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# AMBOY GUARDIAN



• VOL. 3 NO. 41 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2014 •

## S.O.S. Save Our Supplies Caucus Meeting 1/6/14



**Police Chief  
Benjamin Ruiz**



**Fire Chief  
Abraham Pitre**



**Dir. Dept. of Recreation  
Kenny Ortiz**

PERTH AMBOY - During the 1/6/14 Caucus Meeting, Business Administrator Greg Fehrenbach gave an overview of some of the presentations that would be made from the Police, IT (Information Technology), Fire and Recreation Departments. This would include what is needed for the respective departments to function properly. These items had previously been discussed during the preliminary Budget Hearings on 11/26 & 11/27/13.

Before the Department Heads made their presentations Fehrenbach said, "The items being heard tonight by the specific department heads can be funded by borrowing from the Capital Improvement Program."

Fehrenbach continued by saying that he and CFO (Chief Financial Officer) Jill Goldy will be going to Trenton to appear before the Finance Board. "The steps taken for the borrowing process for Capitol Improvement will go before the Council, then the Planning Board and then it will be presented to the Finance Board in Trenton. There is \$4.3 million to borrow from the current fund and \$6.3 million in grants."

The first representative to speak was John Alleman from the Information Technology Department in the City. Alleman spoke about equipment

that needed to be replaced. "40 computers currently have Windows 7 on them and we need server replacements. Most software utilizes Windows. We need to replace 5 to 6 servers because there is too much information to backup. The website needs to be redone. We are trying to use wireless connections. Our Computer switches either need to be updated or replaced. Some are worn down due to age and wear and tear. The telephone system for the City's buildings need updating. Software is needed to coordinate the database so that each department can view the same work orders and citizen complaints. They also will be able to view the Code Enforcement and DPW records and vice-versa."

Business Administrator Greg Fehrenbach said, "Each department would then be able to use the same database where you can record, track and follow up and the resolution of each problem."

Police Chief Benjamin Ruiz spoke next, giving a brief overview of some of the deficiencies in the department. Ruiz emphasized the need to overhaul the 911 system as soon as possible.

"The system is in critical condition after it crashed. It is currently patched together."

Fehrenbach also said that there is no timeline as to how

long the patch will last.

Chief Ruiz said, "The company that put the 911 system in place was bought out by another company and that's why we can't get replacement parts."

Ruiz continued, "We also need some of our vehicles replaced. We try to do this each year with replacing 3 to 4 vehicles."

After Ruiz spoke, Fire Chief Abraham Pitre talked about a 3 year plan to replace outdated and worn vehicles. "The condition of these vehicles that need to be replaced are so worn out that it would cost more money to repair them than to replace them. We have one fire truck that cost over \$25,000 to repair and it's still not working properly. That truck is 9 years old and there is another truck that is 14 years old that is in better condition than the younger one. We are looking at different manufacturers to get the best bang for the buck. Manufacturers can come to us, but if firemen chooses to travel in person to look at newer models, it is at their own cost - not the City's. We are looking at basic models of vehicles that can get the job done without unnecessary bells and whistles. We also need to replace firefighters' equipment. Some are currently without gear. We

*Continued on Page 2*

## Snow Issues Resolved, Advisory Notices & Amending One City Ordinance Reorganization Meeting 1/2/14 & Business Meeting 1/8/14



**John R. Lanza  
City Attorney**



**Council President  
Joseph Connors**

SOUTH AMBOY - At the Reorganization Meeting on 1/2/14, Joe Connors was re-elected as Council President. Christine Noble was re-elected as Council Vice-President.

Councilman Mickey Gross wished to thank all the City Employees for a great job they did during the snowstorm. Gross remarked that the Department of Public Works went from 32 employees down to 12.

There was a resolution appointing City Council Representatives to the Planning Board (Christine Noble for a one year term). Noble was also appointed as Representative to Middlesex County Housing and Community Development Committee.

Zusette Dato was appointed as Commissioner of the City of South Amboy Redevelopment Agency (one year term as a result of a vacancy).

Resolution 1-2014 Authorizing a temporary budget for appropriations for the 2014 calendar.

Council President Joe Connors was reappointed to the Housing Authority for a one year term.

There was an ordinance on the first reading amending South Amboy's City Code Chapter 53 Article XVII Section 53-79 (2) Repealing the Prohibition against Residential Alcohol and Drug Treat-

ment Centers.

City Attorney John Lanza explained to the Council Members that the reason this ordinance has to be amended is because it is not consistent with the federal law.

There was also a discussion in reference to residents' complaints about the road conditions after the last snowfall, Saturday, December 14, 2013.

Residents complained about the lack of snow removal on certain streets.

Mayor Fred Henry said, "The snow removal problem has been resolved. After some of the streets were plowed, some of the workers threw snow back into the street."

Henry thanked Councilman Mickey Gross for being able to get recyclables to be picked up on Saturdays.

Councilwoman Zusette Dato also noted that when driveways and sidewalks were being cleared, the snow inadvertently went back into the streets. Dato was also very pleased that she received an emergency advisory from the Police Department about the road conditions and warming centers that she was not aware existed.

President Joe Connors said, "I received notices from Nixle, but not South Amboy notices."

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## City Council

Continued From Page 1  
need \$70,000 that will cover the cost of about 15 individual gears."

There was an item under the Recreation Department which B.A. Greg Fehrenbach said he would explain. This had to do with the emergency generator to be installed in the Jankowski Center at Olive Street. Because the Olive Street Center is a designated shelter, FEMA requires that a generator be in place. "The cost of the generator is \$200,000. The City will pay the cost up front and later be reimbursed 90% of this cost by FEMA. The generator will be diesel, which is an other requirement of FEMA."

Kenny Ortiz from the Department of Recreation began his presentation. Ortiz said, "In 2012, the Division of Local Planning Services had a Master Plan. It was their intention to strengthen the recreational facilities in the City. The northern portion of the town has more facilities, although the population is much smaller and the residents are older. In 1998, the City and the Board of Education agreed to enter into an agreement involving the Wilentz Track property. At that time, they were looking to add more recreational facilities there, but not too close to the residential area. "We are renegotiating the lease with the Board of Education, but we have not gotten a response as of yet."

B.A. Fehrenbach said that the tennis and basketball court repairs were supposed to have been a part of the cost footed by the Board of Education. "But there has been no response from the Board of Ed, yet."

Ortiz continued, "According to the Master Plan, we have a deficit of 12 baseball/softball fields. We need more multi-use fields where you can play baseball, softball, football and soccer. These fields should be able to be used 9 months out of the year. We are looking to make these fields synthetic to do so. We have contacted Buckeye Industries to help us

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with the cleanup of the field by Willow Pond. We are also looking at other entities to help with money for this."

B.A. Fehrenbach said, "We are anticipating \$200,000 in grants to help with this project."

Ortiz then added, "We are also looking at a key card system for access to the tennis courts."

During the public portion, resident Stanley Sierakowski again brought up the subject about the Housing Authority expenditures. At previous meetings, Sierakowski asked the B.A. if he could contact a representative from the Housing Authority about some of the items in question. Items Sierakowski requested included: compensation of personnel and credit card information. On the credit cards, he wanted to know the following: what items were charged; and if any personal items were charged, any travel expenses, and what Housing Authority personnel went to training sessions.

B.A. Fehrenbach told Sierakowski that he received a report from the Housing Authority Chair Dot Daniel on the total compensation for the Housing Authority and Partner. "Here is the response to the request that you (Sierakowski) made. The Council has it. The report is open to the public by OPRA request."

After Sierakowski made his speech, former Councilman and Housing Authority Commissioner Fernando Gonzalez came up to the mic. Gonzalez started out by saying, "I didn't have any intentions of coming up to speak, but Mr. Sierakowski's remarks made me do so. If Stanley or anyone wants to come to our (Housing Authority) meetings, they are welcome. We would gladly

supply any info to him (Stanley). The Housing Authority is doing an outstanding job, especially with the building across from McDonald's (Parkview). When people from other towns come and see it, they are envious of this building."

Housing Authority Chair Dot Daniel addressed Sierakowski's remarks, "As far as the Housing Authority and credit cards - we've never had them. It's a lie that travel expenses have been used by anyone other than the Commissioners. The B.A. asked me at a previous meeting if I had received a letter from his office requesting information about the Housing Authority's activities. I told him I had no knowledge of any letter. The letter was not delivered to my house nor to the Executive Director. Something that important would not have gone ignored. When I finally received the letter, it listed items that Sierakowski wanted, including an explanation from about the expenses, etc. by the Housing Authority and Partner."

Daniel continued, "He (Sierakowski) is a wealth of misinformation. I'd like to see some of these people use their energy to help and feed the homeless. The letter with the requests that I finally received was written specifically to me. I had to go into the archives to get this info."

Another Housing Authority Commissioner, Pedro Perez wanted to know how many pages of the report was submitted to the Council, and he would like to see that submitted report.

The next person to speak during the public portion was former Council President Ken Balut. Balut said, "The YMCA

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## 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.

## Xbox Galaxy

SOUTH AMBOY- Xbox Galaxy at 3 p.m. on Mondays at the Dowdell Library of South Amboy, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060.

## Kidz Wii Club

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

## Cardiac Club

PERTH AMBOY...Raritan Bay Medical Center's Cardiac Club will meet Monday, Jan. 20, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the hospital's Perth Amboy location, 530 New Brunswick Ave. Cardiac Club meetings are held in the hospital's Centennial Hall and explore heart conditions and healthy living. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 732-324-5178.

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# LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

## EDITORIAL

### Butting Heads: The Debate Over Medical Marijuana

There have been many debates over the topic of legalization of medical marijuana. These are only our individual opinions.

**C.M.:** I am neither a smoker nor a drinker. To be truthful, alcohol, smoking or taking illegal drugs never appealed to me.

When I was very young, one of my relatives died from a drug overdose and my memory of seeing them in a casket at such a young age never left me.

I don't have a problem if medical marijuana is prescribed correctly to only those who actually benefit from it. It can relieve debilitating symptoms. A lot of people think that it is going to be abused. The sticking point is that people often associate the use of medical marijuana with those who use it for recreational purposes only.

I decided to Google the topic to find out what medical marijuana is used for. WebMD states that it is used for muscle spasms caused by MS (Multiple Sclerosis), nausea from chemotherapy, poor appetite and weight loss caused by chronic illnesses such as HIV, nerve pain, seizure disorders, and Chron's disease.

Some of the side effects associated with marijuana: it can cause dizziness, drowsiness, short term memory loss and euphoria. More serious side effects are: anxiety and psychosis.

As long as there are VERY STRICT regulations put in place as to who can dispense the medical marijuana and who should receive it, I'm okay with it. This way, it can be controlled. Those who are

suffering debilitating long term conditions should not be denied relief - and NO! I am not for recreational use of marijuana.

**P.W.:** I am for legalizing marijuana for medical purposes. My mother passed away from bone cancer in the '90's. For 7 years she suffered, was bed-ridden, was in extreme pain and using Percocet. This drug affected her stomach by causing nausea and discomfort. Back in the '90's if medical marijuana was legalized, my mother would have benefited from it instead of Percocet.

There have been many controversies and discussions about legalizing marijuana for medical use. After seeing my mother suffer and knowing others are in pain from medical conditions, this could benefit them.

The United States government should consider allowing medical marijuana be legalized.

**K.M.:** I am open to anything that can help people. Personally, I do not like not being in control (of my body & mind). If medical marijuana can help people, then okay. Will some people use this as an excuse to get stoned legally? Maybe this is so. Maybe not. Most prescription narcotics have far worse side-effects than medical marijuana. So, if it can help people in chronic severe pain - why not?

We are very interested in your opinion. Feel free to e-mail or snail-mail a letter to express your view. If you have a personal story either based on your own life or someone that you know, please contact us!

## THE COMMUNITY VOICE

### A New Regime

It looks like our Governor Christie is in the hot seat with this GWB scandal, or as some call it Bridgegate. Who let those e-mails out? Why do we ask? Some say his staff members opened the doors to this scandal. Or was it meant to be by those insiders that want to control the political parties? We also understand that the Governor wanted to run for President.

If this is true, there was talk

in Trenton about if a Mayor would not endorse the Governor, the Mayor will be punished in some way. Yes, it is very true. Mayor's have to play hardball with the Governor in some ways.

New Jersey politicians love to play hard ball with one another. When it comes to backstabbing in the political game, they know how to do it. Ask any Mayor who says no to the Governor when it come to playing ball. This so-called

political regime has been controlling our State from taxes to chasing people out of the State.

How do we end to this political regime? All I can say is that the people in New Jersey will have to wake up and see how their is State is in a political mess. They still are voting for those greedy fat cats in Trenton.

Orlando "Wildman" Perez

### Marine Sergeant to Serve in Seoul, South Korea

Submitted by Hedberg Family  
PERTH AMBOY - Perth Amboy has many men and woman proudly serving our beloved country in the Armed Forces today and in the past. This week another one of our young residents departs again this time heading to Seoul, South Korea for the next two years.

Marine Sergeant Joshua Hedberg of Water Street will be deployed to United States Army Garrison Yongsan for his next assignment. As a Communications Marine he will be one of the men directly overseeing the security of the military networks running throughout the Pacific theater.

Joshua has spent the past five years stationed in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina where he deployed with 1st Battalion 10th Marines to Afghanistan in October 2010. He has been awarded the Navy and Marine

Corps Achievement Medal twice. Joshua followed his older brother, Corporal Stephen Hedberg into the service back in 2008 and also served alongside their brother-in-law Corporal Timothy Ries while at Camp Lejeune. His grandfather, the late Rev. Winston P. Hedberg had served in the Korean War as an army chaplain.

During his tenure with the Marines, Sergeant Hedberg contributed more than 100 hours to the Single Marine Program for single Marines living on base. While in California for training, he volunteered at the Baja Dog Rescue helping set up puppy adoptions. In support of Special Olympics, Hedberg participated in the Polar Plunge. He was also involved in several Wounded Warrior runs, proctored tests at a middle school and volunteered in the Exceptional Family Member Program for kids



Marine Sergeant Joshua Hedberg

of Marines with special needs.

Sergeant Hedberg is the son of Daniel and Pamela Hedberg, brother of Corporal Stephen Hedberg and Rachel Hedberg Ries and her husband Tim and the uncle of Makayla Hedberg. His grandparents are Mrs. Waltraud Hedberg of Pittsburgh and Mr. and Mrs. George Clay of Niles, Ohio.

### Kearny Cottage Brickwork Completed

PERTH AMBOY - The brickwork at the Kearny Cottage Museum, 63 Catalpa Ave., Perth Amboy has been completed. This project has taken 2 years to come about.

The Kearny Cottage Historical Society thanks Mayor Wilda Diaz, the City Council and the City Administration, Public Works Director Danny Cleaver, the late Jack M. Dudas, the contractors involved and everyone who helped make this project a reality.

Sincerely, Paul W. Wang, Chair Kearny Cottage Historical Society.

Please look in the Amboy Guardian for upcoming events. Come and visit the long needed brickwork.



Workers laying the bricks at the Kearny Cottage

\*Photo by Katherine Massopust



The completed brickwork

\*Photo by Paul W. Wang

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## THE AMBOY GUARDIAN

Published by Amboy Guardian LLC  
P. O. Box 127 • Perth Amboy • New Jersey 08862  
(732) 896-4446 Email - CRLYNMXWLL@AOL.COM  
(732) 261-2610 Email - KMASS514@GMAIL.COM

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SCIORTINO'S RESTAURANT .....	473 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
7-ELEVEN .....	553 SAYRE AVE.
SHOP-RITE .....	365 CONVERY BLVD.
SIPOS BAKERY .....	365 SMITH ST.
SUPERIOR DINER.....	464 SMITH ST.
SUPREMO SUPERMARKET .....	270 KING ST.
TORRES MINI MARKET .....	403 BRUCK AVE.
TOWN DRUGS & SURGICAL .....	238 SMITH ST.
WELLS FARGO .....	214 SMITH ST.
<b>IN SAYREVILLE:</b>	
BOROUGH HALL .....	167 MAIN ST.
SENIOR CENTER .....	423 MAIN ST.
SUNNYSIDE RESTAURANT .....	111 MAIN ST.
VENEZIA PIZZERIA .....	881 MAIN ST.
<b>IN SEWAREN:</b>	
MOBY DICK'S .....	351 WEST AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY .....	546 WEST AVE.
SEWAREN CORNER DELI .....	514 WEST AVE.
<b>IN SOUTH AMBOY:</b>	
AMBOY NATIONAL BANK .....	100 N. BROADWAY
BROADWAY BAGELS .....	105 S. BROADWAY
BROADWAY BISTRO .....	126 N. BROADWAY
CENTER DELI .....	250 N. STEVENS AVE.
CITY HALL .....	140 N. BROADWAY
COMMUNITY CENTER .....	200 O'LEARY BLVD.
KRAUSZER'S .....	200 N. BROADWAY
KRAUSZER'S .....	717 BORDENTOWN AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY .....	100 HOFFMAN PLAZA
SCIORTINO'S HARBOR LIGHTS .....	132 S. BROADWAY
SOUTH AMBOY MEDICAL CENTER.....	540 BORDENTOWN AVE.
WELLS FARGO BANK .....	116 N. BROADWAY
<b>IN WOODBRIDGE:</b>	
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE .....	91 MAIN ST.
MAIN ST. FARM .....	107 MAIN ST.
NEWS & TREATS .....	99 MAIN ST.
REO DINER .....	392 AMBOY AVE.
ST. JOSEPH'S SENIORS RESIDENCE .....	1 ST. JOSEPH'S TERR.

**Deadline for Print Ads:**  
**7 p.m. Thursday**  
**Office Hours:**  
**Mon. - Wed. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**  
**Thurs. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.**  
**Fri. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**E-Book Classes**

**SOUTH AMBOY** - There are free E-Book Classes on Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060.

**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](http://www.KearnyCottage.org)

**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.

**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.

**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](mailto: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.

**Community Calendar**

**Perth Amboy**

**TUES. Jan. 14** Library Board of Trustees, 5 p.m. City Hall, High St.  
 UEZ, 6 p.m. City Hall, High St.  
 BID, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.  
**WED. Jan. 22** City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m. City Hall, High St.  
 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.

**South Amboy**

**WED. Jan. 15** City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway

**STAY INFORMED!**  
**ATTEND PUBLIC MEETINGS**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**A SUPERIOR DINING EXPERIENCE**

**The Barge**  
 On The Waterfront In Historic Perth Amboy  
**EARLY BIRD SPECIALS**  
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 Outside catering is our specialty  
 Great for parties, luncheons, dinners, Retirement parties, business Meetings, christenings, Engagement and bridal showers.  
 We accommodate up to 100 people.  
 Let's work together and plan the Perfect party for you!



**EX P. 04/30/14**  
**NOT VALID ON HOLIDAYS**

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\*Equal or less value, with this ad. Discount up to \$10. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

**Not valid on Early Bird Specials.**  
**The Barge**  
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 VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.thebarge.com](http://www.thebarge.com)

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 Wed., Sat. & Sun - 10 a.m. to A. C.  
 All Trips \$30 per person  
 Call 732-826-4103 for other pick-ups & times  
 There will be Saturday Night Trips to A. C. on the First Sat. Night of Each Month at 9 p.m.  
 Bus leaves from 252 Smith St., Perth Amboy

**Mon. & Thurs. - 10 a.m. to Sands Casino, Bethlehem, P. A.**

**Pick-Up locations**  
 For Atlantic City/ Sands Casino, Bethlehem, P. A.  
 Perth Amboy, South Amboy, Fort L. Sayreville, Old Bridge



## New Members Sworn in At Board of Education Reorganization Meeting 1/7/14

PERTH AMBOY - The Board of Education had their reorganization meeting on January 7, 2014.

Board Secretary Derek Jess said the official number of voters for the November 5, 2013 was 10,168 votes cast. The official results for the top three vote getters for the Board of Education was 1741 for Israel Varela, 1666 for Anthony Bermudez and 1559 for Sam Lebreault.

The oath of office was administered to the new Board Members by Derek Jess. Anthony Bermudez was first. He called his whole family to stand as he was being sworn in. Next was Samuel Lebreault with his family by his side. Finally, Israel Varela's two sons stood beside him along with some of the staff from the Richardson School who Varela called from the audience to come down.

Obi Gonzalez was elected unanimously as the new Board President. Kenneth Puccio, who had served as the Board of Education Vice-President was nominated for that position again, but he politely declined stating that it was time for someone else to get a chance.

Israel Varela was nominated for the position of Vice-President. He won the position despite two "no" votes by Maria Garcia and Dianne Roman.

Shortly thereafter, the Board went into an executive session at 6:38 p.m. and returned at 8:07 p.m.

Board Secretary Derek Jess made his report and said that the High School and Middle School supplies were ordered. There were no items that were over-expended for October and November 2013.

Board President Obi Gonzalez said, "I am grateful and honored to be elected to this position and I will work hard with the rest of the Board, the Community and Staff. I know there will be more challenges and problems ahead. We have to take a more creative approach to getting a new school. There should be more respect between the community and the staff to move the district forward."

Vice-President Israel Varela made it a point to say, "With this new Board, no longer will outsiders be able to dictate what is good for the district."

Dr. Vivian Rodriguez was appointed Superintendent until the Board appoints a permanent Superintendent.

Dr. Rodriguez remarked, "It feels wonderful to be back here. It feels like my home town, although I don't live here."

The controversy over Project Read continued. Chief

Literacy Officer Dr. Daimon Medina was called forward for his opinion as to whether the program made any difference. Medina said, "Although some of the components of the program are already in place with past practices in the district, Project Read brings more of uniformity into the district. It has a consistent and professional development, especially for the newer students. We need to be open-minded but our scores are not where they should be."

Vice-President Varela, who is not a fan of Project Read said, "There was a survey and the administrators and staff are far apart on this item. There are programs already in place that Project Read mimics and the Project Read Program comes with a high price. Basically, it's just has a little bit more bells and whistles."

Board Member Dianne Roman said that she, Varela, Obi Gonzalez and Dr. Medina attended a meeting in regards to Project Read. "It was originally funded through a grant. Our vendor was able to renegotiate a lower price for the program."

Board Member Milady Tejada wanted Project Read to finish its course, "And let's not disrupt it in the middle of the year."

Board Member Maria Garcia said, "We need to look at the results of what was in place. We can't be stagnant; we need consistency to move forward and need to embrace the old with the new. Our children only have 12 years in the school system."

Board Member William Ortiz questioned Medina as to what is new in Project Read.

Medina said, "There is use of more technical language. There is more of a connection to the everyday life. There's nothing that new about the components. There is a foundation there that is needed to take us to the next level."

Ortiz said, "Perhaps we should keep Project Read, then we should revisit it later. Sometimes you have to teach an old dog new tricks."

Board President Obi Gonzalez said, "There should be a collaboration to see what the staff really needs. I want to compliment you (Medina) for what you have done. It's hard to shift gears at this point. Please continue to evaluate the Project Read Program."

During the New Business Portion of the Meeting, Board Member Dianne Roman talked about the shortcomings of the Bilingual Program. "Teachers are frustrated. They are leaving the district. We need to support this program."

Board President Obi Gon-

zalez said, "The students are hurting. Dr. Rodriguez has a very good handle on this. After Dr. Rodriguez left - that is when the Program failed."

Board Member Sam Lebreault was concerned about the students in the Learning Center Program. "Our kids stay there awhile. They need a better meal than just juice and cheese. Please have Food Services and the Principal look into this. We should have by-laws and policies in regards to graduation and suspensions. As far as the website, we should cancel meetings that are not regular Board Meetings."

During the Public Portion, Resident Stanley Sierakowski was concerned about the Charter Schools and the fact that there is no oversight on the operations, expenses or administrators of the schools. He said, "I have no trouble of you giving money to the Charter School, as long as you know how the money is spent."

Board Secretary Derek Jess said, "From time to time we will talk the administrators from the Charter School."

The Board Attorney made it known that the administration has no authority over the Charter School.

Resident and Parent Mel Knight said that people are not coming to the meetings because they keep hearing the same thing over and over again with no results.

Teacher Linda Nagy from the Richardson School said, "Testing is very big with her. We work on the weaknesses of students to bring those skills up. We are having problems in literacy. Perth Amboy is top heavy in administrators. We need more teachers (people in the trenches). If the teachers don't have proper training, it doesn't matter what curriculum we have. It's our job to bring the students up."

High School Student Stephanie Rodriguez said the elevator is not working again. "And I will not use it until it's fixed. I want to thank Dr. Collazo and Mr. Cavanaugh for bringing some of my classes to the conference room on the first floor (of the high school)."

Dr. Mast, Principal of the Hmieleski School was happy to hear the comments from the Board about working together. "The Board and the AFT should all meet to review the best practices and listen to all sides. This should be a peaceful and efficient collaborative and then take action. We are a hopeful City striving to do better."

Resident Alan Silber thanked Derek Jess for a great job as Acting Superintendent. Sil-



Anthony Bermudez



Sam Lebreault



Israel Varela



Vice-President Israel Varela and President Obi Gonzalez

\*Photos by Carolyn Maxwell

ber also made reference to the basketball court at the Wilentz School that the Board of Education was supposed to be responsible for building or maintaining. This item was also brought up at the 1/6/14 Caucus Meeting. He also wanted to know if there is a policy of Board Members looking at their cell phones while the meeting is going on. "You should also put a clock on your closed session meetings."

YMCA CEO Steve Jobin presented a check for \$5000 to Adult School Principal Ro-

bles. This check was for technical assistance from the New Jersey Shares Program. The YMCA filled out the application for the Adult School.

According to the 1/7/14 BOE Agenda. This donation will be instrumental in providing much needed educational tools to the students at the Perth Amboy Education Center.

"We were able to help the Adult School get a grant," Jobin said. He gave kudos to the High School 35 member swim team. He also mentioned the Special Olympics School Programs.



**CITY OF PERTH AMBOY**  
**THE HONORABLE MAYOR WILDA DIAZ**

# **AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE ACT**

## **FREE OPEN ENROLLMENT PROGRAM**

### **FOR ALL PERTH AMBOY RESIDENTS**

**REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE BEGINS:**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2014**  
**6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

**ALEXANDER F. JANKOWSKI COMMUNITY CENTER | 1 OLIVE STREET, PERTH AMBOY, NJ**



**FREE** Registration assistance is available starting Jan. 22nd to Feb. 27th every:

**WEDNESDAYS: 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.**  
**THURSDAYS: 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.**  
**SATURDAYS: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

*Staff will be available to assist residents step-by-step with the quick online registration & application process for health insurance in English and Spanish.*

The screening process is confidential and no registration information is withheld by the City of Perth Amboy or volunteers assisting. The following information is **REQUIRED ONLY** for the registration and application process:

- **E-mail Address • Social Security Number • Residency Card • Mailing Address**
- **Phone Number • Household Income (Bring proof, i.e. pay stub)**
- **Family Composition (# of people in household)**

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**  
**PLEASE CALL OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
**732-826-7121**

*In Collaboration with God's Army Ministries of NJ in Perth Amboy, NJ.*  
*These sessions are free and open to the public.*

# Caucus 1/4/14

*Continued from Page 2*

gets money from the Board of Education, but the City gets nothing.” Balut also told some of the present Council Members, that most of them were on the Board of Education when these bad deals were made (Seamon Street Property).

Balut then added, “The building at 378 Hobart St. which was also Joe’s (Vas) old campaign office and is one of the worst projects that was approved (by the present Council). It’s the same people doing the same thing that Joe was doing. You’re just continuing the same thing.”

At the meeting, the B.A. and Frank Dann addressed comments made at the December 30, 2013 Special Council Meeting.

Richard Freedman who owns the Raritan Valley Truck Sales from South Brunswick had made remarks before the Council in regards to how the City put out bids for contracts. He specifically was there in regards to the Sanitation truck bids.

Fehrenbach said, “Mr. Freedman had stated that Hunter Jersey Peterbuilt which was recommended for the contract did not meet the specifications for an 18 inch access bay. This was not true.”

Frank Dann said, “We looked at 3 different towns (at the equipment they were using) and they decided to use the specifications that Woodbridge uses. As far as steel vs. aluminum. Aluminium is better because steel tends to rust and in some of the trucks it is not unusual for rust to deteriorate the base of the cab.”

Councilman Bill Petrick addressed the dredging issue that was brought up at the 12/30/13 Special Meeting. Petrick said that he and Councilwoman Lisa Nanton happened to come across Congressman Frank Pallone and told him about the need for dredging in the Raritan Bay. Pallone stated that he would look into the issue.

There was also a resolution about awarding a contract for a beach promenade reconstruction project. B.A. Fehrenbach said, “This would entail stabilizing the Waterfront embankment, reconstruction of the marina, the river wall, sea walls, and sand dunes.

**Attend Council Meetings  
Have Your Voice Heard!**

## Toy Giveaway - Saint Vincent DePaul - Perth Amboy

*\*Photos by Eric Salvary*



Waiting in line



Games & Toys for everyone



Lots of gifts for all



Santa gives out toys



Welcome!

## Epiphany - St. Demetrios Church - Perth Amboy 1/12/14

*\*Photos by Paul W. Wang*



Fr. Angelo Michaels leads the group toward the water



Tossing the Cross



Going to retrieve the Cross



The cross was retrieved by Zack Giannakopoulos. Stavoula Wagner who also dove into the water stands beside Zack



**Be Smart About Medicine**

*\*Photo Submitted*



**Press Release**

PERTH AMBOY - Four Students from Perth Amboy Catholic School were winners in the "Be Smart About Medicine" Creative Expression Contest sponsored by the Coalition for Healthy Communities, NCADD of Middlesex County. The 4th Annual Coalition Dinner was held on Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at Middlesex County College in Edison, N.J. Ms. Linda Surks, Coalition Coordinator and Mr. Steve Liga, Executive Director & CEO presented the awards to Lizbeth Nunez, Grade 8, 3rd place and to the 7th Grade winners, Alyssa Sierra, 1st, Antonio Feliciano, 2nd and Jazmin Genao, 3rd place. The judges for the contest were Mr. Paul Grzella, General Manager/Editor, Home News Tribune, Ms. Rachelle Burk, Children's Author & Entertainer and Mr. Steve Liga, Executive Director & CEO, NCADD of Middlesex County. The students attended the Award Ceremony with their parents and siblings, Sr. Rebecca Piatek, Principal, Rose Pennyfeather, Art Teacher and Librarian, Sr. Dorothy Sajczuk. Photo: Pictured left to right: Lizbeth Nunez, Antonio Feliciano, Alyssa Sierra and Jazmin Genao.

**Still Not Satisfied**

*\*Photo by Paul W. Wang*



PERTH AMBOY - Former City Council President Ken Balut poses with one of the photos he showed the Council during the public portion of the 1/8/14 City Council Meeting. The picture he is holding was taken on Election Night, Tuesday, November 6, 2012 at the United for Perth Amboy Election Headquarters. The photo shows 4 Perth Amboy Police Officers along with Chief Ruiz in uniform posing with Mayor Diaz. Balut also has a photo of Chief Ben Ruiz in uniform and some of the members of Diaz' Re-Election team checking election results. Balut made the following statements to the Guardian, "Was it appropriate or ethical for Ruiz to be there at the board counting the votes in full uniform? All those cops who were working that night were being paid with FEMA money. The City was still under curfew. These officers were working 12 hour shifts due to Sandy and should not have been at a campaign headquarters. They should have been out protecting the public. Joe Vas used the Police Department for political purposes. Diaz is doing the same thing."

**Investigation into Shooting Still Ongoing**

PERTH AMBOY - Resident Alan Silber spoke at the 1/8/14 City Council Meeting in reference to the 12/4/13 shooting of a mentally disturbed man.

Silber said, "The day after the shooting occurred, the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office said the tape showed that the police action was correct. But a month later, we (the public) still have not seen the evidence."

City Attorney Mark Blunda stated, "The City has no authority to release the tape."

Resident David Caba remarked, "We are not asking the City to release the tape. But where is the knife? Put yourself in the position of the family."

Councilman Bill Petrick responded, "We should be happy that this is being handled by the State."

David Caba responded, "I hope this will bring justice to the family and the Police Department."

Former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez said, "Perhaps the Council or the Mayor can write a letter to the Attorney General to get the situation resolved as soon as possible so we cannot have this over our heads."

Mayor Diaz responded, "I mentioned to the Police Chief that I want this resolved as soon as possible (the shooting). I am willing along with the Council to write a letter (to the Attorney General)."

**Pallone Statement on Christie**

Press Release 1/9/14

19TH DISTRICT - Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) released the following statement in reaction to New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's comments regarding his administration's involvement in the closure of traffic lanes at the George Washington Bridge in Fort Lee, NJ last September: The actions by Governor Christie's administration that resulted in the lane closures on the nation's busiest bridge are disgraceful and represent the worst type of political retaliation and abuse of public trust. Governor Christie must come clean, take full responsibility and explain in detail exactly what occurred. Today's press conference served to raise more questions than it answered. All of the facts surrounding this incident must be put on the table immediately and any and all appropriate actions should be taken to hold everyone involved accountable.

**Friends of the Library Check Presentation**

*Photo by Paul W. Wang*



PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library presented a check for \$1058.88 to the City of Perth Amboy at the 1/8/14 City Council Meeting for Renovations to the Library. This money was raised by jugs in locations around Perth Amboy and donations to "Friends."

**JRF Events for January**

- January 14th: Stress Management Workshop- 4 p.m.-5 p.m.
  - January 15th: Citizenship Class Orientation; 6 p.m.- 8 p.m. Every Wednesday
  - January 15th: Family Movie Night- "Despicable Me 2" 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Perth Amboy YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
  - January 16th: Cervical Cancer Workshop- 6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
  - January 21st: Nutrition Workshop - 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
  - January 30th: Family Zumba Night 6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
- Event Location: 149 Kearny Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861.**  
**For more information, please contact the JRF at (732) 638-5063**

**We're on the Web!!!!**

**[www.amboyguardian.com](http://www.amboyguardian.com)**

**What's Going on With Vopak Industries?**



PERTH AMBOY - Former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez questioned the Council about Vopak Industries. Gonzalez said that he heard a rumor that Vopak is no longer in the picture as far as developing in Perth Amboy.

City Attorney Mark Blunda said, "Vopak is not going away. The original plan for the site in Perth Amboy may change. They had concerns after Superstorm Sandy. Cleanup is still going on by Vopak, but now Vopak and Hess are in talks. They have renegotiate with Hess what they are planning to do with the property."

In the 7/11/12 Amboy Guardian, there was news release stating, "Perth Amboy is proud that one of Vopak's recent acquisitions is in their city. Having purchased the former, long dormant Hess site, Vopak plans

to construct a completely new, much expanded state of the art facility. Demolition of the aging buildings and tanks is underway and reconstruction is scheduled to begin later this year. (2012)"

From the City of Perth Amboy's website: *Vopak, the world's leading independent provider of bulk liquid storage facilities, and their joint venture partner, Tanco Terminals, a terminaling company owned by the Middelndorf families, has purchased the former Hess State Street Terminal in northern Perth Amboy, N.J. The venture, Vopak Terminal Perth Amboy, is in the process of defining its development plans for the use of this mothballed site as an independent third party storage facility for petroleum and bio-fuel products.*

**Swearing In Ceremony  
Perth Amboy Police Officers**

**January 6, 2014**

- Aneudy Alfonso**
- Wilson M. Tavarez**
- Christopher J. Miranda**
- Jorge Arocho**
- Mathew W. Vasquez**
- Juan Correa Jr.**
- Steven Morillo-Collado**

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Child Diagnostic & Treatment Center**



## What's All the Hype about Energy Drinks?

By Kristin Carlino, RD  
Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - It's not surprising that energy drink companies entice us with promises of a "big bad buzz" or "wings when you need them." Who wouldn't want more energy? It's hard to resist the allure of a pick-me-up to help you stay alert and energized.

Since their introduction less than 20 years ago, the marketing of energy drinks has been tied up in the idea of excitement and rebellion. With names like "Monster," "Rockstar," and "Cocaine," these drinks are marketed to appeal to those with a taste for danger.

But these "functional beverages," which supposedly provide increased vigor and concentration, can also be risky. Energy drinks are cited as a

possible cause of thousands of emergency room visits each year, and there are reports of a growing number of deaths among adults and young people who consumed energy drinks.

A widely-cited report by the Drug Abuse Warning Network, a public health surveillance project of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, found that energy-drink-related ER visits doubled between 2007 and 2011, from 10,068 to 20,783, with complaints including stomach pain, vomiting, anxiety, abnormal heart rates, and other side effects associated with energy drinks.

There's nothing mysterious about why energy drinks perk people up or why they can have side effects; it's the caf-

feine. The American Beverage Association, a trade group that represents energy drink manufacturers, voluntarily cautions against the use of caffeinated product by children, pregnant women, and people with caffeine sensitivity.

But caffeine is not the only dangerous ingredient to look out for – energy drinks are also packed with megadoses of sweeteners, vitamins and herbal stimulants which, in large concentrations, can have a toxic effect on our bodies.

Marketers have also re-positioned what was originally a frat party staple, "pinking up" these fizzy, sweet beverages and purporting to promote health, vitality, and weight loss, especially to women.

Energy drinks are also in the spotlight because of the easy

access those 18 and younger have to the sheer volume of energy stimulating products. Most energy drinks are heavily sweetened and easy to drink, which appeals to a younger demographic. Incidents of minors experiencing dangerous side effects, and even death, from consuming too many energy drinks at one time are on the rise.

Premixed alcoholic energy drinks have been banned by the Food and Drug Administration but that doesn't stop individuals from mixing their own. People who consume energy drinks and alcohol don't realize how drunk they are, and are more at risk of dangerous behaviors than people who are just drinking alcohol alone.

The bottom line is - energy drinks do not enhance per-

formance, either on the playing field, at work or at social gatherings. Getting caffeine gradually from coffee or tea is a more healthful way to go. Of course, eating properly and getting more sleep are the best solutions to feeling more energized.

Kristin is a registered dietitian and part of the Institute for Weight Loss at Raritan Bay Medical Center in Old Bridge, NJ. The Institute provides individualized medical and surgical solutions and support for individuals seeking weight loss, who have been unable to lose weight through conventional dieting, exercise or weight loss medication. To attend a seminar or make an appointment, call 1-855-TIME-4-ME.

### Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Services at Cathedral International

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY, N.J. – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and legacy will be celebrated at 10 a.m., Monday, January 20, 2014 at The Cathedral, 277 Madison Avenue.

King Day service at The Cathedral is one of the annual community events many look forward to attending. Pastor Henry Rodgers, staff pastor at the church recalls King Day services at Second Baptist Church (now Cathedral International) when located at 101 Broad Street. He said, "Since Dr. King's Day has been in existence, it has been an honor to convene a service where all generations and ethnicities come together to pay respect to the living philosophy of this great man."

Leaders from various houses of worship will attend and share in reflections on the King Philosophy. In addition, the Perth Amboy High School Concert Band, Cathedral International's Joy Bells Children's Choir and Cathedral Warriors will participate on the program.

Keynote speaker is Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr., Lead Pastor of Cathedral International. In 2013, Bishop Hilliard celebrated 30 years pastoring Cathedral International. Everyone is welcome to attend this free service. Call (732) 826-5295 for more information



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#### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

**RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NJ**

Sealed bids will be received at the RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ on Friday, January 17, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. for the following:  
**REQUEST FOR BIDS**

#### **2013-2014 FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR THE RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA EARLY LEARNING CENTER**

In compliance with the proposal form and specifications and instructions to Bidders, on file in the RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ

Bid Proposal Package (including proposal form, specifications and instructions to Bidders) is available to bidders at the RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy, New Jersey on or after January 8, 2014. The BID Proposal Packet is also available at [www.rbaymca.org](http://www.rbaymca.org).

Sealed bids will be received when called for by the President and CEO or his designee at the time and place set forth above in this Notice. Said Bids can be mailed to RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA, P.O. Box 148, Perth Amboy, NJ 08862 or hand delivered to the RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA 357 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ prior to the date and time stated. **THE RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LATE DELIVERY BY ANY COURIER OR THE POSTAL SERVICE.**

Bidders are required to comply with:

- (1) Affirmative Action Regulations requirement of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27;
- (2) P.L. 2004, C.57 which amends and supplements the business registration provisions of N.J.S.A. 52:32-44

Each bidder must strictly comply with all requirements for a regular bid as directed or required by the specification and the Statutes in such case made and provided.

The YMCA reserves the right to reject any and all bids if deemed in the best interest of the RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA to do so and said actions are subject to the approval of the President and CEO and Board of Directors. Notice is hereby given to all bidders that if their bids are informal, defective, or irregular, the same will be rejected.

Respectfully,

Steve Jobin  
President & CEO

RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA  
357 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy NJ 08861  
P 732 442 3632 F 732 324 6359 [www.rbaymca.org](http://www.rbaymca.org)

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Fax (732) 826-1339  
88 Smith Street  
Perth Amboy NJ 08861  
Larimartravel@hotmail.com

## Vitale Bill To Help Woodbridge Developmental Center Residents Stay In The Community Passed By Senate

### *Legislation Would Authorize Sale of State Property for Integrated Special Needs Housing*

Press Release  
TRENTON – With the impending closure of the Woodbridge Developmental Center, a bill sponsored by Senator Joseph F. Vitale would provide a sensible solution to ensure a transition into the community of many residents of the Developmental Center was approved today by the full Senate.

“The residents of the Woodbridge Developmental Center are valued members of the Woodbridge community and it is important that we try to find housing for them in the town that many of them have lived in for years,” said Senator

Vitale, D-Middlesex. “I have long advocated for the need to create integrated community housing for people with disabilities. It is my hope that this project will be developed in such a way as to become a model within the State.”

The bill, S-855, would authorize the state to sell to Woodbridge Township a 15.5 acre property located in the Avenel section. This property would be dedicated for housing and recreational purposes with a portion of the housing dedicated to allow for the integration of special needs housing for those with developmental disabilities.

The 2011 Task Force on the Closure of State Developmental Centers in binding recommendations determined that the Woodbridge Developmental Center must be closed within the next five years. This decision was to help New Jersey become in accordance with the 1999 Supreme Court Decision *Olmstead v. L.C.*, which requires an integration of individuals into the community and out of residential centers whenever appropriate.

The bill was unanimously approved by the Senate. It now heads to the General Assembly for further consideration.

**Do you or someone you know have Old Photographs or Documents?**  
The Kearny Cottage Historical Society is Looking for Old Photos and Documents of Perth Amboy, South Amboy, Woodbridge, Fords, etc. (Local Area)  
For an Archiving Project - Your Photos & Documents will be scanned into digital format & returned to you.  
*For more info please call 732-293-1090*

## National YoungArts Foundation Announces

### 2014 YoungArts Winners

*Adjenai Worrell of Perth Amboy, NJ is a*

*YoungArts Honorable Mention Winner in Popular voice*

Press Release January 7, 2014  
MIAMI, FL– Adjenai Worrell of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, who is a homeschooled student, is a National YoungArts Foundation Honorable Mention Winner in Popular Voice. Out of approximately 11,000 applications from students in ten disciplines across the literary, performing, visual and design arts fields, Adjenai has been recognized for her outstanding work and accomplishments.

“Every year I look forward to reviewing our applications because each one is so inspiring,” stated Paul T. Lehr, President & CEO of the National YoungArts Foundation. “I congratulate all 687 Winners who are incredibly talented and are who we consider to be the most promising young artists in America today.”

YoungArts Winners are designated into three categories—Finalist, Honorable Mention and Merit—and are selected through a blind adjudication process. Honorable Mention award Winners receive at least \$250 and along with all 2014 Winners are eligible to participate in the Emmy-nominated HBO series YoungArts MasterClass and in YoungArts’ regional programs—YoungArts Miami (February 12-17, 2014), YoungArts Los Angeles (March 18-23, 2014) and YoungArts New York (March 31-April 6, 2014)—space permitting. During these life-changing experiences, participants will take intense master classes and workshops with internationally renowned artists and will have the opportunity to present their work to

the public.


All Winners receive a certificate of achievement, a recommendation letter, and the choice to be added to the YoungArts Student List Service (SLS). If added, their information will be sent to participating colleges, universities and professional schools. These schools have expressed interest in identifying young artists they may offer opportunities for admission and/or financial aid, and may be in touch with Winners regarding scholarship opportunities.

Winners also become part of the YoungArts alumni network of 17,000 artists, some of whom have gone on to become leading professionals in their fields including actresses Vanessa Williams, Viola Davis, and Kerry Washington; actor, musician, and filmmaker Adrian Grenier; four-time Tony Award nominee Raúl Esparza; CEO of American Ballet Theatre Rachel Moore; recording artists Nicki Minaj, Chris Young and Josh Gro-

ban; Metropolitan Opera star Eric Owens; musicians Terence Blanchard and Jennifer Koh; choreographer Desmond Richardson; visual artist Hernan Bas; and internationally acclaimed multimedia artist Doug Aitken. YoungArts maintains a relationship with its alumni by integrating them into national programs and local events, supporting their projects and seeking ways to promote their artistic ideas and establish connections for them with YoungArts’ partners around the country.

YoungArts is the exclusive nominating agency for the U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts, the highest honor that can be awarded to any artistically talented graduating high school senior. Every year YoungArts nominates 60 YoungArts Winners to the White House appointed Commission on Presidential Scholars, 20 of whom are then selected to become U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts.

Perth Amboy  
Historic Calendar  
2014



**2014 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 Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy City Hall, High Street, Ludwig’s Pharmacy, 475 Brace Ave. and Fertigs Dept. Store, 195 New Brunswick Ave. For more info call 732-293-1090.

### **Get in the Game**

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Branch YMCA is starting an Adult Basketball League (Ages 18+) beginning February 14. The weekly games will be played on Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. with times determined by the number of teams that are registered. Scores and standings will be recorded online and games will be refereed. The teams can have 5-12 players each and teams must submit a roster prior to start of the season. The cost is \$700\* per team (\$100 deposit due at registration). Balance due before your first game (\*includes team shirts and ref fees). If you have any questions please contact Mike Manfre, Physical Director at 732-316-8208 or mike.manfre@ymcaofmews.org.

### **Tropical**

### **Island Night**

SAYREVILLE - Our Lady of Victory Knights of Columbus Council # 2061 will host a Tropical Island Party on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 7pm until midnight. The Island Party will be held at the Council home located at 775 Washington Road, directly across from the Parlin post office. The evening event will include an open bar with tropical drinks, beer wine and soda and a buffet dinner and desert. There will also be dancing to tropical music and tropical island entertainment. Tickets are \$ 35 per person payable with reservations. For more info or to purchase tickets please call John at 732-237-9922. Escape the doldrums of winter and join us for an evening of fun.

### **Zumba**

### **Fitness Classes**

The Sayreville Recreation Department will continue to offer Zumba and Core Fitness on Thursdays at 3:45 p.m.

Classes start January 16<sup>th</sup> and run 8 weeks. Classes are located at Samsel Upper Elementary School on Ernston Road, in the auxiliary gym. Fee is \$60. Pre-registration is required. Registration starts January 2, 2014. For more information please call Denise at 732-525-9536 or email zumbasayreville@gmail.com

### **Lego Drive**

SOUTH AMBOY - The Sadie Pope Dowdell Library of South Amboy is looking for donations of LEGO’s for future programs! We are asking that anyone that wishes to donate any regular model making size pieces to please drop them off at the library during our regular business hours. The library is located at 100 Harold G Hoffman Plaza off of O’Leary Blvd, adjacent to the High/Middle school. For hours and directions please visit our website at www.dowdell.org.

## Attn: Residents with Parking Permits

Press Release  
PERTH AMBOY - As a courtesy reminder to resident's within the permit zones. Please be advised that your present residential permit expired: December 31, 2013.

The 2014 permits are available in our office between the hours of 9-5 Monday through Friday.

Per City ordinance, we require a valid NJ driver's license and valid vehicle registration card. Both documents MUST have the same address within the requesting permit zone.

As a courtesy the PAPU office has extended the period of time allotted for permit renewal to January 31st. If your 2014 permit is not renewed and visibly placed on vehicle beginning February 1st you WILL receive a summons.

Any questions feel free to contact our office. Thank you in advance for your prompt cooperation with this matter.

PARKING SERVICES  
UTILITY  
151 JEFFERSON ST.  
PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861  
TEL#732-826-9223  
FAX#732-826-5012

## Perth Amboy Police on TV

Press Release  
PERTH AMBOY - On Saturday, Jan. 25th at 7 p.m. the Perth Amboy Police Department will be showcased on a news program called Operation 7. Save a Life on ABC with Bill Ritter. The show will be rebroadcast the next day at 5:30 a.m. and will be available at 7online.com after it airs.

## St. Patrick's Day Parade

SOUTH AMBOY - 2014 St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 8th at 2 p.m. Anyone wishing to join the Parade Committee and help organize and present this wonderful event should contact Councilman Mickey Gross at 732-721-5031. Grand Marshal's Night January 31 at the AOH Hall 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. honoring Grand Marshal Monsignor John Gordon, Deputy Grand Marshal Colonel John F. O'Connell, Honorary Grand Marshal Assemblyman Craig Coughlin. All are welcome. \$35 includes food entertainment and more. Tickets are on sale at the YMCA office and the AOH hall.

## Reading Fundamentals/Book Reading Club

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library and Family Ministries invite all children of pre-K thru 8th Grade for a Reading Fundamentals/Book Reading Club. Entrance is paid with a donation of a non-perishable food item to our Food Pantry. Sandwiches, cookies, hot chocolate and tea will be offered. Sunday, January 19 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Holy Spirit Hall. Registration is necessary. Contact the parish office at 732-826-4859.

## Edison AARP Chapter 3446

EDISON - Edison AARP Chapter 3446 will meet on January 20 at 1:00 pm. The meeting will take place at the American Legion Hall, 167 Brower Ave, Edison, NJ. Walter Stochel Jr. of the Metuchen-Edison Historical Society will present a program on the history of South Edison. The chapter has scheduled a February 12th trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to see "Beer & Broken Hearts," starring the Tom Gills Band. Call Mary Ann 732-287-3659 for reservations. All trips are open to the public. Canned food for MCFOOD and misc items for hospitals and nursing homes will be collected at the meeting. For additional information visit our website at [www.edisonaarp.org](http://www.edisonaarp.org).

# Senior Scene

## Happenings

### Perth Amboy

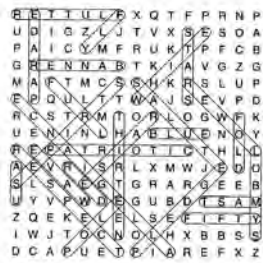
- WED. Jan. 15 Simpson Seniors, 10 a.m., Williamson Hall, High St.
- Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
  - St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
  - Holy Trinity Seniors, 1 p.m., Church Hall, Lawrie & Johnstone St.
- THURS. Jan. 16 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- MON. Jan. 20 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- TUES. Jan. 21 Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.
- Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
- WED. Jan. 22 Simpson Seniors, 10 a.m., Williamson Hall, High St.
- Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
  - St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
- THURS. Jan. 23 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

### South Amboy

- MON. Feb. 3 St. Mary's Seniors, noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- WED. Feb. 12 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**

### Answers From Puzzle On Page 15



## LOOKING BACK

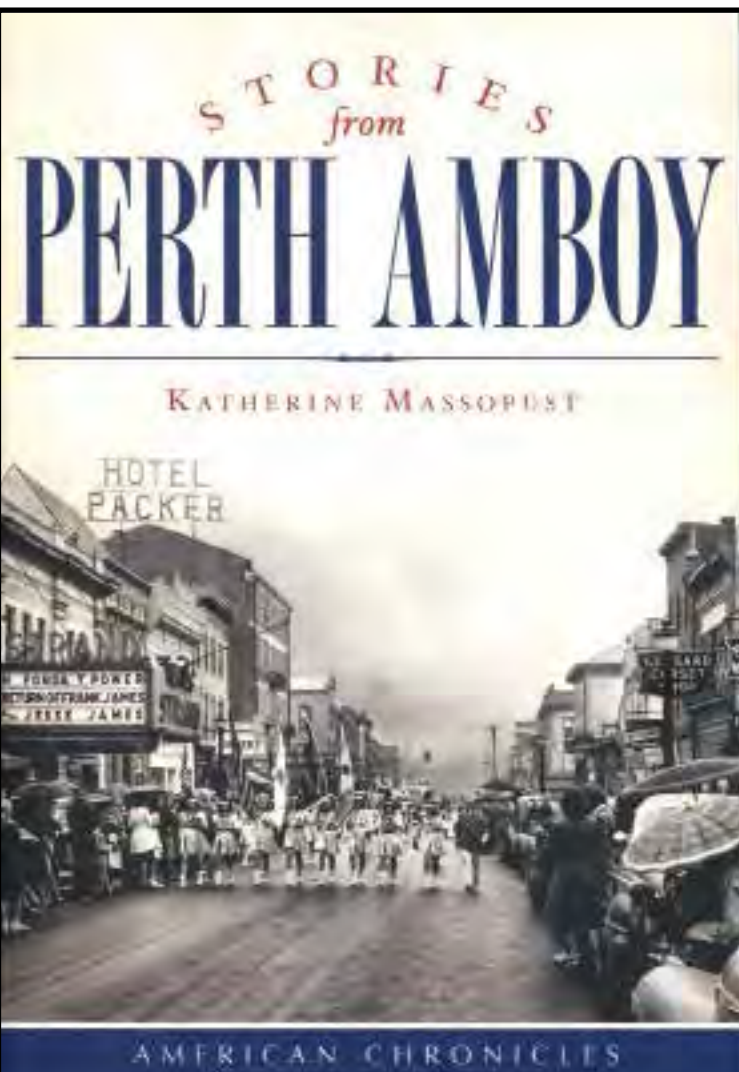


PERTH AMBOY - Summer 1942. Barbara Franko (Sottilaro), 2 years old, in a summer parade. Barbara did the hula hula through the entire length of the parade and won first prize in the float division. She was greeted with loud applause throughout the parade.

*\*Photo Courtesy of Barbara Sottilaro*

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

**Please Submit Community Events 2 Weeks in Advance!**



### Stories From Perth Amboy

PERTH AMBOY - Stories From Perth Amboy by Katherine Massopust is available at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy. For more info call Katherine at 732-261-2610 or call the Barge at 732-442-3000 - A Great Gift!

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If you wish to publish a Novena in The Amboy Guardian, you may use this coupon.

A Petition to St. Joseph	Cost \$10. Pre-payment required.	A Petition to St. Jude
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. <b>G.T.A.</b>	Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____ Initials at end of prayer _____ Please circle one prayer, and return form with check or money order to: <b>The Amboy Guardian</b> P.O. Box 127 Perth Amboy, NJ 08862	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. <i>Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.</i> <b>Thank you, St. Jude</b> <b>F.M.J.</b>
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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8. FURL	U E N I N L H A B L U E N O Y
9. LOWER	R E P A T R I O T I C T H L L
10. MAST	A E V R I S R L X M W J E D O
11. PARADE	S L S A E G T G R A R G E E B
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### Attorney

**ROBERT R. HYNES**  
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146 Market Street  
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Sat-9am-6pm  
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Tel: 732-376-1600  
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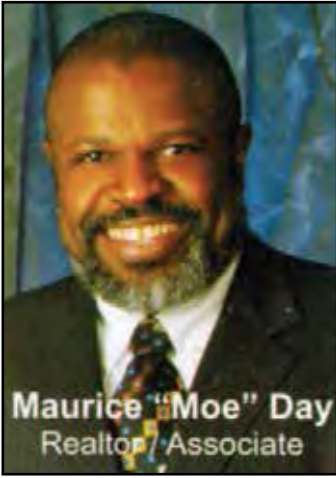
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Maurice "Moe" Day  
Realtor/Associate

*Congratulations to  
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**FORDS** - House In Perfect Condition to Move in .Neat And Clean Home With A Huge Backyard. Realtors, Show And Present Offer. **\$207,500**



**HOPELAWN** - Nicely Refurbished 3 Bedroom Rental In A Great Neighborhood, New Floors , New Windows, 2 Living Spaces(Family Room & Living Room). **\$1,600/Mo Rent**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Large single family in the prestige water front section of Perth Amboy, lots of potential needs some TLC, priced for a quick sale. is being sold strictly in AS IS condition. Buyer is responsible for C/O, termite cert and all repairs. Tenant pays \$1465.00 lease ends 4-30-14. **\$99,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Great investment 4 family, good condition, Not Short Sale, "Sold As Is." **\$389,900**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Come and see this charming house, bring reasonable offer, put love and tender in and live with peace of mind in the waterfront area. Very Spacious house. 5 det. Garages. 1000 gal. Inground oil tank. buyer responsible for C/O, smoke cert. and any repairs. **\$350,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Very well kept with large rooms, eat in kitchen with newer appliances. One car detached garage. Walk to town, bus & shopping center. **\$250,000**



**WOODBIDGE** - Extra Large updated Kitchen which was done as part of a \$100,000.00 plus addition. Washer/Dryer Set up on 1st floor off kitchen and also upstairs, very convenient to wash clothes on both floors, Back yard has a nice deck that leads to a beautiful backyard which is perfect size for entertaining guest in the summer Must See. **\$344,900**



**ELIZABETH** - Great little gem to live in or use as investment. Short Sale with 2 very eager sellers, present all offers. **\$139,900**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Home is a short sale, buyer is responsible for all inspection issues and c/o. There is a 2nd lien that has to be satisfied. 1st lien offering 2nd lien \$3000, still have -\$5500 is the difference from amount of \$8500 in which 2nd lien will approve release of property. Previous short sale was approved at \$55000. **\$55,000**