listen and shoulder to cry on for support, and overall just helping people get through a difficult time as life is hard enough without cancer or a cancer scare,” says Scholz. “The best part of my job is interacting with patients on a personal level and guiding them to the other side of a difficult journey.” Addition-

ally, she provides community education and promotes good breast health practices and breast cancer awareness to people of all ages and cultures within the community.

Maureen Ali, RN, BSN, works to customize services as part of the Institute for Weight Loss, which encompasses a wide range of treatment options from state-of-the-art minimally invasive surgical (called bariatric) weight loss options to non-surgical medical weight loss. Maureen explains the benefits and concerns associated with each bariatric surgical option as well as conservative options and coordinates nutrition education, lifestyle counseling and ongoing support with the Institute’s multidisciplinary team. “No matter which option ends up being right for the patient, my ultimate goal is to ensure their good health and healthy weight loss,” says Ali. “We all work to create a personalized treatment program for our patients, combining bariatric or medical intervention with a lifetime commitment to healthy eating, exercise and follow-up care and support.” She also follows strict guidelines to ensure that bariatric options are explored with patients only when appropriate.

The nurse navigators have not only had a profound positive effect coordinating care across the medical center’s healthcare continuum and linking staff, but also have been a great source of satisfaction with patients and their families during their stay or experience at RBMC.

News Release

DO YOU HAVE A WOUND THAT WON’T HEAL?



The Center for Wound Healing at Raritan Bay Medical Center with its hyperbaric oxygen therapy(HBOt) unit treats non-healing and complex wounds, even helping many avoid amputation. Among the conditions we treat are:

Diabetic wounds • Bone infections • Crush injuries
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MARCH 8TH 2012

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7:00 PM TO 12:AM SHOW

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OUTREACH COORDINATOR JQUILES@JRMCMC.US



2090 ROUTE 35, SOUTH AMBOY, NJ

Remebering My Guys
Continued from Page 4

to him - a big fat “No”. Apparently he would not take no for an answer and would constantly call me until I finally broke down and said I would do it for a couple of weeks to help him out until he found someone permanently. Sales was not my strong point.

That was back in 2007. I remember that he stood me up three times before I finally met him in person. In the beginning I thought he was sort of arrogant. Almost every two weeks I would threaten to quit because he could be overwhelming. Then it went from quitting every two weeks to once a month. But as everybody knows I was with him until he passed away on February 17, 2011.

Although Bill could be a force to be reckoned with, he was the smartest man that I’ve ever dated. He had so much knowledge about so many different subjects that sometimes I thought my head would explode by what he was saying.

Not only did he attend the Council Meetings but often he was the only newspaper attending the Board of Education Meetings. At the City Council Meetings I would sit in the back and watch him become so absorbed what was being said at the meetings. Sometimes he would turn his head and talk to someone in the audience about what was being said by the Council, Attorney or B.A. Bill did not rely on a notepad instead perfering to use the Agenda to write all of his notes on. I remember when he became upset when the Agenda was printed on both sides of the paper. This gave him less space to write on. After each Council Meeting there was always the Post-Meeting. Often Bill George, Richard Piatkowski, Alan Silber, Orlando Perez and Hector Bonilla would discuss what was said at the meeting and

then they would go on to other subjects. It was not unusual to hear them talk about subjects pertaining to history. They would start off sometimes with discussing the Civil War and top it off with discussing present day wars that were going on. They would stop after I interfered saying to Bill, “I think it’s time to leave - I’m hungry.” After leaving the Council Chambers often there would be another meeting going on right outside of City Hall. Of course Bill and Richard had to become involved in that discussion. I would allow Bill about ten to fifteen minutes tops to finish with that meeting and then again I would say, “I’m not only hungry but I’m tired. Let’s go.”

What I miss most about Bill is that no matter what disagreements we may have had, everything was forgiven with a good meal. When we used to go to the printer, our favorite place to go to was Charlie Browns. We would both order different meals so we could sample each other’s dish. QuickChek was also another favorite spot to get a quick meal. Just sitting and talking about putting the paper together and finally having the first copy of that week’s edition put in our hands was such a joy.

Bill also had a sense of humor and could make me laugh by doing imitations of well known people. He was very passionate about his paper and what was put in it even if it meant that it would upset people. At one point this caused him to lose advertising revenue. I remember when he revealed the Straw Donor names many of them became upset with him. Eventually most of them came around and realized that Bill was just doing his job. This is just a little bit of my memories of Bill and the majority I wish to keep for myself.

One thing I loved most about

Bill is that he was my best accessory when going to political events. Like I stated previously I was not into politics but went with Bill just to take pictures. I knew that with Bill I would not have to talk that much I if I didn’t feel like it because this was his arena and I felt comfortable just having him be there.

Lastly, Bill embraced all of my family members that he met and they took to him as well. When my father was alive he and Bill would get into political discussions. They may have not always seen eye to eye, but Bill always respected my father’s point of view. He never treated my father in a condescending manner. My Dad knew before I did that Bill had an interest in me and he was not at all surprised when we told him we were dating. My father stated quite casually, “I thought that all along because I saw how he acted toward you whenever I saw you two together.” Sometimes Bill and my father would get into such deep political discussions that I would have to say, “Okay Dad, time to quit, and you need to eat your dinner.” Before Bill and I left my Dad’s apartment he would call out to us, “To Be Continued!” meaning that particular discussion was not over yet.

Now Bill George, Richard Piatkowski and my Dad are having political discussions up above. They were three special people in my life. They probably started their own newspaper. I’m pretty sure that they compromised and every four months they changed who would be the publisher/editor. I bet my father won the first round.

So long guys, ‘til I see you all again.

Love, Carolyn

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Expo Show:
Wedding &
Events

PERTH AMBOY - There will be a Expo Show: Wedding & Events at Seabra’s Armory, 200 Front St., Perth Amboy on Saturday February 25 & Sunday February 26 from 12 noon to 6 p.m. Admission is Free. Sponsored by Mayor Wilda Diaz, BID, Flowers ‘N Things and Seabra’s Armory.

Lent Fish
Frys

SOUTH AMBOY - There will be Lent Fish Fries every Friday at the South Amboy ELKS, 601 Washington Ave. from 2/24/12 to 4/4/12 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Cost ranges from \$8 to \$15. Diners offered from Haddock sandwich to Fried Seafood Combo. Chicken Fingers and Kids Meals also available. Eat in or Take out. Call 732-727-7170 for more info or to place an order.

Wellness
Retreat:
Calling your
Spirit Home

PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center’s Division of Integrative Medicine is holding a Wellness Retreat: Calling your Spirit Home Saturday, March 3 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 365 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy. Join Reiki Vivian Lynch, Reiki practitioner and Integrative Imagery Practitioner and providers form the Division of Integrative medicine for a day or renew, relax, breathe, and connect. Open your heart and lighten your spirit though mediation, music, movement and energy practices. Cost is \$60 per person. To register or more information, call 1-800-362-8677.

Gift Auction

PERTH AMBOY - The Annual Gift Auction sponsored by St. Ann’s Society will be held at Assumption Catholic School auditorium on Sunday, March 4. The auditorium It is located at the corner of Jacques and Meredith Streets on the block between the Samuel E. Shull School and Perth Amboy High School. The doors will open at 12 noon with the auction starting at 2 p.m. Coffee and cake will be served and luncheon food items will be available for purchase. Admission is \$5. Welcome in an early spring with your friends and family in our large and comfortable facility!

Songwriting
Class

WOODBIDGE - There will be a songwriting class in the Barron Art’s Center, Rahway Ave., Woodbridge taught by Veteran Music Instructor and Recording Artist Jeff Saxon. The Class starts on Saturday, March 10 and will run for 6 consecutive Saturday afternoons. The class is appropriate for songwriters of all levels as well as those who simply are curious how songs are written. Saxon has taught songwriting classes at music schools, colleges and universities from coast to coast. His video of his latest single, “High Time for a Hero” is a finalist in the 2012 NJ Film Festival for best music video. Class cost is \$120 which includes a 35 page songwriting booklet written by the instructor. For more info and the class registration form email Mr. Saxon at info@jeffsaxonmusic.com or call the Barron Arts Center at 732-634-0413. or email BarronArts@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

The Coummunity
Voice
Continued from page 4

person on the council who is making herself the “Head of Class” for her own self-satisfaction and personal gain, at any cost, without regard for the residents’ feelings on borough matters, and the majority of the council members follow like sheep, equally disregarding the fact that they work for the taxpayers of Sayreville, not the other way around.

Sincerely,
Mary Paskell

Pierogi/Cake
Sale

PERTH AMBOY - St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church is having a bake/pierogi sale Pick up your orders at: 404 Division St. Perth Amboy, NJ, 08861. Call 732-826-7067 to place your order between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. ALL ITEMS ARE HANDMADE!

Pierogi - Potato, Cake - Poppy seed/nut/apricot/raspberry/prune - \$10. The order date is February 27 to March 2 for pierogi and cake. The pick-up date is March 6 and March 7. Thank you for your orders

Charity Chili
Cook-off

WOODBIDGE - There will be a Charity Chili Cook-off on Sunday, March 4 from Noon to 2 p.m. at the J.J. Bitting Brewing Co. 33 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ. There is a \$20 participation fee to enter the competition and show off your chili skills! Get applications to participate at JJ Bittings or Woodbridge Town Hall. \$8 admission fee to sample some of the best chili our contestants have to offer! Entertainment and Door Prizes! Questions? Contact Kelly Reidy at 732-634-4500 x6494

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Vatican Replica Shroud of Turin Exhibit

PERTH AMBOY - During the first 2 weeks of Great Lent, Assumption Ukrainian Catholic Church, 684 Alta Vista Place will host an exhibition of an authentic replica of The Shroud of Turin. This is the 9th replica of the Turin Shroud sanctioned by the Vatican. The exhibit will be from Saturday, February 18 (after 5 p.m. Liturgy) through Saturday, March 3. The Church and Exhibit will be open on Tuesday: 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Friday: 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be two presentations on the Shroud of Turin: Monday, February 20 at 7 p.m. in Ukrainian by Fr. Ivan Turyk and on February 23 at 7 p.m. in English by Rev. Archpriest Daniel Troyan. For more info call 732-826-0767 or visit www.philashroud.org

Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 15



Knitting Circle

SOUTH AMBOY - There will be a Knitting Circle on Tuesday, February 21 at 6 p.m. at the Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060.

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. There are also books for sale at Raritan Bay Coffee Company (at the Historic Train Station)

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: 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.

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.

Rolling Stones Lecture

WOODBIDGE - There will be a lecture: "On the Road and at Home with The Rolling Stones" given by author Bill German A Multimedia Lecture on The Rolling Stones' Rise to Superstardom. Q&A and exclusive book signing Wednesday Evening March 21, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Barron Art's Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. Admission Free, Reservation Required. For more info call 732-634-0143.

Medieval Castles Lecture

WOODBIDGE - There will be a lecture: "Medieval Castles of England and Wales" given by Ian C. Burrow Ph.D. RPA. An introduction to castles as represented by the many surviving examples in England and Wales. A chronological survey emphasizing changes through time, and what to look for when visiting a castle. Wednesday Evening February 29, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Barron Art's Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. Admission Free, Reservation Required. For more info call 732-634-0143.

Senior Scene

Happenings

Perth Amboy

TODAY, Feb 22 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., Feb 23 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
MON., Feb 27 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
TUES., Feb 28 Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.
• Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
WED. Feb 29 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., Mar 1 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

MON., Mar 5 St. Mary's Seniors, noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
WED Mar 14 South Amboy Seniors, noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.

SEND US YOUR CLUB NEWS

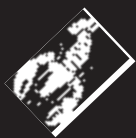


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LOOKING BACK



SOUTH AMBOY - Broadway Unpaved - The photographer was facing up Broadway from the South Amboy Post Office when the photograph was taken, the City's major thoroughfare unpaved.

Photo courtesy of the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, South Amboy

Prayer to 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. *C.M.K.*

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Veteran
Employment
Services

MILLTOWN - The Jewish Family and Vocational Service Of Middlesex County is offering Veteran Employment Services. Qualifications - You must be a Military Veteran between the ages of 18 to 64 and a Resident of Central NJ and have Documentation of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) (Defined as an injury to the brain, caused by external physical force such as a fall, physical violence, car accident or sports injury). For more info call Phone: 732-777-1940 or Fax: 732-777-1889 Email: office@jfv.org. The Jewish Family and Vocational Service Of Middlesex County, 32 Ford Avenue, Second Floor, Milltown, New Jersey 08850 or go to WWW.JFVS.ORG. This program is funded by a grant from the Kessler foundation

St. Jude Novena

Most holy Apostle, St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the Church honors and invokes you universally, as the patron of difficult cases, of things almost despaired of, Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Intercede with God for me that He bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, particularly - (make your request here) - and that I may praise God with you and all the saints forever. I promise, Oh Blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor granted me by God and to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen *S.H.*

Veteran's
Memorial
Application

PERTH AMBOY - "HONORING YESTERDAY'S AND TODAY'S VETERANS WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY." Any eligible veteran honoree that is not included on the memorial on Sadowski Parkway at this time, may request to have their name placed on the memorial by filling out the form available at City Hall or can be downloaded on the City of Perth Amboy's Website and submitting it to the City Clerk's office along with a copy of Form DD214. SUBMISSION DEADLINE OF ELIGIBLE VETERAN is MARCH 31, 2012. For more information call 732-826-0290.

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A Petition to St. Joseph

Dear St. Joseph, head of the most perfect household, foster father of Jesus and guardian of His mother Mary, I confidently place myself and all my concerns under your care and protection. I ask that, through your powerful intercession with God, you obtain for me all the help and graces that I need for my spiritual and temporal welfare and in particular, the special favor I now ask there mention or think of your home sale or any other petition, especially family needs. Good St. Joseph, I know with confidence, that your prayers on my behalf will be heard by God and that He will grant my request, if it be for His glory and my greater good. Thank you St. Joseph, for having responded to my call. Amen. *G.T.A.*

Prayer To St. Claire

Prayer To Blessed Mother

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

St. Jude Novena

For Employment

Prayer To Holy Spirit

Thanksgiving Novena

Pray The Rosary

A Petition to St. Jude

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

OTHER _____

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A PROGRAM ON BLACK HISTORY SPONSORED BY THE
KEARNY COTTAGE ASSOCIATION DEDICATED
TO THE MEMORY OF LEROY E. NANTON.

Date: Sunday, February 26, 2012
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: Theatre- Raritan Bay Area YMCA
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Perth Amboy, New Jersey 08861

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Dark Wood Entertainment Center \$50, Treadmill \$75 - 732-634-0239

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Computer Chairs - Two - Good Condition - Swivel - Tilt, Grey \$35 Each. 732-636-3345

Dyson Vacuum Cleaner - Upright Model DC07 - Mint Condition \$75 - 732-721-4477

White Crib/Toddler Bed - Excellent Condition with Mattress \$75 732-826-8180

ACROSS

- 1 Pueblo Indian
- 5 Froth
- 9 Teen's channel choice (abbr.)
- 12 "___ the Roof" (2 wds.)
- 13 "The Breeze ___" (2 wds.)
- 14 Amazement
- 15 Southeast Asian nation
- 16 Bad-tempered
- 17 Veto, slangily
- 18 Claimis
- 20 Santa Fe's locale (abbr.)
- 22 Police visit
- 23 Egg ___ yung
- 24 Weaving frames

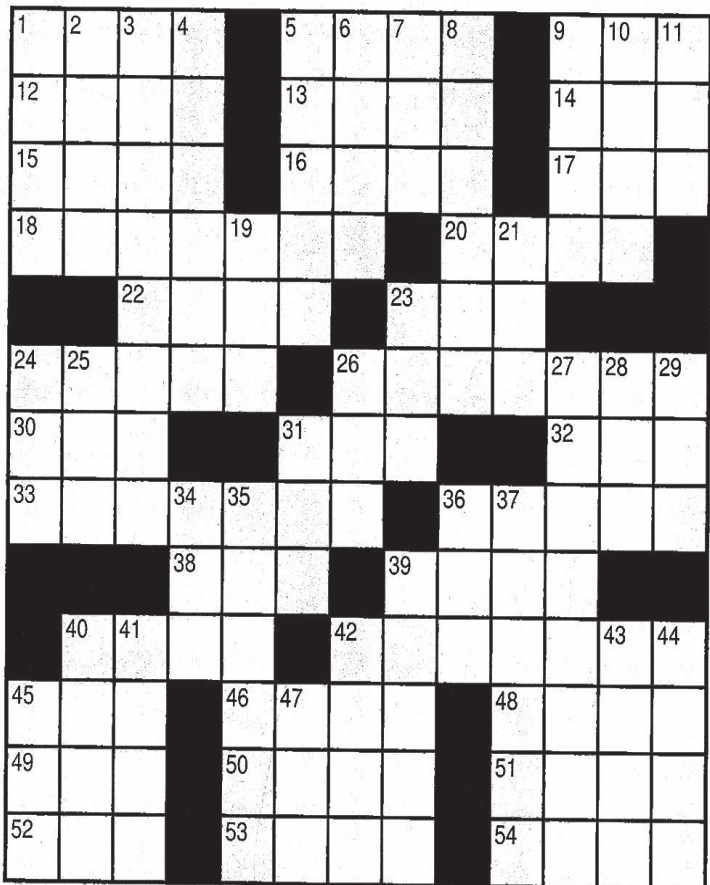
- 26 ___ Own (salad dressing)
- 30 Mysterious sighting (abbr.)
- 31 ___ de plume
- 32 River, in Madrid
- 33 Casino patron
- 36 Nest sounds
- 38 Dogpatch's Daisy ___
- 39 Peru's capital
- 40 Shark movie
- 42 Massachusetts resort area (2 wds.)
- 45 Home-office locale
- 46 Messy fellow
- 48 Optimistic

- 49 Bert Bobbsey's twin
- 50 Jane of an 1847 novel
- 51 Not working
- 52 Question's opposite (abbr.)
- 53 ___ of approval
- 54 Durocher and Tolstoy

DOWN

- 1 Hawaiian dance
- 2 Colorful gem
- 3 Billiards parlor
- 4 Pants measurement
- 5 Well-known
- 6 Fiver change

- 7 Dentists' gp.
- 8 "Gilligan's Island" boat
- 9 Lion's feature
- 10 Chocolate-covered snack bar
- 11 Get one's goat
- 19 Boot camp residents (abbr.)
- 21 Dad's spouse
- 23 Opposite of masc.
- 24 Tote laboriously
- 25 Three ___ kind (2 wds.)
- 26 Scand. country
- 27 Long-distance prefix (2 wds.)
- 28 Tiny drink
- 29 Distress message
- 31 Born
- 34 German car inits.
- 35 Lads' counterparts
- 36 Small fruit seed
- 37 Chef who shouts "bam!"
- 39 Baggage marker
- 40 Actress Stapleton
- 41 Landers and Jillian
- 42 Actress Witherspoon
- 43 Norway's capital
- 44 Colors fabric
- 45 Basis of heredity (abbr.)
- 47 Drain unclogger





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Broker/Owner



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PERTH AMBOY - Duplex - Short Sale. Buyer resp. for C/O. \$139,000



PERTH AMBOY - Comfortable home, 4 bedrooms, perfect for a family. \$225,000



PERTH AMBOY - Just move in! 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, formal dining room. \$230,000



PERTH AMBOY - Cape Cod, 3 bedroom - 2 full bath, near hospital - great location. A "must see". \$200,000



PERTH AMBOY - Short Sale, price and commission are subject to a third party approval. \$175,000



PERTH AMBOY - Nice cozy cape, perfect for a family wanting to downsize. Lovely backyard with cement patio. \$165,000



PERTH AMBOY - Beautiful home, hardwood flrs, 3 big bdrms, finished bsmt. Perfect for your holiday parties. You have 2 new furnaces - one in the bsmt and one in the attic. Wood fire place. Nothing to do - just move in. Close to all major hwy's. Quiet neighborhood. There is an oil tank underground. The owner is going to take care of it. \$270,000



PERTH AMBOY - Very nice house with a lot of pine wall, cedar closet, good sized rooms, high ceiling basement. This is the house to live comfortable. DO NOT MISS IT! Roof only 3 yrs old. Sold "as is". Bring Offer. \$164,900



PERTH AMBOY - Anderson windows, new blower and heating ducts cleaned last year, roof is 4 yrs old. Water heater is 1 1/2 yrs old. Sun deck & awning 2 yrs old. New storm door (side of house). Italian tile in kitchen & dining area, brick tile (front entrance) new faucets (kitchen, tub, bath, crawl space all insulated and attic). \$225,000.