

THE

Weekly Newspaper

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AMBOY GUARDIAN



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The Justice System Has Failed Us 4/12/17 Council Meeting

PERTH AMBOY – During the Meeting, resident Ken Balut asked about the crime stats in the City, stating, “It’s up 20% this year, especially with stabbings and shootings.”

Resident David Caba said “The crime is getting out of control.” Caba also invited Business Administrator Adam Cruz to take a walk with him on Smith Street on a Friday evening between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m. “We can walk from Grace Street all the way down to the Waterfront.”

Cruz told Caba, “We can do the walk at 1 a.m. if you want to.”

Caba continued, “To lesson crime, we have to be together. We can all learn from our mistakes and it’s the only way we can make it better. It’s because I care. You (the Council) all have your personal lives, but you care because your all sitting up there. When we get crime numbers like this, we have to make it better. Don’t hide crime.”

Business Administrator Cruz answered stating, “I go to Neighborhood Meetings and I tell all who attend to report crimes so that we can allocate the necessary resources to that area.”

Ken Balut stated later about the Police Blotter that stopped. “We are averaging 5 arrests a day and you can’t stop the heroin epidemic if you put on blinders. Cops used to walk the beat.”

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez asked Acting Police Chief Roman McKeon to come forward in response to statements made by residents regarding criminal activity in the City. When McKeon came forward, he said, “I am glad to be able to answer some of these comments.” In regards to burglaries, McKeon stated, “There was one case where an individual who had served 5 years in prison because of burglaries and was released. He



Acting Police Chief Roman McKeon speaks at the 4/10/17 Caucus
*Photo by Carolyn Maxwell

committed burglaries again shortly thereafter and was arrested 4 times. Because of the new bail laws, he kept getting released instead of being jailed again (as per past laws). That individual even had a tracking bracelet attached to his ankle. After all of that, he was finally jailed. Yes, it’s true we arrested 50 people for heroin possession. They were released because of the new bail reforms. The justice system has failed us and we are not getting any help. You can’t arrest yourself out of heroin addiction so you have repeat offenders. We are trying to hunt criminals down and that’s why we can’t always publicize some cases. A lot of people report crimes with guns involved, then they recant their stories. Because of investigative purposes. We can’t publicize a lot of crimes. There’s one case where a crime was committed in Staten Island and they dropped the victim off in Perth Amboy. There’s a case where there was a house party where criminal activity took place, but the witness did not want to cooperate. We had a lot of incidents that happened in a short period of time. The Mayor is very supportive of the Department as she has never told me what to do. We are not the only community that has a heroin problem. I’ve talked the Mayor of Woodbridge and they are also hav-

ing the same problem. I’ve been answering calls in order to help out the offices in our Department. Public awareness is very important. Most of the crime committed is between people who know each other. There is very little random criminal activity. We are a small city with big crime problems but some other cities would like to have the same statistics we have because they have much worse criminal activity.”

McKeon expressed his case with this powerful statement: “It’s 3% of the criminal population who commit 90% of the crime in town.”

Councilman Joel Pabon expressed his gratitude to McKeon stating, “In my 6 years on the Council, this is the first time a Chief of Police gave me an in-depth explanation of criminal activity. We just asked if you can give us a heads-up on the crime going on. It doesn’t have to be very detailed. We (the Council) just don’t want to be caught off guard by residents who asked us did we hear about certain criminal activity that they said took place throughout the town. When you break down the numbers, you can see how crime stats play out.”

McKeon also told the Council, “In the last 3 days, we had 3 Narc cases where our Police Officers saved their lives.”

Easter 2017

*Photos by Paul W. Wang & Katherine Massopust



Photos #1: Living Stations of the Cross - Good Friday 4/14/17
Photo #3: Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday 4/15/17
Photo #4: Blessing of Food - Holy Saturday 4/15/17

If It's Local - It's Here!

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**Beautiful
 Beginnings:
 Accelerated
 CB Prep Class**
 PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center, a member of the Hackensack Meridian Health family, is providing a Beautiful Beginnings: Accelerated CB Prep class, Thursday, April 27, 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ. Attendees will learn diapering, feeding, sleeping habits and CPR from an experienced registered nurse. Cost is \$50 per couple. Registration required, call 1-800-DOCTORS.

**Bariatric
 Weight Loss
 Support Group**
 OLD BRIDGE - The Institute of Weight Loss at Raritan Bay Medical Center, a member of the Hackensack Meridian Health family is sponsoring a Bariatric Weight Loss Support Group Meeting Wednesday, April 26, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at its Old Bridge location. For individuals who have had surgery or contemplating weight loss surgery or are trying to maintain a healthy weight. Family and friends are welcome. The meeting will be held in Auxiliary Hall B, One Hospital Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ. Registration required, call 1-855-TIME-4-ME (1.855.846.3463).

**Volunteer
 Drivers Needed
 For Meals on
 Wheels Program**
 Press Release
 HIGHLAND PARK – Jewish Family Services of Middlesex County (JFS) is in need of volunteer drivers to deliver meals to homebound senior adults in the Highland Park area for the Kosher Meals on Wheels Program. The program delivers meals Monday – Friday mornings. A commitment of at least 2 days per month for regular volunteers is required. Also seeking substitute drivers who can fill in as needed throughout Middlesex County. Must have valid driver's license. Please contact the JFS Volunteer Coordinator for more detailed information at 732-777-1940 or visit www.jfsmiddlesex.org under the Volunteer Tab

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**Library Awarded Grant for
 Spanish/English Bilingual
 Children's Program**
 Press Release 4/12/17
 SOUTH AMBOY – The Dowdell Library was recently awarded a grant from the New Jersey State Library and the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) at Rutgers University to host the Math and Science Story-time Series (MAAST).
 The Dowdell Library will hold MAAST Story Times starting May. This story time series will be conducted for children (ages 3-6) and their families in Spanish and English. Sessions will involve reading, singing, and hands-on creative projects.
 To learn about upcoming library programs, sign up for the monthly eNewsletter at http://dowdell.org/newslettersignup.html
 The Dowdell Library's hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 10 am to 8 pm, Wednesday and Friday from 10 am to 5 pm and Saturdays from 12-4 pm. For more information, please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org.

Fight Back Against Fraud!



Join us for a free shredding event

Every two seconds someone's identity is stolen. Shredding confidential documents you no longer need is one good way to protect yourself, and the AARP Fraud Watch Network wants to help. Bring any confidential documents to our Operation Stop Scams event, and we'll shred them for free. It only takes a few minutes and can save you lots of headaches later on!

FREE SHREDDING EVENTS

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12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Patten Park, 339 Reade St.
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Saturday, April 29, 2017
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Jose Marti Freshman Academy
1800 Summit Ave.
Union City, NJ 07087

Saturday, May 20, 2017
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Mount Olive Baptist Church
260 Central Ave.
Hackensack, NJ 07601

There will be an on-site shredding truck available at these events. Shredding services are free of charge and open to the public.

For more information visit www.aarp.org/nj



Fraud Watch
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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

When are They Coming?

8/8/16 - Homeless Population Discussed. - Story in the Amboy Guardian.

Pastor Bernadette Falcon-Lopez and the then Municipal Department Head came forward to talk about the homeless population in Perth Amboy.

The topic included Perth Amboy and New Brunswick as being the only two municipalities in Middlesex County to address this situation.

In subsequent Council Meetings, this issue did not go away with Police Chaplain Gregory Pabon and our own Acting Deputy Police Chief Roman McKeon weighing in on their concerns.

There was compassion shown all around by many of those speakers towards the homeless. If I can recall, the Council had requested that perhaps the Freeholders have a meeting here in Perth Amboy to discuss this matter. Some of the speakers said that the Freeholders are WELL AWARE of other towns sending their homeless to Perth Amboy because they are the only ones that have a program implemented for emergency weather situations.

So when are the Freeholders going to appear personally in Perth Amboy?

They've been here often during election times to endorse candidates, but that is playing softball! We need them to graduate into the Major Leagues! Because right now, it's a Major League Problem that is affecting our City.

We all know that other Cities in Middlesex County give the homeless a free bus or train ticket to Perth Amboy.

Recently, Deputy Chief McKeon said he treats the homeless with the respect that they deserve.

We agree that they deserve

that respect because as the saying goes "There by the grace of God go I."

We understand that the homeless need help, but when will the Freeholders go after the other towns? When will other towns implement programs to help their homeless residents?

One time when I was going through the train station waiting area in Perth Amboy, an Officer was there questioning who was there. It was close to the time for train station to close and they had to make sure everyone was out of the station. I heard the Officer say to one woman, "If you want I can give you a ride to Woodbridge."

He showed a lot of compassion to that woman. It's just too bad that other towns don't do their part.

The Freeholders have been giving these towns a free pass for too long when it comes to the homeless.

It's time for the Council to draft a letter to the Freeholders to come before them and the residents to answer questions.

The City of Perth Amboy and the homeless not only in Middlesex County but all over New Jersey deserve better.

Something needs to be done. All Municipalities need to be accountable.

Together, we can find a solution to make things better for everyone.

Remember, it doesn't take much to become homeless. Medical emergencies, job loss or mental and physical illness can happen to anyone. A strong support system in place is vital.

A house divided tends to fall. **WE SHOULD ALL BE IN THIS TOGETHER!**
C.M. & K.M.

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

TRUE Down to the Wire

In a respond to Michael J. Rusznak's letter on April 12, 2017 "Heinous Crimes" and what was written is TRUE down to the wire. This has been going on in America for many years but most Americans don't want to hear this. Here's something more spooky - it's called Child Sex Trafficking in America and it starts in

a very powerful city: "You guess" and works its way across America. Yes, this has been going on for years but it has grown into an International sex ring run by some very powerful people in high places. Over the years, many children are reported missing and are never found. Babies are sold to the black market and to be used for whatever. In fact, the NYPD busted a former New York Congressman on sex charges of a minor. This

was the start of a big case to the FBI and the U.S. Department of Justice. What the NYPD had seen on his computer was unbelievable to the human eyes. The Canadian Authority's busted a child sex ring and it started from that very powerful city. So we'd like to know when there's going to be a major bust.

Orlando "Wildman" Perez

What Do You Think? Send Us a Response!

Two Resolutions Polled Separately by Council for Further Discussion 4/12/17 Council Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - R-152 - 4/17 Concurring with the Appointment of William J. Fitzpatrick as Tax Assessor and waving the residency requirement effective April 17, 2017 with a 4 year term beginning July 1, 2017. The Resolution passed unanimously.

R-160 - 4/17 - Accepting the bid and awarding a contract to Allied Construction Group for the hazard mitigation improvement of the Second Street pump station project in an amount not

to exceed \$2,396,000.00.

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez wanted to know what it would take have this item rebid.

B.A. Cruz said, "I can't answer that, now."

Gonzalez questioned, "Should we make an effort to rebid? It's still the taxpayer's money."

Councilman Joel Pabon said, "It sounds good, but I would like a legal opinion."

Acting Attorney Peter J. King said, "There was only one bid."

Council President Bill Petrick

gave a recap that this bid was requiring raising the motor's generator and electrical components."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez suggested this item be carried over to the next Council Meeting.

Councilman Jelmin Caba moved to table the item. It was seconded by Fernando Gonzalez.

Vitale & Coughlin Praise Completion of Perth Amboy Historic Site's Restoration and Improvement Project \$110K NJ Historic Trust Grant Used to Repair and Restore Surveyor General's Office

Press Release 4/13/17

Perth Amboy – Senator Joseph F. Vitale and Assemblyman Craig Coughlin praised the recent completion of the restoration and improvement of the Surveyor General's Office in Perth Amboy, a site listed in both the New Jersey and National Register of Historic Places.

"Perth Amboy played an important role in the earliest days of our nation's founding. The New Jersey Legislature met there to ratify the first ten amendments to the Constitution, making New Jersey the first state to approve the Bill of Rights. The Surveyor General's Office is a part of that long, rich history," said Senator Vitale. "The building endured centuries as New Jersey changed from proprietary colony to royal colony and finally to statehood,

and its restoration is a part of preserving our state's history and architectural heritage."

"Preserving New Jersey's historic buildings represents a commitment to preserving the state's culture and place in history," said Assemblyman Coughlin. "We are grateful that the Historic Trust has recognized the significance of one of Perth Amboy's historic gems, and repaired and improved the Surveyor General's Office so that our region's heritage is not lost for future generations."

Through a grant from the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund in the amount of \$110,635, the project included interior and exterior repair and restoration of the slate roof, masonry, wood cornice, windows and doors, plaster walls and ceilings, and wood trim, as well as improvements to ADA access

and the HVAC and electrical systems.

The Surveyor General's Office was built in the mid-1800s adjacent to City Hall to serve as the meeting place and record archive of the General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, representing the landlords of the colonial province of East New Jersey, as well as the office of the Surveyor-General. The two-room, brick building was designed by Francis W. Brinley and features Greek Revival and Romanesque architectural styles. It continued to serve as the headquarters for the Board of Proprietors until 1998, when the board dissolved itself. The City of Perth Amboy acquired the building in 1998, and its three centuries of records and maps were transferred to the State Archives in Trenton.

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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ZPA	281 GRACE ST.
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SEWAREN CORNER DELI	514 WEST AVE.
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BROADWAY DINER	126 N. BROADWAY
CITY HALL	140 N. BROADWAY
COMMUNITY CENTER	200 O'LEARY BLVD.
KRAUSZER'S	200 N. BROADWAY
KRAUSZER'S	717 BORDENTOWN AVE.
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HIV Support

PERTH AMBOY — Raritan Bay Medical Center is sponsoring an HIV support group meeting on Monday's at 6 p.m. Anyone diagnosed with or caring for someone infected with HIV is welcome to attend. Meetings are held at the hospital's Perth Amboy Division, New Brunswick Avenue.

To register or for more information, call (732) 324-5022.

Volunteer Firefighters Needed

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Fire Department: Volunteer Division needs members. Accepting men and women ages 18 years or older. Volunteers must be a Perth Amboy resident. For more information please contact 732-442-3430.

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	
MON. Apr. 24	City Council, Caucus, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
WED. Apr. 26	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
THURS. Apr. 27	Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
South Amboy	

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

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Safety Announcement From Mayor Wilda Diaz Regarding the Recent Incidents in NYC and NJ

We understand that some may be concerned by the recent incidents/threats in New York, Seaside, NJ and Elizabeth, NJ. At this time, it has been reported that a suspect was taken into custody in Linden, NJ. We are taking safety precautions in the City of Perth Amboy, and I want to emphasize that it is important that **IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!!**

Report Suspicious Activity - Be Vigilant - **STAY ALERT**
Do not think that any call or report is too small
Don't allow the actions of a few dictate your quality of life
FOR ALL EMERGENCIES, DIAL: 9-1-1
FOR ALL NON-EMERGENCIES, DIAL: 732-442-4400

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Thurs. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Fri. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Handicapped Committee Overwhelmed, Thomas Mundy Peterson Plaque, Food & Water Watch 4/10/17 Caucus

PERTH AMBOY – City Clerk Elaine Jasko asked that this be listed for a topic for discussion. She stated, “I met with Acting Chief McKeon and Officer Chris Joy to discuss problems we were having with the Handicap Committee. A lot of times there’s not a quorum for the committee meetings. There are over 200 handicap applications that are still outstanding. Currently there is a two year renewal date. There is a restriction on the number of spaces per handicapped parking on each block. Two days a week we review applications. I’m suggesting we have two Handicap Committees with three members each. One day, each group can look at applications. I looked at other towns that have handicapped spaces. Some of these towns average a little over 300 spaces for the whole town. We have over 600 handicapped spaces. One Councilman has suggested that we go back to the way to the old ordinance. Some say to give the new ordinance more time. The way the old handicapped ordinance read is that we never had to get a doctor’s slip. It was done through DMV records.”

Councilman Joel Pabon remarked, “You have to remember the reason we updated this ordinance was because of the abuse of handicapped spots. We can’t go back to the old way. Let’s have two committees of 3 members each. People have driveways but still get handicapped spots.”

Council President Bill Petrick stated, “If a resident has a driveway, they should not get a handicapped spot in front of their home.” Petrick remembered when a physician came to a meeting who said he only gives medical notes to his patients who he truly feels the need for handicapped spot. “We should also have Council Members on each committee.”

After Petrick said this, Councilman Irizarry commented, “I’m already on the handicapped committee.” Irizarry also wanted to know, “Will these two committees consisting of the members each be permanent?”

Petrick said, “Only until we

get the number down from the 600 handicapped spots we have now.”

Irizarry said, “The Handicapped Committee has denied almost 50% of the applications presented to them.”

When he said this, one of the Committee people sitting in the audience, Jeremy Baratta indicated that was wrong and it was lower than that. Then Police Officer who was present said it around a 30% denial.

Irizarry started to talk again, “These are difficult decisions we are making and we are doing the best that we can from the information we get. Mr. Baratta has helped us out a lot.”

Councilman Jelmin Caba had concerns, “I have seen a lot of handicapped signs on streets where the person who is assigned that handicapped spot has moved out of town.”

Jasko explained, “Sometimes we rely on people who are their neighbors to call us or we find this out when we send out renewals every two years. “If they don’t respond in a required timeframe, we remove the sign from that handicapped spot.”

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez said, “This has been going on for 3 years.”

Jasko then reminded the Council that the system of renewals was changed to once a year and will be going alphabetically by street names.

Petrick said, “Two Handicap Committees with 3 members each sounds like a good idea and we will have a Council Member on each one.”

Another topic for discussion was an update on the Thomas Mundy Peterson projects. Jasko stated, “The funding was backed by Buckeye and the plaque is ordered.”

Council President Bill Petrick also said, “The verbiage is completed and the historic facts were verified.”

Also at the meeting, was a presentation by Junior Remero who is a Central Jersey Organizer for the Food & Water Watch Organization. Remero came before the Council to talk about the Transko Gas Pipeline, “This pipeline com-

presses 32,000 horsepower of propane gas. Somerset County has already drafted an ordinance against this. My organization is against this project because it can destroy the environment, especially marine life. If Perth Amboy is against this project, you will be the first in Middlesex County to do so.”

The last topic for discussion included e-mail monitoring. The City’s IT Tech John Alleman could not be present because he called out on a sick day. Councilman Fernando Gonzalez opened up this discussion by saying, “I just found out that our private emails were being read. Business Administrator Cruz stated, “If it’s through the City’s server, it can be read.”

Gonzalez wanted to know, “Is this common practice?”

Cruz answered, “No, but if it goes through our (the City’s) server which is public, then the emails can be read.” Cruz continued, “Any equipment owned by the City is public and you all (the Council) sign a disclosure form stating that the emails sent can be read.”

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez still wasn’t satisfied and said, “I should be able to send emails to my fellow Council Members without them being read.”

Attorney Peter J. King was acting in the capacity of Law Director had been asked to give his opinion on this matter. King stated, “Certain communications can be OPRA’d. All emails are fingerprinted. In cases where emails are important to criminal investigations, they can be subpoenaed whether they are public or private. All emails go into the Master Server.”

Council President Bill Petrick asked, “Is this a moral overstepping here?”

B.A. Cruz reminded the Council that a few days before the Advisory Budget was sent to the Council for their eyes only, a Council Member sent it out to 5 or 6 selected residents.”

King added, “It looks like the administration tried to find out

**Continued On Page 9*

South Amboy Introduces 2017 Budget

By: Joseph L. Kuchie
SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy city council adopted a resolution introducing the 2017 Budget at last Tuesday’s city council meeting.

The budget includes a \$661,000 surplus and just a one cent tax increase, which on the average home is approximately \$26.60.

“I think it shows a very efficiently run working government in South Amboy,” Mayor Fred Henry said. “We work within our means...it shows this government in South Amboy is working in the best interest of the citizens of South Amboy.”

The city will hold a public budget hearing before approving the final budget. The date of that meeting has yet to be announced.

Councilman Tom Reilly announced that he is working with the South Amboy Board of Education on a co-op program that will allow South Amboy High School students to work within the city’s government. Reilly believes the program, which he hopes will launch in September, would be a great benefit for students.

“They would spend a few days a week integrating into

positions in the city,” Reilly said. “I they gain valuable experience... it shows the city is extending itself to the Board of Education...I just think the benefits are just enormous for this program.”

With the weather improving in South Amboy, multiple council members reminded the public of some important events coming up in the city, including:

- April 22: Opening Day for Little League
- April 22: Historical Society Open House
- May 21: Memorial Day Parade
- July 3: Fourth of July Fireworks Show

Councilwoman Christine Noble also reminded drivers to be cautious of children at play throughout the city as the weather heats up in New Jersey.

Councilwoman Zuzette Dato was not in attendance for the meeting. Tuesday’s meeting was rescheduled due to a lack of quorum on the meeting’s original date of April 19th.

The next city business meeting will be held on May 3rd at 6:00 p.m. The next city council meeting will be held on May 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Distracted Driving Enforcement and Education Campaign *UDrive. UText. UPay. to be Carried Out Locally from April 1 – April 21, 2017*

Press Release 4/13/17
PERTH AMBOY - Law enforcement officers from the Perth Amboy Police Department will be cracking down on distracted drivers during April as part of New Jersey’s UDrive. UText. UPay. enforcement campaign.

Beginning April 1 and running through April 21, the high visibility law enforcement initiative will target motorists who engage in dangerous distracted driving behaviors such as talking on hand-held cell phones and sending text messages while driving.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that in 2014 alone, 3,179 people were killed in distracted driving crashes and an estimated 431,000 people were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver.

Despite the fact that using a

hand held cell phone or texting while driving is illegal in New Jersey, the practice appears to be widespread. In a recent survey conducted by the FDU PublicMind Poll for the Division of Highway Traffic Safety, 67% of respondents said they “very often” see people driving and talking on a hand held cell phone. 42% of respondents said they “very often” see driver’s texting.

The campaign is being carried out during the month of April, which the National Safety Council has designated as Distracted Driving Awareness Month. The New Jersey campaign is modeled after similar successful high visibility enforcement programs such as Click It or Ticket and Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.

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

Food Stamps Assistance

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

**Go to www.amboyguardian.com
for the Latest Breaking News**

Amboy Bank Opens New Branch in Matawan's Cheesequake Area

**Photo Submitted*



News Release

MATAWAN - Old Bridge Mayor, Owen Henry, assists Greg Scharpf, Senior Vice President of Amboy Bank, in cutting the ribbon, opening Amboy Bank's new Cheesequake Branch located at 95 Matawan Road in Matawan. From left to right are Stephen Mamakas, Executive Officer of the Mayor's Office of Economic Development, Greg Scharpf, Mayor Henry, Donna Ostrowski, Cheesequake Branch Manager, and Vincent Blasi, President of the Old Bridge Chamber of Commerce.

"After 52 years in Laurence Harbor, we are pleased to be moving to a modern new branch and bring our innovative products and quality service to the people in the Matawan area," said Scharpf.

Founded in 1888, Amboy Bank, a full-service commercial bank with 23 offices in central New Jersey, prides itself on quality service and responsiveness. They have been voted "Best Bank in Central Jersey" for the past 19 years in a row.

McCully Downstate #81 New Vision Pioneers Donate to Rising Star Learning Academy Day Care, Sewaren, 4/6/17

**Photos by Mary Taylor*

By: Mary Taylor
SEWAREN - McCully Downstate #81 New Vision Pioneers and the Rising Star Learning Academy Day Care. The Pioneer's donated over \$1000 of equipment, consisting of cots and sand and water tables. The children were delighted to receive the wonderful gifts.

In attendance were the following: Rev. Neva Lawson, Pastor of First Baptist of Woodbridge and Executive Dir. Of Rising Star Learning Academy, Cynthia Douglas, Chapter President; Diane Riporti, Chapter President; Kathy Breney, Pioneer Member; Teresa Douglas, Pioneer Member; Jeanette Williams, Teacher and Board Member; Erin Shamy, Teacher; Melanie Dejesus, Teacher; Shaonna Green, Teacher; Mary Taylor, Administrator; Children of Rising Star Learning Academy. Pioneers consist of active and retired Verizon employees.



\$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 2nd Tuesday of the month online or by phone and pick up by the 3rd Saturday of the month. Go to <https://jolinfoodbox.com> to place your order online or call 732 826 8207 and ask for Juana Kearney.

It's official.

We are a Horizon Blue Cross® Blue Shield® of New Jersey Tier 1 provider for OMNIASM Health Plan members.

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For more information, visit www.RBMC.org.



Hackensack Meridian Health
Raritan Bay Medical Center

Good Friday Procession, First Street, Perth Amboy 4/14/17

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



Easter Egg Hunt Waters Stadium 4/15/17

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



Over 900 kids attended the Easter Egg Hunt held at Waters Stadium. Photos: Dir. Dept. of Recreation Ken Ortiz welcomed the kids to the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Mayor Diaz poses for a photo with 2 of the participants: Julian Alexander Casablanca 9 years old and Aubrey Madison Casablanca 7 years old. Lorraine McCartney does face painting.

Passion Play, Faith Fellowship Ministries World Outreach Center, Sayreville 4/16/17

**Photo by Carolyn Maxwell*



Perth Amboy Caucus

**Continued From Page 6*

who gave this information to those residents.”

Councilman Joel Pabon wanted to know if other communities do monitoring.

King said, “Others have done it through a third person monitoring system. I think what happened here is that a document was sent out that wasn’t supposed to be distributed (to the public). I will review if this was done (monitoring) ethically.”

Petrick asked, “Was the ID Department monitoring the emails per a verbal request?”

Cruz said, “I asked the lawyer to check to see if the Council Member was unethical by providing information to residents who are not authorized to receive it because it was not for public knowledge, yet.”

Council President Petrick stated, “In the past, there was a committee with residents on it who would go over the Budget to make recommendations.”

Cruz answered back, “I would like to have the name of the committee and the people who served on it.”

After the topics for discussion closed, other questions arose about ordinances, specifically about Ordinance No. 1 - Establishing a Street Performer Ordinance.

Department of Recreation Director Ken Ortiz came up to speak, “I spoke to the Arts Council and the BID and they both had recommendations pertaining to this ordinance. Both these organizations thought that the artist who will be participating in these per-

formances should be able to sell their items. I thought that because of this, it might cause a change in this ordinance. If the Council wants to make these changes, we can add additional language.”

Council President Bill Petrick said, “Perhaps we should reduce the fees in the Ordinance.”

Council Fernando Gonzalez said, “I met with Mr. (Bienvenido) Torres (Chair of the Arts Council) to solicit more information to tweak the Ordinance.”

Torres came up to speak, “We’re asking that the artist be able to sell their artwork and these should all be family-friendly events. We’re also asking that this ordinance exclude the performances taking place in Bayview Park because the residents living in that areas state too many events take place already.”

During the public portion Resident Stanley Sierakowski looked at the closed session portion on the agenda and said, “It needs to be more specific on the items to be discussed. On the closed session, Item No. 2 involving Seabra’s Armory, I want to know if there as a tax lien put on this property?”

King answered, “This will be discussed in closed session.”

Sierakowski responded, “This is absurd and has been going on for 3 years, now.”

Sierakowski also had comments about the Street Performers Ordinance, “If a street performer is fined by the City or a Police Officer (e.g. for disobeying a provision in the or-

dinance) will that performance be able to perform again before the fine is settled? A lot of provisions in this ordinance are absurd.” He also had one more comment about the Armory, “They owe the City over \$800,000. With interest it would be over \$3 million.”

Resident Ken Balut came up to speak next with a solution for the large amount of handicapped parking, “If you take care of the Illegal Housing, it would take care of a lot of the handicapped parking. Also, the Mayor spent a lot of money to stop subpoenas for people to testify at the Landings trial. Kushner owes us \$4 million. You need to take power away from the Mayor.” Balut continued, “When it comes to contracts that had no bids, our City has no paperwork on high bid contracts. Is it because these contractors were campaign contributors? Vas had a police computer and a Democratic Headquarters when he was Mayor. Our Mayor is having the B.A. looking at the Council emails.”

Jeremy Baratta came up to speak in regards to the email monitoring. He stated, “When it comes to email monitoring, OPRA has a long list of exceptions. It’s to protect private emails. If the Administration is hijacking your server, it has nothing to do about OPRA. You guys (the Council) should get your own server to transmit your private emails and lock it up in City Hall. If your emails are opened up on whim, the Administration made the point for you.”

Mayor Wilda Diaz and Perth Amboy’s BID Presents Social Media Marketing Workshop for Local Businesses Find Out to How to Take Better Photos with Smartphones to Promote Products & Services

Press Release 4/13/17

PERTH AMBOY – Small businesses can enhance their social media presence and digital marketing efforts by taking better business photographs with smartphones. To help local companies get started improving their business picture taking, Perth Amboy, its Mayor Wilda Diaz, and the City’s Business Improvement District (BID) are presenting a “Social Media Marketing Workshop.”

The event’s theme is “Photography for Business” and it is part of the BID’s Neighborhood Business Meetings series. Scheduled for Thursday, April 19th, activities will begin at 6 PM in the La Terrazza Latina restaurant, which is located at 273 High Street in Perth Amboy.

Advance registration is required as space is limited. Businesses can attend for free and a light dinner will be served. To pre-register, visit the BID’s online registration page on Eventbrite or call 732.442.6421.

Mayor Diaz is inviting local companies to attend the workshop. “When we post compelling, images of our City on Facebook and Instagram and share videos of scenic sites on Snapchat, it has created excitement and positive response. With the BID’s help, local business can harness the enormous potential of social media and use it to build their brand. Join us for a lively and fun evening and you’ll leave with useful tips to promote your business.”

The speaker will focus on the value of photography in marketing and selling a company’s products and services. Profes-

sional photographer Paul Scharff is going to suggest easy-to-follow guidelines for taking better photos with a smartphone. He will also provide the best retouching tips so people can quickly enhance their images. In addition, find out about the best retouching apps that can be used with most mobile phones.

In discussing the program, Mr. Scharff said, “Our goal is to help people improve the photos they take with their smartphones. Also, we want business owners to know that there are times when companies need to engage a pro photographer. Professionals can take the type of photos that can strategically advance a business’s marketing efforts. A good example is carefully planned and crafted photos of prepared meals or entrees that a restaurant can use in its menu, advertisements or website.”

The program also includes a question-and-answer session with the heads of Perth Amboy’s key municipal departments. Business owners can speak one-on-one with directors from fire and police departments as well as public works, code enforcement, economic development, and parking utilities.

The City of Perth Amboy and the BID developed the workshop and are receiving support from key businesses and non-profits. The sponsors include the Bank of Woodbridge, a division of BCB Community Bank, Perth Amboy Redevelopment Team for Neighborhood Enterprise and Revitalization (P.A.R.T.N.E.R), and Intersect Fund.

Send Your Events to: AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

NOTICE TO ALL PERTH AMBOY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Public Housing and Section 8 Participants

Effective Monday, April 17, 2017, please be advised that the Housing Authority of the City of Perth Amboy will implement new office hours of operation for program participants as follows:

Monday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Wednesday	Appointments Only- No Walk-Ins
Thursday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Friday	No Appointments- No Walk-Ins Office Closed To The Public

Due to an increase in our Public Housing/Section 8 caseload, it is necessary for the Authority to restrict unscheduled visits from program participants so that staff has uninterrupted time to process documentation in a timely manner.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause and would like to assure you that we are always committed to providing the highest quality standards in housing and customer service.

We encourage you to use email to correspond with staff, as well as our voicemail system to leave staff a message.

Public Housing Residents may continue to access the office to pay rent or report a maintenance problem. All other business must be conducted according to the stated hours.

Business Partners may continue to call or visit the Housing Authority Monday-Friday between 8:30 am – 4:30 pm.

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Phone: 908-351-0957; Fax: 908-351-0959

Pirohi Sale
PERTH AMBOY – St. John’s Church Pirohi Sale (Potato): Order Dates: May 1 – May 4. \$8 doz. Pick-up orders at St. John’s Church, 404 Division St., Perth Amboy. Pick-up will be at 2:30 p.m. – No Earlier!



Women's Day Celebration
PERTH AMBOY - Concord Missionary Baptist Church will hold its annual Women's Day Services on Sunday, April 23, 2017. The Preacher For The 10:30 a.m. Service will be The Rev. Dr. Danielle L. Brown, Associate Minister of The Cathedral International Church Of Perth Amboy, N. J. At the 4:00 p.m. service, Rev. Dr. Almelda Lee, Senior Pastor of the Providence Baptist Church of Cliffwood, N.J. will be the guest preacher. The Theme Is: "Women Who Praise the Lord."

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 April 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. !!!!

Movies @ Main: Denzel Washington

Press Release 4/4/17
WOODBRIDGE - On May 5 the Woodbridge Main Library will begin a late Spring / early Summer Film Series scheduled each Friday at 2pm that will spotlight the diverse and award-winning roles of Denzel Washington. The first movie is The Magnificent Seven, a 2016 remake of the classic 1960 western film, with Denzel Washington, Chris Pratt, and Ethan Hawke. On May 12, we will screen Inside Man, a crime thriller directed by Spike Lee and starring Denzel Washington, Clive Owen, and Jodie

Foster. May 19 will feature Flight, a tense drama with Denzel Washington and Don Cheadle, focusing on the seemingly heroic actions of older pilot. Much Ado About Nothing, a romantic comedy based on Shakespeare's play of the same name, will be shown on June 2, followed by Training Day, the film for which Denzel Washington earned his Oscar for Best Actor, will be shown on June 9. On June 16 we will watch The Manchurian Candidate, an updated version of the classic 1962 political thriller with Denzel Washington, Mer-

yl Streep, Live Schreiber, and Jon Voight. Fences, based on August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, directed by and starring Denzel Washington will be shown on June 23.

These films are free and no registration is required. Our films are sponsored by the Friends of the Libraries of Woodbridge Township. Light refreshments are provided by the Woodbridge Library Foundation.

The Woodbridge Public Library is located at 1 George Frederick Plaza, Woodbridge, NJ.

Stamp Out Hunger!

PERTH AMBOY - The 25th annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive on Saturday, May 13, 2017 Specific questions regarding the Food Drive should be directed to NALC Director of Community Services Pam Donato at 202-662-2489 or at donato@nalc.org.

Opening the Door to Home Ownership

PERTH AMBOY - First Time Home Buyer Seminar May 3, 4 & 11, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Cost: \$30 (Money Order Only). This seminar will be in English only. Call us today and register for your seat - 732-826-3110 ext. 627. The Housing Authority of the City of Perth Amboy, 881 Amboy Ave., Perth Amboy.

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

Our Lady of Martyrs

PERTH AMBOY – St. John Paul II Parish Celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Martyrs. Our Lady of the Rosary Fatima Church, 188 Wayne St., Perth Amboy.

Saturday, April 22, 2017:
12 Noon: Commencement of Feast with food, beverage, and musical presentations.
7 p.m.: Musical presentation of "NRG Band" of South River, NJ for dancing
8 p.m.: Presentation of Folklore group "Barcuense" of Newark
10 p.m.: Continuation of the Dance

12 a.m.: End of the Feast celebration outdoors. Continuation of feast celebration in church hall until 1 a.m.

Sunday, April 23, 2017
11 a.m.: Mass
12 Noon: Procession accompanied by "Filarmonic Band" of Our Lady of Fatima Church of Newark. Feast commencement immediately following with food and beverages.
4 p.m.: Musical Presentation of the group "Duo Rotaco" of Newark
5 p.m.: Presentation of Folklore group "Raizes de Portugal" of South River

8 p.m.: Ceremony of Passing of the Feast Banner of 2018

8:30 p.m.: Continuation of the Dance until 10 p.m.

The Perth Amboy Community invites everyone to attend this Grand Celebration. Don't miss the homemade traditional deserts, traditional Portuguese foods, games, raffle, etc. Banquet tent protects the festival site to guarantee better climate conditions for the festivities.

Hope to see you there! Bring a Friend! Thank you for your patronage!

United Messengers of Peace to Host Walk in Support of Lung Cancer Awareness

Press Release
PERTH AMBOY – Nonprofit organization and charity, United Messengers of Peace invites community members to sign up for their first Lung Cancer Awareness Walk on Saturday May 13, 2017 beginning at the Perth Amboy Train Station and ending at St. Peter's Episcopal Church (183 Rector St). Participants can register online at UMoPLCA.eventbrite.com. Volunteers are needed for the event. Volunteer information will be provided upon request. The UMoPLung Cancer Awareness Walk, supported by the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, Renovation House, Abundant Life Worship Center, Thrift World Outlet, and God's Army Minis-

tries, will aim to bring awareness of lung cancer to the community. Registration for this event is free.

The walk starts at 11:00 AM, with participant and sponsor registration running from 9 AM-10:15AM. Open registration will also occur during this time frame. This will occur at the Train Station.

"This is our first season hosting this walk and every year we notice how the need for lung cancer awareness rises," said Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe, Founder and President. "With the help of our supporters and community members, we anticipate the spread of lung cancer awareness will increase tremendously this year."

Following the event, participants are invited to refreshments and information provided by various community businesses and organizations! For more information or to register online, please visit UMoPLCA.eventbrite.com or unitedmessengers08.wix.com/umop/lca-walk-registration.

A Quick Note: United Messengers of Peace is a registered nonprofit organization and NJ charity. Donations for the event will be accepted at any time and are tax-deductible.

Media Contact:
Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe
unitedmessengers08861@gmail.com

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that the City of Perth Amboy has filed an application with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), Green Acres Program, proposing to divert approximately 0.08 acres of lands known as part of Block 228.05, Lot 3; Block 228.06, Lot 3.01, and Block 228.04, Lot 3.02, Perth Amboy, Middlesex County, located beneath the City's bicycle and pedestrian trail located between Pulaski Avenue and Hall Avenue owned by the City for the installation and operation of an underground 16-inch petroleum pipeline by Buckeye Perth Terminal, LLC. As compensation for the proposed diversion, Buckeye Perth Terminal, LLC will restore and enhance the park, which will reopen after installation of the pipeline, and provide financial compensation to the City of Perth Amboy in the amount of \$855,000 for use by the City for the purchase of property adjacent to Rudyk Park for park and/or recreation use.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:36-26.11(e) a public hearing to obtain public comment on this proposed conveyance will be held at the Portuguese Sports Club, 782 State Street, Perth Amboy, New Jersey, on May 3, 2017 at 7 p.m.

All information submitted by the City and Buckeye Partners L.P. to the Green Acres Program in support of this requested diversion of parkland is available for public inspection at the office of the City's Business Administrator, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, the Perth Amboy Free Public Library, 196 Jefferson Street, Perth Amboy, and the NJDEP Green Acres Program office, 501 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey.

Written comments on the proposed diversion may be directed to Mr. Adam Cruz, Business Administrator, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. Please submit a copy of any comments submitted to the NJDEP, Green Acres Program, Bureau of Legal Services and Stewardship, Mail Code 501-01, 501 East State St., P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420. Public comment on this parkland transfer request will be accepted during the public hearing or in writing until May 17, 2017.

4838-6022-8166, v. 1

NOTICIA DE AUDIENCIA PUBLICA

PRESTE atención, la Ciudad de Perth Amboy ha presentado una aplicación con el Departamento de Protección del medio ambiente del Estado de Nueva Jersey, Green Acres Program, proponiendo desviar aproximadamente 0.08 acres de terreno, conocida como parte de bloque 228.05, lote 3; bloque 228.06, lote 3.01 y bloque 228.04, lote 3.02, Perth Amboy, Condado de Middlesex, localizado debajo de la pista de pedestre y bicicleta localizado entre Pulaski Avenue y Hall Avenue, propiedad de la Ciudad para la instalación y operación de la tubería subterránea de 16 pulgadas por Buckeye Perth Terminal, LLC. Como compensación por la desviación propuesta, Buckeye Perth Terminal, LLC restaurará y mejorará el parque, que volverá abrir después de la instalación de tubería, y adicionalmente, proporcionará compensación financiera a la Ciudad de Perth Amboy en la cantidad de \$855,000 para la compra de la propiedad próximo a la Rudyk Park para uso de la Ciudad para parque y recreación.

Conforme a N.J.A.C. 7:36-26.11(e)), una Audiencia Pública con la intención de obtener comentario público sobre esta propuesta explicación de propiedad, se llevará a cabo en Portuguese Sports Club, 782 State Street, Perth Amboy, New Jersey el 3 de Mayo, 2017 a las 7:00 pm.

Toda información sumitada a Green Acres Program por la Ciudad y Buckeye Partners L.P en soporte de la diversion requierda acerca de el pasaje modelado, estará disponible para inspección al publico en la oficina de City's Business Administrator, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy; Perth Amboy Free Public Library, 196 Jefferson Street, Perth Amboy; y NJDEP Green Acres Program office, 501 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey.

Comentarios escritos acerca de la solicitud propuesta pueden ser dirigidos a: Adam Cruz, Business Administrator, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, New Jersey, 08861. Por favor, sometan una copia de cualquier comentario escrito a: NJDEP, Green Acres Program, Bureau of Legal Services and Stewardship, Mail Code: 501-01, 501 East State Street, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420. Comentario publico sobre esta

solicitud de transferencia será aceptada durante la audiencia publica o, en escrito hasta el 17 de Mayo, 2017.

4834-8306-8230, v. 1

Clothing Drive

SOUTH AMBOY – Sacred Heart Altar-Rosary Society is sponsoring a used clothing drive on Saturday, April 22, 2017 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday, April 23, 2017 from 6:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. Items needed are gently used clothing, winter outerwear, shoes, belts, purses, linens, bikes and toys. Please bring your donations to Memorial Hall, across from Sacred Heart Church, 531 Washington Ave. Any questions, please call Virginia Zrebiec, President, at 732-721-1521.

Neighborhood Cleanup

PERTH AMBOY – Come join the Neighborhood Cleanup on International Earth Day. We will be CELEBRATING with food, music, Neighborhood Watch demonstrations, and a shredding truck will be available. Sponsored by AARP's Fraud Watch Network. Saturday, April 22, 2017 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at Patten Park, next to the Perth Amboy Art Gallery, 339 Reade St., Perth Amboy. Clean up registration starts at 12 noon and the Earth Day and Neighborhood Watch presentation kicks off at 2 p.m. Bring those important documents to shred. For more information call Lisett Lebron 732-442-0384

The First Caretaker at the Kearny Cottage
An Interview with Bary Struve's Granddaughter Joan Feeney



Arlene Bary Olsen McIlveen & Joan Bary Barben Feeney visiting Kearny cottage in March 2017. They are Bary Struve's only two granddaughters. She had 4 grandsons.



Joan (R) at about 7 years old with her grandmother Bary on the boardwalk in Perth Amboy. She was the caretaker and tour guide until 1958.

By: Katherine Massopust
PERTH AMBOY – In March 2017 Joan Feeney and Arleen McIlveen came to visit the Kearny Cottage. Their Grandmother, Bary Struve was the original caretaker at the Kearny Cottage.

Joan Feeney explains, "My Grandmother was there when I was 12 years old. (1957). Back then, the front room was not used for exhibits. It was just used for meetings. The rooms were not overcrowded. It was very simple - the cradle, the spinning wheel. We would run up the stairs. My grandmother was full of love and life. She laughed and loved to have a good time. She was a lov-

ing, fine person and she loved people. She had an apartment upstairs. My grandmother had a lovely personality. She loved giving tours at the Cottage. When we came to stay, we would sit at the kitchen and she would make us breakfast or cookies. We used to stay for a week in the summer. I have memories of Perth Amboy, walking on the boardwalk. We would get out over the water. We loved looking at the cradle and the spinning wheel (in the Cottage). I loved my grandmother. She died in 1958."

Joan stated that she loved the improvements made at the Cottage. "It's good to see the place kept up."



Joan's older brother (Bary's grandson) Jack Barben on the boardwalk in Perth Amboy 1944 or 45. *Photos Submitted

Mother's Guild

Tricky Tray

PERTH AMBOY - -Sunday, April 23 doors open at 3 p.m. auction starts at 5 p.m. admission \$5 per person, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 183 Rector Street, Perth Amboy.

Neighborhood Watch Resident Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 6 p.m., 415 Fayette Street in the Community Room. We will be meeting to continue the conversation on Neighborhood Watch program in your neighborhood.

- Topics will include:
- Street Lights
 - Our next Neighborhood Watch and Shred event at Patten Park, 339 Read Street
 - FREE Weatherization for homeowners

Come early for food and refreshments. Please confirm your RSVP by calling 732-442-0384 or by email at info@partnernj.org. We at PARTNER look forward to seeing you there!

International Tabletop Day

Press Release 4/11/17
WOODBIDGE - Come out for an afternoon of fun and games at the International Tabletop Day at Woodbridge Main Library! Join us on Saturday, April 29th from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. for an afternoon of meeting new people and playing new games. We will be featuring classic easy to learn games, such as Ticket to Ride and Tsuro. We will have demos all day for anyone looking to learn a new game and open gaming for anyone looking to play and meet new people. It doesn't matter if you have ever played a tabletop game before or if you are a seasoned player, there is something for everyone and for every age!

Since 2012, International Tabletop Day has served as a day to get together with new people from all over and experience all that tabletop gaming

has to offer. Stretching from simple dice and card games to table spanning epic role playing games. Tabletop gaming has blossomed in recent years as new players and developers have breathed new life into a medium once dominated by Monopoly and Risk. There is a game type for everyone; be it press-your-luck type dice games, set building card games, deduction/bluffing social games or even multi-player co-op games where players play against the game itself instead of each other. Sitting at a table and learning a new game fosters a unique social experience that other entertainment mediums are hard pressed to copy. All that is needed is to get some people together or get out there and find a gaming group. But most importantly is to **Play More Games!**

Send Your Events to:
AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

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.*

Gen. Sun Li-jen of the Chinese 38th Army on April 17, 1942, leads 800 combat personnel (plus 320 auxiliaries) of his 113th Regiment against the Japanese encircling the Indian Army's 1st Burma Division at Yenangyaung, Burma. Attached to Gen. Sun's force are two battalions of M3 Stuart light tanks and a battery of 25-pounder guns of the British 7th Armoured Brigade. In Vichy France, Pierre Laval takes over as prime minister from Philippe Pétain, who retains the position of Chief of the French State.

On April 18, 16 U.S. B-25 bombers — under the command of Lt. Col. James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle, U.S. Army Air Forces, and launched from the carrier *USS Hornet* — bomb Tokyo, Kobe, Nagoya, Yokohama and Yokosuka, Japan. Though it doesn't cause much damage, the raid shakes the confidence of the Japanese civilian population and enrages the Japanese high command. With not enough fuel left to return to *Hornet*, 15 of the planes crash-land in China while the other lands at an airbase near Vladivostok, in the far eastern Soviet Union. Of the 80 total crew members, 72 survive. On Europe's Eastern Front, action enters a lull as the terrain becomes a morass of spring mud, hampering military movements on both sides.

After three days of fighting in temperatures reaching 114°F, the Battle of Yenangyaung, Burma, ends on April 19 in an Allied tactical victory. The Japanese suffer heavy casualties and must retreat. However, the Allied troops are too weak and disorganized to hold the oil fields and withdraw to the north. In Italy, the government issues a decree that excludes Jews from all areas of the performing arts.

The aircraft carrier *USS Wasp* on April 20 delivers 47 Spitfire Mk. V fighters to Malta for the RAF. Unfortunately, the planes — still on the ground — are quickly destroyed by intense German and Italian air raids. German and Italian troops based in the Independent State of Croatia (a Nazi puppet regime) begin a joint counter-insurgency operation ("Operation Trio") against anti-Axis partisans located in eastern Bosnia.

In Burma, the Japanese 18th Infantry Division captures Kyidaunggan, on the road to Mandalay, on April 21. An Anglo-Canadian force conducts a successful overnight reconnaissance raid on the coastal village of Hardelet in far northern France. Lt. Edward "Butch" O'Hare becomes the first U.S. Navy recipient of the Medal of Honor for his actions on February 20, 1942. That day, O'Hare, in his F4F Wildcat fighter, single-handedly attacked nine Japanese Mitsubishi G4M "Betty" bombers heading for his aircraft carrier, *USS Lexington*. (*Lexington's* air wing was away on a mission, and the remaining fighters of the carrier's combat air patrol were attacking other intruders miles out from the carrier.) O'Hare shot down three of the Japanese planes and damaged two others, saving *Lexington* from certain damage and possible loss. In the U.S., President Roosevelt — under authority of the Trading with the Enemy Act of 1917 — orders the seizure of enemy-controlled U.S. patents, estimated to number around 25,000.

On April 22, the Allies establish Naval Task Force 44 in the Pacific. The unit, comprising mostly U.S. Navy vessels and some ships of the Royal Australian Navy, is tasked with defending northeastern Australia and surrounding areas from attacks by Axis forces, especially those of Japan. The Task Force is commanded by Rear Admiral John Crace, Royal Australian Navy.

The Luftwaffe begins its "Baedeker Blitz" against the United Kingdom at Exeter on April 23. In retaliation for the March 28 RAF raid on Lübeck, Germany, the blitz is a series of attacks against English cities chosen for their cultural or historical value: Exeter, York, Norwich, Canterbury and Bath. ("The Baedeker Guide" was a popular travel guidebook of the time.) The attacks last into May, killing 1,670 civilians, injuring 1,700 more and destroying 50,000 homes. South Africa severs diplomatic relations with Vichy France. Chinese troops in Burma begin withdrawing into China.

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, May 4, 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.

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. April 26, 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.

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

A Gospel Extravaganza


PERTH AMBOY - Perth Amboy Local Branch NAACP Presents: "A Gospel Concert," on Saturday, May 20, 2017 at 12:00 Noon at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave, Perth Amboy. Admission: \$20 (Under the Age of 12 Free). For Additional Information, Contact Janice Clark: 732-277-1051

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.

**Have a
Special Pet?**
E-mail us your Pet Photos to 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.

Pet of the Week



Meet Thor - My furbaby! He is adorable, sweet and ohh so lovable! Jennifer

Broadway Bound

Community Theater
PERTH AMBOY - Friday, April 28, 2017 & Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 2 p.m. at the Perth Amboy YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave.

We Keep You Moving

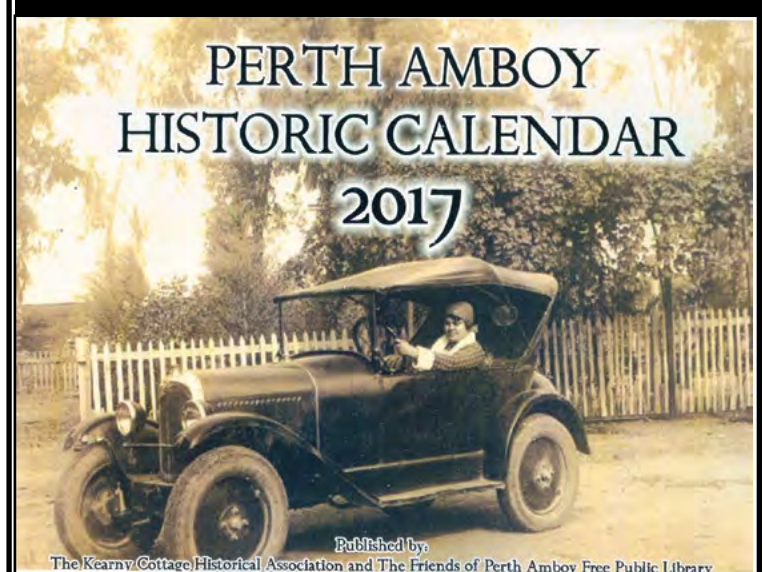
PERTH AMBOY- The Human Motion Institute at Raritan Bay Medical Center, a member of the Hackensack Meridian Health family, is sponsoring a free "We Keep You Moving" Total Joint Replacement Education session Friday, April 28, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., at the medical center's Perth Amboy location, 530 New Brunswick Ave. The session is intended for patients who have been scheduled for joint replacement surgery or for those who would like to learn more about joint replacement. Registration required, call Nurse Navigator Clare Schuld, R.N., at 732-535-4746.



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.

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.

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

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.*

“A Revolutionary Tea”

PERTH AMBOY – The Proprietary House, The Royal Governor’s Mansion invites you to join us for “A Revolutionary Tea”. Sunday, 21st May 2017 ~ at 1:00 p.m.

Purchase your tickets in advance for a journey back to the 18th century. Learn why tea was of such importance to the era’s fashion-conscious families that their portraits included their tea sets. Historian Stacy F. Roth dons period attire to explore tea’s history in colonial America, the beverage’s cultural importance, tea’s social rituals and etiquette. The program includes a living history display, with demonstrations, prose, poetry & music. Following Ms. Roth’s presentation, afternoon tea, finger sandwiches & cakes will be served.

SPACE IS LIMITED!!! Tickets Now Available On A First-Come, First-Served Basis. Admission: \$30 per Person; \$25 for Members. To Purchase Tickets Contact – Proprietary House Association.

Phone: (732) 826-5527; E-mail: info@theproprietary-house.org; Address: 149 Kearny Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ, 08861.

***All funds raised will benefit ongoing restoration and operation of Proprietary House’s Museum. ***

Chili Church

PERTH AMBOY -Thursday, May 4, 6:30 p.m. St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, 183 Rector Street, Perth Amboy. More information call 732-826-1594. Free Event.

Raffle

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

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

Senior Scene Happenings

Perth Amboy

- TUES. Apr. 18 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. Apr. 19 St. Stephen’s Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
- Good Shepherd Wednesday Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.
- Holy Trinity Seniors, 1 p.m., Church Hall, Lawrie & Johnstone St.
- THURS. Apr. 20 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- MON. Apr. 24 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- TUES. Apr. 25 Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
- WED. Apr. 26 St. Stephen’s Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
- THURS. Apr. 27 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

- MON. Apr. 24 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.
- MON. May 1 St. Mary’s Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- WED. May 3 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

Answers From Puzzle On Page 15



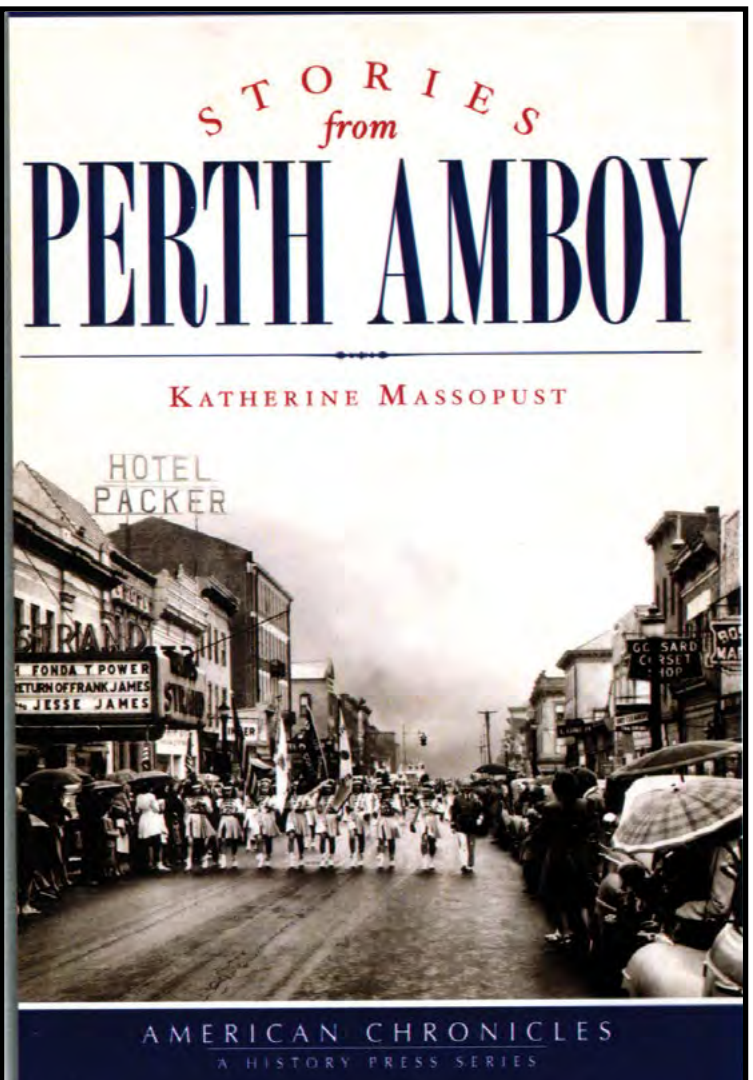
LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Marion Baseball Team, Circa 1900

**Photo Courtesy of the Kearny Cottage Historical Association*

This photo was restored under a grant from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Association to the Kearny Cottage Historical Association.



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

New Plans for the Service Directory Effective 1/1/16 Are Now in Effect. If You Offer a Service, the Place to Advertise is Here! Catering, Auto Repair, Heating, Plumbing, Home Health Aides, Landscaping, Snow Removal, Dry Cleaning, Chauffeuring, Exterminators, Hall Rentals, Insurance, Delivering Services, Hair Stylists, Photography, Counseling, WebSite Design, Computer Repair etc.

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For Sale: Wood Lathe With motor. Over 50 years old. Works. \$100 or B.O. Cash and Carry 732-442-3430	Two wooden folding chairs. Well built. For inside or outside. \$25 732-442-5806	Antique Sleds Good Shape, Flexible Flyer Size 51 1/2 in. FF Original Stiker \$50 732-727-0314
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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

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.**

Cost \$10.
Pre-payment required.

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.

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

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	OTHER _____

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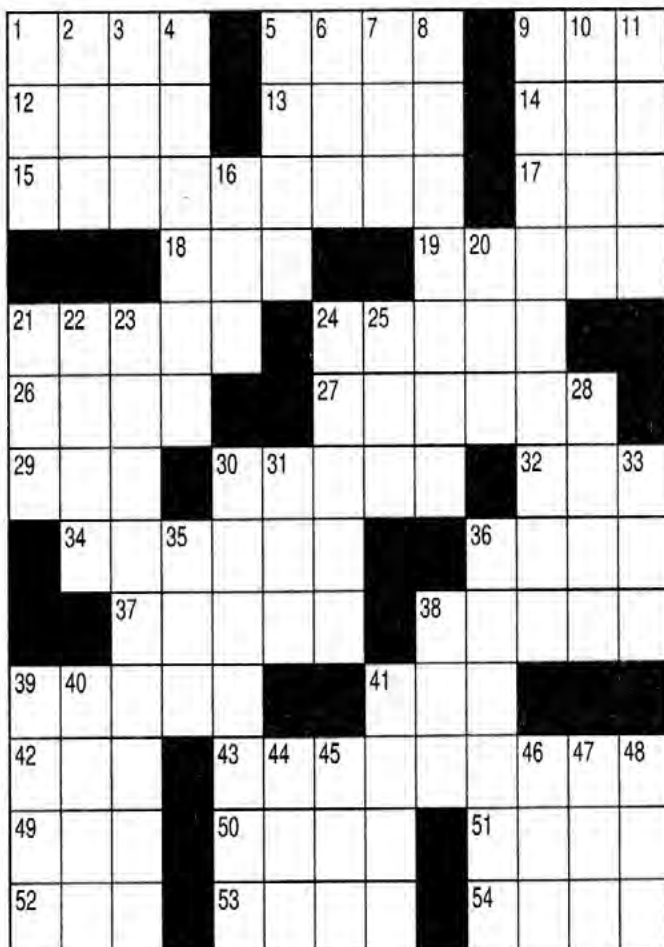
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|--|----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | figures (abbr.) | 9 Widened | 31 Noah's vessel |
| 1 Sunday event | 53 Novelist Ayn | 10 Pained sound | 33 "Treasure Island" inits. |
| 5 Mama's partner | 54 Takes notice of | 11 Did exist | 35 Spasm |
| 9 Letters on a Yuppie car | DOWN | 16 "Mayday!" | 36 Vitamin C source |
| 12 Ingrid Bergman's role in "Casablanca" | 1 Behave or print preceder | 20 Badminton divider | 38 H.R.H. starter |
| 13 Page for viewpoints (hyph.) | 2 ___ king (2 wds.) | 21 Former airline | 39 Insensitive one |
| 14 Caviar base | 3 Social Security no. | 22 "Star Wars" creature | 40 Clock unit |
| 15 Desert squall | 4 Make glum | 23 Uses a stain remover before laundering | 41 William ___ ("Hopalong") |
| 17 Paddle's kin | 5 Cooking vessels | 24 De Mille of dance | 44 Cagers' org. |
| 18 It follows uno | 6 GI's address (abbr.) | 25 Great wrath | 45 Tin container |
| 19 Ridiculous | 7 Pay-___-view | 28 Mete (out) | 46 Wind direction (abbr.) |
| 21 Writes E-mail | 8 Navy VIP | 30 More selective | 47 Fair mark |
| 24 Made public | | | 48 Grid coups (abbr.) |
| 26 Threadbare | | | |
| 27 Rasped | | | |
| 29 Fizzless beverage | | | |
| 30 Jury | | | |
| 32 Also not | | | |
| 34 What one's wearing | | | |
| 36 Cage | | | |
| 37 Actor Moranis and others | | | |
| 38 Pelts | | | |
| 39 Restrain | | | |
| 41 Risk | | | |
| 42 Mauna ___ | | | |
| 43 Wrong | | | |
| 49 Ump's call | | | |
| 50 On-line auction house | | | |
| 51 Like thrift store merchandise | | | |
| 52 "Scrubs" | | | |



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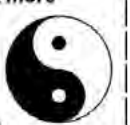
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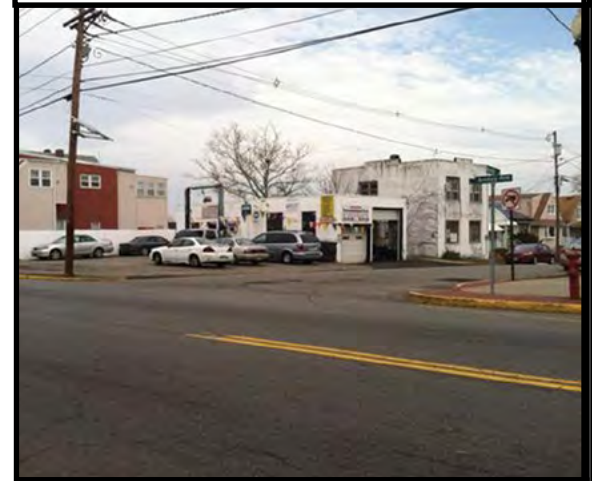
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