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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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I Don't Do Yes or No Answers! - I Do Explanations! - 6/10/15 Council Meeting



Ken Balut



Councilman Bill Petrick



Stanley Sierakowski addresses the Council



David Caba

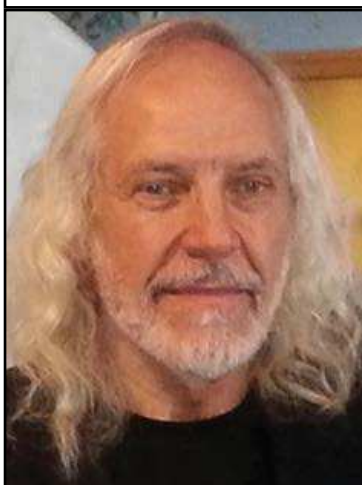
PERTH AMBOY – The late Dixon Rodriguez’ cousin, Sandra Tobar came to the Council Meeting to speak about the release of the tape that showed the shooting that occurred on December 4, 2013. Behind her stood Dixon’s mother. Tobar stated, “Two videos were online and one was very grainy. All we are looking for is closure. It’s bittersweet. The video doesn’t show what was done after he was shot. The audio portion (the 911 call) was released very quickly.”

He told the Council, “People understand that we (residents) fight for a cause when we come up and speak. An outsider whose not even from Perth Amboy filed a lawsuit to get a copy of the Dixon Rodriguez shooting tape. I saw the video, but it wasn’t clear. After 18 months this outsider had more interest in what was going on than you (the Council). Stop saying you are leaders when you are fake leaders. But I have to respect you as elected officials.”

tion to whether or not Silber had any evidence that someone delayed the release of the tape.



Cousin Sandra Tobar & Mother of the late Dixon Rodriguez



Alan Silber

City Attorney Mark Blunda replied, “The video was retrieved from two businesses. I also wrote to the prosecutor that the City and family wanted to know the status of the investigations. This was done a couple of months after residents complained about the slowness of the videotape taking so long to be released.”

Resident Alan Silber said, “Within a few weeks of the shooting, one of the officers who fired their gun was back on duty while the investigation was going on. In 2008 it was promised that the administration would be transparent. That disappeared quickly. You seem to be hiding some things and someone in Woodbridge is pulling the strings. You’re embarrassing the City.”

Silber responded back, “I don’t give yes or no answers. I give explanations. The Mayor and Vitale should have demanded a press conference a few months after the shooting demanding a release of the tape now. The person from the outside who finally got a copy of the tape had no agenda and he got the results (the release of the video). There is no plausible reason for this long delay. You lose credibility.” Silber went on to give examples from other states where there were other police shooting’s against civilians and how quickly videos of those incidents were released to the public.



William Street Resident Maria Arcelay

Blunda read the letter that the City received from the Prosecutor’s Office regarding the recent release of the video.

Attorney Mark Blunda responded to some of Silber’s statements, “Are you saying that someone delayed this video?”

Blunda briefly interrupted Silber by saying, “You can’t go by what other states or municipalities practices are. You have to stick with the procedures that Perth Amboy was under instructions to do.”



City Attorney Mark Blunda and City Clerk Elaine Jasko



Councilman Fernando Irizarry

Blunda continued, “After we finally got release of the tape in early June 2015 we contacted the family’s lawyer. We asked him if he wanted the video sent to the family, but he preferred that it be sent to him instead. The City was powerless.”

Silber responded back to Blunda, “The prosecutor was saying that it was a good (justified) shooting. We see on a daily basis inappropriate behavior. I would have liked to see a press conference with Mayor Diaz and Vitale saying they are tired of waiting for answers about the shooting.”

Blunda continued, “At the request of the Council, because of the community demanding to have this tape released, I sent a letter to the Prosecutor and Attorney General asking for a progress report on the case. This was done at the request of the Council.”

The Rodriguez family has filed a lawsuit against the City of Perth Amboy in reference to the shooting contending that a knife was placed in Rodriguez’ hand.

Council President Lisa Nanton asked Silber to give a yes or no answer to Blunda’s ques-

Another topic for discussion that drew a lot of conversation was Ordinance No. 3. An ordinance to amend an ordinance entitled “Ordinance fixing and establishing a schedule of

*Continued on Page 2

Statements From Dixon Rodriguez Case - Page 2

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Continued from Page 1

salaries and salary ranges and increments for officers and employees of the City of Perth Amboy" (Ordinance No. 218-79 as amended adopted July 3, 1979) Re: Non Union - 2008-2014.

Former Councilman Ken Balut came up to speak about this. "Are you using a civil service title? Union workers should have a right to bid on these nonunion jobs. There should be a test administered to all applicants.

The title that Balut was referring to was Business Manager. B.A. Jillian Barrick said, "This for an existing employee who has a different title in the Parking Authority. This position was posted."

Resident David Caba questioned the title of Senior Housing Inspector and whether or not it will be given to an in-house person or a resident. "Will all of these positions mentioned in this ordinance be open to anyone who may qualify?"

Barrick stated that the Senior Housing Inspector's primary duty will be to enforce the codes already on the books.

6/10/15 Council

An example would be to make sure household garbage is disposed of properly or to make sure it is put out after 5 p.m. (not too early).

Alan Silber questioned whether or not we are adding on additional people.

Barrick responded, "Some department will remain the same, while other will increase. The ordinance has a salary range for each position listed.

City Attorney Mark Blunda gave a more detailed explanation about the positions stated in the ordinance. "Towards the end of last summer, there were problems existing with the enforcement of codes. After having meetings with the Mayor and the Department Heads, we found a lot of obsolete practices that couldn't be handled with the existing system. Code Enforcement was severely understaffed and new equipment was needed. Titles were recommended by me to take care of a lot of these problems."

B.A. Barrick also stated, "Two existing employees are getting new titles."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez noted that one title had a date of 1/1/15 on it.

Barrick responded, "That one person would be paid retroactively."

When Fernando Gonzalez asked, "Are most of these positions were for people presently on our staff?"

Barrick answered, "Yes."

Resident Stanley Sierakowski had a question for Councilman Bill Petrick, "Can you respond to the rumor that you might be given the Senior Housing Inspector position of \$80,000 with health benefits?"

Petrick responded, "This is the first I've heard of it."

Former Councilman Ken Balut had a question about Communication No. 5. Ransom Environmental submitted an amendment to the original Response Action Outcome designation for AOC R-3 for the Rosengarten Property, 40 and 50 Washington St., Perth Amboy. (6/1/15)

"This property has not been fenced in for over a year. People are using it to get to a fishing area. At one time homeless people were living there until there was fire. People are walking around freely and there's a school across the street."

B.A. Jillian Barrick said,

Continued on Page 4

Dixon Rodriguez Incident Middlesex Prosecutor's Office Releases Video

Press Release 6/10/15
PERTH AMBOY, NJ— The City of Perth Amboy has been informed that the Middlesex Prosecutor's Office has released the surveillance camera video regarding the Dixon Rodriguez fatal incident on December 4, 2013. The City of Perth Amboy was not in possession of and was not responsible for the release of video or any footage captured that was directly collected by the Middlesex Prosecutor's Office for the investigation.

In a statement released June 3, 2015 to Clinton-based lawyer Walter Luers, James E. O'Neill of the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office said:

"Now that the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General has completed its review of the investigation into a police-related shooting in Perth Amboy on December 4, 2013, the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office will release to you a disc copy of a video recording of the incident and a disc copy of the initial 911 phone call to police. These discs are being sent to you today via regular mail."

Statement released today [June 10, 2015] from Mayor Wilda Diaz:

"As Mayor, my position in the last 19 months has been to respect the privacy of the Rodriguez family. This was a tragedy for all involved, the

families, the officers, and the community. As such, I ask that you also continue to respect and offer your prayers, as the families continue in their recovery process. I want to assure our community that our Police Department has taken all necessary steps to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents," said Mayor Wilda Diaz.

Statement released today [June 10, 2015] from Deputy Chief Lawrence Cattano:

"It is a tragic situation anytime a life is lost. In this situation, officers were called to the residence by the mother of Mr. Rodriguez. On the 9-1-1 call she stated she needed Officers to respond as her son was violent. As the video shows, the Officers, consistent with their training, used the force necessary to respond to the violent and unprovoked attack by Mr. Rodriguez. Their response not only saved their lives, but also protected our citizens, including the school children that were on the street that day from the three neighborhood schools. A complete and thorough investigation of this case by the Middlesex Prosecutor's Office and the New Jersey Attorney General's Office concluded that the officers' actions were warranted and legally justified," said Deputy Chief Lawrence Cattano.

The statement below was provided in the letter from

The Middlesex Prosecutor Andrew C. Carey on the conclusion of the investigation on 4/24/14:

"This is to inform you that the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office has concluded its investigation concerning the use of the deadly force on December 4, 2013, by two members of the Perth Amboy Police Department. Pursuant to the applicable Attorney General Law Enforcement Directives, we have provided the relevant documents and media to the Division of Criminal Justice for final review by the Office of the Attorney General. Along with the providing the materials, I have also stated our recommendation and conclusion regarding the investigation, which is, in sum and substance as follows:"

"Upon the review of the entire investigation conducted by the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, the undisputed facts indicate that the use of deadly force by the two Perth Amboy Police Department patrol officers was justified under the law, and therefore, a grand jury investigation and/or review is not required."

For additional information about the City of Perth Amboy, please visit: www.ci.perthamboy.nj.us.

To view the security video go to www.amboyguardian.com



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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

It's Déjà vu All Over Again!

This past Saturday (6/13/15) I attended a forum put on by some of the Board of Education Members at the PAHS library. The sole topic was the status of the new high school. I came out of that meeting with very little new information learned, but perhaps a little different perspective on the situation.

According to the present Board Members, the beginning of a quest for the new high school began 13 years ago in 2002 when the need for a new high school was recognized. There were community meetings on various topics such as what type of high school should be built (academy, traditional, etc.). There was a contest on whom the architect should be and most importantly - where should this new high school be built.

So where are we now? It's 2015 and no new high school has been built nor is in the process of being built. I've been attending Board of Education Meetings for the past 2-3 years now and have heard a lot of talk about a new high school. It's fair to say that the previous Board (last 2-3 years) was preoccupied with the matters concerning the previous Superintendent and building a new high school was on the back burner.

During the forum, Board Member Israel Varela stated that he was instrumental in getting \$190 million from the SDA (Schools Development Authority) because he wanted 72 acres of land (the Celotex site).

It was stated at the meeting by Mayor Diaz who attended the forum, that over 2 years ago, the then Superintendent (Dr. Janine Waker-Caffrey) went with her and a staff member with a representative of the SDA and did an assessment of viable sites for a new high school.

This past September the then Board President Obi Gonzalez received a letter that was published in the Amboy Guardian (11/19/14 issue) regarding the new high school. It stated that the only viable site in Perth

Amboy for a new high school is the Delaney Homes site. (FYI it's in the Master Plan (written in 2004) stating that Delaney Homes is the planned site for the new high school.) At the forum Board Member Milady Tejada stated that the BOE has no formal written letter from the SDA indicating a deadline.

Originally, the plan was for 15.8 acres of land (Delaney Homes). Now the land available from the Housing Authority is 11.7 acres of Delaney Homes land. Recently the Board did an appraisal of the 11.7 acre property and the Housing Authority had an appraisal of the land as well. The Housing Authority's appraisal is \$4.1 million more than the BOE's appraisal. The Board of Education made an offer to the Housing Authority and offered the price based on their (the BOE's) appraisal. The Housing Authority refused the deal.

Now it's back to the same old business. To quote Yogi Berra, "It's Déjà vu all over again!" Time is being wasted. The whole situation is like a dog trying to catch its own tail going around in circles. While everybody's waiting for the best deal, somebody else catches the deal from under your nose.

I understand it's an important decision. This decision will affect the future of Perth Amboy's school system now and for years to come. This was stated at the forum by many of the Board Members and Interim Superintendent Dr. Vivian Rodriguez.

This indecision keeps us at status quo. In the meantime, everyone suffers (students, teachers, parents, etc. There comes a time when a decision has to be made or someone will make it for you, and it may not necessarily be the decision that you really wanted. We've talked, studied, assessed and pondered on a new high school. Enough, already. Make a decision. It might not please everybody, but it's the first step. Hopefully 5 years from now this conversation will be a thing of the past and a new high school will finally be built. If not, it will be an embarrassment. **K.M.**

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Transporting Shale Oil

There is a controversy about importing shale oil. Should it be by railway, pipeline, or trucks? If a large percentage is destined for electrical genera-

tion maybe they should build a power station near to the oil field and use the existing electrical power supply grid instead of shipping shale oil.

Ronald A. Sobieraj

Keep Those Letters Coming! We Love to Hear From You!

Notice: The Amboy Guardian will not be publishing the week of July 1, 2015. Please submit all materials you wish published in the June 24, 2015 issue by Friday, June 19, 2015 5:00 p.m.

6/10/15 Council

Continued From Page 2

"Contaminants are coming into that vacant property from properties across the street."

Councilman Bill Petrick said, "There was a letter stating that the property mentioned in Communication No. 5 was cleared according to specifications, but there are contaminants coming in from off-site locations."

Councilman Fernando Irizarry, "If people are homeless, they are not tracking contaminants home when they walk on this property."

Former Councilman Ken Balut was incredulous and couldn't believe Irizarry's statement. Balut responded by saying, "Are you kidding me? What about the Police and EMT Workers that may have to pick up the homeless that were exposed to these contaminants?"

Other speakers were concerned about parking in the City. One resident from Fayette Street, Iris Rodriguez came up again to complain about the parking situation on Fayette and Watson Avenue. Rodriguez told the Council, "You move quickly when it comes to solving parking problems in the nicer areas of town. We need residential parking permits from at least 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. We don't have driveways. We have a lot of out of State plates on High Street. If Mary Street Residents can get residential parking spots, then why can't we? Some bar owners have given political contributions to candidates. Come to my street."

William Street Resident Maria Arcelay told the council, "My neighbors and I are very upset because when there was road repair work done on our street, there was a sewage backup in their basements. I personally

called Mayor Diaz' office, left my name, phone number and address for the Mayor to personally come to my house to see what I'm going through. She never came, but when someone did show up, they wanted to know who was the lady who complained. I didn't appreciate being addressed that way, since I left my full name. All this person did was bring me detergent and left me to clean up my own basement. I will come here over and over again. If I find no satisfaction with the City, I will go further to the Governor. If I get no satisfaction there, I will go to President Obama. I've been in Perth Amboy for over 30 years. I don't want to mention what I had in my basement because this problem. This town is overpopulated. I invited the Mayor to my house and nobody called me. I'm not blaming you (the Council)."

Council President Lisa Nanton and B.A. Jillian Barrick responded to Ms. Arcelay. Nanton said, "Let's see if we can find out what's causing the problem."

Barrick wanted to apologize to Ms. Arcelay on how she was addressed by the City Employee who came to her house.

There was an amendment for allowing handicap parking permits in the mixed business/residential areas. Councilman Fernando Irizarry had misgivings about this amendment because he thought that the amendment for hardship cases would be given more privileges that apply for a regular handicapped spot. Attorney Mark Blunda made it clear that a hardship case would have the same criteria as a person who is given a handicap spot. "Every two years an applicant would be reviewed to see if they still meet the criteria for their handicap spot."



Anthony Bermudez

Alpine Street Resident Anthony Bermudez also joined in about the lack of parking on his street. He emphasized one particular one family house on the street, "Which I suspect is illegal housing. It's located between Francis and Spring Streets. I've been here all my life and pay taxes. You see a bunch of cars and people coming in and out of houses. Tell me what I can do to help alleviate the problem. 10 rooms are being rented out in a one family house which is a fire hazard."

Former Council President Kenny Balut still had concerns about the property on Washington and High Street where homeless people had been living until there was a fire and they were displaced. "People are walking on that property to get to the fishing area. When they go home, they are probably tracking the contaminants to their homes."

At the end of the meeting, B.A. Jillian Barrick again asked for the addresses of Ms. Arcelay and Mr. Bermudez so she could get the additional information from them.

Keep those Letters Coming! We Love to Hear From You! E-mail letters to the editor to amboyguardian@gmail.com or write to the paper at Letters to the Editor, The Amboy Guardian, P.O. Box 0127, Perth Amboy, NJ 08862-0127. Letters must include your full name, address and daytime telephone number or cell phone number for verification. First time letter-writers must be called for verification or your letter will not be published. If you are a public official, please include your title. All letters are subject to editing or rejection. All submissions may be published or distributed by us in print, electronic or other forms. Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the writers and do not represent or reflect the views of the Amboy Guardian.

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SEWAREN CORNER DELI	514 WEST AVE.
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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 or 732-324-3505.

Vet's Coffee House

PERTH AMBOY - Attention area vets of our Armed Forces. The Salvation Army Vet's Coffee House meets once a month, every 2nd Thursday for coffee, donuts and conversation. Time is 19:00 - 21:00 located at the corner of Washington Street and State Street, Perth Amboy. We can be reached at the Salvation Army 732-826-7040. We look forward to meeting you.

Food Stamps Assistance

PERTH AMBOY - Every Wednesday there will be a Food Stamps Assistance Program 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.: JRF's Family Success Center families to come in and meet with a representative from the Community Food Bank of NJ to assist with food stamps application and eligibility guidelines. For additional information please call 732-638-5063 or visit our office located at: 149 Kearny Ave. Perth Amboy (Rear of Proprietary House).

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. by appointment. The Kearny Cottage needs your help. Anyone interested in joining the Kearny Cottage Historical Society please contact 732-293-1090. We are on the web! www.KearnyCottage.org

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy	
THURS. Jun. 18	Board of Education, 6 p.m. McGinnis School, State St.
MON. Jun. 22	City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m. City Hall, High St.
WED. Jun. 24	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
THURS. Jun. 25	Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
WED. Jul. 1	Planning Board, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
South Amboy	
WED. Jun. 17	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway
MON. Jun. 22	Board of Education, Business/Public, 6 p.m. SA Middle/High School, Harold Hoffman Pl.

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St. Peters Fashion Show, Raritan Yacht Club, Perth Amboy 5/14/15

**Photos by Carolyn Maxwell*



Rev. Anne Marie Jeffries with the Fashion Show Committee



The models pose for the finale

Woodbridge Township Fireworks

SEWAREN - Annual Independence Day Fireworks! Thursday, July 2. Alvin P. Williams Memorial Park, Sewaren. Live Music. Gates open at 4 p.m. Park is closed all day. No Reserved Seating. No Alcoholic Beverages permitted. Bring your lawn chairs and join us under the stars.

Independence Day Celebration

SAYREVILLE - Sunday, June 28th at 4:00 p.m. Kennedy Park, Live Entertainment, featuring: 2U the Worlds 2nd Best U2 Show 8:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Almost Journey 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., also appearing Chris/Aaron R&B Duo, from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Activities all FREE from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. include: Children's Rides & Games, Food Court, Pony Rides, Hot Dog eating contest and culminating the day's events a spectacular Fireworks Display starts approximately 9:30 p.m. Rain date: Sunday, July 5th.

Yoga Classes

SOUTH AMBOY - Yoga classes at the Knights of Columbus in South Amboy, 308 fourth street, are ongoing. Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. to 7:20 p.m. A mat is required. Part of the proceeds benefit the Colombian Club council No. 426. Drop in rate is \$10. Packages available at a reduced rate. Pre-registration required. Please call Denise 732-525-9536 or email healthandfitnesswithdenise@gmail.com

No Booza Palooza

Teen Festival

PERTH AMBOY - Washington Park on Friday, June 19, 2015, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. No Booza Palooza aims to promote healthy choices by providing entertainment and socialization without the presence of alcohol or drugs. The event targets high school aged youth in grades 9th-12th. We will have music, interactive entertainment, local vendors and teen-friendly activities. We are asking organizations to assist us by sponsoring activities for attendees, i.e. equipment rental, interactive activity. Your organization can also recruit staff volunteers to assist with the event. Join us in our efforts to provide an amazing event for Perth Amboy's youth. For more info call Yamillet Febo Gomez at 732-324-2114 x120 or email: yamillet@jrfnj.org



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Buckeye Drill, Perth Amboy 5/31/15

**Photos by Joe Bayona*



Emergency Preparedness Fire Drill
Buckeye Facility Fire Safety and Emergency Response Simulation

Press Release 5/27/15
 PERTH AMBOY - Mayor Wilda Diaz announced the collaboration of a full-scale fire and emergency response drill conducted by the Perth Amboy Fire Department and Buckeye Perth Amboy personnel which was held on Sunday, May 31st at the Buckeye Partners, L.P.'s Perth Amboy terminal.

The objective of the exercise is to test the response of the local emergency personnel and water flow and pressure in the event of an actual fire emergency at the site.

Buckeye's terminal is located at 1200 State Street, north of the Outerbridge Crossing and comprised of rail yards, tank farms, and loading and unloading facilities, designed for the handling of petroleum products.

The simulated scenario for the exercise was as follows:

The scenario for the drill will be a fire involving a petroleum crude oil train located on Buckeye property. Several tank cars were on fire with many exposed to the fire, along with employees that need to be rescued

by the initial responding units. The goal of the drill will was to flow water in excess of 5,000 GPM, while assembling 15,000 gallons of foam concentrate.

The coordinating parties included: The Perth Amboy Fire Department and mutual aid fire departments, Buckeye Perth Amboy terminal operations team, the Perth Amboy Police Department, the Office of Emergency Management, Raritan Bay Medical Center's Emergency Medical Services, Large Diameter Hose (LDH)

Strike Teams, Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) foam resources, the Middlesex County Fire Coordinators and the Middlesex County Tanker/Tender Task Force. Additionally, Middlesex County, Somerset, Monmouth, and Mercer county Tanker/Tender resources will be in use.

Buckeye followed procedure for drills as required by

the State of New Jersey for the safety of the public. This was STRICTLY a simulated drill, in which no one's life will be threatened and all safety procedures were followed.

The drill took place at Buckeye Partners Terminal Property (Parking Lot), 1200 State Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

Send Your Events to:
AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

Arrest of William Franklin, The Proprietary House, Perth Amboy 6/7/15

**Photos by Joe Bayona*



Dedication of the International Park, High & Water Streets, Perth Amboy 6/6/15

**Photos by Joe Bayona*



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Frog Hollow 5K Run & Health Walk

Press Release 5/14/2015
 SOUTH AMBOY - Frog Hollow Swim and Tennis Club's 38th annual 5K Run and Health Walk will be held Saturday, June 27th. Proceeds will benefit the city of South Amboy's Fire and First Aid departments. There will be a free youth Fun Run, awards, t-shirts, post race picnic, and all day swimming and tennis for race participants. Entry fee is \$20 in advance and \$25 day of race. For more information or to download a registration form, go to www.froghollow-swim.com or register in person at the club 7:30 AM on race day. Fun Run steps off at 8:30 AM and the 5K Run starts at 9:00 AM. The Frog Hollow Swim and Tennis Club is located on Ferris St. off of South Pine Ave. in South Amboy, NJ. For additional information call race director, Danny McCrone at 732-721-6592.

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Military Assistance Center

WOODBIDGE - Sansone Auto Mall and Woodbridge Township are sponsoring a Military Assistance Center, 3rd Floor, Town Hall. Ronald G. Davie, Coordinator. 732-634-4500 ext. 2037. Email - Ron.Davie@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

Writers Group

WOODBIDGE - In cooperation with The Barron Arts Center, the Woodbridge Writers Group is a forum for writers of all levels to share ideas, voice opinions, and develop skills. We are aiming to cultivate an environment of trust and positivity designed to help local writers reach their goals, large or small. The door is open to all participants, whether you write as a hobby or have an eye toward publication, and we host a wide variety of genres. There is no entry fee or long term commitment to join this is an ongoing program with new topics and material each session. Our group is an open forum, so we invite you to bring any work you'd like to share. For more information, please email Brooke and Beth at woodbridgewritersnj@gmail.com

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Mayor's Fluke Tournament

WOODBIDGE - Mayor John E. McCormac Fluke Tournament will be on Saturday, June 20 from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Sewaren Boat Launch. \$125 Per Boat (\$100 if paid before June 1). For more info call the Recreation Dept. at 732-596-4048.

Raritan Bay Cruisers Car Show

WOODBIDGE - Starting on Tuesdays, May 12 - Sept. 29 from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Weather Permitting, Pizza Hut, Rte. 9, Woodbridge, (Wal-Mart Parking Lot). Trophy's Awarded. For More Info Call 732-585-7365

Classic Car Cruise Night

SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 hold a Classic Car Cruise Night Friday, June 19 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the K of C parking lot 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. Owners of antique and classic cars, trucks, or motorcycles invited. Bring a non-perishable food item and receive a free hot dog. For more information call 732-721-2025.

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Cathedral CDC Summer Enrichment Program

PERTH AMBOY - For children ages 5-13 - July 6-August 28, 2015. \$1120.00 will provide your child with 8 weeks of fun. Before and Aftercare hours provided from 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. for an additional fee of \$50.00 per week. A \$75.00 non-refundable registration deposit is required. Registration begins May 15, 2015. Early registration: deposit fee waived if paid in full before June 24, 2015. Payment plans are available for your convenience. Child care vouchers accepted. FREE Breakfast, snacks and Lunch for campers!!!! Camp hours are 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday. Our summer program will be held @ our Campus located at 277 Madison Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. Come learn while having fun, visits to museums, amusement parks & various places of interest. For more info call: Damaris Ramirez - 732-826-8206 or Juana Kearney - 732-442-1546.

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Fluke

Tournament

PERTH AMBOY - The 2015 Fluke Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, July 18.

Tricky Tray

PERTH AMBOY - Tricky Tray Auction Sunday, June 21 Doors Open 3 p.m. Admission is \$5 place: St Peter's Episcopal Parish House, 183 Rector Street, Perth Amboy.

Country Sundays

WOODBIDGE - Parker Press Park, 400 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. SHOW TIME at 6:00 p.m. FREE ADMISSION with a Donation of Non-Perishable Food Items for "We Feed Woodbridge Food Banks" July 12 - Ellen Jewell

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Radiance Church Father's Day T-Shirt Project, Perth Amboy 6/13/15

*Photos by Paul W. Wang



Radiance Church Father's Day Project. Fathers and kids came with white t-shirts to decorate for Father's Day. Art supplies were provided as well as a hotdog lunch.

*The Amboy Guardian
Wishes Everyone a
Happy Father's Day!*

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DEP Announces Approval of \$102.3 Million for Green Acres Open Space and Recreation Projects

Garden State Preservation Trust Approves \$102.3 Million for Park Development and Open Space Acquisitions

Press Release 6/10/15

(15/P56) TRENTON – The Garden State Preservation Trust today approved the Christie Administration's recommended list of \$102.3 million in Green Acres open space acquisition and recreational development projects, Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bob Martin announced.

The Garden State Preservation Trust approved \$93.3 million in funding for local government and nonprofit group projects in every New Jersey county. In addition to funding approved by the Trust, the Department has identified an additional \$9 million to be used for State acquisitions.

"The Christie Administration is committed to protecting New Jersey's beautiful natural resources by enhancing quality of life throughout the Garden State," Commissioner Martin said. "The Green Acres program is vital to that mission. This funding targets park improvements, protects greenways and watersheds, and adds to lands that provide a wealth of outdoor recreation activities for everyone."

A funding request for the list of Green Acres projects approved by the Garden State Preservation Trust will go to the Legislature for consent and then to Gov. Chris Christie for approval.

Green Acres funding is used to leverage many millions of additional preservation dollars through matching federal, state, county, local and nonprofit funds. The projects approved by the Garden State Preservation Trust include \$52 million for county and municipi-

pal land acquisitions and \$36.1 million for development of local parks and recreation facilities.

The state is also awarding \$3.7 million to 16 nonprofit groups for land acquisitions and a total of \$1 million to six nonprofit organizations for recreation development, as part of the DEP's mission to expand and protect public lands.

Local funding projects include:

- \$1.6 million toward improvements at Newark's Branch Brook and Weequahic parks to include upgrades for playgrounds, ball fields, building renovations, landscaping, fencing and lighting.

- \$1.6 million to continue restoring Hudson County's Lincoln Park West with a storm water management and landscape irrigation system and completion of the riverfront promenade.

- \$1.3 million for continuing improvements to the 84-acre Joseph Medwick Park in Carteret and Woodbridge, such as observation decks overlooking the Rahway River, resurfaced tennis courts, a playground area and extended paved walking/biking paths.

- \$1.3 million for restroom renovations, new pavilions, picnic tables, road repaving and a new dock at Garret Mountain in Paterson and Woodland Park.

- \$1.1 million for Asbury Park to purchase the development rights to a half-acre North Beach property on which the current redeveloper wants to build townhomes. The city proposes developing a waterfront park there to preserve

beach access.

- \$825,000 to renovate Belmar's Maclearie Park, which suffered extensive damage in Superstorm Sandy, for tennis and basketball courts, a tot lot, sailboat storage area, picnic pavilion and seasonal band stage.

- \$500,000 to help Long Hill acquire 14 flood-prone properties along the Passaic River that will be demolished and deed-restricted as open space.

- \$300,000 for major improvements to Whitman Park in Camden, including upgrades to basketball courts, baseball and football fields, and a new field irrigation system.

- \$200,000 for Westwood to acquire flood-damaged and flood-prone properties, demolish the buildings and restore the lands.

- \$1.1 million to Perth Amboy to develop a waterfront park at the base of the Victory Bridge that would include a dog park, motorized boat launch, fishing esplanade and cleaning stations.

"The proposed Raritan Riverfront Park will include a play area for both small and large dogs, an ecological walking trail, a motorized boat launch, parking and a picnic and grilling area for families," Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz said of her city's project. "These recreational goals will meet the redevelopment initiatives in the master plan and create greater opportunities for waterway access and usage. I want to thank NJDEP for the Green Acres funding that allows us to expand our recreational facilities to all."

Nonprofit matching grant funding includes:

- \$350,000 to the Trust for Public Land toward land acquisition initiatives in 18 project areas from Bergen to Sussex to Cape May counties.

- \$175,000 to the Camden Special Services District, which proposes stabilizing the walls and adding a pavilion roof to the historic Joseph Cooper House. The circa-1695 house is the oldest standing structure in the city.

- \$175,000 to the Passaic River Rowing Association to develop and expand an existing boathouse in Riverside County Park South in Lyndhurst.

- \$150,000 to the Washington Park Association for landscape improvements at Washington Park, on the border of Union City and Jersey City, and Lincoln Park West, along the Hackensack River.

Approximately \$9 million will fund land acquisitions for inclusion in state parks, forests, natural areas and wildlife management areas. These projects include:

- Preserving open lands within the Barnegat Bay Watershed, the state's most widely used recreational resource.

- Protecting the green belt in the Highlands Greenway, a critical water source area for one third of New Jersey's citizens and a region potentially vulnerable to development.

- Expanding natural areas throughout the state to protect threatened or endangered plant and animal species.

- Protecting open spaces in the 1-million-acre Pinelands reserve to ensure water quality, ecosystem integrity and sustainable agriculture production.

- Increasing public access and

land holdings in the Delaware River Watershed Greenway.

- Purchasing additional lands in the Ridge and Valley Greenway region bounded by the Highlands to the east and the uppermost areas of the Delaware River to the west to link between publicly owned lands.
- Partnering with various agencies to preserve additional New Jersey lands in the 14-county Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area, through which General George Washington's Army passed.

The Green Acres program was created in 1961 as the result of an innovative bond referendum. Working with public and private partners, Green Acres has directly protected more than 680,000 acres of open space and provided hundreds of recreational opportunities for numerous activities, including city parks, natural areas, playgrounds, athletic fields, boat ramps, docks, fishing piers and environmental education. Total protected open space across the state now exceeds 1.4 million acres.

In addition to providing recreation opportunities, Green Acres projects help protect water quality and stimulate economic development by creating jobs, and making cities and towns more attractive places to live and work.

For details on approved funding to local government and nonprofit organizations for open space acquisition and park development, visit: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/pdf/ga-awards.pdf>

For more information about Green Acres, visit: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/greenacres/>

Gusciora, Wisniewski & Benson Bill to Penalize Unlawful Use of Handicapped Parking Placards Clears Assembly Panel

Legislation Would Establish Fine of Up to \$500 for Abuse of Privileges

Press Release 6/10/15

TRENTON – Legislation sponsored by Assembly Democrats Reed Gusciora, John Wisniewski and Daniel Benson to strengthen penalties for unauthorized parking in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities has been advanced by an Assembly panel.

The bill (A-2352) would establish a penalty of up to \$500 for unlawfully using a parking placard issued to someone with a disability.

"Reserving parking spaces for individuals with disabilities is a fundamental element of our state's commitment to ensuring equal opportunity for all of our residents, and preserving the integrity of that commitment requires establishing consequences for

abuse," said Gusciora (D-Mercer/Hunterdon). "By discouraging drivers from unlawfully using placards that belong to a friend or relative, this bill will help ensure that the designated spaces are used only by authorized parties."

The new penalty would be imposed in addition to the penalty for illegally parking in a parking space designated for individuals with disabilities. Current law sets the fine for parking in a restricted parking space without a placard at \$250 for a first offense. Second and subsequent offenses carry a penalty of a minimum fine of \$250 and up to 90 days of community service. The Motor Vehicle Commission may also revoke the placard or plates of a person who loans

his or her placard or plates.

"Abuse of parking privileges intended to make facilities more accessible is a serious violation of the rights of New Jersey residents with disabilities, and it ought to be treated as such," said Wisniewski (D-Middlesex). "This legislation will discourage such offenses and advance disability rights in our state."

"Restricted parking spaces facilitate self-sufficiency for New Jersey residents with disabilities and are representative of our state's belief that all people should have the opportunity to live, work and fully participate in society," said Benson (D-Mercer/Middlesex). "Safeguarding the rights of individuals with disabili-

ties, as this bill does, must always be a priority."

Under the bill, "unlawful use" shall include display of a placard by:

- a person other than a driver or passenger who was lawfully issued a temporary or permanent placard;

- a person who continues to use a lawfully-issued temporary placard past its date of expiration; or

- a person who was issued a permanent placard and subsequently had his or her disability identification card revoked or deemed invalid.

The measure was advanced on Thursday by the Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee, of which Wisniewski is chair.

Edison AARP

EDISON - Subscriptions for the Paper Mill Playhouse 2015-2016 season are now available. For information, call Doris at 732-603-8788. The following are a list of scheduled trips: July 28-30: St. Lawrence Boat Cruise - For information, call Bob at 732-885-1789. AARP Driver Safety Program will be held at the Edison Senior Center on June 16 + 18. To register, call Bob at 732-885-1789.

Canned food for MCFOOD and miscellaneous items for nursing homes & hospitals will be collected at the meeting, as well as metal can tabs for Ronald McDonald House in New Brunswick, and eye glasses for the Lions Club. For additional information, visit our website at www.edisonaarp.org.

City of Perth Amboy 10th Anniversary of the Annual Andes Festival *June 27, 2015 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Perth Amboy Train Station*

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - The City of Perth Amboy and the Perth Amboy Business Improvement District (PA-BID) are excited to host the Tenth Annual Perth Amboy Andes Festival, "Festival de los Andes", on June 27, 2015. The City of Perth Amboy and PA BID will continue to support and celebrate the rich and diverse Andean Culture which is comprised of the following countries: Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Argentina, Venezuela and Chile. Now in its tenth year, the Andes Festival has been embraced as one of Perth Amboy Downtown's most anticipated traditions as each year residents, shoppers, and businesses come together to explore and enjoy the Andean Culture within the City. Furthermore, the Perth Amboy Andes Festival is the only Andean festival celebrated in Middlesex County.

"I look forward to this celebration as the community gathers to learn and enjoy the Andes native music, food and culture," said Mayor Wilda Diaz.

On Saturday, June 27th from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., the greater Perth Amboy area is encouraged to take part the Andes Festival which will located at the Perth Amboy Train Station. This free event is open to the public and will feature live music, cultural dance performances, educational workshops, refreshments, vendors, face painting, arts and crafts, and more. This festival is being sponsored by a grant from the New Jersey Council for the Arts awarded through the Mid-

dlesex County and Heritage Commission and the Board of Freeholders. In addition, it is sponsored by the Perth Amboy Business Improvement District and co-sponsored by the City of Perth Amboy, Office of Recreation. In the event of inclement weather, the Andes Festival will take place on Sunday, June 28th from 12 p.m. to 5p.m.

In celebration of the festival's 10th year anniversary, the event will be hosted by La Mega FM Radio Broadcaster, Alberto Otero. In addition to our city, regional and state dignitaries, invitations have also been extended to officials and representatives of the Argentinean, Bolivian, Chilean, Ecuadorian, Peruvian and Venezuelan Consulates.

For sponsorship or vendor opportunities, please call Olga Bautista at (908) 510-8181. For more details and information on the 10th Annual Perth Amboy Andes Festival, please call (732) 826-0290 Ext. 4050, visit the City of Perth Amboy website, ci.perthamboy.nj.us, or the Perth Amboy Business Improvement District Facebook page: www.facebook.com/PerthAmboyBID.

The Perth Amboy City Business Improvement District promises to be a diverse and unified public-private business development partnership that provides excellent customer service, enhanced value and professional management capacity to create and sustain the City of Perth Amboy as an historic gateway to Central New Jersey, and a regional destination for shopping, dining, travel and entertainment.

Feast of "Santos Populares"

PERTH AMBOY - St. John Paul II Parish Presents Feast of "Santos Populares." at Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima Church, 188 Wayne St. Perth Amboy on Saturday, June 27. Begins at 6 p.m. Dancing as well as food and beverages for sale. Don't miss the homemade traditional desserts, Portuguese foods. There will be Games, raffle, etc. Music presentation by "NRG" of South River. The "Marches" group from Long Branch will make a presentation. Proceeds to benefit the "Church Stairs Project." With a heavy heart we also will say goodbye to Father Stanley before he goes to his new mission orders.

Me Time

PERTH AMBOY - FSC has partnered up with the AUL Charter school in bringing a Parent Support Group to the community. They meet the 3rd Thursday of every month from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at 333 High St. Perth Amboy.

Sandy Assistance

NEW JERSEY - Still need assistance to recover from Sandy? Housing assistance may be available for you. Visit www.renewjerseystroner.org to learn more about Sandy Recovery Assistance. Free Housing Counseling is available. Call 1-855-SANDYHM(726-3946) Hearing Impaired Users Text Telephone Service (TTY/TDD) 609-984-7300 or 1800-286-6613.

Knights Present Shield Awards, Fords

*Photo Submitted

Press Release

FORDS - At a recent Communion Breakfast, Our Lady of Peace Knights of Columbus Council #9199 of Fords honored a Woodbridge police officer and a Fords fireman for their outstanding service to the community. The Knights honored fireman Alan Pado of the Fords Fire Company who was nominated by his superior officers because of his enthusiasm and dedication. Alan has only been a fireman for a year, but he has already made a lasting impression on his fellow firemen and has responded to several fires already. Patrolman Andrew Lyszyk was nominated by his superior officer because of his diligence and dedication to the community. Even though he's on the day shift, he has made several arrests, including two DWI arrests and used a Narcan injection to save a drug victim from overdose. The parish's Director of Religious Education, Dave Nissenbaum presented the Catechist of the Year Award to Julia Malinowski for her many years of service to the children of the parish. The Knights donated \$2000 to Msgr Andy to help support the parish and \$500 to Dave Nissenbaum for the parish's PREP



(L to R) Officer Andrew Lyszyk, Grand Knight Ed Delaney, Councilman Jim Carroll (who is also a Knight), fireman Alan Pado, Catechist Julia Malinowski and DRE Dave Nissenbaum.

program. PREP means Parish Religious Education Program, which used to be called CCD. The Knights also awarded Knights of the Month awards to Tony Paluscio for March, Steve Hatola for April and Henry Wasowski for May. The Family of the Quarter was presented to the family of Gary & Maria Poos. The Walter Pazinski Award was presented to two brother Knights, Tom Robinson & Paul Coleman. The Knight of the Year Award was presented to Mike Chundak. A special award of appreciation was presented to Debbie Mullan for her constant help at every Knight function. Twenty Fifth wed-

ding anniversary certificates were presented to Rich & Joan Fetzer, Deacon Jim & Lisa Kelly and Dennis & Rosanne Gorman.

The St. Cecilia's 4th Degree Assembly, which consists of OLP Council 9199 and St. Cecilia's Council #3639 of Iselin, presented several checks to various charities from the proceeds of the annual Bob Lewis Charity Dance in Feb. The Assembly was represented by Faithful Navigator Brian Pado who presented checks to: OLP Social Concerns, St. Cecilia's Social Concerns, the Veteran's Home in Edison, the ALS foundation, Life Choices in Metuchen and the Wounded Warriors.

Stop the Funeral Weekend 2015

A Weekend of Events Focused On Preventing Violence, Senseless

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - "Violence is a dreadful disease that continues to kill and destroy our youth, families and neighborhoods. Caring leaders in communities must bring attention to unacceptable violent behavior no matter who is committing the violence," said Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr., founder of Stop the Funeral Weekend happening June 18 - 21, 2015 on the Cathedral International campus, Perth Amboy, NJ.

Joshua DuBois, former head of the Office of Faith Based Neighborhood Partnerships, Executive Office of President Barack Obama joins Bishop Hilliard in this crusade of awareness of how violence creates far too many funerals of our youth. 32 years as Senior Pastor at Cathedral International, Bishop Hilliard recalls the early days of pastoring how he ended a vacation early to bury a 24 year old man from Perth Amboy.

Four months ago, this year, he buried Richard Pryce, a 27 year old, killed also in a senseless manner. Families of both of these young men will share their stories at "Stop the Funeral Weekend."

"Stopping the violence, stopping funerals and stopping injustice in communities are critical issues we must keep in the forefront," said Bishop Hilliard. "The lives of all of our children matter."

Everyone is invited to attend the free weekend which includes community leaders and the voices of youth from the community.

- Thursday, June 18, 2015 "Points Of Light" an evening of celebrating Perth Amboy's community leaders, 7pm, 205 Smith St., Perth Amboy, NJ.
- Friday, June 19, 2015 - A Night of the Arts
- Saturday, June 20, 2015 - A Panel Discussion - "The Real Deal" with Bishop Donald

Hilliard & Joshua DuBois, 2pm, 205 Smith St., Perth Amboy, NJ.

▪ Sunday, June 21, 2015 - Joshua DuBois is guest speaker at 8:30am and 1:30am Sunday services, Cathedral International, 277 Madison Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ.

Bishop Hilliard wrote the book "Stop The Funeral: Reaching A Generation Determined To Kill Itself" in 2000, and re-published it in 2013 to reach clergy, community leaders, families, and individuals facing the challenges of violence and other life-damaging behaviors.

For additional information and to provide sponsorship, contributions, partnerships, talent, and other support for this much needed weekend, call (908)718-7867 or email: stopthefuneralweekend@gmail.com.

Ukrainian Cultural and Heritage Festival

Saturday June 27, 2015
12 noon - 9pm

Dance Shows at 1pm & 3pm
Food, Drink, Music, Vendors & Fun all day long

Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption
684 Alta Vista Place Perth Amboy, NJ
for more information call 732.826.0767

SAINT STAN'S CARNIVAL 2015
 MAIN STREET AND MacARTHUR AVENUE SAYREVILLE

WED JUNE 24 & THUR JUNE 25 6 PM-10 PM
FRI JUNE 26 & SAT. JUNE 27 5 PM - 11 PM

LAS VEGAS "MONEY" WHEEL FOR ADULTS **50/50 DRAWINGS**
6/24/15 - Magic 98.3
6/25/15 East Brunswick School of Rock
6/26/15 - Rockin Country Thunder 106
6/27/15 - New Jersey 101.5
Nightly Entertainment Starting at 6:00 PM

FOOD TENT WITH ETHNIC AND AMERICAN FOODS, MOUTH WATERING SEAFOOD AREA
GAMES OF CHANCE WITH PRIZES FOR ALL AGES
BEER GARDEN! LIVE ATTRACTIONS
RIDES FOR KIDDIES THROUGH ADULTS!
For Advanced Discounted Ride Tickets & Info call 732-254-0212

Ukrainian Cultural Festival

PERTH AMBOY - Assumption Catholic Church located at 684 Alta Vista Place, Perth Amboy, NJ will hold its Annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival on the parish grounds on Saturday, June 27, 2015 from 12 noon until 9 p.m. Based on last year's very successful 2000+ attendance by people from the local communities, we expect an even greater turnout this year. The festival will feature dazzling performances at 1:00 p.m. and at 3:00 p.m. in the school hall showcasing traditional Ukrainian dances. There will also be delicious homemade Ukrainian food, Ukrainian beer, delicious desserts, vendors, a church tour, live music throughout the event, a Beautiful Baskets raffle and 50/50 Money Raffle. Admission to the festival is free. No Outside Food or Drink Allowed. For vendors or more information call 732-826-0767 or visit us at www.assumptioncatholicchurch.net

Comedy Night

SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 host a Comedy Night Saturday, June 20 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. Cost of \$45 includes three comedians, buffet dinner, and refreshments. Proceeds go to the Knights of Columbus Scholarship Program in memory of Sean and Jack McCarthy. For more information call 732-721-2025

Book Fair Fundraiser

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library in participation with the Perth Amboy schools are joining with Barnes & Noble of Edison for a day of fun, festivities and fundraising on Saturday, June 20th. There will be story times, performances, arts and crafts, local Perth Amboy authors and more. These events are scheduled between 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

A percentage of purchases made that day will go to the Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library. You must present a voucher prior to making your purchase. You can also show the voucher on your smart phone to the sales person upon checkout. Vouchers will be available in-store, can be downloaded at www.paps.net or by contacting the Friends at friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com. If you cannot make it to the store, visit BN.COM/bookfairs from June 20 - June 24 by entering Bookfair ID 11627015 at checkout. Proceeds of this event will benefit the Perth Amboy Free Public Library.

Barnes & Noble is located at 419 Menlo Park Mall. The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Lego Toddlers

SOUTH AMBOY - Ages 2-3 yrs. old. Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at the Dowdell Library of South Amboy, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060. Come build with us!

HIV Testing Program

PERTH AMBOY - National HIV Testing Day Presented by Health Oriented Youth Program. Take Control! Take the Test! Thursday, June 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 100 First St., Perth Amboy. FREE! HIV testing, vision screening, high blood pressure screening. After school registration. GIVE ALWAYS! Sponsored by PRAHD. For more info call 732-638-2846.



Marathoner

Miles and miles yet to run
 Every day she's training and pushing on
 Long distance running is not for the faint of heart
 Always running the extra mile
 Never giving up, running in the blustery cold,
 or in the sweltering heat
 Impelling herself to complete her odyssey
 Extremely set on her goal to
 finish her marathon

Dioris Arlequin "The Poet"

Dedicated to my daughter, Melanie Arlequin

Movie Review: Jurassic World

By: Anton Massopust III
 "Evacuate the park!"

The park is finally open! Welcome to Jurassic World! Yes, that theme park! The park that tried to open in the 1990s is now finally open! Now people can truly go there and see live dinosaurs in the flesh. But like several theme parks around the world, they are having problems attracting customers. So through genetics, they have created a giant ultrasaur, which combines traits from several different dinosaurs into a massive, augmented T-Rex, in order to generate renewed interest in the Jurassic World theme park. But this dinosaur is a killing machine, and it is smart – real smart. There is a very small plot involving a business woman running the park, her two nephews, and Chris Pratt, who plays an animal behaviorist who can talk to Velociraptor dinosaurs and is trying to make them less aggressive. There is also a subplot involving Benicio Del Toro, who previously played the Kingpin in the TV Series DAREDEVIL on Netflix, wants to use the dinosaurs as weapons. As always, something goes horribly wrong when the ultrasaur breaks loose – it is a total killing machine and everything becomes a target, dinosaur, and human. It is intelligent and kills for sport. It will take quick thinking in order to get everyone off the island and save everyone's lives.

Why do we go see these movies? I'll tell you why – dinosaurs, that's why! Everyone wants to see these extinct animals run amok and attack people and create chaos throughout the park. The best part of this movie is Chris Pratt. He delighted us in GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY, and I think he is definitely on the cusp of being a true movie star. He can handle invasions from outer space, and he can definitely handle vicious raptors. The rest of the cast is fine, and the sub-plot about using these

Knitting Club

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. Teens & Adults. For more info call 732-721-6060.

Kidz Wii Club

SOUTH AMBOY - The Kidz Wii Club will meet every Monday from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. Ages 5 and under. For more info call 732-721-6060.



dinosaurs as weapons is quite interesting, but the other human cast of this movie is not quite interesting as they do not have much to do until the middle part of the film. The best part is the four-way dinosaur fight which will make you cheer – this was worth the price of admission alone. Already there are plans for more sequels, but alas we must wait. Unfortunately, there is a lot of gore, so it might not be appropriate for little kids to see this modern monster movie – they will have to wait until they are older to enjoy it. It was a lot of fun, and is definitely worth seeing.

Plays in the Park

EDISON - All Summer Performances Begin at 8:30 p.m. No Performances on Sunday
 Adults - \$7.00, Senior Citizens - \$5.00, Children 12 and Under Free. Shows play every night of the week at 8:30, except for Sundays. Tickets are sold on the day of performance only. No advance sales. CASH ONLY at the box office for summer shows. Plays-in-the-Park is located 1 block south of the Menlo Park Mall off of Route 1, in Edison, N.J. The turn off is called Grandview Avenue. At the top of the short hill make your first right on to Pine Drive and the Park Rangers will guide you to a parking spot. Fax: 732-548-1484 • Phone: 732-548-2884. Please bring a non-perishable food item to benefit less fortunate residents through M.C.C.F.O.O.D.S. This program is funded in part by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission with assistance thru a grant provided by New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Dept of State. Young Frankenstein - Wednesday, Jun. 17 through Saturday, Jun. 27. No Sundays Showtime: 8:30 p.m.
 Oklahoma - Wednesday, Jul. 8 through Saturday, Jul. 18. No Sundays; Showtime: 8:30 p.m.
 Jesus Christ Superstar - Wednesday, Jul. 29 through Saturday, Aug. 8. No Sundays. Showtime: 8:30 p.m.

Mayor's Summer

Concert Series

WOODBIDGE - Enjoy Great Music "Under the Stars" or "On the Lawn." Bring out your lawn chair and relax with the Mayor's Summer Concert Series. Showtime at 7:30 p.m. at Woodbridge High School. FREE ADMISSION with a donation of a non-perishable food item for "We Feed Woodbridge Food Bank." Inclement weather hotline at 732-602-6045. Monday, June 29 - The Duprees, July 6 - Bronx Wanderers. Inclement Weather Hotline 732-602-6045

Rockin Tuesdays

WOODBIDGE - LET'S ROCK! Tribute Bands Come To Woodbridge 2015 at Woodbridge High School, 25 Samuel Lupo Pl, Woodbridge. SHOW TIME at 7:30 p.m. FREE ADMISSION with a Donation of Non-Perishable Food Items for "We Feed Woodbridge Food Banks." June 30 - The BStreet Band - Bruce Springsteen Tribute; July 7 - Forever Ray - Ray Charles Tribute. Inclement Weather Hotline 732-602-6045

Woodbridge Wednesdays

WOODBIDGE - Enjoy Great Music "Under the Stars" or "On the Lawn". Bring out your lawn chair and relax with live music every Wednesday. Showtime at 7:30 p.m. at Parker Press Park. FREE ADMISSION with a donation of a non-perishable food item for "We Feed Woodbridge Food Bank." Free parking at NJT Parking Lot. For Inclement weather call the hotline at 732-602-6045. June 24 - The Quebe Sisters Band; July 1 - The Four Legged Faithful; July 8 - Red Molly.

Local Band Thursdays

WOODBIDGE - Woodbridge Bands take the stage at Parker Press Park, 400 Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge. FREE Parking at NJT Parking Lot. Live Entertainment Featuring LOCAL Bands and Musicians. Enjoy Great Music "Under the Stars" and "On the Lawn." SHOW TIME at 7:30 p.m. FREE ADMISSION with a Donation of Non-Perishable Food Items for "We Feed Woodbridge Food Banks." Beer & Wine for sale by Riffy's
 June 18 - The Tim Gillis Band; June 25 - Saloonatics; July 9 - Love Revolution. Inclement Weather Hotline 732-602-6045



KEARNY COTTAGE BERRY FESTIVAL
63 Catalpa Ave. Perth Amboy
Sunday, June 28, 2015

Continuous Activities All Day Long

Flea Market - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Opportunity: Be a vendor \$10 Table
 (Please Bring Your Own Table)

For more Information or to reserve a space please call:
732-293-1090



Civil War Re-enactors
Encampment - 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Black Powder Demonstration - 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Light Refreshments Available
Berry Treats at the Cottage



South Amboy Summer Concerts

SOUTH AMBOY - Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All Concerts are FREE. Raritan Bay Waterfront Park, O'Leary Boulevard, South Amboy/Sayreville Beach Front. Concerts will take place rain or shine. In the case of inclement weather, you will be directed to the South Amboy Middle/High School Auditorium by Park Rangers. Shuttle bus service will be available every week courtesy of Middlesex County Area Transit. Call 732-745-3936 for more info. July 1 - Sandy Sasso's Swingin' Big Band – past singer with the Dorsey, Goodman and Riddle Big Bands; July 8 - Walt Wagner & The Serenaders.

DVD & Recorded Media Drive

SOUTH AMBOY - Your spring cleaning is done and you're wondering what to do with all of those unwanted DVDS, CDs, and Video games. How about donating them to South Amboy's Sadie Pope Dowdell Library? The Library Foundation DVD and Media drive is on-going, with collection boxes at Madura Pharmacy, and the library.

This is an on-going program and your generous contributions enable the library to increase its resources for the residents of South Amboy. All donations are fully tax deductible and the Dowdell Library Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Please call (732)721-6060 for library hours. To schedule a pick-up for larger collections, please contact Grace at 732-721-6592. Your support is greatly appreciated.

PAHS Class of 1970 Reunion

PERTH AMBOY - P.A.H.S. CLASS OF 1970, "45th Class Reunion," October 3, 2015, The Forge, Route 9, Woodbridge, NJ 07095, 6:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m., Gourmet Buffet-5hr open bar-DJ, \$80 Per person. Payment due in full by August 1, 2015 –(sorry no refunds). Accommodations: Hampton Inn, Route 9, Woodbridge, NJ 07095. Mention PAHS REUNION & receive special rates (732-855-6900). Contacts: PAHS1970@aol.com, Tom: 732-583-3527. Mail & Address checks to: PAHS CLASS OF 70, 10 Hamble Rd. Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE!

PAHS Class of 1960 Reunion

PERTH AMBOY - The PAHS Class of 1960 will be holding their 55 year reunion at the Hotel Woodbridge at Metropark in Iselin, NJ the weekend of September 18th, 19th and 20th. We have a Friday get together, Saturday dinner dance and Sunday brunch. You are able to come to any or all of the events. We have accommodation arrangements with the hotel for the weekend. For any further information, please contact Linda at 732-826-6794.

We are looking forward to a great reunion. Your being there will certainly add to the enjoyment!!! It's always great to revisit with you every five years, but we're also anxious to visit with those of you we haven't seen in a longer time - some not since 1960! Let this be the year you make the commitment to join us. Please don't let another reunion pass you by.

Novena to St. Rita

O holy protectress of those who art in greatest need, thou who shineth as a star of hope in the midst of darkness, blessed Saint Rita, bright mirror of God's grace, in patience and fortitude thou art a model of all the states in life. I unite my will with the will of God through the merits of my Savior Jesus Christ, and in particular through his patient wearing of the crown of thorns, which with tender devotion thou didst daily contemplate. Through the merits of the holy Virgin Mary and thine own graces and virtues, I ask thee to obtain my earnest

petition, provided it be for the greater glory of God and my own sanctification. Guide and purify my intention, O holy protectress and advocate, so that I may obtain the pardon of all my sins and the grace to persevere daily, as thou didst in walking with courage, generosity, and fidelity down the path of life. *(Mention your request.)*

Saint Rita, advocate of the impossible, pray for us.

Saint Rita, advocate of the helpless, pray for us.

Recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be three times each. K.M. & C.M.

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail)

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

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

Warren Park Mini-Theater

WOODBIDGE - Sundays, 6:30 p.m to 8:30 p.m. All Concerts are FREE. Florida Grove Road, Woodbridge. Call 732-745-3936 for more info. July 5 - The George Krauss Memorial Band - Lights! Camera! Music from the Big & Small Screens - Barbara Krauss Santoro, Leader; July 12 - Irish Night featuring The Perry Brothers - Ron Dolce, Leader

Classic Car Show

SAYREVILLE - Blast from the Past Classic Car Show: Saturday, September 12, 4 p.m.- 8 p.m., located in Kennedy Park on Washington Road. Refreshments available at the Food court. Admission is free to spectators. To enter a classic car, please provide 2 non-perishable food items for the Sayreville Food Bank at the registration table. For Info call: 732- 390- 7092 / 7096.

MIY Thursdays

SOUTH AMBOY - MIY Thursdays - SADIE'S STUDIO Programs at the Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy. Come and join us as we Make, Create, Innovate! Ages 7-17 Enjoy fun hands-on electronic projects! Recycled Bead Bracelets Doodling Robots Kinect Remote Control Cars Learn Coding- RPG Combat Coding & Frozen Coding Little bits, Smoothies and MUCH MORE! For more info call 732-721-6060.

Senior Scene

Happenings

Perth Amboy

- WED. Jun. 17 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. Jun. 18 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- MON. Jun. 22 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- TUES. Jun. 23 Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.
 - Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
- WED. Jun. 24 Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
 - St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
- THURS. Jun. 25 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

- MON. Jun. 29 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.
- WED. Jul. 8 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- MON. Jul. 13 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.

Answers From Puzzle On Page 19



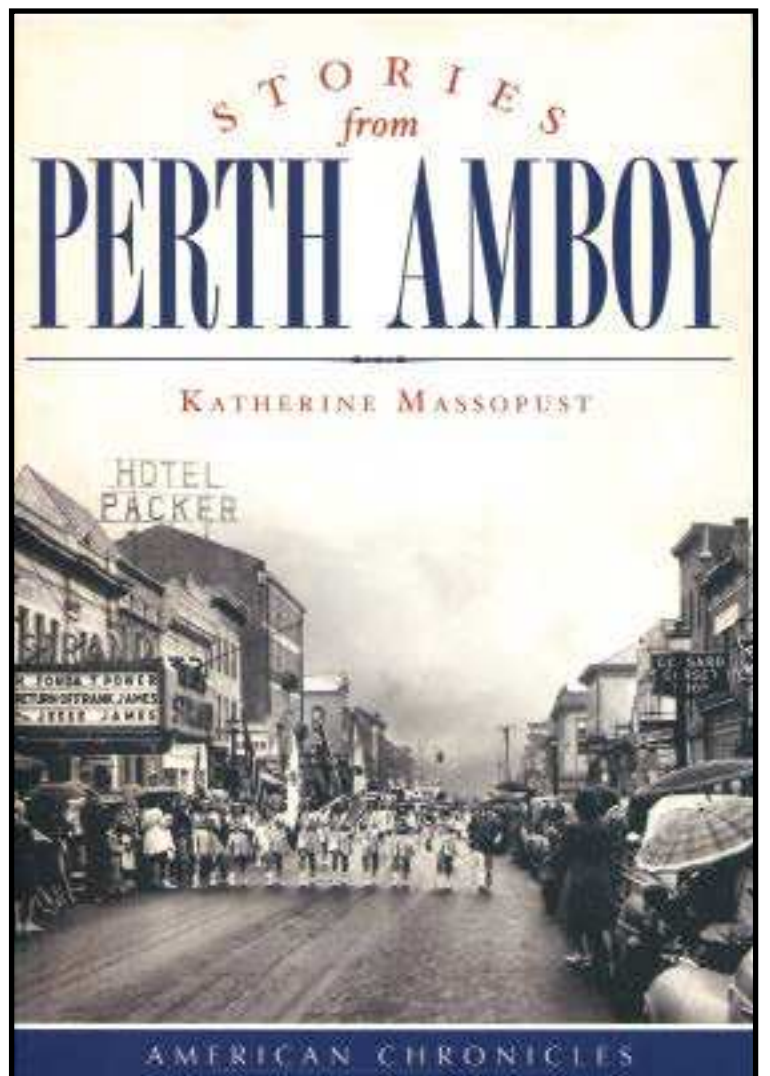
LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Cableworks Fire on High Street July 9, 1980. The Fire Burned for 9 Days. The fire was believed to be caused by a spark that was near cleaning solvents. Many Fire Departments were called to the scene.

**Photo by Paul W. Wang*

Attn: If Your Club changes Your Schedule due to the Holidays or if you have Community Events to Submit Please give us two weeks advanced notice! 732-896-4446 or 732-261-2610 AmboyGuardian@gmail.com



Stories From Perth Amboy

PERTH AMBOY - Stories From Perth Amboy by Katherine Massopust is available at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy or in Fertig's Department Store, 195 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy For more info call Katherine at 732-261-2610 or call the Barge at 732-442-3000 - or Fertig's at 732-442-1079 - A Great Gift!

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Call Carolyn @ 732-896-4446

Counseling

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Christian Counseling
 720 King George Post Rd.
 Ste. 307 Fords
 James M. DeStefano,
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732-376-0005
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 PERTH AMBOY NJ 08861

Classifieds		
Help Wanted: Office Clerk	For Sale	For Sale
Metal shop - person for filing, local errands, shop tasks. \$10-\$12/hr. 732-698-2400 or email mitchell@handrails.com	Back-2 Life Therapeutic Massager for home or office. Great Condition \$75 - 732-354-1249	Lawn mower Toro - self propelled - good condition. \$75 732-721-7186
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304 Market St. (Market & Prospect Sts.) Perth Amboy. Sat. Jun. 20 & Sat. Jun. 27 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Too many items to list. 6/24	Air Cond. 6000 BTU Three Units \$35 each. Marine Shore Poarex Cables \$50 each. 732-636-3345	Thatcher for Snapper Power Lawn Mower Good Condition \$20 732-826-8522
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