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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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Diaz, Irizarry, Nanton Sworn in at Perth Amboy High School

By Joseph L. Kuchie
PERTH AMBOY - Mayor Wilda Diaz, councilman Fernando Irizarry, and councilwoman Lisa Nanton were all sworn in and presented speeches during last Thursday's inaugural organization meeting at Perth Amboy High School.

A large number of residents, state senators, and city employees came out to support the city's newest representatives as they were sworn in. Senator Joseph Vitale gave his remarks early on and spoke highly of Mayor Diaz and the city of Perth Amboy.

"Mayor Diaz, facing hundreds of millions of dollars in debt, stood peering down her own fiscal cliff at a critical time for Perth Amboy. There was a budget on life support and a financial future in serious doubt," Vitale said. "Through her leadership and council partnership she made the tough decisions and asked residents to join her through smart work and hard work. Ladies and gentleman, better days are here. The city's heartbeat is strong, businesses are striving, and hope is being restored."

When she came to the podium, Mayor Diaz spoke of the city's progress and the future plan to restore the Perth Amboy waterfront that was destroyed by Hurricane Sandy. She noted the hardships that the city has gone through but believed Perth Amboy would once again come out of them better than ever.

"Our city is 330 years old. If there is any city in this country that has seen changes, troubles, and trials, it's been Perth Amboy," Diaz said. "But make no mistake, if there's any city that has lived to tell the story of transformation, growth, and triumph, it is Perth Amboy."

Diaz announced her plan to create a committee to consult with the city on fixing the wa-



Sen. Vitale administers Oath of Office to Hon. Mayor Wilda Diaz



Pastor Noel Santiago administers Oath of Office to Fernando Irizarry



Rev. Dr. Anne-Marie Jeffrey administers Oath of Office to Lisa Nanton

*Photos by Paul W. Wang

terfront area. She hoped that the effort from city residents and the local government would bring positive change.

"We've been faced with the task to rebuild, repair, and restore. In my efforts I am in the midst of creating a waterfront recovery and redevelopment advisory committee comprised of community members and business owners," Diaz said.

"This committee will provide recommendations to the city council and I on the renewal of the city's most valued treasure. Together we will work to turn unexpected challenges to positive changes."

Mayor Diaz closed her inaugural speech talking about the money issues that Perth Am-

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South Amboy Holds Reorganization Meeting

By Joseph L. Kuchie
SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy city council swore in three members during their reorganization meeting on January 2nd.

Donald Applegate, Christine Noble, and Zusette Dato all gained seats on the city council in November's election. Applegate and Noble are returning for their respective wards while Dato begins her first term in South Amboy.

Dato replaces councilman William Schwarick, a three year representative of the 3rd Ward who stepped down at the end of 2012. Dato had kind words for Schwarick during her opening comments and was very excited to get to work.

"I want to thank councilman Bill Schwarick who could not be here tonight. He was very smart, reliable, and a hard working guy who has been a great service to this city. He's going to be a tough act to follow," Dato said. "I feel honored to represent all the residents of South Amboy. It's a privilege and I'll take it very seriously and work very hard at this. You won't be disappointed."

Afterward, Councilman Mickey Gross motioned to name Noble council vice president and Joseph Connors council president. Councilwoman Dato and councilman Applegate seconded his mo-



Council President Joseph Connors

tions.

Mayor Henry also honored some of the city's department heads for their work during and after Hurricane Sandy. Police Chief Darren Levine, Fire Chief Jamie Norek, First Aid Captain Christine Walczak, Office of Emergency Services Coordinator Rich Johnson, and Superintendent of Public Works Jerry Magee all received proclamations from the Mayor for keeping South Amboy safe during one of the worst storms in the city's history.

"I think everyone realizes the things we went through," Henry said. "People in charge did their job. It was a cooperative effort and everyone knew the job they had to do. People sometimes don't get recognized for what they do. We have so much to be thankful for in South Amboy."

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Diaz, Irizarry, Nanton

Continued from Page 1

boy has faced since her first term. She praised the dedication of the city's residents and promised that things will continue to move forward.

"My administration has transformed the way we handle your money, and you have every right to know where your money goes," Diaz said. "There is no community more important to me than Perth Amboy. You will get nothing less than my sincere commitment in my responsibility to you."

Perth Amboy's newest council members also spoke after being sworn in. Councilman Irizarry spoke of a hard fought election but asked local residents to have peace and work together to make Perth Amboy better.

"During the campaign there were times where if we could have killed people with our looks, we would have done it, but I submit to you that now is a time for peace," Irizarry said. "I am aware that our city was forced to take the bumpy and less driven road. Let's not give up or back down. Let's work together to find solutions that

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will save our city money and make it a better place to live. "Councilwoman Nanton spoke of recovery and believed that residents could work together to overcome all challenges and continue to be one of the country's best cities. She talked of her life in Perth Amboy and how the recent struggles should not discourage anyone.

"We are a city destined to be first. Although we are facing enormous debt and restorations to the waterfront, I am in no way discouraged," Nanton said. "To recover it's going to take all of us to make an effort and respect each other. Regardless of where we are from, everyone smiles the same language. Tonight, we are all Perth Amboyians."

Gonzalez Turns Down Nomination for Council President Joel Pabon Named President

By Joseph L. Kuchie
PERTH AMBOY - Despite being nominated to become Perth Amboy's new council president, Kenneth Gonzalez turned down the position and nominated Joel Pabon for the job.

Although he was honored by the nomination from his fellow council members, Gonzalez cited the recent questioning of his characters by local residents for his decline. He thanked everyone for supporting him and suggested that Pabon take the position.

"I considered accepting this nomination. However, there are a small group of citizens that have attempted to undermine my character and the character of my family," Gonzalez said. "It's important to me that the work of this city council be first and foremost. While I intend to continue arguing these individuals at council meetings in the future, I do not think as president of city council I would service my city well allowing these people to focus their inappropriate attacks at my character."

Pabon accepted the nomination from Gonzalez and thanked his colleagues for having faith in him going forward. He also welcomed Fernando Irizarry and Lisa Nanton to the council and congratulated



Kenneth Gonzalez turns down the nomination as Council President



Joel Pabon is sworn in as Council President

*Photos by Paul W. Wang

Mayor Diaz for winning reelection.

When the meeting went to the public, residents argued over the direction the city was going over the past few months. Stanley Sierkowski argued that Perth Amboy was going

in the wrong direction and believed the city would stagnate and decline in the future, but councilmen Irizarry believed Perth Amboy would decline only if residents believed it.

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Tot Time & Storytime

SOUTH AMBOY - There will be Tot Time - (Ages 0-2) on Mondays at 10:15 a.m. and Storytime (Ages 3-5) on Wednesdays 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.

A. C. Bus Trip

PERTH AMBOY - Knights of Columbus Council #299 is offering a trip to the Trump Taj Mahal on Saturday, Feb 2. Bus leaves at 1 p.m. from the Council at 228 High St returning at 11 p.m.. Donation is \$30 pp. Cash back \$20. Food and drinks provided. For more info call Edgar at 732-535-2562.

Free Throw Championship

PERTH AMBOY - Knights of Columbus Council #299 is sponsoring a Free Throw Competition on Sunday, January 27 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the YMCA on New Brunswick Ave. Divisions are Boys and Girls, ages 10-14 years old. Winning players receive a trophy, Participants receive a certificate. Snacks and drinks provided. Please bring parent day of event. For more info call Rui at 908-565-3086.

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Remembering Two Fine Gentlemen



Harry J. Russell, Jr.



Robert Carter
"Bones"

The end of 2012 brought heartache to many. The tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut and Superstorm Sandy were just two. On a personal note, two special gentlemen passed away just before Christmas Harry J. Russell, Jr. and Robert *Bones* Carter. The last time I saw Mr. Russell was at a viewing in Carteret of the late Perth Amboy Mayor George Otlowski.

As always, Mr. Russell was flashing his famous brilliant smile that could light up a room. We could have used that smile when we were all in the dark during Superstorm Sandy.

My recollection of Mr. Russell had to do with my relatives who belonged to the NAACP. My late father, Rockwell Maxwell and his late sister Hager Maxwell Roberts would attend the NAACP dinners. My father loved taking pictures at those events and sometimes Mr. Russell would be in those photos.

Looking at Mr. Russell's obituary, he was justifiably honored several times for his social services work but the most important achievement he had was as a family man. When I attended the memorial service, there was a video being shown depicting his career and his life.

I loved the photos depicting him surrounded by his children and grandchildren. But I have to admit the photo that I loved the most was when he

was dipping his wife as they were dancing at what appeared to be their anniversary party. He and his wife were together for 58 years. You can tell by the photos that they were in love for those whole 58 years. Rest In Peace.

Robert (Bones) Carter was a retired Perth Amboy Detective. Although I knew him for a long time, His career as a police officer is not what stood out in my memory.

There was a recent picture in our paper showing Bobby Carter along with one of our photographers, Bob Ned when they ran track in High School. This picture was displayed during Bobby Carter's viewing recently.

The reason I have *Bones* underneath his picture is this is what he called me whenever he saw me. That was some 50 lbs ago. Even though I added that extra weight and I told Bobby he could no longer call me *Bones*, he would still continue to do so.

Bobby loved going to the Penn Relays Track & Field Event in Pennsylvania. He would often supply tickets to my sister and her sons. As I was talking to my sister, she told me that Bobby ran track when he was a student at Seton Hall University and he also participated in the Penn Relays. The Penn Relays attracted runners worldwide.

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THE COMMUNITY VOICE

The Door is Open

Here it is - 2013. Now let's hope for a very good year for everyone. I would like to thank two former City Council Members - Mr. Kenneth Balut and Mr. Fernando Gonzalez. for all their service to the concerned residents of Perth Amboy, NJ and they did their best for us. Also, they have realized that politics can be a dirty game like they say, "Play ball with

us or there's the door." They have seen the door and the same goes for the other Council members. The door is waiting for them. Now the council president has to be very careful which side to choose: right or left.

For the concerned taxpayer who wants to investigate what goes on City Hall, be careful which door you will open. The alarm bells will bring.

As for the council meeting, which is called hot air inc. There's going to be lots of heat

coming from the taxpayer. This year - yes Wilda! Now on January 19, 2013 there's going to be a victory ball aboard the Majesty's Boat to nowhere. Maybe I should attend this fun filled action pack party. I hope it's going to be a wild party - not just people sitting like ducks and looking at one to another. Say Wilda, show them how to have fun.

Orlando "Wildman" Perez
Perth Amboy

Cash for Gold Scam

Are those "cash for gold" offers a scam? Yes, even if you get an honest weight from a transient dealer. When you buy gold jewelry the price is based on three parts: the cost of the gold, the cost of the la-

bor or workmanship, and the cost or mark-up by the seller. When you sell for the price of the gold alone you lose the value of the other costs. Gold has a stable value, unlike goods that decay. Before you sell gold jewelry you should get two or more estimates as to its value, at least one from an

established seller.

If the state legislature wanted to punish those buyers who cheat they should force them to return the item to the original seller or give a cash equivalent in addition to any fines.

Ronald A. Sobieraj
Perth Amboy

It's my turn to speak up! The Connecticut Shooting and Gun Control

First and foremost, I would like to express my deepest sorrow to the families and friends of the children and adults lost in this senseless and bizarre tragedy. I myself have a baby sister and if harm came to her it would bring me great sorrow like the families in Connecticut. I can't not understand fully because I never have been through a horrible and meaningless tragedy that many of us can't understand emotionally or sensibly. God bless every one lost. I, not being a gun enthusiast, would like to give you my thought about the recent shooting. Unfortunately, right away, people are pointing their fingers at guns. That however is the wrong, no matter how many guns you ban, somebody is going to find a gun, and be able to do the same cruel act as Adam Lanza or the columbine shooters. Even if we ban all guns, the sick people in this world will always find another way to do harm, no matter what. What really surprises me, people always forget to look at this, people forget the truth, Guns don't kill people, people kill people. Fellow Perth Amboyans, in order to avenge the people in the Connecticut shooting, it is not to ban guns, the issue is our school security and family values.

To begin with, from my understanding there were only two unarmed security guards at the school, which is offering little protection. One of the reasons we don't have security armed, is because they believe it will make students feel unsafe in their learning environment, but is that really worth putting young children and teachers at risk? They should at least give the security police batons. The security guards should at least have something they can use to protect themselves and the people around them. You can live in the safest neighborhood, or the most dangerous, but you must always be ready for an emergency. Additionally, students would feel safer if the security guards sat down with them and explain it's for their own protection, explain they'll probably never use their weapons, and that it's just to insure maximum security for everyone.

Furthermore, this unfortunate shooting had similarities with the one in Columbine. For instance, in columbine, the kids were building bombs in their bed rooms, and the parents didn't notice that. Likewise, the Connecticut shooter's mom was going take him to a hospital for a mental evaluation. A lot of these shootings are result of parents neglect and from not helping them with their issues. Parents need to be there for their kids, maybe if the parents of the kids who went shooting in Columbine just sat down with them, maybe there wouldn't have been a tragedy. But the

press didn't blame the parents, they blamed heavy metal music, rap, guns, and video-games, etc. We're looking at what caused this problem, not what let it happen. "The world is a dangerous place to live, not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it." - Albert Einstein

Moreover, guns don't kill people, people kill people. Too many people in society forget this general rule. Sure, guns make it easier to do harm, so do bombs, which can be made from simple things like baking grease and fertilizer, so what are you going to do now, ban products like grease and fertilizer? Just like Timothy McVeigh who killed one hundred-sixty eight people in the Oklahoma city bombing, including nineteen children under the age of six.. Remember recently a person from New York State attempted to burn down his neighborhood and insisted on killing people, so are we also going to ban matches? In all three cases, they illegally got firearms, Adam from his mother, the man in New York State had them bought for him from a neighbor, and Timothy McVeigh stole them from a gun collector. This I offer you as proof that a person with their mind set on doing harm will do harm and get a gun from wherever they can. And given with this evidence, banning guns will bring us back right where we started. People with the intent of doing harm

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Carolyn Maxwell
Acting Editor, Publisher & Advertising Manager
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To register or for more information, call (732) 324-5022.

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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 732-293-1090. We are on the web! www.KearnyCottage.org

**Accepting
Registrations**

PERTH AMBOY - Assumption Catholic School is accepting registrations.

Consider a Catholic Education for your child at Assumption Catholic School that next year will celebrate a milestone - 50 years of excellence in education!

Our school has an Open Enrollment Policy accepting applicants at any time. ACS summer office hours are from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday through Thursday. We have openings for the 2012-2013 school year in grades: Pre-K (age 4), K,1,2,3,4,7 & 8. Visit us at www.assumptioncatholicsschool.net or call the school at 732-826-8721. Our Principal will give you a tour and answer any questions.

Community Calendar

- Perth Amboy**
TUES. Jan. 8 UEZ, 6 p.m.
City Hall, High St.
7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.
WED. Jan. 9 Municipal Court, 1:30 p.m.,
Court House, New Brunswick Ave.
City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.
- South Amboy**
WED. Jan. 9 City Council, Business, 6 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway
WED. Jan. 16 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway

**Perth Amboy Volunteer
Fire Department
Parade Committee
Spaghetti Dinner**

will be holding their 3rd Annual
Saturday, January 12, 2013 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Knights of Columbus Hall
228 High St., Perth Amboy
Adults \$8 Children under 5 - Free
Come out and support your local heroes!

Gonzalez, Pabon

Continued From Page 1

"I believe we have the power of death or life. If we say this city will decline, that's what going to happen. If we say it's going to transform and rise up, that's what is going to happen." Irizarry said. "I'm choosing to say that this city will be transformed. I'm choosing to say this city will not decline. I respect everyone's opinion, but I believe this city will be turned around."

Councilman Gonzalez

added that Perth Amboy has great potential but everyone has to use positive energy to move forward.

"There are optimists that choose to see the glass half full and see the opportunities and there are people that chose to see the inadequacies," Gonzalez said. "Even though there are some of us that are optimists, we admit that Perth Amboy is not perfect. We do not live in a utopia. But that's where we have to use positive energy."

www.amboyguardian.com



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Board Members Question Legality of Meeting 12/20/12

PERTH AMBOY - Six Candidates were interviewed for the vacant seat held by Kurt Rebovich who resigned to accept a state job. Board Member Mark Carvajal said, "Because the Board is in a lame duck session, I object and abstain from this meeting because I believe it is illegal. This may open us up to a future lawsuit."

Board Member Dianne Roman and Board Vice-President Ken Puccio recused themselves from participating in the decision making process.

The Board of Education Attorney said she did look into holding this meeting to replace the vacancy. She continued that, "A court ruling allowed remaining Board Members to make appointments."

Earlier in the meeting, several students in the school system were recognized for attaining perfect scores on the State Assessments.

AFT President Donna Chiera brought up the fact that even adults couldn't pass this test. "We recognize athletes with award dinners. We should do more to recognize students academic achievements."

Board Member Israel Varela said, "Maybe we can do something as the Board to recognize students with high scores. I'm glad that Ms. Chiera brought this out about student academics not being recognized."

Varela was also disgusted to what was done to Assistant Superintendent Dr. Vivian Rodriguez. She was removed from sitting with the other Board Members during the meetings.

Outgoing Board President Sam Lebreault told Varela, "You are right. The Board decides who sits with the Board."

The Board Attorney cautioned Varela, "We will discuss this in closed sessions."

This caused Varela to remark, "Did I break any laws?"

During the public portion, Ana Mascenik thanked Lebreault and Janelle Rodriguez for their service and stated, "Mr. Massopust was a great choice for a new Board Member and he has a great love for children." She also referred to the tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut and wondered if some employees can have concealed weapons.

Board Vice-President Ken Puccio said, "There are retired police officers employed in the school system."

Resident Alan Silber also said that, "Mr. Massopust was a good choice," and he also said to Janelle Rodriguez, "You were excellent and it broke my heart when you decided not to run." Silber wanted to know what is the status of Superintendent Dr. Janine



**Board Member
Mark Carvajal**



**Board Member
Israel Varela**

Walker-Caffrey's job.

President Sam Lebreault said, "It's still pending and there will be another ruling in February 2013."

Teacher Lynn Audet from the Richardson School thanked Lebreault and Janelle Rodriguez for their service. "I also congratulate Mr. Massopust, Obi Gonzalez and Kenneth Puccio. I also want to thank Varela for bringing up the fact about Dr. Vivian Rodriguez being removed."

Another resident, Stanley Sierakowski said, "Sam Lebreault brought integrity and transparency back to the Board. Past Board Members were here during the insurance fraud." Sierakowski also congratulated Massopust for being appointed to the Board.

Sierakowski stated that the Board still needs to have audits and proper vettings done of candidates intending to run for the Board of Education. "Another Board Member in the past resigned after being vetted."

Leslie Dominguez-Rodriguez thanked Lebreault and Janelle Rodriguez and congratulated Massopust on his appointment, "But moving elections to November was a bad decision." She also remarked to Lebreault, "Sam, I hope you can come back."

Before leaving the podium Leslie Dominguez-Rodriguez also said, "Assistant Superintendent Dr. Vivian Rodriguez should be seated up here. (Up with the Board Members) It's disgraceful what Caffrey did to Dr. Rodriguez."

Later in the meeting AFT President Donna Chiera said, "I was puzzled because one of our members said she got a letter that says she will be discussed in closed session." Chiera also said, "The AFT lawyer was here, but there was no discussion about the union member during the closed session portion. When Board President Sam Lebreault said that he was unaware of any letter, the AFT lawyer quickly produced one."

At that point the Board said,

"We will have to go back to closed session to discuss that matter."

PTO Member Donna Stewart thanked the Board for what they've done. "I've been coming to the Board of Education Meeting for eight years." She also stated, "We as blacks are not represented on the Board of Education or City Council. We need to think about the minority within the minority and we need to pray for our students. I am a concerned parent. When I speak about problems that my child has, I am also speaking for other children as well."

In final remarks outgoing Board Member Janelle Rodriguez said, "It was an eye-opening year for me." She told parents that parental involvement is very important. To the students, "Take education seriously and take advantage of tutoring, the Board Members and all resources. I also want to thank the teachers for the involvement that you have with your students. Hang in there. You are appreciated. I also want to thank my fellow Board Members for their support." Janelle Rodriguez who also has children in the school system told those in attendance that she also will be furthering her education.

Board President Sam Lebreault commended the children who were in the High School play this year.

Vice-President Kenneth Puccio also remembered former Police Officer Bobby Carter. Puccio said, "He was a great guy. Rest in peace."

Board Member Obi Gonzalez wanted to know the status of the insurance company fraud suit. The Board Attorney said, "It is still in discovery." Gonzalez also wanted to know about the \$39 million from the State.

Board Secretary Derek Jess smiled and said, "It is still intact. We have regenerated existing funds. This has brought us up to \$65 million. Special needs Grants and Title 1 Programs are also down by the Federal Government."

Students Recognized for Perfect Scores at Perth Amboy BOE Meeting 12/20/12

*Photos by Carolyn Maxwell



The last Board Meeting for Sam Lebreault and Janelle Rodriguez

We are on the web!!!!
www.amboyguardian.com

South Amboy Y Offers Group Exercise Classes for Children

Press Release

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Branch YMCA is offering three new group exercise classes for children ages 8-12: Kids Circuit Training, Kids Speed & Agility and ZumbAtomic. This is a great way for kids to exercise and stay active before they're old enough to use our Wellness Center. These classes will run through February 21, and will be held at the South Amboy Y, located at 200 John T. O'Leary Blvd in South Amboy.

These classes will challenge the kids to be more active and have fun at the same time! Kids Circuit Training is on Mondays from 4-5 p.m. and includes different workouts while ro-

tating through different stations. Kids Speed & Agility is on Tuesdays from 4-5pm and focuses on improving speed and movement. ZumbAtomic is on Thursdays from 4-4:45pm and follows the same Zumba format as adults. Kids will keep moving through dance and lively music.

Each class is \$33 for members and \$55 for non-members; non-members are required to have an active Program membership at registration. Discounts are available for multiple class registrations. Please call Mike Manfre, our Physical Director, with any questions at 732-316-82082 or visit our website to register online: www.ymcaofmews.org.

South Amboy YMCA Offers Crocheting Class

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Branch YMCA is offering an adult artisan class for anyone interested in learning the basics of this age old craft. Crocheting Class will meet on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. -12 p.m. and Wednesdays from 7:30 p.m. -9 p.m. at the South Amboy Y, located at 200 John T. O'Leary Blvd in South Amboy. This session will run through February 20, with our next session beginning February 26.

Class participants will learn the basics of crochet during the first four weeks of class, and make a pretty scarf in the process. Skills to be covered include chain stitch, single crochet and fringe. The second four weeks will build on basic skills and you'll learn to read a pattern, all while making a fun and funky beanie hat! Supply list will be provided.

Crocheting class is \$60 per session, a \$45 annual program membership is required if currently a non-member. Please call our Welcome Desk at 732-553-9622 or visit our website to register online: www.ymcaofmews.org.

Have a Safe and Happy New Year From The Perth Amboy Democratic Organization and the Executive Board Board Officers

Leslie Dominguez-Rodriguez - Chairwoman
Victor Collado - Vice-Chairman
Barbara Sottilaro - Secretary
Linda Lester - Treasurer
Martin Arroyo - Sergt. at Arms
Iris Rodriguez - Sergt. at Arms

Paid for by the Perth Amboy Democratic Organization

Monthly Book Club

SEWAREN - There will be a monthly book club at the Sewaren Library, 546 West Ave, Sewaren. For more info call 732-634-7571 or email sewarenlibrary@gmail.com. We are looking for adults to join a book club starting in November. Please fill out the attached form if you are interested in joining us. Day and time will be determined by interest. The first Book will be *Defending Jacob* by William Landay.

Comedy Night 2013

SOUTH AMBOY - Mechanicville Hose Company No. 1. presents Comedy Night 2013 on January 26 at Memorial Hall - Sacred Heart Church, Main Street & Washington Avenue - S. Amboy, Doors Open at 7 p.m. Donation: \$40 per Person. Includes: Buffet, Beverages (Beer, Wine, Soda). Entertainment (Two Comedians and a DJ). For tickets and info Call (908) 296-4254. Seating is limited.

Women's Bible Study Group

PERTH AMBOY - New Christian women's bible study group in private home weekly on Tuesdays from 11:30 am to 12:30 p.m. Interested in joining, email churchinvitation@gmail.com

Kidz Wii Club

SOUTH AMBOY - The Kidz Wii Club will meet every Friday from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060.

We are on the web!!!!
www.amboyguardian.com

Perth Amboy Democrats Cordially invite you to a Victory Ball Honoring Mayor Wild a Diaz Councilman Fernando Irizarry and Councilwoman Lisa Nanton

Saturday, January 19, 2013 at 7:00 PM aboard the Majesty (dockside) 401 Riverview Drive Perth Amboy, New Jersey Please RSVP by January 11 Cash bar Formal attire

For further information contact Myrna Febles at 732-442-3257 or myrna.febles_unitedforperthamboy@yahoo.com



Mayor Wilda Diaz



Fernando Irizarry



Lisa Nanton

◇ Please reserve the following Individual tickets:

◇ Single ticket(s) _____ @ \$125, \$ _____

◇ I am unable to attend. Please accept my donation of \$ _____ in support of United for Perth Amboy.

United for Perth Amboy is registered with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission as a Joint Candidate Committee. The candidates are Mayor Wilda Diaz, Councilman Fernando Irizarry and Councilwoman Lisa Nanton.

Please return this card with your payment by January 11 payable to "United For Perth Amboy" P.O. Box 743, Perth Amboy, NJ 08862.

Paid For By United For Perth Amboy Evelyn Anderson, Treasurer

Colombian Club Fitness Classes

SOUTH AMBOY - Colombian Club Fitness Classes, Mondays: Booty Camp 7:20 p.m. - 8:20 p.m., Light weights and mat required, Tuesdays: Yoga 6:30 p.m. -7:20 p.m. Mat required, Thursdays: Zumba Fitness 7:20 p.m.- 8:20 p.m. Mat required. Price: \$60 for 8 classes. Part of the proceeds benefit the Colombian Club Council No. 426. Location: Knights of Columbus council No. 426, 308 Fourth Street, South Amboy. If you have questions or for registration information please email zumbasayreville@gmail.com or call Denise 732-525-9236.

Sayreville Auxiliary Police Looking for New Members

SAYREVILLE/SOUTH AMBOY - Attention Sayreville / South Amboy Residents: The Sayreville Auxiliary Police are seeking new members to join its volunteer force. Interested applicants must be 18 years of age or older, be able to pass a criminal background check and possess a valid New Jersey driver's license. Interested applicants can download an application from: www.sayrevillepoliceaux.org, or send a letter of interest to: Sayreville Police Department, Attn: Auxiliary Police, 1000 Main St., Sayreville, NJ 08872. Include your full legal name, address, phone number and a brief summary about yourself. Thank you.

Birthday Parties at the S.A. Y.

News Release
SOUTH AMBOY - Relax and let the Y host your child's next birthday party! No fuss, no mess, no worries... Parties can be almost totally customized by you. Try a Y! Party for younger children featuring games, mat play and parachute, or a Make-Believe Sleepover Party for older children with PJs, sleeping bags and a favorite movie. Of course, most children love our Swim/Gym Parties with an hour of swim time, followed by an hour of sports play in the gymnasium. All parties include pizza and party hosts. Dates are booking quickly for 2013, so reserve your child's birthday weekend today! For more information on Birthday Parties, please contact Sherry at 732-553-9622 or sayparties@ymcaofmews.org.

Swearing in Ceremony for Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz & Council Members Fernando Irizarry & Lisa Nanton - 1/3/13

*Photos by Paul W. Wang



Senator Joe Vitale introduces Mayor Wilda Diaz



Mayor Diaz receives a Certificate



Fernando Irizarry receives a certificate



Lisa Nanton receives a certificate



The crowd applauds the newly elected officials



Keynote speaker, Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver



Perth Amboy's newly appointed Chief of Staff, Lissette Martinez was the mistress of ceremonies



Mayor Wilda Diaz gives her Second Inaugural Address held at the Perth Amboy High School

**Three Kings Day - St. Vincent DePaul -
Perth Amboy 1/6/13**

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



Santa distributes gifts to children



Gifts for all ages



Santa poses for a picture



Santa at St. Vincent DePaul



St. Vincent DePaul on Three Kings Day

**Three Kings Day - Ignacio Cruz Center -
Perth Amboy 1/6/13**

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



Enjoying the afternoon



A band entertains



A large crowd turns out for Three Kings Day



The Three Kings distribute gifts



United Healthcare's table

Tax Facts

***Tax Implications of
Disaster-related Personal
Casualty Losses***

Courtesy of Tom Ploskonka
Dear Client's and Friends:
January 2013 If you suffered a personal casualty loss due from Hurricane Sandy, you might be entitled to a tax deduction. This letter provides a quick summary of the applicable federal income tax rules. Deductions for Damaged and Destroyed Property The tax law allows you to claim an itemized deduction for personal casualty losses that are not reimbursed by insurance. Unfortunately, you must first reduce your loss by \$100 and then by 10% of your adjusted gross income. If you have any loss remaining after these reductions, you can claim an itemized write-off on Schedule A of Form 1040.

If you have a deductible loss due to a disaster in a federally declared disaster area, a special rule allows you to claim your allowable write-off in the year before the year the loss actually occurred and thereby get a tax refund. For example, Hurricane Sandy victims can choose to deduct their allowable losses in 2011; even though, the damage obviously happened this year. This special deduction timing rule allows you to quickly receive some tax-saving relief instead of having to wait until next year when you file your 2012 return. If you've already filed your 2011 return, you must file an amended return to claim your loss in that year.

You must make the choice to take the write-off in the earlier year by no later than the filing deadline (without extensions) of this year's return. For example, victims of Hurricanes Sandy have until April 15, 2013 to decide.

Beware: You Might Have a Taxable Gain. If you have casualty insurance coverage, you actually might have a taxable involuntary conversion gain instead of a deductible loss. Why? Because when insurance proceeds exceed the tax basis of a damaged or destroyed asset, you have a taxable profit as far as the IRS is concerned. This is the case even when the insurance doesn't compensate you for the full pre-casualty fair market value of the damaged or destroyed property. These gains are termed involuntary conversion gains. If you turn out to have an involuntary conversion gain, it must be reported on your tax return unless you: (1) make sufficient expenditures to repair or replace the

Continued on Page 13



PERTH AMBOY - Grand Opening of PNC Bank in Perth Amboy. Photo 1 Mayor Wilda Diaz presenting mayor's certificate to branch manager Maria Villegas as regional manager Durinda Jenkins looks on. Photo 2 Melvin Rodriguez, William Best, Durinda Jenkins, Mayor Diaz, Maria Villegas, Mariela Ponsang, and Anthony Diaz.

**Photos by Joe Bayona*

Beauty Salon Reopens



PERTH AMBOY - Grand Opening of Rossie Maryalvas Hair Salon, December 19, 2012 located at 185 New Brunswick Ave. The Beauty Salon was the first business to reopen after being relocated due to the fire on State Street in early July 2012.

**Photo by Carolyn Maxwell*

Regional Disaster Recovery Centers To Open To Assist Survivors

TRENTON - Two regional disaster recovery centers will open next week to consolidate several centers that are scheduled to close and provide a continuing recovery presence for Hurricane Sandy survivors in New Jersey.

The regional centers will offer the same federal disaster assistance services as current centers closing Jan. 5 at 7 p.m. in Cape May, Harvey Cedars, Jersey City, Linden, Paterson, Plainfield, Stafford and Wood-

bridge.

The two regional centers will open Jan. 7 at 9 a.m. and operate from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday:

Hudson County

Hudson County Government Building (formerly the Provident Bank building)
830 Bergen Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Ocean County

Ocean County Southern Resource Center
179 S. Main St.
Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Disaster survivors may visit any center to receive assistance and information. They are not limited to the center in their home county as all

centers have the ability to access a survivor's specific case information.

FEMA staff are available at the centers to provide clarification to letters, assist survivors with finding a temporary home if their primary residence was damaged or destroyed, check on the status of their application for assistance or refer survivors to other agencies that may provide additional help.

Also, survivors can consult with Small Business Administration customer service representatives about low-interest disaster loans to repair or rebuild their home and FEMA mitigation specialists about cost-effective rebuilding and repair techniques to reduce property damages in future disasters.

LIVESTRONG at the YMCA Kicks Off New Session in January

SOUTH AMBOY - Cancer is a life-changing disease that takes a tremendous toll on a person, both physically and emotionally. The Y and LIVESTRONG have joined forces to create LIVESTRONG at the YMCA, a research-based physical activity and well-being initiative designed to help adult cancer survivors achieve their holistic health goals.

The South Amboy Branch YMCA will be kicking off its next session on January 16, 2013 at 6pm. Throughout the free 12-week session, LIVESTRONG at the YMCA participants work with Y staff trained in supportive cancer care to safely achieve their goals. These include building muscle mass and strength; increasing flexibility and endurance; and improving confidence and self-esteem. By focusing on the whole person and not the disease, LIVESTRONG at the YMCA is helping people move beyond cancer in spirit, mind and body.

For more information about LIVESTRONG, please contact Debbie Martinez at 732-316-8223 or livestrong.-south-amboy@ymcaofmews.org.

Service Dinner



SAYREVILLE - Our Lady of Victories Columbiettes recently held their 7th annual Sisters in Service Dinner at The Knights Of Columbus hall on Washington Road in Parlin. The Sisters in Service were invited for a delicious meal and were also provided little gifts of necessity. The picture shows all the sisters that attended as well as Father Ken Murphy of St. Stans parish. To Father Ken's left is Columbiette President Kathy Corman. The Columbiette's were assisted by the Officers of the Knight's of Columbus Council # 2061.

**Photo submitted*

Christmas Party at 1st Constitution Bank, Perth Amboy 12/19/12

**Photos by Carolyn Maxwell*



Enjoying the afternoon



A bite to eat



1st Constitution Bank Staff with local businesspeople



Local businesspeople and local government officials

The Community Voice

**Continued From Page 4*

will do harm. Also if you ban assault rifles, (Which is a popular video game tool) you're just being unconstitutional to the people who are gun enthusiasts and will push America back on advancement, we all know there will eventually be war, (but hopefully not) and by taking away the rights of having guns will not help, it will produce more problems. For instance, more people in America will be less experienced in the art of weaponry, by doing so, we will have less experienced people in our

armed forces, thus giving us a weaker army. Gun enthusiasts have the advantage of experience when joining the military. Furthermore, shooting is an Olympic sport, and now you'll be hurting a major league too. All because we forgot the truth.

In conclusion, even though this event was caused by assault rifle, the solution is not taking away rights of the American people, we can't let the government control us. Please reconsider your policy. A wise man named Charles

Wiley told me to report the facts, not my opinion. The News media should consider that advice. One final thought, "A government that is big enough to give you everything you want is a government big enough to take from you everything you have." -Gerald Ford thirty-eighth president of the USA. Thank you for reading my essay!

Boots and saddles America, were in for ruff ride, Natalia Dunyak, age 12 Perth Amboy

Remembering Milt Campbell

Between 1970 and 1980 I had a Little Fireplace Shop on Main St. in Metuchen. During Football Season it was the home of a huge stuffed Bulldog named Bucky. Many of my friends like Charlie Butler used to stop in on a cold Saturday afternoon and warm up to the warm burning fireplace. One afternoon a guy stopped by in while Charlie and I were talking sports. I said, "Hi, my name is Tom Clark and this is Charlie Butler." The stranger replied, "Hi my name is Milt Campbell."

I never played with Milt or saw him play but I knew who he was. He said, "How much for the Doggie in the window?"

I said, "The one with the raggedy tail?" (For younger people, that was a song back then.) We both laughed.

Milt stopped by my show about 3 to 4 times again. We were able to talk for 15 minutes or so. I learned a lot about him during those visits.

Milton Campbell and I grew up in Pre-Civil Rights America. I was two years older than Milt. I was never interested in track and field and I still can't swim a stroke. In those two sports, no one and I mean no one could beat Milt Campbell. he was faster than a speeding bullet. I graduated from High School in 1950 and Milt in 1953. He graduated from the University of Indiana and was a great running back on the football team. He played for the Cleveland Browns from 1957 till 1958 and was in the same backfield with the Hall of Famer Jim Brown. he lasted only one year and was let go by the Browns owner. I believe it was because he married a white girl and the owner had him blacklisted in the NFL. Milt then played in the

Canadian Football League for eight years. I think he would have been a Hall of Famer in the NFL.

While Milt was playing football at Indiana our football team at Alabama was lucky to win a game but we did have a quarterback named Bart Starr. If you follow Pro Football you will connect Bart with the Green Bay Packers. Alabama fans were restless, so a new Athletic Director and Football Coach was hired. He came from Texas A&M and his name was Paul (Bear) Bryant. He was far ahead of the game. He scheduled a game with a great U.S.C. Team loaded with black stars. Bama got beaten badly. Bryant got his point across to all the sportswriters who covered the game in Birmingham that day.

I stayed in touch with Coretta Scott King until she started losing her battle with cancer. I once asked her if her husband could have been President of the United States? She answered, "NO! because it wasn't the right time yet." Milt Campbell said the same thing about the 1950's when he was one of, if not the best athletes in the world.

Time moves along and Milt and I were only five miles away from each other. I tried to get in touch with Milt but no dice.

Finally, a few years ago I was in the South Plainfield Post Office and I asked a guy if he knew a guy named Milt Campbell. He said, "I'm from Plainfield and Milt was the best athlete that New Jersey ever produced." I said, "That's the guy and asked where he lives?"

He told me a place called Gainsville, Georgia. That was a few years ago. Tried to call Milt but there was no Milton Campbell listed. I said to myself, "I don't blame Milt. He doesn't need a million phone



Milton Campbell
December 9, 1933 -
November 2, 2012

calls." I read about Milt's death on Nov. 4. I realized then that the telephone was listed under Linda Rusch (Milton's wife's maiden name).

I sent the family a sympathy card and Linda sent me a copy of the funeral service and a picture of Milt. A welcome song was Unforgettable by Nat King Cole. I know and remember that song word for word. Nat King Cole was one of my favorites and I still have every record that he ever recorded.

Milton "Milt" Gray Campbell passed away on Nov. 2, 2012. He won the silver medal in the decathlon when he was still in High School (1952) and four years later won the Gold at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia.

The building where my fireplace shop was is still there Bucky Bulldog is no longer in the front window and the big electric scoreboard is gone. If that electric sign could come back, it would say, "Hi, my name is Milt Campbell and you can do anything in this life if you are willing to put forth the effort." I agree with Milt on that 100%. Thank God for letting me meet Milt Campbell and I will never forget him.

Thomas Francis Clark
Metuchen

Clarification

Press Release January 4, 2013
The Perth Amboy Democratic Organization wishes to clarify the following:

The Inaugural Reception being given to honor Mayor Wil da Diaz, Councilman Fernando Irizarry and Councilwoman Lisa Nanton is not being sponsored by our organization.

We have received numerous calls from Committee persons and individuals concerning this event. In looking at the invitation for this event scheduled for January 19, 2013 it seems the confusion is justifiable since the tickets state: "Perth Amboy Democrats".

We are not sponsoring the event it is being sponsored by the United for Perth Amboy (Mayor Diaz campaign committee).

In any event we would like to take this opportunity to send our best wishes to Mayor Diaz and the newly elected council members.

Executive Committee of the Perth Amboy Democratic Organization
Leslie Dominguez Rodriguez
Victor Collado
Barbara Sottilaro
Linda Lester
Martin Arroyo
Iris N. Rodriguez

Provident Bank Presents Toys to Perth Amboy Salvation Army



PERTH AMBOY - Provident Bank employees recently donated new toys to the Salvation Army of Perth Amboy. Pictured with the bags of toys are (from left) Yadisa Jerez, teller from Provident's Perth Amboy branch; Mike Raimonde, Provident's director of retail banking; Maj. Betzann Carroll, Salvation Army of Perth Amboy; and Mary Zambrano of Fords. Zambrano was also the second-place, \$1,000 winner in Provident's "Committed to Share" sweepstakes, who selected the Salvation Army of Perth Amboy to receive a \$1,000 matching donation from Provident. *Photo Submitted

Author Presentation



PERTH AMBOY - Pictured is Marilyn Millet Goldberg presenting a copy of the long-awaited, finally published "Perth Amboy's Jewish Community - History, Memories, Tribute to Patty Gandy, Director of the Perth Amboy Public Library and Herschel Chomsky, Senior Library Assistant.

The book, which was 12 years in the making was recently published. Best-selling author, Robert Spector, who grew up in Perth Amboy, penned the history. He is best-known for The Nordstrom Way: The Inside Story of America's #1 Customer Service Company, as well as many other insightful book classics about well-known American businesses. Alan Cheuse, a Perth Amboy native and professor of English at George Mason University also contributed to the project, Janet Bernstein Rabinowich, another Perth Amboy native, edited the book as did Daniel Chazin, grandson of Cantor Hirsch Chazin of Congregation Shaarey Tefiloh.

Along with Marilyn Millet Goldberg, Dr. Mona Shangold and Jane Sanders Leal, all Perth Amboy natives, were involved in every aspect of the book, which is a beautiful treasure telling the story of the immigrants, the synagogues, the clergy, businesses, people and much more.

For more information, please contact Ms. Goldberg at Marilynmgpa@aol.com.

*Photo submitted

Keep Those Letters Coming

Snowflakes for Newtown Children



Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - The 3rd Grade Students in Melissa Rainone's Class at Perth Amboy Catholic Primary School made snowflakes during the Christmas Holidays to send to the students at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut. The children wanted to let the students know how much they are thinking about them and how much they care about them.

**Photo courtesy of Perth Amboy Catholic School*

Entertainment

Movie Review: *The Hobbit*

By: Anton Massopust III
 "Adventure is not in maps or books....it's out there!"

The box office has been taken over by a Hobbit, Bilbo Baggins by name, in *The Hobbit – The Unexpected Journey*. The story has been split into three movies, of which this one is the first, even though the book is relatively short. A wizard named Gandalf approaches Bilbo and asks him to partake in an adventure. He is recruited by a group of dwarves to help them retake their homeland from a monstrous dragon named Smaug. Bilbo is very reluctant at first because he feels that adventures make one late for dinner but eventually joins the group as the 14th member of the Thorin Oakenshield group to recover the treasure and homeland from Smaug. Together they battle

trolls, a grey orc with one arm, a goblin king and his many minions, and of course Gollum. Many of the actors from the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy also were mentioned throughout and returned to play their parts in this film. Sir Ian McKellan played Gandalf, and Martin Freeman (who played Dr. Watson in the BBC series *Sherlock*) played the hobbit Bilbo Baggins. Dr. Who fans will be excited to see Sylvester McCoy playing a prominent role as the Radagast, the Brown Wizard of Mirkwood Forest.

This movie is filled with adventure, excitement, and huge special effects. It is heartwarming and intelligent. It is also shot in 3-D, so if you want to pay a little extra, it is worth every penny. It is a wonderful story that was well adapted

News Release

December 3, 2012

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - In recent days, we have all experienced the power of people joining together to help one another to build a stronger community. At the YMCA, strengthening community is our cause. The YMCA unites, engages and educates our communities to enable all people, especially youth and those who need us most, to maintain good health and to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.

With this important goal driving the work that we do each day, the eight YMCAs in Middlesex County have partnered together to offer our Y members access* to any of the partnering YMCAs in Middlesex County regardless of where they hold their official membership. *restrictions may apply and are at the discretion of the participating YMCA branch.

Participating YMCAs include Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge, South Amboy, Raritan Bay Area (Perth Amboy), Raritan Valley, South Brunswick Family and Old Bridge YMCA facilities.

This member reciprocity program offers convenience and flexibility to our members and demonstrates how membership dollars work harder by extending beyond one's home YMCA branch.

The YMCA focuses on strengthening our community through programs and services designed to develop our youth, promote healthy living and encourage social responsibly. And central to our mission as a leading non-profit organization, no one is turned away based on their ability to pay. At the Y, we believe that everyone has the right to grow

from the J. R. R. Tolkien story, and parts have been added to this new trilogy to extend its length. Congratulations to Peter Jackson for returning us to Middle Earth in style. My only quibble is that it might be a little too violent for younger children as some scenes are a bit too frightening for younger viewers, so judge wisely. Grade A plus, go see it for it is definitely worthy of being seen before Oscar time. Don't forget, Bilbo's journey continues in two more adventures – look for it!

YMCAs of Middlesex County Team Up & Offer Extraordinary Value to YMCA Members

and development to their full potential.

By working together across the county, our YMCA network is the largest provider of child care services (including summer day camp), aquatic programming and instruction along with wellness programs and services in Middlesex County.

Whether you are a current YMCA member or considering joining our family, there's certain to be a YMCA that's right for you.

Let our partnership work harder for you. For more information about the YMCAs of Middlesex County, visit their websites at:

www.ymcaofmewsaj.org (Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy YMCAs)

www.rbaymca.org (Raritan Bay Area YMCA, Perth Amboy)

www.raritanvalleyymca.org (Raritan Valley YMCA)

www.southbrunswickymca.org (South Brunswick Family YMCA)

www.ymcanj.org/oldbridge (Old Bridge Branch YMCA)

A Snapshot Of The YMCAs Of Middlesex County

Each of the eight participating Middlesex County Ys are as unique as the communities they serve. The programs and services offered at each Y bring a distinctive benefit to the partnership.

Here's a sample of some of the unique programs and services offered at the participating YMCAs:

Metuchen Branch YMCA (65 High Street Metuchen, NJ) with two pools, offers an extensive aquatic program for adults and youth members along with a state of the art wellness center, preschool and afterschool programs as well as comprehensive programs for seniors.

Edison Branch YMCA (1775 Oak Tree Road, Edison, NJ) is a unique collaboration with the JCC of Middlesex County and has just undergone a 6,000 square foot expansion of its wellness and educational program areas, offering a state of the art fitness experience for members in mid December 2012. In addition, the Edison Y offers a licensed pre-school and afterschool program as well as aquatic instruction to its members.

Woodbridge Branch YMCA (600 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ) runs a full range of YMCA programs and services in the Woodbridge Community Center. This YMCA branch is a jewel in the town of

Woodbridge offering fitness, aquatics, after school care, preschool and summer camp to its members and township residents.

South Amboy Branch YMCA (200 John T. O'Leary Blvd, South Amboy, NJ) is located on the shores of the Raritan Bay in downtown South Amboy, offering a full service YMCA experience for the entire community of South Amboy, Parlin and Sayreville.

Raritan Bay Area YMCA – Perth Amboy (357 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861) A Licensed Afterschool Care Provider. GED classes, Youth Sports, Arts, Swim Lessons, a wide variety of fitness equipment and machines, Les Mills Fitness Classes, Cycling classes, spectacular pools, a 200 seat Community Theater, a double gymnasium, an indoor track, steam rooms and saunas are the amenities within the facility. Our vibrant community atmosphere will truly be the highlight of your visit to Perth Amboy.

Raritan Valley YMCA (144 Tices Lane, East Brunswick, NJ) In addition to a full complement of YMCA programs, the Raritan Valley Y offers a great variety of wellness classes. Members can participate in various aerobic classes from the challenging, yet fun, spin classes to popular Zumba, Step, and Body Pump classes. Classes are also available for seniors, including the popular nationwide Silver Sneakers program.

South Brunswick Family YMCA (329 Culver Road Monmouth Jct, NJ) offers a full facility YMCA and is adding a new class to its Zumba lineup. Zumba Santeo is a fresh look at the classic Zumba dance fitness class by adding a chair into the mix. The chair is meant to take the workout to the next level, but maintains the idea that anyone can partake in Zumba.

Old Bridge Branch YMCA (1 Mannino Park, Old Bridge, NJ) A branch of the YMCA of Western Monmouth County, the state-of-the art Old Bridge YMCA features a full size gymnasium, Olympic-sized pool, an aerobic/wellness studio and modern Health & Wellness Center complete with cardio and strength training equipment. Supplementing these amenities are more than 60 fitness classes, along with aquatic classes, adult and youth sports programs, summer camp, babysitting, a Tween Lounge and many other offerings.

Editorial

Continued From Page 4

Bobby also would be part of a group of retired police officers and friends who would hold a scholarship fundraiser twice a year at the Armory in memory of Police Officer Walter (Gibby) Gibson. That was a great event where they took over the entire restaurant except for the main dining room on the first floor.

I remember being on a bus ride to Baltimore Inner Harbor for a Crabfest and going down all you could hear was the laughter of Bobby all the way down.

He also loved the pig roast at Hy Tavern in Perth Amboy. Bobby loved his big family, which also included all the lives that he touched. Rest in Peace, Bones. *C.M.*

Tax Facts

Continued From Page 9

property and (2) make an election to defer the gain. If you make the election, you'll have a current taxable gain only to the extent insurance proceeds exceed what you spend to repair or replace the affected property..

Conclusions

Disaster victims may receive other types of insurance reimbursements and assistance that can

have important tax implications. Please contact us if you want more information about anything

covered in this letter, or if you have any other questions. We are here to help.

Returning Campers are Invited to a Camp S.A.Y. Reunion

News Release

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Branch YMCA will be hosting a 2012 Camper Reunion for all children who attended Camp S.A.Y. this past summer. The Reunion will be held on Saturday, January 12th from 2-4pm at the YMCA located at 200 John T. O'Leary Blvd in South Amboy, NJ.

Join us for games, crafts, swimming and refreshments. This is a great opportunity to reconnect with your summer friends and camp counselors! Parents will be able to share their ideas on how to make this summer more fun for their children. Special pricing for all returning campers that register for 2013 Camp during the reunion.

For any new families that are interested in learning more about our Summer Camp, please attend an Open House to learn more. Open House Dates are scheduled on Tuesday, January 29 from 5:30-7:30pm, Saturday, February 23 from 11am-1pm and Tuesday, February 26 from 5:30-7:30pm.

Register for our Camp Reunion online at www.ymcaofmews.org, by calling Mike Tonzola at 732-316-8205, or emailing Mike Manfre @ mike.manfre@ymcaofmews.org. Our 2013 Camp Brochure will be available at www.ymcaofmews.org by January 2, 2013.

Senior Scene

Happenings

Perth Amboy

WED. Jan. 9

- 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 St
- Holy Trinity Seniors, 1 p.m., Church Hall, Lawrie & Johnstone St

THURS. Jan. 10

- The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

MON. Jan. 14

- St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.

TUES. Jan. 15

- Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.
- Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.

South Amboy

WED. Jan. 9

- South Amboy Seniors, noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.

MON. Feb. 4

- St. Mary's Seniors, noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.

Edison

AARP #3446

EDISON - Edison AARP Chapter #3446 will meet on Monday, January 21st, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Hall, 167 Bower Avenue, Edison, NJ. Mr. Walter Stochel Jr. of the Metuchen-Edison Historical Society will present a program on the history of North Edison. A day trip

to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse is scheduled for February 6. Call Angie at 732-738-0759 for information. For information on the Knitting and Crocheting Club, call Kay at 732-548-1976. Canned food for MCFOOD and misc. items for nursing homes and hospitals will be collected at the meeting.

We are on the web!!!!

www.amboyguardian.com

*Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 15*



LOOKING BACK



WOODBIDGE - Woolworth's Five & Dime 1950's

**Photo courtesy of Perth Amboy Free Public Library*

This Photo was restored under a grant for the Kearny Cottage Archiving project by the Middlesex Cultural and Heritage Commission

Attn: If Your Club changes Your Schedule due to the Holidays Please give us two weeks notice! 732-896-4446 or 732-261-2610

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Prayer To The Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail)

O Most Beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). **K.M.**

Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. You must publish it, and it will be granted to you.

Prayer To The Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail)

O Most Beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). **N.L.**

Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. You must publish it, and it will be granted to you.

Prayer To Saint Jude

To be said when problems arise or when one seems to be deprived of all visible help, or for cases almost despaired of.

Most holy Apostle, St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor who delivered our beloved Father into the hands of His enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the Church honors and invokes you universally, as the patron and invokes you universally, as the patron of hopeless cases, of things almost despaired of. Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Make use I implore you, of that particular privilege given to you, to 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 *(Here make your request)* and that I may praise God with you and all the elect forever. I promise, O blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor, to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen. **I.N.S.**

Scholarship Gala

NEW BRUNSWICK - There will be a Scholarship Gala, New Brunswick Lights Shining Bright on Saturday, March 2 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Brunswick. Mayor James Cahill '72, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, and New Brunswick Tomorrow will be honored. For more information visit www.mcc-foundation.org or call 732-906-2564.

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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.**

Cost \$10. Pre-payment required.

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Address _____

Phone (____) _____

Initials at end of prayer _____

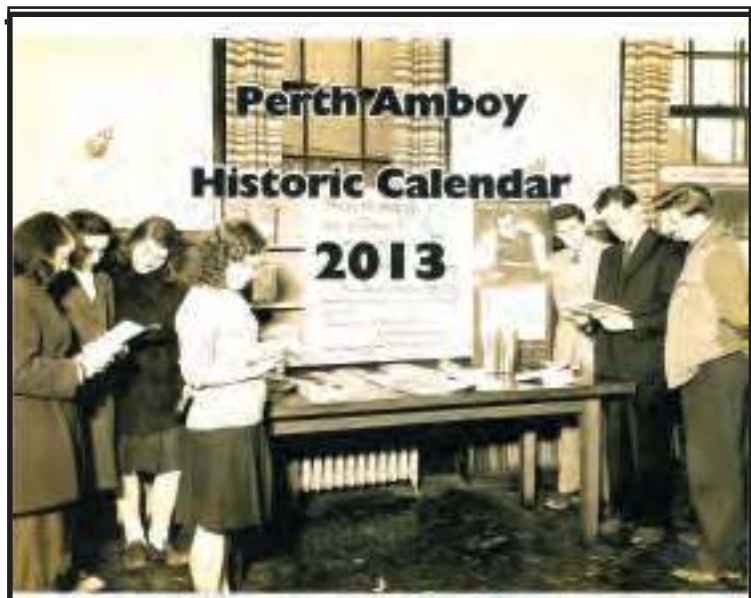
Please circle one prayer, and return form with check or money order to:

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P.O. Box 127
Perth Amboy, NJ
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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.**



Historic Perth Amboy Calendars For Sale

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library and The Kearny Cottage Historical Society have teamed up to create Historical Calendars with never before seen photos of Historic Perth Amboy. Calendars are \$10 each and are available at the Raritan Bay Coffee Company at the Historic Train Station, Perth Amboy City Hall, High Street, Fertigs Dept. Store, 195 New Brunswick Ave, and the Reo Diner, Woodbridge. For more info call 732-293-1090.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Prayer To St. Claire | For Employment | Prayer To St. Jude |
| Prayer To Blessed Mother | Prayer To Holy Spirit | Novena To St. Anthony |
| Prayer To Blessed Virgin | Thanksgiving Novena | Novena To St. Joseph |
| St. Jude Novena | Pray The Rosary | OTHER _____ |

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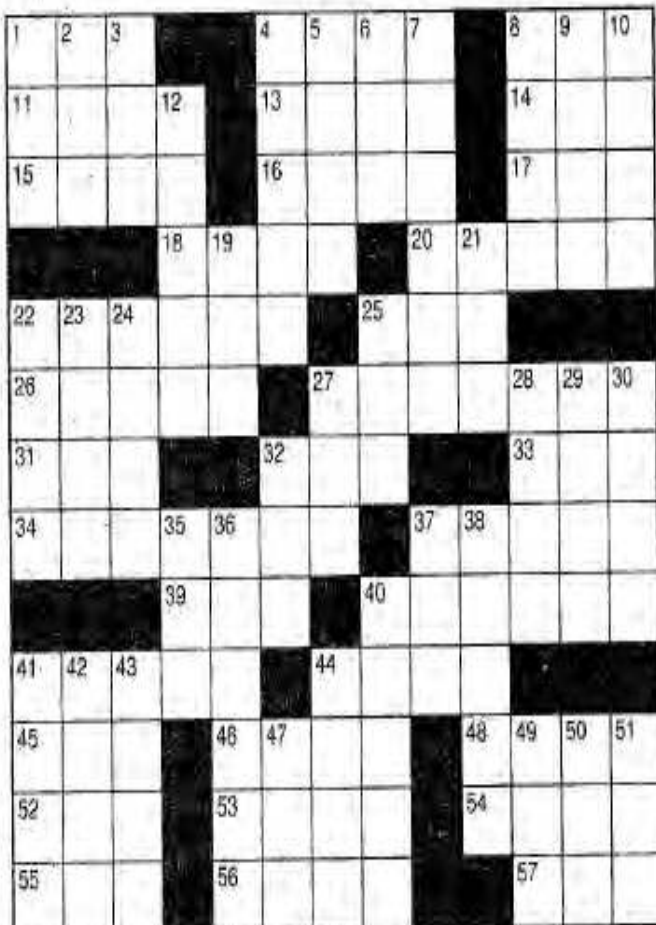
- 1 Ike's monogram
- 4 Mirthful laugh (2 wds.)
- 8 Sci. room
- 11 Currency unit in France
- 13 "Famous" cookie maker
- 14 "Are you a man ___ mouse?" (2 wds.)
- 15 Playwright Coward
- 16 Rents out
- 17 Four-star officer (abbr.)
- 18 Branding tool
- 20 Moved upward
- 22 Bread units
- 25 Caustic cleanser
- 26 Bancroft and Baxter
- 27 Detest
- 31 Natalie Cole's father
- 32 Chinese chairman
- 33 Pig's digs
- 34 Prepared for prayer
- 37 Appreciate highly
- 39 Opposite of pos.
- 40 Police warnings
- 41 Chinese bells
- 44 Serve
- 45 Abel's mother
- 46 Comparative word
- 48 Native minerals

DOWN

- 1 Lion's home
- 2 Twosome
- 3 Poetic "before"
- 4 Angels' circlets
- 5 Hymnal word
- 6 Smoldering
- 7 Analyzes minerals
- 8 Company's identifying symbol

- 9 Greek war god
- 10 Curse
- 12 Martini garnish
- 19 Home (abbr.)
- 21 Dem.'s opponent
- 22 Skinny and tall
- 23 "___ Island with You" (2 wds.)
- 24 Gambling stake
- 25 Feline zodiac sign
- 27 Papa
- 28 Capri, e.g.
- 29 Flabbergast
- 30 Tornado middles
- 32 Actress Foster
- 35 Liverpool's

- 36 ___ Flatt of country music
- 37 Wine, in Paret
- 38 Passion
- 40 Smell or taste
- 41 Actor Richard of "Sommerby"
- 42 Speedway shape
- 43 Hairdo holders
- 44 Infield cover, for short
- 47 "Bali ___"
- 49 River (Sp.)
- 50 Pointy-eared sprite
- 51 Ensemble





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