

• VOL. 3 NO. 1 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2013 •

Mayor Diaz Delivers State of the City

Asm. Craig Coughlin Does Intro Rocky Start turns into Admiration



Assemblyman Craig Coughlin introduces Mayor Diaz

PERTH AMBOY - Before Mayor Diaz stepped to the podium to deliver her State of the City Speech on 3/19/13, Assemblyman Craig Coughlin reminisced about his and the Mayor's rocky start.

Mayor Diaz, who began her first Mayoral term in 2008 was at the Forge Hotel around January 2009. Coughlin was one of three candidates which included Judge Mathias Rodriguez of Perth Amboy who was hoping to win the Democratic Party's Nomination to run for the Assembly for the 19th District

Coughlin said, "Diaz was not a supporter of mine at first. She stuck up for another candidate for the Assembly. But Diaz answered the City's call when she ran. There was a debt of \$250 million and low morale when she came in. She reduced the debt by \$54 million. Diaz worked with the State, Legislatures and NJ Transit to bring more businesses to the City. She also brought \$600 million in projects into the town." Road paving, revitalization of the Tennis Courts and 1000 volunteers for beach cleanup were other items mentioned by Coughlin.

He concluded, "She still has much work to be done but I'm glad she is on my side."

When Mayor Diaz came up



Mayor Wilda Diaz gives the State of the City Address at the YMCA

*Photos by Paul W. Wang

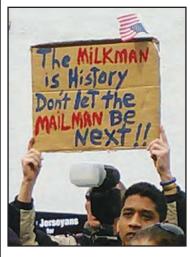
to speak, she told Coughlin how much she appreciated the hard work that he's done. She also thanked Freeholder Ron Rios, Senator Joe Vitale, her family, staff, the City Council and City employees. She also welcomed Frank Pallone, Jr. to the City (who now has a satellite office in Olive Street). Diaz paid tribute to the recent passing of former Councilman and former City Historian Jack M. Dudas. (flags were flown at half-staff in his memory.) She also mentioned the passing of Bobby Carter who was a well known Detective and Tennis Instructor in the City.

In the heart of her speech, Mayor Diaz talked about the Goals she has set forth which includes openness, honesty and dialogue to unify the City. She continued with, "We have rebounded from a failing economy and have reduced the budget for the second year in a row. The budget has been cut by over \$4 million since 2010. "The City was denied transitional aid because the City is on the right financial track. But we still have a long way to go for financial stability. S & P (Standard and Poor) gave a positive financial outlook to the City. We are creating surpluses. We have a real rebuild-

Continued on Page 2

USA for 6 Days Delivering for America 3-24-13





PERTH AMBOY - An estimated crowd of 1100 postal union workers, supporters and Union Officials rallied on Jefferson Street in front of the Post Office. This rally was the only one held in the State of New Jersey. It was to uphold 6 day mail delivery.

Tables were set up where people could sign a petition to keep six day mail delivery. T-Shirts that said "Delivering



For America" were given out to those who signed the petition.

Photo (top right) Grady Fitzgerald, Larry Adams and Bobby Blum. Photo (right) Carol Gaze IUC, Ray Winegrad, and Carol Rasmus, Dir. of Ed. NJSALC *Photos by Paul W. Wang, Carolyn Maxwell and Katherine Massopust



South Amboy Pays Seven Property Tax Appeal Refunds

By: Joseph L. Kuchie

The City of South Amboy passed seven resolutions last Wednesday rewarding a number of local residents their property tax appeals.

A total of \$25, 765.49 was rewarded to seven different households in South Amboy following appeals through the Tax Court of New Jersey. Each appeal was for the years 2011 and 2012 and averaged about \$3,680 per home.

According to the tax map, each appeal came from properties located on Lighthouse Drive. Each property saw a reduction in assessed value between \$100,000-200,000 from 2011 to 2012 and each received a tax adjustment of over \$3000.

The Chief Financial Officer of South Amboy has been instructed to draw a check for each household no later than March 29, 2013.

The city also passed a resolution issuing a tax refund to a family on Raritan Street. According to Resolution 57-2013, an overpayment was made by Register Settlement Services, Inc. of \$1,421.46 and the company has request-

ed that the refund be sent directly to the homeowners.

The city's CFO has been authorized to issue the family a check for the said refund.

Mayor Henry thanked everyone involved in the city's St. Patrick's Day Parade. He said the Police Department did a very good job of keeping the streets safe and making the day a very family oriented atmosphere.

Councilman Donald Applegate and Councilwoman Zusette Dato were not in attendance for the meeting.

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Diaz Speech

Continued from Page 1 ing plan and transparency with our lenders. There are government services available to our residences and businesses. We have capitol improvement programs. We just received a new fire engine. The Jefferson Parking Deck improvements and automated garbage pickups with the new garbage truck."

She mentioned redevelopment sites, the City Business Plan and a reassessment of business plans and the creation of a new business handbook.

There have been cleanup grants for the brownfields and \$4.5 million in funds for street improvements and environmental cleanups such as the Goldberg Property. "It is important to support new and existing businesses. We closed on the Veridian Property in January of this year. Perth Amboy has a lot of assets. We look forward to an economic turnaround that will stimulate growth and help with taxes."

Diaz welcomed several new businesses who came into town and established businesses who opened up branches in Perth Amboy. She also made reference to the Waterfront Comeback, specifically the Barge Restaurant which reopened in January and the Armory which is expected to reopen in May.

To those affected by Hurricane Sandy, the SBA (Small Business Association) and FEMA deadlines to sign up for assistance is April 1, 2013.

She reiterated what Assemblyman Coughlin said about the 1000 volunteers for the beach cleanup due to Hurricane Sandy which caused \$10 million in damage to the City.

Funds of \$1.7 million from a coastal repair grant will be used for repairing walkways, piers and the beach front.

She gave an update on some of the historic areas in town such as the Surveyor General's Office which is undergoing renovations and the Public Library repairs which is in Phase 1 with improvements of the interior on the main floor. The Mayor also gave kudos to the volunteers of the library. Diaz also thanked the nonprofit organizations such as the Jewish Renaissance, Catholic Charities and PRAHD (Puerto Rican Association for Human Development). The First Time Home Buyers Program was also mentioned as she thanked the staff who assisted the residents in this program.

The Recreation Department added new water events such as kayaking. "There were over 40 new events for seniors besides events for youth and

The State of the City Address 3/19/13 *Photos by Paul W. Wang & Carolyn Maxwell



Mayor Diaz gives her speech



An attentive audience



Mayor Wilda Diaz with family



Mayor Diaz, Council Members, Staff and Her Father

families (swimming programs and family day)."

Diaz thanked those who supported Celebrate the Ambovs Fireworks, "We hope to do it again this year."

The Fire Department was mentioned for the great job they did during the fires we had last year. "The Fire Department has programs for the visually and hearing impaired." She wished to thank Larry Cattano and his team for the great job they did during the recent storms. Also the YMCA, the school staff and American Red Cross were thanked for their assistance

during the storm. She wished to thank her staff and entire workforce for the job they did.

At the end of her speech, Diaz said, "We've had visionaries and leaders of the past 300 years."

At the end of her speech, she quoted President John F. Kennedy. The quote was, "For I can assure you, that we love our country, not for what it was, though it has always been great - not for what it is, though of this we are deeply proud - but for it someday can, and through the efforts of us all, someday will be."

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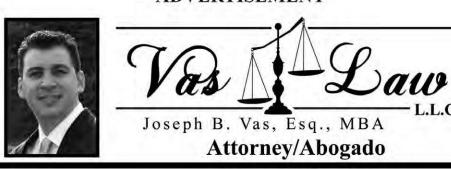
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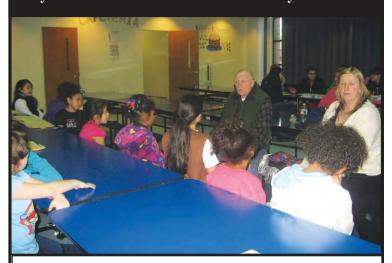
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City Historian Gives Talk to Perth Amboy Girl Scouts



PERTH AMBOY - City Historian Anton J. Massopust and Stories From Pert Amboy Author, Katherine Massopust gave a talk on Perth Amboy History to the Perth Amboy Girl Scouts Troop 80253 Junior, and Troop 80713 on Friday, March 22 at the E.J. Patten School. Troop Leaders are Mrs. Delores Rambajau, Mrs. Angela Bess, Mrs. Miriam Crespo, and Virginia Rivera.

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

Happy Hour Workshop

OLD BRIDGE - Raritan Bay Medical Center's Division of Integrative Medicine is offering a Happy Hour workshop Wednesdays, April 10 and 24, 7 to 8 p.m., at the hospital's Old Bridge location, One Hospital Plaza. Join Denise Reisert, EMP/RCP, and Robin Matteo, EMP, for an hour of positivity, transformation and connection that will leave you feeling more open and uplifted. 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-DOCTORS (1-800-362-8677).

> Ads Sell Call Carolyn 732-896-4446

Is Weight Loss Surgery Right For Me

OLD BRIDGE - Raritan Bay Medical Center is sponsoring a seminar "Is Weight Loss Surgery Right For Me?" Monday, April 8, 7 to 8 p.m. at its Old Bridge location. The informative event will focus on weight loss surgery including discussion on Roux-En-Y Gastric Bypass, Adjustable Gastric Banding, and Gastric Sleeve; Dr. Seun Sowemimo will lead discussions on the concerns surrounding weight loss surgery as well as its successes. Family and friends are welcome. The meeting will be held in Auxiliary Hall B & C located on the lower level of the Medical Arts Building, adjacent to RBMC Old Bridge on Ferry Rd. between Routes 9 & 18. For more information, call 1-855-TIME-4-ME (1-855-846-3463).

Patriotic Window Painting Contest

SOUTH AMBOY - All Residents (especially South Amboy students) are invited to participate in our Memorial Day Window Painting Contest. It's easy to enter, just submit your drawing to Amy Coman at the Senior/Recreation Office at the YMCA, 2nd floor by May 3rd. If your drawing is chosen to be painted on a Broadway store, you will then be called and given a window location for your painting. We supply the brushes and paint. Painting will be done from Wednesday, May 15th to Friday, May 17th.

Tour of The Berkow Maternity Pavilion

PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center's monthly tour of The Berkow Maternity Pavilion and family health information open house will be held Wednesday, April 10, at 5, 6 or 7 p.m. Newly expectant parents can tour the pavilion and learn valuable information about child car seat safety and infant CPR and receive a list of local pediatricians. Participants are asked to meet in the main lobby of the hospital's Perth Amboy location, 530 New Brunswick Ave. Registration required, call 1.800. DOCTORS (1.800.362.8677).

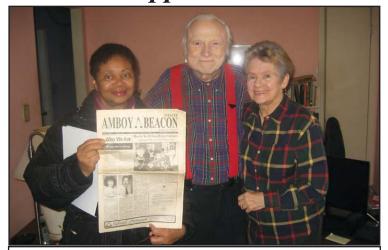
Wellness Through Tai Chi/Qigong OLD BRIDGE - Raritan Bay

Medical Center's Division of Integrative Medicine is offering a Wellness Through Tai Chi/Qigong class Mondays, April 15 through April 29 and May 6 through 27, 7 to 8:15 p.m., at the hospital's Old Bridge location, Auxiliary Hall B & C located on the lower level of the Medical Arts Building, adjacent to RBMC Old Bridge on Ferry Rd. between Routes 9 & 18. Tai Chi and Qigong (energy work) emphasizes a calm mind and relaxed body, deep breathing with slow, even movements, correct posture and body alignment and stability, balance and coordination. Presented by Tai Chi/Qigong Practitioner Rich Lund, MS. Cost is \$40 for the five week program. For more information and to register, call 1-800-DOCTORS (1-800-362-8677), or email integrativemedicine@rbmc.org.

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

In Appreciation



Carolyn Maxwell receives the Vol. 1, No. 1 of the Amboy Beacon from Peter Book who is joined by his wife, Annette.

*Photo by Katherine Massopust

There was a voice mail on my phone from Mr. Peter Book a.k.a. Pedro Libro. His voice was very excited as he told me that he found a copy of the very first Amboy Beacon dated September 8, 1993, Vol. 1, No. 1. He told me he wanted me to have this copy and he would meet me wherever and whenever I agreed upon.

We met at Mr. Book's house and my associate Katherine Massopust took a photo.

On the front page was a photo of Bill George listing him as the Editor, and Phyllis Steigelman as publisher. Bill and Phyllis had quite an extensive background in the Newspaper business. It was quite impressive. I knew of Bill's background, but this was the first time I was exposed to Ms. Steigelman's credentials.

Throughout the paper there was congratulations from the then governor, Jim Florio, the Mayors at the time, of South Amboy Jack O'Leary and his Council, and Perth Amboy, Joe Vas, and Woodbridge Mayor McGreevy and his family, Asm. Bob Menendez and other local politicians.

On the back cover was a full page ad from a local grocery store. Although the issue will be 20 years old this September, surprisingly some prices in that store circular have not changed that much.

They had a 2 liter bottle of Pepsi-Cola listed for 99 Cents. And today, I can find Pepsi listed for that same price in a

2 liter bottle.

Peter Book was mentioned for a book he wrote called, "Pages From A Book." Book was described in the Amboy Beacon as one of Perth Amboy's most talented writers. Jack M. Dudas who was a Councilman at that time was also mentioned in that first issue in a letter to the editor written by John Siberry.

Peter Book, as everyone knows is alive and well but unfortunately Jack M. Dudas passed away on March 15, 2013

Below is a photo of a resident who is now on the Historic Preservation Commission with myself. He wrote a column in the first Amboy Beacon. Do you recognize him?



These are just a few interesting items I found in the paper.

Mr. Book gave me a copy of a book written by his sister, Mary Book Farmer called, "When We Were Children: Vignettes of Our Growing Up Years In the Depression."

I glanced through some of the chapters and it's a very good read. The Book children grew up in a very loving home and talked about the Perth Amboy they loved so much. What impressed me the most is the love and respect the Book children showed for each other and their parents. *C.M.*

"AMBOY GUARDIAN

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THE COMMUNITY VOICE

The Myth of Class Ranking

Why is it that a number defines a person's intelligence? Why is it that they put so much pressure on those who are looking for success? Everyone should be equal no matter their abilities. There are some individuals who are not at a higher rank because of problems at home, how can a number dictate your intelligence? What if you are smart but are not a good test taker? What if your health does not allow you to succeed as much as you want to? What if you are not in a good psychological state? What if just maybe we got rid of ranks? It is just a number defining who you are... it is just unfair.

Class ranking works the same as school ranking. It is measure without a concrete scale. Perth Amboy High School, for example, ranked 320 out of 328 high schools in New Jersey (NJMonthly). Our school is LABELED as one of the worse schools in New Jersey, yet we have students being accepted into top universities and colleges across the country. Our 2011 valedictorian, Rony Cepeda, is currently attending Harvard University. Harvard University is one of the prestigious colleges in the world, well-known everywhere. 2012 graduate, Rosa, is attending Brown University and Joshua Nunez is attending George Washington University. They all received scholarships and are currently excelling in their schools, yet Perth Amboy High School is ranked 320. 2013 graduates are getting accepted into prestigious schools. Heidy Mendez was accepted into Brown University and Narlyn Veliz was accepted into Princeton University. They will both attend these universities in the fall and show that our school is not 320; it is number 1.

There are many more acceptance letters coming for this year, and we can all say that a number should not label a person's intelligence and a schools rank. We are all number one; we are all aiming for the goal of SUCCESS!

Jaritza Rodriguez Perth Amboy High School student

Class of 2013

Good Democrats

How surprising to see a paid political ad in last week's edition of the Amboy Guardian with former mayoral candidates Frank Salado, Miguel Morales and Bob McCoy surrounding current Mayor Diaz encouraging all to "unite" for the good of the Democratic party.

I didn't know there was a "way" for a democrat to be better than another democrat. What I come away with after reading Mayor Diaz's political ad is that the best way to be a good democrat is to be a democrat like she is. But isn't that the same reason the three other democratic s became candidates for mayor and decided to run against Diaz?

Defeated Mayoral candidate Miguel Morales of Mayor Diaz's leadership efforts "With all due respect you are not a full time mayor, the business administrator is," (Amboy Guardian Oct. 26, 2012)

Defeated Mayoral candidate Frank Salado on Mayor Diaz's handling of our police department "According to the crime statistics, at least one crime is occurring in Perth Amboy every five hours," Salado said. "We have recently had shootings, and last week a 20-year-old boy was stabbed to death. Something needs to be done." (Amboy Guardian Oct. 26, 2012)

Defeated Mayoral candidate Bob McCoy on Mayor Diaz's inability to stabilize taxes, "I propose to repackage those previous construction projects that would expand the city's tax base and introduce new tax revenues to help stabilize local taxes." (Amboy Guardian Oct. 23, 2012)

Since they all are on the same team now I guess Mr. Morales is agreeable to a part-time mayor, Mr.Salado is content with a soaring crime rate and Mr. McCoy believes stabilizing taxes should no longer be a priority.

Truth is the Diaz way to be a democrat was defeated with 65% of our registered voters wanting change. If all of you want to be good democrats, ensure that by the time the next election comes around, the winner will need a mandatory 51% or more of the majority to hold office. That's being a good democrat.

Tommy Hudanish

Happy Memories

One of the joys of St. Patrick's Day and the coming of Easter and Spring is watching the TV films of The Quiet Man with John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara. It is the story of a retired prize fighter who goes back to Castletown, Ireland, the place of his birth. He winds up with Maureen O'Hara as his wife. My own life is similar. After retiring from the airlines I found my own version of Maureen in Annette, my own hometown Colleen.

When we started flying to Europe in Lockheed Constellation four engine propeller flights, Shannon Airport was a most welcome refueling stop after a long 9 hour flight from Gander, Newfoundland. And the stay at Limerick while the plane continued on to Frankfurt was comforting and fascinating

On one of our flights we ran into a problem while in the traffic pattern of Shannon Airport. Our landing gear failed to fall into position. We alerted the airport while we frantically tried to lower the gear manually by pumping a lever. Meanwhile they started the crash crew to prepare for a belly landing. After the captain and copilot failed to manually crank down the gear it was my turn to handle the lever. I pumped with all my might. Just as I was about to give up the gear dropped into place. We had a normal landing. Thank God! Whew!

I can appreciate the concern that my dear friend and neighbor Dan Dooley, the retired U.S. Air Force Sergeant, has for Dundalk, the Irish city on the North Sea's side of Ireland on his periodic visits and his postcards and Irish tea.

Thanks Dan for Happy Memories!

Thank you for your courtesies.

Very truly yours, Peter Book/a.k.a. Pedro Libro



Continued on Page 12





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WOODBRIDGE VETERINARY GROUP.

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

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.

HIV Support

PERTH AMBOY — Raritan Bay Medical Center is sponsoring an HIV support group meeting on Monday's 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.

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.

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

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

TUES. Mar. 26 Board of Education, 6 p.m. PAHS, Eagle Ave.

WED. Mar. 27 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.

City Hall, High St.

City Hall, High St.

TUES. Apr. 9 UEZ, 6 p.m.

City Hall, High St. BID, 7 p.m.

South Amboy

WED. Apr. 3 City Council, Business, 6 p.m.

City Hall, N. Broadway

WED. Apr. 17 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway

PERTH AMBOY - The Thursday, March 28, 2013 Historic Preservation Meeting is cancelled.

Atlantic City Bus Trip

Sunday, April 14, 2013

Departure 9 a.m. sharp at Middlesex Co. VoTech,
Corner of Washington & High St.

\$32 per person (21 & over) Bring ID \$25 Voucher from Bally's.

Free snacks, drink and entertainment Come join us for fun and surprises

732-347-4001 or 732-904-6844

Sponsored by PARO



Watch for our next Business Meet N' Greet

Sponsors Needed

PERTH AMBÔY - Please Join us for the 3rd Business Meet N' Greet at The Barge Perth Amboy. Free buffet. The 2nd Meet N' Greet was very successful with over 60 business-people attending. The guest speaker was Milton J. Paris President Getting Ahead in Business who spoke about "The Perfect Business Plan." Looking for exclusive sponsors for the next Meet N' Greet for a onetime fee of \$300 for the year. For info on becoming a sponsor and when the next Meet N' Greet will be, contact Milton at 732-306-0040 or e-mail: milton@gettingaheadinbusiness.com

Reviving the Raritan Part Two

PERTH AMBOY - Last year, we presented the documentary Rescuing the River. This year, come see the new movie by Rutgers: "Re-Imagining Our Watershed: Renaissance on the Raritan," Wednesday, March 27- Doors open 6:30 p.m. Film 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy. -Free with Introduction by Dr. Judy Shaw, Director, Raritan River Initiative and John Jengo, Principal Hydrologist. RSVP tracyjord@gmail.com. Learn more at http://blueraritan.org/campaigns/

We Keep You Moving OLD BRIDE - The Human

OLD BRIDE - The Human Motion Institute at Raritan Bay Medical Center is sponsoring a free "We Keep You Moving" Total Joint Replacement Education session. Wednesday, April 3, 8 a.m. to Il a.m., at the medical center's Old Bridge location 3 Hospital Plaza. Session will be presented by clinical specialists. Registration required, call 732 - 535-4746.

Free Blood Pressure Screenings

PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center is offering free blood pressure screenings Wednesday, April 3, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., at Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Lower Level, Perth Amboy. High blood pressure is associated with stroke, heart failure, heart attack and other life threatening conditions. Take advantage of this free screening to know your pressure levels and basic steps to regulate and maintain healthy blood pressure levels.

Healthy Eating

OLD BRIDGE - Raritan Bay Medical Center's Division of Integrative Medicine is sponsoring a free "Healthy Eating" nutrition series. Antioxidants for Good Health will be held Tuesday, April 2, 7 to 8 p.m., at the medical center's Old Bridge location, 3 Hospital Plaza. Come learn about how antioxidants can boost your immune system and keep you healthy all-year long. The event is presented by Kaitlyn McGowan, RD, from the Institute for Weight Loss at Raritan Bay Medical Center. Food samples will be provided. Cost is \$5 per person. For more information and to register, call 1.800.DOCTORS (1-800-362-8677), or email integrativemedicine@rbmc.org.

USA for 6 Days Delivering For America Rally 3/24/13

*Photos by Carolyn Maxwell & Katherine Massopust



Sign says it all



R. O'Connell & R. Winegrad



A young supporter says, "5 Day - No Way!" & Military Families support Saturday Delivery

St. Patrick's Day - Olive Street Perth Amboy

*Photos by Bob Ned











Perth Amboy Residents Call for New Approach to Mental Health Treatment

Press Release March 24, 2013 There is a group of Perth Amboy tenants on a unique quest for health. On Saturday, in the Harbortown section of Perth Amboy, this group of residents showed off their cooperative garden effort to friends and family and transferred their sprouted winter plants into patio planters. The collective consists of residents of a Perth Amboy location of a mental health service and housing provider called SERV. 14 gathered in May of 2012 to address a common grievance about site rules. They evolved into a drop-in style self-help group. 21 of the 30 residents of the SERV Perth Amboy apartments have attended a monthly meetings in their apartments.

The planting took place outside of some of the residents' apartments. Present were 10 residents, 9 of their friends, neighbors and family members, Rutgers professor Mark Lamar and his wife Michelle-

also a gardener, and 2 SERV staff members. The group built two snap pea trellises from bamboo, paint sticks and string, and transferred a spinach crop to a wooden "repurposed" patio planter (previously a piece of store display furniture). Plantings included snap peas, broccoli and some pencil pod beans and displayed 5 sprouted seedlings of various leafy green plants. In the future other plants will include tomatoes, peppers, basil, and 3 other bean varieties.

The name of the Friends became People United for Self Help & More (PUSHM), mission and vision statements, and a logo. The vision statement is signed by 10 Perth Amboy SERV residents. It includes items such as "we would like our privacy respected" and "we want a community that includes us in forming of policies and programs..." and "we would like peer support specialists hired into the (SERV) organization."

Mental Health Garden - Perth Amboy *Photos by Joe Bayona



Family Friends and Participants



Preparing the boxes for planting

Happy Easter!







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FORDS - Students at Our Lady of Peace School prepared an Easter Basket to be given to residents of St. Joseph's Senior Home in Woodbridge.

*Photos submitted

Easter Egg Hunt

PERTH AMBOY - There will be an Easter Egg Hunt at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 30th City Hall Circle, 260 High St. "Games, Prizes, Goodie Bags & Much More"

> Easter Breakfast

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Elks Lodge No. 784, 601 Washington Ave., will hold a Breakfast With the Easter Bunny 9 a.m. - 12 noon Saturday, March 30. Menu will includes scrambled eggs, bacon, sausages, pancakes, hash browns and more. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$3 for children ages 8-12; children under age 8 free. Proceeds to benefit the Parade Committee.

Easter Festival

WOODBRIDGE - Saturday, March 30 at Parker Press Park, 400 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. Egg Hunt 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Easter Parade & Pictures with the Easter Bunny from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Dress up in your Fancy Clothes. Prizes will be given. Pictures sponsored by Walgreens. For more info call the Woodbridge Recreation Dept. at 732-596-4048. For weather updates call 732-602-6045.

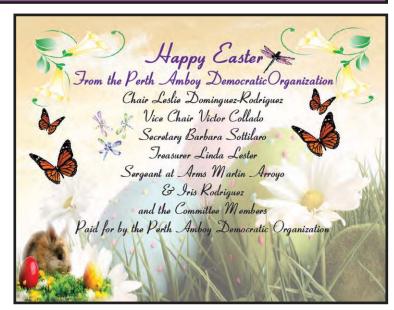


Happy Easter!



Easter Pageant

PERTH AMBOY - There will be an Easter Pageant on Sunday, March 31st at 2 p.m. at the Municipal Complex (YMCA) Theatre Room, 365 New Brunswick Avenue "Come out and join us in your Sunday's Best" The categories are: Infant – 3 years old * 4 – 5 years old * 6 – 7 years old * 8 – 10 years old. For additional information, please call the Office of Recreation 732-826-1690 ext. 4306













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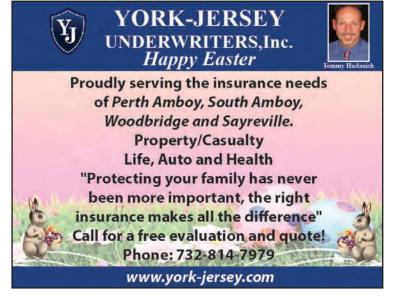
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Wishing you a Happy Easter



Happy Easter!





Holy Week and Easter Services at Cathedral International

press release

PERTH AMBOY – Everyone is welcome to attend these services held at Cathedral International, 277 Madison Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ.

Holy Wednesday, March 27 7 p.m., Evening of the Arts & Sunday School Easter Pageant Maundy Thursday, March 28 7 p.m., Last Supper and Washing of feet

Good Friday, March 29 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross, Baptism and 7 pm, Seven Last Sayings of Christ

Easter Sunday, March 31 6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service - Bagels and coffee fellowship following this service.
8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1:00 p.m., Worship Services
Additional information is available by calling 732.826-5293 or visiting the web at www.cathedralinternational. org.



Happy Easter From the Amboy Guardian





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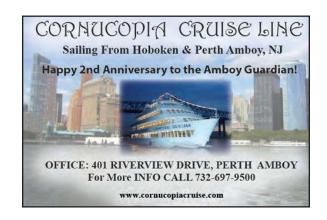


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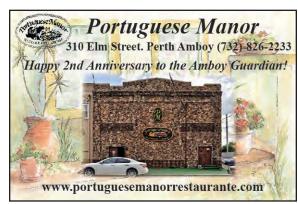
Happy 2nd Anniversary to the Amboy Guardian March 30, 2013





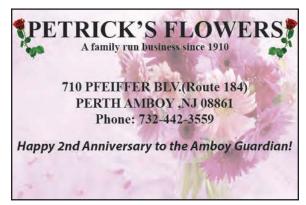








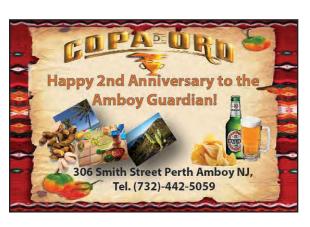














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Neighborhood **Business** Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - Wednesday, Wednesday, April 3rd at 6 p.m. at Rincon Tropical Restaurant, 323 State Street. DIN-NER WILL BE SERVED. Come join Mayor Diaz with a one-on-one dialogue with business owners. Topics for discussion are: Security, Re-Outdoor Dining cycling, and Economic Development Updates. For more info call Roxana at 732-442-6421. Sponsored by the UEZ/BID and City of Perth Amboy.

Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public

Library MeetingPERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library will be meeting on Wednesday, April 3 at 7 p.m. at the Kearny Cottage, 63 Catalpa Ave., Perth Amboy. Discussed will be li-

brary renovations, plans for a new website and future plans for the library. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more info call 732-293-1090.

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Spring Programs begin March 24th **REGISTER TODAY!**

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Aqua Fitness

Group Exercise Classes

Personal Training

Swimming Lessons

SilverSneakers Fitness Program

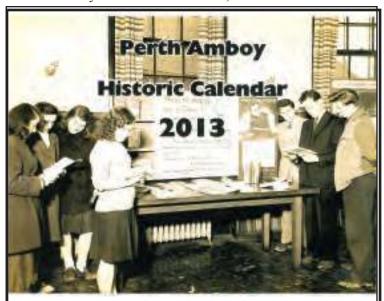
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Historic Perth Amboy Calendars For Sale

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.

The Community Voice *Continued From Page 4

Opposing Christie's Policies

Dear Perth Amboy Residents,

Perth Amboy is a Democratic town and we are proud to be Democrats. We oppose Governor Christie's attacks on working families, women, people of color, the working poor, unions, our environment, public education, and our brothers and sisters in the LGBT community. Last year, many of us as Democrats took a principle stand in a mayor's race where we believed one of our own was doing too much to fulfill Christie's agenda. We were proud of our decision not to endorse, as a committee, any local candidate since Perth Amboy Mayoral election falls under a non-partisan form of government.

But the simple fact is that it's time to move on. Chris Christie won Middlesex County in 2009 and he won in some towns that currently make up the 19th Legislative District. Every second we spend fighting each other is a victory for Chris Christie, and it distracts us from our real goals in November.

Since the election, the Perth Amboy Democratic Committee has prioritized making Perth Amboy an even better place to live. We have been focused on ensuring the candidates for Middlesex County Freeholder understand the issues in Perth Amboy. In addition, we also focused on doing everything we can to ensure Barbara Buono is elected the next Governor of our great state.

A true leader would have brought people together. Mayor Diaz and her team have instead made personal attacks against the chair of the Perth Amboy Democratic Committee and Vice Chair of our county, Leslie Dominguez-Rodriguez. An attack on our Chair is an attack on us as well.

It is time to put last November behind us and start looking toward this November.

It is time for Mayor Diaz and her team to get to work making our city better instead of worrying about a political machine's vendetta. And, it is time for a leader who descried the attacks on a female Latina elected leader, to stop the attacks on a competent and capable female Latina elected leader

We, the undersigned, pledge our support for Leslie Dominguez-Rodriguez for another term as the Perth Amboy Democratic Committee Chair. We are ready to stop the infighting and get to work electing Barbara Buono our next Governor. We invite everyone in Perth Amboy to join us in a spirit of shared values, and to stop the attacks one of our own.

Sincerely, MC Perth Amboy Democratic Executive Board Victor Collado, Vice Chair Barbara Sottilaro, Secretary Linda Lester, Treasurer Martin Arroyo, Sgt. at Arms Iris Rodriguez, Sgt. at Arms

Bikers Rally

SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy Elks Lodge #784 is participating in the 10th Annual Bikers Rally for Brain Injured Children Across America. This rally will be held at the Old Bridge Elks Lodge at 67 Old Amboy Road in Old Bridge on April 13 at 12 noon.

There will be escorted rides to the Rally points leaving from the following Lodges at 12 pm: South Amboy Lodge-601 Washington Ave., So. Amboy, Cranford Lodge – 951 Lincoln Ave, Cranford, Bricktown Lodge - 2491 Hooper Ave., Brick, Pompton Lakes Lodge – 15 Perrin Ave, Pompton Lakes, Bayonne Lodge-364 Broadway, Bayonne, Red Bank Lodge - 40 West Front St, Red Bank, Manville Lodge - 1500 Brooks Blvd., Hillsborough. Donation: \$20. Rain or Shine.

Veterans Information & Referral Service

PERTH AMBOY - The City of Perth Amboy Department of Human Services Office on Aging invite you to join us for a special Veterans Information and Referral Service on Thursday, April 4 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Alexander F. Jankowski Center, 1 Olive Street. As a veteran, or family member of a veteran, you should know what benefits and services are available to you. To stay up to date, you are encouraged to attend this special program sponsored by the Perth Amboy Office and Aging, The Middlesex County Veterans Services, VA Health Center, and the NJ State Veterans Services Office. For additional information or to register in advance, please contact, 732-826-1690, Ext. 4307.

Tool Time

WOODBRIDGE - Tooling Around the Township is a program that organizes teams of local community volunteers to fix up residences of senior citizens and disabled residents unable to afford home repairs. You and your organization or business can be an important part of this annual 1-day community effort by volunteering a few hours of labor donating supplies. We need: volunteers, both skilled and unskilled in home repair, donations of materials, especially paint, paint brushes, smoke alarms & roofing material. To volunteer, donate or be a Business Sponsors - call Kelly Reidy at 732-634-6494 or email tooling@ twp.woodbridge.nj.us. to learn how you can support this project with dollars, in-kind donations and employee volunteers & contributions. This year's Tooling Around the Township date Saturday, April 27, 2013.

Spring Flea Market

Perth Amboy High School Cafeteria

300 Eagle Ave., Perth Amboy, Saturday, April 13, 2013 (rain or shine) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Crafts, Clothes, Shoes Household Items - New and Used Food and drink items

\$10 per space, \$15 space with table, \$20 for 2 spaces with table. Money due no later than Saturday, April 6, 2013

Contact Jeanette at 732-233-3397

or email jmhi@aol.com or email Iris at jaden795@aol.com.



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Soup Kitchen & Clothing Giveaway

Giveaway
PERTH AMBOY: Soup Kitchen at the Faith Community
Worship Center, 310 Sutton
St., Perth Amboy. March 27,
April 24, May 29 and June 26
from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more
info call 732-376-1711.

Fashion Show

PERTH AMBOY - Historic St. Peter's Episcopal Church is hosting their 8th annual "Fashions By the Bay" Fashion Show to be held on Thursday, May 16 at the Raritan Yacht Club. Tickets are \$40 (includes dinner.) Advance ticket sales only. For reservations and tickets call Ann at 732-442-8875.

South Amboy Becomes a Beacon of Culture *Photo by Aaron Beers



By: Beverly Samuelson

SOUTH AMBOY - Sadie Pope Dowdell Library was the place for an afternoon of spectacular music. The City Winds Trio performed a wonderful music experience for everyone of all ages. The trio members are Meredyth Coleman on the Oboe, Crispian Fordham on the Flute and Yuki Higaski on the Bassoon. The trio has performed at the prestigious Trinity Church, Cathedral St. John Divine and St. Paul's Chapel in New York.

The event is part of a program offered by the Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission, the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders with assistance thru a grant provided by New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Dept. of State. The trio performed many Classical and Ragtime pieces. We heard the music of Mozart and many others.

Under the direction of Elaine R. Gaber, Director and the Library Board of Trustees, South Amboy residents are privileged to have the opportunity to many events at the library. Ms. Gaber, her staff and the Board of Trustees are working hard to bring the residents the best in programs including downloadable books, a computer room, along with having the library as the Cultural Center for the community. As part of their goal, the library has been developing innovative programs in visual and performing arts which will provide a higher level of cultural events.

I can certainly say, with programming like this, South Amboy will soon become the cultural hub of Middlesex County. Keep your eyes open for more exciting events. Spend an afternoon at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library in South Amboy, it will be time well spent

Knitting Circle

SOUTH AMBOY - There will be a Knitting Circle on the first and third Tuesday each month at 6 p.m. at the Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. For more info call 732-72 1-6060.

Out Reach

Food Program

PERTH AMBOY - Concord missionary Baptist Church, 795 State St., Out Reach Food Program, "Each One Feed One," will provide hot meals to any one in need of a hot meal on sat. April 6, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ministers of the gospels will be on hand to offer a listening ear and prayer if so desire. 732-826-0877

Picnic Park Rental Requests

SAYREVILLE - Beginning January 2, 2013 requests will be accepted at the Recreation Office for picnic park rentals at Burkes, Jackson & Bailey Parks. The office is open Monday thru Friday from 8:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. More info at www.savreville.com. Picnics are on a first come, first served basis and take about 4 weeks to get approvals. Please submit all paperwork to the Recreation Office on time. Picnics are rain or shine - no rain dates. Picnic grounds are available from April to September.

Simply Diamond Dance

PORT READING - There will be a Neil Diamond Tribute on Saturday, April 27 at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 436 Port Reading Avenue, Port Reading. Price is \$45 per person, includes: show, dancing, hot buffet, dessert, coffee & tea. Doors open 6 p.m. Show starts 8 p.m. Limited seating. Call for tickets: Carol H 732-969-2453, Nora 732-636-2384, Carol F 732-969-1565, Donna 609-655-0939

Art Reception PERTH AMBOY - The Per-

sonalized Learning Academy is pleased to present the Students Art Club Showcase taking place from March 20 to April 12, at 1st Constitution Bank. Following students are participating in the exhibition: Daniel Santana, Zuleyma Palacios, Jenesi Sime, Miguel del Valle, Alejandro Bermudez, Sherlyn Marte, Lesly Jimenez, Marbella Franco, Owen James and Kevin Rosa, . The opening reception is scheduled for Wednesday March 27th, 5 p.m. at 1st Constitution Bank, located at 145 Fayette Street in Perth Amboy. For more information contact art teacher Olga Bautista at 732-376-6240

Answers From Puzzle On Page 15



Open House

PERTH AMBOY - Open House for Royal Garden Club in April! New Date: Wed. April 3 at 7:30 p.m. ,St. Peter's Rectory,188 Rector St. Perth Amboy. Come meet us and learn about our activities. No gardening experience necessary - we welcome all.

Free Training

EDISON - You may qualify for FREE TRAINING. Includes FREE Public Transportation, Books, Childcare, Uniforms (Scrubs) and Medical Kit. Programs throughout the year. Phlebotomy Technician, EKG Technician, Medical Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Computerized Medical Office Program. Success starts here. For more info call 732-906-7735 or email NNJHPC@middlesexcc.edu

Tricky Tray

SOUTH AMBOY - Sacred Heart School in South Amboy is holding their 14th annual Tricky Tray on Friday, April 19th at Sacred Heart Memorial Hall. The hall is located on Washington Ave. across the street from the church. This year's theme is "Walk the Red Carpet". Doors open at 6pm and the first ticket will be drawn at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are now on sale for \$15. Please call Judy McCrone at 732-721-6592 to purchase. All seats are reserved. This year's prizes include, 7 " Tablet, Blu-Ray player, digital camera, 2 person boat, gift cards for area businesses, day trips, & Disney Hopper Passes as well as numerous other gifts. Cake and coffee will be served. The event will sell out so don't de-

Senior Scene

Happenings

Perth Amboy

WED. Mar. 27 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. 28 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

MON. Apr. 1 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m.,

Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.

TUES. Apr. 2 Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.

Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m.,
 Presbyterian Center, Market St.

WED. Apr. 3 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.
The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m.,

Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

THURS. Apr. 4

MON. Apr. 1 St. Mary's Seniors, noon,

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

WED. Apr. 10 South Amboy Seniors, noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.

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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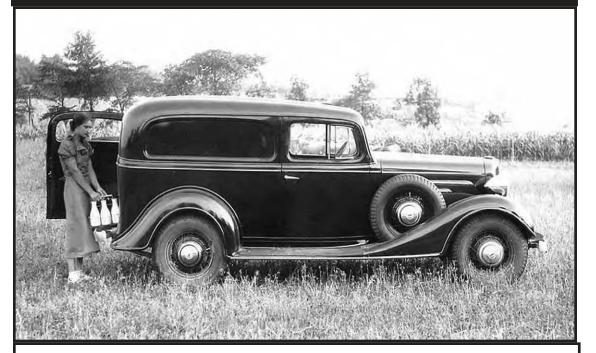
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LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Woman delivering milk 1940'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

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 vou 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.

Spring Flea Market

PERTH AMBOY - Join us for a spring flea market at the Perth Amboy High School Cafeteria, 300 Eagle Ave., Perth Amboy, Saturday, April 13 (rain or shine) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors will be selling crafts, clothes, shoes household items - new and used. Food and drink items, too. \$10 per space, \$15 space with table, \$20 for 2 spaces with table. Money due no later than Saturday, April 6. For more info contact Jeanette at 732-233-3397, or email jmhi@aol.com or email Iris at jaden795@aol.com. Please come out and support the our school's PTO.

Community Wide Yard Sale at the South Amboy Y

Press Release

SOUTH AMBOY - Clean out your Garages, Basements and Attics at the South Amboy Y's Yard Sale on Saturday, March 23, 2013. Tables will be available in our Gymnasium from 9am-3pm so you can sell those unused items that have been piling up in your house. Craft vendors are also welcome. Set up will begin at 7:30am. The price is \$25 for one table, and \$40 for two tables. Table registration fees will support the Y's Strong Kids Campaign, which provides scholarship assistance to members of the community. At the Y, no one is turned away for the inability to pay. Please contact Roxann DeVoe to reserve your table at 732-316-8217 or roxann.devoe@ymcaofmewsa.org.

Atlantic City Trip

HOPELAWN - Bus trip to Trump Plaza sponsored by Hopelawn V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliary every second Tuesday of every month. Bus leaves Hopelawn at 12:30 p.m., arrives at Trump Plaza between 2 p.m. & 2:30 p.m. Bus leaves Trump Plaza at 8:30 p.m. Arrives home approximately 10 p.m. For more info call Yolanda at 732-826-1595

Civil War Roundatable

PERTH AMBOY - The next meeting of The Robert E. Lee Civil War Round Table will be on Monday, April 1st at the Woodbridge Public Library at 7:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Bruce Tucker and his topic will be 'David Farragut' Admission is free and all are welcome. Bring a friend. After seeing what our organization is all about consider becoming a member. See you there!

Childbirth **Education Class**

PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center is sponsoring a one day Childbirth Education class Saturday, April 13, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The class is designed to help expectant parents better understand the childbearing process. A registered nurse with special training in labor, delivery and childcare techniques will facilitate the class. It will be held at Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Lower Level, Perth Amboy. The fee for the course is \$125 per couple. Registration required, call 1-800-DOC-TORS (1-800-362-8677).

Public Service Announcement

PERTH AMBOY - The City has recently experienced a rash of burglaries, 13 of which occurred during the daytime. One of the tactics being used is where the suspect rings or knocks on the front door and if it is answered by the home owner the suspect will ask random questions in an attempt to divert the owner's attention so that the burglary can be committed.

We are requesting that any citizens that notice strangers around their homes, their neighbors' homes, or their area to please call the police so we may follow up.

The department is addressing this matter and is requesting your assistance.

Contact Information: Lt Phil Terranova, Support Services,732-442-4400, pterranova@perthamboynjpd.org

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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 Address 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.*

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Novena To St. Anthony Prayer To Holy Spirit

Novena To St. Joseph Thanksgiving Novena

OTHER ____

sus 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.

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- play hooky 30 Eastern "truth"
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- 36 Among
- 37 Insignificant 38 Rotates rapidly
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- (abbr.) 51 "Little Orphan
- 52 Vague

43

- Pomeranian 1 Public TV inits. mouse?" (2 wds.) "Good Ship"
- schedule info 8 Importance
- 53 Witch's spell 54 Unpaid bill

(abbr.)

- 55 Bark like a
- **DOWN**
- 2 "...man ___
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- 6 Business abbr.

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