



THE  
\*Weekly Newspaper\*

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# AMBOY GUARDIAN

• VOL. 8 NO. 30 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2018 •

## Former & Present Council Members Support Perth Amboy First Candidates at Rally at Bayview Park

PERTH AMBOY - Former Council President Lisa Nanton, who is now the Campaign Manager for the Perth Amboy First Council Candidates opened up the rally. She gave a brief overview of the candidates (William Petrick, Joel Pabon and Milady Tejada). She emphasized the following in her speech: "These candidates love our City, and have decades of serving our community. The City Council is crucial to the success of our City. They are the voice and the protectors of the City. They have stood up to the administration and believe in transparency in City Government. Some of their concerns are with the parking situation, and our crumbling infrastructure and overcrowding."

The next person to speak was City Councilman Helmin Caba: "I am speaking on behalf of myself, and not as the Chair as the



(LtoR) Board of Education President Ken Puccio, Board of Ed Candidate Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe, Former Councilwoman Nancy Munez (First Latina Council Person in the State of NJ), Former Councilwoman Geri Bolanowski, Former Councilman Robert Sottilaro, Council Candidate and Board of Education VP Milady Tejada, Council President William Petrick, Former Councilwoman Lisa Nanton, Councilman Joel Pabon, Councilman Fernando Irizarry, Councilman Helmin Caba, Former Councilman Ken Balut, Councilman Fernando Gonzalez \*Photo by Carolyn Maxwell

Perth Amboy Democratic Par-

\*Continued on Page 12

## South Amboy Candidates Mayor



Fred Henry Line A

- Served South Amboy for 18+ years
  - Held position of Mayor since 2010
  - Life long resident of South Amboy
  - Worked in the field of education as Dean of Schools and Athletic Director
- POSITIONS HELD**
- Council President, Vice President
  - Planning and Zoning Board



Peter Pisar Line B

Newcomer Peter Pisar challenges Fred Henry for Mayoral Seat for South Amboy

*Additional  
Platforms &  
Bios on Page 7*

## Perth Amboy Candidates City Council

Working For You \*Platforms Page 8



Alana Cueto Line N



Vincent Makfinsky Line N



Marilou Villacis Line N

Perth Amboy First\*Platforms Pages 8-9



William Petrick Line O



Joel Pabon Line O



Milady Tejada Line O

## South Amboy Candidates City Council



Mickey Gross Line A

- Served South Amboy for 33 years
  - Division Head of Middlesex County Environmental Division
  - Chairman of NJ Public Health Council
  - Chairman of St. Patrick's Day Parade
  - Active organizer and community leader in South Amboy
- POSITIONS HELD**
- Zoning Board



Christine Noble Line A

- Served South Amboy for 6+ years
- Life long resident of South Amboy
  - Daughter of Councilman Robert Noble
  - Employed with NJ Turnpike Authority
  - Former Recreation girls sports coach
- POSITIONS HELD**
- 2nd Ward Councilwoman
  - Planning and Zoning Board

Tuesday,  
Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>

VOTE

Column N

Our Team will bring Experience, Strength and Results to Perth Amboy City Hall.

**We Pledge to:**  
**Support** our citizens, veterans, teachers, public safety personnel, senior citizens and business owners.  
**Enhance** economic sustainability, strengthening property values for all residents.  
**Promote** sound neighborhood planning, City-County partnerships, and funding enrichment and internship programs.

Alana  
CUETO



- A registered nurse serving minority communities for over 30 years.  
*Enfermera registrada, sirviendo comunidades minoritarias por más de 30 años.*  
**Volunteered on three medical missions to Puerto Rico post-hurricane Irma and Maria.**

Vincent “Vinny”  
MAKFINSKY



- Environmental Scientist and waste management specialist for over 30 years.  
*Científico ambiental y especialista en manejo de desperdicios.*  
**Local organizer of the fishing derby for kids.**

Marilou  
VILLACIS



- An L.N.P nurse in Perth Amboy for over 30 years.  
*Enfermera (L.N.P) en Perth Amboy por más de 30 años.*  
**Volunteers as a charity organizer for her local church.**

to bring integrity to Perth Amboy City Council

WORKING FOR YOUR 2018  
— OUR TEAM IS SUPPORTED BY —

MICHAEL KELLER

FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

*“Vinny is a smart and well-organized individual with leadership qualities that will serve Perth Amboy well. Having lived in Perth Amboy all his life, he is familiar with the needs of our City and would be a welcomed addition to our City Council.”*

THE RARITAN BAY ANGLERS CLUB

*“We are proud to endorse the “Working For You 2018” slate of Vinny Makfinsky, Marilou Villacis and Alana Cueto for the Perth Amboy City Council. Vinny has shown leadership abilities and dedication to the community throughout the years. Marilou and Alana are both health care professionals working in the city with a track record of putting the needs of people first. We feel they are the right candidates to move the city forward.”*

LUPE PAC

LATINAS UNITED FOR POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT (STATE-WIDE ORGANIZATION)

*“We endorse Alana Cueto and Marilou Villacis for their commitment to their local community, their service to senior citizens and women in the healthcare industry, their efforts to the Island of Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria and for their courage to run at a time when we need more women voices in local office.”*

HON. JAVIER JIMENEZ, MAYOR

SAN SEBASTIAN, PUERTO RICO

*“It is extremely important in local government that the City Council work and collaborate with the administration to carry out a vision that fully serves the community. I strongly support Alana Cueto, Vincent Makfinsky and Marilou Villacis for their experience in advocating for the residents in the areas of healthcare, city-wide infrastructure improvements, economic revitalization and overall quality of life.”*

PERTH AMBOY FIRST for CITY COUNCIL



Re-elect

Re-elect

Elect

JOEL PABON – BILL PETRICK – MILADY TEJEDA

- Prevented a municipal tax increase in this year’s budget.
- Supported residents by stopping unpopular rezoning of waterfront.
- Enacted new anti-nepotism laws—jobs for what you know, not who you know.
- Passed law blocking payout of thousands of taxpayer dollars to former BA who resigned.
- Pushed hard to expand park and recreation space for our kids.
- Supported hiring more Perth Amboy residents for top positions in city government.
- Committed to halt hiring of unqualified political cronies to city hall jobs.
- Controlling development to limit additional congestion and lack of parking.
- Supporting better cooperation between the city and the school board to benefit our kids.
- Maintaining an open door for residents as representatives of the people.

VOTE LINE 0 – November 6th

Paid for by Perth Amboy First

Norberto Soltren, Treasurer

QUIZ

The election for city council is Nov. 6.

Why is an independent city council important to you?

- A. An independent council is not under the control of the mayor.
- B. An independent council can say “No” when the administration proposes an increase in taxes.
- C. An independent council will ask questions that a council closely tied to the mayor will not.
- D. An independent council is the only thing preventing the mayor from having control of every part of our city’s government.
- E. All of the above.

Choose your answer, and then check below to see how you did.

The correct answer is---E. Yes, they’re all correct!

If you elect a slate of candidates tied to the mayor, they will be under her control.

Our independent city council prevents the mayor from controlling every part of our city government—and preserves the diverse viewpoints needed to solve the city’s problems.

Our government needs independent voices on the city council, not people who will rubber stamp the mayor’s decisions without question.

Keep the City Council independent.

Vote LINE O - 1-O Joel Pabon • 2-O William A. Petrick • 3-O Milady Tejeda

Paid for by Perth Amboy First

Norberto Soltren - Treasurer

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Is it Really 2018?

How is it that the people who have the most technology are the ones that are falling behind? You have students in the lowest income countries that are doing better than the students in America. Maybe it's because they appreciate what others take for granted.

Oprah Winfrey opened up a school in an impoverished part of Africa. The students were so excited because they were able to learn and have uniforms. Founded in 2007 by Winfrey to serve the needs of underprivileged girls (from any ethnic group) living in nine provinces across South Africa, the boarding school has transformed the lives of hundreds of students in grades 8-12, providing them with the educational and emotional tools to realize their dreams of pursuing careers in such illustrious fields as medicine, public service and architecture. (variety.com)

It would be interesting to have those students from Africa tested in some of the same subjects as our students in America to see the outcome of the results. Pick any of the subjects from the STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) Program.

If we continue to receive State aide and not get the expected results, maybe we should take away computers and let the student use abacuses. It might be an interesting experiment.

The argument is that children that come from certain impoverished nations have a limited education in their country of origins and that may be why they are having difficulty when they come here. Why is it 40 years ago when students that came over from those same countries were able achieve success when they came here without all the money and technology poured into education now?

In New York City, there's a controversy because many students from Asian countries are admitted to some of the best prestigious high schools in the City. There is a very stringent exam required for admittance. The call is that these schools need to be more diversified. Many of the students in these

schools are from middle to lower economic class working families. The solution is to find out what methods those families use to have those students so successful. Some of those parents who are trying to get their children into those classes are concerned because they may be overlooked, even though their children's test scores were exceptional.

More studies should be conducted as to why some students in lower income states have high test results. We need to find out what the missing link is. Free tutoring has been available for those who need it.

Another factor attributed to children failing in school is because both parents have to work, or because of single parent households. This isn't new. During WWII, women had to work in factories while their husbands were off to war. Both parents have worked in the past. Also, in the past, there were work-study programs where work was part of the curriculum. I remember not that long ago when some of the members of the Board of Education would have community meetings to allow parents who could not attend Board of Education Meetings to voice their opinions. Maybe Board Members should think about that.

There is a book called: "The Pact: Three Young Black Men Make a Promise and Fulfill a Dream," written by Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, Rameck Hunt, and Lisa Frazier. The book shows three young black men who made a pact to graduate from college and become doctors rather than to succumb to the violence in their community (from Wikipedia). This should be recommended reading for all institutions of learning. Your opinion counts is valuable, and this subject is of most importance.

P.S. Also, any schools where schools are failing should contact these young men to speak at schools at an assembly. They are a shining example of what can happen when you have a support system and the plan. **C.M.**

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

A Warning?

I want you to think about this: Was Christine Blasey Ford used by the Democrats? Your guess. Why do we ask? It was so odd when Sen. Lindsey Graham(R) asked U.S. Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh

at the hearing about the Military Tribunal, and that's when Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D) also sat at the hearing and PANIC. Can it be possible that some of those Democrats were sending a warning to Kavanaugh by sending Christine Ford before releasing those FISA warrants or something more damaging?

Now do I like Kavanaugh? I'm somewhat concerned (He will talk behind closed doors). Also, why did Sen. Feinstein sit on the letter Christine Ford gave her and leaked it out to the Washington Post?

Orlando "Wildman" Perez

Teaching Gun Safety

A writer recently advised the Boy Scouts to end their historic connection to the NRA, which provided gun safety materials to the Boy Scouts. Is gun safety education wrong? No, and such safety education should be

continued. It seems contrary to common sense to advocate ignorance about gun safety.

Aren't school shootings against the policies of both organizations? So why blame them? Search the Internet for "SSRI Drugs and Mass Shootings" to learn the common cause of these crimes since the

1980's. There were fewer mass shootings before the 1968 Gun Control Act which limited access to and familiarity with firearms. There were about 15,000 violent deaths before this law compared to over 35,000 today.

Ronald A. Sobieraj

What of the Vagrants?

As we eagerly await the renovations to the Perth Amboy Train Depot, some questions arise. What is to become of the various vagrants and vagabonds that constantly congregate the

corridors; the loquacious lads lamenting their lot in life, the downtrodden damsels discussing their dismal daily duties? Will the elevators become urination stations like the one in Woodbridge? Will Perth Amboy law enforcement have to respond to issues that clearly

should fall under the jurisdiction of New Jersey Transit Police?

Sincerely,  
Michael J. Rusznak

Mayor Diaz Must Resign Immediately

I am calling on Mayor Wilda Diaz to resign immediately because her deceitful and scandalous public attacks on Councilman William Petrick were beneath the dignity of the office of Mayor of Perth Amboy.

Councilman Caba, who ran on the Mayor's ticket just two years ago and is the Chair of Perth Amboy Democratic Committee, called the Mayor out on the outrageous and untrue political attacks and of course the Mayor failed to respond.

I am calling on Mayor Wilda Diaz to resign immediately because her Strategic Planning Task Force members include the President of LUPE PAC Patricia Campos and her husband as well as another member who is a past President of the Latino Action Network. Both of these organizations diminished themselves by following the mayor's lead with untrue press releases condemning Petrick. Other Task Force members from the LUPE PAC executive committee include a failed Perth Amboy Municipal Attorney and two other members, one of which, Naomi Velasquez, is one of the founders of the organization.

Velasquez stated recently that Trump administration leaders "are all evangelical assholes" [her words not mine]. "They are molesters, liars, drunks, racists, bigots". This was at the

same time that Mayor Diaz, LUPE PAC, Latino Action Network and the mycentraljersey editorial board were unfairly attacking Councilman Petrick. Velasquez, who is an aide to Governor Murphy and paid by NJ taxes, received a two-week suspension. The Mayor and the other organizations have issued no statements regarding Velasquez' conduct. The Mayor has not called for her resignation from the task force and LUPE PAC has not called for her resignation or even publicly condemned her statements. The Editorial Board was so eager to give a helping hand to Mayor Diaz' political ambitions that the irony of the Velasquez story conveniently just slipped away. Maybe they should also resign.

I am calling on Mayor Wilda Diaz to resign immediately because:

She has appointed to the task force a convicted felon.

The Mayor has appointed to the task force an opponent in the 2012 election who she accused of being a MISOGY-NIST. Was she just making that up in 2012? It appears so since the Mayor went on to later appoint the opponent and accused Misogynist to the position of City Prosecutor.

The Mayor has hired a crony, Bryan Wallensky, who was paid close to \$100,000 as a political consultant for her 2016 campaign, to a city job that had never before existed.

The Mayor had the Nepotism ordinance changed and then

hired relatives to her staff.

I am calling on the Mayor to resign immediately because:

She hired Adam Cruz to the position of Business Administrator even though he had never before been a Business Administrator. At least 6 times, Cruz was appointed acting mayor. However, on June 20, 2018 Cruz resigned without any notice or adequate explanation by the Mayor to the Council and the public. Although Cruz resigned, the Mayor reached a settlement agreeing to have the taxpayers compensate him for an additional 3 months. Could it be the settlement was reached to mask the reasons for the sudden resignation? The independent Council members voted to stop the pay-ments.

The Mayor has divided the city in every way possible. She seems gleeful that this is happening. The entire City Council, who all either ran with or were endorsed by the Mayor, has publicly supported Petrick and the entire ticket of which he is a candidate.

Wilda Diaz, it is time for you to resign. Maybe you can agree to a settlement similar to the former Business Administrator for ninety days' additional pay. But please, Mayor, before you do resign can you tell us why the Deputy Court Administrator resigned right after the mysterious departure of Adam Cruz.

Concerned about Perth Amboy  
Alan E. Silber

We Value Your Opinion Send Us a Response!

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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ROOSEVELT'S DELI .....684 KING GEORGE'S RD.  
SUPER DUPER DELI III ..... 650 KING GEORGE'S RD.

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KRAUSZER'S.....683 FLORIDA GROVE RD.

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SOUTHPINE LIQUORS .....467 S. PINE AVE.

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### IN PERTH AMBOY:

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CITY HALL .....140 N. BROADWAY  
COMMUNITY CENTER ..... 200 O'LEARY BLVD.  
KRAUSZER'S .....200 N. BROADWAY  
KRAUSZER'S .....717 BORDENTOWN AVE.  
PUBLIC LIBRARY .....100 HOFFMAN PLAZA  
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REO DINER .....392 AMBOY AVE.  
ST. JOSEPH'S SENIORS RESIDENCE .....1 ST. JOSEPH'S TERR.

## Volunteer Firefighters Needed

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

## Kearny Cottage Open

PERTH AMBOY - Come visit the historic home of Commodore Lawrence Kearny. The Cottage is located at 63 Catalpa Ave, Perth Amboy, and is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. and the last Sunday of the month from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. by appointment. The Kearny Cottage needs your help. Anyone interested in joining the Kearny Cottage Historical Society please contact 732-293-1090. We are on the web! [www.KearnyCottage.org](http://www.KearnyCottage.org)

## 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 4:00 p.m. Clubs, classrooms & groups are welcome. Come & view this newly restored building!

## 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](mailto:info@proprietaryhouse.org). Follow us on our website, [www.theproprietaryhouse.org](http://www.theproprietaryhouse.org) and or/ Facebook.

## Community Calendar

### Perth Amboy

WED. Oct. 24 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.  
City Hall, High St.

THURS. Oct. 25 Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m.  
City Hall, High St.

### South Amboy

WED. Nov. 7 City Council, Business, 6 p.m.  
City Hall, N. Broadway

*\*Check our website [www.amboyguardian.com](http://www.amboyguardian.com) for updates on meeting times and places*

Please Submit Your Events  
to [AmboyGuardian@gmail.com](mailto:AmboyGuardian@gmail.com)

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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 are taking safety precautions in the City of Perth Amboy, emphasize that it is important:

**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

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**Halloween Parade**

SOUTH AMBOY – Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018; Rain date: Sunday Oct. 28, 2018. Line up begins 12 noon at Progressive Fire House, Bordentown Avenue. Parade starts at 1 p.m. \*Please check [www.southamboynj.gov](http://www.southamboynj.gov) and Facebook page for date re-scheduling. Sponsored by the South Amboy Recreation Department.

**Story Time with Ms. Mel**

Press Release

PERTH AMBOY --Parents with children of all ages are invited to the Perth Amboy Free Public Library for an especially exciting story time with Ms. Mel. Story time consists of age-appropriate picture books, songs, fingerplays, poetry, and crafts. Join In on the following dates: October: Tues, 23 & Thurs, 25; 1:00 p.m.; November: Tues, 13 & Thurs, 15; 1:00 p.m.; December: Tues, 18 & Thurs, 20; 1:00 p.m.

The Perth Amboy Free Public Library is located at 196 Jefferson Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. For more information, please call the library at 732.826.2600 or visit us online at [www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org](http://www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org)



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South Amboy Candidates  
Mayor & City Council  
Fred Henry - Line A

**About Mayor Fred Henry**  
Born (1950) and raised in South Amboy Son of Ann Henry and the late Fred Henry, Sr. (former Councilman-at-Large). of South Amboy Married (2000) to Linda MacKay Henry, a retired South Amboy Elementary School teacher. Resides at 304 Main St. 3 children: Kristen (born 1977) graduated Hoffman High School and Rutgers University Erin (born 1980) graduated South Amboy High School and Rutgers University Fred III (born 1986) graduated South Amboy High School and William Paterson University.

**Education:**

- Graduated (1973) Trenton State College with a BA in social studies and English
- Graduated (1970) Middlesex County College with an AA in Liberal Arts
- Graduated (1968) St. Marys High School, South Amboy
- Attended Rutgers University and Kean College for additional courses in English and history
- Attended Rutgers University for courses related to redevelopment (Ethics and Principles of Redevelopment)

**Work experience:**

- South Amboy High School: Dean of Students (2006 to 2015) Retired as of June 2015
- H.G. Hoffman/South Amboy High School: social studies and English teacher (1982-2006)
- South Amboy Middle School: English and social studies teacher (1982)
- St. Marys, South Amboy Elementary School: social studies teacher (1974-1981)
- South Amboy Recreation Department (1980-1983) Assisted with Babe Ruth League, soccer, and basketball programs
- Raritan River Railroad: maintenance of track (1973-1974)
- Athletic Director at H.G. Hoffman/South Amboy High School (1986-1999) Coached varsity baseball at St. Marys and Hoffman, varsity girls basketball and softball at South Amboy and intramural golf Currently coaching varsity boys and girls cross country at South Amboy High School

**Miscellaneous:**

- 1991 Named to Mayor’s Educational Advisory Committee
- 1992 Named to Board of Education ad hoc committee concerning the overcrowding of the South Amboy school system. Helped to devise the revolutionary concept of a community school which integrated the public school with community services.

**South Amboy City Government:**

- 1992 appointed as Councilman-at-Large
- 1993 elected in a special election as Councilman-at-Large
- 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006 elected as Councilman-at-Large
- 1993 to 2001 elected as Vice-president of the city council
- 2002 to 2003 elected as President of the city council
- 2004 to 2005 elected as Vice-president of the city council
- 2006 to present elected as President of the city council
- 1996 to 2006 served as council representative to the Redevelopment Agency and elected as Vice-chairman and then as Chairman of the Agency.
- 2010 elected as Mayor of the City of South Amboy; reelected Mayor in 2014

South Amboy Candidates  
Mayor & City Council  
Councilman-at-Large  
Michael "Mickey" Gross - Line A

**Michael 'Mickey' Gross - Councilman-at-Large, President**

- Division head Middlesex County Environmental Division (30 years)
- Member of the New Jersey Public Health Council
- Past president Middlesex County Health Inspectors Association
- Adjunct professor Middlesex County College Education & Cerfications
- Masters of Public Administration Farleigh Dickinson University
- Bachelors of Science Farleigh Dickinson University
- Associates degree Middlesex County College
- Attended New Jersey Environmental Health and Law School
- Licensed NJ Health Officer Membership, Boards & Commissions

Past president and trustee Frog-Hollow Swim Club

- Past trustee South Amboy Little League
- Past vice president Saint Mary Sports Association
- Past chairman South Amboy Saint Patrick’s Day Parade
- Member of the MAVIS Board of Directors
- Past member of the South Amboy Zoning Board
- Past Chairman Cardinal McCarrick's Carnival
- Past chairman Frog-Hollow 5K Run
- Peter Barnes / YMCA Community Service Man of the Year 2016
- Married to Susan Gross
- Children Michael and Kim (son in law Robert)
- 2 grandchildren Ava and Mia

South Amboy Candidates  
Mayor & City Council  
Councilwoman-at-Large  
Christine Noble - Line A

Born and raised in South Amboy, daughter of Claire McKeon Noble and the late former Councilman and South Amboy Housing Authority Executive Director, Robert Noble. Ms. Christine Noble is a 1989 graduate of H.G. Hoffman High School and has been employed at the New Jersey Turnpike Authority for the past 25 years. Not only a former Coach of South Amboy Recreation girls basketball and softball, but also girls 6th, 7th and 8th grade basketball at Sacred Heart School and Girls JV and Varsity basketball at Cardinal McCarrick High School. Former member of the South Amboy Planning and Zoning Board, a former 2nd Ward Council Women, a current member of the South Amboy Elks Lodge and currently serves as Councilwomen-At-Large for the city of South Amboy.

**Mentors Wanted**  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY/FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP - Catholic Charities is seeking volunteer mentors. Both male and female mentors are needed to participate in one-to-one activities and be a role model to young people.  
Do you:  
1. Have a minimum of three hours per week to offer a child?  
2. Like having fun?  
3. Reside in or near Middlesex County or Franklin Township?  
4. Want to make a difference in a child’s life?  
Contact Jeanette Cullen at (732) 738-1323 or [jcullen@ccdom.org](mailto:jcullen@ccdom.org), for more information.

**Teen Craft Night**  
PERTH AMBOY -- Please join us at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library for a FREE craft activity just for teens. Teen Craft Night takes place the last Tuesday of the Month at 6:00 p.m. Registration is required for this event. To register for this event, please call the library at 732-826-2600 or visit us online at [www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org](http://www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org).  
The Perth Amboy Free Public Library is located at 196 Jefferson Street, Perth Amboy, NJ.

**LiteracyNJ ESL Tutor Training**  
FORDS - Imagine if you couldn’t read a prescription, job application, bedtime story, or ballot. Become a volunteer literacy tutor and help adults improve their reading, writing, or English skills. Sign up now for our next tutor training class! You can make a difference! Classes are on Saturdays October 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (must attend all 4 sessions) Location: Fords Branch Library; 211 Ford Ave. Fords, NJ 08863. To register: contact Melissa Bernstein at [mbernstein@literacynj.org](mailto:mbernstein@literacynj.org) or 732-906-5456. Registration fee: \$45.00.

**Baby & Me Story Time**  
Press Release  
PERTH AMBOY -- It is never too soon to share the wonderful world of literature with children! The new Baby and Me Storytime Series at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library invites very young children (ages birth through 24 months) and their enthusiastic adult caretakers to explore language and literature through rhythm and rhyme, finger plays and very simple stories. Each story time will last about 45 minutes, with time for parents and children to enjoy one another’s company and the library’s resources afterwards. The series will run alternating Wednesdays at 11:00 am from September 5th through December 19th.  
The Perth Amboy Free Public Library is located at 196 Jefferson Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. For more information, please call the library at 732.826.2600 or visit us online at [www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org](http://www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org)

South Amboy Candidate: Mayor  
Mayoral Candidate: Peter Pisar - Line B

SOUTH AMBOY - My name is Peter Pisar and I am running for mayor of South Amboy because I believe that I am the best candidate to create change through my three-point plan that entails improvement, innovation and greater involvement for the community.  
As mayor, I will work to attract new businesses, including a supermarket, to improve the downtown commercial area, which will help stabilize/lower taxes and create economic growth for the city. I would look to support existing businesses by creating a strong core economic business development organization that will be based on not only input from business leaders but from members of the public as well.  
Now is time for appropri-

ate redevelopment. Proper redevelopment will address the city’s traffic, congestion and parking problems. We need to stop the overdevelopment of expansive townhouses and look to develop the waterfront as well as the downtown area. Furthermore, we need to eliminate wasteful spending by taking a transparent look at where every dollar is appropriated, determining where we can save money.  
We also need to be innovative in our thinking and work together to find real solutions and not just point out real problems. Solar power is becoming increasingly dependable and affordable, which is why the City of South Amboy needs to look at instituting this type of energy source to provide clean power while saving taxpayers money.

Another innovative idea that we need to consider is to finally create a viable water taxi system solution that will not burden the taxpayer and will provide a streamlined, quick route to New York City for residents and commuters.  
If elected, I would also create an open and transparent form of government where everyone has a voice and the ability to contribute to the future direction of South Amboy. Communities are made up of people and we need to do a better job embracing, recognizing, listening, and caring for our citizens in every way possible.  
We should also have more community programs for our youth, seniors, and veterans which will provide them with positive opportunities to become more involved in

their city. In addition, I would work as a tireless advocate to help stop the opioid/heroin drug problem in South Amboy, which has claimed far too many lives. I am a former Middlesex County Sheriff’s Officer and understand full-well the consequences of drug addiction. My ideas involve the application of strategies and tactics from my unique, aggressive, and practical anti-drug plan.  
If you would like to learn more about me or my ideas on how I plan on transforming the City of South Amboy, please visit my website; [www.pisarforsamboymayor.com](http://www.pisarforsamboymayor.com).

## Working For You: Marilou Villacis 3N

PERTH AMBOY - I am a life-long resident in the City of Perth Amboy and am very proud to say I am third generation. My family and I continue to grow and flourish in Perth Amboy. I've committed myself to service working as a nurse in Perth Amboy for over 30 years. I work at CareOne LTAC Hospital at Raritan Bay Medical Center for over fifteen years.

I am the current Community Outreach President for CareOne LTAC Hospital at Raritan Bay Medical Center. I have reached out to the community

to help educate in health issues affecting the City residents. As a nurse I am very passionate about the health of our community. I have helped initiate an annual bake sale to raise money for women in need of Mammograms. The money we raised has helped hundreds of women offset the cost of annual mammograms; this has helped many women that would not be able to afford the cost. Through the years I have been very active in my children's schools helping organize many fundraisers such as Bingo, Holiday Bazaar

and anywhere else my help was needed. Through my volunteer work I have built a vast network with local businesses.

I volunteer my time with food banks donating 100's of bags of canned box pasta food to Good Shepherd pantry.

I spearhead a drive to give back and collected over 1000 pieces of personal care products for men in recovery to help Pastor Sears keep his cost down. I also step up as chair of the kitchen for the holiday Bazar at the Ukraine Assumption School for the last 10 years.

## Working For You: Vincent (Vinny) Makfinsky 2N

PERTH AMBOY - My name is Vincent (Vinny) Makfinsky and I am running for Perth Amboy City Council. I am a life-long resident of the city. I'm a homeowner living here with my wife Mary and 14 year old son Michael. I'm currently a parishioner of St. James Church. I attended Holy Trinity Grammar School, 2 years at St. Mary's HS and graduated from Perth Amboy HS. After HS I furthered my education at Stockton University graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Envi-

ronmental Science. I am retired from a position of Laboratory Supervisor at the Joint Meeting of Union and Essex Counties Wastewater Treatment Facility. I was employed there for 31 years. Currently I am Captain of the charter boat Morning Dew sailing out of Perth Amboy Marina and a NJ State Police certified boating safety instructor.

Over the years I have been involved in many organizations such as the Perth Amboy Boat Owners Association/Raritan Bay Anglers Club where I

served as President for 9 years, NJDEP Environmental Lab Advisory Committee, NJ Water Environment Association, Water Environment Federation, Knights of Columbus and Perth Amboy Moose Lodge. I have been involved in many youth activities including the Perth Amboy Kids Fishing Derby, Cub Scout Leader, Little League Baseball coach and Class Parent at my son's school, St. James School, where I also wrote the athletics newsletter.

## Working For You: Alana Cueto 1N

PERTH AMBOY - Alana has spent her professional career improving the health and well-being of vulnerable children and families living in distressed, urban neighborhoods through service, scholarship, and education. Alana is a registered professional nurse and veteran health care administrator having dedicated over two decades to the healthcare delivery system. That time has been divided between hospital administration, dental and medical consulting, nursing and higher education. These experiences have helped shape her leadership skills and have allowed her to understand the nuances that entail moving an organization forward while seamlessly shifting roles from team leader to team member. Alana was President and CEO of ac2 Healthcare Consulting & Management Services, LLC a dental and medical consulting company serving the tri-state area and recognized by the American Dental Association® as a premier consulting firm. She was an active contributing writer to Dental Economics Magazine and hosted a regular column in Doctor of Dentistry: A Business and Lifestyle Magazine for Dentists. Alana successfully wrote the proposal for establishing the Academy for Advanced Dental Education (AADE) located in Hoboken NJ, and the first Dual Language Immersion Model (English/Spanish) BSN nursing program in Texas.

As an executive nurse leader, Alana combined purpose and passion as Founding President of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) Garden State Chapter where she

led the chapter in an effort to cultivate healthier communities for all residents in the state of New Jersey. During her tenure, the Garden State chapter received national recognition. They received the NJSNA/Institute for Nursing "EPIC" Exceptional People Impacting Our Communities Award, American Diabetes Association Mission Volunteer Award, and the 2016 NAHN National Association of Hispanic Nurses "Viajero" Award. Through her leadership and service, Alana helped shape policy and practice that has directly influenced the well-being and social determinants of health of vulnerable populations living in distressed communities. As a nurse member of Nightingale Initiative for Global Health (NIGH) she contributed to the survey for the development of the Sustainable Development Goals and was privileged to present at the 2018 United Nations Parallel Event 62nd Commission on the Status of Women, Empowering Girls and Women through Innovative Nursing and Midwifery Interventions. She has served on several medical missions including three to Puerto Rico post-Hurricane Maria.

Alana has been honored for her leadership, health advocacy, and volunteerism. Recognitions include being nominated as a Public Health Hero by NJ Biz (2017) and March of Dimes Nurse of the Year (2017). She is the recipient of the NAHN National Henrietta Villaescusa Community Service Award (2016), NAHN Ambassador Award (2016), Seton Hall University College of Nursing Elizabeth Ann Seton Young

Alumni Award (2015), and the Hispanic Leadership of New Jersey Health Advocate Award (2015) which includes Special Recognition from both the United States Congress and the Joint Legislature of New Jersey. Alana is currently working towards completing her doctorate degree. She is a Nurse Fellow at the New York Academy of Medicine and a candidate for Fellow at the American College of Healthcare Executives. Current National & State Leadership roles include:


- o President Elect, National Association of Hispanic Nurses
- o Chair Education Committee, National Association of Hispanic Nurses
- o American Heart Association | American Stroke Association National Diversity Leadership Committee
- o American Red Cross Diversity in Aquatics National Leadership Committee
- o Governor Phil Murphy's State of New Jersey Healthcare Advisory Transition Team

Past Leadership roles include:

- o Vice President, Institute for Nursing/NJSNA Region 3 (2014-2016)
- o Chair, Leadership & Succession Committee Gamma Nu Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (2013-2016)
- o Latino Advisory Council, American Heart Association (2015-2016)
- o Board Member, American College of Health Care Executives New Jersey Chapter (ACHE-NJ)
- o Chair, ACHE-NJ Diversity & Inclusion Committee (2014-2016)

# PERTH AMBOY FIRST

## Bill PETRICK




- ✓ Perth Amboy Council (2011-18); President
- ✓ Perth Amboy Planning Board; Member
- ✓ Perth Amboy Zoning Board; Past Member
- ✓ Perth Amboy School Board; Past Member
- ✓ Perth Amboy Fire Dept.; Active Volunteer
- ✓ Perth Amboy Exempt Firemen's Assn; President
- ✓ State Licensed Fire Official & Subcode Inspector
- ✓ State Licensed Construction Official
- ✓ Kean University; BS, Management
- ✓ Middlesex County College; AS, Marketing
- ✓ Perth Amboy High School Graduate
- ✓ Petrick's Flowers; Business Manager
- ✓ Married 24 years; wife Stephanie, 4 children
- ✓ Lifelong Perth Amboy Resident

**TUESDAY, NOV. 6: VOTE LINE**

# PERTH AMBOY FIRST

## Joel PABON



- ✓ Perth Amboy City Council (2011-18)
- ✓ City Council; Past President
- ✓ Board of Education; 3 Terms
- ✓ US Post Office; Customer Service Supervisor
- ✓ U.S. Army, Retired 1st Sgt; 23-Year Veteran
- ✓ Proprietary House Board of Trustees; Member
- ✓ Perth Amboy Recreation Committee; Member
- ✓ Perth Amboy Municipal Alliance; Member
- ✓ Perth Amboy Youth League; Past Pres., Coach
- ✓ Ntl. Assoc. of Postal Supervisors; Member
- ✓ Perth Amboy High School Graduate
- ✓ Wife Marilyn and 2 children
- ✓ Lifelong Perth Amboy Resident

**TUESDAY, NOV. 6: VOTE LINE**



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# PERTH AMBOY FIRST

## Milady TEJEDA

- ✓ Perth Amboy Board of Education (2010-18)
- ✓ RWJ Barnabas Health; Laboratory Supervisor
- ✓ United Dominicans of Perth Amboy; Secretary
- ✓ Proyecto Cultura y Sociedad; Founding Member
- ✓ Our Lady of Fatima; Parish Council
- ✓ Los Hijos de la Altagracia; President
- ✓ Kean University; BS, Biology
- ✓ Middlesex County College; AS, Medical Lab Tech
- ✓ Perth Amboy High School Graduate
- ✓ Perth Amboy Resident (1974-2018)
- ✓ Born in the Dominican Republic
- ✓ Mother of 2 children

### TUESDAY, NOV. 6: VOTE LINE



## ESL Literacy Registration Fall 2018

Press Release 8/16/18  
WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP - English as a Second Language (ESL) conversation groups and beginning instruction will be offered at all Woodbridge Township Libraries from September 2018 through May 2019. Instruction and ESL Conversation Group leaders will be provided in partnership with LiteracyNJ, (<https://literacynj.org/>), a state-wide literacy services provider.

In-person registration is required for a fifteen week series of Conversation Group classes that will be held at the Iselin Branch Library, the Henry Inman Branch Library and the Main Library. Also available to English language learners will be Beginning ESL group instruction at the Fords Branch Library.

For more information about ESL classes at Woodbridge Public Libraries, LiteracyNJ or classes offered in the area, please contact Melissa Bernstein of LiteracyNJ, 732-906-5456, [mbernstein@literacynj.org](mailto:mbernstein@literacynj.org).

## Museum Pass Program

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library have generously provided FREE passes to some of the area's most popular museums! Museum passes offer a great way for family and friends to experience educational and cultural fun.

Picking Up and Returning Passes: Passes can be picked up at the Circulation Desk. Patron must present the library card under whose name the pass was reserved. Only Adult patrons whose cards are in good standing will be able to check out Museum Passes. Passes are good for a total of three days and are **NOT** renewable. Passes can be returned at the Circulation Desk or at the Book Drop after hours.

Late, Lost or Unreturned Passes: There will be a \$5 amount late fee each day the pass is past due. The maximum fine will not exceed \$25.00. Passes not returned within 14 days after the due date, will be presumed lost and borrowers charged the full replacement cost.

Replacement costs for items are as follows: **Lost museum pass:** Full cost of the pass. Replacement costs vary according to the museum and listed on the catalog record for each museum. **Pass Case:** \$1

**Museum Passes available:**

- **American Museum of Natural History**, New York, NY | free admission and 1 free exhibit or show

- **Grounds for Sculpture**, Hamilton NJ | pass admits 4 people

- **Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum**, New York, NY | pass admits 6 people

Sponsored by the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library. [www.folperthamboy.com](http://www.folperthamboy.com) For more information, please call the Perth Amboy Free Public Library: 732-826-2600.

## Perth Amboy BOE Candidates Maria Rodriguez Line K

PERTH AMBOY - Maria Rodriguez has been a resident of Perth Amboy for over 45 years, and is a retired former businesswoman, and former committeewoman for many years. As a mother and grandmother, she believes that a quality education is the only way our children will achieve success in life. She is running for the Perth Amboy Board of Education because our children are our future, and it is time we help our Children succeed in our schools through innovative and fresh ideas.

Maria's platform is called STARS. In which she would like to see the following:

- A Safe School Environment
- Amazing Teachers who are appreciated.
- An A+ Education
- A Rewarding Experience of Success.

Maria believes that a STARS pilot program will help bolster student achievement, engagement, and enthusiasm. It is important for our children to Reach For The Stars by focusing on empowering children to reach their full potential with both parental and creative involvement. **On Tuesday, November 6, 2018, please vote for Column 1-K. For more info, please visit the facebook page: Rodriguez for Perth Amboy Board of Education.**

## 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.

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### 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*

### Amboy Bank Makes Contribution to the Sayreville Association for Brain Injured Children

*\*Photos Submitted by Amboy Bank*



### News Release

SAYREVILLE - Gregory Scharpf, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Amboy Bank, presents a donation to Mark Schlauch and Fred Whiteley, Vice Presidents of the Sayreville Association for Brain Injured Children; Maggie W, volunteer; and the children of the BIC. The mission of the organization is to promote a more general interest in brain injured children, to organize a variety of programs and activities, and to raise funds to furnish aid and assistance.

Scharpf said, "Amboy Bank is committed to supporting local efforts that enhance the quality of life of the brain injured children of our community. We have always considered community involvement to be an essential part of our business, and we are delighted to support the Sayreville Association for Brain Injured Children."



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## Perth Amboy BOE Candidates

### Working For You: The Rev. Dr. Danielle L. Brown 3M

PERTH AMBOY - Saved and filled with the Holy Ghost at an early age, The Reverend Dr. Danielle L. Brown finds great joy and satisfaction in learning, living, and preaching the Gospel. Rev. Dr. Brown was Licensed to preach on July 17, 2003 by Cathedral International and ordained by the American Baptist Churches USA and the Covenant Ecumenical Fellowship and Cathedral Assemblies on June 3, 2012. Over the years she has become an increasingly sought after preacher and workshop leader with the ability to communicate the Gospel across multiple generations.

Educated in the Perth Amboy Public Schools, Rev. Brown went on to attend Virginia State University where she was a Provost Scholar and three-sport athlete. After teaching in the Richmond Public Schools, Rev. Brown responded to God's call to return to the church of her rearing under the dynamic leadership and tutelage of Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr. (Senior Pastor) and The Reverend Dr. Bernadette Glover (former Executive Pastor). Currently, she has the honor of serving as the Pastor of Church Life

there at Cathedral International (The Historic Second Baptist Church) in Perth Amboy, New Jersey. Dr. Brown also serves as the Moderator of the Raritan Association of the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey.

For the last fifteen years, Rev. Dr. Brown has served in various leadership capacities working to develop and implement ministry programs and strategies. During this time she has also developed a passion for mentoring and assisting in the development of church leaders. As such, she has served as a supervisor in the Princeton Theological Seminary, New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and Pillar College Field Education Programs. She has also taught on the adjunct faculty of New York Theological Seminary, served on the ordination committee of her denominational association, and is currently serving a term on the Board of Trustees of New Brunswick Theological Seminary. In addition to her ecclesiastical work, Dr. Brown has recently been appointed to serve on the Mayor's Strategic Planning team in the City of Perth Amboy.

Both a servant and a scholar, Rev. Dr. Brown holds Master



Danielle Brown 3M

of Education and Bachelor of Science Degrees from Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia and Master of Divinity and Master of Arts Degrees from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Brunswick, New Jersey. She also holds an earned Doctor of Ministry Degree from Palmer Theological Seminary in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania where she studied Leadership and Church Renewal.

Rev. Dr. Brown loves God, God's Church, and God's people and counts it an honor and a privilege to serve.

## Perth Amboy BOE Candidates

### Education First: Ken Puccio 1L



Ken Puccio 1L

PERTH AMBOY - Ken Puccio is a Perth Amboy example of the American spirit of courage and dedication to duty. While serving as a police officer, he put his life at risk, and as a teacher, he helped nurture success in our community's children because he attributes his own success in life to educators that guided him.

Born in Perth Amboy and raised by his mother, a single parent, Ken Puccio attended our city's public-school system. After graduating from Perth Amboy High School in 1974, Ken Puccio enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he served four years in active duty and spent another eight years in the Army Reserves.

While stationed with his army unit in Texas, Ken Puccio participated in the Big Brother Program. He remained involved in community service when he returned home, as a volunteer firefighter for 10 years and by serving as coach and president of the Perth Amboy Babe Ruth League.

Ken Puccio became a police officer in September 1983. After seven years in the Perth Amboy Police Department patrol division, he became one of 35 police officers selected by the Middlesex County Prosecutor to bring Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) to classrooms from Kindergarten through 12th grade. D.A.R.E. is a drug prevention program that teaches students good decision-making skills to help them avoid high-risk behavior and to ensure they grow up healthy, safe and secure.

'Police Officer of the Year' three times: 1987 by the VFW, 1995 by the FOP and PBA, and by the Perth Amboy Merchants Association in 2003.

Puccio has earned two valor awards; once for disarming an individual wielding a handgun and for rescuing a victim trapped in a burning building; and a life-saving award for performing CPR on a 14-month-old baby.

He has been widely recognized for his community service, earning the Perth Amboy Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Community Service Award in 1995 and being recognized by the Perth Amboy Police Department with more than 30 plus letters of commendation. He has been presented with several citations from the Senate and General Assembly.

Puccio served on the Middlesex County Youth Services Commission, as a board member for the Middlesex County Minorities Issues Committee, and on the Attorney General's working group on stationhouse adjustments. He administered the grant that funds Perth Amboy's police stationhouse adjustment program. Since 2004, he has been a member of and participated in the Police Unity Tour, riding his bicycle from Ground Zero to Washington, DC, and raising over \$220,000.00 for the Law Enforcement Memorial.

Ken Puccio is a recognized expert on street gangs, graffiti, and the juvenile justice system. He has lectured on the subject of gangs at Rutgers, Monmouth, and Rider Universities.

He also taught classes at the Jersey City and NYPD police academies, trained with the Los Angeles Police Department Gang Unit and worked with the FBI, New Jersey State Police, and NYPD gang units.

In his capacity as a gang investigator, Puccio was targeted for assassination by the Latin Kings, Bloods, and Trinatrios, a prison gang that emerged during the early 1990's. In 2007, Puccio was assaulted by members of the Trinatrios.

Throughout his career as a police officer, Puccio has been accredited by other police departments and law enforcement agencies such as the N YPD, FBI, New Jersey State Police, and New Jersey Attorney General's Office. He was called to work with the FBI's Innocent Images Program, an undercover operation to catch pedophiles attempting to lure young sexual victims through the internet.

He has been recognized as

In addition to having served as a team member of the Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program and as president of the Middlesex County Juvenile Officers Association, Puccio was the commander of the Perth Amboy Police Youth Academy (PAYUP) and Perth Amboy Police Department historian.

In his 24 years as a juvenile detective, Ken Puccio served on the School Leadership Committees of Shull, Ceres, and Perth Amboy High. Since 2003, Ken Puccio has sponsored a scholarship in memory of his grandfather, Giovanni Puccio, to benefit graduates of Perth Amboy High School and the Middlesex County Vocational School.

Puccio was elected to the Perth Amboy Board of Education in 2009. He served as Vice-President of the Board from 2010-2013, and was elected president in 2017.

In addition to being a community-spirited volunteer, advocate for Perth Amboy youth, heroic law enforcement officer, and gifted teacher, Puccio is a dedicated parent who has been gifted with six children and five grandchildren.

## Perth Amboy BOE Candidates

### Working For You: Isamar Payano 2M

PERTH AMBOY:

- Perth Amboy High School Graduate 2008
- Municipal Alliance Coordinator for the City of Perth Amboy
- Bachelors Degree in Communications (Rutgers alumnae and Douglass woman)
- Perth Amboy resident and homeowner
- Oversees the Brighton Avenue Teen Center, creates new programs and collaborates with community partners to engage Perth Amboy youth.
- Former Mentor for BYoutiful Mentoring Program
- AmeriCorps Alumn
- Latina Leadership Potential Award from the Associate Alumnae of Douglass College (AADC)- 2013
- Former President of the Association of Women in Communications for Rutgers chapter - 2013.

**Teen Center Details**

- The Brighton Ave Teen Center is to provide Perth Amboy youth ages 13-18, a safe place to interact with their peers and engage in recreational, social, educational programs and activities. It is located on 56 Brighton Avenue, next to the tennis courts in the waterfront area. It is the home base of the Perth Amboy Youth Alliance, a group of high school students, which focus on community service, academic success, leadership development and how to live a healthy lifestyle .
- The center provides workshops such as job readiness, resume writing, networking, interviewing skills, financial literacy, FAFSA help, gardening 101 (using a vertical aeroponic growing system and our outdoor community garden), and more. Recreational programs such as tennis, Zumba, beach volleyball, running, group walks, and more. Special trips are offered at low or no cost.
- The center also provides youth an opportunity to create or join clubs such as the book club, step team, gardening club and more.

Isamar Payano 2M

PERTH AMBOY

- Over 10 years of experience as professional manager.
- Ability to direct complex projects from concept to fully operational status.
- Goal-oriented individual with strong leadership capabilities.
- Proven ability to work in unison with staff, volunteers, and board of directors.
- Proficient in the Spanish language

Certificates of completion: Middlesex County College, High school Diploma: Elizabeth High School

**Program Director**

- Successfully established new Food Distribution program for the community
- Supervise a staff of paid and



Damaris Ramirez 1M

program for single parents here in the community

- Implemented a tutoring program for at risk youth in the elementary and middle school in the community.

## Perth Amboy BOE Candidates Education First: Anton Massopust 2L

PERTH AMBOY - Anton Massopust is a lifelong resident of Perth Amboy. His father died when Anton was age 3 and he was raised by his mother, Anne. Anton graduated from Perth Amboy High School in 1958 with an interest in science, nature, and the fire department.

He went to college and graduated from Villanova University in 1962 with a B.S. in biology, a minor in chemistry, and a concentration in religion. He faced hardship when his mother, Anne Massopust, long time art teacher in Perth Amboy High School lost her battle with breast cancer. Alone at age 22 Anton Massopust continued his volunteer work as a Scoutmaster of Troop 10 from Perth Amboy, organizing camp activities. He had earned the honor of Eagle Scout previously and volunteered many hours with the Boy Scouts.

Anton Massopust decided to become a teacher. "Teaching is not an easy job." When asked why he continues to teach Tony replies, "When a carpenter builds a house and drives by it, he'll say I built that house. A teacher helps build people. My students have become firefighters, EMT's, biologists, teachers, politicians and many other vocations. I was a part of that, building their future. Teaching can be tough. You can't rest, and you always have to be on your toes. Every day is opening day on Broadway, and you are the star."

Anton Massopust has taught biology since the day he signed the contract with Perth Amboy High School. His love for nature especially small animals stems from his boy scout days where his scout leader, Mr. Nestle took him all over New Jersey to such places as the Great Swamp and the Pine Barrens.

He was a volunteer firefighter in the PAFD since age 21 and still continues to be active in the fire department. Combining two of his most favorite activities, teaching and firefighting, Tony Massopust teaches firefighting in Perth Amboy along with EMT and numerous other courses.

At age 24 he married Marcella Zaleski, native of Perth Amboy and graduate of NYU and Parson's School of Design and an Art Teacher of forty-four years in the Perth Amboy School System. Later he became the father of two children, daughter, Katherine, and son Anton. Throughout his lifetime, he served as an officer on three historical committees including President of the Kearny Cottage Association for many years, Vice President of the Waterfront Association (an organization for the preservation of Perth Amboy's Waterfront) and a trustee in the Proprietary House. In the late 1960's to early 1970's Tony Massopust served as supervisor of Archeological studies in Perth Amboy. This included excavations at the Proprietary House and the Waterfront Area.

In 1974 Mr. Massopust was Chairman of the City of Perth Amboy Beautification Program.

In 1976 Anton Massopust was Chairman of the Perth Amboy Bicentennial Commission. Mr. Massopust organized a number of events and coordinated the celebration throughout the year. Anton Massopust received a citation from President Gerald Ford

for his work in the Bicentennial. Anton Massopust was also a trustee and the Historic Fair Chairman for the Celebrate Perth Amboy Festival. In the early 1980's, Mr. Massopust served as YCC advisor for Cheesequake Park, in which he built boardwalks and marked the trails at Cheesequake.

Anton Massopust was Science Department Head at Perth Amboy High School for over 20 years. He taught his favorite subject, biology and was beloved by many students who often speak fondly of Biology BSCS at Perth Amboy High School. During this time, Mr. Massopust served through 3 Middle States Evaluations, 3 State Monitoring Visitations and served on a visiting team for Middle States Evaluations. Mr. Massopust actually designed the science curriculum at PAHS and presented a variety of in-service programs and assemblies. In the curriculum in addition to basic Biology, Chemistry, and Physics were such subjects as Astronomy, Criminology, Ecology, Marine Science, and Anatomy & Physiology. Anton Massopust attended the State Education Academy, always improving his skills as both a teacher and department chairman.

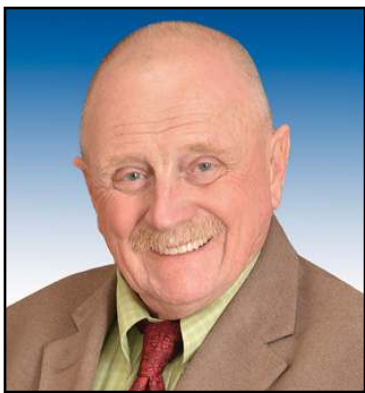
He received his Master's in Supervision in 1976 from Monmouth College. He served on 10 committees during his 20-year run as PAHS Science Department. He received 3 mini-grants and 1 ESEA title for Marine Science at PAHS where one student, Karen Zupko was a Westinghouse Science Award Recipient. He received the esteemed Governor's Teacher Award for excellence in teaching in 1987. At Perth Amboy High School, Anton Massopust was active in student life, the advisor of 8 clubs including: The Biology Club, Military Modeling Club, Tropical Fish Club, Ecology Club, N.J. History Club, Softball Club, Angling Club, and Environmental Club. The biology club featured trips to the Pine Barrens canoeing down the Wading River and a trip to the Pine Barrens experiencing nature.

Anton Massopust was also active in the athletic department. He served as athletic Trainer for 19 years in PAHS as a State Licensed Trainer. He was Girls Softball Coach in both Hopelawn Little League and Perth Amboy High School (a combination of 11 years). That is a total of 24 years of active service in the athletic department.

He was a judge in the Decathlon of Knowledge for 3 years. He also participated in the "Faculty Follies", a teacher's show presented annually at PAHS during the 1980's. Anton Massopust initiated the Night School Gardening Program and ran a Nature Program for the Special Education Camp Outs. He designed an outdoor program for the G&T Students.

He served as CYO advisor for Saint Mary's Church for 14 years and served as president of the PTA for 8 years at Ukrainian Assumption School. He is presently a member of the Holy Name Society, and a member of the Ukrainian Assumption Church Cultural Festival Committee.

His service is undisputed in the community. Anton Massopust served as grand marshal of the 1994 Crop Walk. He has also served on the advisory committee of the Crompton-Chevron-Kindermorgan Community Advisory Panel and was president. He has served the city of Perth Amboy as Democratic Committeeman for Ward 3 District 2.



Anton Massopust 2L

Mr. Massopust has been a volunteer firefighter since he was 21 years old and has now served for 58 years. During 1984-1987 Anton J. Massopust served as Fire Chief in the City of Perth Amboy. He has attended State, County and National Fire Academies and has taken over 36 different courses in Fire Science. These include: Arson Detection, Hazmat Awareness, the State Police Bomb School and Emergency Response to Terrorism Incidents plus a lengthy list of other fire courses. A Level II fire instructor, Mr. Massopust volunteers his time to pass down his knowledge of fire science as Lieutenant and training officer at the Perth Amboy Fire Department. He has been an officer for many years and has remained active for the entire 49 years he has been a member of the PAFD. Mr. Massopust has also served on the Perth Amboy First Aid Squad, and still volunteers as an EMT, CPR, and Bomb awareness instructor. He even had a stint teaching fire science at the Middlesex County Fire Academy.

Even after Anton Massopust retired from teaching at PAHS, he continued to teach at Middlesex County College both biology and the Natural History of New Jersey, a popular class in which students take trips learning all about New Jersey's treasures. He is now since retired from Middlesex County College. He taught as an Associate Professor of Biology in Caldwell College, Caldwell New Jersey from 2011 to 2016. He has also taught at Ukrainian Assumption School, Mount Saint Mary's Academy, and St. Peter's High School. Anton Massopust was inducted to Perth Amboy High School's Hall of Fame in 2006 for Community Service and Secondary Education.

He received a citation from Mayor Wilda Diaz for saving a life at a Ukrainian Assumption Church Dance in 2010. He was honored by the Knights of Columbus earning the Shield Award in 2014.

Anton Massopust is presently the City Historian in Perth Amboy. He served as a member of the Perth Amboy Board of Education for the year of 2013. He returned to serve on the Perth Amboy Board of Education from 2016 to 2018. Currently, he serves as Chair of the Curriculum Committee.

## Perth Amboy BOE Candidates Education First: Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe 3L

PERTH AMBOY - Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe is attending Rutgers University with a double major in Latino & Caribbean Studies and Labor Studies with an intention of entering the civil rights/social justice field. Ms. Márquez-Villafañe is the founder and President of the United Messengers of Peace, an advocacy nonprofit organization for educational rights.

As Founder and President of United Messengers of Peace, Ms. Márquez-Villafañe's responsibilities included making volunteer schedules, attending meetings with community members, attending different community meetings, advocating, creating plans for events, writing letters, writing emails, and planning tutoring sessions. She also is responsible for maintaining the organization's website and helping to organize the annual Lung Cancer Awareness Flag Raising in Perth Amboy, Highland Park and Middlesex County and corresponding events.

She is the Latino Student Council Multicultural Chair at Rutgers University, a position she was elected to in 9/17 and currently holds. She also currently serves as the Educational Opportunity Program Student Association (EOPSA) Vice President at Rutgers University since 5/18. She was Head Volunteer Tutor at Cathedral Community Development Corporation summer camps from 7/15 - 8/17. She volunteered with the CDC Summer Camp as the Head Tutor where she helped students retain and fortify knowledge learned during the school year. Stephanie serves as the President of the Rutgers Unión Estudiantil Puertorriqueña, the oldest and currently only Puerto Rican student organization in New Jersey. Serving as the Parliamentarian



Stephanie  
Márquez-Villafañe 3L

for UndocuRutgers, Stephanie has helped the undocumented population at Rutgers (all three campuses), the surrounding area and Perth Amboy. Over the summer Stephanie began her role as a legislative intern for the District 19 legislators: Senator Joseph Vitale, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin and Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez. She remains interning for the office.

Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe offers a unique perspective and a different angle to the problems and challenges facing our youth. She is highly respected from those who know her, and she doesn't take "no" for an answer. Working with various church officials, local politicians, community leaders and others, Stephanie created programs and established relationships to serve the community in various roles. She has volunteered in feeding the community, assisted in summer camps, and has even lead her organizations free Tutoring Program.

If elected, Ms. Márquez-Villafañe will work with the Board of Education, the School Administrative Staff, School Personnel and respective City Officials to do what's best for Perth Amboy's students, guardians and staff.

## Perth Amboy BOE Candidates Beth Lieberman Line J



Beth Lieberman Line J

- Resident of Perth Amboy since 2003
- Graduate of Lehman College with a B.A. Degree in History
- NYU Master Courses in Elementary Education – 30 credits
- Masters of Educational Technology
- Teacher Certification Pre-School
- Teacher Certification Kindergarten through 8th Grade
- 28 years of experience teaching elementary school in Perth Amboy
- AFT member
- Mother and Grandmother

## Helping Veterans Find a Place to Call Home

PERTH AMBOY – Are you or know a veteran with DD 214? Are you or they interested in being a first-time home owner? The Perth Amboy Housing Authority is looking for a Veteran to help realize the dream of home ownership. The first step is to attend the First Time Homebuyer Class to obtain information on how you can be eligible for our upcoming lottery. You fought for our country, now let us fight for you! Register Today! Housing Authority of the City of Perth Amboy, 881 Amboy Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. Call to reserve your seat today: 732-826-3110 ext. 647 or email [homeownership@perthamboyha.org](mailto:homeownership@perthamboyha.org) We are a HUD Certified Housing Counseling Agency. Free for all Veterans with a DD 214.

## October 17, 2018 Press Conference at Bayview Park

### Opening statement by Former City Council President Lisa Nanton

PERTH AMBOY - Good afternoon and thank you for coming.

I am Lisa Nanton, campaign manager for PERTH AMBOY FIRST for City Council, and a former Perth Amboy City Council President.

Let me introduce the council and former council members here with us this afternoon.

Current council members Helmin Caba, Fernando Gonzalez, Council President Wm. Petrick, Fernando Irizarry and Joel Pabon. Joining us are former council members Ken Balut, Geri Bolanowski, Nancy Muniz, Robert Sottilaro and Dave Szilagyi and

Board of Education Vice President Milady Tejada, President Ken Puccio, Anton Massopust and Stephanie Marquez-Villafane.

We have all lived in Perth Amboy for years. Most of us were born here, have raised our families here, and while working for a living, have donated our “free” time to serving Perth Amboy: through our churches, PTO’s ,band parents, firefighters, coaches, committee people, community organizations, Zoning Board, Planning Board, Board of Education and City Council. Our service began years ago. We have been on opposite sides of issues. But we always respected each other and are capable of disagreeing without being disagreeable.

The common denominator that unites us today is the LOVE of our city. The decades of hours spent serving our residents is the evidence.

And that passion is why we have all come together to endorse Joel Pabon, Bill Petrick, and Milady Tejada for city council—the PERTH AMBOY FIRST team.

We are standing together in support of PERTH AMBOY FIRST because we know how crucial the city council is to the success of this city and the well-being of its residents—and how important it is that the right people occupy those three open council seats.

We know better than anyone

that the city council is the voice of the people—the protector of the people. We know that the current city council—which includes

Joel Pabon and Bill Petrick—has stood up for the people of Perth Amboy against an administration of self interests.

In the past year alone Joel Pabon and Bill Petrick, as a part of this independent city council, stopped the mayor from raising municipal property taxes. They listened to residents of this neighborhood and stopped rezoning. They have fought to strengthen anti-nepotism laws. They have tried to eliminate some of the mayor’s reckless expenditures. They have pushed relentlessly for transparency in city government, so that the people know how their tax money is spent.

Looking out for residents—having solutions for traffic congestion and the parking debacle, holding the line on taxes, dealing with crumbling infrastructure, pushing for adequate parks and sports programs for kids, ensuring safe drinking water, supporting smart development that doesn’t increase congestion—that is what this independent council has done and will continue to do.

*Councilman Helmin Caba reiterated some of the statement he made in page 7 of the 10/3/18 Issue of the Amboy Guardian.*

### Joel Pabon

Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Joel Pabon. I am a two-term member of the Perth Amboy City Council, and I’m running for re-election along with Councilman Bill Petrick and board of education member, Milady Tejada.

Because two of us are incumbent council members, residents have a right to ask, “What have you done for us while in office?” I can stand here and honestly say that I am very proud of what Bill Petrick and I have accomplished as members of this city council.

We have stood up time and again for the residents of Perth Amboy—even when we had to oppose the administration. There will be no municipal tax increase this year because we stood up for residents and op-

posed the increase in the mayor’s budget. Time and again we have gone to bat for more parks and activities for our kids. We have fought against nepotism and wasteful spending.

The people in this neighborhood will remember how we on the city council stood with them when the mayor wanted to rezone parts of this area—even over the objections of most residents. We heard you. We tabled the rezoning—and as long as we keep a majority of votes on the council, that rezoning will not go through.

The choice is yours. Choose candidates who have already proven that they have your back and will act in your best interest. Or choose candidates whose only selling point seems to be that they have the support of the mayor—and when elected will be controlled by her. But a power grab by the mayor is not the way to solve the city’s problems. The mayor needs to work with the council, not try to dominate it.

Finally, I want to express my thanks to all of my present and former council colleagues for coming out to support the Perth Amboy First team. That support means a lot to us. It shows the people of Perth Amboy that you—those who know best what it takes to succeed on the city council—believe that Bill, Milady, and myself are the best people for the job.

And thanks to the people of Perth Amboy. Remember to vote Line O—Pabon, Petrick, and Tejada—on Nov. 6.

### Bill Petrick

Good afternoon. My name is Bill Petrick, and I am running for my third term as a member of the Perth Amboy City Council. I want to thank all of my current colleagues on the council, as well as the former council members who have come out to support us today.

This has been a difficult campaign, because our opponents have decided that the way to win this election is to engage in personal attacks—attacks that have been exposed as calculated and dishonest. So I want to move away from that, because mud-slinging is not going to fix the city’s crumbling streets.

It’s not going to deal with our lack of parking and congestion. It’s not going to stabilize our taxes or provide jobs. What the people of Perth Amboy need is a discussion of the issues that affect their lives, not political warfare that divides the community.

Yet I’m not surprised that our opponents are not discussing the issues. They have no experience in city government and no demonstrated commitment to service in this community. I answered the call for more than 40 years as a volunteer firefighter in Perth Amboy. Anyone who has been involved in youth sports in Perth Amboy knows Joel Pabon, who coached our kids for more than 20 years as a volunteer, and is past president of the Perth Amboy Youth League. Milady Tejada has been very active on the parish council of Our Lady of Fatima, and she is secretary of the United Dominicans of Perth Amboy. Again, proven voluntary service to the community.

It’s not enough to just show up at campaign events, shake hands, and pose for pictures—as our opponents have done. We need leaders with experience and commitment to solve Perth Amboy’s problems. I hope the voters of Perth Amboy will choose the experience and commitment demonstrated over many years by Joel Pabon, Milady Tejada, and myself. On Nov. 6, I ask you to Vote Line O, the Perth Amboy First team. Thank you!

### Milady Tejada

Greetings to everyone—and thank you to all of the present and former members of the city council who are here to support Bill Petrick, Joel Pabon and myself. For those of you who don’t already know me, my name is Milady Tejada. I am currently vice-president of the Perth Amboy Board of Education.

Some of you might wonder why I am made the decision to leave the board of education to run for a seat on the city council. I’m in my third term on the board of education, and education has always been a primary focus of my work in this community. I came to Perth Amboy as an immigrant in my teens,

speaking no English. But education was always important in my family. I worked hard in school, and when I graduated from Perth Amboy High School, I went on to attend college where I earned a bachelor’s degree that started me on a very fulfilling career. I want that same opportunity for my children and for every child who attends school in Perth Amboy.

Still, my concerns for the future of this city go well beyond our schools. As a member of the city council I can expand my reach, using both my experience and my knowledge of this community to help solve some of our most pressing problems—such as overdevelopment, high property taxes, and crumbling infrastructure.

I also want to serve as a bridge between the city government and the board of education. The administration has taken a very adversarial approach to relations with the board. That is not helpful to our children. I hope that with a seat on the city council, I can help bring about a closer working relationship between the city government and the board of education, which can only benefit our children.

So again, we appreciate everyone who has come here today—and I want to thank the residents of Perth Amboy for supporting our team!

### Closing statement by Lisa Nanton

We know what a disaster it would be for Perth Amboy to vote in three inexperienced people who are puppets for a mayor who has proven that she will do just about anything. no matter how ruthless to maintain power. They have remained silent in its wake. We need honest people like Joel Pabon, Bill Petrick, and Milady Tejada, who have years of experience serving Perth Amboy’s government and the community. Our records are one of self-sacrifice – not self interest. We need members of the city council that will always put PERTH AMBOY FIRST. Pabon, Petrick, Tejada For Council - Line O Puccio, Massopust, Marquez-Villafane for Bd of Ed- Line L Nov. 6

## Perth Amboy First Rally

*\*Continued from Page 1*

ty." He questioned the Mayor's outrage now instead of in 2016 and 2017. "I fell for her tactics. Petrick's Facebook Page had reposts views that were pro and con against all political parties. He did not comment on any of them. Petrick wanted to inform and stimulate conversation. There were over 400 postings on Petrick's pages, but the Mayor cherry-picked a few of those postings (from Petrick's Facebook page). Mayor Diaz, you owe an apology to Bill Petrick, his family, and also the community. I have relatives who have been victims of abuse. You have disgraced them. My offer still

stands to what I have stated in previous letters. I will take a polygraph test to prove that."

Councilman Joel Pabon talked next and said, "I am proud of what Petrick and I have accomplished. There have been no tax increase and we opposed an increase in the Mayor's budget. We've fought against wasteful spending and tabled rezoning. We have your (the community's) back and will vote for your best interest. The Mayor needs to work with the Council and not oppose us. I want to thank the former Council Members for their support."

Council President Bill Petrick spoke next. He thanked the current and former Council for their support. "Our opponents

are making dishonest attacks." He then commented about a member of Governor Phil Murphy's staff (who made recent racist and insulting comments aimed at religious and other organizations). That person is a member of LUPE PAC and neither our Mayor or anyone from that LUPE PAC commented about those insulting comments. Mudslinging will not fix our problems. We need to discuss issues affecting our daily lives. Our opponents have no community service. I started serving at the age of 18. Our combined team has over 80 years of community service. Experience and commitment is what is needed."

Milady Tejada came up to speak, "I am the current Vice

President of the Board of Education and am on my third term. I came to Perth Amboy as a teenager and spoke no English. I graduated college with a bachelor's degree. I want the same opportunity for all students. We have a lot of overdevelopment, high taxes, and a poor infrastructure. I want to be a liaison between the City and the Board of Education."

At the end, Lisa Nanton summed it up. "We don't need people who are puppets for the Mayor. We need honest people and people who are there as a self-sacrifice and not for self interest."

## Raritan Bay Cruisers Car Show Trunk O Treat

WOODBIDGE - Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Pizza Hut, 320 Rte. 9N, Woodbridge, 07095. Car trunks decorated with various themes or stories and filled with lots of candy and other treats! Come join us for an afternoon full of fun and enjoy the music! 3 ft. Trophy - 1<sup>st</sup> Place for Best Decorated Trunk; 2 ft. Trophy - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place for Best Decorated Trunk FREE

## South Amboy Council Approves Marijuana Ban 10/17/18 Council Meeting

By: Joseph L. Kuchie

**SOUTH AMBOY** - The South Amboy city council unanimously passed an ordinance that will ban the growth and distribution of marijuana throughout the entire city.

Ordinance No. 15-2018 states that businesses engaged in the growth or sale of medicinal or recreational marijuana or paraphernalia that facilitates the use of marijuana are prohibited in all zoning districts. The passing of this ordinance adds South Amboy to the list of nearly 40 towns in New Jersey that have officially banned marijuana from being sold.

The ordinance now goes to the desk of Mayor Fred Henry, who will need to provide final ap-

proval before it is published as provided by law. Mayor Henry announced after the vote that he would have no problem approving the ordinance.

"I'd like to thank the council tonight for passing ordinance 15(-2018) that shows the city's continued commitment to help stop drug use," Mayor Henry Said. "Obviously I'm going to have no problem signing that particular ordinance."

The sudden movement by these towns to ban marijuana throughout New Jersey is the result of the potential legalization of marijuana throughout the entire state by Governor Phil Murphy. The bill to legalize marijuana isn't expected to be introduced for another few

weeks, but cities like South Amboy have already made their opposition very clear.

South Amboy, like all other towns that have banned marijuana, are allowed to ban businesses but will not be able to collect any tax revenue if marijuana is legalized and sold through New Jersey. According to the ordinance, however, South Amboy determined that there is no area in the city that can safely house a business engaged in the growth, sale, or distribution of medicinal or recreational marijuana.

Councilman Brian McLaughlin was not in attendance for the meeting. The next city council meeting will be held on November 21 at 7:00 p.m.

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## BOE Candidates Forum 10/17/18 PAHS

By: Katherine Massopust

**PERTH AMBOY** – The Board of Education Candidates Forum took place on 10/17/18 at Perth Amboy High School. The forum was sponsored by the Perth Amboy Federation and the League of Women Voters who monitored the event. There were 6 candidates present at the forum. Candidates Maria Rodriguez and Anton Massopust were not present.

**The forum began with an opening statement presented by each candidate**

**Isamar Payano:** I'm born and raised in Perth Amboy. My parents came to America for the American Dream. I have a bachelor's degree. I attended the Perth Amboy Public Schools and graduated in 2008. Currently I work for the City of Perth Amboy Teen Center. I'm positive I will focus on what's best for our schools.

**Beth Lieberman:** I've taught for the last 20 years. I was a teacher mainly in the Patten School. I retired last year. I still want to contribute to the school. As a working teacher, one needs not only vision but what's best for educators such as myself. My experience over the years makes for better ideas, better results.

**Damaris Ramirez:** I am a life-long resident of Perth Amboy. My parents moved here 64 years ago. I'm involved in a lot of organizations in the City. I do policy writing. I have ideas for our children. Networking is very important in our community.

**Ken Puccio:** I was born and raised in Perth Amboy. I was raised by a single parent (my mom) and graduated in 1974, was in the army 4 years and lived here since that time in 1978. I first was a fireman and then a police officer. I'm now part-time. For 24 years I've worked in juvenile division (of the Police Department). I'm a passionate advocate for kids. I chose to stay here the last 10 years. I was the Board President for the last 2 years, and the Board Vice President for 3 years.

**Stephanie Márquez-Villa-**

**fañe:** I've attended Board of Education Meetings religiously for the past 6 years. I'm an advocate for the handicapped community. I led a movement in the district to save the Honors Program. We completed that goal. I started a non-profit 501c3. We helped with updates to the curriculum, to help students get books when they had no books. 20-30 students should be the class size. For years I have tutored for free. Changes need to be made. People need to change.

**Danielle Brown:** I'm an Honors Student and 3-Sport Athlete and graduated Cum Lada. I've been a teacher for 5 years in Richmond, Virginia Public Schools. I now serve at the Cathedral (International). In 2006 I became involved in the youth minister program which is geared toward tutoring.

**Anton J. Massopust** was unable to come to the debate, but gave a statement: The students come first, second the parents third, the Board as a unit, fourth are the People of Perth Amboy. The ultimate goal of our educational process is to produce an productive individual who will be a good citizen.

**Question: What do you see as the greatest challenge in Perth Amboy Schools?**

**Danielle Brown:** A lot of my work now involves providing services to families for those that can't afford necessities such as school supplies. So many factors come into the classroom. Test scores have made progress, but more can be made.

**Beth Lieberman:** Sitting on this side of the table is a different perspective. It's important to create transparency.

**Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe:** As someone who has seen the district grow, one has to find a balance of finances and resources with the staff. If the staff doesn't have the manpower, they can't do what needs to be done. It's that feedback from staff that makes sure they get what they need to serve the students.

**Isamar Payano:** Resources – make sure the staff has the best materials. We must do what we

can for what's best for the students. There is a language barrier – many students come from different countries. Many parents want to get involved but don't know how to. We should be able to engage them.

**Ken Puccio:** I've been here when things are bad. I've seen improvements. We have room for more. 1.) Parental involvement. 2.) We need more room. Down the road we'll need more space. We're on course on the Board of Education and we're moving in the right direction.

**Damaris Ramirez:** Parents are fearful because of immigration status. The bridge between the staff and children – some parents don't have resources and there's a language barrier. They're scared to ask for help. They don't know what's going to happen.

**Question: What do you as a candidate offer as a Board of Education Member?**

**Beth Lieberman:** I've known the classroom for 28 years. I've seen just about everything that goes on in a classroom. My eyes offer a different perspective than what the Board sees.

**Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe:** My experience working with parents, students, are a fresh pair of eyes. I graduated high school in 2016. I know the dynamics and how the Board of Education works. I've advocated with the Union.

**Isamar Payano:** I work with volunteers, hundreds of kids writing different political collaborative and different community partners. There's lots of different things students tell us consistently. I've dedicated my life to this. I've been on the other side as a student.

**Ken Puccio:** I will continue to be open minded and contribute to insure the school district is run properly and fairly.

**Damaris Ramirez:** When students, staff, and parents need help, I'll bridge that gap and express their concerns to help the staff and parents.

**Danielle Brown:** I'm a former educator and will bring experience to the Board. I have been an adjunct. I'm a product of the City of Perth Amboy. I was a

3-sport athlete in high school and college. As a college athlete, I have a history of teamwork. My life's work has been in the community and I have the energy for the Board.

**Question: What is the role of a School Board Member?**

**Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe:** Doing what's required, run the business of the school district, working with parents and staff, knowing the dynamics of the school system, and the community. Working with parents and staff in what benefits the students, staff and parents. Come with new ideas and be there overall.

**Isamar Payano:** To set policy, advocate, plan, promote students with vision. To plan how to improve the district. To establish policies that are feasible on what we want and advocate for the community. Measure benchmarks for the goals.

**Ken Puccio:** I've sat here and gone through all the groundwork. We make policy and make sure the district runs properly. We establish a relationship with the Superintendent, and make sure students, teachers, staff and parents work together. We are the advocates of Perth Amboy, not only here, but to the City itself.

**Damaris Ramirez:** To make policy. Make sure everyone involved benefits. Makes plans that are feasible and to set policy with the Board and Superintendent that are going to work.

**Danielle Brown:** To call for and provide accountability and I will support those who we hire to have accountability and measure progress.

**Beth Lieberman:** Advocate and ensure for entire school community in manner as best as possible and to have responsible education.

**Question: What qualities make for an effective school board member?**

**Isamar Payano:** I'm open to change and improvement and funding in the community and care for the well-being of our youth. To understand to compromise and work together effectively and compassionately and do what is best for our chil-

dren.

**Ken Puccio:** One must respect one another and their opinions. We don't always agree. Work as a team and come to a conclusion. Advocate and work together for the kids and staff, whatever personal bias you have stays at the door. It's important we all get along.

**Damaris Ramirez:** Take yourself personally out of the equation. Respect each other.

**Danielle Brown:** I have a finger on the pulse of the community and what will impact Board decisions. What's the bigger picture for the entire district.

**Beth Lieberman:** Collaborate, communicate, both with the administration, Board Members, parents and students. Problem solving is important. I'm a good listener. You make decisions that will impact the children.

**Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe:** Transparency with the community needs to be a good foundation. When you're on a committee, know the specifics of that committee. Be a good sorter and a good researcher. Know what's the truth and what's not, know what can be done – what policies are good and what needs to be changed. Transparency is most important.

**Question: How would you balance the budget pressures against the growing needs of the community?**

**Ken Puccio:** Perth Amboy is a special needs district. Over 80% of our budget is from outside the City. 20% of the budget comes from the taxpayers - their fair share. \$27 million in taxpayers' money comes from the City. We really should be paying \$46 million, - their fair share, but for certain reasons we don't. Our budget is around \$300 million. We are the watchdog on what is spent and if it is spent wisely. We should be ever vigilant.

**Damaris Ramirez:** We have to be very vigilant. When all our expenses we have our budget needs, so the rest doesn't have to bear the burden.

**Danielle Brown:** Giving needs of the community funding and identify the needs of the dis-

\*Continued on Page 14

BOE Candidates Forum 10/17/18 PAHS \*Continued from Page 13

trict. You must prioritize needs and have an understanding what comes to the table for the needs of many. We don't want anyone to lose out. We must be careful when making these decisions.

**Beth Lieberman:** We all deal with these types of budge decisions at home. It's the same thought process. It's similar with the Board of Education. Keep the priorities.

**Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe:** It's a very intricate priority of the Board of Education to make sure the school district run smoothly. There are many priorities for the state. Perth Amboy does not pay its fair share and it's important to the School Board to focus on what the needs of our staff and students are.

**Isamar Payano:** The way is prioritizing. We have to be diligent. Prioritizing and evaluating the budget. At the end of the day, what is the best way to handle the issue.

**Question: What factors are critical to education? What would you do to improve this?**

**Damaris Ramirez:** Our graduates are not on par with students in other districts. Things can be done to improve that. Allow students to do more on the computer.

**Danielle Brown:** Classroom size is important. It is nearly impossible to teach (in a huge teacher to student ration) which starts chaos. Classroom size impacts where the students learn. Students need the tools to compete.

**Beth Lieberman:** A decent ratio of teacher/children is important to learn. When you have parents that are involved, the students can have a better education.

**Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe:** A few years ago, Perth Am-

boy paid a lot of money (for a research study on this subject). In the first 1½ years many of our K-1 students are behind by 6 months. By 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, they are 1½ years behind, by the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade many students are on a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade reading level or 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Math level. Looking at those immigrant children, status is irrelevant to education in my opinion, our students are at a major disadvantage. I see the need to close the gap.

**Isamar Payano:** Send teachers to the right professional development. The culture and energy of families are giving them the equipment they need for their education.

**Ken Puccio:** Our most important vessel is the classroom teacher who gives all the students need. A happy staff is a productive staff. We need to find a happy medium. It all begins with the classroom teacher.

**Question: Many new staff members are leaving and retire as soon as eligible. What would you do to retain staff?**

**Danielle Brown:** Make decisions to alleviate the pressure. Create a work environment with understanding this is a district where you support the educators.

**Beth Lieberman:** I believe decision making and what is happening now in our district. We are not that different than other districts. We are not the lowest priced district. Salary is not the single answer. Raise the bar just like in the other districts. Stress exams and what teachers need to do to function.

**Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe:** This was recently brought up at the Board of Education Meeting. Teachers, staff, personnel come and go. That's the reality. Colonia High School was given the bronze medal, and teach-

ers there were paid less than here. Make sure morale is up. Teachers feeling valued and that knowing their opinions matter is important.

**Isamar Payano:** More teamwork. Feeling appreciated. More staff involvement in decision making. The ratio of classroom size is important.

**Ken Puccio:** I'm a team member of the Board of Education. What's happening to teachers is not only in Perth Amboy, but statewide and across the nation. A lot of pressure is put on teachers today. We should improve morale. People who do choose to leave, find out the reason. We need dialogue with staff. There should be an exiting interview. Never close the door with them.

**Damaris Ramirez:** There should be an open-door policy. Feel comfortable everyday discuss something. Help them do a good job.

**Question: Where do you stand on privatization of schools?**

**Beth Lieberman:** I'm a firm believer in public school education. Education should not be based on money.

**Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe:** I'm a strong believer of public-school education. We must do what's best for our district. Ultimately what we do for the district will affect us.

**Isamar Payano:** It's important to have the best education. I believe in a public-school education.

**Ken Puccio:** No. I would never vote to privatize any part of the school system. Most of our employees live in this town. For example, instead of outsourcing for the need of additional landscaping, the maintenance department is doing it. It usually hurts the little people (to privatize services). I would never vote to privatize any de-



Representative from the League of Women Voters, Candidate Beth Lieberman, Representative from the LWV Barbara Chaubery, Candidate Isamar Payano, Incumbent and Board President Ken Puccio, Candidate Damaris Ramirez, Candidate Danielle Brown, Candidate Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe \*Photo by Katherine Massopust

partment.

**Damaris Ramirez:** I'm against privatization. It hurts our community. A lot of good comes out of public-school education.

**Danielle Brown:** I am a product of the public-school system. I am opposed to privatizing any shape or form.

**Closing Statements:**

**Danielle Brown:** Thank you to the AFT and LWV and everyone. I also ask for you for the opportunity to serve the City of Perth Amboy.

**Damaris Ramirez:** Thanks for the opportunity to have this forum.

**Isamar Payano:** I've committed my life to service working with grassroots efforts. I care about results and making effective change. I'm very passionate about Perth Amboy. I have a pulse on the community and the challenges that are youth based.

**Beth Lieberman:** I want to thank the AFT and League of

Women Voters. My experience as a classroom teacher can only be a positive course for the Board of Education. Teachers by nature are looking for community involvement.

**Ken Puccio:** I want to thank the AFT and LWV. I've been here 9½ years. I've been here through bad times and the beginning of good times. I have no regrets. If I did it all over I would make the same decisions. We have are building a new high school, new elementary school, and we have the start of a Dual Language School. I am proud to be a part of it. I don't take that lightly.

**Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe:** 6 years goes by quickly. We've gone through a lot of changes, both positive and negative. Work needs to be done. We do what's best for the district. I want to thank the AFT and LWV. Always put education first.

Fire Prevention Week Open House, Perth Amboy 10/12/18 \*Photos by Paul W. Wang



PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Fire Department held their annaul open house during Fire Prevention Week. The community learned about steps to take to prevent fires and different safety precautions to take. There was a live burn demonstration as well as exhibits in the Fireman's Museum. There were plenty of goodie bags handed out.

## Coffee House

PERTH AMBOY – The 1683 Society is presenting Musical Guest Kim Boyko at the Proprietary House, 149 Kearny Ave., Perth Amboy on Sunday, November 11, 2018 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

## A.C. Bus Trip Ukrainian

**Assumption Seniors**  
PERTH AMBOY – The Ukrainian Assumption Seniors are having a trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Sunday, November 18, 2018. For more information, call Eleanor: 732-874-5291.

## Saturday Storytime

SEWAREN – The Sewaren Public Library warmly presents: Saturday Storytime with special assistance from Kara & Elizabeth. Stories, crafts, snacks, and more! 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month! (Starting Oct. 6th). Bring only imagination. Interested? Contact us at: 732-634-7571 or email us at sewarenlibrary@gmail.com The Sewaren Library is located at 546 West Ave.

## Calendar

### Dinner Dance

PERTH AMBOY – The St. Ann Society of Ukrainian Assumption Church will sponsor its annual Calendar Dinner Dance on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, in the Assumption Catholic School auditorium, Meredith & Jacques Sts. Enjoy a night of dining and dancing: appetizers and a lavish buffet by Palms Plaza and DJ music by Supreme Sound and Entertainment. Doors open at 6 p.m., buffet at 7 p.m. As always, BYOB. Tickets are \$40 pp and can be purchased by calling the church office at 732-826-0767 or after liturgies from members. Get your tickets soon! No tickets will be sold at the door.

## Come Party with Us!

PARLIN - In celebration of the band's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Mikell's Plot will be having a party bash!

The event is being hosted and sponsored by DAA Entertainment and NJ's Rock Radio 92.9 FM. The party will include guest performances by some of NJ's greatest bands. Rebels United, Tilted, Pale Horse, Metal Land, Jernee Mill and Smoked Rose.

"Making original music for 20 years is a milestone that we had to acknowledge and what better way to do it then with this party?" said Michael O'Connor, lead singer of Mikell's Plot.

The event is on Saturday, November 3, 2018 starting at 5 p.m. located at Brighton Bar, 121 Brighton Avenue, Long Branch, NJ 07740. The party is open to all ages, 21+ to drink. There will be catered food and a cash bar. Come and enjoy the celebration and be part of this event with Michael O'Connor and George Rivera and the rest of the band.

Tickets are \$10 in Advance and \$12 at the door. Go to <http://www.ticketweb.com> for your advance tickets. [www.mikellspot.com](http://www.mikellspot.com)

# Renovations, PARCC Results, Turnover Rate, Naming New Elementary School 10/11/18 BOE Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust  
PERTH AMBOY – At the 10/11/18 Board Meeting Student Representative Kevin Chavez gave a report on the positive changes in the schools. He stated the pep rally was a success and students showed a lot of school spirit. He also stated that the Homecoming game and dance was successful.

Superintendent Dr. David Roman showed a video of all the improvements made in the high school which included a remodeled media center, a nice new guidance office and theme-based academies. This includes a new Freshman Academy coming soon.

Dr. Roman was proud to announce that the district won First Prize for their Best Newsletter and Second Prize for Best Website in the State of New Jersey.

The presentation was on the HIB Self-Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) which was presented by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Vivian Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Richard Chromey and Anti-Bullying Specialist, Ms. MaryJo McAdam. First, Ms. McAdam showed the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights and each school were given a score on anti-bullying. Dr. Roman stated that the assessment was given by a survey and they self-access. The presentation then compared the PARCC scores in different grades as opposed from a few years ago. In general, there was improvement in all of the scores except for math in some schools.

Dr. Vivian Rodriguez, Dr. Damian Medina, and Mr. Michael Heidelberg and Board of Education Members gave awards to students who achieved a perfect score on the PARCC exam. The Board congratulated all the students who achieved this honor.

There was no executive session. No one came from the audience to speak on agenda items only.

During the Board Meeting, comments were made by Junior



Students who had a perfect score on the PARCC Exam, Parents, Board of Education Members along with Administrators pose for a group photo \*Photos by Katherine Massopust

Iglesia, "The minutes of the executive session don't reflect all the information at the Meeting. "I stated the public should know what is going on. Most of what is said is accurate except for me making a motion. I made a motion to amend the minutes."

There was a discussion on how to proceed with this matter. Since there was already a motion on the floor to accept the minutes as presented, the motion and second had to be rescinded. Then the minutes could be accepted with the necessary corrections.

Board President Ken Puccio gave the President's Report, "I've reflected back as the last 4 years. We've come a long way in the last 3½ years. The scores are improving. There's going to be a new high school and elementary school. Nothing is perfect. Students are in a better place. Things are changing and changing for good. I want to thank everyone from the Superintendent down to the lunch aide. I want to tip my hat to you. Dr. Roman, what is occurring in this district is phenomenal. Thank you for your dedication to the children of this district."

There were a number of staff and teachers leaving the district. Board Member Junior Iglesia was curious as to why there what he considered to be a high turnover rate. "There's always an opportunity to improve to get



Students who had a perfect score on the PARCC Exam pose for a photo at the 10/11/18 BOE Meeting

better. Eleven staff workers and six teachers are resigning."

Mr. Rodriguez, Director of Personnel came up to speak, "I've looked at the recent resignations. Mostly the reason is due to money. (they leave for higher paying jobs) Several people have moved out of the state."

Dr. David Roman added, "The bar has been raised. There are certain expectations."

Board Member Junior Iglesia then stated, "We should keep staff turnover low. Last year 45 of our staff left the district. We have to improve the ratio of staff."

Dr. Roman, I hope the contract will be settled soon. (which will help with this matter)."

Board Member Tashi Vasquez stated, "I informally converse on my way out (after the meetings). We need feedback. Some of its more money. We want to have these conversations. We need to share the reasons, not on hearsay, so we can improve in those areas. We want new young staff. How do we keep people here?"

Board Member Jesus Martinez said, "The workload volume can create a negative morale."

Dr. David Roman said, "We struggle with manpower. I agree with Ms. Vasquez. We want to hear from the staff. We can't stop people from leaving the district for more money, sometimes \$10,000 more. There are so many factors: salary, workload. We're going to do those observations. There's accountability for everyone. We're going to have those hard conversations."

Board Secretary Derek Jess commented, "Irene Hand is retiring. For the past 15 years, it's been my pleasure to work with her."

Under Old Business, Board President Ken Puccio said, "The Committee to name the Seaman Avenue Elementary School includes myself and Board Member Lissette Lebron." There were two meetings and 14 people attended to the first meeting while 12 attended the second. The name of the school will be one of the three suggestions: Rose Lopez, Austin Gumbs, or the Rebecca & Marcus Spring School.

Board Member Anton Massopust explained that Rebecca & Marcus Spring founded the famous school Eagleswood in the 1850's where they educated the finest minds of the 19th Century. Rose Lopez and Austin Gumbs were both educators in Perth Amboy. There will be one more meeting of this committee regarding this matter. According to policy, the committee will make a recommendation and bring it before the Board.

For New Business, Board Member Randy Convery stated jokingly, "Is there any way I can reenroll in high school?" citing all the positive changes that are being made.

Board Member Tashi Vasquez thanked the PTO for their work, "It takes a special parent to get involved in that level. They meet once a month. Please come and help us set up (for their events). It's important to get involved as much as possible."

Board Member Lissette Lebron stated that the Class of 1993 is having their 25th Class Reunion.

Board President Puccio stated, "We all bleed Red & White."

No one spoke during the public portion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

## Vendor Night

SOUTH AMBOY – The South Amboy Columbiettes hold a Fall Vendor Night on Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Columbian Club at 308 Fourth St., South Amboy. Vendors are wanted. Please contact Cheryl at 732-407-3295 or sa426ladies@yahoo.com

## Annual 5K Fun Run & Walk

SAYREVILLE - Support saving lives and finding homes for shelter dogs and cats! Sammy's Hope Animal Welfare and Adoption Center of Sayreville is holding its annual 5K Fun Run and Walk on Saturday, November 3 at 9 a.m., Sayreville Sports Complex, 4441 Borden-town Ave., Sayreville. Register online: [runner.com/sammyshope5K](http://runner.com/sammyshope5K).

## Autumn Breakfast Buffet

PERTH AMBOY – The Holy Name Society of Ukrainian Assumption Church is sponsoring an All You Can Eat Autumn Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, November 4, 2018 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Ukrainian Assumption School Cafeteria (Meredith & Jacques St., Perth Amboy)

Breakfast Menu (subject to change): Scrambled Eggs, Omelets (made to order), Pancakes, French Toast, Bacon, Sausage, Egg Souffle, Fruits, Juice, Hash Browns, Coffee, Tea, and more. Donation; \$12 Adults; \$6 Ages 6-12yrs; Free Children Under 6yrs. Tickets are available in advance after each Mass or by calling Charlie Boyko at 732-254-3966.

***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 October 15, 1943, German troops surround Rome's Jewish A second day's bombing of Kassel, Germany, by the RAF takes place on October 22, 1943. The 416,000 incendiaries dropped by 569 bombers cause a firestorm that keeps flames burning for seven days in the city of 236,000. Over 10,000 people — mostly civilians — are killed and 150,000 are rendered homeless.

A German torpedo-boat flotilla on October 23 sinks the Royal Navy cruiser *HMS Charybdis* and the destroyer *HMS Limborne* in an attack in the English Channel. From Japanese-occupied Singapore, the provisional government of Azad Hind ("Free India") declares war on the United Kingdom and the United States. In Italy, almost 1.5 million people begin evacuating Naples in fear of a rumored bombing threat that, in fact, never materializes. The Soviet 28th Army — after many days of heavy street fighting — drives the German Sixth Army out of Melitopol, in southeastern Ukraine.

In the Bismarck Archipelago, Allied aircraft on October 24 raid Rabaul, New Britain Island, for a second time in two days. One Japanese destroyer and five merchant ships are sunk in the raids. At Aitape, Papua-New Guinea, captured Australian commando Sgt. Leonard Siffleet is executed by beheading. A photograph taken just a moment prior to Siffleet's execution by a sword-wielding Japanese soldier is found six months later by American soldiers on the body of a dead Japanese officer at Hollandia, Papua-New Guinea. The photo — believed to be the only picture of the execution of a POW by a Japanese soldier — is published in Australian newspapers and in LIFE magazine in the U.S.

On October 25, the Japanese open the infamous 258-mile-long Burma-Siam Railway, connecting Bangkok, Thailand, with Rangoon, Burma. The Japanese used 61,000 British and Commonwealth POWs and some 220,000 Burmese forced laborers to build the railroad. Over 90,000 Burmese and 12,000 prisoners died during construction. (The building of the railroad was the setting for Pierre Boulle's novel [and a subsequent motion picture], *The Bridge over the River Kwai*.) In Europe, the Red Army's 3rd Ukrainian Front captures Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine's fourth-largest city.

An amphibious invasion of the Treasury Islands, south of Bougainville in the Solomons, is made on October 26 by the New Zealand 8th Brigade, which defeats the Japanese garrison stationed there. Following the islands' capture, U.S. Navy Seabees build an airstrip used for attacks on the Japanese base at Rabaul. In Germany, a prototype of the Dornier Do 335 heavy fighter makes its first flight. The plane will be the *Luftwaffe's* fastest piston-engined aircraft during the war.

The first prototype stainless-steel airplane — the twin-engined RB-1 Conestoga cargo plane, designed for the U.S. Navy by Philadelphia's Budd Company — rolls off the assembly line on October 27. The craft never becomes operational, however, due to steel-price increases, production problems and excessive fuel consumption.

In the U.S., unresolved disputes have caused coal miners to once again start walking off their jobs. By October 28, thousands are on strike and the work stoppage is gaining momentum. In the Pacific, 650 U.S. Marines of the 2nd Parachute Battalion led by Lt. Col. Victor "Brute" Krulak, land on Choiseul, in the Solomon Islands. Their mission is to conduct raids against Japanese army and navy facilities on the island to divert attention from planned Allied landings on Bougainville at Empress Augusta Bay.

***Perth Amboy Free Public Library  
Sets up for A Spooktacular Halloween***  
Press Release  
PERTH AMBOY --The Perth Amboy Free Public Library is ready to scare up some Halloween fun this October! Drop in every week for a new make and take craft and to play our Children's Room Monthly Game! Registration is required for the activities below, to register call the library or visit us online at [www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org](http://www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org)  
**Carve Your Own Pumpkin:** Tuesday October 23 5:30 pm A Halloween staple, stop by the library and create your own masterpiece!  
**Teen Craft Night:** Oct 30<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm Stop in the Library to create a chilling craft.  
**Careers from the Crypt:** October 25<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm Learn about nonmainstream professions from those in the field.  
**The Ghost Train Visits Perth Amboy:** October 26<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm. Local Horror author, Donald Garvon reads his latest scary tales. Trick or Treat at the Library: October 31<sup>st</sup> Stop by the Library to show us your creepy costume!  
The Perth Amboy Free Public Library is located at 196 Jefferson Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. For more information, please call the library at 732.826.2600 or visit us online at [www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org](http://www.perthamboypubliclibrary.org)

**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. Oct. 24, 2018. Cost \$35 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.

**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, Nov. 1, 2018. 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.

**Sands Casino  
Bus Trip  
Holy Rosary  
Seniors**

HOPELAWN – Holy Rosary Seniors is sponsoring a bus trip to the Sands Casino in Pennsylvania Thursday 11/29/2018. Cost is \$30 - \$20 back in play and \$5 food voucher. Bus leaves church parking lot at 10:00 a.m. For any questions please call Ronnie at 732-442-5252.

**A.C. Bus Trip  
Fellowship Circle of  
the Hungarian  
Reformed Church**  
PERTH AMBOY - Atlantic City Bus Trip to the Golden Nugget on Sunday, Nov. 11, 2018.  
Sponsored by the Fellowship Circle of the Hungarian Reformed Church, 331 Kirkland Place, Perth Amboy, NJ. Bus leaves the church at 12:00 Noon - 6 hour stay at Casino from when we arrive in AC. Cost: \$30.00 per person (\$25 slot play & \$5 food voucher). Bagged lunch provided -To reserve a seat: call: 732-261-8726. Payment due ASAP  
NO REFUND FOR LAST MINUTE CANCELLATIONS.

**A.C. Bus Trip  
Broadway Diner**  
SOUTH AMBOY – There will be a Bus Trip to Atlantic City to the Golden Nugget Casino on Monday, November 5, 2018. Bus will depart from Methodist Church, Bordentown Avenue leaving sharply at 10 a.m. for 6 hours once we arrive at the Golden Nugget Casino. Cost \$36; \$25 back in free play; \$5 food voucher. \*Must be 21 or older to attend, with picture ID; Snack Pack will be provided on bus! To reserve a seat or for more info, please contact Vicky at 732-753-9449.

**Pet of the Week**



Hi. My name is Moon & I'm still a kitten. I'm only 4 mths. Please ADOPT ME or one of my friends. ADOPT. SPAY. NEUTER. LOVE. Adoption application & donation fee apply. All for the Paws P. O. Box 2281 Perth Amboy, NJ 08862 Allforthepaws.org Paypal Allforthepaws@gmail.com Text name and email address to 1.732.486.6382 to adopt or for more info.

***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.**

**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, we are not accepting 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: Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> & Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>. We will be there from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (weather permitting). For more info, e-mail us at [friendsofperthamboypublibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofperthamboypublibrary@gmail.com) Book Dealers are welcome. !!!!

**Haunted  
Lantern Walk  
from the  
Proprietary  
House**  
PERTH AMBOY – The Proprietary House, the Royal Governor's Mansion, has scheduled "A Haunted Lantern Walk" for Friday & Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, with guided walks to be offered at 7:00 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. each evening. Take a ghostly journey through centuries of history from Proprietary House to St. Peter's Graveyard. Hear creepy tales & meet spirits from Perth Amboy's past. Hot cider & sweets. DOORS OPEN AT 6:45 PM. ADMISSION: \$20 in advance / \$25 at the door (Members \$20) THERE IS LIMITED SPACE, SO RESERVE IN ADVANCE. All funds raised will benefit ongoing restoration and operation of Proprietary House's Museum.  
CONTACT THE PROPRIETARY HOUSE ASSOCIATION - Phone: (732) 826-5527; E-mail: [info@theproprietary-house.org](mailto:info@theproprietary-house.org); Address: 149 Kearny Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ, 08861.

**National  
Friends of the  
Library Week**  
PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library are celebrating National Friends of the Library Week on Tuesday, October 23, 2018. After a brief meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the library (adult library upstairs), 196 Jefferson St., Perth Amboy, the PAFOL will be offering a live reading of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven," and other spooky stories. Light Refreshments will be available. Come out and support your local library! Everyone is invited to attend. For more information call 732-261-2610.

**K of C  
Spaghetti &  
Sausage Dinner**  
EDISON - Our Lady of Peace Knights of Columbus Council #9199 of Fords is sponsoring a Spaghetti & Sausage Dinner on Sunday, Oct 28, 2018 from 1PM to 6PM at the OLP Parish Center. The Parish Center is on Franklin St, Edison. All proceeds will benefit the annual Right To Life Bus trip to Washington, DC.  
The menu includes linguini & sausage (sweet or hot) with Marinara sauce, salad, bread, coffee, tea & desserts. Cost is \$10 for adults, children under 12 are \$5 and children under 5 are free. There is a special Family Price of \$20 (eat in only). A family is 2 adults and any children under 12. Soda & bottled water will be available for \$1 each. No reservations necessary and take-out orders are available. For more information, call Kevin at 732-877-8170.

Novena to St. Rita

O holy protectress of those who art in greatest need, thou who shineth as a star of hope in the midst of darkness, blessed Saint Rita, bright mirror of God's grace, in patience and fortitude thou art a model of all the states in life. I unite my will with the will of God through the merits of my Savior Jesus Christ, and in particular through his patient wearing of the crown of thorns, which with tender devotion thou didst daily contemplate. Through the merits of the holy Virgin Mary and thine own graces and virtues, I ask thee to obtain my earnest petition, provided it be for the greater glory of God and my own sanctification. Guide and purify my intention, O holy protectress and advocate, so that I may obtain the pardon of all my sins and the grace to persevere daily, as thou didst in walking with courage, generosity, and fidelity down the path of life. *(Mention your request.)*  
Saint Rita, advocate of the impossible, pray for us.  
Saint Rita, advocate of the helpless, pray for us.  
*Recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be three times each. K.M. & C.M.*

Miraculous Invocation to St. Therese

O Glorious St. Therese, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and inspire the human family. I implore your Miraculous Intercession. You are so powerful in obtaining every need of body and spirit from the Heart of God. Holy Mother Church proclaims you “Prodigy of Miracles . . . the Greatest Saint of Modern Times.” Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition *(mention here)* to carry out your promises of spending Heaven doing good upon earth . . . of letting fall from Heaven a Shower of Roses. Little Flower, give me your childlike faith, to see the Face of God in the people and experiences of my life, and to love God with full confidence. Saint Therese, my Carmelite Sister, I will fulfill your plea “to be made known everywhere” and I will continue to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.  
*“I will let fall from Heaven . . . a Shower of Roses”*  
– St. Therese  
*Say this prayer for nine consecutive days. After the ninth day your prayer request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted. J.M.P.*

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can achieve my goal. You who give me a divine gift to forgive & forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life are with me. I want to this short prayer to thank you for all things you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you, even in spite of all material illusions. I wish to be with you in eternal joy and thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.  
*The person must say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. After 3 days the favor requested will be granted even if it seems difficult. The prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted without mention of the favor, only your initials should appear at the bottom. J.M.P.*

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 J.M.P.*

Remember to Say Your Novenas!

Answers  
From Puzzle  
On Page 15



**Spooky Stories**  
PERTH AMBOY – Friday, October 26, 2018 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Surveyor General's Office Museum, 260 High St., Perth Amboy. For more info, call 732-826-0290 ext. 4860 or email: history@perthamboy.nj.org

LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Halloween Parade

*\*Photo Courtesy of Gary Muska  
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. Oct. 23 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. Oct. 24 Good Shepherd Wednesday Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.  
• St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.  
THURS. Oct. 25 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.  
MON. Oct. 29 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.  
TUES. Oct. 30 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. Oct. 31 Good Shepherd Wednesday Seniors, 12:30 p.m. Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.  
• St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.  
THURS. Nov. 1 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.  
**South Amboy**  
WED. Nov. 7 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.  
MON. Nov. 12 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.  
MON. Nov. 26 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**

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Please Include Prices of Items on Classified's or They will not be Published

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Exercise Equipment for sale: Weights, Benches, Bikes, Machines, Treadmill. 732-539-7659 11/21	Sayreville Bombers Gold Charm Boxed Original \$75 - Call "Kitch" - 732-525-2405	Tires - Firestone M&S LT275170R 18 Two \$10 Each 732-727-1772
For Sale	Brand New Electric Heater Radiator. Was \$65 Now \$20 New Never Used. 732-547-7406	Antique Sleds Good Shape, Flexible Flyer Size 51 1/2 in. FF Original Sticker \$50 732-727-0314
Stationary Bike - Whisper Air Brand - Like New - \$75 - 732-236-4479	Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Baseball Card Collection 30+ Years Old \$75 - 732-727-8417
Household Items - Gun Case; Tables, Lamps, Furniture, Dishes \$5-\$75 - 732-277-4975	Panasonic 2.2 cu.ft. full size Microwave, great for home, office or dorm \$25. Girls 20" bike \$15. 732-596-2116	40 Folding Chairs \$40, AB and Back Machine \$25 - 732-826-9014
Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975	Safe Combination 21" High 13 1/2" wide on wheels \$75 732-634-1851	Fish Tank - 55 gal. \$50. Call Richie: 732-727-9523
HD Motorcycle Jack - Like New \$70 or Best Offer - 732-290-1551	Household Wheelchair \$75 - 732-634-3589	Dining Hutch - Wood - Good Condition \$50 - Self Pick-up 732-826-6324
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Collector Plate, White Raised Figurine. The L-Nativita \$30 - 732-309-0477	Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5 <sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-6305	Atari 2600 original joystix paddles 27 cartridges \$75 or B.O. 908-803-9623
Older New Toy Trucks Sunoco, Exxon, Mobil Hess \$20 Each or B.O. - 732-316-5092	Sewing Machine - portable Singer \$35; Toilets, Shower Doors \$20 Each 732-679-0086	Girl's Bicycle 24" Panasonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or B.O. 908-501-3993
6x8 Railroad Tie \$20 - 732-396-9537 - leave a message	Playstation, Xbox, Sled, Batman Cards, Flipper Movie Poster, Telescope Prices: \$25-\$75 - 732-713-0536	32ft. Heavy Duty Aluminum Roofing/Siding Ladder \$75 - 908-803-9623
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If you wish to publish a Novena in The Amboy Guardian, you may use this coupon.

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St. Joseph

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A Petition to  
St. Jude

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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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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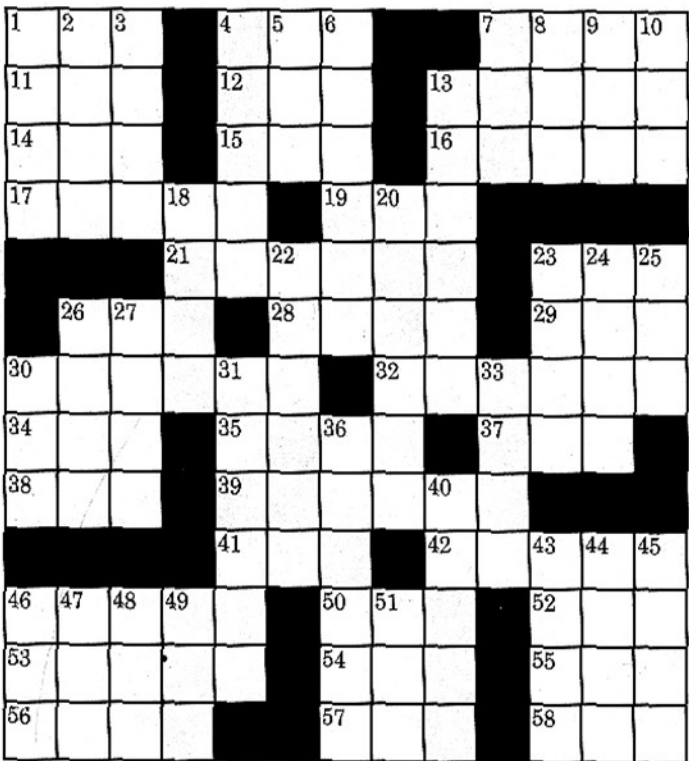
ACROSS

- 1. Young goat
- 4. Also
- 7. Make
- 15-Across
- 11. Gershwin brother
- 12. Chest bone
- 13. Honking bird
- 14. Paving goo
- 15. Malt beverage
- 16. Great civilization of the ancient Middle East
- 17. Journal recording
- 19. Strong longing
- 21. Declare
- 23. Whirlpool bath
- 26. Animal companion
- 28. Sacred image
- 29. Mouth part
- 30. Neighbor-hood bar
- 32. Take away
- 34. Monkey's kin
- 35. Look boldly at
- 37. Annoy
- 38. Golf score
- 39. Sharp sides of knives
- 41. Wager
- 42. Stage-struck /artiste

- 46. Got up
- 50. McMahon and Sullivan
- 52. Paul Bunyan's tool
- 53. One who gives generously
- 54. Take to court
- 55. Pod vegetable
- 56. Has a debt
- 57. Mr. Danson
- 58. Conclude
- 6. Followed (orders)
- 7. Marshy place
- 8. Cowboy Rogers
- 9. Psychic's gift
- 10. Dry's opposite
- 13. Kind
- 18. Fixed price
- 20. Disintegrated
- 22. Unmarried
- 23. Harmful remark
- 24. Choose
- 25. Likely (to)
- 26. Mama's mate
- 27. Always
- 30. Light touch
- 31. Bank thief
- 33. Phonograph record, for one
- 36. Most recent
- 40. Relieved, as pain
- 43. Adhesive strip
- 44. Beasts of burden
- 45. Peruse
- 46. Fuss and bother
- 47. Group of seats
- 48. Undivided
- 49. Distress call
- 51. Payable

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**PERTH AMBOY** - Very warm and beautiful cape cod in the Budapest section of Perth Amboy 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, large basement, lots of space, large private yard, off street parking. Owner needs action Hurry!!!!!!  
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**PERTH AMBOY** - Commuters dream. Massive townhome, with some water views. Courtyard entrance, 2 parking spots in the underground garage. 3 levels, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms!!! A must see!!! **\$249,900**



**EDISON** - Rte. 1 South to Woodbridge Ave towards Highland Park left on Fox Road 1 Bedroom plus extra room, 1st Floor, centrally located to downtown Highland Park and New Brunswick, commuter train and theatre district. Close to all major highways, Rutgers University and hospitals. Association fees include heat, taxes, water, sewer, ground maintenance and pool. Sold As-Is Condition. **\$68,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Large single-family house in the heart of Perth Amboy, close to all major public transportation and shopping district, many upgrades, off street parking and more. **\$250,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Great investment two family all separated utility including water, great location 3 bedrooms each unit, full basement, needs some TLC. Mutual driveway. It has lots of potential. **\$329,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - STUDIO APT. NICE UNIT W/15FT. CEILINGS. CUSTOM BUILT LIBRARY STYLE WOOD WALL UNIT WITH ROLLING LADDER. TONS OF STORAGE(ATTIC) WITH A FEW CLOSETS. **\$89,900**



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