



Fireworks Spectacular
Monday July 3, 2017

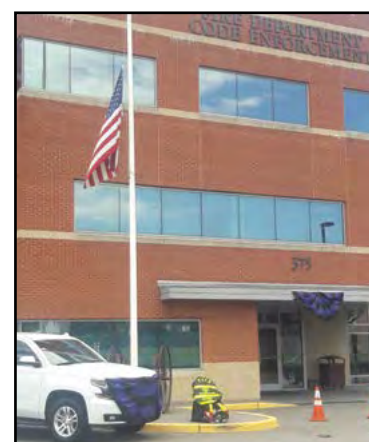
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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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The Community Mourns PAFD Chief Abraham Pitre



*Photos by Ray Kawka, Paul W. Wang & Carolyn Maxwell

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South Amboy Teams Up with Woodbridge to Fight Opioid Problem



Erik Kuhn with Mayor Fred Henry



Mayor Fred Henry presents a proclamation to South Amboy resident Erik Kuhn, who will receive his Eagle Scout award on July 16th

By: Joseph L. Kuchie
 SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy has reached an interlocal services agreement with Woodbridge Township that will provide opioid recovery services for overdose victims in South Amboy.

The Opioid Recovery Program in Woodbridge provides immediate recovery support for those who have recently overdosed. Most importantly, if the user declines the support at the emergency room, recovery specialists from the program continue to reach out daily in hopes of convincing the user to agree to getting help.

South Amboy resident Kim Seber praised the city's decision to enter the agreement with Woodbridge. Seber developed the event "Fed Up!" last year that brought the community together to help cope with the loss of loved ones due to accidental overdose and taught residents about the ongoing opioid problem in South Amboy.

"The success rate of those programs currently is 80 plus percent of not having to revive the same person over and over again with Narcan [a nasal spray used for emergency treatment of opioid overdose]," Seber said. "Individuals when they hit that emergency room are immediately being met with certified Peer Recovery Specialists. It is a crucial time to grab them because within four hours they can overdose again."

"I think It's really crucial that we do get involved in that program because it's really going to save our town in the long run, it's going to save lives, and it's also going to save the police having to keep going to save the same people over and over again," she added.

Council President Mickey Gross announced that the council will be working together to re-launch the Municipal Alliance, a volunteer group that deals with domestic violence and drug abuse.

"We have taken the initial steps to contact the county about funding," Gross said. "It's not an easy process but we're going to go through the process. It's the right thing to do and if we save one life, we win. It's that simple."

South Amboy's council also passed two resolutions that celebrated two hard-working individuals in the city.

First, the city approved the re-naming of Field 2 at Allie Clark Field to honor John "Skeets" Skarzynski, a life-long resident of South Amboy who dedicated 61 years to baseball in Middlesex County.

Skarzynski was a star athlete at Hoffman High School and went on to play minor league baseball with the New York Giants organization. "Skeets" signature voice was heard behind the plate at numerous little league, Babe Ruth league, JV High School, and men's softball league games for more than a half century.

"On top of being a gentleman he helped so many kids in this town as a mentor for many sports," councilman Tom Reilly said. "He was a genuine, terrific person who served the city well."

"Skeets was an umpire for me and also an umpire for my son," Councilman Brian McLaughlin said. "I told my son all the time 'they don't make them like Skeets anymore'... He was great for this

community."

Next, Mayor Fred Henry presented a proclamation to South Amboy resident Erik Kuhn, who will receive his Eagle Scout award on July 16th. Kuhn has been a member of Troop 91 in South Amboy for eight years, and several his fellow boy scouts came out to support him and watch him be recognized.

"Erik Kuhn, thank you for all that you've done," Mayor Henry said. "There's a lot of dedication in this room... It's great to know that our future is bright going forward."

Councilman Reilly and Business Administrator Stacey Kennedy also announced a Consumer Affairs Discussion and Q&A event that will be held at 10:30 a.m. on July 10th at the South Amboy Senior Center. A representative from the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs will speak about how to avoid certain scams, including phone, e-mail, text message, and door-to-door scams.

For more information on what to expect, visit NJConsumerAffairs.gov. For more information on additional events coming to South Amboy this summer, visit SouthAmboyNJ.gov.

All council members were in attendance for the meeting. The next city council meeting will be held on July 19th at 7:00 p.m.

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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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

A Celebration of Life: Richard D. Johnson

June 8, 2017

I recently attended the funeral (Homegoing Service) for the beloved retired Perth Amboy High School Music Teacher Richard Johnson. It was the kind of service that Richard would have loved. There were of course, tears mixed in with humor and laughter. The music was joyous and uplifting which reflected Mr. Johnson's spirit. Mr. Johnson wanted to have at least 40 years of teaching, but he completed 39 years when he was forced to take an early retirement from the teaching that he so loved because of ill health.

In the program, it stated that Richard Johnson's students under his direction were so talented that they performed at Carnegie Hall.

Anita Dowd, who was a very close colleague of Richard Johnson spoke very poignantly on how much she relied on his hearing when she was casting roles in high school plays. If he felt a student didn't quite fit in to specific role, he would quietly whisper in her ear, "Oh, no."

As she was speaking about Mr. Johnson, I had the feeling that he was a better music teacher on his worst day than other choir directors would be on their best day.

After Ms. Dowd spoke, Ray Geneske (*the mischievous kid in class*) came up to speak. There was supposed to be a 3 minute limit per speaker, but apparently Mr. Geneske figured it didn't apply to him. As the clock was ticking past the 3 minute mark, the next speaker (Michael Savoia) started to drift toward Geneske's side. Geneske continued talking and waved Savoia off, saying that he was going to talk more about Richard and that he could go on for 3 hours about what a great man Mr. Johnson was. Geneske and Johnson worked together in the AFT and it was Johnson who made



Richard Johnson (L) with his Wife, Gerri (R)
*File Photo by Carolyn Maxwell taken 2/28/09



Richard Johnson with the Perth Amboy High School Choir
*File Photo by Carolyn Maxwell taken 5/9/08



The Choir honors Richard Johnson on the day of his funeral 6/16/17
*Photo by Carolyn Maxwell

sure the members were protected.

He was also a great teacher to the AFT successors which helped them grow the membership to more than double.

Geneske wanted everyone to know that he considered Johnson a brother. When Michael Savoia came up to speak, he said that Mr. Geneske must of have leaned over when they were sitting in the audience,

"Geneske must of looked at my notes, because a lot of what I was going to say, Geneske said. I came to know Johnson a few years before Johnson retired and I hadn't spoken to him for a few years. I was able to speak to him before he passed."

When Johnson's family came on stage, Johnson's wife, Gerri made reference to Geneske's long speech. This brought a chuckle throughout the crowd. She talked about how people would ask her how she felt when she and her husband were out together, because he was so popular and people would be drawn to him and she would be referred to: "Oh, and this is Gerri."

She mentioned, "I didn't

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Your Health

Good health on Independence Day.

Gotta hand it to the realty TV star on this 4th of July. President Trump thinks the US Congress repeal of health care is "mean" spirited and yes it sure is. That's the one he applauded in the Rose Garden a few months ago after passing the House of Representatives.

How might a cut in healthcare affect the Perth Amboy area? Let me count the ways.

Affordable care opened up large percentage increases for Medicaid recipients (over 62,000 families now are listed in Middlesex County) and state marketplace holders (most pay \$75 a month). A fall-back to private only insurance and removal of new Medicaid recipients will affect patients and workers.

Our Raritan Bay Hospital treats over 83,000 patients annually, a large number in pre-

viously mentioned government health plans. The medical facility employs over 600 staff with thousands affiliated as professionals. The casualties of a pay as you go system will include numerous nursing homes and clinics who rely in government plans. The local economy – businesses, homes, renters, and landlords many soon deal with increased lines at the Jewish Renaissance and Catholic Charities with cuts in actual health care.

An independent 2017 study revealed 36,000 New Jersey people will have to deal with loss of loved ones and 86,000 jobs will be lost due to closed health care. Remember the land of the free and wealthy. Probably was brought up when the President met Pope Francis recently.

Kindly post a valuable reply at <http://www.whitehouse.gov>

Vince Mackiel

Correction

Carolyn, Your article in this week's Amboy Guardian, page 8, "bids questioned who should pay." We are not talking about the who is going to pay the \$800,000. we are talking about the cost of the expert historic architect, his bill

would be between \$2000 and \$3,000 and he would be acting as the cities and the historic preservation committee's expert. Please don't get the two sums of money confused.

Thank you, Bill Petrick
City Council President
Perth Amboy

mind at all, because I was with a celebrity."

She also told about the day when she got the call that Richard didn't have much longer to live and the way that he transitioned. "He started to wave his arms in the air as if he were directing a choir and then he passed."

As a tribute to her husband, Gerri started to wave her hands in the air saying, "This is for Richard."

When Bishop Hilliard came up to speak, he also referenced Geneske and his long speech. He mentioned that Gerri and Richard met and then fell in love when they were both were attending 6:30 a.m. service. They insisted that was the time they wanted to be married. Bishop Hilliard told them: "They better be there because I'll be here to perform the ceremony."

I think Richard Johnson would have it no other way. He would want people to remember him with a smile, laughter

and a song in their hearts.

There is a saying, "This is music to my ears." Everyone who spoke was in essence was a singer because of the sincerity and what was in their heart was not only music to the ears of those in attendance, but what Richard Johnson heard in heaven.

After the service, the funeral procession proceeded to Sadowski Parkway and the last stop was at Perth Amboy High School where the "Find Your Voice" Choir paid a musical tribute and then the procession proceeded to Alpine Cemetery. It was a fitting tribute from the beginning to the end for a man who was a true gentleman, musician, mentor and a friend, not only to the students, colleagues, but those who knew him just as a great human being. *C.M.*



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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Historic Surveyor

General's Office

PERTH AMBOY - The Historic Surveyor General's Office, which is adjacent to Perth Amboy City Hall, is now open for tours. At one time, this structure was the meeting place of the East Jersey Board of Proprietors & housed their records. Presently the Surveyor General's Office is displaying artifacts from the John Watson (1685-1768) archaeological site along with other items from Perth Amboy's rich history. Perth Amboy history DVDs are also available.

Free tours are available Wednesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Clubs, classrooms & groups are welcome. Come & view this newly restored building!

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. Jun. 26	City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m. City Hall, High St.
WED. Jun. 28	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
South Amboy	
WED. Jun. 21	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway

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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**

Deadline for Print Ads:

7 p.m. Thursday

Office Hours:

Mon. - Wed. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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

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

“Celebrate Our Stars & Stripes” by Viewing Spectacular Fireworks Along the Raritan Bay Waterfront on July 3rd

Mayors of Perth Amboy and South Amboy Invite Everyone To Enjoy Fun Events and Pyrotechnics during America’s Independence Day Celebration

News Release 6/23/17

PERTH AMBOY – The mayors of Perth Amboy and South Amboy as well as the Celebrate Our Stars & Stripes Committee are inviting everyone to enjoy the most spectacular fireworks display to mark America’s Independence Day. Thousands of residents and their guests are expected to view the incredible pyrotechnics, which will be created by the world-renowned Garden State Fireworks. Thrilling fireworks can be seen and heard along the shoreline of Raritan Bay on Monday, July 3 (rain date July 4) beginning at 9:20 PM.



**Photo Submitted*

Fireworks fans are encouraged to arrive early to enjoy family fun activities in Perth Amboy and South Amboy beginning at 5 PM. Events include rides for children, food trucks, live music, beach volleyball, face painting, competitions and much more. As people arrive in each community, the police departments will direct guests and their families to parking areas. Simply walk to anywhere along waterfront to get a sensational view of the amazing fireworks.

The fireworks display is a totally free event. More than 80 corporate and company sponsors as well as many individuals have contributed funds to the nonprofit Celebrate Our Stars & Stripes Committee, which coordinates every aspect of the celebration. Fundraising for fireworks continues, and there is still time to donate online at <http://celebratestarsandstripes.com/>.

The latest updates about the July 3rd fireworks are available online at two websites: “Celebrate Our Stars & Stripes” or City of South Amboy. People can also get information at these Facebook pages Mayor Wilda Diaz or S. Amboy and Perth Amboy Fireworks Spectacular.

Perth Amboy’s Mayor Wilda Diaz said, “Our Independence Day celebration is the perfect event for family and friends to experience a beautiful evening outdoors along our scenic waterfront. We invite our friends from across New Jersey to have an amazing evening that concludes with the brilliant and booming fireworks. Our communities come together on the July 4th weekend to

recognize all the positives that unite Americans today, and validate our precious liberties.”

Fireworks Highlights:

Beginning at 5 PM, both communities are presenting fun activities for children and families, including:

- Rides, inflatables, and face painting
- Art and crafts activities
- Beach volleyball and competitions
- Food vendors – offering Americana, Cuban, and Tex-Mex cuisine plus many desserts
- Live band and a DJ provide continuous music.

The fireworks can be seen from viewing points all along the shorelines of Raritan Bay. In Perth Amboy people can place their chairs along both sides of Front, Lewis and Water streets as well as the entire length of Sadowski Parkway. You are also invited to bring your beach blanket to watch the show from Perth Amboy beach. Folks in South Amboy will find the spots in Waterfront Park. Staten Islanders can gather in Conference House Park to watch exploding rockets.

South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry said, “We are pleased to celebrate this great Independence Day weekend with our neighbors across the Raritan River. All our South Amboy residents as well as family and friends from near and far are invited to enjoy everything our City on the Rise has to offer. Come and enjoy our extraordinary waterfront and park facilities during July 4th weekend and all summer.”

At total darkness, WCTC 1450-AM will simulcast a non-stop program of Americana music from patriotic

marches by John Philip Sousa to the New Jersey-centric songs by “the Boss” Bruce Springsteen. The music will continue throughout the fireworks display, on an outdoor speaker system on both shores, over the airways and by live streaming.

“We are ready, after months of preparation, for our most memorable and thrilling Independence Day celebration,” said Barry Rosengarten, Chairman of Celebrate Our Stars & Stripes Committee. “As we mark our nation’s birthday, it is time for each of us, who believe deeply in American ideals to come together. It is important for everyone in our great country to stand against the rise of hatred and extremism.”

Mr. Rosengarten also graciously thanked Celebrate Our Stars & Stripes Committee for their many efforts to make the Independence Day fireworks and activities a success in both communities. He recognized S. Amboy Mayor Henry, who is the event’s Honorary Chair, plus his hard-working “Celebrate” Co-Chair and City Council President Mickey Gross. Mayor Diaz also shares Honorary Chair’s responsibilities along with event Co-Chair and City Council President Bill Petrick.

Perth Amboy and South Amboy’s leaders were assisted by many volunteers and each city’s staff as well as members of the police, fire, public works, and recreation departments. Preparing for fireworks involves countless hours of behind-the-scenes planning and close coordination on July 3rd by all department to ensure a safe, fun and exciting fireworks spectacular.

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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.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM and HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM 2017 PROGRAM YEAR

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY – The City of Perth Amboy is planning for the FY 2017 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnership programs which are funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist persons who have low-to-moderate incomes, remove slums and blight, and/or address urgent needs. As anticipated, the funds have been reduced subsequent to the delay in the enactment of HUD's annual appropriations/implementation of this policy for FY 2017. The City has received the allocations in the amount of \$549,874 for CDBG and \$263,904 for HOME.

Public Hearings are being scheduled in the initial stages of the 2017 Annual Plan. The information received from interested individuals at the hearings will assist the City and the Community Development Advisory Committee in

the preparation of the 2017 Annual Plan. The hearings are designed to obtain resident's views and to respond to questions. Residents are invited to provide written or verbal comments at or prior to the hearings. Information will be made available to citizens regarding application procedures, timing, eligible activities, and other regulations related to the CDBG and HOME Programs. As contained in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan the housing and community development priorities of the City are as follows: provide a suitable living environment; provide decent affordable housing and create or expand economic opportunities. These priorities will be reviewed and the public is encouraged to comment.

The first public hearing is set to be held on Thursday, July 6, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at the Council Chambers of Perth Amboy City Hall, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. The draft 2017 Annual Action Plan will be prepared following the

close of the committee review. This document will be available for the public review in the Office of Economic and Community Development from Monday, July 10, 2017 to Thursday, July 27, 2017 in order to meet the timing and submission requirements established by HUD. The City will hold a second public hearing on Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at the Council Chambers of Perth Amboy City Hall, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861, to receive comments on the proposed Plan prior to finalizing this document by Friday, August 11, 2017.

Comments can be sent via email to Jamie Rios, Director, Office of Economic and Community Development, jrios@perthamboynj.org or through mail at 375 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861.

Wilda Diaz, Mayor
Jamie Rios, Director, Office of Economic and Community Development

Vitale Bill to Curb 'Pill Shopping' at Hospital Emergency Rooms Clears Senate

Bill Requires Practitioners to Check NJ PMP Prior To Prescribing A Schedule II Controlled Dangerous Substance In Emergency Departments

Press Release 6/20/17

TRENTON – Legislation sponsored by Senate Health Chairman Joseph F. Vitale that would amend current law to require prescribers to check the New Jersey Prescription Monitoring Program before issuing a prescription for a Schedule II Controlled Dangerous Substance in a hospital emergency department cleared the Senate yesterday.

"We have a raging opioid epidemic, and we have to make every effort to address the problem, from education to prevention to treatment and recovery," said Senator Vitale (D-Middlesex). "Unfortunately, hospital emergency rooms have become a source for individuals who are shopping for prescription painkillers and can't get them any other way. Requiring practitioners to check the Prescription Monitoring Program database every time they prescribe Schedule II CDS will help identify those who are pill shopping, and could create a pathway to in-

roducing treatment options for those who need it."

Current law requires prescribers or their authorized designees to check a patient's prescription monitoring information the first time they issue a prescription for a Schedule II CDS to a new patient for acute or chronic pain, and on a quarterly basis thereafter for continuing prescriptions for a Schedule II CDS. The law provides an exception for prescriptions issued to patients in the emergency department of a general hospital when the quantity prescribed does not exceed a five-day supply.

This bill, S-3118, eliminates this exception and mandates a check of prescription monitoring information for any prescription for a Schedule II CDS issued in a hospital emergency department, regardless of quantity.

The bill was approved by the Senate with a vote of 38-0, and next heads to the Assembly for consideration.

**No Paper Next Week!
See You July 12, 2017**

City of Perth Amboy

2017 FREE Summer Lunch Program

**Children and Teenagers Up To 18 Years of age
FREE organized activities, such as whiffle ball & board games**

City of Perth Amboy Park Counselors on-site

**The City of Perth Amboy will resume the Free Summer Lunch Program from
July 3rd through August 31st
in the following parks:**

No registration required

- Caledonia/Roessler Park – 65 High Street
- Francis Street Park – 966-972 Francis Street
- Patten Park – 339 Reade Street
- Washington Park – 660 New Brunswick Ave
- Green Village Apartments – 847 Harned Street
- HarborTown Club House – 600 Harbortown Blvd,

Serving time: 12:00 p.m.

MEALS ARE NOT TO BE TAKEN OFF-SITE. Must be consumed on-site.

(Children under the age of 10 years MUST be accompanied by an adult or legal guardian)

**Please call the Office of Recreation at 732-826-1690 ext. 4306
for additional information.**

The Summer Food Service Program is a federal program of the Food and Nutrition Services, United States Department of Agriculture. This program provides all children 18 years of age and under with free lunch meal during the summer months in accordance with a menu approved by the state agency regardless of race, color, national origin, sex disability or age.

Pallone on EPA's Final Rule for TSCA Implementation

Press Release 6/22/17

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Energy and Commerce Ranking Member Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) released the following statement today in response to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) finalization of three new rules required under the new Toxic Substances Control Act that was enacted one year ago today:

"Last year, Democrats and Republicans came together to reform the Toxic Substances Control Act and offer real protections for the public. Today's rules from EPA undermine those protections and the bipartisan intent of the Lautenberg Act. Under these rules, it appears that Administrator Pruitt intends to ignore more chemical uses and exposures at every stage of the regulato-

ry process. In an apparent handout to industry, EPA is committing to labeling as many chemicals safe as possible in order to avoid review. Instead, the agency should be focusing its resources on identifying and restricting dangerous chemicals. As someone who worked to strengthen this law, I'm deeply disappointed by these final rules."

Yesterday, Pallone sent a letter to Administrator Pruitt raising serious concerns over allegations that the final TSCA framework rules were rewritten by former American Chemistry Council lobbyist Dr. Nancy Beck who now serves as EPA's Deputy Assistant Administrator in the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OC-SPP).

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

Grand Reopening Merry Maids, 665 New Brunswick Ave., 6/9/17, Perth Amboy

**Photos by Eric Salvary*



Perth Amboy Housing Authority Job Fair, Raritan Bay Area YMCA, Perth Amboy 6/22/17

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



Athletic Awards, Perth Amboy Public Schools, 6/14/17

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



The Middle School Wrestling Team received their t-shirts on 6/14/17 for an undefeated season

Vitale Statement on Tobacco Prevention & Cessation Report

Press Release 6/15/17
 TRENTON – Senate Health Chairman Joseph F. Vitale (D-Middlesex) issued the following statement today on the release of a new report finding that tobacco prevention and cessation programs work, and that when properly funded, implemented and sustained, reduce smoking among both kids and adults – saving costs and lives:

“As a sponsor of the Tobacco 21 bill and a strong supporter of dedicating tobacco tax revenue to prevention/cessation, I am committed to working to make sure that New Jersey takes the steps necessary to improve the health of our residents. This report shows that smoking prevention measures are successful if implemented and will reduce healthcare costs but, more importantly, will save the

lives of our residents. “We cannot continue to allow thousands of lives to be lost each year and to continue to see billions of dollars in preventable healthcare costs expended, without taking action. New Jersey must dedicate funding to help our residents, and we have to begin now. “I want to thank the organizations for their work on this issue and their advocacy for pro-

grams that prevent kids from smoking and help smokers quit.” The report, Keeping the Promise: Comprehensive Tobacco Prevention and Cessation for New Jersey, was issued today by the American Cancer Society-Cancer Action Network, American Heart Association, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, and GASP.

No Paper Next Week!
See You July 12, 2017



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Tuesday, 4th of July

12:30 p.m. Proprietary House, 149 Kearny Avenue
Procession to the City Hall Circle Will Follow for the
Bell Ringing at **2:00 p.m.**

New Jersey State Liberty Bell BELL RINGING COMMEMORATING THE 241TH ANNIVERSARY SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

A replica of Liberty Bell for the State of New Jersey is located in the City of Perth Amboy as it once was the capital of East Jersey.

On the 4th of July each year, the replica is rung 13 times one ring for each of the original 13 Colonies.

In addition, an excerpt of the Declaration of Independence is read at the bell ringing ceremony.

The bell ringer for 2017 is the Honorable Wilda Diaz, Mayor of the City of Perth Amboy.



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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).

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.

No Paper Next Week!
See You July 12, 2017

Remembering Fire Chief Abraham Pitre

PERTH AMBOY – There is a reason that I use Abraham Pitre in the header instead of identifying him as Fire Chief. There have been many well-deserved tributes and accolades by those who knew him personally and professionally, but I want to talk about him as I believe he would also like to be remembered as a regular guy. The Amboy Guardian has a weekly feature called “Pet of the Week.” The majority of the times when photos are submitted to the paper, it’s just of the pet. Even when we happen to come upon someone walking their pets, we ask them for permission to photograph their pet and if they would like to be in the photo. Most of the time, the answer is: “No, just take my pet.”

As you can see, when Abraham submitted the photo of his two dogs, he was with them. I think this was to let people know that he is more than just a fire chief or title, but a regular person like anyone else who enjoys his pets. I happen to see Deputy Police Chief Larry Cattano the other day and I mentioned the photo that Abraham Pitre had submitted for the pet of the week. Cattano said, “Oh, Pitre had more than dogs. He had rabbits, cats, and all kinds of pets that he loved.

It is hard as it is to lose someone who was so important, not only to his family and colleagues, and community but to also to those who knew him as an adolescent and saw him grow into a well-respected young man. He achieved a well-deserved promotion as Chief of the Perth Amboy Fire Department in 2014 and carried out his duties as the oath required even going beyond the call of duty. It was Chief Pitre who went into a burning apartment and was able to bring out my sister-in-law who suffered severe burns. As being the first one to arrive at the scene of the fire, he did so without having any protective gear on. We were able to visit her at St. Barnabas Burn Center before she succumbed to her injuries. We were so thankful to Chief Pitre for getting her out of that fire before it consumed her.

It was through reading comments about Fire Chief Pitre on the Perth Amboy Fire Department’s Facebook Page that made me see how big Pitre’s heart was and he even touched those in other countries through his generos-



Career Day at Wiletzn School 5/18/17
*File Photo by Carolyn Maxwell



Although I dislike taking my picture I did it for my dogs. Enjoying the waterfront with my French bulldog "Harley" and my English bulldog "Sookie." They enjoy walking and just love attention and strangers petting them. The perfect "Amboy Ambassadors."
Abraham *File photo submitted & published 8/17/16

ity and fundraising efforts. He was just as involved with the youth as he was with seniors and that was proven through photos that were also in the Facebook Page.

I imagine that as Abraham went to heaven, and finally met God, they took a walk together. As they were walking, they were soon joined by dogs, cats and other animals that Pitre loved. Then they happened upon this beautiful vegetable garden that was being tended by Stanley “Garden Guru” Jaromczak. Stanley greeted him and said, “You’re just in time. I’m preparing a salad which I’m taking over to my place called: “The Barge Inn,” located on Hy Street where I’m going to meet up with some of the old Perth Amboy Gang. As God, Abraham and the Garden Guru walk in the door, Pitre’s eyes widen. The first person that he saw was Eddie Febles, Sr. who is the owner. Also in attendance was: Dioris “The Poet” Arlequin, Tom Ward, Peter Book a.k.a. Pedro Libro, Richard Piatkowski, Bill George and many more well-known Perth Amboy residents who have passed on. You may ask yourself, “What about the women?” There is one I would like to mention. There used to be well-known antique store on High Street called, “The Crystal Shop,” managed by Joyce Yaffe who set out these very unique plates on the tables for their meal. In a few minutes, Thomas Francis Clark walks in the door and starts to talk about his memories of Perth Amboy as a youth and a young adult.

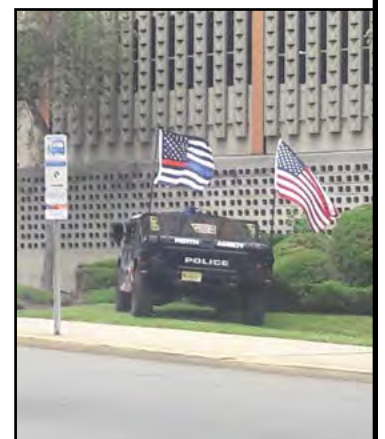
As I stated early into the tribute to Abraham Pitre, he touched so many hearts in so many positive ways and the grief will be felt for a long time, especially since he was so young and vibrant. But, it’s important to take a good look of that picture where he is dressed very casually with his beloved dogs. Look at that smile on his face, and I believed he had that smile when he entered heaven.

As much as you were proud of him, I could tell that Abraham Pitre was even prouder of those who served with him. God bless all who knew and loved him. He is in good hands.

Love and Peace from Carolyn and the Staff of the Amboy Guardian



Swearing in of Abraham Pitre as the new Fire Chief of the City Perth Amboy. The proud members of the fire department pose with their new Fire Chief Abraham Pitre 3/28/14 *File Photo by Carolyn Maxwell



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"Celebrate the Amboys!"

SOUTH AMBOY - Come Watch the Raritan Bay explode with Excitement. Monday, July 3rd, 2017; Rain Date: Tuesday July 4, 2017 at Raritan Bay Waterfront Park, John T. O'Leary Blvd. DJ Emerson Starting at 7 p.m. FIREWORKS DISPLAY 9:20 p.m. Food vendors and children's rides will be available. Bring your lawn chair and spend an evening under the stars on the beautiful Raritan Bay! Free parking available at NJ Transit lots behind the train station.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT EVENTS@SOUTH-AMBOYNJ.GOV

NOTICE FROM THE SOUTH AMBOY POLICE DEPARTMENT: ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PERMITTED

State Law prohibits the use of personal fireworks. This law will be STRICTLY ENFORCED. Pets are STRONGLY DISCOURAGED from being present during the fireworks performance. This is for both their safety and the safety of the general public.



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Thursday, July 6th
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Thursday, July 13th
 Grupo Warachando
 Salsa, Merengue & Bachata

Thursday, July 20th
 Brandywine Road

Thursday, July 27th
 Shaman
 Santana Tribute Band

Planetarium Program

SOUTH AMBOY - Dowdell Library Planetarium Program. All ages. Monday July 10, 2017 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Learn about space, planets, constellations, and the solar eclipse appearing in August. Limited Seating. Sign up to reserve a spot. 732-721-6060

Teen Party

SOUTH AMBOY - Dowdell Library Summer Teen Party, Monday, July 17, 2017 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Live Music by Someday Far. Come in for a BBQ and have VIP Access to the performance by signing up for the summer club. 732-721-6060


GEORGE J. OTLOWSKI, JR.
 ATTORNEY AT LAW

Wish Everyone a Very Safe, & Happy Independence Day!

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Happy Independence Day!

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**No Paper Next Week!
See You July 12, 2017**

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Live At The Ferry Slip Original Music Series
From 7:00pm-9:00pm on July 08th & August 05th
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Happy Independence Day!

Woodbridge Township Fireworks

SEWAREN – Woodbridge Township Annual Independence Day Fireworks!!! Bring your lawn chairs and join us under the stars. Live Music by AM GOLD with CITY HICKS at Alvin P. Williams Memorial Park, Sewaren, NJ. Monday, July 3, 2017. Raindate: Wednesday, July 5, 2017. Gates open at 4 p.m. Park is closed all day. No reserved seating. No alcoholic beverages permitted. Fireworks will be simulcast on 1079 WOLD.

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Sayreville Independence Day Celebration

PERTH AMBOY - July 1st Kennedy Park 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., Live Musical Entertainment from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. by "Beginnings" The Worlds Premier Chicago Tribute Band Tribute" Activities all FREE from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. include: Children's Rides & Games, Food Court, Hot Dog eating contest and culminating the day's events a spectacular Fireworks Display starts approximately 9:30 p.m. Rain date: July 2nd

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Congratulations Class of 2017



South Amboy High School



South Amboy High School Valedictorian John Paul Belanich (L), Principal Dr. Patrick McCabe (M) & Salutatorian Mackenzy Buczek (R)
*Photo by Joseph L. Kuchie



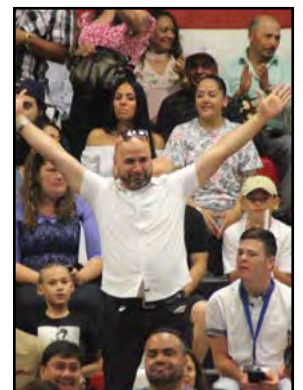
South Amboy High School Class of 2017 pose for a photo at graduation on 6/21/17
*Photo by Joseph L. Kuchie



PRAHD Kindergarten



Perth Amboy High School



Number of Graduates Per School:

PAHS: 380
McGinnis School: 312
Shull School: 276
Adult High School: 66



Perth Amboy High School Class of 2017 graduation on 6/23/17. 380 students graduated. The Valedictorian was Lizette D. Esquivel; the Salutatorian was Katherine Santana; the Class President was Celines Perez.

*Photos by Eric Salvary

Congratulations Class of 2017

Perth Amboy Adult School



McGinnis School



Shull School



Vitale and Pintor Marin Announce Legislation To Ensure Health Service Corporation's Commitment to Charitable Mission, Enhance Transparency And Protect Reserves

Press Release 6/25/17

TRENTON - Senator Joseph F. Vitale (19th District) and Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor Marin (29th District) announced today their legislation to ensure that health service corporations in New Jersey uphold a commitment to their charitable mission; the legislation would also enhance transparency and protect the reserves of these insurers. Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey is currently the only health service corporation operating in New Jersey.

“Our bill creates a system to ensure Horizon is upholding its commitment to its charitable mission and it provides greater transparency so that consumers know exactly how much their insurer spends and where. Additionally, it creates greater public oversight by allowing policyholders to elect three members of the Horizon BCBSNJ Board,” said Senator Vitale.

Horizon would be given an opportunity to develop a process by which three members of their Board will be elected by policyholders. This will make the Board more representative

of its policyholders and create a new dynamic by which the Board operates, while still leaving the make-up of the Board a majority of Horizon BCBSNJ appointees. Going forward, four members would continue to be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, eight members would be elected by Horizon and three members would be elected by Horizon policyholders. This plan does not add new members to the Board.

“This plan creates a fair process both for Horizon and for their policyholders. If an excess surplus exists, Horizon will be given every opportunity to control how that surplus is spent and where it will go. Horizon has a charitable mission within the State of New Jersey and this plan allows them to continue that charitable mission while also lending support, when it is possible, to programs that promote public health,” said Assemblywoman Pintor Marin.

The process used in this bill to develop an efficient surplus range for a health service corporation's surplus is modeled after

Pennsylvania. As long as Horizon operates within that range, they will not be able to increase premium for the purpose of building a higher surplus, which will protect premium payers.

“I commend Senator Vitale and Assemblywoman Pintor Marin for their work on this issue. If a future Governor's administration says an organization with a charitable purpose is sitting on excess surplus, that will warrant us taking a closer look at how it is operating. The legislation sets up a process to allow for that. I asked Senator Vitale to take the lead because I knew anything he put his name to would be in the best interest of the people of New Jersey and especially the people that pay premiums to Horizon,” said Senate President Steve Sweeney.

If Horizon's surplus exceeds the upper limit of the efficient surplus range, their surplus will be deemed to have reached an inefficient level. This means the surplus has grown to such a point where adding additional dollars to the surplus no longer derives value for premium pay-

ers. At this point Horizon would be directed to develop a plan on how they will spend down their excess reserve to benefit policyholders and fulfill their charitable mission. They may also make a case justifying a need to maintain excess reserves above the efficient surplus range. At this time, the public would also be given an opportunity to weigh in on the spending of excess reserves. Following this, the Department of Banking and Insurance, in consultation with the Department of Health, would review the plan and approve it or work with Horizon to modify the plan.

If Horizon and the State are unable to come to agreement on a plan for Horizon to spend down their excess reserves, the funds will be transferred to a fund in the Department of Health. The Department would then convene an open public process and take recommendations from the public on how the funds should be spent consistent with criteria established by this legislation. The Governor will then make a recommendation to the Legislature, and the Legisla-

ture will certify the spending plan.

“This legislation sets up an open public process to develop an appropriate, efficient surplus range within which a Horizon should aim to operate,” said Senator Vitale. “I hope members of the Legislature will see that this is a rational, reasonable approach to current concerns about whether or not there truly is an excessive surplus. This is not a money-grab, it does not create a slush fund, and it does not put any undue operating costs upon Horizon that would drive up premiums. It simply creates an equitable system that will benefit both Horizon and their premium payers.”

This legislation, S-4, with amendments, is scheduled for a vote in the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on Monday, June 26th. Should it pass in both houses and be signed into law, Sections 1 and 7 – which address transparency – would take effect immediately, with the rest of the bill going into effect starting February 1, 2018.

Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr. Celebrates 60th Birthday

Everyone is Invited to the Celebration of Life

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - The Rev. Donald Hilliard, Jr., was 26 years old when he became the Senior Pastor at The Historic

Second Baptist Church, 101 Broad Street, Perth Amboy, NJ. In a few days he celebrates his 60th birthday and he invites everyone to join him in thanking God for life.

This year it will be 34 years that he has served at the helm of the congregation now known as Cathedral International. The ministry now known as Cathedral Interna-

tional has expanded greatly and blessed many people. It serves the specific needs of three different locations in New Jersey: Cathedral International in Perth Amboy - including Iglesia Catedral Inter-

nacional; Cathedral International in Asbury Park, and Cathedral International in Plainfield. The ministry reaches the lives of many people operating on all campuses. Through the facilitation of the gospel via Streamingfaith.com Cathedral International now reaches millions of homes

across the globe.

Bishop Hilliard earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Eastern College (now Eastern University), St. David's, Pennsylvania, the Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, and an earned Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio, as a Dr. Samuel D. Proctor Fellow. He is also the recipient of various honorary doctoral degrees.

"What you see over the last 34 years has been a divine leap

of faith," said Hilliard, who partners in ministry with his wife, the Reverend Phyllis Thompson-Hilliard. They are the proud parents of three wonderful daughters and a son-in-law, and are ecstatic grandparents to their first grandson.

Bishop Hilliard is a servant of God who continues to "Say Yes" to the Lord's call on his life, and by doing so has positively affected the lives of thousands with his gift to turn a glimmer of hope into opportunity.



Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr.

WHAT: 60th Birthday Celebration for Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr.

WHEN: Friday, July 7, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Cathedral, 277 Madison Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

COST: No cost to attend

Follow the link for more information about the 60th Birthday Celebration:

www.cathedralinternational/bishop60

Live Music

PERTH AMBOY - Live Music every Saturday Night at 8 p.m. at Al Cibelli's Night Club, 1096 Convery Blvd., Perth Amboy. Dark Harvest - July 1st; Mikell's Plot - July 15th. Music in the downstairs lounge. Must be 21 to enter and drink. Extra parking across the street.

Yoga and Strength Training

Fitness Classes

PARLIN - Yoga and Strength Training Fitness Classes start on July 6th Thursday and run 6 weeks. Yoga beginner/intermediate class from 6:30pm-7:20pm, mat required.

Strength Training full body workout from 7:30pm-8:20pm, mat and light weights required. Never forget your water! Location: 775 Washington Road, Parlin at the Knights of Columbus. Price: 6 classes for \$50. *Donation non-refundable. Part of the proceeds go to Knights of Columbus, 2061. Classes are instructed by, Certified Personal Trainer, Group Exercise Instructor and Yoga Teacher, Denise Morgan. For registration information please email Denise at healthandfitness-withdenise@gmail.com or call 732-525-9536.

You are INVITED!

Please join us for the **60th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF BISHOP DONALD HILLIARD, JR.**

FRIDAY, JULY 7TH 2017 7:00 PM

Cathedral International
277 Madison Ave
Perth Amboy, NJ

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CATHEDRALINTERNATIONAL.ORG . DONALDHILLIARDJR.ORG

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Clap Out Ceremony 2017 *Photos Submitted



A.V. Ceres School



Dual Language School



Richardson School



Flynn School



PAHS



Patten School

Perth Amboy High School – Clap Out Ceremony!

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy High School Class of 2017 participated in a “Clap Out” ceremony on Thursday, June 22, 2017, the day before their graduation. This celebration afforded more than 400 seniors the opportunity to walk the hallways of their former elementary schools. As they walked through the hallways in their caps and gowns, the seniors were greeted with congratulatory signs and banners created by the elementary students and staff.

The Perth Amboy School District has recently redesigned its website to enhance communication with students, parents, guardians, staff and community members. The enhanced features include larger images, interactive menus, more District and school-wide news, and ease of navigation. Photos of the “Clap Out” ceremony can be found on the website. For more information visit the District’s website at www.paps.net.



Wilentz School

33rd Annual Harbor Lights Ball Raises More Than \$215,000 for Robotic Surgery at Raritan Bay Medical Center

Event honored Gregorio Guillen, M.D., with the Excellence in Medicine Award;

The Liberty Group with the Business of the Year Award; Ali Rada with the Executive of the Year Award, and Joan Harewood, DNP, R.N., NEA-BC, with the Distinguished Service Award

Press Release 6/14/17

PERTH AMBOY - Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation welcomed nearly 300 guests to the 33rd Annual Harbor Lights Ball on May 12 at the Grand Marquis in Old Bridge, N.J., and raised more than \$215,000 net to support the hospital’s new Center for Robotic Surgery at Raritan Bay-Old Bridge. The Harbor Lights Ball is now the signature fundraising event for Raritan Bay Medical Center with the Foundation’s decision in 2016 to focus exclusively on the ball in lieu of the annual Art Show and Golf Classic fundraisers. The ball is chaired by Jessica and George Smith, M.D., and honors members of the community who have been valued partners of the hospital.

“We remain focused on providing our community with the best possible care. The addition of the new Center for Robotic Surgery and minimally invasive robotic-assisted surgical system enables our surgeons to provide patients with advanced treatment op-

tions, close to home,” said Michael R. D’Agnes, FACHE, president of Raritan Bay Medical Center. “The Harbor Lights Ball and continued philanthropic support makes it possible for us to add new technology and launch new programs to fulfill our mission of delivering exceptional health care.”

Four awards were presented during the evening. Honorees were selected based on their dedication and philanthropic commitment to Raritan Bay and the surrounding community. Honorees included:

- Excellence in Medicine Award: Gregorio Guillen, M.D. Dr. Guillen’s practice has faithfully served the Perth Amboy community for many years. As President of the Medical Staff at Raritan Bay Medical Center Dr. Guillen has worked steadfastly to improve the quality of care delivered to patients.
- Business of the Year Award: The Liberty Group. Opened for business in 1920 as Liberty Transportation & Storage.

Since then, they have grown from a small moving business with one truck and a passion to serve their clients, to a global moving, maintenance, and shredding company. Today, their clients benefit from the stability of a third generation, family owned and operated business that has adapted and grown to serve their clients.

- Executive of the Year Award: Ali Rada. Cuban born Ali Rada came to Perth Amboy as a little boy with his parents in 1970. After graduation from high school he started running Ali’s Liquor Store and Tavern on Smith Street in 1981. He expanded his portfolio in the late 80’s by opening his first check cashing business. In the early 90’s he purchased investment properties and gained experience in management and rehabilitation, which led to the construction of two new buildings in a redevelopment area in 2000. Today he continues investing, developing, and operating multiple real estate properties in the Perth Amboy and Woodbridge area. He re-



2017 Honorees

sides, with his wife and three children, in Holmdel, NJ.

- Distinguished Service Award: Joan Harewood, DNP, R.N., NEA-BC. Joan is a champion of nursing, leading with integrity, professionalism and fairness. Before retiring at the end of 2016, Joan served as Senior Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer at Raritan Bay Medical Center. Joan successfully led Raritan Bay to a third Magnet re-designation, recognizing nursing excellence, in 2014.

For more information on how to support Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation contact Executive Director of Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation Linda Hill, PharmD, at 732.324.5374 or email linda.hill@hackensackmeridian.org.

Ads Sell!
Call Carolyn
732-896-4446

Perth Amboy Public Schools 2016-2017 Governor's Educator of the Year - Teachers

**Photo by Katherine Massopust*



PERTH AMBOY - The 2016-2017 Governor's Educator of the Year Awards were given out at the 6/15/17 BOE Meeting:

Teachers

- Michele Nycz - Edmund Hmieleski, Jr. Center
- Maria Gouveia - Ignacio Cruz Center
- Rachel Wintemberg - Samuel E. Shull School
- Ali Rodriguez - William C. McGinnis School
- Michael Wieczorek - Perth Amboy High School
- Jasmin Molleda - Anthony V. Ceres School
- Shelly Gallanter - Edward J. Patten
- Bertha Struhala - Dr. Herbert N. Richardson School
- Joel Polidura - Robert N. Wilentz School
- *Kristy DeFazio - James J. Flynn School
- *2017-2018 Middlesex County Teacher of the Year

Perth Amboy Public Schools 2016-2017 Governor's Educator of the Year - Educational Services Professionals

**Photo by Katherine Massopust*



PERTH AMBOY - The 2016-2017 Governor's Educator of the Year Awards were given out at the 6/15/17 BOE Meeting:

Educational Services Professionals

- Michelle Belfiore-Loconte - Edmund Hmieleski, Jr. Center
- Rosa Napoles - Ignacio Cruz Center
- Luz Malave - Samuel E. Shull School
- Alison Press - William C. McGinnis School
- Alicia Nunez - Perth Amboy High School
- Jamie Benevento - Anthony V. Ceres School
- Antoinette Barbato - Edward J. Patten
- Claudia Mercado - Dr. Herbert N. Richardson School
- Jamie Sakel - Robert N. Wilentz School
- Megan Kehoe- James J. Flynn School

DVRT Seeks Volunteers

PERTH AMBOY – The Domestic Violence Response Team is looking for volunteers. Open Registration Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, contact: Detective Liza Capo, Perth Amboy Police Department at: 732-324-3815 or DVRT Coordinator Damaris Ramirez at 732-500-5758 or Pastor Bernadette Lopez at 732-213-1537. Pick up an application at the Perth Amboy Police Department.

**No Paper Next Week!
See You July 12, 2017**

Students Perform at 6/15/17 BOE Meeting

**Photo by Katherine Massopust*



Students who are learning music for the first time perform "Lean on Me" at the 6/15/17 BOE Meeting



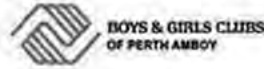
American Young Voices sing Stronger Together



The Cast of the Student Play "West Side Story" Perform

**No Paper Next Week!
See You July 12, 2017**

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



For Release 9: am
June 20th, 2017

The Boys & Girls Club of Perth Amboy Announces Summer Camp beginning July 10th, 2017

BGCPA Summer Fun!

Perth Amboy— June 20th, 2017 — Today at the Wilentz School, The Boys & Girls Club of Perth Amboy announced immediate space availability to participate in the 2017 Boys & Girls Summer Camp. **Brian Taylor**, former Perth Amboy panther Basketball & Football All-American, and ABA & NBA star, now the Boys & Girls of Perth Amboy CEO, said that the Club is fortunate to have the Wilentz School host this year's camp. The **former Princeton All-American** said: "this allows for more children to participate in the sports & recreational activities, science, music and dance, iPad discovery, and cooking activities planned for the camp".

Camp Date Details

The camp will begin on July 10th and end on August 18th. The camp is open to children 8-15 and a free breakfast & lunch will be served. Costs will be \$125 per week with *scholarships being offered to those that qualify.*

Weekly trips will take place including bowling, movies, Crystal Springs, iplay America, and Keansburg. *Wacky Wednesdays* include mix match day, Halloween in July, hero Day, and more fun things to do. *Passport Fridays*: Once a week, students will experience the culture, food, art, and sports of a different country.

For registration, please call Noely Baez at 848-203-7979 or email:

NBAEZ@BGCPA.US

Cool Yard Sale

178 Market St.
Perth Amboy

Saturday, July 1, 2017

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Comics - Superman, Spiderman,
Batman, Green Lantern & Archie
Classic Movies on VHS, Toy Soldiers,
Clothing, Assorted Items,
Toy Kid's Kitchen - Complete with Accessories



Raritan Bay Cruisers Car Show

WOODBIDGE- Tuesdays from May 16th - Sept. 26th from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Pizza Hut, Rte. 9, Woodbridge (Wal-Mart Parking Lot) Weather Permitting. Rock & Roll Music, Trophies, Kids Games, and Just Family Fun. For more info about Cruise Night Call 1-732-407-2396.

Cruise Nights on Broadway

SOUTH AMBOY - Come join DJ Richie, The Flash and Crew for great cruise nights the third Wednesday of every month from June to October from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Music from the 50's to the 80's Trophies will be awarded - Bring the Family! For additional information please contact carshowsRus@gmail.com or Mike Toth at mtoth1@optonline.net or 908-930-3497. Sponsored by the City of South Amboy.

Kearny Cottage Historical Association Berry Festival

Saturday, July 15th
Flea Market - \$10 per space
(Bring Your Own Table)



Civil War Re-enactors
Black Powder Demonstration
Berry Refreshments Available
Rain Date July 22nd

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Activities All Day Long!

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

The Kearny Cottage Historical Society is Looking for Old Photos and Documents of Perth Amboy, South Amboy, Woodbridge, Fords, etc. (Local Area) For an Archiving Project - Your Photos & Documents will be scanned into digital format & returned to you. For more info please call 732-293-1090

Ads Sell! Call Carolyn 732-896-4446

1683 Society Meets with Code Enforcement

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - The 1683 Society Steering Committee met with Perth Amboy City Code Enforcement leadership recently at the City's Municipal Complex on New Brunswick Avenue to discuss a variety of topics that affect the quality of life in the Historic, Marina and Waterfront Districts of the City. The 1683 Society gave an overview of its mission, the area it encompasses, its standards of conduct and recent successes working with other City Departments. Director Jamie Rios and Senior House Inspector Johan Delgado provided an overview of their department's roles and responsibilities, and how their team balances adherence to City Ordinances in conjunction with State and Federal laws. Johan Delgado also detailed his team's range of expertise, their coverage areas and how new technology impacts how they work together as a team.

The 1683 Society also presented its in-house research



The 1683 Society meets with Code Enforcement *Photo Submitted

report on possible abandoned and vacant properties within our neighborhood boundaries. Norman Vazquez stated, "Appearances matter. Some homes in our area look abandoned or vacant. These homes affect the quality of life of adjacent neighbors and home owners. Where possible, the 1683 Society can partner with Code Enforcement to create a positive impact on our neighborhood." Mr. Rios and Mr. Delgado agreed and established a

direct line of communication between the parties to improve neighborhood stability and revitalization.

By partnering with the members of Code Enforcement and City Officials, the 1683 Society is well positioned to achieve its mission to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Want to learn more about the 1683 Society? Visit www.1683society.org

Keep This, Toss That, Barge Restaurant 6/5/17, Perth Amboy *Photo by Katherine Massopust



Author of "Keep This, Toss That!" Jamie Novak gave a presentation at the Woman's Club Meeting at the Barge Restaurant. She showed her humor and wit in the processes of de-cluttering your home.

Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library Barnes & Noble Book Fair 6/17/17

*Photos by Toni Gianfranco



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 June 26, 1942, the British Royal Air Force launches yet another 1,000-bomber raid, this time against the commercial city of Bremen, Germany. In the Soviet Union, the Germans drive on the city of Rostov-on-Don. In the U.S., the Grumman F6F Hellcat fighter makes its first flight. The rugged carrier-based plane will account for 75% of all aerial victories recorded by the U.S. Navy in the Pacific.

Rommel's Afrika Korps hits the British hard again on June 27 at the Egyptian port town of Mersa Matruh. The British withdraw to El Alamein, Egypt, only 71 miles from the base of their Mediterranean fleet, at Alexandria. Allied Arctic Convoy PQ17, consisting of 35 merchant ships, departs Iceland for Arkhangelsk, Russia. *En route*, 24 of the convoy's merchant vessels are sunk by German U-boats or aircraft, the worst losses of the war for any convoy to Russia.

"Case Blue," the German summer strategic plan for capturing Stalingrad and the Soviet oil fields in the Caucasus goes into effect on June 28. The operation moves most German forces to the south. On the Crimean Peninsula in Ukraine, the Germans break the Soviet defenses at Sevastopol, taking 90,000 prisoners. In North Africa, Mersa Matruh, Egypt, only 185 miles from Alexandria, falls to Rommel's Afrika Korps.

With Rommel's troops moving inexorably — and seemingly unstoppable — eastward, Benito Mussolini flies from Rome to Derna, Libya, on June 29 in anticipation of being able to lead the Axis forces on a triumphal entrance into Cairo, Egypt.

On June 30, German troops are engaged in hand-to-hand combat within the city limits of Sevastopol. The Soviets begin evacuating the Sevastopol garrison by air and sea. Farther north, the German 6th Army begins its offensive around Belgorod, Russia, just north of the Ukrainian border. The U.S. Army's II Corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. Mark W. Clark, arrives in England. In Germany, all remaining Jewish schools are closed.

July 1 marks the beginning of the end of Red Army resistance in the Crimea. German troops capture Sevastopol's airfields and take the city center, pushing the remaining Soviet forces to the coast. Gen. Erich von Manstein is promoted to Field Marshal for the victory. In North Africa, Rommel's troops attack the British at El Alamein, Egypt, but Allied units keep them from breaking through. In England, the first B-17 Flying Fortress heavy bombers arrive from the U.S., for use by the USAAF and the RAF. Off Luzon, the Philippines, the Japanese vessel *Montevideo Maru* is torpedoed and sunk by the American submarine *USS Sturgeon*. *Sturgeon* is unaware that the ship is carrying Australian prisoners of war and civilians, 1,054 of whom perish.

In the United Kingdom, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill on July 2 overwhelmingly survives a vote of censure in the House of Commons over his conduct of the war, with 476 against censure, 25 for, and 30 abstentions. The motion is spurred by two weeks of military losses in North Africa. At El Alamein, Egypt, a British counterattack against Rommel's forces sweeps around the Germans from the south, preventing Rommel from moving towards Alexandria.

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, July 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

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

PERTH AMBOY - There is a Trip to the Resorts Casino in Atlantic City. The next trip will be held on Wed. Jun. 28, 2017. Cost \$30 pp.; \$25 back in slot play. 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.

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: Saturday July 8. 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. !!!!

Thanksgiving Dinner

SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy Elks will be holding a Thanksgiving Dinner in July on Thursday, July 27th from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Lodge is located at 601 Washington Ave. South Amboy. Dinner also includes salad, coffee, tea and desert. Cash bar will be available. Tickets for this dinner must be purchased in advance at the lodge or by calling 732-727-7170 or contact Joanne Kopik at 732- 668-3166. Cost \$12 pp. All proceeds go towards lodge charities.

Newborn Care Class for Grandparents

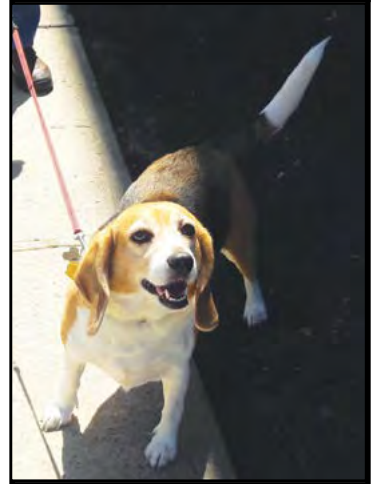
PERTH AMBOY- Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center, is providing a Newborn Care Class for Grandparents Wednesday, June 28, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ. The class is about learning to help in your grandbaby's growth and development. The latest techniques in baby care will be discussed. Cost is \$50 per couple. Make checks payable to RBMC. Registration required, call 1 . 8 0 0 . D O C T O R S (1.800.362.8677).



Book Sale

WOODBIDGE - The Robert E. Lee CWRT and Research Center will be having a book sale on Saturday, July 1, 2017. Dozens of top quality books will be priced to sell. Some topics available will be personalities, battles, medicine and weapons, just to name a few. The library is located in the Mercatili Building on 94 Green Street in Woodbridge. Enter through the side doors which are off the driveway, and look for room 104. The sale will run from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Looking forward to seeing you! Stop by, peruse, chat and while you're there, enjoy our light refreshments.

Pet of the Week



Nick

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

Moonlight Music Series

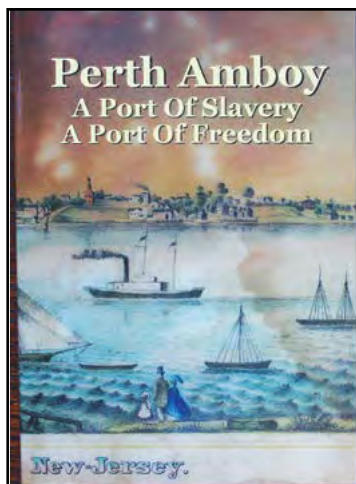
PERTH AMBOY - Perth Amboy Artworks is partnering with the Historic City of Perth Amboy's Ferry Slip Museum to present a Spring/Summer 2017 live music series at the Ferry Slip. Enjoy great live music, the moonrise over Raritan Bay and check out the Ferry Slip Museum. The free live music events are from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at 200 Front St, Perth Amboy.

Destitute NJ and I4 on July 8.

Free Perth Amboy History DVD

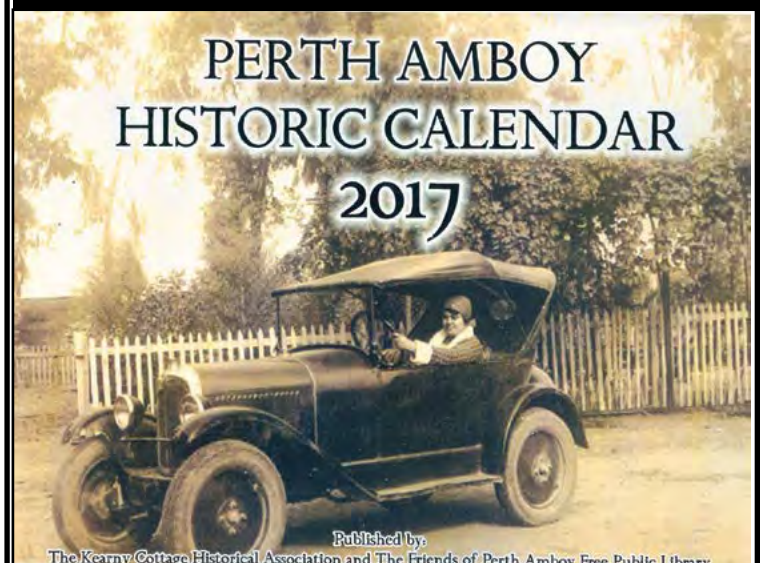
Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - At the May 27th Waterfront Arts Festival, visit the 1683 Society table & get your FREE Perth Amboy History DVD. Yes, it is free! This hour long documentary is entitled "Perth Amboy: A Port of Slavery, A Port of Freedom," produced by John Kerry Dyke. And it is the first time this new documentary is available on DVD. The 1683 Society is a Perth Amboy nonprofit organization. Find



out what they've done & what they intend to do.

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.*

Novena to St. Lucy Patron of the Blind

O St. Lucy, you preferred to let your eyes be torn out instead of denying the faith and defiling your soul; and God, through an extraordinary miracle, replaced them with another pair of sound and perfect eyes to reward your virtue and faith, appointing you as the protector against eye diseases. I come to you for you to protect my eyesight and to heal the illness in my eyes. O St. Lucy, preserve the light of my eyes so that I may see the beauties of creation, the glow of the sun, the color of the flowers and the smile of children. Preserve also the eyes of my soul, the faith, through which I can know my God, understand His teachings, recognize His love for me and never miss the road that leads me to where you, St. Lucy, can be found in the company of angels and saints. St. Lucy, protect my eyes and preserve my faith. Amen.

(Recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be three times each.)
O! Glorious St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr, you greatly glorified the Lord by pretending to sacrifice your life rather than be unfaithful. Come to our aid and, through the love of this sacrifice your life rather than be unfaithful. Come to our aid and, through the love of this same most lovable Lord, save us from all infirmities of the eyes and the danger of losing them. Through your powerful intercession, may we spend our life in the peace of the Lord and be able to see Him with our transfigured eyes in the eternal splendor of the Celestial Homeland. Amen. St. Lucy, pray for us and for the most needy, to Christ or Lord Amen. *(Say this prayer for 9 days) A.L.S.*

Remember to Say Your Novenas!

DVD/Media Drive

SOUTH AMBOY - Please place your unwanted DVDs, Blu-Ray, CDs, and video games in good condition, into the collection boxes at the Dowdell Library, or Madura Pharmacy Your contributions will be donated to the Dowdell Library to help enhance its current collection. Larger collections call Grace at 732-721-6592 for pick-up Thank you for your support! This on-Going Collection Drive is Sponsored by the Dowdell Library Foundation, Inc.

Senior Scene Happenings

Perth Amboy

- TUES. Jun. 27 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. Jun. 28 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. Jun. 29 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- MON. Jul. 3 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- THURS. Jul. 5 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

- MON. Jul. 3 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- WED. Jul. 5 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- MON. Jul. 24 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash 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 19

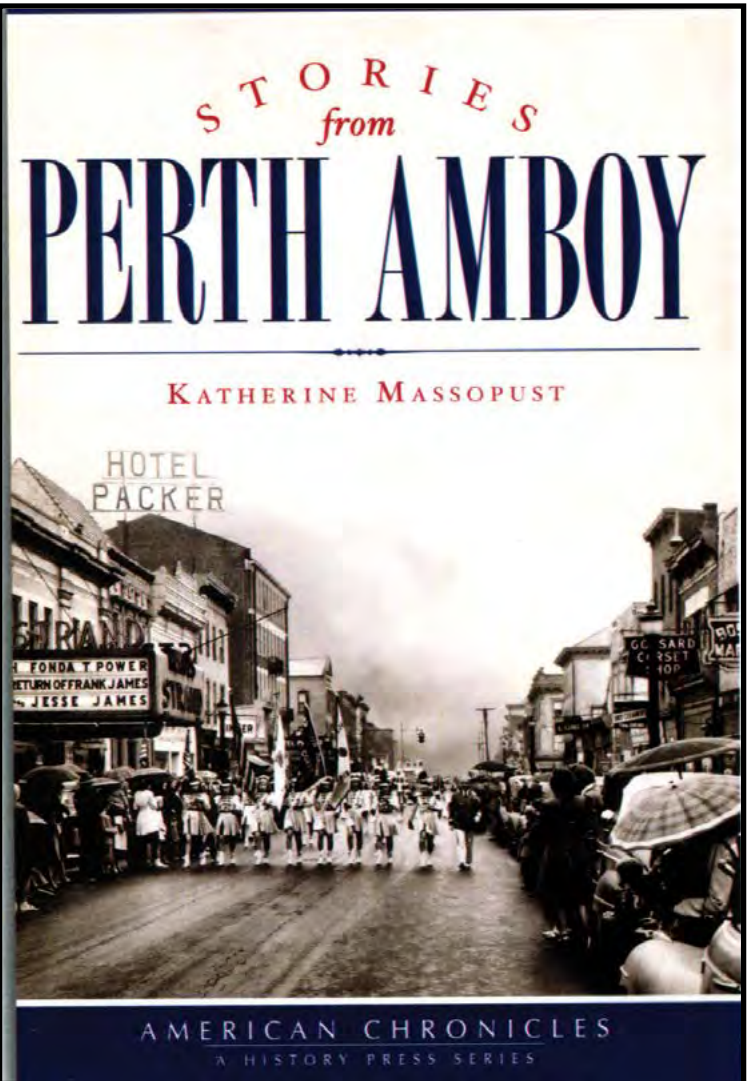


LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Art Contest Along Sadowski Parkway 1970's
*Photo Courtesy of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library
This photo was restored under a grant from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission to the Kearny Cottage Historical Association.

No Paper Next Week! See You July 12, 2017



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!

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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 3D Tin Portrait of Last Supper 23"x 17" \$75 732-254-1398	Wood Sled \$25; Treadmill \$25; Vanity \$25 732-442-9454	Antique Sleds Good Shape, Flexible Flyer Size 51 1/2 in. FF Original Sticker \$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.

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

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|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Prayer To St. Clare | For Employment | Prayer To St. Jude |
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ACROSS

- 1 Ike's monogram
- 4 Mirthful laugh (2 wds.) /
- 8 Sci. room
- 11 Currency unit in France
- 13 "Famous" cookie maker
- 14 "Are you a man _____ mouse?" (2 wds.)
- 15 Playwright Coward
- 16 Rents out
- 17 Four-star officer (abbr.)
- 18 Branding tool
- 20 Moved upward
- 22 Bread units
- 25 Caustic cleanser
- 26 Bancroft and Baxter
- 27 Detest
- 31 Natalie Cole's father
- 32 Chinese chairman
- 33 Pig's digs
- 34 Prepared for prayer
- 37 Appreciate highly
- 39 Opposite of pos.
- 40 Police warnings
- 41 Chinese bells
- 44 Serve
- 45 Abel's mother
- 46 Comparative word
- 48 Native minerals

DOWN

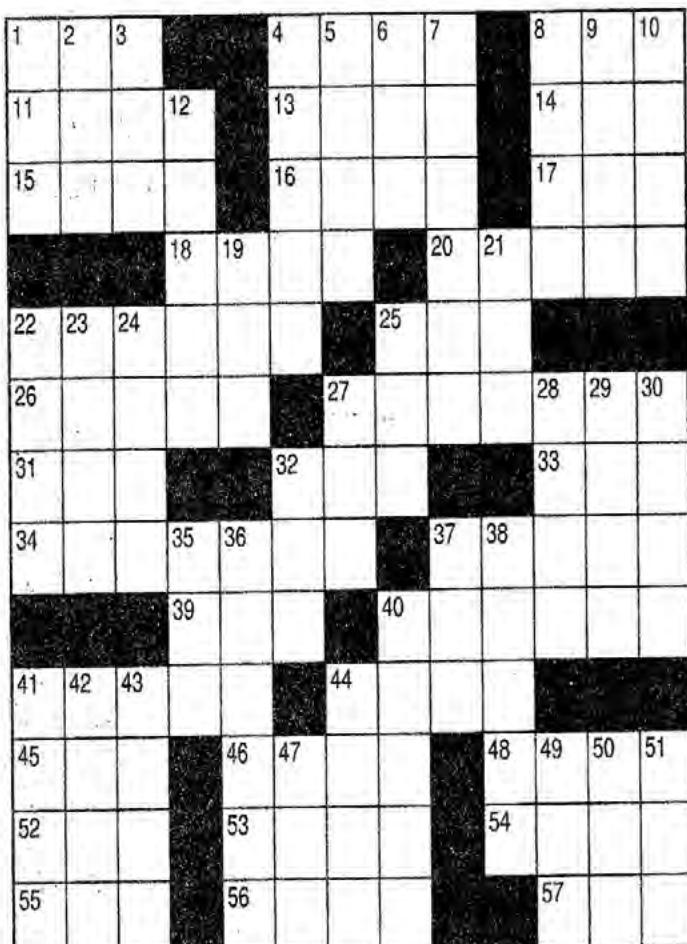
- 1 Lion's home
- 2 Twosome
- 3 Poetic "before"
- 4 Angels' circlets
- 5 Hymnal word
- 6 Smoldering
- 7 Analyzes minerals
- 8 Company's identifying symbol

9 Greek war god

- 10 Curse
- 12 Martini garnish
- 19 Home (abbr.)
- 21 Dem.'s opponent
- 22 Skinny and tall
- 23 "___ Island with You" (2 wds.)
- 24 Gambling stake
- 25 Feline zodiac sign
- 27 Papa
- 28 Capri, e.g.
- 29 Flabbergast
- 30 Tornado middles
- 32 Actress Foster
- 35 Liverpool's

locale (abbr.)

- 36 ___ Flatt of country music
- 37 Wine, in Parea
- 38 Passion
- 40 Smell or taste
- 41 Actor Richard of "Sommersby"
- 42 Speedway shape
- 43 Hairdo holders
- 44 Infield cover, for short
- 47 "Bali ___"
- 49 River (Sp.)
- 50 Pointy-eared sprite
- 51 Ensemble



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