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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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Still Not Satisfied 6/26/17 Caucus

PERTH AMBOY – One of the topics for discussion at the 6/26/17 Caucus Meeting was the PILOT for Bridge. Business Administrator Adam Cruz was beside himself and showed his exasperation as he told the Council, “The Administration has brought in three experts such as the PARA Director and outside PILOT experts who talked about the benefits of having PILOTs. Everyone has been rejected and it’s getting frustrating. The Council did not want to see a 30 year PILOT. We went down to 22 years and then it went down to 12 years with an option of a 5 year renewal.”

Councilman Joel Pabon said, “I have no problem with 12 years, but I’m concerned how this would affect the City in the future, especially with 2 more perspective projects coming up who may ask for PILOTs. We are making decisions that are using taxpayer’s money.”

Councilman Jelmin Caba addressed his concerns, “I agree with Mr. Cruz. We all under-

stand that PILOTs are here. It can help our blighted areas. We have to be fair. Bridge negotiated with us to go down to 12 years. Bridge will be building more. For us to discourage Bridge, we’ll make other developers not want to develop here.”

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez added his remarks, “I’m not saying no to a PILOT for Bridge. If it was just for 5 years, we could see how that goes. I have met with you (Cruz) and others about PILOTs. We are looking at the year 2000 proposal. I just want more knowledge to see if we can get more professionals to come here. Most views on this project have been one-sided. With more professionals we can see how it will affect the City’s future.”

At this point Cruz, showing his frustration stated, “I can bring Jesus Christ here and you still will reject what he says regarding PILOTs!”

At that point, Council President Bill Petrick told Cruz he was out of order.

Councilman Fernando Irizarry questioned why some of the Council Members wanted an Independent Market Analysis now. “This has been going on for 6 months. We can’t negotiate the contract. Only the Administration can and then we approve it. Surrounding towns are getting PILOTs and how can we be competitive when other cities are willing to do PILOTs (with developers). What other professionals do you want to get? Who? We had the top state professionals here at least 3 times. Who are we going to get, now?”

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez spoke again. Showing his frustrations he stated, “This is a plan from 1998 thru 2000 and it’s not adequate. We are supposed to so a plan every 5 years. It hasn’t been done since 1998. I know because I was on the Redevelopment Board. Just do an RFP for an expert for an appraisal.”

**Continued on Page 2*

The Conflicts Continue 6/28/17 Council Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - Resident Ken Balut had a comment to make regarding Ordinance No. 2 restricting parking spaces for use by a handicapped person.

He wanted to know, “Was there an ordinance to give Mary Street Residents personalized parking spots? And they didn’t have to pay.”

Resident Stanley Sierakowski came up to speak about Communication No. 4 regarding Berkley Accident and Health as a carrier for the City’s Reinsurance Services. “This is not a proposal.” He wanted to know if the Council had reviewed the paperwork.

Council President Bill Petrick answered Sierakowski’s question, “We (the Council) did not get personal copies, but they were available for us to review in the Clerk’s Office.”

Sierakowski continued, “How

is it that in the past there were various bids amounts, but this time all the bids that came in for insurance were all the same? Is there a relationship between Fairview (who recommended Berkley) and Berkley in any way? How many clients does Berkley have and who are they?”

During the public comments on agenda items only, Balut came up to speak again on R-262 which entails leasing of body-worn and vehicle mounted cameras for the PAPD.

Balut urged the Council to table this item. He also mentioned the low starting salary for new Police Officers. “This is why a lot of them don’t stay in Perth Amboy after they’ve been trained.” He suggested they start their salary at \$33,000, then go up by \$10,000 after that, and then they should

put the steps back in for their pay raises like they used to do in the past.

Balut also spoke about Berkeley Insurance Company. “This is how Garland got into trouble. We’re going back to this system with campaign contributors getting contracts. Did you get other perks such as expensive gifts? And is anybody getting money from Fairview Insurance?”

Business Administrator Adam Cruz answered Balut, “This Council voted for submitted RFP’s for a contract. For \$44,000, the City is getting millions of dollars in savings.”

Resident David Caba came up referencing Communications No. 8 & 9 where representatives of the Fire Department were disappointed with a Coun-

**Continued on Page 3*

Fireworks July 3, 2017 Independence Day' Ring of the Bell - Perth Amboy July 4, 2017



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Still Not Satisfied *Continued From Page 1



Councilman Fernando Gonzalez (Top Photo) apologizes to Fire Department Personnel for remarks made to the media. Pictured Top Right (Ken Fedles, President of Local #286 (front row) Seated behind him (Center) Battalion Chief Ed Mullen, Photo Right - Far Right, Firefighter Brian Bonilla who also spoke.
*Photos by Carolyn Maxwell



Councilman Irizarry spoke again. "You are not looking at the whereas clauses. You are taking it out of context."

Council President Bill Petrick answered Irizarry, "You are looking at land that is no longer contaminated and Beneke (one of the PILOT Experts) just spoke about the Bridge PILOT."

B.A. Cruz then told the Council, "We have to put out an RFP that has to be posted for 20 days."

Petrick came back and stated, "There is activity that is constantly going in and out of the Bridge property."

After the conclusion of the Bridge PILOT discussion, the floor was open up to the public.

Former Councilwoman Lisa Nanton came up to speak about who can be members of the Arts Council. "There doesn't have to be an age limit or occupation restriction. We are just restructuring so that it does not have to include at least one teacher and one student on the Arts Council."

This upset Councilman Jelmin Caba who felt that there was a need to have at least two positions held by at least one teacher and one student. "We need to make sure we have in place that a person had to be involved in the arts. A lot of times students will join the Arts Council, but they feel that their voice is not being heard and they need an incentive to stay."

Another resolution that was discussed was R-261-6/17 - Authorizing submission of an application to the 2017 PetSafe Bark for Your Park Program.

CFO Jill Goldy came forward to shed some life on this resolution. She stated, "I am the one who wanted this on the agenda. I saw information about it at the League of Municipalities. This program is to support municipalities who will be building dog parks to help offset the cost.

I thought this would be good for the City."

Deputy Police Chief Larry Cattano came forward to answer a question pertaining to R-262-6/17 - A lease purchase agreement with Aspire for the purchase of body worn and vehicle mounted cameras for the PAPD in the amount of \$350,540.

Cattano stated, "This is a 6 year program. Under this agreement we can get new equipment in 3 years which will save the department money versus purchasing this equipment outright."

Resident Ken Balut came up to speak and inquired about the vital statistics pertaining to the Police Department. He asked Acting Law Director Peter King why his OPRA's have not been answered. "It seems that they have been lost. It's amazing." Balut also suggested that the Council check with Jersey City regarding R-262. "Everybody drives out of town to go home (Administration and Appointees). Councilmen Caba and Irizarry don't know where their campaign money is coming from. Now that Caba is Perth Amboy Democratic Chair, you have to be careful when voting on contracts that bidders might have given money to your campaign. Talking about Bridge PILOTs, you have to talk numbers to the public so the people can understand. By the time the school is built, it will be too small. Jobs coming in have very little employment for Perth Amboy residents."

Resident Stanley Sierakowski came up to speak. Addressing the Council he stated, "The lawyer is now the Assistant Law Director. Is that legal? The Bridge PILOT is 30 years. Read the Whereas Clauses - not 12 years. Look at Exhibit B. Money is being taken from the school and library."

Councilman Jelmin Caba an-

swered Sierakowski, "We are an Abbot District."

Stanley Sierakowski countered, "The first and second year of the Bridge PILOT are zero monies coming in."

Councilman Irizarry answered back, "Is that normal?"

Sierakowski countered, "I propose you don't take from the Board of Education budget. Take from the Mayor's budget."

Irizarry answered, "The Board of Education will not lose a dime."

Sierakowski then asked, "What is the duration of the financial agreement?"

King answered, "I have not reviewed the contract, yet. I am still the Acting Law Director."

Business Administrator Cruz had a comment to make, "You (the Council) have a letter stating that King is the Acting Law Director - not the Assistant Law Director."

Resident and Business Owner David Caba came up to speak. He wanted to know who was responsible for the part of Rector Street where the Landings is. "I eat, sleep and dine here."

Business Administrator Cruz responded, "I was here (in Perth Amboy) Saturday and Sunday until 11:30 p.m."

David Caba responded, "We want to move the City forward in a different direction. Someone tied to Trump has abandoned the City. They did not maintain their property. If I had as a citizen done the same, I would have been fined. We're going to reward a billionaire with 600 new rental units and give him a PILOT, too."

After Caba spoke, some members of the Perth Amboy Fire Department came up to speak pertaining to two communications on the agenda. They were disappointed at a Council Member who provided sensitive information to the media regard-

*Continued on Page 6

The Conflicts Continue

**Continued from Page 1*

cilman divulging personal information to the media about the death of Fire Chief Abraham Pitre.

Caba stated, "This individual was very human and whatever were the circumstances, you're not here to judge. After one of the Council Meetings, I had talked to Fire Chief Pitre and asked him where he lived. He responded, "I still live in the City." The Chief lived in the City and gave of his time. I knew I could count on him. The Fire Chief of the City of Perth Amboy lived on Charles Street - not on High and Rector Streets. I would like to get an extra minute to give a tribute to the Chief."

Before continuing, he addressed Councilman Fernando Gonzalez and said, "Did you say anything? I wasn't there. One thing, Mr. Gonzalez, I do respect that you always gave me extra time (when I request it) to speak at meetings. There should be more tributes to Pitre."

Resident Jeremy Baratta came up to speak next. He had a question about Fairview Insurance, "Where will they be saving us millions of dollars?"

B.A. Cruz responded, "The

rates will be cheaper. We will be getting 6 months of savings this year and next year. The Council will see it on the financial report. The surplus money will go into the general fund. Money is not budgeted, but kept in the surplus."

Deputy Police Chief Larry Cattano came up to give more information about the body-worn cameras. "The technology being used is called "Cloud" which is used to transmit data. The cameras will sit in a pouch on the Officer's uniform. There could be a transmission of data, but certain data cannot be showed under certain circumstances especially when it involves minors. Cell phones and data is restricted to certain individuals. There are 11 hours of continuous showing. It will also indicate how much battery time is left."

When it came time to vote on the agenda, R-247 and R-249 thru R-263 was moved by Councilman Fernando Irizarry and seconded by Councilman Jelmin Caba. The vote was unanimous "Yes."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez requested that R-248 be pulled for discussion before being voted on. He stated, "There seems to be one major reason for denial for handicapped

spaces. There may be two handicapped spaces already assigned per alternate sides of the street."

Deputy Chief Cattano came forward to answer. "There's a clause in the ordinance which limits handicapped spots, especially curb to curb. The space must be in front of the applicant's house. There is a mechanism in place in the ordinance if an applicant wishes to make an appeal."

Councilman Fernando Irizarry, who is also a member of the Handicapped Parking Committee said, "Decisions are based on the clause limiting the amount of handicapped spaces on one block."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez said, "I just want to make sure that these are not just blanket denials."

The motion was moved by Councilman Gonzalez and seconded by Councilman Irizarry

After the voting session was complete, the public came forward to speak.

Resident Jermy Baratta was not happy with Business Administrator's Adam Cruz's comments. Baratta stated, "I have been going to many meetings in other towns and I have never seen conduct such as what is exhibited by the Business Ad-

ministrator. He is angry and combative. He is disrespectful and it's disgusting to the Council and to the citizens. I am in awe of your (the Council) restraint. I have never ever seen anything like this. If he (B.A. Cruz) doesn't have an answer to a question, he should apologize. His job is to represent the administration. His attitude is representative of the administration. If he can't handle the job, he should go elsewhere."

Business Administrator Cruz waited before responding to these acousticians. Cruz said, "This is the portion for the public to speak."

Council President Bill Petrick told Cruz, "In the past, we have interacted with the audience when they ask questions."

Cruz then remarked, "Some people (when they come up to speak) mock and show disrespect to the Administration, Directors and experts who make presentations."

Council President Bill Petrick responded, "The audience can say what they want, as long as it's not profanity."

Resident Stanley Sierakowski talked about Resolution R-262 (Lease/Purchase Agreement with ASPIRE) for the purchase of Body Worn and Vehicle Mounted Cameras.

Sierakowski thought that the lease agreement was too long. "At the end of Year One, the Police Department should ask what equipment can be replaced."

Sierakowski then turned his attention to the request by speakers for extra time during the public portion/comments. "It should be by majority rule - not that if one Council Member says "No" the extra time is not given."

He also wanted to know if the current attorney (Peter King) asked for information from the past administrator about the Armory contract.

Resident Ken Balut came up to speak next. He asked, "The Police are calling me about problems (they are having). If the Council wants to make comments on what I say, please do so when I'm here. There's a file missing in Code Enforcement."

Acting Law Director Peter King responded, "Some departments lose files. For instance, if they change buildings."

Balut responded to Mr. King stating, "I want an answer about that lost file."

Balut continued, commenting about the \$1.7 million no-bid

**Continued on Page 6*

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

It Never Gets Old



I’ve loved seeing fireworks since I was a young child. However, I always watched them with my hands over my ears because I didn’t like the loud sound when they went off. As I grew older, the sound was a great accompaniment to the bright colorful skies being lit.

Looking around the Waterfront on Monday, July 3rd it was great to see the huge crowds that gathered to watch the Celebrate Our Stars and Stripes 2017 fireworks display.

One thing that the fireworks accomplish is it’s a great unifier. It unites people of all ages, and social and economic and ethnic backgrounds who gather to watch the show. After the fireworks as we were walking along the Waterfront and on the way home, strangers smiled and greeted at each other and saying, “Have a happy Fourth!”

It’s a testament that each year the crowd seems to be getting larger, and this we know for a fact. We can see large crowds at the Barge, Armory and Bayside Creamery which had a long line that extended to around 40 people waiting outside to buy ice cream.

Prior to the fireworks beginning, Celebrate Our Stars and Stripes Chair Barry Rosengarten had a prerecorded message in which he talked about the greatness of America. He reiterated the quote defining what a veteran is stating: “A veteran is someone who, at one point in their life wrote a blank check made payable to “The United States of America,” for an amount up to and including their life.” – Unknown

Truer words were never spoken.



The earlier weather forecast called for a thundershower around 8 p.m. but it never materialized and the fireworks went off without a hitch. You can tell by looking at the crowd that they were pleased watching the show.

Life is not perfect, and it will never be perfect. There will always be heartaches and in the past couple of months we have lost some very good people. But community events, such as the fireworks, or Family Day, Car Shows, etc. which can be enjoyed by all age groups, it’s a good thing. The upside is that events that attract outsiders that will spend money in your town can only be an economic boost. I’ve looked at other towns that have similar events and they’ve drawn humongous crowds. That’s why they keep those events going.

I just wish that when they have events to honor our service personnel who are fighting for our freedom, that they would draw crowds as huge as they were for the fireworks display. It is those men and women who are the real bright stars, not only of that night, but what they do for us every single day so we can have the freedom that we are able to enjoy. *C.M.*

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

“The View” or “My View”

God bless President Trump and his family. It appears that he rises above all those vile, disrespectful negative comments that the “in crowd” now calls journalism. It seems that their only joy in life is to join this vicious insulting vendetta against our president. Donald J. Trump is the President of the United States. Hillary lost. Get over it.

I was told to watch “The View” on TV. Wow! What a bunch of angry women filled with venom and hatred for President Trump. These women have suddenly become po-

litical experts who comment on everything taking place in Washington and the White House. When did they become so knowledgeable about how to run the Country? They seem to outdo each other run the Country? They seem to outdo each other with some confidential info that only they have.

Whoopie Goldberg is the leader with Joy Behar making remarks about #45 (they do not want to mention the President’s name) doing something stupid. The only stupid thing is this program with the stupid audience applauding on cue. If they’re so unhappy, leave. No one will miss them or their program which is stale and

played out.
By the way, didn’t Whoopie say, “If Trump wins, I’m leaving U.S.” He won. She’s still here. Whoopie, do you need help to pack? Call me. I’ll help you.

These ladies are not alone in this low class bashing of our President. Steven Colbert, Kathy Griffin and others join them. They should be ashamed of themselves.

Don’t worry about terrorists or ISIS or North Korea. We have met the enemy and they are these so-called Americans who earn a living by insulting and degrading our President.

Mary Vargo

What Do You Think? Send Us a Response!

Dog Therapy Training Course

PERTH AMBOY - Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center is offering a five session Dog Therapy Training Course Fridays, July 28, through August 25, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy. This course will teach you to be a safe handler and train your dog to provide therapy for patients. The cost is \$120.00, testing fees are additional. Please contact Marie atmcolasanti@comcast.net for more information and to register.

Healthy Heart Event

PERTH AMBOY - Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center, is holding a healthy heart event providing free education about dehydration, chronic heart conditions, medication management and blood pressure screenings and heart rate testing Thursday, July 13, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Lower Level, Perth Amboy, NJ. High blood pressure and irregular heart rate is associated with stroke, heart failure, heart attack and other life-threatening conditions. Take advantage of these screenings and education to maintain a healthy heart.

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.

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EXPUNGEMENT INFORMATION SESSION

When: Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Where: Alexander F. Jankowski Community Center , 1 Olive St., Perth Amboy

Time: 6:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact the City of Perth Amboy, Office of Housing and Social Services, 732-826-4300.

Presenters include: NJ Reentry Corporation, Legal Services of NJ and One Stop Career Center.

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Historic
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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

TUES. Jul. 11 BID, 4 p.m.
City Hall, High St.
Library Board of Trustees, 5 p.m.
Library, Jefferson St.
WED. Jul. 12 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.

South Amboy

WED. Jul. 19 City Council, Business, 6 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway
WED. Jul. 19 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway

Attend Public Meetings
Have Your Voice Heard!

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

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.

The Conflicts Continue

**Continued from Page 3*

contract. "I put in an OPRA Request. There's no paperwork."

Council President Bill Petrick responded, "That's the Goldberg Property."

Balut then continued to talk, "You've had the OPRA Request for three months. People are afraid to talk, because they are afraid of harassment by Code Enforcement."

Council President Petrick then requested that Acting Attorney King get information on the missing files and where they might be and what happened to them."

King responded, "It's with the Economic Development Office in the County."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez spoke up, "The people who were involved with this property are still employed by the City."

Balut continued, "I've got two C/O's. One has two signatures and a stamp; the other one has one signature, but no stamp. I was a Police Officer in the City for 25 years and I still live here. Your campaign (Irizarry and Caba) hired someone who had a huge campaign violation."

Councilman Irizarry responded and asked if the Engineer can come back.

King responded, "The County has to be ORPRA'd for what he (Balut) was asking for."

Resident Sharon Hubberman spoke next, "There's a horrible stench of sewage throughout the City. What's going on with the sewage and water system? I did an OPRA request. We need to get our Administration paperwork in order. I've been going to other Faulkner Towns to see how they run their meetings. They show detailed item lists on their budgets and ask if

there were any public comments. This shows transparency. We don't have any numbers that shows savings. You (the Council) have the voice to hold the Administration accountable."

Resident David Caba came up to speak. He asked, "Who owns the part of Rector Street near the Landings and who maintains the roads? For the 80,000 people in our City, can we get the Redevelopment Attorney here to answer questions and put him under oath?"

Council President Petrick answered, "We can request that the Redevelopment Attorney be here at our next Meeting."

Caba continued, "I've been coming here for the last 7 meetings and I still haven't gotten an answer as to who owns that part of Rector Street. The Mayor went to New York to a wedding to get businesses to come here. Did we get any? Do we have any Chaplains who are from Lakewood? I hope what happened in Lakewood doesn't trickle down to here. Trump should build a wall around Lakewood."

After Caba sat down, Resident Herschel Chomsky came up to speak. He was very upset when he said he hadn't intended to speak at the Meeting, but he found it very insulting about the comments made by the last person who just spoke, "Especially when he said they should build a wall around Lakewood. All those that were accused are innocent until found otherwise. If they are guilty, then I agree they should be punished. My late father was a Rabbi and was very well respected in this town. Everybody should not be judged by a few."

Still Not Satisfied

**Continued from Page 3*

ing the late Fire Chief Abraham Pitre.

Ken Fedles, President of Local 286 came up to speak. He stated, "It was a difficult time for us (in the PAFD). We are mourning the loss of Abraham Pitre. There was an active investigation going on and we were disappointed about Councilman Gonzalez leaking sensitive information to the press."

Firefighter Brian Bonilla said, "These are all my brothers and sisters. I thought better of you to divulge this information. I have respect for you (Gonzalez), but you owe us and Abraham's family an apology. We need a written apology for us and everyone who loved Abraham."

During the Council Comments, Jelmin Caba spoke first. He stated, "Resident Balut always comes here disrespecting

the Police and then he leaves the Meeting. I never took money from any of these companies (that Balut talks about)."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez addressed the firemen that were present, "As for all of you that are here, you know that you are all my friends. I am also concerned about Abraham's legacy. My wife was his High School Counselor. I never said that (what was quoted in the media). I apologize to every member."

Acting Fire Chief Ed Mullen said, "We're going to move forward and I accept your apology."

Councilman Irizarry wanted to let everyone know that he never votes on contracts based on campaign contributions. "Anyone can go to the election board to see who contributed to my campaign."

Directors of Perth Amboy's Business Improvement District Select Junel Hutchinson as the Organization's Manager

News Release 7/7/17

PERTH AMBOY – The Board of Directors of Perth Amboy's Business Improvement District (BID) have selected Junel Hutchinson to serve as the organization's Manager. Director Jorge Cruz chaired the BID's Selection Committee, which reviewed applications from candidates who were seeking the leadership position. The Selection Committee recommended appointing Ms. Hutchinson, and during a recent meeting the BID's Board unanimously voted in the new BID Manager.

Mayor Wilda Diaz, who serves on the BID Board, supported the Directors' selection of Ms. Hutchinson, who has lived in Perth Amboy for close to three decades. Ms. Hutchinson will also function as the City's Urban Enterprise Zone (UEZ) Coordinator, and she will immediately begin both of her new responsibilities.

Ms. Hutchinson is taking over responsibilities for the BID and UEZ that had been ably managed by Roxana Troche, who is retiring. Ms. Troche was the BID's Executive Director and UEZ Coordinator for more than eight years. For over 27 years, she also held a range of administrative and managerial positions in

city government that involved serving residents, businesses and the community at large.

In announcing Ms. Hutchinson's selection, Mayor Diaz said, "Junel has served our community as a responsible director on the BID's board, active participant in service clubs, and a leader of local nonprofit organizations. She is a knowledgeable and dedicated professional who possesses a positive personality and is known as a flexible, smart and open-minded manager."

Ms. Hutchinson's responsibilities will include managing the BID's day-to-day operations as well as providing overall administration and financial management.

BID Chairman Barry Rosen Garten welcomed Ms. Hutchinson by saying, "Junel helped our City as a highly motivated, hardworking, innovative and engaged director on the BID board. We are fortunate to have an incoming Manager who has exceptional abilities, a solid understanding of the BID's role and positive relationships with leaders in Perth Amboy, across Middlesex County and beyond."

Ms. Hutchinson joins the BID from her position as Director of Admissions & Marketing and Assistant Adminis-



Junel Hutchinson

trator of the Alameda Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Hutchinson joined the former Perth Amboy Nursing Home as Director of Admissions. Her administrative skills flourished over the next few years, and she was promoted to Assistant Administrator at former AristaCare at Alameda Center.

Previously, Ms. Hutchinson earned an Associates in Business Administration from Philip Junior College. She resides in Perth Amboy, and her daughter, I-Asia, attends the Nursing School at Universal Training Institute, which is also in the City.

Concerts By The Bay, Inc. Penny Rocker, Executive Director

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY - The Garden State Symphonic Band, under the direction of Chris Pedersen, will once again perform a series of Sunday afternoon, free to the public, outdoor band concerts at Bayview Park in Perth Amboy. The newly renovated scenic little park is located on Water Street at the foot of Market Street and sits on a bluff overlooking the Arthur Kill, Staten Island and the Raritan Bay.

This Sunday's concert will present an eclectic selection of music by John Philip Sousa, Irving Berlin, Ferde Grofe, Leroy Anderson & others. Baritone, Rick Bossman, will perform "God Bless America," "That Lucky Old Sun," "This Is My Country," and "Sixteen Tons."

Subsequent concerts will each feature a different vocalist and a complete program of music drawn from the music

drawn from some of the greatest composers.

The weekly concerts take place from 3:00 till 5:00 P.M. every Sunday, rain or shine, from July 9 through August 27. As permanent seating at Bayview Park is limited, concert goers are advised to bring lawn chairs or blankets. While the normal setting for the concerts is Bayview Park, inclement weather (temperatures over 88 degrees, or rain) will cause the concert being moved to the air conditioned Wilentz School, 51, 1st Street, Perth Amboy.

These concerts, a continuation of more than a 50-year tradition, are sponsored by Concerts by the Bay, Inc. which is made up of a group of civic-minded music lovers who devote much of their time, totally without pay, to raising the funds needed to present these concerts. Each concert costs between \$7,000 and \$8,000.

While some of the necessary

funding is provided by the Music Performance Funds, the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Perth Amboy Office of Community Development, and a few corporate benefactors, Concerts by the Bay has had to rely to a greater degree for the past several years on individual contributors. With much of local management and control of area banks and industry having been lost due to their merging with larger organizations, much of the major funding for these concerts has completely disappeared or been drastically reduced.

Music lovers who would like to help support this project and ensure the full 8 - 10 concert season, may send contributions to: Concerts By The Bay, Inc. (a non-profit corporation), c/o Dr. J. Santamaria, III, Chairman, 104 Market Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861.

Vitale Offers Bill to Expand Transparency, Accountability at Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield

Compromise agreement would maintain goals of required financial reporting, additional public board members and responsible use of excess reserves

Press Release 7/3/17

TRENTON - Senator Joseph F. Vitale today offered legislation that would expand transparency and accountability by Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, the state's only nonprofit health services corporation, by requiring enhanced financial reporting, adding two public members to the company board, and setting a cap on the insurance company's reserves. "I am pleased that we have reached agreement on legislation that will ensure greater transparency and accountability by Horizon to its policyholders and the public," said Senator Vitale (D-Middlesex). "I said from the very beginning that I wanted to bring Horizon to the table for open discussions. I am happy that we can now implement this vital reform legislation, pass a budget that funds our social service and education priorities, and ends the government shutdown."

Agreement on the compromise legislation was reached after Senate President Steve Sweeney (D-Gloucester) invited Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto (D-Hudson) and Horizon CEO Bob Marino to meet with him and Senator Vitale to work out an agreement on Horizon reform legislation to end the budget impasse.

"I would like to thank Senate President Sweeney for his leadership, and Speaker Prieto and CEO Marino for their willingness to work with us to achieve a compromise," Senator Vitale said.

Senator Vitale, the chairman of the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Services Committee, said the reform legislation, S-2, is patterned after the reforms contained in the bill he introduced last Monday. The bill would:

- Establish an appropriate

range of reserves for Horizon requiring a minimum of 550% of Risk-Based Capital reserves and a "hard cap" maximum of 725%, sufficient to cover claims for all of its policyholders in the event of a catastrophic medical emergency such as superstorm Sandy when regular premium payments from policyholders were delayed.

- Require the state Department of Banking and Insurance to commission independent annual audits to determine Horizon's reserve level, which would be paid for by Horizon.

- Set up a process for Horizon to submit a plan to the Department of Banking and Insurance to determine how excess reserves above the 725% level should be used to reduce future policyholder premiums or otherwise benefit policyholders.

- Require the appointment of two additional public members with a background in healthcare, finance or insurance to the Horizon board -- one each by the Senate President and the Assembly Speaker -- bringing the total board membership to 17, including 11 currently appointed by Horizon and four by the Governor.

- Require the Department of Banking and Insurance to establish requirements for health services corporations to provide detailed financial reporting information, including executive compensation, to be posted on the department website.

"This legislation establishes appropriate limits for Horizon's reserve, which comes out of the pocket of policyholders, and a process to allocate any excess reserve funds to the benefit of policyholders," said Senator Vitale. "It provides greater transparency so that consumers know exactly how much their insurer

spends and for what purpose. In addition, it creates greater public oversight by adding two more public members to the Horizon board.

"Equally important is what this bill does not do," he said. "It will not raise premiums for Horizon customers. It will not take away anyone's health insurance. And it will not give any governor the power to take millions of dollars in Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield reserves to pay for state programs. The bill specifically states that no determination on Horizon's reserves would be made until April 1, 2018 -- after a new governor takes office."

Senator Vitale said S-2 - like his previous bill - was modeled after Pennsylvania regulations that established a range of reserves for the four Blue Cross Blue Shield companies operating in that state, and noted that Massachusetts and other states have adopted similar percentage caps on Blue Cross Blue Shield reserves to protect policyholders against companies building up unnecessarily large reserves out of the pockets of policyholders. In 2016, according to Horizon, the company carried a 620% reserve, sufficient to pay 75 days of policyholder claims.

Senate President Sweeney thanked Senator Vitale for his leadership role in developing the Horizon reform legislation.

"I asked Joe Vitale to take the lead role in developing the Horizon legislation because of his integrity, expertise and commitment to developing healthcare policies that are in the best interest of the people of New Jersey. Once again, he has performed commendably in balancing complex and competing policy interests for the betterment of our state," Senator Sweeney said.

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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.

Exploring Law Enforcement

NEW JERSEY - Get your hands on the challenging field of Law Enforcement. Law Enforcement Exploring offers young men and women ages 15-20 the chance to experience law enforcement career opportunities. For information about scouting contact Will C. Adams Office# - 973-765-9322 ext. 234; Cell# - 732-540-5936 or email: will.adams@scouting.org Join Now!

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

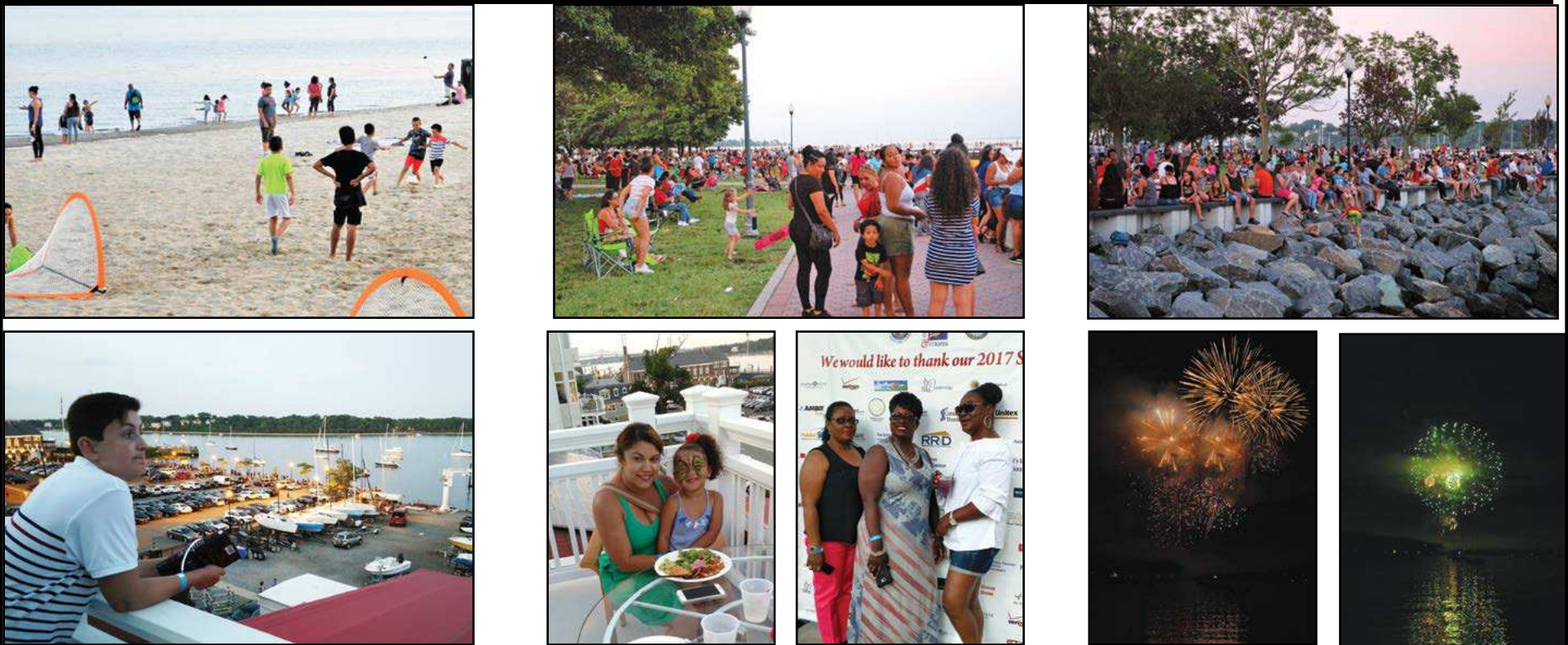
The Kearny Cottage Historical Society is Looking for Old Photos and Documents of Perth Amboy, South Amboy, Woodbridge, Fords, etc. (Local Area)

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

For more info please call 732-293-1090

Independence Day Celebration Fireworks 7/3/17 Sadowski Parkway, Perth Amboy

*Photos by Paul W. Wang & Katherine Massopust



Independence Day Party Olive Street Community Center Perth Amboy 7/3/17

*Photos by Bob Ned



Happy Independence Day!

Independence Day Ringing of the Liberty Bell, City Hall Circle, Perth Amboy 7/4/17

*Photos by Paul W. Wang



MAYOR'S CONCERT SERIES

JULY 6
THE ROLLBACKS
Latin Jazz & Rock & Roll

JULY 13
GRUPO WARACHANDO
Salsa, Merengue, & Bachata

JULY 20th
BRANDYWINE ROAD

JULY 27th
SHAMAN, Santana Tribute Band

AUGUST 3rd
VICTOR QUEZADA
and His Latin Jazz Band

AUGUST 10th
PRINCESSA, Pop Rock

AUGUST 17th
THE CATHEDRAL INTL
GOSPEL SINGERS

AUGUST 24th
KAROE NIGHT

Every Sunday in Bayview Park
CONCERTS BY THE BAY
by the Garden State
Symphonic Band
July 9th - August 27th at 3:00 p.m.
Rain Location:
Robert N. Wilentz Elementary School, 51 First St.



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THE HONORABLE MAYOR WILDA DIAZ

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IN PERTH AMBOY

Every Thursday
in July & August
Bayview Park
6:30pm - 8:00pm



For More Information or a full-listing of events visit:
www.ci.perthamboy.nj.us

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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GUIDELINES
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1. Filmmakers must be of high school or college age

- Priority given to Middlesex County residents
- Include contact information including email and phone number

2. Filmmakers selected to exhibit English language films. Spanish language films will have English sub-titles for English-only speaking audience

- Types of films: Feature films, Short films, Documentaries, Web-series, Pilots, Music videos and Animation
- Subject Matter: Films that portray the culture of the Latino community

3. Quicktime files or dvd only

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: July 14th

MAIL TO: La Casa de Cultura y Educacion
315 Smith Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

This program is made possible in part by funds from the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders/ Office of Culture & Heritage and the NJ State Council on the Arts/Department of State.



twitter.com/LaCasaDeArtNJ/
facebook.com/LaCasaDeArtNJ/

Kearny Cottage Historical Association

Berry Festival

Saturday, July 15th
Flea Market - \$10 per space
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Rain Date July 22nd

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
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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.

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.

Amboy Bank Provides Safe and Secure Living Environments for Seniors in the Community
**Photo Submitted*

News Release
SOUTH AMBOY - Amboy Bank recently joined CRA Partners to help vulnerable seniors by funding the Senior Crimestoppers program to protect those who live and work in senior facilities like the Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center in South Amboy.

CRA Partners, powered by the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation, is a national organization that assists banks through the operation of the turn-key Senior Crimestoppers program providing safe and secure living environments for our nation's low to moderate income seniors. Through flexible funding options, such as community development loans, investments or grants, banks provide the program in senior housing facilities, HUD communities and state Veterans homes.

Crime against the elderly in our society is a longstanding, constant battle that can be reduced and prevented through the operation of the Senior Crimestoppers program in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Senior Crimestoppers is a coordinated set of components



Photo Release
SOUTH AMBOY - Stanley Koreyva, Amboy Bank President, presents Bob Reyes, Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center Administrator, with a Senior Crimestoppers Charter plaque. Others in attendance (from left to right) were Kristine LaVigna, Field Representative, and George Clinard, Vice President of the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation, as well as John McWeeney, President and CEO of NJ Bankers, and Gregory Scharpf, Executive Vice President and Chief Retail Officer of Amboy Bank.

Founded in 1888, Amboy Bank is a full-service commercial bank with assets of \$2.4 billion and 23 offices in central New Jersey. Amboy has been voted Best Bank in Central Jersey for 19 years in row.

that work together to create a zero tolerance to crime platform in senior housing facilities.

Amboy Bank President, Stanley Koreyva, stated, "Amboy Bank is pleased to have partnered with Venetian Care & Rehabilitation to bring the seniors in our community this Senior Crimestoppers charter presentation. Seniors, especially those in nursing homes,

can be more vulnerable to crime, and Amboy is happy to help in providing them security and peace of mind."

Founded in 1888, Amboy Bank is a full-service commercial bank with assets of \$2.4 billion and 23 offices in central New Jersey. Amboy has been voted Best Bank in Central Jersey for 19 years in row.

Amboy Bank Presents \$1,000 Checks to Science Fair Winners
**Photo Submitted*



News Release
FREEHOLD - Amboy Bank's Vice President and Marketing Manager, Sylvia Rapoport, presents three \$1,000 checks to the winners of the first annual iPlay America Science Fair. The science fair, presented by Amboy Bank, was held on Sunday, June 11th in Freehold, NJ. Out of over 50 students, three first place prize winners each received a \$1,000 check presented by Amboy Bank, a trophy and a \$500 iPlay America gift card.

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.

Author Daniel Mark Epstein Visits Proprietary House 6/30/17
**Photo by Anton Massopust III*



PERTH AMBOY - "An Evening with Daniel Mark Epstein," who authored a new book on the Franklins: "The Loyal Son, the War in Ben Franklin's House." Appearing on the book's jacket cover is Proprietary House's portrait of William Franklin. Epstein spoke and signed books to an attentive audience.

Office of Vital Statistics Hours Extended

Press Release
PERTH AMBOY - Mayor Wilda Diaz is pleased to announce that effective Thursday, July 13th, the Office of Vital Statistics has extended their usual Thursday operating hours to better serve the public. The Office of Vital Statistics, located at the Alexander F. Jankowski Community Center at 1 Olive Street, is open from 9:00AM to 5:00PM from Monday-Friday and will now be open from 9:00AM to 8:00PM every Thursday.

The Office of Vital Statistics is tasked with keeping records of all Births, Marriages, Civil Unions, Domestic Partnerships, and Deaths occurring in the City of Perth Amboy. In addition, they make corrections to Vital Records and are responsible for the licensing of food establishments. For the current fees for any of the services rendered by the Vital Statistics Office or more information, please contact the Office directly at (732) 826-0549.

Free Gardening Education Event

PERTH AMBOY - Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center's Integrative Health Services team is providing a free gardening education event in The Learning Garden, Thursday, July 13, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Raritan Bay - Perth Amboy, 530 New Brunswick Ave. Learn the basics of gardening, including container gardening, and the importance of healthy produce and proper nutrition through hands-on and interactive education. Children, adults, families or community groups welcome. Come with your garden questions and/or photos or samples of plants for discussion. Garden-side food preparation demo events, using garden produce, will also be held. Events are held weather permitting and registration is required. For more information and to register, call 732-324-5257 or email integrativehealth@hackensack-meridian.org.

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.

Beautiful Beginnings: Accelerated CB Prep Class

PERTH AMBOY - Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center, is providing a free Beautiful Beginnings: Accelerated CB Prep class, Wednesday, July 26, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ. A Certified Child Birth Educator/ registered nurse with special training in labor, delivery and infant care will facilitate the class. The class is intended for those who already have children and need a refresher or for those with limited time. Registration required, call 1-800-DOCTORS (1-800-362-8677) and reference zip code 08861.

Code Enforcement Agent Resigns

PERTH AMBOY - Lance Nelson who has been an employee of the City of Perth Amboy since 1998 has been accused of receiving social security benefits of a deceased great aunt who he shared a joint banking account with. The social security administration was not aware of her death until recently. Those benefits were transferred to a joint account held by the great aunt and Nelson. Around \$52,000 was transferred to the joint account to Nelson's personal account.

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

Movie Review: Spiderman: Homecoming

By: Anton Massopust III
“Peter, you know what I'm talking about! You back off or I'll kill you and everyone else you love”
- the Vulture

Spider-Man takes on his arch enemy the vulture and another crew of bad guys. “Spider-Man: Homecoming” takes place after the events of Captain America Civil War.

Spider-Man returns home with the costume that Tony Stark made him and Iron Man tells him that he is not an Avenger yet, but he should stick close to the ground and be a friendly neighborhood Spider-Man. Peter must deal with regular life as well as balancing being a superhero. When his best friend, Ned finds out that Peter is Spider-Man, they team up to work on things together. Peter finds out that a group of bad guys are using high-tech weapons that have been pillaged from Avengers battles, but no one seems to believe him. Peter sacrifices attending regular social engagements in high

school to track down the leader of this group.

Adrian Toomes a.k.a. the Vulture is using all this high-tech weaponry to steal so that his family can have everything they want. The Vulture believes that the rich and powerful do not care about the little guy. Spider-Man takes on the Vulture and gets beaten up. Spiderman must rescue people, but eventually with the help of Iron Man, he was able to fight the forces of evil without his high-tech suit. Tony Stark eventually takes the suit away from Spiderman who must learn to be a hero without it.

I would have to take apart this movie into several pieces. If you are a big Spider-Man fan like I am, you'll pull it apart and nitpick through it. If you're just the average moviegoer, you will enjoy the action adventure part, but you might feel like you're in the middle of the kid's movie. Disney and Sony have made this movie geared up for younger viewers.

The acting is superb and the new Spider-Man (Tom Hol-

land) is great. He captures the younger Spider-Man's problems including going out with girls that are out of his league. When Peter Parker should really be concentrating on his studies, he chooses to work on his superhero skills. Michael Keaton is terrific as Adrian Toomes (the Vulture) who gives more depth to the Vulture than the comics. In the comics, the Vulture is an old man obsessed with youth and stealing from the young. Keaton's portrayal is more interested in trying to provide for his family and make him more of a down-to-earth villain so the audience can sympathize with the Vulture. We also get appearances by the Shocker and the Tinkerer, one of the Vultures minions.

The special effects are great. Spider-Man leaps from tall buildings including the Washington Monument. We see what Spiderman does when there are no tall buildings around such as in the suburbs. This movie has a lot of good stuff and some stuff that Spi-



der-Man fans may not like. The filmmakers are more inspired by the Ultimate Spider-Man Series which concentrated on a young Spiderman.

The movie moves fast and there are plenty of swift moving action. Take the kids and

enjoy the Robert Downey Jr. as Iron Man. It's one of the better Spider-Man movies, but it's a good introduction to this new Marvel Universe, a new Spiderman for a new generation.

Bookmark Coloring Contest @

Dowdell Library

Press Release 7/7/17
SOUTH AMBOY - Enter the library's bookmark coloring contest and have a chance to win a gift card! Just note how the library is your friend, how the library has helped you, or how you can be a friend to the library.

There are four age categories: Children (Grades 1-5), Tweens (Grades 6-8), Teens (Grades 9-12), and Adults. Winners in each age category will receive gift cards from the Dowdell Library and have their creations reproduced on bookmarks.

Bookmarks and contest forms can be picked up in the library during normal business hours. Forms and bookmarks must be returned to the library before Friday August 18, 2017. Winners will be announced Thursday, August 24 at the Summer Prize Party.

To learn about upcoming library programs, sign up for the monthly eNewsletter at <http://dowdell.org/newslettersignup.html>

The Dowdell Library's summer hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10 am to 8 pm, Wednesday and Friday from 10 am to 5 pm. For more information, please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org.

Out of This World Programs @ Dowdell Library

Press Release 7/1/17
SOUTH AMBOY - Stop by the Dowdell Library for out of this world programs including a Planetarium Dome, Pop/Punk Rock Band, Celebrity Storytime, Bookmark Contest and fun Summer Activities for ages 0-100.

Come join us on Monday, July 10 from 6-8 pm for a night under the stars and enter our 16' high planetarium dome as we view constellations and learn about the upcoming solar eclipse happening this August 2017! Fun for ages 0-100, limited seating!

Teens! Drop in for live music as we present Someday Far Rock Band on Monday, July 17 from 7-8:30 pm. This pop/punk band consists of Leo, Bryan, Pepi and Matty. Straight Outta Jersey. We'll also have some BBQ treats for club members, so don't forget to join before the event!

Stop in for a story and snack with PTO President Nikki Navarra for Celebrity Storytime sponsored by Chipotle on Thursday, July 27 from 3:30-5 pm.

Design a bookmark this Summer! Just tell us in a few words how the library is your

friend, how the library has helped you, how librarians are your friends, or how you can be a friend to the library. Prize categories include: Children Grades 1-5, Children Grades 6-8, Young Adults Grades 9-12 and Adults. Winners will receive gift cards from Walmart and have their creations reproduced on bookmarks distributed in the library in the Fall.

Join the Summer Clubs for Kids, Teens & Adults, and learn how you can win weekly prizes. At the end of the summer, club members will have a chance to win a grand prize, which will be awarded at the End of Summer Party in August.

To learn about upcoming library programs, sign up for the monthly eNewsletter at <http://dowdell.org/newslettersignup.html>

The Dowdell Library's Summer hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 10 am to 8 pm, Wednesday and Friday from 10 am to 5 pm. For more information, please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org.

Ocean Grove Welcomes Multiple Grammy Winner, Bill Gaither & Gaither Vocal Band



Press Release 7/5/17
ALEXANDRIA, IN - On Saturday, July 15, 2017 at the Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove, NJ, multi-Grammy Award-winner Bill Gaither will host a spectacular evening of music, laughter and encouragement featuring the talent of the prestigious Gaither Vocal Band.

Named ASCAP's Songwriters of the Century, Bill and Gloria Gaither have written more than 700 popular gospel songs throughout their multi-decade career, including favorite standards “He Touched Me,” “Because He Lives,” and “There's Just Something About That Name.” Since 1992, when Gaither began recording the celebrated Homecoming series of DVDs and CDs, most every volume has gone gold or platinum with sales totaling approximately 100 million volumes. The programs appear regularly on television networks around the world.

This evening with the Gaither Vocal Band at the Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove, NJ, will celebrate timeless themes of faith, unity and eternal hope through a variety of music the whole family will enjoy. The concert will begin at 6:00pm. Complete information, including ticket pricing and group ticket information, is available by calling 732-776-4015 or 732-557-0035, ext 105 or visiting www.gaither.com or www.premierproductions.com. To charge tickets by phone, please call 1-800-590-4064. Tickets are also available online at www.oceangrove.org or www.premierproductions.com. *Photo Submitted

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

***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.*

German forces capture the town of Rossosh, in Russia, on July 10, 1942, cutting the Moscow-Rostov rail line and establishing a bridgehead on the east bank of the River Don.

Rommel's forces are stalemated before El Alamein on July 11, largely because of ammunition shortages. Allied convoy PQ-17 finally reaches Russia after losing 24 of its original 35 ships, the worst convoy loss of the war. Stalin voices his suspicion that the British have fabricated the losses to avoid delivering promised supplies to the U.S.S.R. RAF Lancaster bombers fly 1,750 miles — their farthest sortie of the war so far — to bomb German shipyards at Danzig.

Stalin begins moving massive numbers of troops into the Stalingrad area on July 12. Marshal of the Soviet Union Semyon Timoshenko is placed in overall command of the new Stalingrad Front. Soviet general Andrey Vlasov, who has been hiding in German-held territory since his force was defeated defending Leningrad on July 2, is betrayed by a local farmer and captured by the Germans. During captivity, he will switch sides and collaborate with the Nazis, proclaiming that Joseph Stalin is the greatest enemy of the Russian people.

On July 13, Hitler, judging the movement on Stalingrad as being too slow, relieves Field Marshal Fedor von Bock as commander of Army Group B, to be replaced by Gen. Maximilian von Weichs. Hitler assigns Colonel-General Friedrich von Paulus's Sixth Army the operational objective of capturing Stalingrad.

The Vichy government on July 14 refuses a U.S. offer to move nine warships of the French fleet to an American, neutral or Martinique port to prevent their seizure by the Axis. A large crowd gathers illegally in Marseille, Vichy France, to celebrate the national holiday Bastille Day. Two women are shot by police trying to disperse the assemblage. A working committee of the Indian National Congress adopts a resolution demanding British withdrawal from India but denies any intention of embarrassing the Allied war effort.

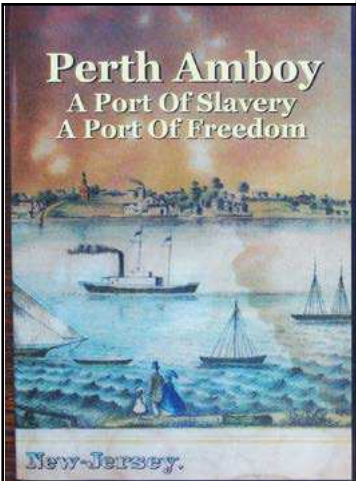
On July 15, there is light skirmishing around El Alamein, Egypt. On Akutan, in the Aleutian Islands, a U.S. salvage crew recovers intact a Japanese Mitsubishi Zero fighter plane that had crash-landed there. Extensive study of the still-airworthy plane allows aeronautical designers and strategists to devise ways to defeat the speedy, agile Zero, the primary — and formidable — fighter of the Imperial Japanese Navy. In Europe, the first 2,000 Jews are deported from the Netherlands to Auschwitz, in Poland, by German authorities.

On orders from the Vichy government, French police on July 16 and 17 arrest 13,152 Jews, including over 4,000 children. They are incarcerated under conditions of severe deprivation in an indoor bicycle velodrome stadium near the Eiffel Tower for several days, then shipped off to Auschwitz for extermination. In North Africa, the British XXX Corps captures a key ridge west of El Alamein, Egypt. In Washington, the government severs diplomatic relations with Finland.

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

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.

**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, August 3, 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 – A trip to the Resorts Casino in Atlantic City will be held on Wed. July 26, 2017. Cost \$30 pp.; \$25 back in slot play. Bus will depart from behind St. Stephens Church parking lot on Mechanic Street at 9:30 a.m. Call Bobbi to reserve a seat: 732-636-2867.



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.

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. !!!!

Pet of the Week



This is Buster he is a very patriotic pup and likes hanging out with his friends. Amy

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.

**Cruise Nights
on Broadway**

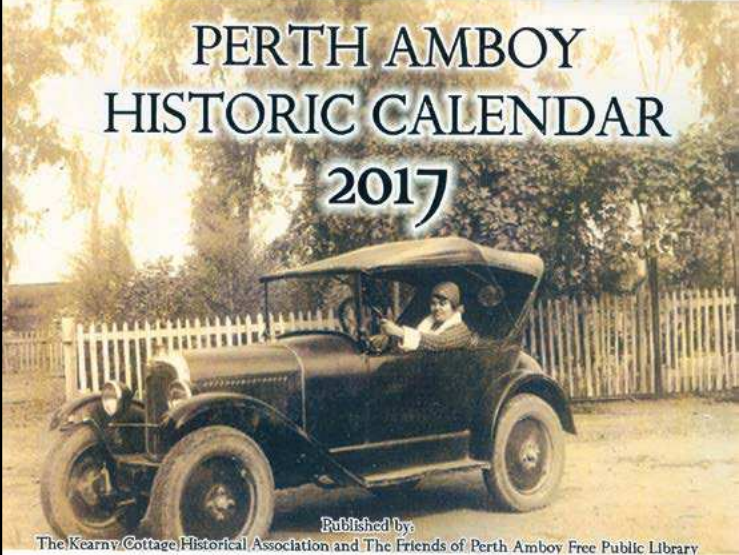
SOUTH AMBOY - Come join DJ Richie, The Flash and Crew for great cruise nights the third Wednesday of every month from June to October from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Music from the 50's to the 80's Trophies will be awarded - Bring the Family! For additional information please contact carshowsRus@gmail.com or Mike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



**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.

**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.

Live Music

PERTH AMBOY - Live Music every Saturday Night at 8 p.m. at Al Cibelli's Night Club, 1096 Convery Blvd., Perth Amboy. 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.

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.*

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 **M.A.P.**

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail)
O Most Beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee *(3 times)*. Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands *(3 times)*. *Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. You must publish it, and it will be granted to you. A.M.A.*

Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 15



Remember to
Say Your
Novenas!

LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - School Patrols 1953

**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.*

Senior Scene

Happenings

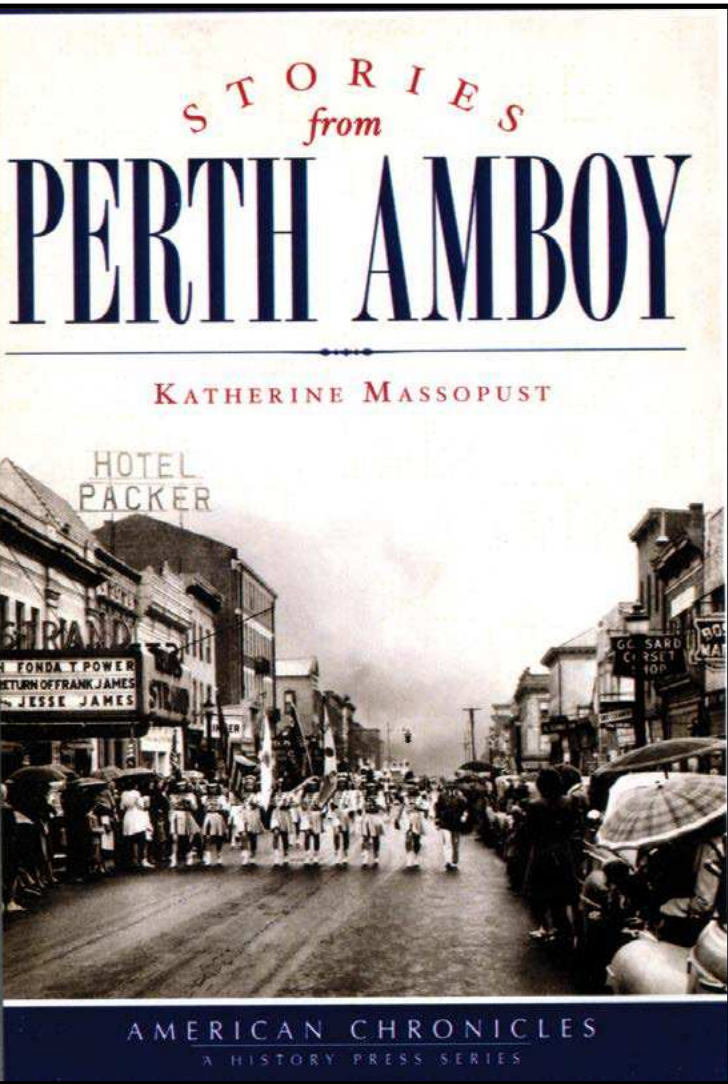
Perth Amboy

- TUES. Jul. 11 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. Jul. 12 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. Jul. 13 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- MON. Jul. 17 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- THURS. Jul. 20 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

- MON. Jul. 24 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.
- MON. Aug. 7 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- WED. Aug. 9 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.

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



Stories From Perth Amboy

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

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Call Carolyn @ 732-896-4446

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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Entertainment Center \$75; Man's Bicycle \$50; 2 camp chairs \$8 each. 732-254-5640 Between 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Exerciser - Tony Little's Gazelle Freestyle Elite \$75 or B.O. 732-570-5199	Hess Toy Trucks Monster and Tanker 5 \$12 Each - 732-915-1977
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How to Publish a Novena

If you wish to publish a Novena in The Amboy Guardian, you may use this coupon.

A Petition to
St. Joseph

Cost \$10.
Pre-payment required.

A Petition to
St. Jude

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

Name _____

Address _____

Phone_(____) _____

Initials at end of prayer_____

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

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

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

Prayer To St. Clare

For Employment

Prayer To St. Jude

Prayer To Blessed Mother

Prayer To Holy Spirit

Novena To St. Anthony

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

Thanksgiving Novena

Novena To St. Joseph

St. Jude Novena

Pray The Rosary

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Use this space for 10 words or less to sell your small household items that are too inexpensive to advertise. The Amboy Guardian will print your classified and help you sell those items. Merchandise must be used and not new items for sale items. Please send one ad per family per week.

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Christenings, Communion Parties and
Baby or Wedding Showers

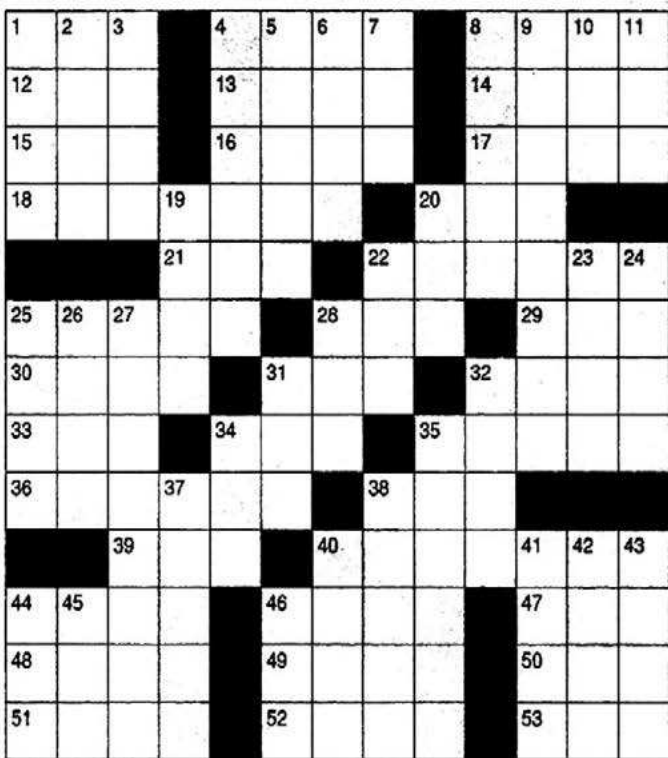
VERY REASONABLE RATES

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8/23

Across

1. ____ There Be Stars
4. Rights-protecting gp.
8. June 6, 1944 (hyph.)
12. Be in debt
13. Impertinent girl
14. Give a grade from 1 to 10
15. Thief
actress Whitman
16. Cold Sassy ____
17. The Wire baddie
Barksdale
18. Data, for one
20. Nintendo
game system
21. Treasury Dept. org.
22. Talk show
host Howie
25. Julia Child and
Emeril, e.g.
28. Pester
29. ____ Lanka
30. No-no in Miss
Brooks's class
31. ____ for Hire
32. Victory
Garden subject
33. I ____ 3 Lives
34. Piece of grassland
35. Knots Landing aunt
36. Mrs. Bunker et al.
38. Arrid competitor
39. George of Max
Headroom
40. Sarah of EZ Streets
44. Beckoning
contraction
46. To Tell the Truth
panelist Orson
47. Map abbr.
48. Brad of Glory Days
49. Lesley-____ Down
of Sunset Beach
50. McCoy of The Bill
Cosby Show
51. Quartet member



52. Finds sums
53. West Bank gp.

Down

1. Small hill in the Southwest
2. McGregor of "The Island"
3. Irate: ____ off
4. Schwarzenegger and Stallone, for example
5. Detective Cagney
6. Fibbed
7. Western Indian
8. Exhaust
9. Hope's last name on Hope & Gloria
10. From ____ Z (2 words)
11. Coin of the Orient
19. Schism
20. Wit
22. WWE pad
23. Titus's girlfriend
24. Eddie Munster's mom
25. Paula of
Murphy Brown
26. Sped
27. Auberjonois's
Benson role
28. Show boredom
31. Numerals (abbr.)
32. Bonanza cook
Hop ____
34. Pronoun for the
"Minnow"
35. Boyd of One Day
at a Time
37. The Lone Ranger's
sidekick
38. Laredo star Neville
40. Care for
41. Pant
42. Good and ____
43. Overhaul
44. Letters after Norm
Peterson's name
45. Wire measure
46. Start of a Robert
Conrad series title

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PERTH AMBOY - Outstanding multi-family with parking. Offers 2 bedrooms per apartment, hardwood floors throughout & large basement. New roof, new boilers. A "must see!!!" **\$334,900**



PERTH AMBOY - This is a truly stunning single-family house, just unpack and move-in, beautiful modern kitchen granite counter tops, all hardwood floors, finished basement, off street parking A/C, private yard with patio, shed and much more. A "must see." **\$239,000**



BRIDGEWATER - This delightful property welcomes you with 4 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, hardwood floors, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, big backyard with above ground pool and deck ... designer ceramic in bathrooms, totally renovated. Too much to describe. New Roof, new Designer cabinets, new hard wood floors, designer lighting. A "must see!" Completely renovated. **\$429,000**



EDGEWATER PARK - Short sale. Buyer responsible for all inspections repairs and C/O sold AS IS. **\$159,900**



PERTH AMBOY - Nice starter home in the prestige Lincoln Dr. section of town. Remodeled 5 years ago. HWH 2 years, furnace 15, roof 7. **\$174,900**



EDISON - Close to all major highways, colleges, and hospitals. **\$49,000**



EDISON - 2 BR unit near swimming pool, laundry facility, & co-op office. Close to major highways, colleges and hospitals. **\$60,000**