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Weekly Newspaper

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AMBOY GUARDIAN

• VOL. 6 NO. 49 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2017 •

School Bus Parking at Train Station Resolved PARA Arguments Continue 3/6/17 Caucus & 3/8/17 Council Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - The subject of school buses parking at the train station has been a very sore point, especially by residents. Business Administrator Adam Cruz was happy to report that a majority of the buses will be relocated to a private lot by 3/30/17. "The remaining few buses will remain until the end of April because of payments that already have been made."

R-96-3/17 - Overriding the Mayor's Veto of an Ordinance entitled: An Ordinance amending section 99-3 of the City Code entitled Redevelopment Agency.

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez said he had just received a document pertaining to this resolution. "I haven't had a chance yet to review it. How long do we have for an override?"

Council President Bill Petrick reminded Gonzalez that it was done in February. "If we don't do anything tonight, then we accept the veto."

Councilman Gonzalez responded as he has done in the past, "I would like to eliminate PARA altogether. It has served its purpose. I would like the elected Members of this Council to do this. We get blamed for everything anyway. I am concerned about Kushner. People on these Boards have no responsibility to the citizens. Let's take over the responsibility."

Councilman Joel Pabon was frustrated and said, "Let's just vote on the Resolution."

Councilman Fernando Irizarry asked, "If the Council chooses the Commissioners, it will not be voted on by the public anyway."

When it came time to vote on R-96-3/17 it was moved by Councilman Fernando Gonzalez and seconded by Councilman Joel Pabon. Petrick, Gonzalez, Pabon and Irizarry voted "Yes." Councilman Jelmin Caba voted, "No." Motion Passes.

Councilmen and City Resident Voice Concerns About Manhattan Beach Project

SOUTH AMBOY - 3/15/17 Council Meeting - Councilmen Thomas Reilly was concerned about the Manhattan Beach Project. "Due Diligence should have been done to set a fair market value on the property."

Councilman Brian McLaughlin added, "I agree with Reilly on that the tax assessor could have done a better job on assessing fair market value on the Manhattan Beach Project."

City Attorney John Lanza responded, "The City of South Amboy doesn't do assessments. Assessments are done by independent tax assessors and it's based on his knowledge and comparables. The City or tax payee can appeal the decision. The Mayor/Council does not do assessments of property. Appeals have to be filed by April 1st."

Lanza continued, "We did have appraisals in connection with tax appeals. The appraisal that was suggested from our guy, which was done about 3 or 4 years ago was \$4 million less than what it is now."

During the public portion,



Councilman
Thomas Reilly



City Attorney
John Lanza

City Resident Tom Kross came up to speak and asked, "Did the City lose \$800,000 on the Manhattan Beach Project?"

City Attorney John Lanza tried to explain, "The Tax Assessor first thought that the land value was very high, but there was a boundary line adjustment. The owner did not do a tax appeal in a timely manner and had threatened litigation. The tax assessment went up tenfold."

Kross was confused and asked, "Did the property owner appealed the decision by the

tax assessor?"

Mayor Henry replied, "The owner did not appeal in time."

Kross then questioned, "How does John Q. Public assess property?"

Business Administrator Camille Tooker answered that question stating, "We don't do one time assessments for our budget."

Lanza finished the conversation by stating, "We (the City) put in the correct assessment determined by the assessor and we were allowed to keep the \$800,000."

House is an Eyesore and Poses a Major Health Hazard



House in Question, 221 First St., South Amboy



*Photos by Carolyn Maxwell

SOUTH AMBOY - Two residents who live on Church Street, South Amboy came up to complain about a building located on 221 First Street, which is a health hazard.

Church Street Resident, Peter

Scarola said, "This building is a hazard. There are a lot of animals running in and out of the building. It should be condemned."

Business Administrator Tooker said, "This building

has been turned over to Code Enforcement."

Scarola said, "I'm surprised that the roof has not collapsed. Animal Control should be looking into this."

Mark Messenger (who is re-



Mark Messenger (standing) and Peter Scarola (sitting)

lated to Scarola) said, "I am new in town. I've seen trees and shrubbery in that building and raccoons are constantly running in and out. I haven't seen any people coming in and out of this building. We can

provide pictures of the building to the City."

Tooker stated, "I have just contacted Code Enforcement to look into this problem."

Perth Amboy City Council Meeting 3/22/17 - 7 p.m.

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Mets Trip
WOODBIDGE - Come and join the Woodbridge Township Recreation Department on a trip to Citi Field for the New York Mets vs. The Chicago Cubs on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. Bus leaves the Woodbridge Community Center, 600 Main St., Woodbridge at 4 p.m. Game starts at 7 p.m. Fee: \$65 – includes bus and Hall of Famer Mookie Wilson Replica road jersey. There are no refunds given once payment is received. Space is limited and is on a first come, first serve basis. To register for trip, stop by the WCC. For further information call 732-596-4048. If the game is rained out there will not be another bus trip. Your tickets will become rain vouchers.

Childbirth Education Class
PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center, a member of the Hackensack Meridian Health family, is holding a Childbirth Education class Saturday, March 25, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The class is designed to help expectant parents better understand the childbearing process. A registered nurse with special training in labor, delivery and childcare techniques will facilitate the class. The class will be held at Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Lower Level, Perth Amboy. The fee for the course is \$125 per couple. Registration required, call 1-800-D0CT0RS (1.800.362.8677) and reference zip code 08861.



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Cabbage & Noodle Sale

PERTH AMBOY - St. John's Evg. Lutheran Church is having a cabbage & noodle sale. Orders taken March 19th through April 1st. Pick up will be at 664 Amboy Ave (use the side door on Meredith St.) on Sunday April 2nd from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Contact Lorraine at 732-996-8860 or kookie.mc@verizon.net to place your order. \$6.00 for 1 pound or buy 3 Lbs or more save \$1.00 per pound!

Mayor Henry Recognized 3/15/17 Council Meeting *Photo by Carolyn Maxwell



SOUTH AMBOY - Mayor Fred Henry smiles as South Amboy Council President Mickey Gross read resolution R-74-2017 The Resolution was moved by Councilman Tom Reilly and Seconded by Councilman Brian McLaughlin. The Resolution congratulated Mayor Henry for his accomplishments and his being named the Grand Marshal of this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade. All of the Council and City Administrators who were present praised Mayor Henry for the work that he has done for the community as a Council Member, Mayor and as an Educator and Coach. Council President Mickey Gross who has been a Chair of the St. Patrick's Day Parade for many years said that he had nominated Mayor Fred Henry as the Grand Marshal of this year's parade and he was a unanimous choice.

Mayor Henry was humbled by the Resolution. He was honored to be the Grand Marshal and spoke about his love of Teaching and Coaching. "I love the job here, but sometimes it could be a headache, but it's worthwhile. I'm especially happy to be honored this year because my mother was also named the Irish Woman of the Year."

Attend Public Meetings Have Your Voice Heard!

JCP&L Check Presentation 3/15/17 Council Meeting *Photo by Carolyn Maxwell



SOUTH AMBOY - Mayor Fred Henry with Gerald Ricciardi Area Manager for JCP&L Community and Customer Relations. Ricciardi presented a check from JCP&L to Mayor Henry to be donated to South Amboy High School

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

An Evening with Uncle Floyd

SOUTH AMBOY - Mechanicville Hose Company Presents an Evening With Uncle Floyd Appearing On March 25th, 2017 At: Sacred Heart Memorial Hall, 531 Washington Ave, South Amboy. Time: 7:00 p.m. Buffet, Beer and Wine. \$45.00 Per Person for Tickets: call 732-642-4608 or Email: SAFD11martinjr@gmail.com

Ask the Rabbi

EDISON - Wednesdays, 12 noon -1 p.m. at the Food Court in Menlo Park Mall (between Chik-fil-A and Panera) Have a question? Have a seat! Bring your lunch and ask Rabbi Ari Saks of Congregation Beth Mordecai ANY question you'd like about Judaism, life, spirituality...anything! First person to come will get a FREE drink from the rabbi. For more information please contact Rabbi Saks at ari.saks@gmail.com

About Boating Safety Course

WOODBIDGE - Presented by U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 44, Sewaren, NJ. All classes are taught by NJ State Certified Instructors. Class Date(s) start Saturday, March 25, 2017 at 8 a.m. Course Length - 8 hrs. at Woodbridge Community Center, 600 Main St., Woodbridge. Cost \$50. Upon successful completion of the ABS course, the student will receive a certification and a NJ State Boating Certificate. The NJ State Boating Safety Certificate allows the individual to operate a personal watercraft and allow any individual to operate a recreational motorboat on NJ/ NY waters. For more information or to register: call James Crincoli - 732-574-0731. Note: Meets New Jersey/New York State Boating Requirements for both states - with the successful test completion. Special Sale Price of \$50 for spring of 2017. Register soon and learn from the best.

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Thumbs Up!



How I felt walking down Smith Street, Perth Amboy on 3/17/17 in the evening

In the past at Council Meetings, the Perth Amboy Department of Public Works has been taking it on the chin when it comes to snow removal on Smith Street.

On the evening of 3/17/17 I caught the 8:40 p.m. train from South Amboy to Perth Amboy. Upon arriving in Perth Amboy, from the time I walked up the train steps to the intersection of Smith and High Streets, the sidewalks and streets (to the curbs) were clear of 85% of the snow. It was a pleasant surprise to see that a person exiting on the passenger side of vehicles had no snow to climb over. This was on both sides of the street. Even stores that had no sun to help them clear their sidewalks did an outstanding job.

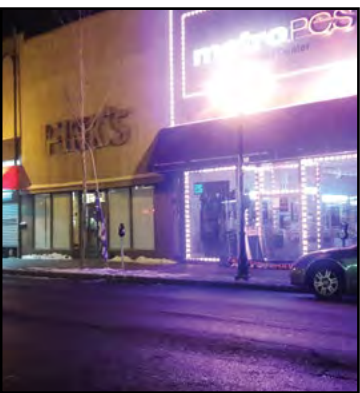
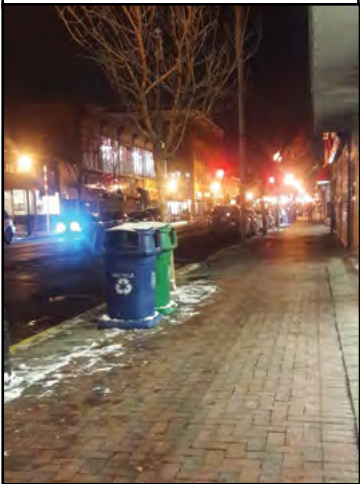
Kudos to the Department of Public Works and to businesses on both sides of Smith Street who did a fantastic job. Smith Street is the heart of our business district and every public service bus uses that street.

I realize that residents in other parts of town may have issues with their streets being plowed in a timely manner, but the main thoroughfares have to take priority.

There were a couple of businesses (on other streets in the business district) who I was surprised did not clean their sidewalks in the time frame that the City's ordinance called for. My advice to those businesses is this: make an agreement with the businesses that have quick snow removal to clear your sidewalks at the



Perth Amboy Department of Public Works



Above two photos: Smith Street Perth Amboy 3/15/17 at 9 p.m.

same time. One of those businesses who needs to do this is a major corporation on Jefferson Street near the library who didn't have their sidewalks touched until Saturday afternoon.

I agree with the resident who wrote a letter last week stating if a person spends a lot of time digging out their vehicle, especially in front of their residence, they should own that spot. The Council should draft a resolution approving this. C.M.

Update on the Ferry; Remembering a Lifetime Resident; Art Gallery Exhibit

SOUTH AMBOY - Mayor Fred Henry was pleased to announce the Federal Highway Authority gave funds for recovering the artifacts by the Ferry Terminal. "We can now continue the work and we're headed in the right direction."

Henry continued, "The Arts District has been a positive addition to the town."

Henry also sent condolences to the family of a well known community resident, Mike Kelly.

He was also happy to report that the Rotary Club has

just reopened.

Others who sent condolences to the Kelly family included Councilman Tom Reilly who remembered Kelly in his role as a well known coach in the City.

Business Administrator Camille Tooker also remembered when Kelly was a plumbing inspector for the City of South Amboy.

The Arts District was also mentioned during the Meeting. Councilman Reilly wanted to congratulate those involved in the Arts District,

mentioning "It's bringing in crowds. There is a display on site now by the former owner of the Blue Moon that will continue to be exhibited until April 15, 2017."

Business Administrator Camille Tooker was excited about the same art exhibit with paintings by Wayne Turback, "They will also be having a 70th birthday party for Turback. I urge the press and others to come see the exhibit and other events that the Arts District will have coming up."

Coughlin & Wisniewski Bill to Establish Registry to Help Police Notify Families After Car Accidents Clears Assembly Bill Supplements Sara's Law, Which in 2011 Established Statewide Online Next-of-Kin Registry

Press Release 3/17/17

TRENTON – Legislation Assembly Democrats Craig Coughlin and John Wisniewski sponsored to establish a database to help quickly notify a driver's next-of-kin in the event of a serious motor vehicle crash was approved Thursday by the General Assembly. "In the aftermath of a serious accident, emergency personnel need to be able to communicate with the victim's family, whether it's to secure information regarding the person's medical history or, in the most tragic cases, allow them to say their final goodbye," said Coughlin (D-Middlesex). "When seconds count, having immediate access to an emergency contact is essential."

The bill (A-4573), to be known as the "National Motor Vehicle Emergency Contact Registry Act," would require automobile manufacturers that sell vehicles in New Jersey to work with law enforcement and the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications

System to establish a National Motor Vehicle Emergency Contact Registry. The registry would enable law enforcement agencies to reach a motorist's emergency contact in the event of a crash that results in serious bodily injury, death or incapacitation of the motorist and inform the emergency contact of the hospital or other location at which the driver may be receiving medical treatment.

The measure effectively is an extension of Sara's Law, a measure both Coughlin and Wisniewski sponsored, which in 2011 established a next-of-kin registry linked to a motorist's driver's license or permit. Similarly, this new legislation would tie emergency contact information to a motorist's vehicle identification number.

"Having a designated emergency contact can eliminate some of the guesswork that health care professionals otherwise may go through as they assist a victim who is unable to communicate his or her wish-

es. More importantly, it can limit the chances that family members will experience the kind of anguish Sara Dubinin's parents did in 2007, when they received notification two hours later that their daughter had been in an accident that ultimately was fatal," said Wisniewski (D-Middlesex). "A car buyer who takes a few minutes to provide emergency contact information at the dealership can pre-emptively reduce chaos and heartache in the unfortunate event of a bad accident."

Under the legislation, auto dealers would allow purchasers and lessees of new vehicles (2020 model year or later) to voluntarily register an emergency contact to be stored in the registry. The registry would be for the exclusive use of law enforcement and would not be considered a government record.

The bill was approved 62-1-11 by the Assembly and now heads to the Senate for further consideration.

Published by Amboy Guardian LLC
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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

Proprietary House Open

PERTH AMBOY - The Proprietary House, the last official Royal Governor's residence still standing in the original 13 colonies, is open every Wednesday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., for tea and tours. Tea is served in our atmospheric candle-lit wine cellar, and includes our delicious homemade desserts and assorted teas. A \$10 donation, \$5 for children under 12, covers both the tea and a mansion.

Although the house is still in the process of being restored, some rooms have been newly decorated. Go back in time and learn about William Franklin and other residents of the house. It's a perfect way to spend a pleasant afternoon. The gift shop is also open.

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 E-mail: info@proprietaryhouse.org. Follow us on our website, www.theproprietaryhouse.org and or/Facebook.

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

WED. Mar. 22 City Council, Regular,7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.
FRI. Mar. 31 Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.

South Amboy

WED. Mar. 22 Planning Board, 7 p.m.
City Hall, North Broadway
WED. Apr. 5 City Council, Business, 6 p.m.
City Hall, North Broadway.

Attend Public Meetings Have Your Voice Heard!

Business Meet N' Greet Networking at the Barge,

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Event Cost: \$15.00 net per person

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**Please Support These Bills**  
*3/6/17 Caucus*



PERTH AMBOY - Supporting  
R-124-3/17 - Assembly Bill  
A222 & R-125-3/17 - Senate  
Bill S2171 - New Jersey Li-  
brary Construction Bond Acts.

Library Director Eleni Glykis made an impassioned plea to the Council on the importance of these two bills. "This is a \$25 million obligation fund. 50% of the libraries are not ADA compliant and there are other shortcomings. Our library has the smallest square footage and the biggest population. We still are not ADA compliant. One of our employees, Vilma Novak has indexed our entire historic data. We have been fortunate that Rutgers has also digitized some of our works."

The Council voted unani-



mously to approve the Resolutions as part of the Consent Agenda. It was moved by Councilman Fernando Gonzalez and Seconded by Councilman Fernando Irizarry.

## Suggestion for DPW Equipment

**SOUTH AMBOY** - Although the DPW and Emergency Services were praised by the Council and Mayor at the 3/15/17 Council Meeting, they also responded to some of the shortcomings that occurred the recent 3/14/17 snowstorm.

Business Administrator Camille Tooker stated, "We still have issues with snow removal and the Department of Public Works are working on the situation as we speak."

Mayor Henry remarked, "The Department of Public Works did a great job, but I know it's not perfect. I also want to thank the residents for getting their vehicles off the street which helped out during the storm."

Resident Tom Kross said, "The DPW did a great job with

what they have, but they need updated equipment."

Councilman Brian McLaughlin said, "The crosswalks by the school were not cleared. That's why school was closed today."

Tooker responded, "We have in our budget to get new equipment for the Department of Public Works."

Council President Mickey Gross stated, "We need to have outside vendors for emergencies."

Resident Kenneth Feeley suggested, "The City should look into getting a piece of equipment called a SKID STEER. We have a skeleton crew. With this piece of equipment you can move ten times as much snow than with the



equipment you have now. This equipment can also be used year round for other types of debris removal. You also have need to have trained personnel on this type of equipment."

## Questions on New Law Firm

*3/6/17 Caucus*

PERTH AMBOY - R-127-3/17 - Authorizing a professional services contract with Crusier Mitchell Novitz Sanchez Gaston & Zimet, LLP to provide legal services for labor and employment, real estate, ABC matters and additional litigation for the period commencing March 8, 2017 to December 31, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

Business Administrator Adam Cruz said, "We are spending \$50,000 a month now."

Council President Bill Petrick said, "DeCotiis will now get \$50,000."

Councilman Irizarry said, "I am okay with Resolution R-126 (Authorizing \$50,000 for DeCotiis)"

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez said, "We may be putting the cart before the horse. I'm hoping the attorney that we hire will become full time. Let's just do this for 2-3 months so a new attorney can sit and review what's going on now. We have not approved a budget, yet. This whole process is based on past issues. Limit the amount of money to 2-3 months and see how they want to restructure the Law Department."

Business Administrator Cruz said, "The Director of Law and the law firm has nothing to do with one another. We are into our sixth day of March and we don't have a Law Director. As in the past, you have the opportunity to interview the candidate the Mayor has chosen."

Councilman Gonzalez responded stating, "I want the lawyer to look out for the citizens first and help our Mayor."

Cruz told Gonzalez, "I'm 100% with you, because I'm the one who has to balance the budget."

DeCotiis Attorney Judy Verone firmly stated, "You will not find one lawyer who can specialize in every aspect of the law. The volume of work you have in Perth Amboy cannot be handled by one full time attorney. It doesn't work that way. The City has done a request for qualifications for lawyers. Your legal budget has gone down significantly since DeCotiis has been here. I am part time, but I'm available at all times through e-mails and my cell phone."

Councilman Jelmin Caba thought that the original amount of \$75,000 is sufficient.

Councilman Joel Pabon said, "I think the attorney here had a say in all of the other attorneys hired. I understand we do need attorneys."

Councilman Gonzalez continued his argument, "We approved an attorney list and we can hire attorneys off of that list. We don't hire a whole law firm. We will hire a full time attorney to advise use and help us save money. Everything is intertwined. I don't want to be an adversary. I just want an attorney to look out for the City."

Councilman Irizarry stated,

"The DeCotiis law firm will finish any cases that they were handed up until March 1, 2017."

Verrone answered, "Everything right now is put on hold."

Resident Stanley Sierakowski asked, "Who (an attorney) will be hired as full time?"

Council President Bill Petrick answered, "The Administration will be hiring an attorney and DeCotiis will not be taking on any new cases."

Sierakowski then asked, "Who made a decision to put this (R-127) on the agenda? This firm has no municipal experience and their main headquarters is in Georgia. They handle corporate cases."

Attorney Verrone corrected Sierakowski and stated, "This firm (R-127) are one of two that knows litigation and they have done work for Perth Amboy before."

On Resolutions R-126 & R-127 Councilman Fernando Gonzalez abstained on both.

Consent Agenda Resolutions R-97-3/17 - R-119-3/17 and R-121-3/17 - R-125-3/17 were moved by Councilman Fernando Gonzalez and seconded by Councilman Fernando Irizarry.

## Connections Program Seeks Volunteers

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - 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.



# Murder, Mystery, and the FBI

WOODBIDGE - The Friends of the Libraries of Woodbridge Township are sponsoring "Murder, Mystery, and the FBI," a special presentation with bestselling author Andrea Kane on Thursday, March 30 at 7:00 pm, at the Woodbridge Main Library.

Ms. Kane is the New York Times and USA Today best-selling author of twenty-seven novels, including thirteen psychological thrillers and fourteen historical romantic suspense titles. She will be discussing her writing process, including her research with the FBI.

Ms. Kane's latest storytelling triumph, The Murder That Never Was, extends the Forensic Instincts legacy where a dynamic, eclectic team of maverick investigators continue to solve seemingly impossible cases while walking a fine line between assisting and enraging law enforcement.

She is also known for writing historical romantic suspense novels including My Heart's Desire, Samantha, The Last Duke, and Wishes in the Wind.



Andrea Kane

A Q&A and book signing will follow her presentation. Books will be available at the event for purchase.

The Woodbridge Main Library is located at 1 George Frederick Plaza.

This special event is sponsored by The Friends of the Libraries of Woodbridge Township. To learn more about The Friends of the Libraries of Woodbridge Township please see <http://www.woodbridgelibrary.org/node/203> or call 732-726-7206.

**Send Your Events to:**  
**[AmboyGuardian@gmail.com](mailto:AmboyGuardian@gmail.com)**

# Judy Torres is Coming Back ... Zumba for a Cause!

Press Release 3/20/17  
PERTH AMBOY – Judy is a professional singer, on-air personality on NY's 103.5 KTU and a licensed Zumba instructor who is giving her time, talent and treasure to support the Y. Help us "WELCOME" her back by supporting Zumba for a Cause! \$25 donation if paid in advance, \$30 if paid at the door-SPACE IS LIMITED! Please arrive at 6:30 p.m for check-in.

WHEN: March 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. WHERE: RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy NJ RSVP: For details or to register, visit our website [www.rbaymca.org](http://www.rbaymca.org) or call 732.442.3632

DON'T MISS THE PARTY!! Your donation is tax deductible and includes a Y t-shirt, meet and greet and an AWESOME ZUMBA FITNESS PARTY with JUDY TORRES. When you donate to the Y, you're supporting programs and services that help strengthen your community.

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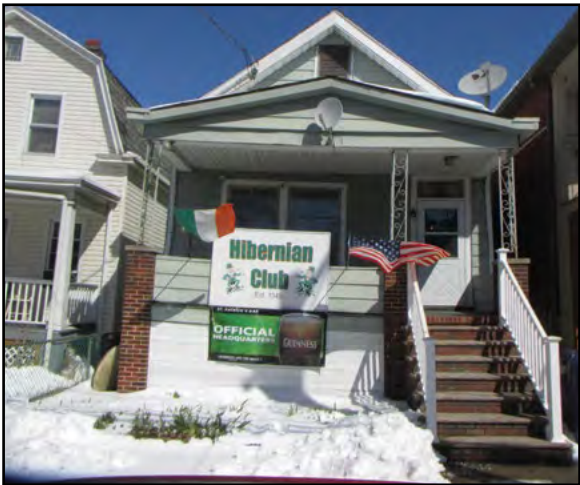
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For more information, visit [www.RBMC.org](http://www.RBMC.org).

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Ancient Order of Hibernians Celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Irish Flag Raising, Perth Amboy City Hall Circle & Activities at Hall 3/17/17  
\*Photos by Ray Kawka



St. Patrick's Day Parade, South Amboy 3/19/17  
\*Photos by Ray Kawka







**THE HONORABLE WILDA DIAZ**  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY  
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**THURSDAY, MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2017**  
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2017



**Historian Gordon Bond Presenting  
“Citizen Peterson” Talk  
on Anniversary of Thomas Mundy  
Peterson’s Historic Vote**

Press Release  
PERTH AMBOY - March 31<sup>st</sup> will be the 147th anniversary of Thomas Mundy Peterson becoming the first African-American to cast a vote under the 1870 Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Pertch Amboy has long taken pride in Peterson and his place in Civil Rights history. After casting his vote, he could have disappeared into history. Yet instead, he fully embraced civic life as a citizen. How Peterson took advantage of this new opportunity is an aspect of the story that few know about.

New Jersey historian, author, and lecturer, Gordon Bond, will be exploring this aspect in his presentation, “Citizen Peterson: How Thomas Mundy Peterson Made the Most of His Historic Vote.” He will be talking specifically about how his original research revealed some of Peterson’s forgotten participation in Perth Amboy, Middlesex County, and State politics.

Bond will also provide an update on the release of a pamphlet about Peterson he is writing for the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission that will be made available free of charge later this year.

Lecture is on Friday, March 31, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library, 196 Jefferson Street, Perth Amboy.

*Send Your Events to:*  
***AmboyGuardian@gmail.com***

**Accepting Sustainable Raritan Awards Nominations**

Press Release 3/20/17  
NEW BRUNSWICK - The Sustainable Raritan River Initiative is accepting nominations for the 2017 Sustainable Raritan Awards to recognize outstanding achievement in efforts to revitalize, restore and protect the Raritan River resources and promote the area as a premiere place to live, work and raise a family. Nominations are due May 15. The awards will be conferred at the 9th Annual Sustainable Raritan Conference and Awards Ceremony at Rutgers’ Douglass Student Center on Friday, June 9, 2017.

"The purpose of these awards is to recognize some of the more creative and impressive accomplishments by genuine leaders throughout the Raritan Watershed," said Michael Catania, Executive Director of Duke Farms Foundation and a member of the Sustainable Raritan River Collaborative and the 2016 Awards Committee.

The Sustainable Raritan Awards were established in 2010 to promote innovation and energize local efforts to restore and protect the rivers, streams and habitat of the Raritan River, Basin and Bay. There were originally six categories of awards. Due to the breadth of nominees, additional

awards have been added over the years. This year, nominations will be accepted for achievement in Government Innovation, Leadership, Non-Profit Innovation, Public Access, Public Education, Remediation and Redevelopment, Stewardship, and Sustainable Business, as well as for a new category – Citizen Action. The awards have highlighted extraordinary accomplishments and inspired other groups across the watershed to achieve comparable levels of excellence.

"We noted last year that there had been an increase in citizen involvement in projects throughout the watershed, and we received several nominations for those actions, which did not fit neatly into the existing award categories. So, beginning this year, we are adding a new award category – Citizen Action – in order to encourage and recognize these types of individual commitments to projects such as stream clean ups, water quality monitoring, and similar critical citizen actions," said Bill Kibler, Director of Policy for Raritan Headwaters and a member of the 2016 Awards Committee and the Sustainable Raritan River Collaborative.

Nomination submission

guidelines and information about past Award recipients can be found on the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative Website at [www.raritan.rutgers.edu](http://www.raritan.rutgers.edu).

Rutgers University launched the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative in 2009 to bring together concerned scientists, environmentalists, engineers, businesses, community leaders and governmental entities to craft an agenda that meets the goals of the U.S. Clean Water Act to restore and preserve New Jersey’s Raritan River, its tributaries and its bay. The Initiative, a joint program of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy and the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, partners with other Rutgers schools, centers and programs to ensure the best contributions from the sciences, planning and policy.

The Sustainable Raritan River Collaborative is a growing network of over 130 organizations, governmental entities and businesses in the Raritan River region working together to balance social, economic and environmental objectives towards the common goal of restoring the Raritan River, its tributaries and its estuary for current and future generations.



"Sustainable Raritan Awards by Nick Romanenko (c)2016 Rutgers University"

Each member organization in the Collaborative contributes to the overall restoration and preservation of the River.

To learn more about the Sustainable Raritan Awards, the conference, or the Sustainable

Raritan River Initiative, visit [www.raritan.rutgers.edu](http://www.raritan.rutgers.edu), or contact Sara Malone, Facilitator, Sustainable Raritan River Initiative, [raritan@ejb.rutgers.edu](mailto:raritan@ejb.rutgers.edu).

***Hungarian Homemade Nut Rolls & Kolbasz Sale***

WOODBIDGE - Sponsored by Lorantffy Women's Guild of the Calvin Hungarian Reformed Church, 94 N. James St., Woodbridge. Each individually hand rolled and made from the best ingredients. 1lb 8oz. English Walnut, Poppy Seed, Prune (Lekvar), Apricot and Raspberry. Price \$16 each. Orders accepted by March 25, 2017. Pick-up orders on Friday, April 7, 2017 between 11 a.m.

and 4 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall of the church (Please use Ross Street Entrance). All orders must be paid in full upon ordering. Please call Audrey Marciniak: 732-494-1431.

If you are ordering Nut Rolls, you can also place your order for Kolbasz at the same time. Price: \$5.50 per lb. (Deadline for Kolbasz orders is March 26, 2017; Pick-up April 7, 2017 from 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.)



**Fish Fry**  
PERTH AMBOY - Sunday, March 26 at from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Cost is \$15.00 for adults, \$8.00 for children and children under 5 are free. St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, 183 Rector Street, Perth Amboy. For more information, call 732-826-1594.

**Mah Jongg**  
PERTH AMBOY - Looking for something fun to do? The Friends of the Sayreville Public Library invite you to come play Mah Jongg in the Young Adult Room on Sunday, March 26, 2016, 1:00 - 3:00 PM. New and experienced members are welcome. This event is FREE and Mah Jongg sets and cards will be available for use by all players. 1050 Washington Road, Parlin. For more information, please call Elaine (732) 727-0192.

**Meditation:  
Improving our  
Practice,  
Experiencing the  
Love Within**

Press Release 3/9/17  
WOODBIDGE - Please join us on Thursday, March 23 @ 7:00 PM at the Woodbridge Main Library for Meditation: Improving our Practice, Experiencing the Love Within. Facilitator Jim Rose will help you discover the best way to integrate meditation into your daily life and unlock the doorway to deep inner peace and love. He will show you how you can awaken to the power of divine love through meditation. The more you meditate, the more you experience the peace, joy, and love inside you. This love transforms you and those around you.

Jim Rose, M Ed Rutgers University, is a former executive with Johnson and Johnson. By the time he retired, he was senior vice president in charge of quality management for the J&J Pharmaceutical Group worldwide. Part of Jim’s global responsibilities was teaching conflict resolution through collaboration, the need for respecting and caring for one another, and the necessity of working toward win-win outcomes. As a member of Science of Spirituality, Jim brings his skills to the organization, leading workshops focused on meditation and spirituality and their practical application to daily life. He has spoken all over the world: from throughout the United States and Europe to Dubai and India.

This program is free and no registration is required.

The Woodbridge Main Library is located at 1 George Frederick Plaza.

**Lenten Fish Dinners**  
SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy Elks #784, will be holding their Annual Lenten Fish Dinners at the Elks Lodge - 601 Washington Ave. South Amboy. Dinners will be held on the following Fridays from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.: March 24th, April 7th, April 14th. The Banquet Hall will be open for sit down dining. Take-out dinners will be also available by calling 732-727-7170 or just stop by the Lodge during dinner. All proceeds will benefit the Elks Charities.

**MASM presents  
Alexei Yavtuhovich and Organist  
Shea Velloso**

SOUTH AMBOY - Music at Saint Mary’s welcomes violinist Alexei Yavtuhovich and organist Shea Velloso as they team up for what is certain to be memorable experience. Alexei, a 21 year resident of Old Bridge is critically acclaimed for his amazing performances throughout the US, Europe and Asia. Shea, is a regular recitalist throughout the tri-state area and performs on public television, and radio show “Pipedreams”. Don’t miss this delightful dynamic duo in concert. Sunday, March 26, 2017 at 4:00 p.m., at Saint Mary’s Church, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy NJ, 08879. Free admission (\$15 suggested donation). For questions call MASM @ 732-857-0202

**Brushes and**  
.....  
WOODBIDGE Come join the Woodbridge Historical Association on March 27 and learn about John Watson (1685-1768), New Jersey’s first professional artist. The program will be presented by Don Peck based on John Kerry Dyke’s documentary on this forgotten artist who made his home on Water Street in Colonial Perth Amboy, purchasing an adjacent property to serve as his art gallery.

In this documentary film on John Watson, Producer Dyke and his crew researched the archives in several states as well as incorporated artifacts from an archaeological dig conducted by Monmouth University.

This presentation will be held on Monday, March 27, at 7pm in the Downstairs Meeting Room of the Woodbridge Public Library, corner of George Frederick Plaza and Amboy Avenue. Light refreshments will follow.

## 25 Years of Worshiping at The Cathedral Cathedral International’s House of Worship The Cathedral, Celebrates A Silver Jubilee Milestone with A Crusade and Service Of Rededication. Sunday, April 2, 2017

PERTH AMBOY – The year was 1992 when the Grand March of The Second Baptist Church took place from 101 Broad Street to its new home, 277 Madison Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ. The red brick church had become too small for the escalating membership resulting from the nine year leadership of its new pastor, Rev. Donald Hilliard, Jr. The march was remarkable but the premier moment of the Grand Opening was when members walked over the threshold into a building that was known as The Majestic Theatre and also known for permitting seats in a special section to people of color. That renovated theatre, 25 years later known as The Cathedral is a house of worship where every week it gladly welcomes and serves all people.

“Although it’s been 25 years we have worshipped here, whenever I enter The Cathe-

dral and see those left and right curved grand staircases with polished brass railings, I get a sense of “something majestic is happening here” stated Minister Robert McCoy, a parishioner and resident of Perth Amboy who recalls the building prior to it being a church.

Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr., Senior Pastor of Cathedral International recalls 25 years ago being a pivotal time in the life of the church. He said, “We needed a larger place to worship but we had no idea that a place for us was in Perth Amboy.” Hilliard, who celebrates 34 years as the Senior Pastor this year also mentors pastors across the nation. “I was happy with the red brick church but it was evident that God had other plans.”

Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 8:30am, the 25th Anniversary Celebration kicks off with a Celebration Crusade recapping the Grand March that

took place in 1992 through downtown Perth Amboy.

At 9:30am the Sunday Worship service begins which includes the 25th Anniversary Service of Rededication. Following the service, the celebration culminates with food, fellowship and an enjoyable time for all attending.

Recalling the Grand March as an adolescent, Pastor Danielle Brown said, "25 years ago we were in awe of the building's transformation. 25 years later we are in awe of the countless lives that have been transformed as a result of what continues to happen in the building.” Today, Pastor Brown serves as Pastor of Church Life at Cathedral International.

Everyone is invited to attend this momentous celebration. For more information, call Cathedral International at (732) 826-5293 or visit the website at Cathedralinternational.org.

## March of Dimes Awards the Jewish Renaissance Medical Center with Grant to Support Centering Pregnancy Initiative (CPI)

Press Release 3/13/17  
PERTH AMBOY, NJ (February 17, 2017) - The Jewish Renaissance Medical Center (JRMC) was awarded by the March of Dimes NJ a \$28,000 grant to improve the extent, quality, and impact of its Centering Pregnancy Initiative.

Situated in JRMC’s central facility in mid-town Perth Amboy and operating within the Women’s Wellness Unit, the Centering Pregnancy Initiative (CPI) is an innovative ‘group care’ program that brings pregnant women together for their prenatal visits and provides them support and education as they navigate toward the safe delivery and health of their babies. Through health assessments, interactive learning, and community building, the CPI empowers their patients and solidifies the patient-provider relationships.

“The March of Dimes is thrilled to partner with Jewish Renaissance Medical Center on this grant to reduce preterm birth rates in the Perth Amboy area,” states Laurie Navin, the Maternal & Child Health Director for the March of Dimes-

New Jersey Chapter. “This grant will provide intensive group care and supportive services that will help improve health, reduce stress, and encourage early and regular prenatal care. The social determinants of health are a vital piece of a family’s overall health and we applaud their efforts to reduce those barriers.”

Benefits that make the Centering Pregnancy Initiative stand out include:

- Peer support and bonding made among the women in the program through the group care approach along with a more direct connection to JRMC’s medical professionals
- Increase in the number of enrolled women having prenatal visits during their first trimester along with the increased intensity of care and treatment during their pre-partum period
- Individualized treatment plans to encourage compliance and retention while
- addressing social and economic barriers
- Patient Navigation to guide pregnant women comfortably through public benefits, including assistance in securing

prenatal care products, baby clothing, baby food, and other essential items for participants and their unborn babies

• Collaborative care by connecting high-risk pregnancies with Maternal & Fetal Specialists within the Perth Amboy area and region

“The benefits from this grant will continue to support our mission in providing our expectant mothers with the comprehensive, personalized care, education, and support they need for themselves and for their babies”, states Linda Peloquin, RN, the Centering Pregnancy Program Coordinator, JRMC.

“The successful implementation of CPI along with this incredibly valuable partnership with the March of Dimes will increase the prenatal care rates of the pregnant women we care for and bridge the gap between the patients and the healthcare system by educating and supporting women through the process of pregnancy”, states Dr. Alan J. Goldsmith, PhD, President/ Founder of JRMC.

**Go to [www.amboyguardian.com](http://www.amboyguardian.com) for the Latest Breaking News**



## Tom's Tax Tips

### Donating A Car to Charity Don't Make a Costly Mistake

Courtesy of Tom Ploskanka

Donating a car to charity can be a big deduction on your tax return, but the value of your deduction can depend on the organization you donate your car to and how they use the vehicle.

#### Fair market value or not quite

When you donate a vehicle, the value of your donation is either the fair market value when you donate it or the value received by the charitable organization for your vehicle.

•If the charitable organization uses the vehicle, or uses the vehicle to train others, you can deduct the fair market value.

•If the organization resells your donated vehicle, your donation is limited to what the organization receives for it and NOT the fair market value of the item. This often means a much lower tax deduction for you.

#### Choosing an organization

If you want to ensure you get the maximum value for your donated vehicle, find an organization that will use the vehicle themselves or use it to train others. Examples are organizations that help single mothers obtain transportation

to and from work, deliver meals to seniors, or teach auto repair or body shop work to unemployed individuals.

#### Determine fair market value

Before you donate your vehicle, use a reputable source to estimate the value of your vehicle. Online auto guides like kbb.com or Edmunds.com are good resources for this. This will help you ensure the value given to your donation is reasonable. Making a copy of the title and taking photos of the vehicle before donating it will help you support your fair market value claim.

#### Obtain documentation from the organization

When the time comes to donate, make sure the organization gives you a Form 1098-C. Verify that the fair market value assigned to your donation meets or exceeds your estimated value of your donation. If the valuation exceeds \$5,000, you need to obtain a professional appraisal.

The details of charitable vehicle donations for a tax deduction can vary by situation. Before you decide to donate, give us a call. We're here to help.

## Alameda Center for Rehabilitation & Healthcare – Community Update Dr. Jorge Gonzalez-Gomez, Dir. Hispanic Program, Community Liaison, Physician Recruiter

### The New Jersey Hospital Association (NJHA) released its latest assessment report on March 08, 2017

*“Better ratings, more permanent staff and shorter length of stay in N.J.1”*

PERTH AMBOY - Alameda is at the forefront of delivering the best possible value care for residents requiring Sub Acute Rehabilitation and/or Long Term Care. Alameda Center is the only Four Star Medicare rated facility in the Perth Amboy area. Every day the Alameda healthcare team develops initiatives that lead to better patient outcomes, shorter length of stays and savings to our insurance payers. The quality of our care is robust and it begins with working seamlessly with our physician partners, our collaborator hospitals such as Hackensack Meridian Health at Raritan Bay Medical Center (RBMC), JFK, Robert Wood Johnson Barnabas Health and St. Peter's University Hospital, to name a few. Finally, the professional care provided by our staff culminates in a speedy recovery process for our residents.

“Nearly 60 percent of New Jersey's 358 skilled nursing fa-

cilities received a four or five star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, compared with 46.3% nationally.1” Alameda is pleased to be in that high star ranking group when benchmarked nationwide.

Our recent launch of the “Orthopedic Rehabilitation Program” is one of our initiatives that we instituted to help meet the needs of older adults who are hospitalized with fractures or joint replacements. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that nearly 800,000 people, 65 and older; break their hips every year and the national average cost is over \$30,000 or \$31 billion in 20052 – both are alarming numbers. Alameda Center was recently chosen as a “Collaborator” by RBMC to manage the post-op care of patients undergoing hip and knee replacement – a true testament to the care provided by our team. Alameda is also launching a Best

Evidence Based Medicine “Sepsis Protocol” aimed at early identification of “infection markers” that will enable our staff to identify, communicate with physicians, diagnose, treat onsite and avoid hospitalizations for our residents.

As Alameda approaches the one year milestone of changing ownership, the challenges have been noted but the bounties of rewards are abundant. Platinum Health of NJ took a great facility and has worked steadfastly to be a true partner for the community served.

For more information on Alameda please visit <http://alamedacenter.com/>

1 . <https://www.njha.com/2017nursinghomes>

2. <https://www.cdc.gov/homeandrecreationalsafety/falls/fallcost.html>

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

### Grandparents Newborn Care Class

PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center, a member of the Meridian Health family, is providing a Grandparents Newborn Care Class Wednesday, March 29, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ. The class is about learning to help in your grandbaby's growth and development. The latest techniques in baby care will be discussed. Cost is \$50 per couple. Make checks payable to RBMC. Registration required, call 1.800.DOC-TORS (1.800.362.8677).

### Murder Mystery Show

EDISON - Our Lady of Peace Knights of Columbus Council #9199 will be hosting a Murder Mystery Night in the OLP Parish Center Gymnasium (No Stairs!) on Saturday, April 22, 2017. The Parish Center is located at 25 Franklin Ave, Edison, NJ 08837. This is a live and interactive comedy show with audience participation. The Knights will provide the food, beer, wine, beverages and dessert. Cost is \$40.00 per person and we have a limited number of seats, so reserve ASAP!! For tickets, call Kevin at (908) 217-0312 or e-mail [kofc9199@optonline.net](mailto:kofc9199@optonline.net).

### K of C “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. Due to logistical issues, some minor changes had to be made. The dinners will now be served from 5:30 PM-7:30 PM in the cafeteria below the Church.

The menu includes Linguini, with a choice of Red(Marinara) or White clam sauce, salad, garlic bread, coffee and desserts. Bottled water, soda and iced tea are also available for \$1 each.

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.

### Vitale-Codey Bill Improving Procedures for Treatment of Psychiatric/Substance Use Disorder Dual Diagnoses Clears Senate

Press Release 3/13/17

TRENTON - Legislation sponsored by Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee Chairman Joseph F. Vitale and Senator Richard J. Codey that would eliminate the requirement for a healthcare facility to obtain a certificate of need from the Department of Health to develop in-patient treatment beds for patients who have both a psychiatric and a substance use disorder cleared the Senate today.

“This bill will eliminate the requirement for a certificate of need that has constrained hospitals from treating patients suffering from both substance use and mental health disorders without delay,” said Senator Vitale (D-Middlesex). “By doing so, we can allow more individuals with dual diagnoses to receive the necessary treatment to aid their efforts and support any prospects of success in battling addiction.”

Under the bill, S-2844, inpatient special psychiatric beds designated for services for patients with psychiatric/substance use disorder dual diagnoses would be added to the list of exemptions for the certificate of need (CN) requirement.

“Our goal is to remove barriers to treatment for vulnerable indi-

viduals so that they can have a fighting chance at beating addiction while also getting help for their mental health disorders,” said Senator Codey (D-Essex, Morris). “This update to our law is long overdue and necessary as we continue to improve access to treatment.”

Under current law, many facilities must obtain certificates of need from DOH before they are permitted to operate or commence treatment. Current regulations require DOH to publish an anticipated schedule for certificate of need calls for the coming two-year period. Hospitals can apply only after a call for applications. Calls for psychiatric beds, including special psychiatric beds for treatment of co-occurring disorders, are scheduled every two years. The most recent calls were issued for inpatient closed acute psychiatric beds in 2011 and 2008, none of which were specifically for beds for the treatment of individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders. Only one such call was ever issued, in 2000, which led to the creation of Princeton Behavioral Health facility.

The bill cleared the Senate by a vote of 37-0. It next heads to the Assembly for consideration.

### \$100 Groceries for \$40 or Less

PERTH AMBOY - The Jolin Food 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 to promote the Jolin Food Box. Order by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month online or by phone and pick up by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. Go to <https://jolinfoodbox.com> to place your order online or call 732 826 8207 and ask for Juana Kearney.



## *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 March 20, the British initiate “Operation Outward,” a program to attack Germany with free-flying, hydrogen-filled balloons either trailing a wire (to short-circuit high-voltage electric transmission wires) or carrying an incendiary device (to start fires). Over 99,000 of these balloons will be launched through September 1944. Reports indicate that the program is quite successful in that fires are started, local electricity grids are disrupted and the Luftwaffe uses up precious resources by assigning fighter planes to shoot the balloons down. Arctic Convoy PQ13 sets sail from Iceland to Murmansk, in the Soviet Union, but is set upon by German U-boats, aircraft and destroyers. Five of the 19 convoy ships are lost. In Occupied Poland, 100 Poles are collected by SS troops from a labor camp in Zgierz, just north of Łódź, and shot. In Australia, Gen. Douglas MacArthur meets with reporters north of Adelaide, in South Australia. He says: “The President of the United States ordered me to break through the Japanese lines and proceed from Corregidor to Australia for the purpose, as I understand it, of organizing the American offensive against Japan, a primary object of which is the relief of the Philippines. I came through and I shall return.”

The last British cavalry charge in history occurs on March 21 when a horse-mounted patrol of 60 Sikhs of the Burma Frontier Force attack Japanese infantry at Taungoo, Burma. Most of the Sikhs are killed. In Russia, German troops surrounded at Demyansk, around 230 miles northwest of Moscow, attempt a breakout. In Berlin, Hitler orders Ernst “Fritz” Sauckel, Nazi General Plenipotentiary for Labor Deployment, to obtain workers for the German war effort “by whatever means necessary.” The Twentieth Century-Fox spy film “Secret Agent of Japan,” starring Preston Foster and Lynn Bari, premieres in New York City. It is the first movie to include the attack on Pearl Harbor as part of its plot.

A convoy bearing needed supplies — fragmented after heavy losses to the Luftwaffe and Italian naval forces — reaches Malta on March 22. The island suffers continued heavy bombing attacks from the Germans. In Asia, Allied forces abandon the Magwe airfield in Burma, 100 miles east of Akyab, a deep-water port on the Bay of Bengal. The British government — fearing that a destabilized India might encourage a Japanese invasion — sends Stafford Cripps, a member of the British War Cabinet, to India to negotiate constitutional proposals for a post-war India. Cripps meets with Mahatma Gandhi, who claims to speak for all Indians, and Mohammad Ali Jinnah, who claims to speak for Muslims in the country. During the talks, Cripps proposes self-government for India after the war in exchange for its loyalty during the conflict. Cripps’s proposals are deemed too radical by prime minister Winston Churchill and the British Cabinet and too conservative by Gandhi and Jinnah, and nothing comes of the effort. From England, the BBC begins transmitting news bulletins in Morse Code to Occupied Europe to benefit resistance fighters there.

On March 23, Japanese troops begin occupying Port Blair in the Andaman Islands, located in the Bay of Bengal, about 780 miles from Calcutta, India. Adolf Hitler issues Führer Directive Number 40, creating the “Atlantic Wall,” a system of coastal defenses and fortifications to protect against a potential Allied invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe from Great Britain. In the U.S., troops begin rounding up Japanese-Americans on the West Coast for relocation to camps in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and points farther inland.

Fighting between Japanese and Chinese forces at Oktwin, Burma, comes to an end on March 24 as the Chinese withdraw to their main defensive line at Toungoo, Burma, nine miles away. The British minesweeper HMS Sharpshooter rams and sinks German sub U-655 in the Barents Sea off the northern coast of Norway.

The RAF on March 25 dispatches bomber raids against targets in France and Germany.

Authorities in Berlin on March 26 mandate that Jews living in the city must clearly identify their houses. German authorities begin deporting Jews to the Auschwitz II-Birkenau extermination camp near Oświęcim, Occupied Poland. The first to arrive: 999 Jewish women from Slovakia. In Occupied Belorussia, the Germans launch “Operation Bamberg,” an offensive against partisans. Within 12 days, over 4,100 anti-Nazi fighters are killed. In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, police announce that they have arrested over 200 operatives of a Nazi spy ring in the country. In the Mediterranean, the British destroyer *HMS Jaguar* is torpedoed and sunk by German sub *U-652* off Sidi Barrani, Egypt. Lost are 193 crewmen; 53 survive

## *Thomas Mundy Peterson Day*

PERTH AMBOY - Come Celebrate Thomas Mundy Peterson Day at the Library, 196 Jefferson St., Perth Amboy all day, Friday, March 31, 2017.

## *A.C. Bus Trip San Salvador Seniors*

PERTH AMBOY - The San Salvador Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Caesar’s Casino in AC on Thursday, Apr. 6, 2017. 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.

## *Bus Trip Holy Rosary Seniors*

HOPELAWN - Holy Rosary Seniors sponsoring a bus trip to Mount Airy Casino on Tuesday, June 20 2017. Includes a 3:30 PM show “The Music of Mamma Mia,” lunch buffet, \$10 slot play and bus. Cost is \$70 a person. Bus leaves Church parking lot at 10:00 am. For more details please call Ronnie 732-442-5252

## *Raffle*

PERTH AMBOY - Saint John Paul II Parish Raffle, 490 State St., Perth Amboy NJ; Tickets \$20 Each.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – 2017 Honda Civic  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Flat Screen TV 65” – Donated by Toshiba  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Laptop, 15” 8GB – Donated by Zevallos/Skrocki Home for Funerals  
4<sup>th</sup> Prize – Portable Electric Generator – Donated by United Poles Federal Credit Union  
5<sup>th</sup> Prize – Apple Watch – Donated by St. John Paul II Parish “Señor de los Milagros”  
6<sup>th</sup> Prize – Apple iPad, Air 2, 9.7 inch/16GB – Donated by Julio’s Auto Repair  
7<sup>th</sup> Prize - \$300.00 Gift Card – Donated by Flynn & Sons Funeral Home  
8<sup>th</sup> Prize – Snow Removal – Donated by Petra Best Realty  
9<sup>th</sup> Prize – Canon Digital Camera EF-S 18-55MM f/3.5-5.6 IS, - Donated by Quisqueya Restaurant  
10<sup>th</sup> Prize – X Box One 500GB – Donated by K&K Project  
TO BE DRAWN Saturday, June 17, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at Saint Stephen’s School Auditorium.

No substitutions of the offered prizes may be made. No cash will be given in lieu of the prize. Must be 18 YRS. or older to participate. Winner need not be present. Winner is responsible for all federal and state tax. All proceeds will benefit Saint John Paul II Parish.  
I.D. No. 387-1-39661;  
RL - 4091

## *Pet of the Week*



Belle our 6 month old Dalmatian. She joins her sisters Blasé, a Husky and Mattidale, a Dalmatian to give us lots of Love  
Ex-Chief Michael Gerałowski SAFD and my Wife Marykate

## *Have a Special Pet?*

E-mail us your Pet Photos to [AmboyGuardian@gmail.com](mailto:AmboyGuardian@gmail.com) with Pet of the Week in the Subject line and explain why your pet is special. Please include Name and Phone# for verification.

## *A.C. Bus Trip St. John Paul II Seniors*

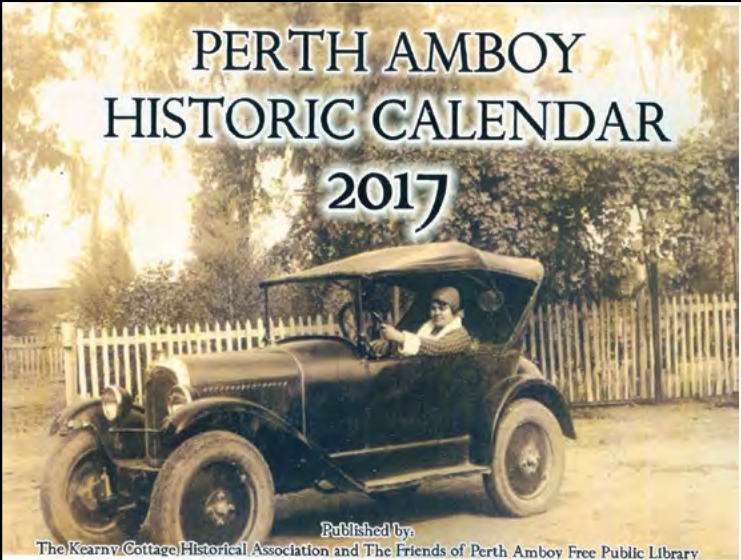
PERTH AMBOY – There is a Trip to the Golden Nugget Casino in Atlantic City. The next trip will be held on Wed. March 22, 2017. Cost \$30 pp.; \$25 back in slot play and a \$5 food coupon. Bus will depart from behind St. Stephens Church parking lot on Mechanic Street at 9:45 a.m. Call Bobbi to reserve a seat: 732-636-2867.

## *Fish Fry*

SAYREVILLE - The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville, 172 Main Street, Sayreville, will be having a Lenten Fish Fry on Friday, March 31, 2017. Take-out will begin at 5 p.m. and eat-in will begin at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are available by calling the Church at 732-257-6353. Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door. Chicken is available by advance request. All meals include fish, fries, green beans and dessert.

*Send Your Events to:*  
[AmboyGuardian@gmail.com](mailto:AmboyGuardian@gmail.com)

## *2017 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars*



2017 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars are now 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, Perth Amboy City Hall 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.



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.*

Miraculous Invocation to St. Theresa

Oh Glorious St. Theresa, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind, I invite your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you in obtaining every need of body and soul, our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a "prodigy of miracles. The greatest Saint of modern times." Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and carry out your promise of doing good upon earth of letting fall from heaven a shower of roses, henceforth Dear Little Flower, I will fulfill your plea to be made known everywhere and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.  
*Say prayer every day for 9 days. By the 4th day ask for a sign if prayer is to be answered between 4th and 9th day you will see a rose in a magazine, TV picture, or receive roses, also can get a strange scent of roses in home even if no roses present. Must promise publication. A.L.S.*

Petition to St. Jude

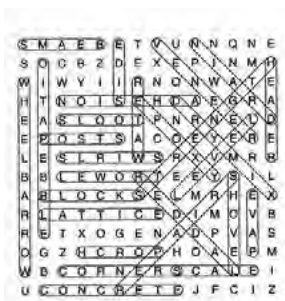
Most holy Apostle, St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the Church honors and invokes you universally, as the patron of difficult cases, of things almost despaired of, Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Intercede with God for me that He bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, particularly - (make your request here) - and that I may praise God with you and all the saints forever. I promise, Oh Blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor granted me by God and to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen. A.L.S.

Book Sale

PERTH AMBOY - 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. Presently due to lack of shelf space we are NOT accepting any donations of books.  
Visit us at the Brighton Ave. Community Center located at the corner of Brighton Ave. and Sadowski Pkwy. in Perth Amboy. The schedule is as follows: Saturdays March 25, April 8 and 22. We will be there from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (weather permitting). For more info, e-mail us at friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com Book Dealers are welcome. !!!!

Remember to Say Your Novenas!

Answers From Puzzle On Page 15



LOOKING BACK

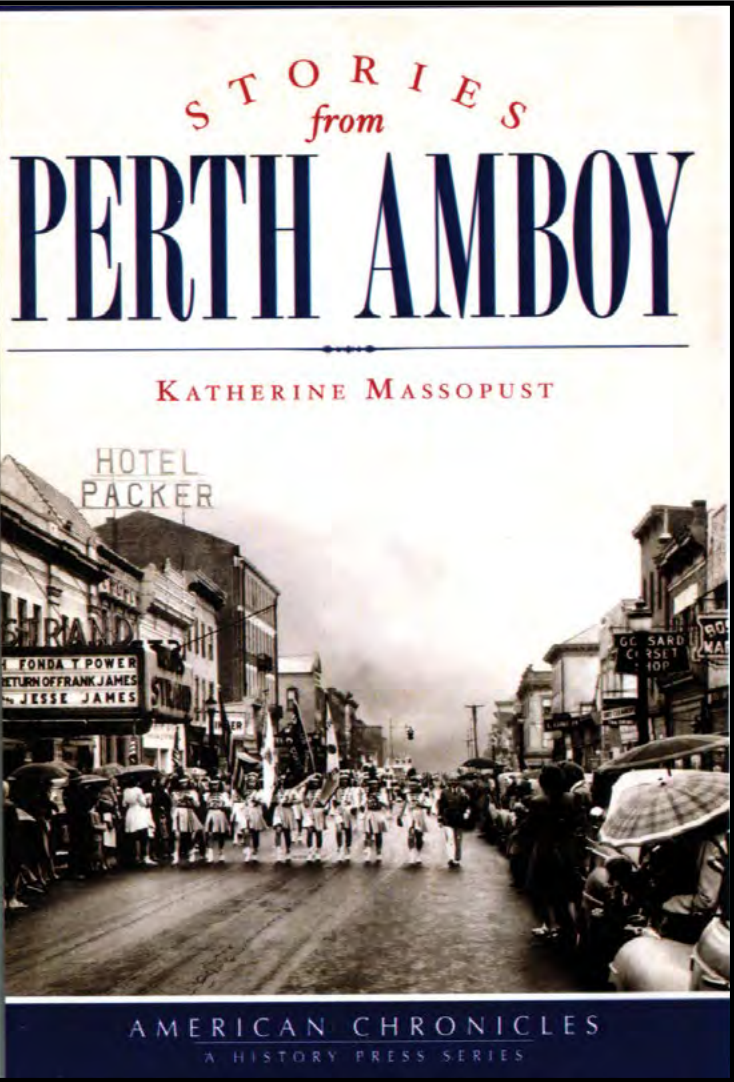


PERTH AMBOY - Rabbit Hunt at Parker Castle. Circa Early 1900's  
*\*Photo Courtesy of the Kearny Cottage Historical Association  
This Photo was restored under a grant for the Kearny Cottage Archiving project by the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission*

Senior Scene Happenings

- Perth Amboy**  
TUES. Mar. 21 Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.  
• Good Shepherd Tuesday Seniors (HS) 12:30 p.m. Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.  
WED. Mar. 22 St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.  
• Good Shepherd Wednesday Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.  
THURS. Mar. 23 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.  
MON. Mar. 27 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.  
TUES. Mar. 28 Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.  
WED. Mar. 29 St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.  
• Holy Trinity Seniors, 1 p.m., Church Hall, Lawrie & Johnstone St.  
THURS. Mar. 30 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- South Amboy**  
MON. Mar. 27 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.  
MON. Apr. 3 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.  
WED. Apr. 5 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.

Attn: If Your Club changes its 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 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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Call Carolyn @ 732-896-4446

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| Help Wanted                                                                                                    | 5 Quart Slow Cooker - like new \$35. Service for dinnerware set \$20, Foreman Grill \$20, 5 quart slow cooker \$35 732-442-1642 | White Dresser \$50; Banquet Table \$15; Shelf, Birdhouses \$10 732-721-8584                   |
| Looking for Cooks and Kitchen Helpers with Experience - Seabra's Armory - 732-826-6000 4/26                    | Singer Sewing Machine in Cabinet \$50 - 732-442-5466                                                                            | Craftsman Cast Iron Bandsaw with stand \$5 extra Blades \$60 732-725-1772                     |
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If you wish to publish a Novena in The Amboy Guardian,  
you may use this coupon.

A Petition to  
St. Joseph

Cost \$10.  
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A Petition to  
St. Jude

Dear St. Joseph, head of the most perfect household, foster father of Jesus and guardian of His mother Mary, I confidently place myself and all my concerns under your care and protection. I ask that, through your powerful intercession with God, you obtain for me all the help and graces that I need for my spiritual and temporal welfare and in particular, the special favor I now ask there mention or think of your home sale or any other petition, especially family needs. Good St. Joseph, I know with confidence, that your prayers on my behalf will be heard by God and that He will grant my request, if it be for His glory and my greater good. Thank you St. Joseph, for having responded to my call. Amen. **G.T.A.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Initials at end of prayer\_\_\_\_\_

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

The Amboy Guardian  
P.O. Box 127  
Perth Amboy, NJ 08862

May the sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of Miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. *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. Clare

For Employment

Prayer To St. Jude

Prayer To Blessed Mother

Prayer To Holy Spirit

Novena To St. Anthony

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

Thanksgiving Novena

Novena To St. Joseph

St. Jude Novena

Pray The Rosary

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E P O S T S A C O E Y E R E  
L E S L R I W S R X V M R R  
B B L E W O R T E E Y S I L  
A B L O C K S E L M R H E X  
R L A T T I C E D I M O V B  
R E T X O G E N A D P V A S  
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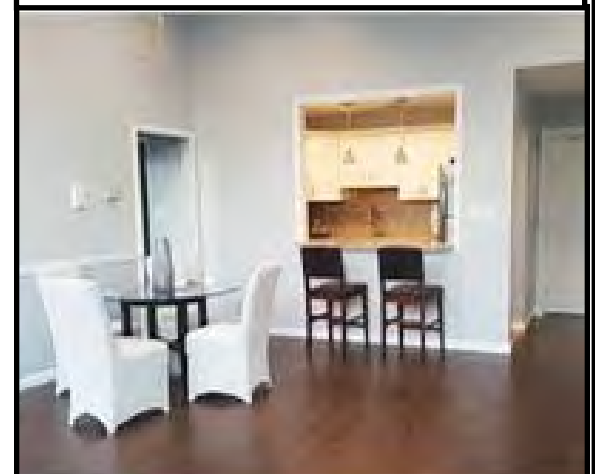
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