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The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same

1/7/19 Caucus

PERTH AMBOY – During the public portion, a woman who lives on Elizabeth Street requested to have a temporary handicapped space in front of her residence. Councilman Fernando Irizarry translated for her since she spoke only in Spanish. She stated that she was going to have a leg operation and will have to use crutches. “I live by myself, but I was denied a spot. After I recover, the handicapped parking sign can be removed. I’ve lived here for a long time and I only need this temporarily. I was denied a handicapped parking spot because there is already a handicapped parking spot assigned to someone who lives 50 feet away from me. I will be moving into a senior apartment soon.”

Council President William Petrick asked, “Can we make an exception in this case as we have done so in the past? She will have to pay the \$100 fee.”

Councilman Irizarry spoke, “I explained this to her. She has a handicapped placard, but no sign in front of her house.”

Law Director Peter King spoke up and said, “I don’t think we give out temporary handicapped spots.”

Petrick spoke again and stated, “The space can be a permanent until it’s reviewed again to determine if that spot is no longer needed.”

Councilman Irizarry (who had been part of the handicapped parking committee) stated, “We (the Council) need to go back to the ordinance to see if we are authorized to issue temporary spots.”

Council President Bill Petrick again reminded the Council about a handicapped spot that had been granted to another individual.

Irizarry mentioned that situation was different because the requested handicapped spot was in the business district.

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch said, “We can contact the resident after the decision is made.”

Irizarry then translated what the woman said, “She will call when she no longer needs to have a handicapped spot if it is given to her.”

Former Councilman and Resi-

dent Ken Balut came up and had a question about Susan Batista’s lawsuit, “Who paid for the first hundred-grand?”

B.A. Fehrenbach stated, “The municipality paid the deductible, then the insurance company takes over.”

Balut then went on to talk about tickets that were dismissed, and the one ticket that went to court, the person was found not guilty. “Investigate all tickets by the former Law Director, especially the dismissed ones. You (the Council) spent a lot of time discussing handicapped parking spots and I have many handicapped parking spaces close together on my block (Bruck Avenue).” Balut continued, “C/O’s (Certificate of Occupancy’s) are given to homes that don’t qualify for what they want built. We have promotions of Fire Captains and I was told at the same time there were layoffs. Cruz (Former B.A. Adam Cruz) got a job in Trenton. Do we have an agreement with Trenton?”

Law Director Peter King responded to Balut’s comments about predatory towing, “The towers are hired by the parking lot owners.” King further stated that he didn’t get any e-mails regarding (Former Law Director Arlene Quinones) asking for the dismissal of tickets.

Acting B.A. Greg Fehrenbach then answered Balut’s question regarding the C/O’s referring to a house on the 300 block on Bruck Avenue.

Before he could say anything, Balut started to talk again and stated, “I did submit a report on this specific address and it should have been looked at for changes that should not have been permitted.”

Fehrenbach went on to explain that Acting Code Enforcement Director Lozada said he will not issue names of people who file complaints. He then stated, “There were three vacancies for Fire Captains.”

Resident David Caba came up to speak. He wanted to know, “How many Chaplains are left? What are their titles? And where

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Communications Take Center Stage

1/9/19 Council Meeting

PERTH AMBOY – There were extensive conversations regarding several communications that Council President Bill Petrick had placed on the agenda. The 4 that were discussed the most were:

1.) Restoring the Mayoral position to part time as it was in the 1980’s.

2.) Appointing the Council President as Acting Mayor in absence if the Mayor will be gone for a period more than two days.

3.) Dissolving the Redevelopment Agency

4.) Asking for a runoff in a Mayoral election if a candidate does not receive 51% of the vote.

During the first public portion, Resident Stanley Sierakowski spoke about R-8-1/19 – Awarding a contract to Signal Control Products for traffic signals parts and supplies in an amount not to exceed \$135,080.50 of which the amount of \$30,000 is being encumbered.

Sierakowski said, “I approve.”

Sierakowski also thought that R-17-1/19 – (A 3-year professional services contract for Bruce Kaplan as the City’s health insurance benefit consultant beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021 in the amount of \$198,900) was a very smart move.

Communication No. 28 which pertained to dissolving the Redevelopment Agency.

“The Redevelopment Agency has become too self-serving now. The Executive Director (Annie Hindenlang) said schools are not considered during the planning. If she had children in the school system, she would have considered schools,” Sierakowski said.

Council President Bill Petrick responded, “The schools and the City should not be separated.”

Resident Sharon Hubberman came up to speak and referenced Communication No. 28, “Who is the Chair of the Redevelopment Agency?”

Council President Petrick answered, “The Mayor.”

Hubberman stated, “The Mayor should not be the Chair. It is a conflict of interest. There are other towns that have the Faulkner form of government



PERTH AMBOY - Maura Nieves, Sgt. Perth Amboy Auxiliary Police holds a Mayoral Citation presented to her from Mayor Wilda Diaz congratulating her on her retirement for 10+ years service. Also pictured are members of the Perth Amboy Police Department (Regular and Auxiliary) Council President Bill Petrick, and Members of Nieves's family. *Photo by Paul W. Wang



PERTH AMBOY - Recently retired Councilman Fernando Gonzalez was recognized for his service on the City Council (L to R) Councilman Joel Pabon, Councilwoman Milady Tejeda, Council President Bill Petrick, Fernando Gonzalez, Councilman Helmin Caba, Councilman Fernando Irizarry *Photo by Paul W. Wang

that don’t have the Mayor as the Chair but have a Council Member instead.” She then went on to make comments about Communication No. 31 (Making the Mayor position part-time). “I’m in support of this. We have the largest paid Mayor’s salary and a full-time Administrator, but we do not have a full-time Mayor. The Mayor of Old Bridge gets a \$15,000 salary and is full-time. \$25,000 should be the cap. Don’t put us on the hook for the benefits and pensions.”

Resident David Caba came up to speak. He had a question regarding R-30 – A Settlement Agreement release in the matter of Ruben Gereia vs. the City of Perth Amboy in an amount not to exceed \$500,000. “This is a personal injury and they are getting \$500,000. This is why we come up here. Someone lied to

us.”

Law Director Peter King responded to Caba and stated, “I never said this person worked for the City and I was called a liar.” King indicated that he could charge Caba with defamation of character.

Caba responded, “He (King) can take me to court. We have to put the Mayor on the spot but let us decide. We need to have a 51% victory for the mayoral vote. When people get in office, they forget they work for the people. I believe in term limits - two terms and you’re out!”

Resident Ken Balut came up next. He had a question about R-29 -1/19 – An amount not to exceed \$4,000 settlement in the matter of Nelvi Caba vs.

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Communications Take Center Stage

**Continued from Page 1*

the City of Perth Amboy. Balut wanted to know, "Is this the same guy who had tickets dismissed?"

Petrick responded, "I don't know."

Balut then questioned R-30 (The \$500,000 settlement), "Did it save us money by being accredited (the Police Department)? Was the settlement initially more than \$500,000? This accreditation is a scam and I have the paperwork to show this."

Balut then had a comment regarding Communication No. 22. Mayor Wilda Diaz appointing Irving Lozada as Acting Director of Code Enforcement effective 11/27/18. "Civil Service said he (Lozada) wasn't qualified to be a Mayor's Aide. If this doesn't stop, we're going backwards. It's the bosses that are the problem."

Former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez came up to speak regarding R-18 – An environmental study for underground storage tanks at 400 Stanford St. He questioned who owns that property.

B.A. Fehrenbach responded, "It's part of the public safety complex, and the tanks were supposed to be removed 5-6 years ago. The DEP was involved."

Gonzalez then stated, "I have documents saying that the City doesn't own this property. If you research the address, it comes up with somebody else."

Fehrenbach then requested that the Council remove the item from the agenda until it could be further investigated.

Resident Alan Silber came up next. He also questioned R-30 (\$500,000 Settlement). "If it's a personal injury, it's deceiving. If it's an assault, it's different."

Law Director Peter King said he could read the complaint.

Alan Silber then spoke regarding having the Mayor's position as part-time. "I personally think we need a full-time Mayor, but they need oversight. Just like the President, they need to have a daily calendar. We just need accountability."

Law Director King then went on to read some of the complaints in reference to R-30. Some of the items included a false arrest, malicious prosecution, retaliation, search and seizure, and failure to discipline.

Silber then questioned another settlement of \$850,000. "What kind of training was done after this first settlement? You're talking about \$1,350,000 combined for two settlements. We have a right to know more details. What's going to assure us that it never happens again?"

King responded, "This happened in 2013 and there was retraining. If it's a more serious offense, the Prosecutor's Office will come down to investigate."

Councilman Fernando Irizarry questioned King, "Can a Citizen or Council ask for a request to terminate (an Officer)?"

King responded, "If it's very serious, the Prosecutor can get involved. With the insurance

that the City has, the Risk Manager can give a reduced rate."

B.A. Fehrenbach gave additional information, "A Risk Manager under the general insurance fund can give incentives to towns that are accredited – usually from 5%-10%, but they can't reduce the settlement. In explaining the \$500,000 settlement, Fehrenbach explained, "There was an arrest and a court hearing. The person was found not guilty and they filed charges."

Fehrenbach then went into discussion regarding a complaint on Bruck Avenue that Resident Ken Balut had talked about at the 1/7/19 Caucus Meeting. "We're still doing research. An inspection was done at the property in 2017 based on a complaint. In 2016, the property had been sold and the new owners did an addition that was not permitted. The violation was abated. There was another complaint about illegal housing at the same address, but no violations were found. It's a single-family house, but the driveway is still in question."

Fehrenbach then addressed Sharon Hubberman's assertion about the Mayor's salary, "The 43 highest paid Mayors in the state received between \$120,000 to \$300,000 a year, but most of them are receiving payment from multiple sources. This is the only job our Mayor has, and every time I'm here, I see her. Maybe you (the Council) should have a discussion with the Mayor. I have been here in the building since 7:00 a.m. and have not stepped out of the building (all day)."

The Council then voted on the Resolutions. R-2-1/19 thru R-17-1/19 and R-19-1/19 thru R-28-1/19 and R-30-1/19 was moved by Councilman Irizarry and seconded by Councilman Helmin Caba. R-18-1/19 was tabled. This was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Caba. R-29-1/19 was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Councilman Joel Pabon. Councilman Helmin Caba abstained.

During the second Public Portion, Resident Stanley Sierakowski came up to speak about the land that the new park (on High and Washington Streets)

is being built on. He referenced an article and asked if some land was donated to the County. "For 25 years, no taxes were paid. Anchor Marine owned the property and the City foreclosed on it and bought it for \$10. Was an appraisal made? According to Fehrenbach, the land was worthless. How much was the lien? Barry Rosengarten is a very smart man. A real estate crime might have been committed."

Fehrenbach addressed some of Sierakowski's comments. "With the Rosengarten lien, it expired and there was no value in the property. The property (Washington and High Streets) was foreclosed and the City took possession. The property was turned over to the County in 2014 and they acquired the adjacent property (some was owned by Rosengarten and another party). I don't know where the crime would be committed. It went through the courts and the County."

Resident Sharon Hubberman came up to speak. She asked about the status of an ordinance pertaining to organizations so they cannot be excluded from participating in City events. She then stated, "Home ownership is declining in the City. Single family homes are now being converted illegally to multifamily homes. 30% of the homes are owner occupied and 70% are rented. We need a Tenant's Board. It's doing a disservice not to have one." Her last complaint was about Washington Street, Amboy Avenue, and New Brunswick Avenue which are very dark at night.

Fehrenbach addressed comments regarding conversion of single-family homes and stated the applicants would have to go before the Planning Board.

Resident Ken Balut, who lives on Bruck Avenue came up to speak regarding a residence on Bruck Avenue with complaints filed against them, "I never mentioned a specific address on Bruck Avenue regarding the complaint. Let's see how the house was built originally." He then went on to mention about

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Communications Take Center Stage

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the low salaries of the Police Officers. “I have been fighting against accreditation for years.” Balut then read a letter from Arlene Quinones (Former Law Director) about dismissed tickets. “The Police Chief answers to the Prosecutor. There was an erroneous press release about the gas station attendant killed in Edison. We get all these press releases, but no releases regarding crimes in the City. Get rid of people not doing their job.”

Law Director King responded to the dismissed tickets letter. “Based on the information I have, it was done correctly.” He also responded to Sharon Hubberman’s question about an ordinance pertaining to organizations participating in City events. “Applicants must have an answer within 45 days of their request. Depending on the event, there may be different city departments involved.”

Resident David Caba came up next and again questioned how many Police Chaplains are in the City.

Council President Bill Petrick responded, “As of the end of last year we have zero. We don’t have a number of how many we had in 2018.”

Caba then continued and talked about the value of housing and condos in other municipalities versus the City of Perth Amboy. “There was a condo in Long Branch that sold for \$2.75 million. Kushner even built a new parking deck there. He (Kushner) has done nothing on Rector Street in ten years. The Landings units that initially sold for \$400,000 now sell for \$200,000. He (Kushner) would rather do 600 rental units in Perth Amboy. This is an insult that after ten years he only wants to build rentals. I will bring comparisons between Jersey City, Long Branch, and Perth Amboy (similar housing units).”

Resident Alan Silber came up and said, “The intersection of Washington and Rector Streets need a blinking light.” He then questioned the special meeting that took place on January 8, 2019. “I thought it was supposed to be for emergencies only. One of attorneys (Blunda) of seven years was replaced at a regular meeting.”

Business Administrator Fehrenbach responded to Silber's question about the special meeting. “It is required by law if a Council has 5 Members meeting, a special meeting can be called. If we had put this as a topic on the agenda of the

1/7/19 Caucus, we would have been here until midnight.”

Silber continued, “If it (the special meeting) was for hiring, it should have been public. We aren’t the highest paid for the Police with a starting salary of \$33,000. This is not enough, especially when you have a person that has to carry a gun. The Police have to work a part-time job to help support their family. The Police need a pay raise.”

Law Director Peter King spoke up to address the Special Meeting. “Because it was an emergency, a notice has to be put in the paper about what took place.”

Former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez spoke next. He said, “The biggest disservice to the City is the old Police, Fire, and the Courthouse buildings (that are located on High, Fayette, Commerce, and Rector Streets). We are paying taxes and insurance on abandoned properties. There’s no reason for those properties to be vacant since 2008. Have someone come in to develop that land that we own. Give it the appearance that it should have. No one wants to go there now.”

Council Comments: Councilman Helmin Caba thanked Law Enforcement in honor of National Law Enforcement Week and congratulated all the candidates who ran in the November 2018 elections. “It’s not easy and it’s a sacrifice to all. I especially want to congratulate Stephanie (Márquez-Villafañe) who is the youngest elected Board of Education Member in New Jersey.”

Councilman Fernando Irizarry also thanked the Police for their service. He then read an ordinance that stated the Council does not have the authority to grant temporary handicapped spaces. “An applicant that is turned down for a handicapped parking space in front of their residence can appeal the decision.” He then made a statement regarding Police salaries: “Since Police salaries are negotiated by the union and Administrations and voted on by the members, the applicants know the salary. We (the Council) don’t negotiate Police contracts. The unions should be negotiating about the low starting salaries. The people at the top of the salary are more concerned about themselves. The blame is put on the Council and Administration.”

B.A. Fehrenbach addressed Irizarry’s comments, “During the negotiation sessions, there is an interest arbitration reform. The total cost of a contract cannot exceed 2%. There was a

salary freeze in 2008 because of our financial situation. Steps were added to achieve the top range. We are not in the same situation as New Brunswick, Edison, or Piscataway which pay their officers more. There’s a 2% limitation on arbitrators. The City and labor negotiations are needed.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke next and added, “Rector and Market Streets also have a lot of lights that are out. The parking situation on Second Street is getting really bad and people are parked everywhere, especially with King High Garage. You need to have at least one Police Officer to hand out tickets. There are pictures posted on social media about people double parking on Second Street even if there is a space available. Taxi drivers are driving very reckless and we need to bring their owners in to discuss this problem. Mail is being stolen from church boxes on the street.” Pabon then when on to explain most of the public mailboxes have been replaced with only a thin slit to put mail in it. In the old boxes, people would stick hooks in there and were able to pull out mail (especially checks). He explained that this went on in other towns and had spread to Perth Amboy.

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda thanked the Police for their service and also former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez for his help. She congratulated Stephanie for her victory and thanked the City Clerk, the Administration and her fellow Council Members for all their help. “I look forward to working with you.”

Council President Bill Petrick spoke last. He also thanked the Police for their service. He also remembered when he was on the Board of Education that they reduced the steps for teacher to get an increase. He congratulated Stephanie for winning a seat on the Board of Education. He then told former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez, “We didn’t always agree, but you always brought in a lot of good ideas and we know you’ll continue to do so.”

Law Director Peter King stated the following: "Regarding the runoff elections for mayoral candidates, the law says that the winner would have to achieve 50% + 1 vote. In regards to having the Council President acting as Acting Mayor, the Faulkner Act states the Mayor can choose whomever they wish. Also, per the Faulkner Act, the Mayor’s position cannot be changed to part-time."

The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same

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do they live? We have a billionaire laughing at the residents by not doing anything on Rector Street. We come up here to criticize, but it’s from our hearts with no personal gain. You are giving people jobs they are not qualified for and it’s an insult. We are not putting our people first. Look at these jobs that were given without any candidates being interviewed. When you are elected, you work for everyone, not just one ethnic group.”

Resident Alan Silber came up to speak. He asked the Council if they looked into which Code

Enforcement Person issued Ken Balut a ticket for a violation that wasn’t even on Balut’s property. Silber then talked about a parking situation on Rector Street near Washington Avenue. “I saw four trucks parked on the street blocking one side and none of them had any signals on.” Silber also wanted to know, “What was the assessment for the Landings when they first were built and what kind of settlement was given to some Landings Residents a few months ago?” Silber then went on to state, “We have all these interim Department Heads, and some are not qualified.”

Discussion of Agenda Items 1/7/19 Caucus

PERTH AMBOY – Ordinance No.1 (First Reading) An Ordinance to Amend an ordinance entitled “Fire Prevention” adopted November 6, 1985 re: putting the Fire Prevention Bureau under the jurisdiction of the Fire Department.

Fehrenbach explained that this department was currently under Code Enforcement. “By moving it under the Fire Department, there is a high probability of achieving our objective. There was a meeting with myself, Acting Code Enforcement Director Irving Lozada, and Acting Fire Chief Ed Mullen. We all agreed that it would be the best solution.”

The next discussion was on R-6-1/19 – Authorizing the collection of interest on delinquent taxes and assessments. Fehrenbach went on to explain: “Any delinquent taxes below \$1,500 will have an interest of 8%. Above \$1,500 will be 18%.”

Fehrenbach then explained R-7-1/19- A Shared Services Agreement with Woodbridge Township for the collection of solid waste from January 1, 2019 ending December 31, 2021. “We have this agreement because we do not possess that many backup vehicles.”

DPW Director Frank Hoffman came up to explain R-9-1/19 – Awarding a contract to R.J. Twitchell and Company for Refurbishing of Transfer Station Equipment in amount not to exceed \$49,770. “This would be the control room buttons and hydraulics.”

Fehrenbach then explained R-12-1/19 – Extending the Completion Time of a Contract with Helios Construction for the professional construction for the Waterfront Improvement Project for 365 days to September 1, 2019. “This would be for the color code for the tennis courts. The work is dependent on the temperatures. This is the third or fourth extension.”

Fehrenbach went on to ex-

plain R-13-1/19 – Authorizing the proper City Officials to enter into an installment payment agreement with Raul Anibal for sewer repairs at 345 Lawrie Street. “There was an issue with the water service line. It’s private property and he’s using USPA, but the resident needed assistance in paying for the repair. It was an emergency situation because of the bad weather and freezing conditions coming up.”

R-16-1/19 – A grant from Middlesex County for residential maintenance services for CY 2019 in the amount of \$10,139. CFO Jill Goldy explained that this would be small improvement projects for residents who are eligible. “The labor and materials are paid to the contractors through the grant.”

There was a discussion regarding R-18-1/19 – Regarding an underground storage tank at 400 Stanford St. authorizing a contract with Suburban Consulting Engineers for environmental study regarding this underground tank. The cost not to exceed \$5,880. Fehrenbach explained, “This is City property, which is part of the public safety complex located near the railroad tracks.”

R-20-1/19 – Awarding a contract to FFI Apparatus LLC for a new Ferrara Foam Tender through the Houston – Galveston area Council co-op purchasing system in an amount not to exceed the sum of \$648,112. Acting Fire Chief Ed Mullen explained, “This a 400-gallon Foam Tender which can immediately put a foam protector down. We will have a weekly check. Buckeye has foam on site, and we have partnered with them. They gave us \$195,000 additional monies. We pray that we never have to use this, but we have to be aware of the residents in that area. This will also be available for mutual aid, and there is a thirty-year guarantee for the apparatus.”

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Remembering John Siberry



PERTH AMBOY – Perth Amboy Firefighter John Siberry poses for a photo with a young girl beside the poster for the Muscular Dystrophy Telethon featuring Jerry Lewis.
*File Photo Courtesy of John Siberry

John Siberry had a very unusual relationship with many City Employees and Council Members. He was very opinionated and did not mince words. I myself had differences of opinions with Mr. Siberry and I was not shy about making my opinions known to him. He was a regular attendee at City Council Meetings. The only time he would ever miss a meeting was if he was very ill and his wife put her foot down. So, when I heard about his passing, it did not surprise me because he had not been to a Council Meeting for around two years. Trust me, if he was able to attend, he would have been there.

Mr. Siberry had many tussles (not physically) with the Council Members - some more than others. There is one instance when I almost fell off of the bench at a meeting when Siberry announced that he agreed with then Councilman Kenneth Gonzalez. There was a discussion about pedestrian safety grants. Councilman Kenneth Gonzalez mentioned how many pedestrians cross in front of cars while ignoring traffic lights. During the public portion at this meeting, John Siberry came up and said, "I totally agree with Councilman Gonzalez. A lot of residents cross in front of cars that have the green light." Siberry then remembered when he was growing up, there was a slogan: "Cross at the green - not in between. Cross at the green, so you don't get hurt."

I have been to the Siberry's residence at least twice and that was to pick up some photos that he wanted in the paper. The funny thing is that when I went there, he did not talk politics. His face lit up, and he smiled when he talked about growing up in a diverse neighborhood. He would rattle off the last names of the people that were his neighbors and how they all got along.

It's kind of sad that we don't have neighborhoods like that any longer. Honestly, how many families do you know who live in your square block? I knew who they were when I was growing up. Even though we had neighborhood playgrounds, some recreation facilities were a couple blocks over.

Also, as I was growing up a lot of homes had porches which would be our social media communications.

Siberry also showed me the awards and plaques he received as a career member of the Perth Amboy Fire Department and head of the Union.

Mr. Siberry was proud of the fact that he and the Fire Department participated in raising funds for the MDA and that he personally met Jerry Lewis.

So I decided just to remember John Siberry as the man who spoke his mind literally and figuratively, loved talking about growing up in neighborhoods that were diverse, but were more united than divided. *C.M.*

Special Public Meeting
1/8/19

PERTH AMBOY – Before the Council went into closed session, Resident Ken Balut spoke up and asked what topics they would be discussing.

Council President Bill Petrick spoke up and said, "It would be regarding the Zoning Board, Business Administrator, and personnel."

It was then decided by the Council and Business Administrator Greg Fehrenbach that the public should be allowed to speak before the closed session.

Resident Balut spoke about the PILOT's that were dropped in the laps of the Council at the last minute. They were not informed by the previous B.A. about what was going on. "It was said that all the Budapest Section were not getting full garbage pickups. That's why you need a qualified B.A. The Mayor's budget keeps going

up. You have to have cooperation with all parts of government. Adam Cruz was your problem. Look at the lawsuits dropped in your laps. The Susan Batista lawsuit alone was over \$100,000 in attorney fees. If you vote for a Business Administrator you don't know much about, you're going to look like fools. It's our tax dollars."

Resident David Caba came up to speak next, "How many chaplains are there? We started with ninety, then it went down to thirty. Maybe we just need one."

Council President Bill Petrick said, "I will get the information you requested and the qualifications that the chaplains need to meet."

Caba continued, "Chaplains need to get background checks. If you are a religious person, you will hold back on personal

attacks, but I'm not judging. How many applicants were there for the Business Administrator jobs? Jobs are just given out and what does this say to our youth? Everything should be based on qualifications. What is the interview process to be qualified for the job (B.A.)?" Caba then referenced a communication that was on the Caucus Agenda regarding if the Mayor's position should be reduced to part-time. "I think the position should be a full-time job, and they should work full-time. The Mayor is always blaming the Council."

B.A. Greg Fehrenbach answered the question on how many applicants there were for the Business Administrator position. "There were 17 applicants. 6 were interviewed, but no one from Perth Amboy applied."

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Life,
Legacy and Hope Celebrated
Cathedral International, NAACP and Community
Commemorates Dr. King and what would have been his 90th Birthday

Press Release
PERTH AMBOY – Cathedral International, NAACP Perth Amboy Area Chapter and the area community is coming together to celebrate the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Sunday, January 20, 2019, at the 9:30am worship service, 277 Madison Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ. Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr., now in his 35th year serving as Senior Pastor, is the speaker. "Since Dr. King's Day has been in existence, it has been an honor to convene a service where all generations and ethnicities come together to pay respect to the living philosophy of this great man," stated Bishop Hilliard.

New officers of the NAACP Perth Amboy Area Chapter will

be installed during the service where Rev. Dr. Danielle Brown, Pastor of Church Life, Cathedral International will administer the installation. "Dr. King knew the value of people working together for the good of all of humanity. He spoke of an 'inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.' Essentially, none of us are really okay, unless all of us are okay. This is the cry of my Savior's heart and a fundamental truth for Dr. King. Today, as we remember Dr. King's life and legacy, with the NAACP, and community leaders, we embody the principle of beloved community; through partnership, teamwork and collaborations in the never-ending fight against injustice," stated Dr. Brown.

NAACP's new officers are Rev Donna Stewart, President; Anana Phifer-Derilhomme, First Vice President; Renee Evelyn, Secretary; Brenda Hutchins, Treasurer, and Rev Mary Giles, Assistant Treasurer

"The central theme in Dr. King's last book prior to his assassination was hope. The book title 'Where do we go from here?' and the theme are both resounding today as they were 50 years ago. I personally invite everyone to come Sunday, January 20th when we will celebrate Dr. King's life, philosophy and his hope." Bishop Hilliard, Jr.

Everyone is invited to attend this service. More information is available at www.cathedralinternational.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 For more information, please call the Perth Amboy Free Public Library: 732-826-2600.

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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Publisher & Advertising Manager
Katherine Massopust Paul W. Wang Lori Miskoff
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Printed on 100% recycled paper



Where to Find Us . . .

IN FORDS:

COLONIAL RESTAURANT..... 366 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
LIBERTY BAGEL CAFE..... 326 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY.....211 FORD AVE.
ROOSEVELT'S DELI684 KING GEORGE'S RD.
SUPER DUPER DELI III 650 KING GEORGE'S RD.

IN HOPELAWN:

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

IN LAURENCE HARBOR:

HOFFMAN'S DELI 5 LAURENCE PKWY.

IN MORGAN:

SOUTHPINE LIQUORS467 S. PINE AVE.

IN PARLIN:

DAD'S ROYAL BAKERY.....3290 WASHINGTON RD.

IN PERTH AMBOY:

1ST CONSTITUTION BANK 145 FAYETTE ST.
ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTER 178 BARRACKS ST.
ALAMEDA CENTER 303 ELM ST.
AMBOY CHECK X-CHANGE321 MAPLE ST.
ANDERL & OAKLEY PC 309 MAPLE ST.
ANITA'S CORNER664 BRACE AVE.
THE BARGE201 FRONT ST.
BAY CITY LAUNDRYMAT.....738 STATE ST.
C-TOWN272 MAPLE ST.
CEDENO'S PHARMACY 400 STATE ST.
CITY HALL260 HIGH ST.
COPA DE ORO 306 SMITH ST.
DUNKIN DONUTS 587 FAYETTE ST.
EASTSIDE DRY CLEANERS 87 SMITH ST.
ELIZABETH CORNER 175 HALL AVE.
FAMILY FOOT CARE252 SMITH ST.
FU LIN 79 SMITH ST.
HY TAVERN 386 HIGH ST.
INVESTOR'S BANK 598 STATE ST.
JANKOWSKI COMMUNITY CENTER 1 OLIVE ST.
JEWISH RENAISSANCE MEDICAL CENTER 272A HOBART ST.
KIM'S DRY CLEANERS 73 SMITH ST.
LAW OFFICES 708 CARSON AVE.
LEE'S MARKET 77 SMITH ST.
LUDWIG'S PHARMACY75 BRACE AVE.
MITRUSKA CHIROPRACTIC788 CONVERY BLVD.
PETRA BEST REALTY..... 329 SMITH ST.
PETRICK'S FLOWERS 710 PFEIFFER BLVD.
POLICE HEADQUARTERS 365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
PORTUGUESE MANOR 310 ELM ST.
PROVIDENT BANK 339 STATE ST.
PUBLIC LIBRARY196 JEFFERSON ST.
PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION100 FIRST ST.
QUICK CHEK853 CONVERY BLVD.
QUICK STOP DELI814 AMBOY AVE.
QUISQUEYA MARKET249 MADISON AVE.
QUISQUEYA LUNCHEONETTE 259 MADISON AVE.
RARITAN BAY AREA Y.M.C.A.365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
RARITAN BAY MEDICAL CENTER530 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SANTANDER BANK 365 CONVERY BLVD.
SANTIBANA TRAVEL 362 STATE ST.
SCIORTINO'S RESTAURANT473 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SHOP-RITE365 CONVERY BLVD.
SIPOS BAKERY 365 SMITH ST.
SUPERIOR DINER.....464 SMITH ST.
SUPREMO SUPERMARKET270 KING ST.
TORRES MINI MARKET403 BRUCK AVE.
TOWN DRUGS & SURGICAL 238 SMITH ST.
WELLS FARGO 214 SMITH ST.
ZPA 281 GRACE ST.

IN SAYREVILLE:

BOROUGH HALL 167 MAIN ST.
SENIOR CENTER423 MAIN ST.
SUNNYSIDE RESTAURANT 111 MAIN ST.

IN SEWAREN:

PUBLIC LIBRARY546 WEST AVE.
SEWAREN CORNER DELI514 WEST AVE.

IN SOUTH AMBOY:

AMBOY NATIONAL BANK100 N. BROADWAY
BROADWAY BAGELS105 S. BROADWAY
BROADWAY DINER126 N. BROADWAY
CITY HALL140 N. BROADWAY
COMMUNITY CENTER 200 O'LEARY BLVD.
KRAUSZER'S200 N. BROADWAY
KRAUSZER'S717 BORDENTOWN AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY100 HOFFMAN PLAZA
SCIORTINO'S HARBOR LIGHTS 132 S. BROADWAY
SOUTH AMBOY MEDICAL CENTER.....540 BORDENTOWN AVE.
WELLS FARGO BANK.....116 N. BROADWAY

IN WOODBRIDGE:

CITY HALL1 MAIN ST.
MAIN ST. FARM107 MAIN ST.
NEWS & TREATS 99 MAIN ST.
REO DINER392 AMBOY AVE.
ST. JOSEPH'S SENIORS RESIDENCE1 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

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. Follow us on our website, www.theproprietaryhouse.org and or Facebook.

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

THURS. Jan. 17 Special Board of Education Meeting, 6 p.m.
McGinnis School, State St.
WED. Jan. 23 City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m.
City Hall, High St.
• City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.

South Amboy

WED. Jan. 16 City Council, Business, 6 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway
WED. Jan. 30 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway

**Check our website www.amboyguardian.com for updates on meeting times and places*

Please Submit Your Events
to AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

A SUPERIOR DINING EXPERIENCE

The Barge

On The Waterfront in
Historic Perth Amboy
EARLY BIRD SPECIALS
Mon. thru Sat 3:00pm to 6:00PM
Sunday 12:00 noon to 4:30PM
The Barge offers Off-Premises
Catering for the Holiday's, parties,
Business Meetings & More!!

Featuring the Finest

Seafood • Steaks
Live Maine Lobster
Long Island Steamers
Clams on the Half Shell, Oysters,
Soft shell Crabs, and so much more!

Have Your Next Party on The Waterfront
Outside catering is our specialty
Great for parties,luncheons, dinners,
Retirement parties, business
Meetings, christenings,
Engagement and bridal showers.
We accommodate up to 100 people.
Let's work together and plan the
Perfect party for you!

EX P. 04/30/19
NOT VALID ON HOLIDAYS

**Buy 1 Dinner & Get
2nd Entree 1/2 Price***

*Equal or less value, with this ad. Discount up to \$10.
Cannot be combined with any other offer.
Not valid on Early Bird Specials.

The Barge
732-442-3000 / 201 Front Street, Perth Amboy
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.thebarge.com

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

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES, DIAL: 9-1-1

FOR ALL NON-EMERGENCIES, DIAL: 732-442-4400

Deadline for Print Ads:

7 p.m. Thursday

Office Hours:

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

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

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

**PAVFD Parade Committee Spaghetti Dinner,
St. Stephen's Church 1/12/19**
**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



Meet & Greet, The Barge Restaurant 1/10/19
**Photo by Bob Rinklin for the Perth Amboy BID*



PERTH AMBOY - A group of business professionals recently attended the Perth Amboy Business Improvement District's (BID) networking event. The evening included a presentation by Sales Skills Coach Milton Paris who advised executives to focus on the positive and discard their negative baggage. Mr. Paris, who is also management and marketing consultant as well as a motivational speaker and radio host, said, "When you visit a prospective client and bring information about you and a company, then you're seen as a sales executive. If you go to a prospect's office with worthwhile ideas and answers that may solve real business problems, then you are viewed as a resource." The BID's "Meet N' Greet" was held at The Barge Restaurant.

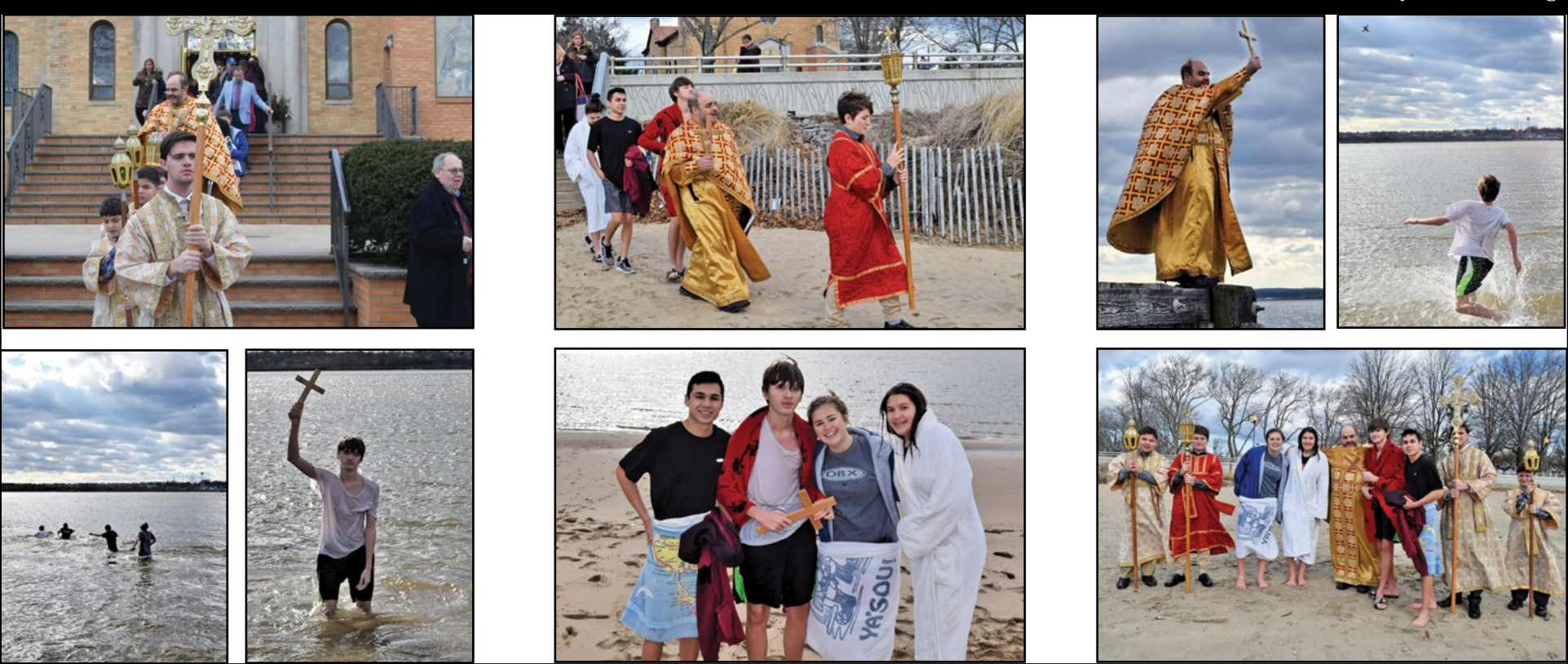
Grand Opening YC Gift Shop, 251 Madison Ave., Perth Amboy
**Photo by Bob Rinklin for the Perth Amboy BID*



PERTH AMBOY - Yomairy Capellan (center holding a proclamation) celebrates the grand opening of the YC Gift Shop, which is located at 251 Madison Avenue in Perth Amboy. Ms. Capellan, who owns the store, and her team create personalized and custom gifts for every occasion including – anniversaries, births and birthdays, engagements, graduations, marriages and many more. During the YC Shop's first day in business, Business Improvement District (BID) Director Gary Rumpf (far left), Mayor Wilda Diaz and BID Executive Director Junel Hutchinson (far right) along with city officials welcomed the new business to the city by participating in the ribbon cutting ceremonies. The YC Shop is open six days week.

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

Celebration of the Epiphany, St. Demetrios Church, Perth Amboy 1/6/19
**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



Visit us online at:
WWW.CI.PERTHAMBOY.NJ.US

Perth Amboy City Hall
260 High Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861



WINTER 2019

MARKET YOURSELF IN THE PERTH AMBOY ARTIST REGISTRY

BE PART OF THE TALENTED ARTISTS FROM
PERTH AMBOY AND THROUGHOUT

SEE PAGE 2 FOR MORE INFO

NEWS FROM THE HISTORIC CITY OF PERTH AMBOY

INSIDE:

- VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
- LOCAL BUSINESS GRAND OPENINGS
- RECREATIONAL & ART PROGRAMS
- UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ALL AGES

Dear Friends,

We are looking forward to a wonderful NEW YEAR! Join us as we continue to offer free opportunities that enrich our families!

You can start by taking advantage of our recreation programs (see the listing on page 3) and join today. Also, if you're looking to share your talent, join our arts registry or street performers list. We'd like to help our local artists, as we work towards expanding Arts & Culture in our community.

Additionally, for those looking to invest in our community, we offer assistance through the First-Time Homebuyers that offers up to \$8,000 towards your down payment (for qualifying families). Call the Office of Housing and Social Services to learn more, 732-826-4300.

Friends, every day, we work our hardest to serve our residents with the utmost care, excellence, and diligence. I look forward to what we will achieve together in 2019 for our great, historic city. Let's work together to make this our best year yet! I wish everyone a warm and healthy new year, God Bless!!!

Sincerely,
Mayor Wilda Diaz



BellaFaith Dance Studio Grand Opening on January 10th

AT-A-GLANCE PHONE DIRECTORY

FOR EMERGENCIES DIAL 9-1-1

CITY HALL	732.826.0290
CODE ENFORCEMENT	732.826.0183
FIRE DEPARTMENT	732.324.3500
HUMAN SERVICES	732.826.1690
MAYOR'S OFFICE	732.826.7121
MUNICIPAL COURT	732.442.6011
PARKING UTILITY	732.826.9223
POLICE DEPARTMENT	732.442.4400
PUBLIC LIBRARY	732.826.2600
PUBLIC WORKS	732.826.2010
RECREATION/EVENTS	732.826.1690
WATER UTILITY	732.826.5335
UEZ/BID	732.442.6421
BOARD OF EDUCATION	732.376.6200
COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.	732.826.0440

OPEN TO RESIDENTS: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

You can't predict, but you can prepare!

Perth Amboy Office of Emergency Management presents the Community Emergency Response Team Training. Learn how to prepare yourself for a major disaster, by keeping yourself and other safe.

Classes run from March – October (one class a month)
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.



Perth Amboy Public Safety Complex

Fire Headquarters: 3rd Floor Training Room, 375 New Brunswick Avenue

Limited Seats Available. Sign-up today by emailing: cert@perthamboy.njpd.org



STATE OF THE CITY

THE HONORABLE WILDA DIAZ
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS
THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH, 2019
6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC SAFETY MUNICIPAL COMPLEX AUDITORIUM
RARITAN BAY YMCA ENTRANCE
357 NEW BRUNSWICK AVENUE
PERTH AMBOY, NEW JERSEY

STATE
OF THE
CITY
2019



CENSUS 2020: KICK-OFF

On April 1st, 2020, the US Census Bureau will once again count all U.S. residents. As Mayor, I clearly understand the significance of having an accurate count for Perth Amboy, as it relates to funding and resources for our City. It is important that we are all counted and your participation is essential in the 2020 Census. The information provided by each applicant will allow us to better serve the needs of our growing community. Census information is confidential and protected by Federal Law (Title 13). This time around, Census can be completed online, by phone, or by mail. If you would like additional help our efforts, please contact the 732-826-1690, Ext.4320!

#PerthAmboyCountsOnYou #Census2020



STUDENT/SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

The City of Perth Amboy will be accepting applications for the 2019 Summer Employment Program effective Monday, March 1, 2019. Applicants must be age of 14 (by June 3, 2019) and a resident of the City of Perth Amboy. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Positions available:

- Park Counselor
- Camp Counselor
- Maintenance Aides
- Recreation Aides
- Clerical Aides

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Friday, March 29, 2019 at 4:30 PM.

All applications must include a letter of recommendation from a school or community representative. Application may be obtained on the City's website or in person at City Hall, but cannot be submitted electronically. Completed applications can be mailed or dropped off at City Hall, Office of Personnel, 260 High Street, 2nd floor, Monday – Friday from 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Questions??? Please contact 732-826-0290 ext. 4009.



NIXLE ALERTS:
TEXT 08861 TO 888777
FOR CITY ALERTS



VISIT US ON FACEBOOK
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MAYORWILDADIAZ



#MAYORWILDADIAZ



@MAYORWILDADIAZ

COUNTY PARK



The City of Perth Amboy and Middlesex County gather to break ground on nearly 10 acres of waterfront property located on High Street for a public park.

“I look forward to the remediation and renewal of this park,” said Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz. “The City of Perth Amboy is in dire need of Open Space and this property has been vacant for over 20 years. Now, our residents and the residents of Middlesex County will have new grounds and facilities to help them stay fit and healthy, as they enjoy historic Perth Amboy and our beloved waterfront area, and I am extremely grateful to the Freeholders and the County for creating this initiative.”



COUNCIL SWEARING-IN CEREMONY



Council Members:
Joel Pabon Sr.
William Petrick, President
Milady Tejada

GRAND OPENINGS!

We are excited to announce the grand opening of the following small businesses:

- JB Glamour House**
553 Amboy Avenue
- Domino’s Pizza**
570 New Brunswick Avenue
- Burger King**
182 Smith Street
- Kreative Arts Dance Studio**
210 Hall Avenue
- Bella Faith Dance Studio**
252 Madison Avenue, Suite 104
- YC Store (gift shop)**
261 Madison Avenue



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for residents that are committed to this historic City and also possess skills, knowledge, and other attributes needed in order to assist the boards in carrying out the responsibilities of the boards. The City of Perth Amboy is looking to recruit members for the following boards:

Business Improvement District (BID), Historic Preservation Commission, Library Board of Trustees, Planning Board, Rent Leveling Board, Urban Enterprise Zone and Board of Adjustments

Residents interested in becoming members of a specific board may complete and return the Citizen Service application online for consideration to the Office of the Municipal Clerk located at Perth Amboy City Hall, 260 High Street. Deadline: Thursday, Feb. 7th.

ITIN TAX WORKSHOP

Learn about the ITIN number process and what you need in order to file your income taxes.

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
56 Brighton Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

For more information or to register please call (732) 826-4800

CALL TO ARTISTS

Perth Amboy Artist Registry is now open!

This is a portal for listing and showcasing visual, literary, performing and multi-disciplinary artists from Perth Amboy and throughout the State. It is a portfolio site for artist and art organizations to expand their audience and promote their work. Most importantly, it is a place to connect with artist, curators, art venues and individuals seeking to commission work, community organizations, businesses and art lovers. Register today! ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡

MARKET YOURSELF IN THE

PERTH AMBOY ARTIST REGISTRY

BE PART OF THE TALENTED ARTISTS FROM PERTH AMBOY AND THROUGHOUT

CALL FOR ARTISTS

SEEKING:
PROFESSIONAL, STUDENT AND ASPIRING ARTISTS OF ALL MEDIUMS AND STYLES.

REGISTER AT:
WWW.TINYURL.COM/PERTHAMBOYARTISTREGISTRY

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
PERTH AMBOY RECREATION DEPT.
(732) 826-1690 EXT. 4305
RECLEADER@PERTHAMBOYNJ.ORG

Artistic Mediums:
Painting | Mixed media | Film | Fashion | Sculpture | Ceramics
Illustrations/Animation | Music | Performance Art
Textile | Video | Photography | Videography

HOUSING EXPO

HOUSING EXPO
SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2019
(Location to be Announced)

Showcasing Perth Amboy’s Homeownership & Rental Opportunities: The Housing Expo will be open to all Perth Amboy residents who are renting or looking to purchase a home in our great city. We anticipate dozens of exhibits and workshops showcasing all the information needed to rent an apartment or purchase a home; including but not limited to government rental assistance programs, mortgage lenders, insurance companies, title companies, credit counseling, and much, much more!

2019 BASEBALL/SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

Tee-Ball

Ages: 3 - 4
Fee: \$40 Money order ONLY
LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

Rookie Baseball

Ages: 5 - 7
Fee: \$40 Money order ONLY
LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

Girls Softball

Ages: 8 - 16
Fee: \$50 Money order ONLY
LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

Boys Baseball

Ages: 8 - 16
Fee: \$65 Money order ONLY
LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

Registration Deadline:
February 8th
Uniform Included
Register Online-
Parecreation.recdesk.com

Location:
Alexander F. Jankowski Center
1 Olive Street

If you have any questions
please contact
(732) 826-1690 ext. 4305
or 4306



WINTER/SPRING RECREATION PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF RECREATION: 1 OLIVE STREET, PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861 | 732.826.1690 X 4305 | WWW.CI.PERTHAMBOY.NJ.US

ART PROGRAMS

ARTS & CRAFTS FOR KIDS

Starting: January 28th
Ages: 5 – 9
Mondays, 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Art Gallery (339 Reade Street)
FREE OF CHARGE
Register at Parecreation.recdesk.com

CERAMICS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

Starting: January 30th
Grades: 5th – 8th
Wednesdays, 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Art Gallery (339 Reade Street)
FREE OF CHARGE
Register at Parecreation.recdesk.com

CERAMICS FOR TEENS & ADULTS

Starting: January 30th
Ages: 15 & up
Wednesdays, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Art Gallery (339 Reade Street)
FREE OF CHARGE
Register at Parecreation.recdesk.com

YOUNG ARTIST ART STUDIO

Starting: January 31st
Ages: 9 - 13
Thursdays, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Art Gallery (339 Reade Street)
FREE OF CHARGE
Register at Parecreation.recdesk.com

OIL PAINTING

Starting: January 28th
Ages: 15 & up
Mondays, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Art Gallery (339 Reade Street)
FREE OF CHARGE
Register at Parecreation.recdesk.com

INTRO TO PERCUSSION

Starting: January 28th
Ages: 7 – 10
Mondays, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Art Gallery (339 Reade Street)
FREE OF CHARGE
Register at Parecreation.recdesk.com

DRUMMING

Starting: January 28th
Ages: 11 – 15
Mondays, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Art Gallery (339 Reade Street)
FREE OF CHARGE
Register at Parecreation.recdesk.com

BEGINNER GUITAR

Starting: January 30th
Ages: 9 – 11
Wednesdays, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Art Gallery (339 Reade Street)
FREE OF CHARGE
Register at Parecreation.recdesk.com

INTERMEDIATE GUITAR

Starting: January 30th
Ages: 12 – 15
Wednesdays, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Art Gallery (339 Reade Street)
FREE OF CHARGE
Register at Parecreation.recdesk.com

KARATE

Morales Martial Arts Academy
Starting: January 29th
Ages: 5 & up
Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays
Ages 5 – 9 (6:30 pm – 7:30 pm)
Ages 10 & older (7:30 pm – 8:30 pm)
Robert N. Wilentz School (51 First Street)
Registration fee: \$45 per participant
Non-resident fee applies (25 % upcharge)
MONEY ORDER ONLY

TEEN CENTER:

TEEN NIGHTS

Grades: 8th – 12th
Dates: 1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Raritan Bay YMCA
357 New Brunswick Avenue
Registration and parent signature is required and must bring a valid school ID

ADULT ENRICHMENT CLASSES:

ZUMBA

Ages: 18 & up
Monday – Thursday, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Perth Amboy High School South Campus
351 Mechanic Street
FREE OF CHARGE

CITIZENSHIP SKILLS

Ages: 18 & up
Monday – Thursday, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Perth Amboy High School South Campus
351 Mechanic Street
FREE OF CHARGE
This class will prepare you for the citizenship test
Esta clase te de las habilidades para pasar el examen de ciudadania

FOUNDATIONS OF MATH

Ages: 18 & up
Tuesdays, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Perth Amboy High School South Campus
351 Mechanic Street
FREE OF CHARGE
This class will prepare you with the knowledge to perform any basic math test or operations
For more information,
please contact 732-376-6242 ext. 37460

SPRING PROGRAMS

TEE BALL

Ages 3 & 4
Fee: \$40 **Money order only**
Limited space available
Non-resident fee applies (25 % upcharge)

ROOKIE BASEBALL

Ages 5-7
Fee: \$40 **Money order only**
Limited space available
Non-resident fee applies (25 % upcharge)

GIRLS SOFTBALL

Ages 8-16
Fee: \$50 **Money order only**
Limited space available
Non-resident fee applies (25 % upcharge)

BOYS BASEBALL

Ages 8-16
Fee: \$65 **Money order only**
Limited space available
Non-resident fee applies (25 % upcharge)

Deadline to register is
Friday, February 8, 2019

STREET PERFORMERS

Earn some extra money while displaying your talents! Register for the street performer permit and

- accept contributions (money or property) at a performance
- Performers may offer for sale recordings of their own work, in the form of records, cassettes, videotapes or compact discs
- Includes, but is not limited to, the following activities: acting, singing, playing musical instruments, pantomime, juggling, magic, dancing, reading, puppetry, reciting and sidewalk art.

For further details, contact the Office of Recreation (732) 826-1690 ext. 4305 or 4306 or you can email: recleader@perthamboynj.org.

CALLING ALL PERFORMERS!

NOW ACCEPTING STREET PERFORMER APPLICATIONS

-Are you an aspiring artist?
-Have you been looking for a venue to display your talents?

CATEGORIES:

MUSIC
DANCE
POETRY
SINGING
VISUAL ART

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY:
City Of Perth Amboy
Office of Recreation
reclader@perthamboynj.org
(732) 826-1690 ext. 4305



CITY OF PERTH AMBOY
THE HONORABLE MAYOR WILDA DIAZ

UPCOMING EVENTS

OFFICE OF RECREATION: 1 OLIVE STREET, PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861
732.826.1690 X 4305 | WWW.CI.PERTHAMBOY.NJ.US

JANUARY

ITIN (TAX) WORKSHOP (SEE PAGE 2)

Wednesday, January 16th, 6:00 -7:30 p.m.
Brighton Avenue Community Center
56 Brighton Ave.

FILM SCREENING OF THE PBS DOCUMENTARY OF THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ROBERTO CLEMENTE

Friday, January 18th, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
SGO Museum, 260 High Street

EMPLOYER JOB FAIR

Friday, January 18th, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
56 Brighton Avenue Community Center
Text Workforce to 56512

NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

MLK Unity March & Collection
Monday, January 21st
March Begins at 10:00 a.m., Train Station
Ceremony to Follow: Perth Amboy City Hall
260 High Street

FEBRUARY

OPENING RECEPTION: TRI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ART EXHIBIT

Friday, February 1st, 5:30pm-7:30pm
SGO Museum, 260 High Street

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, February 7th, 8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.
Registration at 7:30 A.M.
Sipos Bakery, 365 Smith Street

MARCH

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, March 20th
Registration at 12:00 Noon
12:30 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.
El Gran Valle Restaurant, 323 State Street

RAIN BARREL BUILD DEMONSTRATION

Monday, March 21st, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Alexander F. Jankowski Community Center
1 Olive Street

BOWLING AGAINST DRUGS & ALCOHOL

Friday, March 22th, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Majestic Lanes (Woodbridge Township)
Sponsored by the Perth Amboy Municipal Alliance

SAVE THE DATE!!! HOUSING EXPO

Saturday, March 23rd
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Call 732-826-4300 for more future details.



2019 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Thursday, March 28th
6:00 p.m.
YMCA Auditorium
357 New Brunswick Avenue

US PASSPORT FAIR

Get assistance with your passport application or renewal application
A US Passport Fair will be held this on Sat. April 13th. Call 732-826-43



APRIL

STUDENT ART SHOW

Thursday, April 4th, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Art Gallery, 339 Reade Street

PERTH AMBOY ANIMAL SHELTER

Pictures with the Easter Bunny
Saturday, April 13th, 12:00pm-3:00pm
597 Fayette Street

PASSPORT FAIR

Saturday, April 13th, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Alexander F. Jankowski Community Center
1 Olive Street

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 20th
Ages: Infant – 3 years @ 11:30 am
Ages: 4 – 10 @ 1:00 pm
Albert G. Waters Stadium, Eagle Ave & Francis St

EARTH WEEK

Stay Tuned for...EARTH WEEK 2019!
April 21st through April 26th.
Upcoming Details to be announced.
For more info, call 732-826-2010 ext. 4204.

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, April 25, 2019, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Registration at 5:30 p.m.
The Portuguese Manor, 310 Elm Street

DOWNTOWN CLEAN UP

Saturday, April 27, 2019, 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.
Perth Amboy Train Station (Northbound Track)
249 Smith Street

OFFICE ON AGING

Must contact in advance to register. City residents age 62 and over are encouraged to contact the Office on Aging for additional information, as some program dates are not finalized. Please call in advance to confirm at 732-826-1690 ext. 4307. Join the Office on Aging for special activities, programs and surprises each month!!!

JANUARY:

- Venetian Care & Balance Educational Presentation: 1/14 @10:30am
- Horizon Informational Presentation: 1/16 @ 10:30am
- LOYO to the Superior Diner 1/18 @ Noon
- Birthday Bash Celebration 1/22 @ Noon
- Alameda Special Luncheon For Seniors: 1/24 @ 12Noon
- George Lopez/Bergen Pac: 1/26 @ 8:00pm
- SANDS casino:1/29 @ 9:30 am

FEBRUARY:

- Super Bowl Party 2/1 @ 12 Noon
- Chinese New Year: 2/5 Eggrolls & Wonton Soup

FEBRUARY CONTINUED:

- Valentine’s Day Celebration Continental Breakfast 2/14 @ 10:30 am
- Take out Breakfast on your own: Lito Sofrito @ 9:30 am
- Black History Month Celebration: 2/27 @ 10:30am
- Birthday Bash: 2/26 @ Noon
- Proprietary House Visit: Date to be determined

MARCH:

- IHOP & Jersey Gardens: 3/8 @ 9:30 am
- St. Patrick’s Day Continental Breakfast: 3/15 @ 10:30am
- Bingo Extravaganza: 3/19 @ 6:00pm
- LOYO Seniors Pick: 3/22 @ Noon
- Birthday Bash: 3/26 @ Noon

PERTH AMBOY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Don’t miss out on the FREE services we offer to all of our residents. Check a few out below:

FREE! Homebound Program – If you can’t make it to the Library, have the Library come to you, with the delivery of books and other resources. Available for residents of all ages in Perth Amboy who are temporarily or permanently confined to their homes because of illness, age or physical disability.

FREE! Notary Service – Bring documentation with proper ID, please be sure not to sign unless Notary is present.

FREE! Database Access – Sign up for a Library card and reserve your books online, get access to online resources, visiting passes to museums and much more!

Library App – Sign-up for our LMXPress plus app for easy access to library resources.

For additional information on our services or hours call: 732-826-2600.

PERTH AMBOY YOUTH ALLIANCE INVITES YOU TO THE

UNITY MARCH

MLK DAY IS KNOWN AS A NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE. WE CALL ON ALL TO JOIN US FOR DAY OF COMMUNITY, ACTION, AND PEACE.

MONDAY, JAN 21, 2019

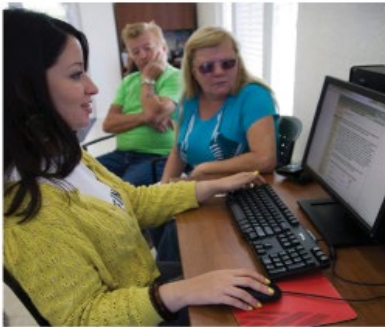
WE WILL BE COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING NEW ITEMS TO CREATE CAREBAGS FOR THE HOMELESS:

- SOCKS
- HAT, GLOVES, SCARVES
- TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTH PASTE
- DEODORANT
- CHAPSTICK
- TISSUES
- BODY WASH

MARCH BEGINS AT 10 AM :
Perth Amboy Train Station

CEREMONY TO FOLLOW :
Perth Amboy City Hall Circle
260 High Street

Get Your Tax Refund Fast!
E-Filed, Free & IRS Approved



You can get your taxes done for free by IRS-certified volunteers at locations throughout the community. Income up to \$65,000 (single).

The free tax sites also help eligible taxpayers claim important tax credits and refunds. Over 2,000 returns filed in 2018!

You may qualify for:

- The Earned Income Tax Credit
- **Increased** - Child Tax Credit - \$2,000
- **New** - Other Dependent Credit - \$500

Get your tax return prepared at these locations:

Call to schedule an appointment:

Alexander F. Jankowski
Community Center
1 Olive Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Tel: (732) 826 1690
Feb. 9 & 23

Hansen Building
415 Fayette Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
(732) 247-3727
Evening drop off

Jewish Renaissance Foundation
149 Kearny Avenue
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Tel: 732 324-2114 ext. 111

Child Care Solutions
103 Center Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Tel: 732 324-4357
Evening drop off

Perth Amboy Library
196 Jefferson Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Tel: 732 826-2600
Feb 16, March 9, April 6

Bayside Family Success Center
500 Dobranski Drive
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Tel: 732 638-5063 ext. 104



Tom's Tax Tips

Tips for a Faster Refund

Courtesy of Tom Ploskanka C.P.A.

As the tax filing season approaches, there are steps you can take now to speed up the filing process. The faster your return is filed, the faster you get your refund. Even if you end up owing money to the IRS, knowing the amount due sooner gives you more time to come up with the funds needed to pay your tax bill. Here are things you can do now to get organized:

1. Look for your tax forms. Forms W-2, 1099, and 1098 will start hitting your mailbox. Look for them and get them organized. Create a checklist of the forms to make sure you aren't missing any.

2. Don't wait for Form 1095s. Once again, proof of health insurance coverage forms are delayed. The deadline for companies to distribute most Form 1095s to employees is pushed back to March 4. The IRS is OK with filing your return prior to receiving the proof of insurance form as long as you can provide other forms of proof. Remember, 2018 is the last year of penalties if you do not have adequate insurance coverage.

3. Finalize name changes. If you were recently married or had a name change, file your taxes using the correct name. File your name change with the Social Security Administration as soon as possible, but be aware of the timing with a potential name conflict with the IRS.

4. Collect your statements and sort them. Using last year's tax return, gather and sort your necessary tax records. Sort your tax records to match the items on your tax return. Here is a list of the more common tax records:

- o Informational tax forms (W-2, 1099, 1098, 1095-A, plus others) that disclose wages, interest income, dividends and capital gain/loss activity
- o Other forms that disclose possible income (jury duty, unemployment, IRA distributions and similar items)
- o Business K-1 forms
- o Social Security statements
- o Mortgage interest statements
- o Tuition paid statements
- o Property tax statements
- o Mileage log(s) for business, moving, medical and charitable driving
- o Medical, dental and vision expenses
- o Business expenses
- o Records of any asset purchases and sales
- o Health insurance records (including Medicare and Medicaid)
- o Charitable receipts and documentation
- o Bank and investment statements
- o Credit card statements
- o Records of any out of state purchases that may require use tax
- o Records of any estimated tax payments
- o Home sales (or refinance) records
- o Educational expenses (including student loan interest expense)
- o Casualty and theft loss documentation (federally declared disasters only)
- o Moving expenses (military only)

If you are not sure whether something is important for tax purposes, retain the documentation. It is better to save unnecessary documentation than to later wish you had the document to support your deduction.

5. Clean up your auto log. You should have the necessary logs to support your qualified business miles, moving miles, medical miles and charitable miles driven by you. Gather the logs and make a quick review to ensure they are up to date and totaled.

6. Coordinate your deductions. If you and someone else may share a dependent, confirm you are both on the same page as to who will claim the dependent. This is true for single taxpayers, divorced taxpayers, taxpayers with elderly parents/grandparents, and parents with older children.

While you are organizing your records, ride the momentum to start your filing system for the new year. Doing so will make this process a breeze this time next year!

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

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

Always Caring. Always Here.

PERTH AMBOY - The Jewish Renaissance Medical Center provides primary health and preventive services to you and your family. We have been an active participant in the Perth Amboy Community and offer care for infants, children, teens, adults, and seniors. We strive to provide the best services for you and your family and to make sure that every service provided is to your satisfaction. As a JRMC medical patient, if you're feeling sick or have an urgent (non-life threatening) medical problem, we're here to help. Make your appt today at (732) 376-9333 or visit us at 275 Hobart Street.

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, finger-plays, poetry, and crafts.

Join In on the following dates:
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



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

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

Law Office of ERALIDES E. CABRERA



Abogado

Specializing In

• Immigration

We are bilingual and have offices at:

708 Carson Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

Phone: 732 - 826-5020; Fax: 732-826-6646

1201 E. Grand St., Unit 3A, Elizabeth, NJ 07201

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

Email: ecabrera52@hotmail.com



Pancake Breakfast Buffet

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Elks are having a Pancake Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, February 3, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at 601 Washington Ave. Cost: \$9 pp \$5 for kids under 7 years old. Join us for a served buffet of pancakes, scrambled eggs, breakfast meats, potatoes, sweets, breads, coffee, tea & juice. Menu variations each date. Proceeds will benefit our general fund and or the Wildwood fund. For more information, call 732-727-7170.

Book Sale

SAYREVILLE -- There will be a Book Sale on Saturday & Sunday, January 19th & 20th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ONLY \$10 for a bag of books or \$15 for a box of books. Location: Sayreville Free Public Library, 1050 Washington Road, Parlin, NJ 08859. For More Information 732-727-0212. Sponsored by the Friends of the Sayreville Public Library.

Attention Students! Earn Community Service Hours by Shoveling Snow for the Elderly

SOUTH AMBOY - The City of South Amboy and South Amboy OEM are looking for students in the seventh grade or higher, interested in community service hours to help our elderly community to shovel when it snows. We will find a senior within walking distance of volunteer's homes. Students commit to shovel the assigned senior's residence sidewalk and the path to their front door each time it snows and they will receive community service credit at the end of the winter.

If you are a senior, age 60 and older, who needs your snow shoveled, or a student or resident who wants to volunteer, please email Jaclyn at kellyj@southamboynj.gov or call (732) 525-5965.

Edison AARP Ch #3446

EDISON - The next meeting of the Edison AARP Chapter #3446 will be held on Monday, January 21st, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. (weather permitting) at: The Elks #2487, 375 Old Post Road, Edison, N.J.

Subsequent meetings will be held the 3rd Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. We currently have 188 members and always welcome more. Our meetings are lively and interesting and include an informative guest speaker. January's meeting will include a presentation by Dr. Herman of the John F. Kennedy Medical Center focusing on understanding memory loss. There will also be a short talk about our upcoming October 2019 trip to Memphis and Nashville. Other programs for seniors include health care, legislation, community service, theater, day trips, tours and so much more. Each month we also ask our members to bring non-perishable food items which we donate to the Food Bank of Middlesex County. For more information please visit our website at WWW.EDISONAARP.ORG.

2019 Amboy Guardian Publication Dates

January 9
January 16
January 23
January 30
February 6
February 13
February 20
February 27
March 6
March 13
March 20
March 27
April 3
April 17
May 1
May 15
June 5
June 19
July 3
July 17
August 7
August 21
September 4
September 18
October 2
October 16
November 6
November 20
December 4
December 18

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 January 14, 1944, attempting to break the German blockade of Leningrad, Russia (the siege began on September 8, 1941), the Soviet Second Shock Army attacks from the Oranienbaum bridgehead to the west of the city, while the Soviet Fifty-Ninth Army attacks toward Novgorod, located south of Leningrad. On New Britain, in the Bismarck Archipelago, fighting continues around Cape Gloucester, held by the U.S. 1st Marine Division. In London, the Polish government-in-exile states that it refuses to accept unilateral decisions about Polish territory and that it is approaching the governments of the U.S. and the U.K. to mediate “all outstanding questions....” (The U.S.S.R. has stated it wants Poland’s borders moved westward.)

The Soviet Forty-Seventh Army on January 15 attacks the Germans from Pulkovo Heights, south of Leningrad. The government of Peru announces its discovery of Axis-backed conspirators plotting a coup. In Italy, the U.S. II Corps captures Monte Trocchio, about 4 miles southeast of Cassino. In Yugoslavia, the Germans begin a new offensive against Tito’s anti-Nazi Partisans; Tito is forced to move his headquarters 65 miles farther west, deeper into the mountains of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

U.S. Army Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower on January 16 formally takes up his duties as commander-in-chief, Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF), at Bushy Park, Teddington, London.

In Italy, the Battle of Monte Cassino begins as the British X Corps (part of the U.S. Fifth Army) launches attacks on the defensive positions of Gen. Fridolin von Senger und Etterlin’s XIV Panzer Corps (part of the German Tenth Army), along the Gari-gliano River on January 17. Two of X Corps’ three divisions gain bridgeheads over the river, but the offensive is finally repulsed. The U.S.S.R. rejects the Polish government-in-exile’s proposal for negotiations over the locations of the Polish frontiers. In Australia, meat rationing comes to an end.

On January 18, the German 3rd Panzer Army of Army Group Center repels repeated Red Army attacks in the area of Vitebsk, Belorussia, about 300 miles northeast of Minsk, the Belorussian capital, and about 510 miles southwest of Moscow. The Soviets open a narrow corridor south of Lake Ladoga into the besieged city of Leningrad.

The three Soviet Armies around besieged Leningrad (Second Soviet Shock, Fifty-Ninth and Forty-Seventh) link up near Krasnoe on January 19 and continue on the offensive to break the siege. German forces are surrounded in Novgorod, 100 miles to the south of Leningrad, but manage to break out. British troops capture Minturno, Italy, 75 miles southeast of Rome.

The RAF makes its heaviest raid on Berlin on January 20, with 700 bombers dropping more than 2,300 tons of armaments in just over 30 minutes during the 11th raid of the “Battle of Berlin.” The Red Army recaptures Novgorod, Russia, which sits astride the road between Leningrad and Moscow. In Italy, the U.S. II Corps (part of the U.S. Fifth Army) begins attacks across the Rapido River toward the Liri Valley and Monte Cassino. German forces successfully hold their positions. In London, Winston Churchill meets with representatives of the Polish government-in-exile to try to break the impasse with the Soviets over Polish issues. From Paris, some 1,000 Jews are sent off to Auschwitz.

SkillUp Middlesex

MIDDLESEX COUNTY – County offering over 4,500 Courses Through Free Online Learning Platform. Enhance skills and obtain industry recognized credentials by taking online courses developed by Skillsoft, a training provider used by Fortune-500 companies. Transportation/Logistics, Business Etiquette, QuickBooks, Project Management/Microsoft Office, Adobe, Accounting, Human Resources, Six Sigma, Informational Technology, Sales/Marketing, Custom Service, + 100’s More!


Explore Career Pathways, Browse the Catalog, Find a Job! Bonus: Visit the Industry Certification page to choose from 130+ Certifications (Exam Fee May Apply)

Register Today at www.middlesexcountynj.gov

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- Courses to train for industry-recognized certifications
- Pass courses with 80% or higher to earn a completion certification
- Download and print your completion certificates
- Certifications for your resume that provide new interview talking points
- Professional development

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, Feb. 7, 2019. Bus leaves 12 Noon from the Perth Amboy Knights of Columbus, High Street, Perth Amboy. Cost 30 pp. Receive \$30 back in slot dollars. For more info call Joe at 732-826-0819.



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


PERTH AMBOY – A trip to the Golden Nugget Casino in Atlantic City will be held on. Wed. Jan. 23, 2019. 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.

Sands Casino Bus Trip Holy Rosary Seniors

HOPELAWN – Holy Rosary Seniors is sponsoring a bus trip to the Sands Casino in Pennsylvania Thursday 1/17/2019. 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.

Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library Meeting

PERTH AMBOY – The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library are having a meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019 at 6 p.m. at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library (Children's Library), 196 Jefferson St. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more info, call 732-261-2610.




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: Jan. 26th, Feb. 9th & 23rd. We will be there from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (weather permitting). For more info, e-mail us at friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com Book Dealers are welcome. !!!!

Pet of the Week

Hi. I'm Bella. I'm part of a TNR program. I was dumped and lived in an apt. parking lot where I slept under garbage bags and mattresses by the dumpster. My foster mommy saved me from a hard life and a cold winter. My owner threw me away. I don't belong on the streets of PERTH AMBOY. I'm looking for a home of my own. I'm super lovable and even cuter in person. Please ADOPT ME or one of my friends. I'm fixed, vaccinated for rabies and distemper, negative for fiv and leukemia, was dewormed, had my ears cleaned, nails trimmed, and I'm healthy and fully vetted. 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 & 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.

Tip-A-Pint Fundraiser

SOUTH AMBOY - The Saint Patrick Day Parade Committee of the City of South Amboy invites you to join them for an evening of friends, food and drink at their “Tip-A-Pint” fundraiser; Thursday, January 17th, 2019 at “Murphy’s Shamrock Inn, 147 So. Pine Ave., So. Amboy from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

A \$20 pp entrance fee will be collected at the door. Participants will enjoy unlimited free beer and wine, a hot and cold buffet plus a performance by the D.B.Kelly Drum & Bugle Corp.

Proceeds will support the efforts of the South Amboy Saint Patrick’s Day Parade Committee.

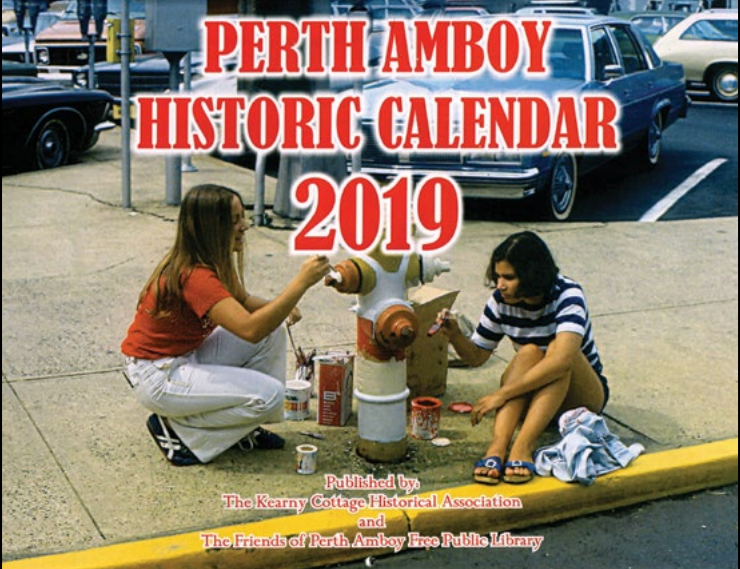
Coffee Talk with Rabbi Metz

PERTH AMBOY/EDISON - Wednesdays, January 16, 23 and 30 at 9:30 a.m. Discussions/informal class in a relaxed environment. NEW LOCATION! Panera Bread, 1551 Route 1, Edison, (North of Menlo Park Mall, on the southbound side of Route 1.)

Ask the Rabbi

PERTH AMBOY/EDISON - "Ask the Rabbi" is back: Wednesdays, January 16, 23 and 30 in the food court in Menlo Park Mall (near Panera) at 12 noon. Rabbi Sara Metz will discuss current events and Bible topics. She will also answer questions you might want answered but never had the opportunity to ask of a rabbi.

2019 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars



Published by:
The Kearny Cottage Historical Association
and
The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library

2019 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars are now available at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy 732-442-3000 or at Fertigs Uniform Store, 195 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy 732-442-1079, Perth Amboy City Hall or Call Paul or Katherine at 732-293-1090. Back by popular demand the Calendars feature old photographs from Perth Amboy. Sponsored by the Kearny Cottage Historical Association and the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library. Calendars are \$10 Each.

Novena to St. Rita

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

Saint Rita, advocate of the impossible, pray for us.
Saint Rita, advocate of the helpless, pray for us.

Recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be three times each. K.M. & C.M.

A Petition to St. Joseph for Special Intention

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. *S.C.*

Trivia Night

EDISON - Our Lady of Peace Knights of Columbus Council #9199 of Fords is sponsoring "Trivia Night" on Saturday, January 26, 2019. A night of fun, questions and answers will begin at 6:30PM at the OLP Parish Center on Franklin St, Edison. Admission is \$20 and includes admission, a sub sandwich, chips and a soft drink. Coffee, tea and desserts are available. BYOB (beer & wine only). Reservations are requested for teams of 6. For more info, call Emil Ferlicchi at 732-261-8280 or Jim Burke at 732-236-7356.

Prayer to St. Joseph for Employment

Dear Saint Joseph, you were yourself once faced with the responsibility of providing the necessities of life for Jesus and Mary. Look down with fatherly compassion upon me in my anxiety over my present inability to support my family. Please help me find gainful employment very soon, so that this heavy burden of concern will be lifted from my heart and that I am soon able to provide for those whom God has entrusted to my care. Help us to guard against bitterness and discouragement, so that we may emerge from this trial spiritually enriched and with even greater blessings from God. Amen *R.L.D. 1/16*

Polar Plunge

SEA BRIGHT - Be Bold, Get Cold! Bishop Ahr High School's 6th Annual Polar Plunge - sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The more cash, the more teacher's splash! Date: Sunday January 27, 2019; Time: In the Water at 1 p.m. at Sea Bright Municipal Beach by Tommy's Tavern, Sea Bright, NJ. Visit: bgahs.org/polarplunge to either register to participate or make a donation

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 1st & 3rd 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.

Remember to Say Your Novenas!

Answers From Puzzle On Page 15



LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Blizzard of 1888 (March 11, 1888 - March 14, 1888). The storm, which was known as the Great White Hurricane devastated the East Coast with 10-58 inches of snow.

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

Senior Scene Happenings

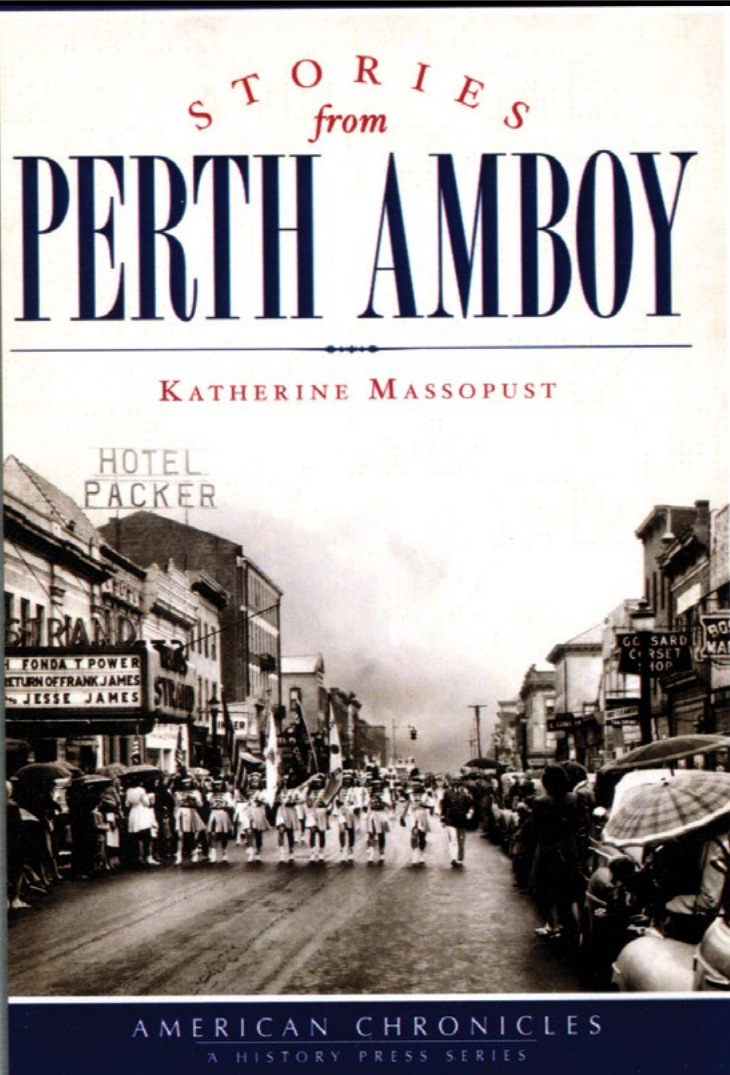
Perth Amboy

- TUES. Jan. 15 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. Jan. 16 Good Shepherd Wednesday Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Msgr. Gambino Hall , Florida Grove Rd.
- St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
 - Holy Trinity Seniors, 1 p.m., Church Hall, Lawrie & Johnstone St.
- THURS. Jan. 17 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- MON. Jan. 21 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- TUES. Jan. 22 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. Jan. 23 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. Jan. 24 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

- MON. Jan. 28 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.
- WED. Feb. 6 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- MON. Feb. 11 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.

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



Stories From Perth Amboy

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

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	Sayreville Bomber Charm 14 KT Gold \$75 Boxed South Amboy: Call "Kitch" - 732-525-2405	Antique Sleds Good Shape, Flexible Flyer Size 51 1/2 in. FF Original Sticker \$50 732-727-0314
	Brand New Electric Heater Radiator. Was \$65 Now \$20 New Never Used. 732-547-7406	Electric Train Set "G" Scale Original Box. Excellent Condition \$75 - 732-727-8417
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G.T.A.

Prayer To St. Clare

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Prayer To Blessed Virgin

St. Jude Novena

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For Employment

Prayer To Holy Spirit

Thanksgiving Novena

Pray The Rosary

A Petition to
St. Jude

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

Thank you, St. Jude
F.M.J.

Prayer To St. Jude

Novena To St. Anthony

Novena To St. Joseph

OTHER _____

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ACROSS

1. Be the right size
4. Game fish
8. More _____ enough
12. Mineral resource
13. Dayton's locale
14. Villain's foe
15. Comes in again
17. Hit (the fridge)
18. "I get it!"
19. Shapes (dough)
20. Pastrami shop
23. Flow off
26. Sinister
27. Witness

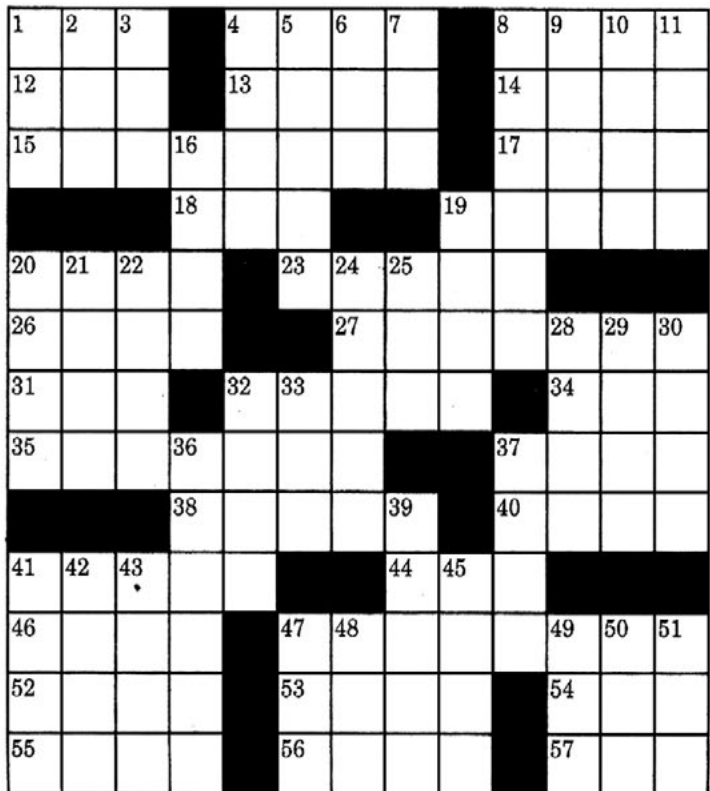
31. Kingsley of "Gandhi"
32. Helpers
34. Lung filler
35. Quake
37. Docking place
38. Permit
40. Comes to a close
41. Play platform
44. Wordsmith of the Gershwins
46. "One good _____ deserves another"
47. Member of the clergy
52. A single time
53. Mellowed, as fine wine
54. Feel deep regret

55. Exterminator's target
56. Mix, as a salad
57. Ms. Landers

DOWN

1. In favor of
2. Wrath
3. Letter directly following ess
4. The two of them
5. In front (of)
6. Title of respect
7. Cry for help
8. Ruler's chair
9. Mend, as a wound

10. Exceedingly dry
11. _____ off, drifts into sleep
16. Bit of hardware
19. Land wide of the mark
20. Monetary obligation
21. For all time
22. Bit of dialogue
24. Riding and roping show
25. Mr. Lincoln, to most
28. Forecast for Noah?
29. Contended (with)
30. Commits blunders
32. Talented
33. In poor health
36. Attractive object?
37. Fall fruit
39. Married women
41. "Quit it!"
42. Adjust (a piano)
43. Curved lines
45. Cincinnati team
47. Mouse kin
48. Id's companion
49. Notable period in time
50. Cloister resident
51. Home-office room



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PERTH AMBOY - Historic Corner building on a busy intersection, building includes a Restaurant on the 1st level, and two 3 bdrm apts, total of 3 units, there is also another room with two rooms separate from the apartments that is similar in size to a small studio, however it is not a legal studio, owner uses the space as storage, along with many closets on the 2nd flr, 5 parking spots, sold as is. Buyer must conduct their own due diligence on use of property, current use is a Latin Restaurant with 1 soda refrigerator, 1 double oven, 1 commercial grade refrigerator, 2 fryers, 1 grill, mobile warmer for catering, 2 freezers, dishwasher, slicing machine, triple sinks, 2 separate men's and women's bathroom, full bar, area with stools along with multiple tables and chairs, come see the property and let your future dreams become a reality with your own restaurant! Showing starts April 2nd, 2018, both apt unit rent for \$1400 each, total. \$2800 monthly plus whatever you decide to rent out the restaurant for, or keep it yourself and run your own business! **\$479,900**



PERTH AMBOY - Store for rent is located 291 McClellan St. (Mr. Bargain Botanica). **\$2,500 Mo/Rent**



PERTH AMBOY - Tenant has access to basement for storage. **\$4,000 Mo/Rent**



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HOPELAWN - Great Ranch featuring 3 bdrs., dining room, 1.5 bath huge recreation room. and much more ZONED B-3. GREAT POTENTIAL FOR MULTIPLE USE. Buyer is responsible for C of O and all repairs, is being sold strictly in "AS IS" Condition. Preferable Cash or FHA 203K Financing, 2018 Taxes \$7,964. **\$229,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Brick Center Hall Colonial on a large corner property. The home is listed as a 2 bedroom, but it actually has a bonus room attached to the Master Bedroom, used as a nursery. Also 2 large rooms in the finished basement w/ private full bathroom. Attic fully finished and easily accessible from the 2nd floor hallway. **\$339,900**



PERTH AMBOY - This Bayshore model to be built as an open floor plan design, features living room, dining room. Kitchen, 1/2 bath, full Basement A/C, 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 2 car garages lots of optional upgrades to choose from, see attachments, close to all major highways, Parks located in the Spa Spring section of Perth Amboy. Looking to close by May 1st, 2019. **\$464,900**



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PERTH AMBOY - Great condition, close to downtown and public transportation. **\$302,000**