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Weekly Newspaper

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AMBOY GUARDIAN



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The Problems Will Continue

2/8/16 Caucus

PERTH AMBOY – Topic for discussion: Annual Report – USA-PA. (Utility Service Associates Perth Amboy) Middlesex Water Company). At a previous Council Meeting B.A. Peter Pelissier told the Council that they should schedule a meeting with Middlesex Water Company so they could go over the problems that the City is experiencing with huge amounts of water (water/wastewater) leakage.

Present at this meeting were: Dennis Doll, President and CEO of Middlesex Water Company and Richard Risoldi, President of USA-PA. Risoldi came forward and did most of the talking and to answer any questions from the Council. He started out by saying, “There is no lead (lead or copper) problem in Perth Amboy. We are within compliance.”

Councilman Bill Petrick said, “There are no lead bends?”

Luis Perez Jimenez - Director of Operations at the USA-PA fielded the question, “There were some in the past, but not recently. The lines

we’re discussing would be from the curb of a property to the main line.”

Risoldi came back to speak, “Based on the NJEP (New Jersey Environmental Protection) Safe Water Act, we are on reduced monitoring. The NJEP’s standards are based on micrograms per liter (mcg/l) for lead and copper compounds. The standard is 150g/l for copper. We are way below that number which I consider high. We do samples periodically to make sure levels are within the compliance for safe water. Carbon in water is natural. There are more in the wells than in the surface water. We chlorinate water which stops bacteria. We have plastic main lines. Certain problems pertaining to the sewers were fixed in 3 years and we were given 15 years to do so. Your system is still very old and a lot of work still needs to be done (long term and expensive). Some of the lining has to be cleaned and lines replaced. We are checking the sewer systems to see where the water is going and we also checked the line going into the river. 200,000 gallons of water a day has been leaking into the



Councilman Bill Petrick

river and other places.”

Councilman Joel Pabon was concerned about work that was done on State Street and Harrison Place, plus the work that was done on Davison Street where the residents are complaining about major bumps.

Risoldi said, “We will look into that.”

Councilman Bill Petrick wondered if it was possible to put another line alongside the main line.

Risoldi responded, “The best thing to do would be to do an

**Continued on Page 2*

Congratulations to New Police Sergeant Sandra Rivera



PERTH AMBOY - (L) Mayor Diaz with newly sworn in Sergeant Sandra Rivera (R) Deputy Chief Larry Cattano with Rivera (more photos Page 3) **Photos submitted by the City of Perth Amboy*

Snow Clean-Up Discussed Residents Split About Snow Removal After Recent Storm

By: Joseph L. Kuchie

SOUTH AMBOY - The clean-up of a nearly 2-foot snow storm was discussed during last week’s South Amboy council meeting.

Council President Mickey Gross began the meeting by praising the city’s public works team for their work following the storm.

“I’d like to take a minute to talk about our public works employees for what a good job they did during our winter storms” Gross said. “It’s easy for all of us to city home, watch TV, and look out the window, but these men are out all night busting their legs to make us safe. I think the whole city needs to be proud of what a good job they did.”

Resident Le Shawn Anderson of 4 South Shore Drive, however, was not overly pleased with the snow removal near her home. She explained that the road and walkways near O’Leary Boulevard was not touched by anyone in the city.

“I don’t think they did a very good job of cleaning the road and the sidewalks on the school side from the train station all the way down to John Street were not cleared so there was no sidewalk on that side of the street to walk,” Anderson said. It was cleared up by the weather, which was a week or so later. I don’t understand why that was

not done.”

Resident Barbara Pasternack of 29 Barkalow Street praised the city for their work during the storm, thanking them for clearing the sidewalks in a timely fashion.

“I want to thank the people who did the snow removal because they did a good job in my neighborhood,” Pasternack said. “The shoveling and salting was excellent and I want to thank Tom Kross because he removed all the snow from the curbs so we could cross the street. Where they left off he picked up.”

Before the meeting began Jersey City Power and Lighting’s Gerry Ricciardi made a donation to the city to support the city’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade committee. This year’s parade will take place on March 12th starting at 2 p.m.

“When we needed a friend during Hurricane Sandy, Gerry was a friend. When we needed generators for our fire department, Gerry was there. When we needed water for our people, Gerry was there,” Gross said. “I want to welcome you Gerry and thank you for all you’ve done for the city of South Amboy.”

All council members were in attendance for the meeting. The next city council meeting will be held on March 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Baseball Star Carlos Beltran Visits Perth Amboy

By: Katherine Massopust

PERTH AMBOY – Baseball Player Carlos Beltran visited Perth Amboy on Thursday, February 18. Carlos Beltran has played for the Kansas City Royals, Houston Astros, New York Mets, San Francisco Giants, St. Luis Cardinals and presently plays for the New York Yankees. Beltran has been in 8 All Star Games, has 3 Gold Gloves, 2 Silver Slugger Awards; he was the American League Rookie of the year in 1999. He has made the 30-30 club (30 home runs and 30 stolen bases in one season). Presently Beltran is both an



New York Yankees Outfielder Carlos Beltran visited Perth Amboy on Thursday, February 18. Above Beltran poses for a photo in Mayor Diaz’ Office (L to R) Margarita Feliciano, Mayor’s Aide Irving Lozada, Mayor Wilda Diaz, Carlos Beltran, Law Director Arlene Quinones Perez, Lissette Martinez, Noelia Colon

**Photo by Katherine Massopust*

**Continued on Page 11*

If It's Local - It's Here!

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Assemblyman John S. Wisniewski Speaks to P.A. Dems



PERTH AMBOY - On Tuesday, February 16, Assemblyman John S. Wisniewski (19th Dist) spoke at the Perth Amboy Democratic Organization Meeting before the Committee Members about the concerns to the State and the Budget Address. (L to R) Perth Amboy Democratic Organization Chair Billy Delgado, City Council President Lisa Nanton, Asm. John S. Wisniewski, Assemblyman Craig Coughlin (19th Dist.), Councilman Bill Petrick, Mayor Wilda Diaz, Councilman Joel Pabon, Anthony Bermudez and Jeannette Rios. Asm. Wisniewski is supporting Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders for the Democratic nomination for President.
**Photo by Katherine Massopust*

**The Problems Will Continue
 2/8/16 Caucus**

**Continued From Page 1*

examination and study first before we take any action."

Council President Lisa Nanton's concerns were with galvanized pipes, "Are they replaced with plastic going into the homes?"

Risoldi responded, "We replace with copper if needed. Most complaints are about low water pressure."

Perez interjected, "We will look into that."

Risoldi also discussed the Second Street Pump Station and the need to have it flood proof. "CSO permits have to be approved by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and the NJDEP (New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection). The cost will be several million dollars. This is part of the Clean Water Act. We're talking about 10 years of work to meet those regulations."

Risoldi then talked about the Runyon Reservoir, "1999 was the last time any work was done there. It needs to be upgraded. Bids came in for work that needs to be done at this location and they're being reevaluated. The City may need to use a water tank in place of the reservoir because the reservoir will continue to leak in other spots. This reservoir is too old. An engineering analysis has to be done to see the best place to put a tank. A

tank costs anywhere between \$2 - \$3 a gallon. The cost to purchase one may run at least \$30 million depending on the materials used. The Florida Grove Reservoir (6 acres) is a short term solution and the coating will have to be applied to a large surface. Other towns have opened structured reservoirs which are superior to closed reservoirs. Tanks will increase or decrease water levels depending on usage. There are 31 wells in Middlesex County. Edison Township and South Plainfield are two that have them. Knock on wood! Our wells have never gone dry. You can turn your reservoir into a park."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez had comments to make about this presentation, "In 2018, our contract with Middlesex Water is terminated. We are evaluating our relationship with them now."

Risoldi responded to these comments, "Anyone you deal with in the future will be dealing with the same problems you have, now. We are now putting meters to be located at the southern and northern sites of the river because the meters at the plant are not working that well."

Former Business Administrator Greg Fehrenbach came up to speak during the public portion which tied into the presentation made by Risoldi. Fehrenbach responded to Resolution R-102/2/16 Authoriz-

ing various professional agreements for legal, financial and engineering services to firms who have submitted requests for qualification for the project team: Water & Wastewater Partnership. He requested that the Council hold this resolution. "I gave the Council reports on our water/wastewater situation, but I've gotten no responses. There are 4 operators that can do the work and we can also partner with other municipalities for shared services. We are working on elevation of generators for the Second Street Pump Station. There are FEMA grants of up to 90% for improvements. We are two weeks away from receiving reports on possible future grants. I will try to be available for meetings with qualified professionals."

B.A. Peter Pelissier said, "The City asked for this resolution about authorizing various professional agreements for the project team dealing with the water/wastewater partnerships. Around September 2015 was when the City asked for a team to be assembled. The debt agreement with Middlesex Water in 2034. If you pass this resolution (R-102) you can meet with those who are qualified to provide these services."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez said, "We need to make sure we have input from the community."

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PERTH AMBOY – The Jolin Food box program is designed to provide families with nationally branded food products at wholesale prices. On behalf of the Cathedral's Community Development Corporation, the Jewish Renaissance Foundation's AmeriCorps is helping promote the Jolin Food Box. This month's deadline is Feb. 10. Pick Up Date is Saturday, Feb. 20 between 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. at 282 McClenan Street, Perth Amboy. Check out <https://jolin-foodbox.com> or contact us at 732-826-8207.

Get Your GED/HSE!

PERTH AMBOY - Are you 18-25 years old and in need your High School Diploma? If yes, please contact the Civic Justice Corps program. We are a youth serving program model that reconnects young adults with their communities while earning a modest stipend (allowance). The CJC in Perth Amboy is designed to serve in four areas: High School Equivalency/GED; Career Development; Leadership Development; Construction Vocation.

For more info, contact 732-324-2114 Ext. 100 or 102. We are actively recruiting for our next coed cohort.

Gift Auction

PERTH AMBOY – The St. Ann's Society of Ukrainian Assumption Church, will hold their annual Tricky Tray & Gift Auction - Bunny Hop Tricky Tray on Sunday, March 6 at the Assumption Catholic School Auditorium, 370 Meredith St., Perth Amboy. Doors open at 12 Noon. Drawings begin at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8. Cruise through rows of Table Prizes while listening to tunes from the 50's and 60's. Rock on over to stage prizes, Money Raffle, Calendar Raffle, Basket Raffle and More! Food available for purchase in the kitchen. Free cake, tea and coffee. No outside food, Please! For tickets and info call Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption Office: 732-826-0767.

An Evening of Jazz

COLONIA – Sponsored by the Independent Club of Colonia featuring the Danny Mixon Trio or Quartet. April 2 at the Colonia Fire House, 250 Inman Ave., Colonia from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Advanced Tickets required. Limited Seating. \$30pp includes wine and beer, hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. BYOB optional. For more info go to www.independentclub.org. For tickets call Glen 732-213-7797 or Phillip 908-337-1554 or Roz 732-734-7538 or Rhonda 732-925-0162. 2/10

Connections Program Seeks Volunteers

METUCHEN - The Connections Program of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, a voluntary child to adult match program is seeking adult volunteers to provide a positive friend relationship to children and youth that has suffered a loss or has special needs. These children reside in Middlesex County and Franklin Township and are in desperate need of a positive role model. Adult Volunteers are being sought to make a difference in the lives of children and youth through one-to-one activities.

Any individual 18 years old or older, of any ethnic, religious or economic background, who is interested in making a positive impact on a child's life is eligible to become an adult volunteer mentor.

All adult volunteers will be screened, receive training, staff support and other services as needed. If you are interested in learning more about the Connections Mentoring Program, please contact Jeanette Cullen at (732) 738-1323. 1/27



LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

The Wright Stuff



(Top Photo) Carole Dortch Wright (Second from left) with her father and sisters. (Bottom Photo) Carole with PRAHD Director Yvonne Lopez, MC Adrian Council from Advanced Magazine, and Wright's husband, Horace *Photos by Carolyn Maxwell

On Friday, February 19, 2016 the Amboy Guardian attended the 3rd Annual PRAHD celebration of African American History Month. The PRAHD luncheon celebrates the legacy of Arturo Alfonso Schomburg. Schomburg was a Puerto Rican activist who brought to the forefront the contributions of African-Americans and Puerto Ricans and how the two cultures intertwined in a positive way. Because of Schomburg, PRAHD created an award in his honor to be given to individuals in the Perth Amboy community who exemplify his spirit. This award is given in February (during Black History Month).

The first recipient of this award was given to Police Officer Henry Rodgers in 2014. In 2015 PRAHD celebrated contributions of lifelong Perth Amboy Resident Dorothy Daniel. This year, the spotlight was on to Carole Dortch-Wright.

All 3 of these individuals have contributed to the community in different ways and continue to do so. Rodgers was not honored for his work as a Police Officer, but in also his involvement in several community minded organizations. Daniel was an integral leader through her work with the DVRT, also as a Housing Commissioner, and her work with children not only in the schools but in different community and religious organizations. Carole Dortch-Wright has been a tireless worker as a member of the Cathedral International where she is in charge of media coordination. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of PRAHD and she is a former government worker. She is well deserving of this honor.

This year, PRAHD's Executive Director, Yvonne Lopez proudly presented as one of

Continued on Page 9

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

An Orderly Succession

The unexpected death of a Supreme Court Justice shows a problem in the original design of the US Constitution. Only monarchs and dictators serve for life; republics have a fixed term of office. The US

Constitution should be amended to set an age limit for the Supreme Court. Using seventy should prevent senility. The purpose of this change is to provide an orderly succession to the Supreme Court as is done with all other branches of government.

President Obama should

name a replacement and the Senate should vote on his nominee. The worst thing the Senate could do is to do nothing. Senators will be elected this November. Who wants to tell the voters they did nothing?

Ronald A. Sobieraj

Board Of Education Change of Election Dates

Hi Carolyn, I just read the Amboy Guardian, and I think there is confusion on what I said at the recent council meeting, as I was misquoted in your paper. The OPRA request I submitted was to the Board of Education Admin, not the clerks, and upon finding facts of when the notice was published, only 24hrs prior to the meeting, I communicated this information to both the County and Municipal Clerk.

Below is a copy of the communication sent to the clerks, to provide clarity.

Sharon

--- On Mon, 1/25/16, S Hubb <sdhubb@rocketmail.com> wrote:

From: S Hubb <sdhubb@rocketmail.com>

Subject: Board Of Education Change of Election Dates

To: "Elaine Flynn" <Elaine.Flynn@co.middlesex.nj.us>

Cc: "Elaine Jasko" <elaine@perthamboynj.org>, "Victoria K" <victoria@perthamboynj.org>

Date: Monday, January 25, 2016, 11:03 AM

Dear Elaine Flynn,

I'm writing you to bring to your attention the following matter concerning a recent special meeting held by the Perth Amboy Board of Education on January 12, 2016 at

5pm, location of Perth Amboy High School Auditorium.

It is my concern that the Board of Education failed to give proper notice to the public as prescribed by NJ Sunshine laws. Specifically the following sections as it relates to Special meetings: "A "48-Hour Notice" is required when a public body wishes to convene a meeting which has not been listed on the annual notice or regularly scheduled meetings. The Law mandates the public body to provide a written notice at least 48 hours prior to the convening of the meeting. The "48-Hour Notice" must contain the time, date, location and, to the extent known, the agenda of the meeting. Both the "Annual Notice" and the "48-Hour Notice"

must be (1) prominently posted in at least one public place reserved for such announcements, (2) transmitted to two newspapers in time for publication 48-hours in advance of the meeting, (3) filed with appropriate Municipal or County Clerk or the Secretary of State if the public body has statewide authority, and (4) mailed to any person upon request."

Based on this information, I have OPRA requested the attached documents from the Perth Amboy School administration.

Attached is a copy of the board of education notice (see attachment boenotice.pdf) which does not indicate the TWO newspapers the notice

was sent to. Upon further inquiry of which paper this notice was sent to, I received an affidavit copy of an electronic print published by the Courier News (see attachment boeNotice1Epaper.pdf). I was not provided with a copy of a physical print of the newspaper notice, however, after reviewing the newspaper electronic Ad, I see that it had a run date of January 11, 2016, which is only 24 hours prior to the special meeting and not 48 hours. The primary reason the Perth Amboy Board of Education had this special meeting was to change the Election date from November 2016 to April 2016. (Please see attachment boeResolution.pdf) While I understand the urgency of the Perth Amboy Board of Education to have this special meeting, I am perplexed by the un-timely notice.

Since, your office certifies any changes, I thought I would bring this matter to your attention, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Sharon D. Hubberman
Perth Amboy Republican Org
Municipal Chair
cc: attachments BOE notice;
BOE eprint of Courier
Newspaper

A copy of the signed Resolution and meeting notices are available at www.amboy-guardian.com

What do You Think? Send us a Response!

Lego Toddlers

SOUTH AMBOY - Ages 2-3 yrs. old. Wednesdays 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!

Have You Volunteered Lately?

PERTH AMBOY - The first and biggest benefit AmeriCorps VISTA members get is the satisfaction of incorporating service into their lives and making a difference in their community and country. The intangible benefits alone, such as pride, satisfaction and accomplishment are worthwhile reasons to serve. There are other benefits as well including awards, job and education certifications, professional development, and more. For more info call the Jewish Renaissance Medical Center, 275 Hobart Street, Perth Amboy.

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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PETRA BEST REALTY.....	329 SMITH ST.
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PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION.....	100 FIRST ST.
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QUICK STOP DELI.....	814 AMBOY AVE.
QUISQUEYA MARKET.....	249 MADISON AVE.
QUISQUEYA LUNCHEONETTE.....	259 MADISON AVE.
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SENIOR CENTER.....	423 MAIN ST.
SUNNYSIDE RESTAURANT.....	111 MAIN ST.
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PUBLIC LIBRARY.....	546 WEST AVE.
SEWAREN CORNER DELI.....	514 WEST AVE.
IN SOUTH AMBOY:	
AMBOY NATIONAL BANK.....	100 N. BROADWAY
BROADWAY BAGELS.....	105 S. BROADWAY
BROADWAY DINER.....	126 N. BROADWAY
CENTER DELI.....	250 N. STEVENS AVE.
CITY HALL.....	140 N. BROADWAY
COMMUNITY CENTER.....	200 O'LEARY BLVD.
KRAUSZER'S.....	200 N. BROADWAY
KRAUSZER'S.....	717 BORDENTOWN AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY.....	100 HOFFMAN PLAZA
SCIORTINO'S HARBOR LIGHTS.....	132 S. BROADWAY
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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.

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

Tea Room Open

PERTH AMBOY - The Proprietary House is now open every Wednesday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for tea and tours. The tea room has reopened, serving their usual delicious homemade cakes and assorted teas. Hostesses Dot, Helen and Joanne are back to greet you. A \$7.00 donation includes both the tea and a tour of the mansion. Although the house is still in the process of being restored, some rooms have been newly decorated, and we have acquired several pieces of antique furniture, including a 1700's desk and game table. The gift shop is also opened. A visit to the tea room is the perfect way to spend a pleasant afternoon. Groups are welcome, although reservations are required for groups over six people. The Proprietary House is located at 149 Kearny Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ. Tel: 732-826-5527. Email: Info@proprietary-house.org.

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy	
WED. Feb. 24	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
THURS. Feb. 25	Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St..
South Amboy	
WED. Mar. 2	City Council, Business, 6 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway
WED. Mar. 16	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway

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

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On The Waterfront in Historic Perth Amboy
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Buy 1 Dinner & Get 2nd Entree 1/2 Price*

*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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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.

Do you or someone you know have Old Photographs or Documents?

The Kearny Cottage Historical Society is Looking for Old Photos and Documents of Perth Amboy, South Amboy, Woodbridge, Fords, etc. (Local Area)

For an Archiving Project - Your Photos & Documents will be scanned into digital format & returned to you.

For more info please call 732-293-1090

Attention! Our Newspaper is available at Shop-Rite, Perth Amboy at the Courtesy Counter!



JOIN US! I LOVE TO READ EVENT WITH AUTHOR DOUG SNELSON

THE PERTH AMBOY PUBLIC LIBRARY
CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

196 Jefferson Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH

10:00AM - 12:00PM

Ages: 3-12yrs.



LET'S READ!



Join Author Doug Snelson as he shares his two wonderful children's books:

"Who's Got That Face" and
"Fable Of The Snake Named Slim"

Reading in English and Spanish

Sponsored by :



CITY OF PERTH AMBOY
THE HONORABLE MAYOR WILDA DIAZ



RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA | 357 New Brunswick Avenue | Perth Amboy, NJ 08861 | 732.442.3632 | www.rbaymca.org

\$1.1m Investment In Park Reconstruction Superstorm Sandy Recovery

Press Release 2/10/16

PERTH AMBOY, NJ— Mayor Wilda Diaz announces park construction at Bayview Park on Front and Water Street to be completed by early July for hill reconstruction, mid-level promenade with outdoor seating, amenities and storm mitigation.

“I am pleased to announce that there has been construction taking place throughout the City, specifically for final and full recovery of Superstorm Sandy in the waterfront area. These new park improvements not only maximize underutilized property and beautify neighborhoods, but they are initiatives that keep our community healthy,” said Mayor Wilda Diaz.

The park project specifications include the following features:

- 14’ wide elevated promenade running the length of the park approximately 4’ to 5’ above the elevation of Front Street providing clear views of the marina and Staten Island Arthur Kill waterfront bluffs,
- Benches, picnic tables and recreational game tables for games such as dominoes, chess and checkers,
- ADA access to park promenade by way of new ADA ramps at the north and south ends of the park,
- Promenade decorative wall lighting,
- Enhanced flood and erosion protection for the park consisting of upper and lower 4’ high wave/retaining walls,
- Decorative historic stone in-

lay on lower retaining wall and embossed stone textural panels on upper retaining wall,

- Reconfigured main entrance and stairway from Front Street at center of the park,
- New landscaping on park slope above upper retaining wall,
- New sidewalk along west side of Front Street along the length of the park,
- Removal of all rip rap stone placed on park slope after “Superstorm Sandy”

The \$1.1M project was an effort of recovery, as a result of damage caused by Superstorm Sandy in 2012. Funding was provided by HUD/CD-BG-Recovery and New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA). The remainder of the fund will be applied toward recreational upgrades and additions along the length of the waterfront.

Since 2012, Superstorm recovery efforts have been in effect for both private and public properties. The City of Perth Amboy has invested \$17 million in repairs for storm mitigation and reconstruction.

The repairs to the Perth Amboy Marina included work on the pier and harbor walk, and repair and replacement of bulkheads adjacent to the waterfront, with a goal to improve, protect and preserve the waterfront, while providing easier access to the pier and harbor walk.

Several structures in the municipal waterfront area were reconstructed with \$4.3

million dollars in FEMA funds and \$1.7 million dollars NJDEP Shore Protection funds including new bulkheads, fishing piers, floating docks, ramps, benches and light poles. Additionally, a half-mile of beach sand along Sadowski Parkway, from High Street to Second Street was replenished.

Along Front Street, a new perimeter wall was built and South of the Perth Amboy Municipal Marina, a new bulkhead was constructed, as well as a new ramp access to the South Pier. On Water Street, additional bulkhead installation, railing replacement and sidewalk repairs were also completed.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Construction has commenced at Bayview Park and will be ongoing until the beginning of July. Certain areas of the Water Street section (upper level) of the park will still remain open for public use.

Pedestrian travel from Water Street to Front Street and the marina area (through the park walkway/stairway) will be interrupted for almost the complete duration of the project, due to the reconfiguration work of the main stairway and the promenade construction. Additionally, you may experience some vehicular traffic interruptions along Front Street throughout the duration of the project. Access to the waterfront restaurants, residences, parking and marina will be available at all times.

Vitale-Pou-Gordon Bill Requiring State to Apply for Time Limit Waivers for SNAP Benefits in Areas With High Unemployment Heads to Governor

Press Release 2/18/16

TRENTON - Legislation sponsored by Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee Chairman Joseph F. Vitale, Senator Nellie Pou and Senator Bob Gordon that would require the Department of Human Services to request time limit waivers for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients in areas of the state with high unemployment rates received final legislative approval by the General Assembly today.

The bill, S-993, would require the Commissioner of Human Services to conduct a review of available data on labor and employment in the state to determine whether SNAP recipients classified as able-bodied adults without dependents, or ABAWDs, may be eligible for a waiver of the benefit time limit. If so, the commissioner would be required to submit a request for the waiver.

The time limit means that adults aged between 18 – 50 years who are considered able to work can only receive SNAP benefits for three months out of a 36-month period unless they work at least 20 hours a week, every week, or participate in an approved employment and training program. Since 2008, states with high unemployment rates have been able to get waivers from the federal government on time limits for the requirement that ABAWDs work at least 20 hours a week to enroll in SNAP.

Since New Jersey’s unemployment rate fell below 10 percent, it is no longer eligible to apply for the statewide waivers; however, federal waivers are still available for counties and municipalities within the state where unemployment is high and jobs are scarce. The administration has not applied for the waivers in 2016, which will result in a loss of benefits to thousands of individuals across the state.

“This is about doing the right thing for New Jersey’s most vulnerable residents. These individuals are trying their best to comply with the work requirements of the food stamp program but are confined by the lack of jobs available in the areas they live,” said Senator Vitale (D-Middlesex). “The administration’s failure to apply for time limit waivers for these high unemployment areas of the state will only add to the hunger problem in New Jersey. While it costs the state nothing to act, our Governor has instead chosen to leave more federal dollars on the table that could otherwise be spent helping those most in need. We simply can’t turn our backs on the people we were elected to serve.”

“Safety net programs like SNAP provide a system of support when times are tough for members of our society, and the federal program accounts for such situations as the one we are facing in New Jersey, where statewide eligibility is no longer available but regional waivers are available for areas where jobless rates are high,” said

Senator Pou (D-Bergen, Passaic). “It would cost the state nothing but would mean everything for those individuals who struggle to secure their next meal. This is the right thing to do.”

The bill would also require the commissioner to submit monthly reports to the Governor and Legislature on the number of SNAP participants in each county that would be considered ABAWD, the number of participants whose benefits are in danger of being terminated within the next month due to the benefits time limit, and the number of participants whose benefits were terminated in the past month as a result of the time limit.

“The clock is already ticking for a large number of individuals who will be affected by the inaction of the current administration to apply for waivers of the SNAP benefit time limit. These New Jerseyans are struggling to meet their basic nutritional needs, and will soon find themselves with no means to sustain themselves. The issue must be addressed immediately,” said Senator Gordon (D-Bergen, Passaic). “The transparency required by this bill will allow the legislature to be kept apprised of the situation so we can act proactively and in real time versus retrospectively.”

The federal waivers of the SNAP employment and training requirement would have allowed for some of New Jersey’s most vulnerable residents to continue receiving food assistance benefits independent of their employment status. Media reports have stated that about 11,000 New Jersey residents will lose their food assistance as a result of the Governor’s decision, but advocates suspect that number is grossly underestimated.

Additionally, by failing to apply for the waivers, the State could lose out on almost \$21 million in federal money without any State required match. Numerous studies have found that a one dollar increase in SNAP benefits generates \$1.70 in local economic activity.

“When residents in our state’s most distressed areas are in need of a helping hand, it is our duty as legislators to do the right thing. And this legislation is the right and necessary course of action,” added Senator Vitale. “Anything short of making this application is unacceptable.”

A second measure, sponsored by Senator Gordon, Senator Vitale and Senator Jim Whelan (D-Atlantic), that would urge the federal Food and Nutrition Service to amend its current regulations concerning waivers of time limits for SNAP benefits to allow county and municipal governments to apply for waivers on their own authority also cleared the Senate.

The bill, S-993, cleared the Senate by a vote of 34-0 and the Assembly by a vote of 59-9-7. The resolution, SCR-47, cleared the Senate with a vote 35-0 and the Assembly by 65-4-5. It now heads to the Governor for action.

Citizen Peterson

PERTH AMBOY - “Citizen Peterson: How Thomas Mundy Peterson Made the Most of His Historic Vote.”

If you have heard the name Thomas Mundy Peterson, it is likely because he was the first African-American to vote under the Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1870. But he didn’t just cast his ballot and disappear into history. Peterson used his status to fully-embrace the role of citizen in the face of those who questioned a black man as a sociopolitical equal. New Jersey historian and author, Gordon Bond, has discovered how Peterson ran for local office, switched from the Republican to Prohibition Party, and calls into question some of the often repeated aspects of his post-vote roles in his latest presentation.

The lecture will be at the Kearny Cottage, 63 Catalpa Ave., on Sunday, April 4th at 2 p.m. Donations welcome. Light refreshments available.

Happenings at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - Here are some happenings at the Perth Amboy Y.

- Zumba for a Cause with “Judy Torres”- Wednesday 2/24/16 at 7pm. Sign up to join the “QUEEN of FREE-STYLE” Judy Torres for a ZUMBA Party to benefit your Y! Call us at 732.442.3632 or sign up online at www.rbaymca.org. \$25 Donation to the Y for Judy’s amazing Class, a T-shirt, as well as a Meet and Greet/Photo Op with Judy! We can’t wait to party with you!

- Join us for Spin-Fundraiser Week - a benefit for individuals that need financial help with joining the YMCA; or with one of the many programs that benefit our community. When: Monday, Feb. 22nd - 5:45am, Tuesday, Feb. 23rd - 6:30pm, Thursday, Feb. 25th at 9:15am / Special SPRINT, Saturday, Feb. 27th - 9:00am. Be a part of something bigger than yourself, help us give back to the community by making a

Financial Gift to the Y

- Children’s Book Drive - Help spread the joy of literacy to our community! Did you know? Two-thirds of children living in poverty in the U.S. have no books at home. We are looking to help change that statistic by providing children in our community with books to read and you can help! We will be collecting new and gently used book until March 2nd. All books will be given to children in the community in support of Read Across America Day in March. Please bring all new and gently used children books, age range 3-12 years to one of the following locations: Raritan Bay Area YMCA - 357 New Brunswick Avenue, The Y’s Early Learning Center - 280 Maple Street, Perth Amboy or Pinnacle Federal Credit Union-135 Raritan Center, Edison. This book drive is a Togetherhood™ (the Y’s member-led volunteer program) initiative.



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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

**Fish &
Chicken Fry**

SAYREVILLE - The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville located at 172 Main St. will be having a Fish and Chicken Fry on March 4. Tickets are \$13 in advance and there are limited tickets available at the door for \$15. Chicken is available by advance order only. Take-outs will begin at 5 p.m. and dining room seating will be from 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. For tickets please call 732-257-6353 or e-mail us at churchoffice172@optimum.net. 2/10

Criollos Athletic Club of Perth Amboy
1st Annual Comedy Show
Saturday, March 19, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Portuguese Sporting Club
782 State Street, Perth Amboy

\$30 pp. Includes: Buffet, Beer, Wine, Soda & 3 Comedians.
For Tickets/Info call Chico: 732-921-0006
or Hector: 732-925-3067.



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2016 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

THE HONORABLE WILDA DIAZ
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE
2016 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016
6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC SAFETY MUNICIPAL COMPLEX AUDITORIUM
RARITAN BAY YMCA ENTRANCE
357 NEW BRUNSWICK AVENUE
PERTH AMBOY, NEW JERSEY

Editorial

*Continued From Page 4



Gifts and Awards that were presented to Carole Dortch-Wright were on display at the Luncheon



Yvonne Lopez, Board Member Bob Durso, Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno, Board Member Ana Zevallos



Gerri Johnson, Willie Mitchell look on as Mayor Diaz and Enrique Hernandez congratulates Carole Dortch-Wright

the guest speakers Dean Warren Schomburg, the grandson of Arturo Alfonso Schomburg as one of the main speakers. Dean spoke about the importance of the work that his grandfather did in letting the world know about the contributions that African-Americans made to society.

Arturo was upset that African-Americans were mostly known as being slaves. He knew that this had to be corrected and their history and contributions had to be told and passed down to future generations. "My grandfather embraced the philosophy that you should know where you came from. He was so passionate about it. He knew this was his calling.

He spoke about how his grandfather was born in 1874, but came to America in 1891. His grandfather had 7 sons and 1 daughter. "I am the son of the 7th son."

He compared the common traits of Carole Dortch Wright and his grandfather shared, "Carole is a faithful person

who believes you must not let that voice of negativity affect you. She also believes that remembering past victories gives you courage to persevere and have more victories. In other words, if you have a victory - work on it - move on it. If you stir things up - your dreams will become revealed to you. She is battle tested. She first experienced racism when she was in a teaching position and a racial slur was thrown at her. She was taken aback, but that didn't stop her."

Schomburg spoke how he learned about PRAHD while he was channel surfing looking for a weather report. "I came upon a 5 minute spot on PRAHD. After watching this highlight program I said to myself, I have to get in touch with Yvonne Lopez. We were able to connect in person 6 months later. Things just fell right into play."

Carol Dortch-Wright added, "It wasn't luck; it was Divine influence."

The Master of Ceremonies, Positive Community Maga-

PERTH AMBOY ANTI-RABIES VACCINE CLINICS-2016 May 14, 2016 and September 10, 2016

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 2016 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 2013 are due for re-inoculation in 2016 Due to the continuing rabies threat, we are strongly recommending that all animals inoculated 2014 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. 2016 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
2016**

Pet Information

Dog/Cat Name: _____ Breed: _____

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

Spay/Neutered(Yes/No): _____ Rabies Expiration Date* _____

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

2016 Rabies Clinic Schedule

May 14, 2016 and September 10, 2016

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.***



Deputy Police Chief Larry Cattano and Fire Chief Abraham Pitre



Arturo Alfonso Schomburg



Arturo Alfonso Schomburg's Grandson, Dean Schomburg with last year's recipient, Dorothy Daniel

zine Publisher, Adrian A. Council Sr., PRAHD Director Yvonne Lopez, Pastor Michael Wilkerson Leach of the Cathedral International, Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno of New Jersey, Mayor Wilda Diaz and Bob Durso, all spoke highly of Carol Dortch-Wright.

First of all, congratulations are in order to the Executive Director of PRAHD, Yvonne Lopez for initiating

the Schomburg Award. The individuals that received this award worked in the community helping others without a thought of getting a pat on the back. It is naturally in their hearts.

Congratulations to Carole Dortch-Wright, Yvonne Lopez, who herself will be honored in Newark this coming spring. These individuals are hard workers who are positive

examples for future generations to come. PRAHD helps people in need of all races, ages and ethnicities. If you need more information about the organization and services offered contact PRAHD: 732-442-1081 **C.M. & K.M.**

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.-

Military Timeline, Proprietary House, Perth Amboy 1/21/16

**Photos by Anton Massopust III and Anton J. Massopust*



PERTH AMBOY - On Sunday, Feb. 21 the Proprietary House Association sponsored a Military Timeline. Guests were privy to see uniforms and military paraphernalia from many different times in military history.

Resident Neighborhood Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - Hosted by your local Neighborhood Program Manager. Neighborhood Meetings are a group of residents who meet regularly to accomplish specific goals in their neighborhood. We identify challenges and concerns and support change and improvement efforts. Join us and help improve the quality of life through 3 main goals set for the Gateway Neighborhood. The Gateway Community extends from Route 35 to Fayette Street and Elm Street to the Raritan River. Friday, March 4th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Gallery Center for the Arts, 339 Reade St., Perth Amboy. Neighborhood Associations Shape our Community. 2/24

Opening the Door of Mercy

Press Release
PERTH AMBOY - Celebrate the Rite of Opening of the Door of Mercy at Assumption Church, Perth Amboy. Just as Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican and at St. John Lateran, Rome, so too His Grace Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese chose certain church doors in His Archdiocese as Holy Doors to mark the Holy Year. The faithful can receive special graces by walking through the Holy Door, receiving Communion, going to confession and praying for the intentions of the Holy Father.

The Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church at 684 Alta Vista Pl, Perth Amboy, NJ was designated as a special pilgrimage site for the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis. This honor and blessing for our parish will take place on Sunday, February 28th, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. with celebration of "Akathist to The Divine Passion of Christ". The main celebrant and homilist will be Rev. Taras Lonchyna, Dean for the New Jersey parishes. The Sacrament of confession will be available before and during the service. All are welcome to come to pray with us and to seek special blessings during the Jubilee Year of Mercy by walking through the main door of Assumption Church - the Door of Mercy.

Lung Cancer Support Group

PERTH AMBOY - Lung Cancer Support Group, Monday, February 1, 2016 at 7 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church 183 Rector St., Perth Amboy. For more information please call Rev. Anne-Marie Jeffery 732-826-1594. 1/13

Trip to Sight & Sound's "Samson"

PERTH AMBOY - The Cathedral International is sponsoring a trip to Sight & Sound's "Samson" in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, April 30. Cost is \$125 pp (\$25 non-refundable deposit due on Sunday, Feb. 28. Package includes: Performance of "Samson" at the Millennium Theatre, Smorgasbord meal at Shady Maple Restaurant; Shopping as time allows; Motorcoach transportation to WhiteStar Tours. Departure from 205 Smith St., Perth Amboy Parking Lot. Light Refreshments served 8:30 a.m.; departure promptly at 9 a.m. For reservations and information contact the Cathedral International, Senior Citizen Ministry Louise Williams 732-572-5145 or Susie McKnight 732-324-1037. 2/24

2016 St. Patrick's Day Parade & Ceremony

WOODBIDGE - Flag Raising Ceremony @ Town Hall is Sunday, March 13, 2016 (starts at 9:00 a.m.) Parade is Sunday, March 13, 2016 @ Woodbridge High School (steps off at 1:30 p.m.) Ends at Woodbridge Town Hall. Parade Chairman is Daniel Harris. Contact Information is 732-754-5970 and/or via email at WoodbridgeIrishParade@Gmail.com. Interested in Sponsoring and/or Marching, please visit this Resource Page: Parade Applications and Sponsorship. 2016 Parade Information can also be found on Facebook: 2016 American Irish of Woodbridge St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The 2016 Parade Theme "Ireland - 100 years - Independence."; 2016 Parade Honorees: Grand Marshal - Jack Wall; Irish Woman of the Year - Pat Nixon; Irish Man of the Year - Ed McSherry; Miss American Irish - Kylie Cahill; Lady-in-Waiting - Brianne Carey Dowd. The Woodbridge Channels will be providing a replay of their coverage starting on or about March 14, 2016. You can also watch the parade coverage online

Fish/Chicken Fry

PERTH AMBOY - Saturday Night Fish/Chicken Fry - Sponsored by: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 183 Rector Street, Perth Amboy on March 5th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Price: \$15. For ticket purchase contact the church office: (732) 826-1594

2016 St. Patrick's Day Parade

SOUTH AMBOY - Join us for the Annual South Amboy St Patrick Day Parade. The parade starts on Pine Street and Bordentown Avenue, proceeds on Pine Street to Main Street, then down Broadway. Bring your lawn chairs and wear your green! Keep an eye out for the schedule of events for the day! Saturday, March 12th, 2016 starting at 2 p.m. Richie Moran will be Grand Marshal; Deputy Grand Marshal will be Harold Dennen, Jr. The Honorary Grand Marshall will be the Honorable John E McCormac, Mayor of Woodbridge. Special Honored Guests will be William Schwarick, Jacqueline & Joe Julian (owners of Jacqueline's Florist & Gifts). The Master of Ceremonies will be Barry Rosengarten. No open containers, please. We are always looking for new members to help out with their time and talents with the parade. For more information or to join us, please contact Cathy Schwartz at saparade3@gmail.com. Parade Chair is Mickey Gross.

Winter Paper Sale

SOUTH AMBOY - The Dowdell Library of South Amboy will be holding a Winter Paper Sale beginning Monday Jan 18th through February. The Library will be offering paperback books - five for \$1; adult hardcover books \$1 each; magazines \$2 per year, and children's books for only 25 cents each. A coordinated special sale of DVDs are available for only \$1 each, as well as printers for \$10, and much more! While you're at the library, pick up an entry form for Dowdell Library's 102nd Anniversary Cooking Competition "Festive Appetizers." The contest will be held on Monday, March 14 and a soft drink "cocktail" party will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The library is located off John T O'Leary Blvd (adjacent to High/Middle School) in South Amboy. Hours are Mon-Tues-Thurs. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Wed and Fri 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sat 12 noon to 4 p.m. For additional information contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or email: comments@dowdell.org. The library website is www.dowdell.org. 1/20

Cooking Competition

SOUTH AMBOY - SAVE THE DATE! The Dowdell Library 102nd Anniversary Cooking Competition Festive Appetizers! Monday March 14th Enter the competition and enjoy soft drinks & appetizers 6:30-8 pm. See rules for details. Sadie Pope Dowdell Library - Adjacent to High School, South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060 or email comments@dowdell.org 2/17

Jazz Ensemble

WOODBIDGE - Concert: "Framework" Acoustic Jazz Ensemble Feb 26, at 8:00 p.m. Framework Acoustic Jazz Quartet "grew" organically from the solo career of guitarist Joseph Frame who formed the first incarnation of Framework in the early '90s. Since then the group has expanded, but the focus has always been the same: to perform beautiful music at the highest level of musicianship, and to communicate with their audiences enjoyment of the experience. Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Ave. Reservations Required. Call 732-634-0413.

**Ads Sell!
Call Carolyn
732-896-4446**

Baseball Player Carlos Beltran Visits Perth Amboy

**Continued From Page 1*

outfielder/designated hitter for the New York Yankees. Born in Puerto Rico on April 24, 1977, Beltran will reach his 39th birthday this April.

The Amboy Guardian reached out to the City of Perth Amboy and asked how Beltran's Perth Amboy visit came about. "The City was approached by local resident Victor Santiago, who has a business relationship with Mr. Beltran. Mr. Santiago felt that the City would benefit from the positive message that Mr. Beltran could provide to the community. The Office of Recreation was tasked to arrange the logistical aspects of the visit," said Kenneth Ortiz, Director of Human Services.

Beltran's day began with a visit to PRAHD (Puerto Rican Association of Human Development). PRAHD Director Yvonne Lopez was thrilled that Carlos Beltran came to Perth Amboy. He took photos with the students at PRAHD who had prepared posters to welcome the baseball player.

Next on the itinerary, Beltran visited City Hall for a photo op with Mayor Diaz, Kenneth Ortiz and other City officials. Before entering City Hall, the news of Beltran's visit had spread throughout Perth Amboy, and many people stopped for autographs and photos with the Yankee Player in front of City Hall.

Mayor Wilda Diaz and City Officials all took turns taking photos and getting autographs. Perth Amboy Free Public Library Business Manager Herschel Chomsky was overwhelmed with emotion as he met Carlos Beltran. Tears of joy fell from his eyes when he posed for a photo with the Yankee Star.

Next on the itinerary was a visit to the AUL (Academy for Urban Leadership) Charter School. Beltran first visited with Dr. Néstor Collazo, Lead Administrator, The Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School. Beltran had a half hour discussion with Collazo, which was conducted in Spanish.

The Amboy Guardian reached out to Dr. Collazo to provide a brief synopsis of the conversation. Dr. Collazo wrote:

Mr. Beltrán and I conversed on a number of topics, including my father's days in professional baseball back in the 1950's and 60's. My (step) Dad (Carlos Bernier) played for the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1953. I was sharing with Mr. Beltrán that Branch Rickey had signed him to a Major League contract with the Pirates. If you recall, Branch Rickey also signed Jackie Robinson into the Dodger organization.

We shared how difficult life was back then for players of color. I brought to the forefront that the Pirates were still in denial that Carlos Bernier was their first player of color to join their team. I went on to share that during my father's induction into the Pacific Coast League Baseball Hall of Fame in 2004, I noticed that his plaque was signed by Branch Rickey, and that this Branch Rickey III was the grandson of the man who had signed my Dad into Major League Baseball nearly 60 years in the past. I shared that I would continue work on bringing to consciousness my father's legacy in the game of baseball, including his singles, doubles and triples records as well as his renowned base-stealing record.

Mr. Beltrán asked if I had ever visited the museum of Sports in Puerto Rico where my father is also inducted. Quite frankly, I explained that I have not yet visited, but will do so in the near future.

We also spoke about the importance of an education to the students of AUL. Mr. Beltrán was quite informed about different educational strategies, in particular, cooperative learning. He cited that in his academy students coming in with deficiencies were able to make significant academic progress when placed in small cooperative learning groups. Mr. Beltrán is very committed to students' academic growth and success. He realizes that baseball creates opportunities for youngsters to learn skills that are quite transferable to the classroom, (i.e. teamwork, work ethic, motivation, focus, dedication, and discipline, to name a few). He is very proud of the students that have come through his Baseball Academy in Puerto Rico. Mr. Beltrán is working to provide educational opportunities to these youngsters, while simultaneously helping them develop as baseball players. He shared that youngsters in his academy have grown up to be very responsible and dedicated citizens. I was impressed by Mr. Beltrán's knowledge of effective instructional strategies to increase student achievement.

Mr. Beltran also shared his experience in the United States when he first came into Major League Baseball some nineteen (19) years ago. His recollections included the many challenges presented by not being a fluent English speaker and the markedly different cultures. He remembered the many times he called his parents in Puerto Rico whenever he felt homesick.

His talk with AUL students was excellent and his small conversations with the youngsters on the way out of the



Carlos Beltran stopped by PRAHD during his visit to Perth Amboy. He was welcomed by PRAHD and the students were very excited to see him. **Photos Submitted by PRAHD*



Library Business Manager Herschel Chomsky was overwhelmed with emotion meeting Carlos Beltran



Carlos Beltran poses for a photo with Director of the Dept of Recreation Kenneth Ortiz.



Mayor Wilda Diaz gives a proclamation to Carlos Beltran



Speaking to Students at AUL



Dr. Nester Colazzo, Lead Administrator for AUL has a conversation with Carlos Beltran **Photos by Katherine Massopust*

building are something the kids will remember for a long time. He captivated the imagination students and adults alike. We are very grateful that Mayor Diaz gave our family of AUL students, staff and faculty an opportunity to meet with Mr. Beltrán. We are equally grateful to Mr. Kenny Ortiz and Ms. Noelia Colon for their involvement and support of the initiative. - Dr. Néstor Collazo, Lead Administrator, Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School -

Afterwards Carlos Beltran came downstairs and gave an inspiring motivational message to the students of the Charter School. He was first presented with a proclamation from Mayor Diaz who thanked him for visiting the City.

Beltran spoke to the students of how a baseball player who fails 72% of the time is considered successful. (Batting average just shy of .300) He spoke on how he wanted to be an exceptional player and how many players were more talented than him, yet didn't

work hard to develop that talent. "These players come and go in two years," Beltran said. He then spoke about how he now has to work twice as hard because he is competing with guys that are 24 years old (who are younger and stronger).

Dr. Collazo mentioned to the students that Carlos Beltran was the recipient of the Roberto Clemente Award in 2013. From Wikipedia: "The Roberto Clemente Award is given annually to the Major League Baseball (MLB) player who "best exemplifies the game of baseball, sportsmanship, community involvement and the individual's contribution to his team", as voted on by baseball fans and members of the media." Originally known as the Commissioner's Award the first 2 years it was given in 1971 and 1972. It was renamed the Roberto Clemente Award in 1973 after Roberto Clemente of the Pittsburgh Pirates who died in a plane crash while delivering supplies to victims of the Nicaragua earthquake."

After speaking to the students, Beltran was treated to lunch at the Terrazza Restaurant.

"Mr. Beltran was extremely, well received by the entire community, especially by our students who were very inspired by his visit," said Mayor Wilda Diaz.

When asked if Beltran would return: "Mr. Beltran expressed a desire to return to the City and speak to more Perth Amboy students," said Kenneth Ortiz, Director of Human Services.



This Week in World War II 75 Years Ago

By: Phil Kohn. *Dedicated to the memory of his father, GM3 Walter Kohn, U.S. Navy Armed Guard, USNR, and all men and women who have answered the country's call in time of need. Phil can be contacted at ww2remembered@yahoo.com.*

On February 22, 1941, German SS troops raid the Jewish Quarter of Amsterdam, Occupied Netherlands, in reprisal for the "ammonia incident" of February 19. (Two German policemen had been sprayed with ammonia in an ice cream shop owned by German Jews.) Over the next two days, about 425 Jews are randomly arrested for "acts of defiance," beaten, and sent to the concentration camp at Buchenwald, Germany. Of these, only two survive the war. In Athens, British representatives Anthony Eden, of the British Foreign Office, Gen. John Dill, Chief of the (British) Imperial General Staff, Gen. Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief Middle East, and Lt. Gen. Alan Cunningham, Commander East Africa Force, begin a two-day meeting with Greece's King George II and Prime Minister Alexandros Koryzidis to discuss possible reinforcements for the Greek army. (Koryzidis became prime minister when his predecessor, Ioannis Metaxas, died on January 29, 1941.) In the North Atlantic, five ships of a dispersed convoy returning from England to the U.S. are sunk over a 12-hour period by the German battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* working in tandem.

Nuclear chemist Glenn Seaborg, at the University of California-Berkeley, on February 23 produces, isolates and identifies "element 94," later named plutonium. The same day, in Athens, the Greeks agree to a British force of about 100,000 troops with artillery and tank support. They are adamant against accepting fewer reinforcements. In East Africa, British troops move rapidly toward Mogadishu, Somaliland, having burst through the main Italian defenses. Simultaneously, the Free French make a small amphibious landing on the Red Sea coast of Italian Eritrea, in the Horn of Africa.

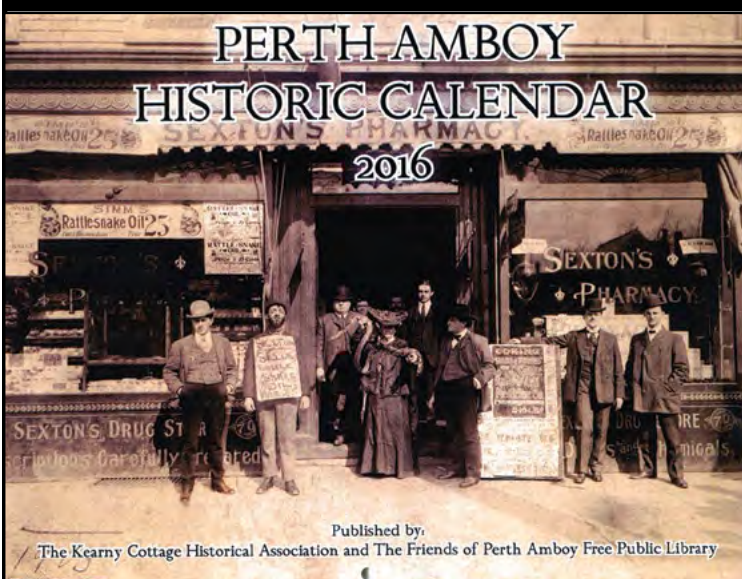
Troops of the German Afrika Korps and the British Commonwealth's 13th Corps engage in their first firefight in North Africa, in the Libyan desert east of Tripoli on February 24.

Non-Jewish residents of Occupied Netherlands on February 25 begin the first popular uprising — "The February Strike" — against the Axis Powers in Europe, registering anger publicly over the German deportation of Jews from Amsterdam. German police forcefully suppress the strike within a day. In Somaliland, Lt. Gen. Cunningham's British forces take Mogadishu after advancing 230 miles in just three days. Considerable stocks of fuel and other supplies are captured. In the Mediterranean, British submarine *HMS Upright* attacks an Italian convoy, sinking the Italian light cruiser *Armando Diaz*.

On February 26, British representatives Anthony Eden and Gen. John Dill continue their mission to the Middle East with a visit to Ankara, Turkey. Unsurprisingly, their efforts to get the Turks to form an alliance with the United Kingdom elicits no real response.

In the Indian Ocean on February 27, the light cruiser *HMNZS Leander* of the Royal New Zealand Navy engages the Italian armed merchant raider *Ramb I* and sinks her off the Maldive Islands. *Ramb I*'s captain and her 112 crewmen are rescued by *Leander*. In Los Angeles, the 13th Academy Awards ceremonies are held. The winner for Best Picture is "Rebecca," directed by British expatriate Alfred Hitchcock.

2016 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars



2016 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars are available at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy 732-442-3000 or at Fertigs Uniform Store, 195 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy 732-442-1079 or Call Paul or Katherine at 732-293-1090. Back by popular demand the Calendars feature old photographs from Perth Amboy. Sponsored by the Kearny Cottage Historical Association and the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library. Calendars are \$10 Each.

Uncle Floyd

SOUTH AMBOY – The SAFD Merchandise Hose Company presents, "An Evening with Uncle Floyd." Appearing on Saturday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. at Sacred Hall Annex Hall (Memorial Hall) on Washington Rd., South Amboy. Buffet, Beer and Wine. \$40 pp. For tickets call 732-642-4608 or email SAFD1LMartinJr@gmail.com 1/27

Passport Fair

PERTH AMBOY – The United States Postal Service Woodbridge Branch will be hosting a US Passport Fair on Tuesday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Alexander F. Jankowski Community Center, 1 Olive, Street, Perth Amboy. For more information please contact, 732-826-1690, Ext. 4307.

United States Postal Service Passport Fees: Adult, Passport Book & Card \$140.00 + \$25 (Execution Fee); Passport Book only: \$110.00 + \$25 (Execution Fee); Applicants 16 years and younger Passport Book/& Card: \$95.00 + \$25 (Execution Fee); Passport Book only: \$80 + \$25 (Execution fee); Individuals must bring: 2 color passport photos (2 x 2), taken within the last six months.

21st Annual Charity Ball

OLD BRIDGE – Sunday, March 20 from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Grand Marquis, Rt 9, Old Bridge. Tickets \$105 pp. Includes cocktail hour followed by dinner & music with open bar throughout. Sponsored By The Sayreville Association For Brain Injured Children, a non-profit organization that provides year round recreation programs to children and adults with special needs. Also seeking sponsors for our ad journal. For more information or to reserve call Jim Gilleite or Laurie Ventolo @ 732-254-8530.

Open Jam Night

PERTH AMBOY - Stageright Studios Presents Open Jam Night every Wednesday Night at 9 p.m. at Al Cibelli's Night Club, 1096 Convery Blvd., Perth Amboy. Music lovers can enjoy great food at the lowest drink prices in town as you watch the best entertainment in New Jersey. Listen as amazing musicians jam with one another. As always, no cover charge in the downstairs lounge, all back line provided. 21 to enter and drink. Extra parking across the street. Hosted by John Garoniak. For more info call: Stageright Studios 732-602-1355. Bands welcome - all styles.

AC Bus Trip

PERTH AMBOY - The San Salvador Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Caesar's Casino in AC on Thursday, March 3rd. Bus leaves 12 Noon from the Perth Amboy Knights of Columbus, High Street, Perth Amboy. Cost 30 pp. Receive \$30 back in slot dollars. For more info call Joe at 732-826-0819. 2/10

Lecture by Joyce Richardson

PERTH AMBOY - Joyce Richardson will be giving a lecture on her father, Herbert Richardson on Sunday, February 28th at 2 p.m. at the Kearny Cottage, 63 Catalpa Ave., Perth Amboy.

Lecture by Donald Peck

PERTH AMBOY - Donald Peck will lecture and sign his new book "The American Journey of Hope" on Sunday, March 13 at 2 p.m. at the Kearny Cottage, 63 Catalpa Ave., Perth Amboy.

Book Drop/Book Exchange/Book Sale

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library have established a use for the books you have read and would like to recycle!!! Drop off your books. Exchange them for books you have not read pick up a book or two (\$.50 for paperbacks/\$1 for hard cover) ... or select a "bag of books" for a price of only \$5. Please no text books or reference books.

Visit us at the Brighton Ave. Community Center located at the corner of Brighton Ave. and Sadowski Pkwy. in Perth Amboy. The schedule for the next three months is as follows: Saturdays February 27 and March 12. We will be there from 12 noon until 2 p.m. (weather permitting).

For more info, e-mail us at friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com

Easter Cake Sale

PERTH AMBOY - St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, Perth Amboy is having an Easter Cake Sale from March 7th -March 10th. Pick up your order at 404 Division St. To place your order call: 732-826-7067 between 9 a.m. to 12 noon. All gourmet items are homemade. Cakes: Walnut, Poppyseed, Prune (Lekvar), Raspberry. Price - \$11.00 each. Pickup dates are March 15th & March 16th. after 2 p.m. 2/17

Seed Swap

PERTH AMBOY – The City of Perth Amboy Seed Swap Event - Grow with your community! Bring your seeds and leave with: Pro Gardening Tips; New Friends; More seeds! PLUS: Technical Assistance to Help You Develop Your Own Neighborhood Garden from 12 noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 5th at PRAHD Headquarters, 100 First St., Perth Amboy.

Dowdell Library Foundation DVD & Recorded Media Drive

SOUTH AMBOY - Your fall cleanout is done and you're wondering what to do with all of those unwanted DVD's, CD's, and video games. How about donating them to South Amboy's Sadie Pope Dowdell Library? Just bring those unwanted items to the library, during regular hours. No VHS please!

This program has been running since 2012 collecting thousands of DVD's and other electronic media for the library. Those generous donations have enabled the library to increase its resources for the benefit of South Amboy residents and the surrounding communities.

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.

Notice: Community Announcements or "Shorts"

The Amboy Guardian is committed to serving the community. However, due to the rising cost of print publication, we are forced to now charge a small fee for community announcements. We will provide one complimentary short paragraph or "short" per event. After your event "short" is published for one week, there will be a \$5.00 fee per week charge for each additional "short" published pertaining to that particular event. For those who pay for a display ad, there will be no fee for additional shorts pertaining to the event in the paid display ad. To our regular loyal advertisers who hold community events, your "short" announcements will remain complimentary. Effective 1/1/16. Thank you.

Carolyn Maxwell
Owner/Editor/Publisher

Katherine Massopust
Asst. Editor/Writer/Layout

The Amboy Guardian

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.

Lenten Dinners

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Elks #784, will be holding their annual Lenten Dinners, starting on Friday, February 12th thru March 25th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Every Friday). Take-outs are available by calling 732-727-7170 or stop by the Lodge located at 601 \Washington Ave., South Amboy. The Dining room will also be open for sit down meals. All proceeds will benefit the Elks charities. 2/17

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

SAYREVILLE - St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner at Sayreville United Methodist Church, 406 Main St., Sayreville, NJ on Saturday, March 12, 2016 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Cost: Adults \$12; Seniors/Students/Children 5-12 \$8; Children under 5 - Free Dinner of Spaghetti & Meatballs. Dinner includes: Corned Beef or Spaghetti, Boiled Cabbage & Carrots, Boiled Potatoes, Rye Bread or Roll, Beverage and Dessert. For questions or additional tickets, please contact Winsome at (732)432-9072. 1/20

Support Our Troops Buffet Dinner

SAYREVILLE - VFW Post 4699 Auxiliary Fundraiser at 575 JerneeMill Rd., Sayreville. Classis Rock/Oldies Night--Music by: Clem & Friends on Saturday, March 19 --Doors open at 6 p.m.--Open Bar, Buffet Dinner at \$40 pp--contact Carmen 732-254-9425 or Post at 732-254-4789. For more info call 723-264-3041 or Carmen. 1/20

"All You Can Eat" Lenten

Linguini Dinners

FORDS - Our Lady of Peace Knights of Columbus Council #9199 of Fords is sponsoring their annual "All You Can Eat" Lenten Linguini Dinners every Friday in Lent, except Good Friday. The dinners will be served from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the cafeteria below the Church. The menu includes Linguini, with a choice of Red (Marinara) or White clam sauce, salad, garlic bread, coffee, soda, water, iced tea and desserts. The menu will also include our FAMOUS PIZZA! The cost is \$10 for adults, \$9 for Senior Citizens, \$5 for children under 12 and children under 5 are free. There is a special family price of \$20 (EAT IN ONLY). A family would consist of only 2 adults and any children under 12. No reservations necessary and take-out is available. For more information, call Tony at 732-233-4473. 1/20

Senior Scene Happenings

Perth Amboy

- WED. Feb. 24 Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
- St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
- THURS. Feb. 25 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- MON. Feb. 29 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- TUES. Mar. 1 Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.
- Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
- WED. Mar. 2 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.

South Amboy

- MON. Feb. 29 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.
- WED. Mar. 2 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- MON. Mar. 7 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.

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

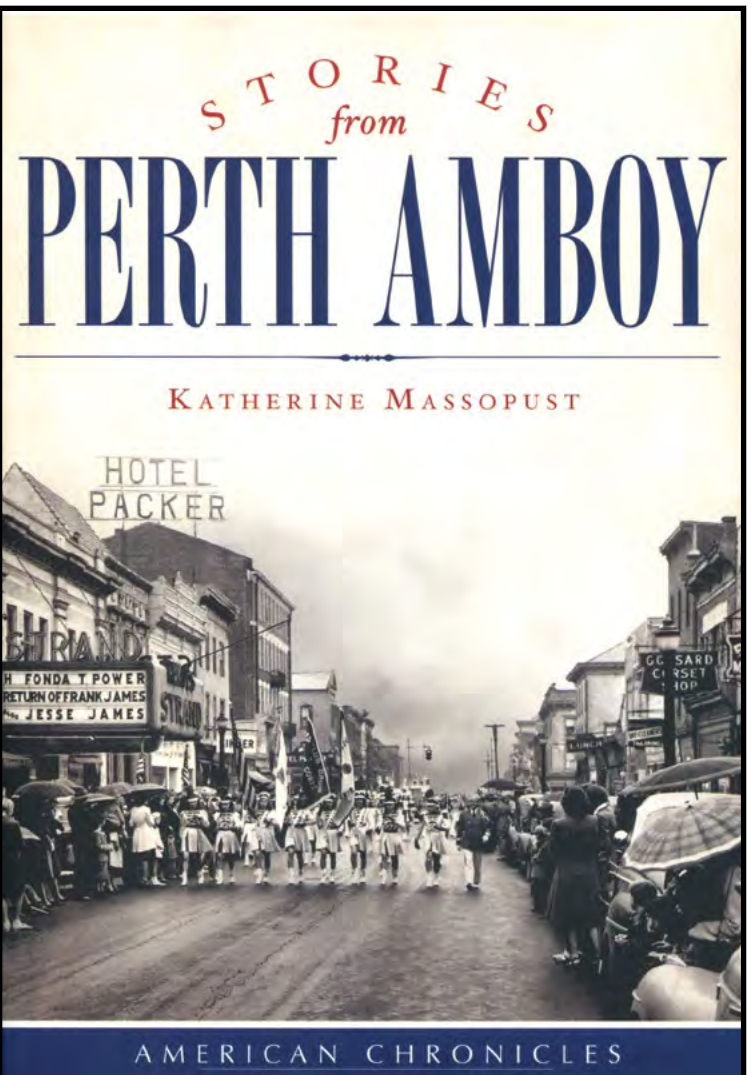
Answers From Puzzle On Page 15



LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Perth Amboy Youth Baseball League circa 1950's
 *Photo Courtesy of the 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 or in Fertig's Uniform 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! Get it now along with Then & Now: Perth Amboy!

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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

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.**

Prayer To St. Clare

Prayer To Blessed Mother

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

St. Jude Novena

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

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 Perth Amboy, NJ 08862

For Employment

Prayer To Holy Spirit

Thanksgiving Novena

Pray The Rosary

A Petition to St. Jude

May the sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of Miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. *Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.*

Thank you, St. Jude
 F.M.J.

Prayer To St. Jude

Novena To St. Anthony

Novena To St. Joseph

OTHER _____

Classifieds

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Back - 2 Life Therapeutic Massager for home or office. Great Condition \$75 - 732-354-1249	Dyson Vacuum Cleaner Upright Mint Condition - \$45 - 732-721-4477	Kitchen Cabinet - white, tan class top, shelves - 5 drawers, 6 ft. tall - \$75 - 732-887-2235
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Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Free Sanyo TV 25" Color Silver 732-754-3718	Women's Clothing, Shoes, Jewelry, Handbags, Accessories \$1 - \$20 each 908-803-9623
HP Officejet 5610 All-In-One Color Inkjet used slightly \$45 - 732-595-6334	Senior Clearance X-Mas Decore; Large Selection \$25 takes all - 732-826-5865	

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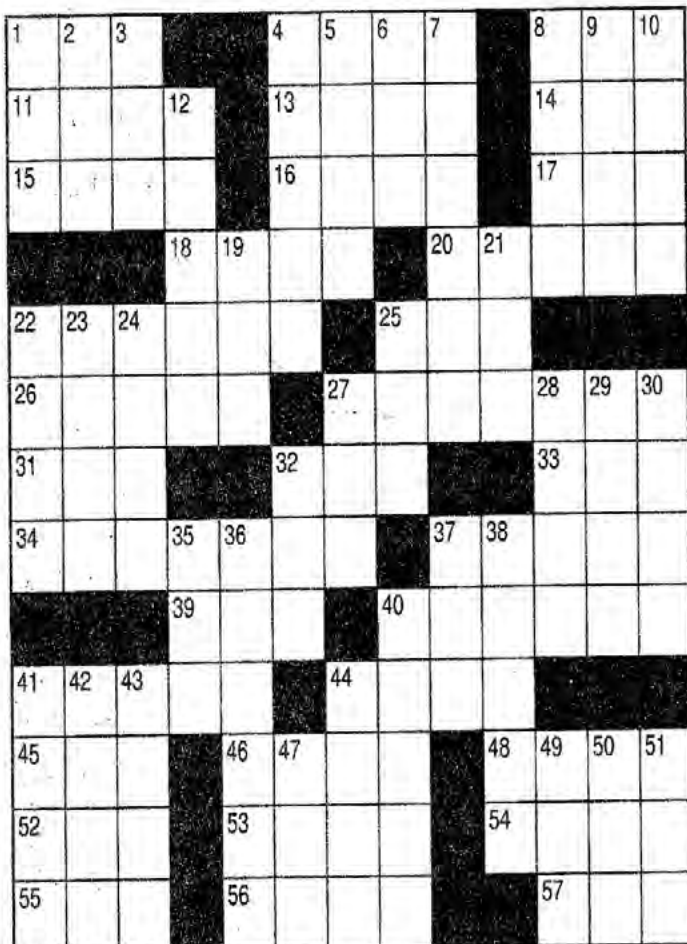
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- 15 Playwright Coward
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- 17 Four-star officer (abbr.)
- 18 Branding tool
- 20 Moved upward
- 22 Bread units
- 25 Caustic cleanser
- 26 Bancroft and Baxter
- 27 Detest
- 31 Natalie Cole's father
- 32 Chinese chairman
- 33 Pig's digs
- 34 Prepared for prayer
- 37 Appreciate highly
- 39 Opposite of pos.
- 40 Police warnings
- 41 Chinese bells
- 44 Serve
- 45 Abel's mother
- 46 Comparative word
- 48 Native minerals

DOWN

- 1 Lion's home
- 2 Twosome
- 3 Poetic "before"
- 4 Angels' circlets
- 5 Hymnal word
- 6 Smoldering
- 7 Analyzes minerals
- 8 Company's identifying symbol
- 9 Greek war god
- 10 Curse
- 12 Martini garnish
- 19 Home (abbr.)
- 21 Dem.'s opponent
- 22 Skinny and tall
- 23 "___ Island with You" (2 wds.)
- 24 Gambling stake
- 25 Feline zodiac sign
- 27 Papa
- 28 Capri, e.g.
- 29 Flabbergast
- 30 Tornado middles
- 32 Actress Foster
- 35 Liverpool's locale (abbr.)
- 36 ___ Flatt of country music
- 37 Wine, in Parea
- 38 Passion
- 40 Smell or taste
- 41 Actor Richard of "Sommersby"
- 42 Speedway shape
- 43 Hairdo holders
- 44 Infield cover, for short
- 47 "Bali ___"
- 49 River (Sp.)
- 50 Pointy-eared sprite
- 51 Ensemble



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WOODBIDGE - Subject being sold "AS IS". Buyer Resp. for C/O, termite, and smoke cert. **\$172,900**



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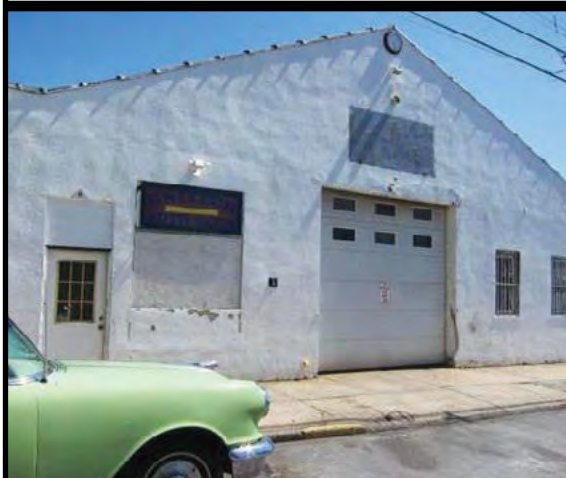
PERTH AMBOY - Stunning 3 bedroom, custom -designed home in The Budapest section of Perth Amboy with a backyard beyond your imagination. Quality throughout. A "must see." **\$204,900**



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