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AMBOY GUARDIAN

• VOL. 3 NO. 42 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2014 •

Kushner Defiant

Sends NJ Super Lawyer to File Suit Against Perth Amboy

PERTH AMBOY - Developer Charles Kushner has decided to play hardball with the City of Perth Amboy. Attorney Richard A. Crooker filed suit on behalf of Kushner against the City of Perth Amboy in the Middlesex County Courts. This was after the Council rejected a revised Landings Plan presented by Kushner representatives.

The representatives made this presentation of the revised plans at the 11/25/13 Caucus/Council Meeting.

In the 12/4/13 *Amboy Guardian* an article stated: Part of the original plans for Landings at Harborside included views of Staten Island Sound and the Raritan Bay, a 4 mi. Walkway along the Waterfront, a marina, 8,500 ft. of retail space, ferry service to New York, shops, cafes and parks. Little of this has taken place.

Attorney Crooker has extensive experience in litigation in many cases involving developer disputes. Some of these cases involved transactions with Brownfields, real estate properties, technological and energy related issues. He is

recognized as a New Jersey Super Lawyer.

When representatives from Kushner Industries came before the Perth Amboy Council at the 11/25/13 Caucus/Council Meeting to present a revised plan, most of the speakers who came up after the presentation were none too happy. Some of the homeowners of the Landings lamented the fact Kushner blamed an economic downturn for not being able to complete the Perth Amboy project.

The Landings homeowners were upset that the revised plans called for a large amount of rentals. In an story published in the 6/22/11 *Amboy Guardian*, there was a meeting by an organization called the Waterfront Homeowner Association which met on High Street on 6/13/11. There was about 70 concerned residents of Perth Amboy along with the Mayor and Helga van Eckert, Exec. Dir. of Economic and Community Development UEZ/BID. The main topic of discussion was the Landings at Harborside Project.

A majority of those attending were Landings homeown-



Attorney
Richard Crooker

ers and renters or those who lived in the areas where the Landings developers were supposed to build.

Diaz and Eckert addressed some of the questions about the Landings Project.

The Landings Project was being scaled back at that time. Some of the comments made at that meeting by the audience members included: "Kushner will give you what you ask for - but it's junk!"

According to van Eckert, "A new developer will be tak-

Continued on Page 2

Pallone Announces \$2 Million for Repairs to South Amboy's Raritan Bay Waterfront Park

Press Release 1/14/14
WASHINGTON, DC — Today, Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) announced that South Amboy, NJ will be receiving more than \$2 million in federal funding to repair the city's Waterfront Park, which was damaged as a result of Superstorm Sandy. The funding is being provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) via the Sandy aid package Pallone fought for in Congress.

"These grants help to lessen the financial hit that our local governments still face as communities continue to recover from Sandy," said Congressman Pallone. "And as we continue to rebuild, we have a unique opportunity to improve our public infrastructure so it is stronger and can withstand future storms."

This allocation provides \$2,012,429.20 in federal funding to South Amboy to

repair the pedestrian bridge, walkway, and lighting at the Raritan Bay Waterfront Park that was damaged as a result of Superstorm Sandy. The funding announced today will cover the costs for repairs to the park's pedestrian bridge, including two new reinforced concrete walls and 528 square feet of brick veneer. The walkway will also be repaired by re-grading the area, installing an estimated 1,865 cubic yards of fill and 242 cubic yards of rock, and pouring a concrete pad to reset an estimated 2,092 square feet of existing brick paver. Additionally, an estimated 8,366 square feet of new brick pavers will be installed to replace the ones that were washed away. The project will also include the installation of additional sheet piling, as well as a concrete retaining wall around the facility in order to protect the park from future damages.

Pallone Announces \$477,520 in Federal Funding for Perth Amboy Fire Department

Press Release 1/15/14
WASHINGTON, DC — Today, Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) announced that the Perth Amboy Fire Department in Perth Amboy, NJ has been awarded a \$477,520 federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant. The SAFER program is a part of the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program. Funds under the SAFER program are intended to support the hiring of firefighters and the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters.

"I am very pleased that the Department of Homeland Se-

curity has selected the Perth Amboy Fire Department to receive this federal grant," said Congressman Pallone. "These funds will allow Perth Amboy to hire additional firefighters and first responders and to recruit new volunteer firefighters to join the department, making the community an even safer place to live."

The goal of SAFER grants is to enhance the ability of fire departments across the country to maintain 24-hour staffing and to assure that their communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. This funding allows departments to increase the number of frontline

firefighters on staff, as well as enlist and retain volunteer firefighters who are properly trained in the operations of firefighting and emergency response. The SAFER program provides approximately \$320 million in competitive grants to fire departments and statewide or local volunteer firefighter support groups.

The AFG program is part of a coordinated ongoing effort by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Department of Homeland Security to improve the nation's ability to respond to emergency situations.

Snow Removal and Recycling Council Meeting 1/15/14

By: Joseph L. Kuchie
SOUTH AMBOY - Issues raised about snow removal and recycling pickup after the recent snowstorm in South Amboy were discussed during last Wednesday's city council meeting.

Resident Barbara Pasternick criticized the lack of communication from the city to its residents both before and after the storm. She said she wasn't given any updates about the weather conditions and city officials did not answer her phone calls regarding recycling or the upcoming council meeting.

"The communication during



Councilman
Mickey Gross

the snowstorm was abdominal; there was none. I thought

Continued on Page 2

Perth Amboy Caucus & City Council Meeting Wednesday January 22, 2014 - 4:30 p.m. & 7 p.m.

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South Amboy

Continued From Page 1

we learned from Sandy,” Pasternick said. “The only thing that was there was a warning about the snowstorm. There was nothing until a week later...I called about the garbage pickup and the meeting and got no response.”

Councilwoman Zusette Dato defended the city saying she did receive updates from the Nixel alert system and a special pickup was provided for recycling to make up for the one lost during the storm.

“I got an update saying that there were centers setup and that the local YMCA was available,” Dato said. “It took us time to work that out but Councilman Gross worked it out so we could get a special pickup which we weren’t originally supposed to get.”

Business Administrator Camille Tooker also pointed out that normally a delayed pickup is not an issue and that usually there aren’t rescheduled pick-

ups. She said that residents would typically have to wait until the next scheduled pickup.

“In the past when recycling wasn’t picked up it wasn’t as big an issue... this time people had their holiday recycling,” Tooker said. “Normally if there’s a snowstorm they will not pick up recycling and they will not come until the next time...we were lucky to have them come into town.”

Snow removal was also a large concern to some residents including Ken Feely, who explained that the snow removal on many streets were not up to par.

“Lately it’s been getting worse and worse throughout the entire town,” Feely said. “I understand there’s cut backs but there’s still an obligation to the town to make sure it’s taken from curb to curb.”

President Joseph Connors said that cars parked on the side of the road prevent plows from getting the entire street

cleared after a storm. Feely explained that even streets without cars parked on the side were only being plowed down the middle.

“They come right down the middle of the street and don’t do anything...they leave snow five feet out from the curb,” Connors said. “I’ve measured it many times. For years I’ve taken my own snow blower into the street. I shouldn’t have to be doing this anymore.”

Resident Nancy McLaughlin also pointed out that many crosswalks in town were not cleaned after the storm and it made it difficult to cross streets over the weekend. The council said they did not know who was responsible for crosswalks but President Connors noted that he would typically clear the crosswalk near his home.

All council members were in attendance for Wednesday’s meeting.

Landings

Continued From Page 1

ing over the development of property north of Washington Street going toward the rte. 440 Bridge. Kushner will be staying but the old contractors will be leaving.”

The Mayor said that some of the changes proposed included having retail space at the Landings scaled back. This was so the downtown area does not suffer. Restaurants (Sciortino’s is one) will definitely be in the plans. “We cannot have 2-3 bedroom units. We need to create ratable’s and we are hoping to be a part of the Water Ferry stop, but we want to get the train station done first. I was very blunt with Mr. Kushner. I am not selling out the City of Perth Amboy. I am trying to sell the City as a Historic Site that must be protected. Kushner needs to clean up sites and the Waterfront should be for the entire community.”

cerned about the impact the Landings Project would have on the school system.

One of the Landings Residents (Daisy Gonzalez) was not impressed at the artist rendering and the presentation. All she could see is that there is a tight space in the Landings now, and she could not see how all the amenities could be contained in such a small space now.

The common thread that the Landings at Harborside residents have voiced throughout the years when attending public meetings include the following:

- 1.) The revision from the original plans where most of the amenities that were promised have not come into fruition.*
- 2.) The amount of rentals
- 3.) The unsafe conditions of some of the existing buildings have not been corrected.
- 4.) Kushner blaming the economic conditions of not being able to complete the Landings Project even while pursuing and purchasing bigger properties.

A copy of that lawsuit (filed on October 31, 2012) was presented to the City Council in one of the meetings held in late 2012.

A copy of this lawsuit was also forwarded to the Amboy Guardian.

These are some of the charges filed against Kushner in that suit:

The causes of action asserted in this Complaint include (a) violations of the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act; (b) negligence; (c) rescission; (d) breach of contract; (e) breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing; (f) breach of warranty; (g) breach of implied warranty of habitability; (h) fraud and misrepresentation; (i) promissory estoppel; and (j) unjust enrichment.

Out of the 17 luxury buildings promised in the project only 2 buildings have been built.

*Other amenities promised were a marina with boat slips, retail shopping, restaurants, a hotel, a 6000 sq. ft. state of the art health club. Discrete and secure underground parking, a cultural center, a high speed fairy service to New York City, especially the Wall Street Area. They also were promised a security system and owners’ cable television at all the luxury buildings.

An article published in the 8/10/11 Amboy Guardian reported: the Landings Project had been scaled down to 26 acres from the original 48 acres of land to be developed.

Representatives from the Kushner Industries gave a presentation at a PARA Meeting with a large crowd, mostly from the Landings Development.

At that meeting, plans were discussed on renovating the old Fire House on High Street and the old Police Station and Courthouse on Fayette Street.

During that meeting, Councilman and PARA Member Kenneth Gonzalez was con-

Meanwhile in that same time-frame (2007) Kushner Companies purchased a \$1.8 billion building in Manhattan (666 Fifth Avenue). At the time, this was the record for the most money paid for a single asset.

Kushner’s lawsuit against the City of Perth Amboy was filed in spite of the fact that the company still owes \$4.5 million to the City.

In an article published in the Amboy Guardian in late 2012, many of the Landings residents filed suit against Kushner Enterprises this year.

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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.

Poet's

Wednesday

WOODBIDGE - February 12 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Workshop 7 p.m. Featuring Edwin Romond & Martha Silano. Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. For more info call 732-634-0413.

Pierogi & Bake Sale

PERTH AMBOY - St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church is having a pierogi and bake sale. Call 732-826-7067 to place your order from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. from January 28th to 31st. All gourmet items are handmade. Potato pierogi are \$7. Cakes (nut, poppy-seed, apricot, raspberry & prune) are \$11. Pickup orders at 404 Division St., Perth Amboy on Tuesday, February 4th-6th between 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

When Cars Fly!
Or At Least Drive Themselves



flying car



self-driving car

Do you remember the ‘80’s Action/Adventure show, *Knight Rider*? In the show, the car’s onboard computer, KITT drove itself. What about flying cars in the futuristic cartoon, *The Jetsons* and in the movies: *Star Wars II: Attack of the Clones* and the cult sci-fi film, *Blade Runner*? The future is nearer than you think. Science Fiction is becoming Science Fact.

In last week’s edition of CBS *60 Minutes* and this past week’s edition of CBS *Sunday Morning*, there was a segment on Autonomous (self-driving) cars. The Autonomous cars were recently featured at this year’s Detroit Motor Show. Google, Mercedes-Benz and Lexus all are developing vehicles that drive themselves, as are the German companies BMW and Volvo. In conjunction with Nissan, Great Britain is planning to lead the way in autonomous cars. Nissan had the first public road test of a

driverless car on a highway in Japan. Volvo has announced their plans to put 100 autonomous vehicles on public roads around Gothenburg, Sweden, by 2017. Google has announced that autonomous cars will be on the road in 2017. Tesla states theirs will be on the road by 2016.

The onboard computer for autonomous cars was developed on the same premise of schooling fish since the fish never seem to touch one another or bump into each other in crowded spaces. These same concepts are being used by sensors, lasers, microwaves, radar tracking and onboard computers. Sensors indicate if another car is in the vicinity to avoid collisions.

Safety is the top priority for autonomous cars. Zero automobile accidents and zero fatalities are the primary goals for the future.

**Continued on Page 9*

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Statement on
Kushner

It is disappointing that Kushner has refused to compromise on his proposal to complete construction of the Landings.

Design Flaws
in State
Government

The deliberate traffic problems at the George Washington Bridge demonstrates the problems in the Port Authority of NY-NJ and the 1947 NJ State Constitution. Creating an independent Port Authority monopoly means its actions are not subject to review by the legislature. This lack of

As residents we have dealt with his unwillingness to correct the poor workmanship and many construction problems, which resulted in our law suit against the builders. Our position is still that the city should

not approve further construction until Kushner settles our claims to make the existing buildings whole.

Daniel Santo Pietro
Admiral Building

effective oversight can lead to an abuse of power. If it can’t be reformed it should be abolished.

The 1947 NJ Constitution was designed to create a powerful and autocratic Governor by taking away rights from the people. What other states have followed this bad example? The “line item veto” creates a powerful ruler who can affect the legislature instead of implementing the laws. Unlike most other states NJ does not

allow citizens to vote for the County Prosecutor (or District Attorney). An independently elected County Prosecutor would likely have investigated the sabotage right after it happened. The regular election of judges would ensure their independence and fill vacancies when needed.

Power can’t be abused by a Governor or independent agency if they don’t have it.

Ronald A. Sobieraj

Bridgegate
Pales In
Comparison
To This

First of all, what’s with this “Gate” thing? Seems like, ever since Watergate, every alleged scandal gets the “Gate” suffix. That is all except Benghazi, I haven’t heard anyone refer to that as Benghazigate, not yet anyway.

That aside, the unconfirmed news, that I heard from anonymous sources, allege that when our Governor, The Honorable Chris Christie, the man who “we the people” of New Jersey entrusted to lead us in these trying times, was involved in something much

worse than a “traffic jam”. The rumor has it that when he was in the seventh grade he was caught chewing gum in class.

That’s right; you got it, “Gumgate.”

It was further alleged that because he brought enough for everyone, this egregious violation of the unwritten rule against gum chewing, was overlooked. Can you imagine?

Although this is just a rumor, I think forming a committee to investigate this is in order or, at the very least, have a meeting. Never mind the cost to the taxpayer; we are a bottomless pit of money, that’s what our politicians believe anyway, so what’s a few thousand dollars here and there.

Now I know the, “Bridgegate traffic jam” is just a “bump in the road,” (or was that the

other thing?), but it’s the principal of it all. After all, this is the first case of political retribution in our fair state, and we can’t let that go.

I wish the politicians that “we the people,” elected would put as much energy and resources into fixing the problems that plague us as they do trying to smear each other. Maybe, just maybe, then the people who are still homeless because of Sandy would have a place to live. Or maybe our property taxes would go down so our seniors wouldn’t have to eat bologna sandwiches just so they could keep the houses that they worked for all their lives. Nah, that wouldn’t be progressive.

Joe Bayona

Martin Luther
King And A
Jersey Guy

On Monday, January 20, we will observe the birthday of Martin Luther King. This day will always be a special day for me.

I had a dream and that was to go to college and play baseball. I just didn’t have the grades for a Big Time School. I received a call one day from my former coach at St. Peter’s High School in New Brunswick. His name was Bud Murphy. He said, “How would you like to go down South and play for the University of Alabama?” Murphy said, “You have the G.I. Bill and some extra money in your pocket, plus you will have the greatest Athletic Director in the U.S.A. and his name is Paul Bear Bryant.”

I was on my way to a place

called Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Things were much different when I was down there. The Players from Alabama or any other State could care less about what color you were. The problem was the cities and towns and Governor George Wallace didn’t help.

I saw Martin Luther King Jr. once after a demonstration in Birmingham. I gave him the Victory Sign and he returned it with a smile and a wave. Paul Bear Bryant was Football Coach and also the Athletic Director while I was there. He was far ahead of the game. He wanted black players and he got them. He scheduled a good Alabama Team against a great U.S.C. Team. The game was played at Legion Field in Birmingham before a full house. U.S.C. was loaded with great black players. U.S.C. defeated Alabama and the game wasn’t even close. Bryant got his point across to the press.

Meanwhile Martin Luther King Jr. was laying the ground work for his dream but tragedy struck on April 14, 1968. Martin Luther King was assassinated. I sent a sympathy card to Coretta Scott King. She sent me a program from the Funeral at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta and a picture of her husband. That picture still hangs in my den. I used to get a Christmas Card from Coretta every year until she got very sick and lost her battle with cancer. Could Martin Luther King Jr. have become President of the United States? I don’t think so, but he laid the foundation for Barack Obama so forty years later his dream came true.

College sports was moving forward, too my friends. Rutgers had one spot left at the end of their schedule. In 1978 Frank Burns called Bear Bry-

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Published by Amboy Guardian LLC
P. O. Box 127 • Perth Amboy • New Jersey 08862
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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
IN WOODBRIDGE:	
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

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. 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	
WED. Jan. 22	City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m. City Hall, High St. City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
THURS. Feb. 6	Board of Education, 6 p.m. PAHS, Eagle Ave. Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
South Amboy	
WED. Feb. 5	City Council, Business, 6 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
Mon. thru Sat 3:00pm to 6:00PM
Sunday 12:00 noon to 4:30PM



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Perfect party for you!



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Buy 1 Dinner & Get
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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.

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Atlantic City



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, Fords, Sayreville, Old Bridge



\$66,000 for NJIT Program

PERTH AMBOY - At the 1/7/14 Board of Education Reorganization Meeting. Board of Education Milady Tejada questioned item No. 16 under the Curriculum portion of the agenda.

This was for approval for New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) to provide a Pre-College Academy in Technology and Science Summer Scholars Program at NJIT for approximately 40 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th grade, alumni students and (15) new 4th grade students that (3 per elementary school) in the Perth Amboy Scholars Program from July 7, 2014 to August 7, 2014 at an approximate cost of \$66,000. Tuition includes academic books, lunch and field trips. Funded through Federal funds. Transportation provided by the Perth Amboy Board of Education.

PAHS Principal Dr. Nestor Collazo stepped up to the podium to give a more detailed



Dr. Nestor Collazo
Principal PAHS



Board Member
Milady Tejada

explanation of why this program will be a worthwhile experience for the students to attend. "This will give the students a hands-on experience to work with world class scientists. This is in preparation to get into these fields."

There was a question as to whether or not the students attending this program would indeed go into this field.

Collazo said we are studying

the impact that this program is having on the students attending it. "So far those who have attended this program have been pursuing the careers offered. Budget constraints limits the amount of students that can attend. There are students in and out of the STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) Program that can attend this program."

TORN

Police Chief Benjamin Ruiz Given A Raise



Councilman
Kenny Gonzalez



Businessman
David Caba



Former Councilman
Fernando Gonzalez

PERTH AMBOY - Just squeaking by with a "No" vote from Councilman Bill Petrick and Council President Joel Pabon, Police Chief Benjamin Ruiz received a slight increase of about \$2700 over the maximum amount of the range in his salary category.

The increase was given despite impassioned pleas from different residents asking the Council to consider the finances of the City before they made their decision.

Former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez told the Council to consider the situation of citizens with taxes. "I understand everyone wants a raise, but the citizens are hurting. When do we stop spending the citizens money? It would be different if the finances were different. I was here when Fehrenbach negotiated a fair contract with the unions and he doesn't live here. When are you guys going to do this?"

Fernando Gonzalez continued, "My mortgage went up

because of tax increases."

Businessman David Caba said, "The average household (in the City) income is less than \$25,000/year. To give someone an increase given the incident that happened a month ago (Rodriguez shooting). This is a slap in the face to the taxpayers. I have nothing against Ruiz. He is a nice guy. What more is he doing to justify this increase. Sanitation workers took a paycut to keep their jobs. This individual (Ruiz) was in a campaign headquarters on election night which is a conflict of interest."

Resident Alan Silber made reference to a remark that Councilman Bill Petrick made earlier in the meeting. This was in reference to acoustics at the Art Center on the corner of Fayette and Reade Streets.

Petrick said, "Something should be done with the sound system." He wanted to know, "Perhaps we can get money to take care of that problem."

Silber continued, "We magi-

cally found money for the Police Chief."

Councilman Kenny Gonzalez gave a brief explanation as to why he voted "Yes" to give Ruiz a raise. "We have decreased spending and there was also another ordinance increasing salaries." K. Gonzalez also made reference to a picture that was shown by former Council President Ken Balut showing Ruiz at the Mayor's Reelection Campaign Headquarters in 2012. K. Gonzalez said, "Those pictures were taken off of my Facebook page. The pictures shown were taken after 9 p.m. and the police were there on security detail for the winning candidates."

Councilwoman Lisa Nanton who also voted, "Yes," said that this ordinance pertaining to the pay increase was discussed at a closed session. "We can't talk about personnel matters, but we debated about this."

Flag Presentation Perth Amboy - 1/15/14

*Photos by Paul W. Wang



Mayor Diaz and Police Chief Ruiz presents an American Flag to Marine Sergeant Joshua Hedberg



The Hedberg Family along with Mayor Diaz and Chief Ruiz proudly pose with Joshua. Marine Sergeant Joshua Hedberg will serve in Seoul, South Korea for two years. As a Communications Marine, he will be one of the men directly overseeing the security of the military networks running throughout the Pacific theater.

Comments from Council President Joel Pabon

PERTH AMBOY - Council President Joel Pabon made this statement to the Amboy Guardian regarding the Kushner lawsuit against the City of Perth Amboy: I find it hard to believe that Kushner turned around and sued us. I think it's (the lawsuit) petty. It was pretty clear that revised plan called for too much parking on High Street. It was a lot of simple things. I know they (Kushner Representatives) didn't want to put the parking at the bottom of the building because of the cost.

They should have worked with us. The City needs to sit down and see what can be done. I feel for the residents of Landings. I know they (Kushner Enterprise Representatives) were upset after the presentation they made at the 11/25/13 meeting. I thought they would work this out. Even if they had to scale it down, give us a chance to come back with something this City deserved. We're going to have to sit down together. It becomes such a slow process. They sue us - we sue them. I don't think any of us will be around at the end. Who wins here? Not Kushner, not the City, not the Landings Residents. The Residents there deserve to enjoy



Council President
Joel Pabon

their home. If some decide to leave at this point they will not get anything near what they paid. We sit and hope that Kushner will come back to us and give us a plan we could work with.

Those people (Landings Residents) waited so long. Give those people an opportunity to enjoy what they worked for. The City has to look at what their options are. We hope that something gets built there - something good. We hope to look for a middle ground. It's worth a try. If not, we need to sit down with the legal department. What are some of the options for the city at this point. We have to move forward, too.

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• Cleaning & Polishing
• Oral Cancer Screening
• Periodontal Evaluation
Non-Insured Patients With Coupon Only!
Expires: 3/10/14 AMG



Dr. Swati Gupta DDS
Phone: 732- 442-5151
Raritanbaydental@gmail.com

WHEN CALLING OR COMING IN, PLEASE PRESENT THIS AD (EVENING & SATURDAY APPTS. ARE AVAILABLE)

**CARIBBEAN NIGHT**
DINNER AND DANCING

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
183 Rector Street, Perth Amboy, NJ
Saturday, February 8th, 6pm—9pm
Delicious Caribbean dishes will be served

\$10 per person/12 & under free
to reserve tickets call 732-826-1594 or
email office@stpetersepiscopal.com



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.


Vendors Needed
SOUTH AMBOY - Vendors are needed for Vendor's Fair 2014, South Amboy Elks #784, 601 Washington Avenue, Saturday, February 23, 3 p.m. to 7p.m. For more info contact Saelks784@yahoo.com

Attend Council Meetings Have Your Voice Heard!

St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner
WOODBIDGE - The Annual Woodbridge Township Cultural Arts Commission St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 8, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Join us in support of the Woodbridge Township Cultural Arts Commission & The Barron Arts Center. A Traditional St. Patrick's Day Feast. Reservations Required. Call (732)634-0413.

Painting Chinese Gardens
WOODBIDGE - The Dr. Stephen Kaplan "A Taste of the Arts" Lecture Series: Painting Chinese Gardens will be held on Wednesday, February 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. This session examines Chinese gardens through art as well as the history on garden culture in China and garden design. Presented by Dr. Zoe Song-Yi Kwok. Reservations Required, call (732)634-0413.


Piano Quintet
SOUTH AMBOY - To all Chamber Music lovers! Artist-in-residence Lucia Nowik, violinist, returns to perform a concert with her piano quintet from the Juilliard School. The classic piano quintet, i.e. piano and string quartet, was an ensemble greatly favored by Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Franck and other late 19th and early 20th century composers. The exceptionally talented young musicians of this particular piano quintet represent the very finest of their generation in the world of music. Come and witness the joy these performers bring with them to every concert. February 9, at 4 p.m. at Saint Mary's RC church, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy.

**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



ENROLL FOR HEALTH INSURANCE TODAY!

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.

Trip to Disney's Aladdin

WOODBIDGE - There will be a trip to Disney's Aladdin on Thursday, March 6. Sponsored by the Woodbridge Township Recreation Department, 600 Main St., Woodbridge. Bus leaves the Community Center at 4 p.m. Show starts 8 p.m. \$80 pp. Space is limited! There are no refunds once payment is received. For more info call 732-596-4048 or email RecreationDepartment@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

OLP Open House

FORDS - Our Lady of Peace School's Open House Sunday, January 26, 2014, 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Amboy Ave, Fords, (GPS address 630 Amboy Ave, Edison, NJ) See your Future!!! Tour our classes rooms!! Before and aftercare available. Early Childhood EducationPrek3 & Prek4 available thru 8th grade. Full size gym and cafeteria. Monthly First Friday Masses...Religion for all grades. Spanish, Art, Music, Computers. Advanced Math and Language Arts for Middle School Grades. Sports Programs ...including basketball, cheerleading, softball, bowling and track! Our Lady of Peace School...serving the children of Woodbridge and the Surrounding Communities for 80 Years!!!

Free Throw Contest

PERTHAMBOY - The knights of Columbus - San Salvador council #299 will be holding their annual free throw contest for boys and girls ages 9-14 on Saturday, January 25th, 2014 at the YMCA, 367 New Brunswick avenue from 11am - 2pm. Pre-registration will take place at the YMCA until Wednesday, January 22nd, 2014. Parents are required to sign the registration form. Championship trophies will be awarded to all age groups, with champions moving to district contest on February 1st. For more information, please contact the Knights of Columbus free throw coordinator JB Vas at (732) 993-8262 or Steve Jobin (YMCA) at (732) 442-3632.

County Adds Fourth Medicine Drop Box to Tackle Local Prescription Drug Abuse

Press Release
MIDDLESEX COUNTY - NCADD of Middlesex County, Inc. is pleased to announce that the "Project Medicine Drop" project now has four locations in Middlesex County.

The "Project Medicine Drop" initiative allows citizens to safely dispose of their unused prescription medications in secure receptacles at law enforcement stations in East Brunswick, Perth Amboy and Sayreville and now Piscataway.

The four police departments that have agreed to host the medicine drop boxes will maintain custody of the deposited drugs and dispose of them according to their normal procedures for the custody and destruction of controlled dangerous substances. They will report the quantity of discarded drugs to the Division of Consumer Affairs on a quarterly basis.

Members of the public are urged to use the four sites 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year to dispose of their unused and expired prescription medications. The boxes enable consumers to drop off their unused or excess medications safely and securely. The four Middlesex County locations include:

East Brunswick
Police Department
1 Jean Walling Civic Center Drive
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
732-390-6917

Perth Amboy Police Department,
365 New Brunswick Avenue
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
732-442-4400

Sayreville Police Department,
1000 Main Street
Sayreville, NJ 08872
732-727-4444

Piscataway Police Department
555 Sidney Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854

732-562-2347

The program helps keep prescription drugs from falling into the hands of those who might make them available for abuse and prevents them from being flushed into the water supply or thrown into the trash, where they could contaminate the environment.

The drop boxes accept solid pharmaceuticals such as pills, capsules, patches, inhalers, and pet medications. They cannot accept syringes or liquids.

"Project Medicine Drop" is one component of the Division of Consumer Affairs' comprehensive effort to halt the diversion and abuse of prescription drugs.

Project Medicine Drop is inspired by the success of the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative. The Division's efforts also feature the New Jersey Prescription

Monitoring Program, a state-wide database that tracks prescription data on Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) and Human Growth Hormone (HGH) medications dispensed in New Jersey. They also include enhanced enforcement initiatives, including a comprehensive reorganization of the Division's Enforcement Bureau to focus on drug diversion investigations and indiscriminate prescribing by healthcare practitioners. Finally, it also includes strategies to reduce the supply of drugs available for abuse, and greater public awareness efforts.

There are currently over 40 drop box locations throughout of New Jersey. To find a location outside of Middlesex County, please go to www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/med-drop/locations.htm

Historical Exhibit: Hooked on the Presidents

WOODBIDGE - February 8-27, 2014 at the Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. Fiber artists Nola Heidbreder and Linda Pietz present a series of 44 rugs depicting the men who took the oath of office as President of the United States. Heidbreder & Pietz present the presidents as people rather than names we memorize out of history books. Learn more about the likes, dislikes, pets & other fun facts about the Presidents. Available for school or group viewing. For more info Call (732)634-0413.

NJ on Shuffle Concert Series

WOODBIDGE - Friday, March 7 - Jazz - the Tim Hornor Quintet at 7:30 p.m. at the Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. FREE admission for all events - \$5 Suggested Donation. In case of rain, outdoor concerts will be held indoors and seating will be on a first-come, first-seated basis. Call 732-634-0413 for Reservation Information. This program is funded in part by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Middlesex Co. Cultural and Heritage Commission with assistance thru a grant provided by NJ State Council on the Arts/Dept. of State.

Pallone Announces Fishery Disaster Aid Included in Omnibus Spending Bill

**\$75 million Allocated for Fishery
Disasters Including Those Declared
as a Result of Sandy**

Press Release 1/16/14
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Today, Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) announced the inclusion of the \$75 million in fishery disaster funds in the Fiscal Year 2014 Omnibus Appropriations bill. The bill will make funding available to commercial and recreational fishermen who suffered damage from Superstorm Sandy and other disasters declared in 2012 and 2013.

"This funding will be critical in supporting New Jersey's fishermen and fishing communities," said Pallone. "Since Sandy hit our coast, I have been fighting for fishery disaster aid to assist our recreational and commercial fishermen. These funds can be used for rebuilding marinas, docks and other fishery related infrastructure, as well as to help collect data to assist fishermen."

At Pallone's urging, Acting Secretary of Commerce, Rebecca Blank, declared a federal fishery resource disaster in

New Jersey on November 16, 2012, so local fishermen and businesses could get much-needed federal assistance in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy.

Last March, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a fisheries disaster assessment report estimating that Sandy caused total uninsured losses of \$78 million to \$121 million in New Jersey and \$77 million in New York. Following the release of these estimates, Pallone introduced the bipartisan Sandy Disaster Fisheries Relief Act, which would have appropriated \$193 million to fully fund the estimated cost to recover Sandy affected fisheries.

The \$75 million comes in addition to the \$5 million already appropriated for fishery disaster relief in New York and New Jersey through the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013.

The Teams Are Set! Are You?



Call for Special Advertising Rates
Deadline Friday, January 24, 2014 3 p.m.
732-896-4446 or 732-261-2610
Get the Party Started!

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The Community Voice

Continued from Page 4

ant and asked him to come up and play before a full house. The game was on and an undefeated Bama Team almost lost that game. I had a sports club at that time in East Brunswick in East Brunswick. I asked both coaches to speak at our meeting after the game. Frank Burns spoke at that meeting but Bear Bryant couldn't make it. He sent me a wire. It said, "Sorry I can't make it to speak at your club, but I have to go

back and prepare for our Bowl Game." He also said, "Say hello to Frank for me!!!! I think that Frank Burns is the greatest football coach that Rutgers ever had," signed Paul Bear Bryant.

Yes, my friends because over the years, I've had the privilege of meeting some of the greatest and nicest people in the world.

Thomas Francis Clark

Editorial

Self-Driving Cars

Continued from Page 4

The autonomous car will find a parking space, drive into it and park itself.

What does the average person think about this? Some people don't like the idea of not being in control of their vehicle when it is given to a computer. (BTW: There is a manual override in the autonomous car in case you wondered.)

Personally, when I turned 17, I couldn't wait to get my driver's license. Now, at age 46 it seems that driving in Perth Amboy is like driving in an obstacle course.

The concept of a self-driving car is interesting. Will people in the future even know how to drive? Would they need to?

Any machine/computer can malfunction, so I feel it still will be important to know how to drive. You can't always rely on technology to do your work for you. It has its pros and cons.

How many people do complex mathematical multiplication or division without a calculator these days? In the future, will everything be done for you by robotic machines? In Isaac Asimov's book *I Robot*, menial tasks were done by robots.

What about flying cars? That would be the next logical step to relieve congestion on the roads. It would be fun to fly or fly in. Happy motoring! Or happy flying! **K.M.**

TAX FACTS

"Basis" Is An Important Tax Concept

Courtesy of Tom Ploskanka

Did you buy property for your business in 2013? Sell stocks or mutual funds? Receive an inheritance? In all of these events, your total investment in the property – known as basis – can affect your tax return.

For instance, say you purchased a copy machine for your business and began to use it during 2013. The amount of depreciation you can deduct depends, in part, on your basis. In this case, basis can also affect future year returns, since depreciation may be spread over the life of the equipment. Sell the copier before it's fully depreciated and the remaining basis affects the gain or loss you'll report on your return. Thinking of trading an older machine in on the new one? Remaining basis of the trade-in after adjustments will help determine the basis of the new machine.

As you can tell, basis is important. So how do you establish it?

The answer depends on the way you acquired the proper-

ty. For business assets, such as a copy machine, basis is usually what you paid, including sales tax and freight, less any tax credits taken.

The basis of stocks you purchase is your cost, plus commissions. Mutual fund basis can be more difficult to calculate. Because you report dividend or capital gains reinvestments in additional shares as income, those items increase your basis. Recent tax law changes require your broker to provide basis information on the annual statement sent to you each year.

Property you inherit is typically valued at the date of death or six months later. This amount, which is reported to you by the personal representative, is the basis you'll use when you sell or otherwise dispose of the property.

Other rules apply to the determination of basis in situations such as casualty losses, home sales, and gifting. For help with basis determination or other tax matters, please contact our office.

PERTH AMBOY ANTI-RABIES VACCINE CLINICS-2014 April 26,2014, September 13, 2014

PROTECT YOUR PETS AND YOUR FAMILY AGAINST THE DEADLY THREAT OF THE RABIES VIRUS NOW!

The City of Perth Amboy

Will be conducting animal anti-rabies vaccine clinics in 2014 on
Saturday from 9:00 Am till Noon on the dates and locations listed below .
Visit these free Clinics or see your veterinarian.



Dogs and Cats that were inoculated in 2011 are due for re-inoculation in 2014. Due to the continuing rabies threat , we are strongly recommending that all animals inoculated 2012 be re-inoculated at this time to insure no lapse in immunity.

All Dogs Must Be Leashed and Accompanied By An Adult. All cats must be in carriers or leashed.

2014 Licenses may be purchased at the clinic.

LICENSE FEES:

Spayed or Neutered Dogs or Cats \$7.00

(Bring Veterinarian's Certificates)

\$10.00 If not spayed or neutered



CITY OF PERTH AMBOY DOG/CAT LICENSE APPLICATION 2014

Pet Information

Dog/Cat Name: _____ Breed: _____

Sex: _____ Hair(Long or Short): _____ Color: _____ Markings: _____

Spay/Neutered(Yes/No): _____

Year of Birth: _____ Rabies Expiration Date*: _____

Owner Information

Name: _____ Telephone#: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Veterinarian

In accordance with New Jersey State Health Department regulations rabies coverage shall be through November 1st of current license year

Veterinarian Name: _____ Telephone#: _____

Address: _____

Payment Information

Spayed or Neutered (Written Proof Required): \$7.00

Not Spayed or Neutered : \$10.00

Apply by Person or Mail to :

(Make Check Payable to City of Perth Amboy):

City Clerk's Office• City Hall

260 High Street, Perth Amboy,08861

(732) 826-0290

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:AM- 5:00 PM

2013 Rabies Clinic Schedule

April 26, 2014 September 13, 2014

CITY GARAGE•FOOT OF FAYETTE STREET• 9: 00 AM To Noon

Note: Licenses may be purchased at Clinics.

*** All dog Must Be Leashed/ All cats must be In carriers or leashed.***

TAX FACTS

Does Your Recordkeeping Need Improvement?

Courtesy of Tom Ploskanka

If pulling your records together for filing your 2013 tax return is more difficult than you'd like it to be, maybe it's time you revamped your recordkeeping system. Here's a quick review of basic recordkeeping needs.

You should keep any records that support the income, deductions, and credits you have reported on your tax return, including W-2s, 1099s, 1098s, cancelled or substitute checks, and receipts. In addition, you should keep bank statements, deposit slips, and investment records.

Keep tax records until the statute of limitations expires. Generally, this is three years from the due date or from the date you filed your return,

whichever is later. If you underreport your income by more than 25%, the statute of limitations for any audit increases to six years. If you have filed a fraudulent return or have not filed, there is no statute of limitations. It's advisable to keep documentation for tax returns for seven years and to retain copies of filed returns permanently.

Records used to determine the basis of property, such as your home or investments, should be kept for seven years after you have disposed of the property. You should retain all records relating to IRAs for

seven years after all the money has been withdrawn.

Any records pertaining to your estate, such as your will, living will, and power of attorney, should be kept throughout your life and should be updated as necessary to account for any estate tax law changes or family changes. It's advisable to keep records relating to the cost or other basis of all assets in your estate.

Knowing what records to keep and how long to keep them can save you time and money. For assistance, contact our office.

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Our Lady of Peace Contest Winners
**Photo Submitted*



FORDS - On Sunday, January 5th, 2014 the District Eight Veterans of the Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary held their Annual Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Essay Awards program at the VFW Post 1451 in South River. The title of the essay contest was "What Patriotism Means to me." Above are the winners of the essay contest from Our Lady of Peace School in Fords. Pictured are OLP winners 7th grader Matthew Araujo, Social Studies teacher Mrs. Kelly Dubasak, and OLP 8th grade winner Stephen Parente


Civil War Roundtable

WOODBIDGE - The next meeting of The Robert E. Lee Civil War Roundtable will be held at the Woodbridge Public Library on Monday, February 3rd at 7:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Dan Weinfeld and his topic will be "Reconstruction." The meeting is open to the public and all are welcome.

Chili Cook-Off

WOODBIDGE - 7th Annual Woodbridge Charity Chili Cook-off Sunday, March 2 from 12 noon to 2 p.m., J.J. Bitting, 33 Main St., Woodbridge. Sample the best chili Woodbridge has to offer. \$8 Admission. Enter to Win \$600 in prizes. Door Prizes. Live DJ. \$20 Participation fee to enter the competition and show-off your Chili skills! Applications available at the Woodbridge Community Center, Recreation Dept. or at the Brewpub. Questions? Contact Niven Raghib at 732-596-4047.

Diversity & Equality
**Photo Submitted*



FORDS - At Our Lady of Peace School in Fords, the first grade had a powerful lesson on diversity and equality. Mrs. McGowan's 1st grade class took a brown colored egg and a white colored egg and talked about how they looked different. Mrs. McGowan then cracked both eggs to see what they looked like on the inside...which the children learned is exactly the same. The children related this to themselves and learned that we may all look different on the outside, but we are all the same on the inside. Therefore, everyone should be treated equally. The class completed this activity to go along with their celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his powerful message of equality, love, peace and acceptance.



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Raritan Bay Medical Center Urges Influenza Vaccines as Flu Cases Rise in New Jersey

Press Release 1/17/2014

OLD BRIDGE –The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a health advisory alerting U.S. residents about increased reports of severe respiratory illness among young and middle-aged adults, many of whom are infected with influenza, which we commonly refer to as the flu.

Overall influenza activity continues to be high in the United States with activity increasing in some states. Thirty-five states are now experiencing widespread activity and twenty states are reporting high levels of influenza-like illness (ILI).

While influenza levels in New Jersey are not at an epidemic level, hospital admissions in New Jersey for influenza and ILI are increasing. Many hospitalizations are requiring intensive care unit (ICU) admission, and some fatalities have been reported nationwide.

“The flu, or influenza, is contagious,” says Dr. Jennifer Turkish, a board-certified family medicine physician on staff at Bay Family Medicine. “Those who are at higher risk include children under 5 years of age, those over 65, pregnant women, those with other

chronic medical conditions, especially lung and heart disease, obesity, and the immunocompromised.”

“All New Jersey residents, especially those in at-risk groups, are urged to take precautions to prevent flu, including getting a flu shot as influenza activity is expected to increase during the next few weeks,” says Dr. Turkish.

Flu symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, and tiredness. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea although this is more common in children. It’s important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever. Most people who get the flu recover in a few days to less than two weeks but some can develop serious complications such as pneumonia, which can be life threatening. Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus and ear infections are all examples of complications from flu.

“The CDC recommends annual influenza vaccinations for everyone six months and older to fend off the flu,” says Dr. Turkish. “Anyone who has not yet been vaccinated this season should get an influenza vaccine now. Anti-viral treatment is also recommended as

early as possible for any patient with confirmed or suspected influenza, so see your doctor if you even think you may have the flu.”

In addition to a flu shot, there are other preventative steps to take, says Dr. Turkish. “Stay away from others with the flu, use alcohol sanitizing hand gels and wash your hands frequently. Stay home from work if you develop flu signs and symptoms, and keep children home from school. The CDC recommends that you stay home from the day you begin experiencing symptoms until 24 hours after your fever goes away.”

Do not give aspirin to children suffering from flu-like symptoms, cautions Dr. Turkish, as it may cause a severe life-threatening illness called Reye’s Syndrome. Consult your doctor if symptoms persist or become more severe.

To make an appointment for a flu shot, call Bay Family Medicine at 732-360-0287.

Jennifer Turkish, M.D. is a family physician on staff at Bay Family Medicine. She is board certified in Family Practice. Bay Family Medicine is located at 26 Throckmorton Lane, Old Bridge NJ 08857.

Your Thyroid Health: Too Much or Too Little?

By Dr. Reema Patel

PERTH AMBOY - The word thyroid in Greek means “shield shaped,” referring to the shape of the thyroid gland located in your neck. Thyroid is one of the hormone producing glands in the body. Thyroid disorders can range from a small, harmless goiter to thyroid cancer. According to recent research data, millions of people in the U.S. have thyroid diseases of which most of them are women.

I often refer to the thyroid as the powerhouse of the body. Power is needed in just the right amount to run things smoothly. Too much power can race the body and too little can slow it down. The thyroid secretes hormones that control brain development, metabolic activity and the function of virtually every organ system, from how fast our heart beats, how quickly we digest food, how much we sweat, the speed at which we burn calories, and many other body functions.

A condition called hypothyroidism refers to a thyroid gland that is not active enough. It can make you gain weight, feel fatigued and have difficulty dealing with cold temperatures. Women may have ir-

regular periods or heavy flow. Hypothyroidism tends to run in families, so once diagnosed, other family members should be tested to see if they have any thyroid dysfunction.

Hypothyroidism is a risk factor for premature birth, low birth weight, miscarriage and fetal neurological development so it is very important for women who are or plan to become pregnant to know their thyroid health status.

If your thyroid is too active, it makes more thyroid hormones than your body needs. This condition is called hyperthyroidism. Too much thyroid hormone can make you lose weight, speed up your heart rate, create feelings of anxiety and irritability, sleep problems, shakiness, diarrhea, and make you very sensitive to heat.

Untreated hyperthyroidism has many ill effects on the body, including irregular heart beat and congestive heart failure. It also causes weakening the bones and can thus lead to osteoporosis.

Because the symptoms of many thyroid disorders can be very subtle, they are often overlooked or mistaken as other health issues. Patients

should have their thyroid checked annually as part of an annual physical. Additionally, some patients may need specialized thyroid blood testing or an ultrasound. Your physician can then prescribe medication to reset your body’s metabolism to its normal rate.

Reema Patel, M.D., has offices in Old Bridge and South Amboy, NJ. She is board certified in Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism and Internal Medicine. In addition to specializing in the treatment of thyroid, Dr. Patel also treats conditions such as diabetes, calcium and parathyroid disorders, osteoporosis, menopause, low testosterone, erectile dysfunction, polycystic ovarian syndrome, hirsutism, pituitary and adrenal disorders and a variety of other hormonal problems. She is fluent in English, Hindi, Gujarati, Punjabi and Urdu. To make an appointment, call 732-360-4070 or 1-800-DOCTORS.

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Famous Quotes from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



“We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.”

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

“I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.”

“Faith is taking the first step even when you don’t see the whole staircase.”

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

“We may have all come on different ships, but we’re in the same boat now.”

“There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right.”

“Let no man pull you so low as to hate him.”

If you can’t fly then run, if you can’t run then walk, if you can’t walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.”

Excerpts Below From King’s March on Washington Speech - 1963

I have a dream today . . . I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low. The rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight. and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together. This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

“I have a dream that one day little black boys and girls will be holding hands with little white boys and girls.”

“When we allow freedom to ring-when we let it ring from every city and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, “Free at last, Free at last, Great God a-mighty, We are free at last.”



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**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 25th 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 16th 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.

**Teens Invited to
"Dance the Night
Away" at the Y**

SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy & Sayreville students in grades 6-8 are invited to the Y's "Dance the Night Away" party on Saturday, February 8 from 7-10pm. The event will be held at the Edison Branch Y and teens will be bused from the South Amboy Y at 6:30 p.m. Join us for a night of dancing, food and fun! The cost is \$5 per student and advance registration is required. Please contact Mike Tonzola with any questions at 732-316-8205 or visit our website to register online at www.ymcaofmews.org.

**Parents are
Invited to Camp
SAY Open Houses**

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Y will be hosting several Open Houses in preparation for our 2014 Summer Camp season! For families that are interested in learning more about Y Day Camp, you are invited to our Open Houses to meet the Camp Director, see the facility and ask questions. Open Houses are scheduled for Tuesday, January 28 from 5:30-7:30pm, Saturday, February 22 from 1-3pm and Tuesday, February 25 from 5:30-7:30pm at the YMCA located at 200 John T. O'Leary Blvd in South Amboy, NJ. Contact Mike Tonzola with questions at 732-316-8205.

Pallone, McCormack Announce \$2.575 Million for Woodbridge Buyouts and Demolitions

Press Release 1/17/14
WASHINGTON D.C. - Today, Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) and Woodbridge Mayor John McCormack announced that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) will receive \$2,575,000 to buy out and demolish 89 flood prone properties in Woodbridge. The properties will be maintained as open space.

"This funding will provide much needed relief to Woodbridge homeowners who are still trying to recover from Sandy's devastation," said McCormack.

"With extreme weather disasters on the rise as a result

of climate change, it is critical that we take steps like this to remove homes from the path of destruction, which is why I fought for buyout relief in the Sandy Aid package, said Pallone."

This grant is awarded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, and the State of New Jersey will determine which properties will be bought and cleared. The grant covers 100% of the full cost of the project and was made possible through the Sandy Aid package Congressman Pallone fought for in Congress.

**Sciortino's Supports
South Amboy YMCA AT
Proceeds Day Fundraiser**

*Sciortino's Harbor Lights gives back by Supporting
the Y's Annual Support Campaign which Provides
Scholarship Assistance to Local Families*

SOUTH AMBOY— Sciortino's Harbor Lights and the South Amboy Branch YMCA are excited to announce "Proceeds Day" benefitting the Y's "Strong Kids" Program. Proceeds Day will be held at Sciortino's on Thursday, January 30th from 11:30am – 11:30pm. Sciortino's has generously offered to donate 15% of all bills, dine-in only, to the Y's scholarship program when a Proceeds Day flyer is presented. The restaurant is located at 132 South Broadway in South Amboy.

Sciortino's Harbor Lights is a fourth generation family-run restaurant, and one of the oldest pizzerias in the country. Their brick oven pizzas and family style pasta are well known in the community, dating back to their restaurant in Perth Amboy. Owners Lou Seminski, Sr., and his son Lou Seminski, Jr., have established a sense of community pride at Sciortino's where all are invited to enjoy great company and great food. They are also recognized for their

philanthropy to many local causes. "The YMCA has a long history of supporting families in the communities they serve, so it was natural for us to join this initiative through Proceeds Day," said Lou Seminski, Jr.

The Y is one of the nation's leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Because we believe in giving back and providing support to our neighbors, no one is turned away for the inability to pay. Last year, the YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy awarded over \$50,000 in scholarships through the Annual Support Campaign. Over \$20,000 of the money raised supported deserving families and individuals of South Amboy & Sayreville. With your support at Sciortino's Proceeds Day, we hope to give more families and individuals the chance to pursue their wellness goals and connect with the community through a Y membership.

Amboy Guardian

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**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.

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FAX#732-826-5012

**Royal Garden
Club February
Meeting**

PERTH AMBOY - Royal Garden Club February Meeting. We will organize plants and materials for 11 gardens! Come listen and learn. All are welcome. Wed., Feb. 5, 2014, at 7 p.m. at St. Peter's Parish House, 183 Rector St., Perth Amboy.

**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.

**2014
St. Patrick's
Day Parade**

SOUTH AMBOY - The 2014 St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 8th. Anyone wishing to join the Parade Committee and help organize and present this wonderful event should contact Councilman Mickey Gross at 732-721-5031.

**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.

**McGinnis School
"Teach To One"
Open House**

PERTH AMBOY - Thursday, February 13 at the newly designed "Teach To One" classrooms at the William C. McGinnis School. from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Come see the newly equipped classrooms and learn about the philosophy of the "Teach to One" program. All are welcome. For further information, please see the McGinnis Website via Perth Amboy Public Schools (paps.net) or contact McGinnis School directly. *About TTO: Teach to One: Math uses resources from multiple classrooms, combined in an open space, to give each student a targeted, individualized learning experience with instruction delivered at the right academic level, using the most suitable instructional format. Each student. Each day.*

Senior Scene

Happenings

Perth Amboy

- 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.
 - Holy Trinity Seniors, 1 p.m., Church Hall, Lawrie & Johnstone St
- THURS. JAN. 23 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- MON. JAN. 27 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- TUES. JAN. 28 Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.
- Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
- WED. JAN. 29 Simpson Seniors, 10 a.m., Williamson Hall, High St.
- Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
 - St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
- THURS. JAN. 30 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

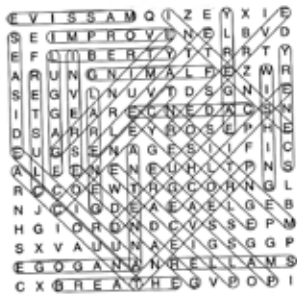
South Amboy

- 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.

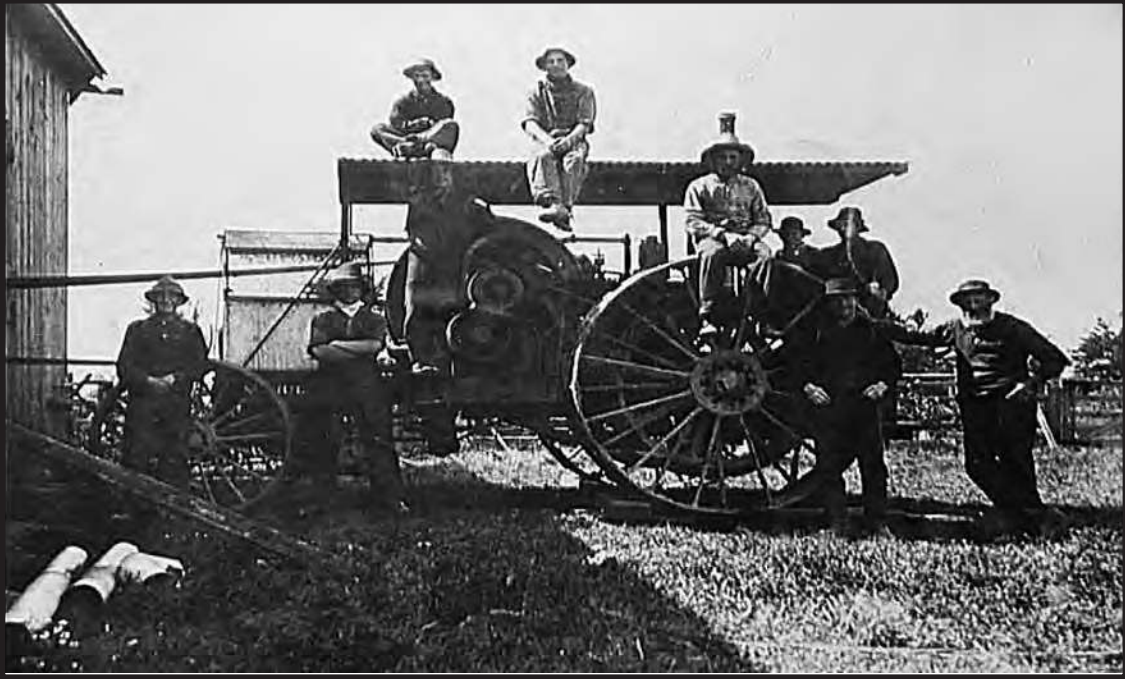
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**Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 15**



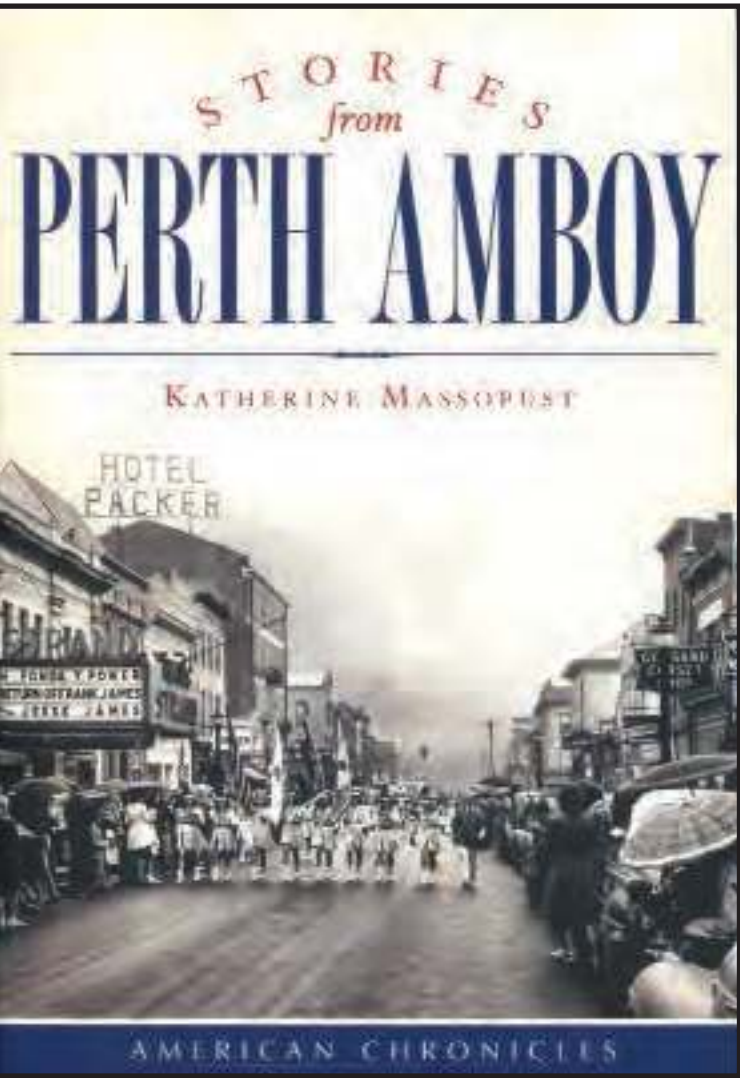
LOOKING BACK



WOODBIDGE – Main Street road work. circa late 1800'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



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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How to Publish a Novena

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. **G.T.A.**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone_(____)

Initials at end of prayer_____

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

The Amboy Guardian
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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. *Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.*
Thank you, St. Jude
F.M.J.

Prayer To St. 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 _____

Classified Ads

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The Amboy Guardian
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Use this space for 10 words or less to sell your small household items that are too inexpensive to advertise. The Amboy Guardian will print your classified and help you sell those items. Merchandise must be used and not new items for sale items. Please send one ad per family per week.

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D S A R R L E Y R O S E P H E
E U G S E N A G E S I I F I C
A L E E N E N E U H L T P N S
R C C O E W T R G C O R N G L
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HOPELAWN - This split has a beautiful lay-out , great location many new upgrades, hardwood floors, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, Florida room, 2 car garages nice and huge yard, close to all major highways and supermarkets. a must see owner is very motivated. Needs some TLC being sold strictly in "AS IS" condition. **\$235,000**



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