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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center Breaks Ground on New Emergency Department

Expansion will more than double current footprint



(L to R) Joseph Jankowski, Hackensack Meridian Health Hospitals Corporation Board, Catherine Airona, EVP, chief integration officer and interim central region president, Hackensack Meridian Health; Michael Egan, M.D. physician director, Emergency Services, Raritan Bay Medical Center; Thomas Shanahan, chief hospital executive, Raritan Bay Medical Center; Robert C. Garrett, FACHE, CEO, Hackensack Meridian Health; William DiStanislao, vice president, Operations and executive site director, Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge; Gordon Litwin, Esq., chair, Hackensack Meridian Health Board of Trustees; Kathleen Ellis, Hackensack Meridian Health Board of Trustees Breaks ground on the new Emergency Care Center at Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge. **Photo Submitted*

Press Release
OLD BRIDGE – October 29, 2019 – Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge broke ground recently on its new Emergency Department, a \$39 million investment that will encompass 24,000 square feet - more than double the current footprint.

“At Hackensack Meridian Health, our focus is to provide the best health care experience possible and today we see Raritan Bay Medical Center is doing just that by creating an accessible brand new emergency care facility,” said Robert C. Garrett, CEO Hackensack Meridian Health.

With 25,000 visits annually, the new state-of-the-art Emergency Department will provide safer faster arrivals by adding additional ambulance bays, newly designed pediatric rooms and new on-site technology with equipment that will provide more accurate diagnostics and treatment. Additionally, it will include greater privacy, comfort and immediate patient triage.

“At Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge, we are committed to serving our neighbors,

friends and families by providing the best care for our growing community, said Thomas Shanahan, chief hospital executive. “The expansion of the Emergency Department will allow us unprecedented access to optimizing patient outcomes.”

In addition, the expansion will now connect all three buildings together with a new main lobby and concourse. By combining the three buildings via a new concourse, it will create an interconnected system, allowing patients and staff to move easily throughout. The redesign will serve all physicians, medical staff, patients, and visitors.

In addition, the expansion will include:

- 2,300 square feet imaging program
- 1,400 square feet for Emergency Department waiting room/reception
- 8,400 square feet new main lobby and concourse
- 700 square feet retail pharmacy

“This expansion will allow us to serve more patients with cardiac issues, stroke, trauma and other core services,” said William DiStanislao, vice president, operations and executive site di-

rector, Raritan Bay-Old Bridge. “We looking forward to serving more patients by delivering the highest quality care to every person who comes through our doors.”

To learn more about how you can support the new Emergency Department at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Old Bridge, please contact Linda Hill, executive director, Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation, at 732-324-5376 or linda.hill@hackensackmeridian.org.

For more information about the Raritan Bay Medical Center Emergency Department, visit: <https://www.rbmc.org/emergency-medical-services/>

For more information, visit www.rbmc.org. To make an appointment for an outpatient test or treatment, call 732-324-5270. For a free physician referral, call 1-800-560-9990.



JRMC to Purchase 3-D Mammogram Machine

An Organizational Response to Breast Cancer with Early Detection and Prevention



(L to R) Lisett Lebron, chair of Women's Health Initiative, Quiche Jones, Strategic Alliance Account Manager, Aetna Better Health of New Jersey, John T. O'Leary, Chief Executive Officer, Jewish Renaissance Medical Center, Jamie Rivello, Chief Compliance Officer and Breast Cancer Survivor Testimony, Cynthia Vuittonet, M.D., Primary Care Physician, Internal Medicine, Jewish Renaissance Medical Center **Photos by Paul W. Wang*



The Audience listens to the speakers at Seabra's Armory

Press Release 10/25/19
PERTH AMBOY- The JRMC held a press luncheon on Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at Seabra's Armory in Perth Amboy to announce their enhanced women's services, including the purchase of a 3-D mammogram machine in 2020.

The event featured a panel of speakers including Lisett Lebron, Women's Health Initiative, Board Chair; Jaime Rivello, JRMC's Chief Compliance Officer and Breast Cancer Survivor; Quiche Jones, Strategic Alliance Account Manager for AETNA Better Health of NJ (event co-host); and John T. O'Leary, Chief Executive Officer of the JRMC. Guests in attendance were from local and

surrounding business districts, city officials, JRMC staff, and residents. Aetna Better Health of NJ enthusiastically supports JRMC's global health initiatives and is committed to providing additional support for the new women's health program.

The announcement was made during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, as breast cancer is the second most common type of cancer in women. The goal of the event was to promote awareness and education for breast cancer screenings, early detection, and support services.

The JRMC is a federally qualified health center that offers adult medicine, pediatrics,

**Continued on Page 2*

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Puppy Mill Cats & Kittens and Code of Ordinances Passed 10/16/19 Council Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust
SOUTH AMBOY – After the meeting was called to order by Vice President Christine Noble, there was a moment of silence for Pat Leonard who recently passed away.

During the public portion on agenda items only regarding item b.) Ordinance #20-2019 – An ordinance prohibiting the sale of “Puppy Mill” cats and kittens. Humane Society from the United States County Leader (Union County, NJ) Volunteer Larry Cohen who had spoken at the last council meeting thanked everyone for helping to get this ordinance passed. “I’m glad to make myself available. This is probusiness. It’s like the plastic bag issue – the more press we have – the better.”

Every ordinance on the agenda passed unanimously.

During the Council Comments, everyone gave their condolences to the family of Pat Leonard. Councilman Tom Reilly spoke first. “Pat Leonard was a father and good husband.

We had a benefit last week (for him).”

Reilly then spoke about a few issues: “As a council, we should discuss the vaping stores. We’re seeing a lot of unhealthy practices.” Reilly then went on to speak about the need for firefighters and first aid members, “There’s three new firemen. In the last few meetings, a lot of volunteers signed up. We still need first aid volunteers.” Reilly then stated that crossing guards are needed.”

Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski answered, “We had an unexpected resignation.” Skarzynski then made a few comments: “The municipal code should be online on the city website. We have 90% of it digitized. There still is still stuff from last year to be done.”

Mayor Fred Henry stated, “I taught Pat and Michelle. I want to thank the council on Ordinance #23 (#23-2019 - An ordinance adopting a code of ordinances of the city of South Amboy in the county of Mid-

dlesex, state of New Jersey.) I’ve been harping a long time. The entire code book to South Amboy had to be amended. I want to thank the council. It’s long time coming.”

During the public portion, resident Brian Murphy spoke. “Back in the early summer, I discussed parking. It doesn’t say anything about resident’s parking or resident’s stickers. (Council President) Mickey Gross said this would be taken care of. Is there a follow up on this?”

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski answered, “At this point, we have not come up with a doable plan.”

Murphy then picked up an agenda, “Every meeting I grab (one of these).”

City Clerk Debra Brooks stated that you can find the agenda online.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. Council President Mickey Gross and Councilwoman Zusette Dato were not present at the meeting.

JRMC to Purchase 3-D Mammogram Machine An Organizational Response to Breast Cancer with Early Detection and Prevention

**Continued from Page 1*

women's wellness, dental, nutrition, and behavioral health. JRMC provides 75,000 patient encounters annually within the combined centers located in Perth Amboy and Newark.

“We exist to deliver quality, community-based primary care services in a culturally sensitive manner with integrity and respect to all patients,” said John T. O’Leary, Chief Executive Officer of the JRMC. “Our services are affordable, accessible, and comprehensive so that all

who seek medical care can find it with dignity”.

JRMC treats 16,000 female patients annually. More than 50% of these patients have never had a mammogram. This is a healthcare crisis. “The good news is that most women can survive breast cancer if it is found and treated early,” stated O’Leary. It is our mission to expand our reach into education and awareness to save lives through the expansion of services including an in-house 3-D mammogram machine. Early detection saves lives. This is the mantra of the JRMC lead-

ership, and we are counting on everyone to join in our mission to save lives.”

The WHI, part of JRMC, a 501(c)(3) corporation, is an integrative health endeavor that expands Women’s Wellness to include mammograms, nutrition, and other vital services integral to a woman’s healthy mind and body, regardless of income. For more information, contact Denise Batista at (732) 376-6616 or email dbatista@jrmc.us

For more information, go to www.jrmc.us

Topics Include Shoddy Work & Handicapped Parking 10/23/19 Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – During the first public portion on agenda items only, resident Stanley Sierakowski came up to talk about R-465 – 10/19 – A contract with the law firm of Gluck Walrath, LLP for legal services to evaluate the PILOT of E-Port 1 in conjunction with an audit in the amount not to exceed \$10,000.

Sierakowski questioned, “Who ordered this?”

Council President Petrick responded, “It was the administration. This will see how much it would cost the city and how much the school is losing.”

Sierakowski continued, “PILOTS are supposed to give projections. In Hudson County, they revised PILOTS. PILOTS are negotiable.”

Resident Lisa Nanton came up next. She questioned R-459-10/19 – Recovery on the Waterfront - A nonprofit corporation, for its use of the clubhouse

within the Memorial Youth Complex from January 1st, 2020 and terminating December 31st, 2020.

She wanted to know what is that, and where is that.

Council President William Petrick responded, “This organization does counseling, and lost their facilities when the tennis courts burned down. The group has been on the waterfront for four years.”

Nanton then questioned, “Why are the bathrooms locked on the waterfront?”

Petrick stated that there was an individual that was messing up the facility.

Nanton then asked if cameras could be installed.

Petrick answered that it can’t be monitored by cameras inside the bathroom because of invasion of privacy.

Nanton, “What you need are surveillance cameras on the outside and a police presence.”

When it came to the ordinances, Business Administrator Frederick Carr asked that Ordinance No. 1 – The Wreckers be pulled as per requested by the Chief of Police. “The Chief would like to look at this ordinance further. The council made minor changes to the ordinance which will be kept intact.” Councilman Irizarry made a motion that the ordinance be tabled. It was seconded by Joel Pabon.

Lisa Nanton had a question regarding Ordinance No. 2 – Capital Improvements and appropriating \$4,195,480.00 and authorizing the issuance of \$3,985,706.00 in bonds or notes of the city to finance part of the cost thereof.

B.A. Carr explained, “Some of the items involved 3 vehicles in the public works, a printer

**Continued on Page 8*

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- READING OF MEMORIAL LIST OF LOVED ONES' NAMES
- REFRESHMENTS

Join us in memorializing our loved ones this holiday season. Please register if you would like a holiday ornament personalized with your loved one's name to be included on our memorial tree and be read aloud during the ceremony.
 The program will be held in our heated tent on the front lawn of the funeral home in view of the tree. The tree will be illuminated during the ceremony and will remain lit throughout the holiday season.

THE PROGRAM WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 7:00 PM
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 RAIN LOCATION: American Legion Post 45 at 530 Smith Street

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Pleasant Surprises

The last time I delivered the paper in South Amboy was October 15th. I was pleasantly surprised by the display of scarecrows on Broadway near City Hall and the Train Station. South Amboy had an ArtFest, and the Dowdell Library had a table where children could create scarecrows, but I didn't expect such masterpieces. Congratulations to all involved and everyone should be very proud of their accomplishments. (see p.6.)

We recently covered the groundbreaking for a new Emergency Room that will be built at Hackensack Meridian Hospital Old Bridge Division. Here are the some of the most important things that were said at the presentation:

One particular sentence spoke to us personally: in the new emergency room, each patient would have their own private room – and not just be separated by a curtain from other patients, but by a wall. I can't remember all the times I was a patient in the emergency room and I overheard conversations between emergency personnel and the person they were treating and anyone else who came in with that person. It's nobody's business to hear what is being said except for the people involved.

Another feature will be a flat screen on the wall and each person's photo and title (e.g. Doctor, Nurse, X-Ray Technician, etc.) who is involved with the treatment of the patient will be on the screen. Along with that will be information regarding any tests and if the results are available.

Because of the expanding population, more patients who would otherwise be transported to Robert Wood, would be able to be treated more quickly right in Old Bridge.

It was a collaborate effort and one of the strongest voices was from the community, for they are the ones who will be served. Congratulations to all who were involved to make this possible.

One of our favorite holidays just passed by - Halloween.

Although rain threatened, the weather held up and the temperature was warm.

I was pleasantly surprised that day when I arrived at Riverview Medical Center in Red Bank for an appointment. As soon as I walked through the revolving doors, there were children and some adults dressed up in Halloween costumes. There is a daycare center close by where a lot of the hospital personnel's children attend. The children were in the lobby to get their Halloween treats from the receptionists. Some of the hospital personnel were dressed up. This was a great way to start my day and it brought a big smile to my face.

As I was walking to the Red Bank Train Station, at about 11:50 a.m. there was another surprise. There were a bunch of kids all dressed up in their Halloween Costumes being crossed across the street by a crossing guard. Also, I ran into some adults who were dressed up in costumes. As I was on the train, looking at the colorful trees through the window, I was lost in thought looking at how beautiful the scenery was. It wasn't until I was almost ready to get off the train when I spotted a small dog (in a ladybug costume) sitting quietly across from its owner. Unfortunately, I had my phone turned off and I couldn't snap a photo of him before I got off the train. A couple of hours later, I went shopping in downtown Perth Amboy where there were a ton of Trick 'or Treaters. I have to admit some of the adults that were dressed in costume with or without the children were just as adorable as the kids. When I was in line in one of the stores to pay for my purchases, two kids came into the store and loudly asked, "Where's the candy?" After they received their treats, they shouted just as loudly, "THANK YOU!" The way they did it was hysterical to me.

If I can begin and end the day with a smile on my face in the same way, it is a good day. I hope to have many more. *C.M.*

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

School Board Election

Ok folks now that you voted for Perth Amboy School Board Members or one that you trust on Election Day, I hope it will

make you happy and I hope they kept their promises or just a trip to Fantasy Land. Remember, talk is cheap. Now for me becoming a school board member is just a steppingstone into politics - like a City Council Mem-

ber or a Mayor and so on. We know the school system in Perth Amboy will never change and if it did it was an act of GOD.

Orlando "Wildman" Perez

What do you think? Send us a response!

Presentations on Learning, NJSLA, and Anti-Bullying 10/29/19 Board of Education Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust
PERTH AMBOY – Student Representatives Delilah Morales and Anthony Diaz reported that students participated in the "Week of Respect", "Stomping Out Bullying" and "Random Acts of Kindness" programs along with "School Spirit". They noted that the Perth Amboy District accepted the award for being a National School of Character.

After a one and half hour closed session, the Board returned. There were three presentations.

The first presentation was given by Perth Amboy High School Principal Mr. Michael Heidelberg, Principal of the Personalized Learning Program and Anti-Bullying Specialist Ms. Yolanda Gomez, and Principal of the Freshman Academy Mr. Keith Guarino who gave a presentation on the Learning Center. It was noted that the "Learning Center" is now the "Panther Enrichment Center".

The presentation included the 6 principles of the Center: 1.) Peer Tutoring; 2.) Academic Enrichment; 3.) Independent Study Groups; 4.) Portfolio Support; 5.) Credit Recovery; 6.) Workshops

The second presentation was given by Director of Guidance Grades: K-12 Mrs. Mary Jo McAdam and Director of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Damian Medina. This presentation was on the State Assessment Results. The PARCC is now the NJSLA. They noted that the test is given to every student in New Jersey and it is all in English. Assistant Superintendent Dr. Vivian Rodriguez noted that the results are on the total population of students and not a specific group and as of May 2019, grades 3-11 take the NJSLA. It was noted that this mirrors the adoption of the New Jersey State Learning Standards of 2016. The test results revealed an upward trend over the years. "The Perth Amboy School District was honored as a Lighthouse District for substantial improvement and there were two requests to visit us to

come and look how we are able to improve it. I am so proud to be here and retire knowing our school is in good hands," stated Dr. Rodriguez.

Superintendent Dr. David Roman added, "Ten other districts have done what we have done. We are the largest."

"We are the largest urban district."

Director of Guidance Grades: K-12 Mrs. Mary Jo McAdam gave the third presentation on the 2018-2019 School Year on Self-Assessments for determining grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act. She stated, "All Schools meet or exceed the expectations of self-assessment."

During the first public portion on agenda items only, Perth Amboy AFT Representative Donna Tartz made a brief statement regarding what the union believes were unjust discipline given to certain staff members. She requested a few items to be tabled for further discussion with the Board.

When going over the agenda items for the Finance Committee, Board Member Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe asked how many buses are being utilized by the district. District Director of Operations Carmen Southward came up to explain, "We have a fleet of 40 buses. 33-34 are used every day and bus close to 3,600 students district-wide. This includes out of district students."

Later in the meeting, Board Member Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe made a statement regarding the contract with the Perth Amboy AFT. "There are people working on a contract doing tremendous work on both ends. It's a large group for everyone to work with. Please come to an agreement for the sake of our staff. It's been over one year without a contract. We have a lot going on. Please get yourself together to come to an agreement. There's only one more month left (in 2019) that we have a meeting."

Board Vice-President Tashi Vasquez made a brief statement on the City Administration's



Board Member
Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe

work on Census 2020. "It's important that everyone is counted in 2020."

Board Member Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe stated that although she was invited to the new Rose Lopez School opening, she was unable to go, but since then had seen the school. "It was the first time I was in the school. It was dynamic. No words can explain it."

Board member Jesus Martinez commented, "On November 11th, it's Veteran's Day. So many of our Veterans have mental issues. Salute and honor them. It's something special for that day for our armed services."

No one spoke during the public portion.

Board Attorney Isabel Machado read a statement on the ongoing negotiations between the Perth Amboy AFT and the Board of Education. The statement included some discrepancies with the salary guidelines. Both parties will continue to negotiate until they come to an agreement.

Board Member Dr. Danielle Brown and Board President Ken Puccio were not present. Board Member Junior Iglesia was late. The Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.





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LAW OFFICES	708 CARSON AVE.
LEE'S MARKET	77 SMITH ST.
LUDWIG'S PHARMACY	75 BRACE AVE.
MITRUSKA CHIROPRACTIC	788 CONVERY BLVD.
PETRA BEST REALTY.....	329 SMITH ST.
PETRICK'S FLOWERS	710 PFEIFFER BLVD.
POLICE HEADQUARTERS	365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
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QUISQUEYA LUNCHEONETTE	259 MADISON AVE.
RARITAN BAY AREA Y.M.C.A.	365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
RARITAN BAY MEDICAL CENTER	530 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SANTANDER BANK	365 CONVERY BLVD.
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TORRES MINI MARKET	403 BRUCK AVE.
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WELLS FARGO	214 SMITH ST.
ZPA	281 GRACE ST.
IN SAYREVILLE:	
BOROUGH HALL	167 MAIN ST.
SENIOR CENTER	423 MAIN ST.
SUNNYSIDE RESTAURANT	111 MAIN ST.
IN SEWAREN:	
PUBLIC LIBRARY	546 WEST AVE.
SEWAREN CORNER DELI	514 WEST AVE.
IN SOUTH AMBOY:	
AMBOY NATIONAL BANK	100 N. BROADWAY
BROADWAY BAGELS	105 S. BROADWAY
BROADWAY DINER	126 N. BROADWAY
CITY HALL	140 N. BROADWAY
COMMUNITY CENTER	200 O'LEARY BLVD.
KRAUSZER'S	200 N. BROADWAY
KRAUSZER'S	717 BORDENTOWN AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY	100 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 HALL	1 MAIN ST.
MAIN ST. FARM	107 MAIN ST.
NEWS & TREATS	99 MAIN ST.
REO DINER	392 AMBOY AVE.
ST. JOSEPH'S SENIORS RESIDENCE	1 ST. JOSEPH'S TERR.

Volunteer Firefighters Needed

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

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.

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 Association 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!

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy
WED. Nov. 13 City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m. City Hall, High St.
 • City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.
THURS. Nov. 21 Board of Education, 5:30 p.m. PAHS, Eagle Ave.

South Amboy
WED. Nov. 6 City Council, Business, 6 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway
MON. Nov. 25 City Council, Regular 7 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway

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

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. 12/31/19
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

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.

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

Halloween, Riverview Medical Center, Red Bank 10/31/19 *Photos by Carolyn Maxwell



Scarecrows, South Amboy 10/15/19 *Photos by Carolyn Maxwell



Scarecrows from South Amboy (top & bottom left)
Jackie the Therapy Dog - Riverview Medical Center, Red Bank (bottom right)

Old Bridge Mayor's Office of Economic Development Plays Key Role in Hackensack Meridian Emergency Room Expansion



(L to R) Tony Paskitti, OB Councilman; Mayor Henry; Tom Shanahan (RBMC); William DiStanislao (RBMC); Steve Mamakas, OED; Himanshu Shah, OB Business Administrator; Anita Greenberg-Belli, OB Councilwoman; Mary Sohor, OB Council President and Debbie Walker, OB Councilwoman.

*Photo Submitted

Press Release 11/1/19
OLD BRIDGE TOWNSHIP – The recent ground-breaking for the major \$39 million expansion of the Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center at Old Bridge was the result of input and insight from Mayor Owen Henry's Township team.

The Old Bridge Mayor's Office of Economic Development (OED) provided vital demographic and Township growth information and statistics to bring about the expansion, which will result in one of the state's top emergency room facilities. Steve Mamakas, Executive Officer of the OED, consulted with senior hospital officials to enlighten them

about Township investment and growth initiatives and offer valuable insight regarding the future of the Township.

"The Mayor's office was instrumental in assisting the Board in determining the feasibility and necessity of an expanded center," noted William DiStanislao, Executive Site Director and VP Operations from Raritan Bay Medical Center at Old Bridge. "The hospital's close working relationship with the Mayor's team and Office of Economic Development certainly helped bring the project to fruition."

The new emergency room center will bring new technologies and innovation to Old Bridge, and will feature a

10,000 square foot expansion, enhanced diagnostic and treatment options and private patient rooms for the best patient care and experience. The expansion is expected to be completed within 24 months.

"These center enhancements are a giant step forward in ensuring that our community has a respected, comprehensive health care facility in their backyard," noted Mayor Owen Henry. "We are pleased our business development resources were so influential in ensuring the execution of this project."

For more information about Economic Development, please call (732) 721-5600 ext.2060 or go to: www.oldbridge.com.

Op-Ed & Interview with Thomas Shanahan, Chief Hospital Executive, Raritan Bay Medical Center

By: Carolyn Maxwell
OLD BRIDGE - During the speeches made at the Ground-breaking Ceremony, there was one particular individual that was named: retired President and CEO RBMC Michael D'Agnes.

D'Agnes was always an advocate for expanding and improving services in the development of Raritan Bay Medical Center (Hackensack Meridian). His commitment to the community always came first.

The Amboy Guardian had a brief interview with Chief Hospital Executive RBMC Thomas Shanahan who shared the same kind of commitment as D'Agnes.

Shanahan stated, "Mike D'Agnes called me with a job offer after looking at my resume even though he had never met me. He knew I would be a perfect fit."

Shanahan had previously worked as CFO at St. Barnabas Hospital at Clare Mass. He's had 18 1/2 years of experience in the finance and operation of hospital facilities. Shanahan mentioned that he along with a team of Board Members, the Township of Old Bridge, physicians, nurses, and administrators saw the need to expand the emergency room to accommodate the expanding population. Architects worked with them to help envision the project. The



Michael D'Agnes
Former President and CEO
RBMC

*file photo by Bob Ned



Thomas Shanahan
Chief Hospital Executive
RBMC

*Photo by Katherine Massopust

Community input was of utmost importance because they are the ones who the hospital serves.

When asked about transportation from neighboring towns such as Perth Amboy, Shanahan said that they are already in place. "Bigger waiting rooms are a must as well as the need for more beds. Our surgery campus will need 9 operating rooms. The project will take 2 years - not 18 months

as another speaker has stated."

D'Agnes had been mentioned as a mentor to many, and Shanahan echoed that sentiment as well as thanking D'Agnes for his leadership. Apparently Michael D'Agnes saw similar traits in Thomas Shanahan.

Congratulations to all who were involved in making this come true: past and present. It's a win-win.



Department of Public Works & Finance Brief Council 10/21/19 Caucus

By: Carolyn Maxwell

PERTH AMBOY – Department of Public Works Director Frank Hoffman came up first. He told the council that the Capital Program will help with getting needed equipment and the operation of the department overall. “Two of the automated trucks are ending their life cycle. Two years ago, I did research of those two trucks and my study showed that their life cycle is 6-8 years and not the 10 years as the council was told. We tried to borrow trucks from Woodbridge Township, but the life cycle of their trucks are 6-8 years. The automated arms on these trucks have a lot more movement which causes more wear and tear. There’s also a lot of wear and tear on the bottom. Inner body work is needed on one of the trucks. One of the salter trucks had to be put out of service because of severe rusting. It was a 1990 truck. There are 4 salters that are from 1990 or older. We can do upgrades on the newer trucks to operate the best without them breaking down.” Hoffman also justified the cost of the new trucks because only one person is needed to operate them. “For instance, if you had another person working (on that truck) you are talking about an additional \$60,000 in salary and benefits. Plus, you cut down on injuries. We have seven trucks and one backup truck. We have not had as many people that we did in previous years in our department. We need more people. We’re using army surplus vehicles from the 1980’s in the parks department. The bottom floor of our transport station has breakup of the asphalt. A concrete floor would be better, but it would be more expensive. We have a budget of \$200,000. Recycling is charging more than the garbage. It’s \$70 a ton to recycle and \$66 a ton for garbage. Geri Barcheski who is in charge of recycling was looking at a long-term recycling contractor who is opening up in another city.” Hoffman also cautioned that plastic bags containing garbage should not be put in the recycling bins. “We made a \$20,000 profit in the past with recyclables. There’s a shortfall and we have to transfer funds to pay for the recyclables. We don’t have much disposable cash. We held off on some of the park improvements or did some of the work ourselves and used part-time workers. We have been reducing overtime on weekends. Many sweepers are being used for the downtown parks and on State Street and Hall Avenue. Sweepers do the park cleaning 7 days a week. There has been an erosion of sand on the beach and since the beach is not active, we have to find funding ourselves (to replenish the sand).”

Council President William Petrick suggested there be alternative funding available to replenish the sand.

Hoffman continued, “Automated pickup of garbage will be starting on Gordon and Patterson Streets. We are getting our snow removal equipment

ready. 66% of the city has garbage pickup. When I first took over the department, there was a 3-year waiting list for trees to come down, and now it’s only 3 months. When we get calls (pertaining to potholes), it will take us anywhere for 2-3 days to fill those holes. I need to have a staff of about 20 people and new equipment, which would be best for the department of public works. Having a good transfer station is the most important aspect, because it affects all sections of town, especially those who dump a lot of the garbage.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke next, “I have a lot of friends who worked at public works who still have physical problems from the work they did in the department. Maybe we should go back to just once a week garbage pickup.”

Hoffman responded, “It’s up to the people’s needs. We do the recycling pickup once a week and the garbage pickup twice a week.” Hoffman then talked about the equipment for the upcoming winter. “All the equipment was checked and we’re getting a salt delivery soon. Everything is working, and we are getting a roll-off. The property owners and business owners have to maintain their property up to the curb.” He then went on to explain, “Whenever you have to spend \$40,000 to repair a vehicle, it’s best to salvage it and see what you get for it.”

The next person who came up to speak was CFO/Comptroller Jill Goldy. She gave an extensive overview of the appropriations of various city departments. “This report was up until September of this year. 78% was collected of what was budgeted. There has been a low collection on licenses because most are done by the end of the year. The court fines were lower than anticipated, so there was a shortfall there. There was a 48% interest and cost on taxes. Tax sales should put us above that. There was miscellaneous revenue that had not been anticipated.” Goldy cited, “there was an extra \$577,000 collected that we did not expect and there was miscellaneous unanticipated money such as the PILOT money from the Housing Authority. There were administration costs for off-duty police work. We also had revenue from the fire prevention fees and vacant property registration fees. When you don’t get revenue that you anticipated, it also hurts future budgets. In the Business Administrator’s department, they spent 97% of their appropriations. \$250,000 in county health aid was encumbered. In the mayor’s budget, over 75% of their appropriations were spent because of cuts made and defunding of positions. In the Office of Economic Development, there are offsets from various resources. In regard to the CDBG funding, there was an offset because one person resigned. For workers compensation, there was a \$2 million reimbursement and as Department of Public Works Director Frank Hoffman

explained in his budget, solid waste needed money to cover that expense that DPW had to take from other items. In the Department of Recreation, the summer workers are no longer needed, and their budget becomes more stabilized after that. For the water/wastewater, they are trending well over 75% of their appropriations. Their debt service is higher in certain years. It is approximately more than 75% lower in salary and wages because there is one person who resigned. Emergency money had to be used such as when we had a cave-in (on Front and Gordon Streets), funds had to be transferred from one account to the other to cover that emergency. There was a Director position in the budget for the library.”

Council President Bill Petrick then spoke up, “The Historical Preservation Commission had money budgeted for \$4,500 and nothing was spent.”

Goldy explained, “In the past, they (HPC) used the Office of Economic Development to help them. In the past, they also had specialists when needed.” Goldy then talked about the Parking Utility, “They used 75% of their appropriations and they replenished any of their surplus money. They maintain all of their parking lots.”

Councilman Fernando Irizarry spoke up, “Rite-Aid needs to clean up their parking lot.”

Goldy continued, “That department did not spend all the money that was budgeted for salaries.” She went on to speak about the Harborside Marina, “They trend high and anticipated budget. They are diligent in tracking their budget and how they use the money. They’ve made many enhancements to the marina.”

DPW Director Frank Hoffman came back up briefly and stated, “We are hiring someone to fix the brickwork by the Armory.”

Goldy spoke again about the general operating fund, “With our current population, the city’s tax base is \$3.2 billion per year. The net value is taxable. The \$50 million collected in rateables helped the budget move forward. Our state aid has not changed since 2011. Our total tax levy takes in account the library, the municipality, schools, county, and BID. Raising revenue, not raising taxes, and not depending on state aid will raise our credit rating and also it helps if we keep within our budget.”

Councilman Pabon had a question regarding Communication No. 17 – Alberto Rivas, Assignment Judge, Middlesex County Superior Court submitted statistics for September 2019 for all Municipal Courts in Middlesex County. Pabon said, “I see they are lacking in funds.”

Law Director Peter King responded, “There are a backup of traffic summons. Certain tickets should be cleared up immediately, such as those dealing with DWI’s. There are a lot of entities and agencies in town.”

Pabon spoke up again, “This report (submitted by Judge Ri-

vas) is not a comparison.”

Council President Petrick responded, “It’s a snapshot of tickets given out and what they are for.”

King spoke up, “We can get detail of each ticket issued, and each department can provide which tickets they issued.”

Councilman Irizarry then commented, “There are 4,700 active cases on this report, and we are the third highest in volume after New Brunswick and Woodbridge Township.”

Pabon continued, “If we get more of a breakdown, we can see what is trending ticketwise.”

King ended the conversation, “They (Middlesex County) wants to see how fast you (the city) resolves DWI’s.”

Public Portion:

Resident Vince Mackiel came up first. He spoke about Communication No. 1 – Stantec Consulting Services, who submitted a copy of the NJDEP Treatment Works Application for the Kinder Morgan Liquid Terminals at 920 High Street. Mackiel said he did research on Kinder Morgan and Buckeye. “After a decade of stormwater, I see that the Kinder Morgan permit had expired. The city engineer should investigate this. Can it be acted on by the DEP? Last month, the DEP released a report about electric vehicles. The number of electrical cars has increased. Is there anything on the business level where the city has reached out to connect to this project? We have the interstate and many interconnecting roads. Reach out to some of the property owners to see if they’re interested. The state has a program that has plug-in stations (where people who have electric cars to charge their vehicles). They are placed on the Turnpike, Parkway, and major highways.”

Council President William Petrick spoke up and stated, “Wa-Wa in Woodbridge and Menlo Park Mall already have charging stations.”

Mackiel continued, “This (having electric cars) will cut down on fumes. Convery Boulevard should be utilized to place charging stations.”

Petrick then stated that the council should reach out to the city engineer to address Mack-

iel’s concerns about Kinder Morgan.”

Former resident (and PAHPC Chair) Reinaldo Aviles came up. He commented on Communication No. 6 – Joseph M. Wenzel (Planning Board Attorney) advised that the Planning Board believes that the HPC input is needed in helping in assisting in reaching factual and legal findings when applications involve renovation, rehabilitation, and demolition of structures which have been declared as historically significant by both the city and the federal government. Aviles said, “This is important. The HPC will need more money and they should contact the HPC Chair.” Aviles then questioned a comment made by Police Chief Roman McKeon made regarding a letter (written by Council President William Petrick). “I decided to OPRA that letter.” Aviles went on to say that McKeon stated that Petrick’s letter would cause morale to be lowered in the police department. “McKeon should not have talked about it at the meeting. I don’t think you (Petrick) were off character. You talked about people who were robbed on Lewis Street and were not happy with the police. Is it proper for him (McKeon) to divulge the letter?”

Petrick responded, “It was not professional.”

Aviles said, “I remember when Balut was still a police officer, and was reprimanded when he came to a meeting with a case of beer and place it by the mic and said to the council at the time: ‘This Bud’s for you!’”

Petrick then questioned, “Can the police can be reprimanded for politicizing a private letter?”

Councilman Irizarry then warned the residents that people have been going to the neighborhood and telling people they have been red flagged for high carbon emission and they need to have access to your house. “They also will ask you who are your utility providers. They have a van with Pennsylvania license plates and the van says: ‘N-Power’.”

Petrick then said, “They are trying to take advantage of underprivileged communities and if you see them, call the police.”

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GIFT AUCTION/TRICKY TRAY

Sunday, November 24, 2019

St. John’s Church Hall

404 Division St., Perth Amboy

Great Prizes! Raffles! Door Prizes!

Free Cake, Coffee and Tea

Doors open at 10:45 a.m. Drawings begin at 1:15 p.m.

American and Ethnic Food

Eat In or Take Out

Tickets \$5 in Advance, \$7 at the Door

No one under 18 years old admitted

No outside food allowed

For Tickets/Info Call Cindy 732-718-8084



Topics Include Shoddy Work & Handicapped Parking 10/23/19 Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 2*

laminator, and turnout gear in the fire department, road paving and construction. \$1 million involves the new school. Improvements to the marine parking lot, fire apparatus, a fingerprinting system, mini-sweepers, a tractor-trailer vehicle, the heating system in city hall, and other items related to that in city hall. Items in this ordinance was in the city's budget."

For the consent agenda, R-455-10/19 thru R-467-10/19 was moved by Councilman Irizarry and seconded by Councilman Joel Pabon.

During the last public portion, a resident from 715 Cortlandt St. came up because she was disappointed about the shoddy work that was done when waterlines across the street from where she lived had to be dug up. "They did a shoddy job and it looks like the street is breaking up again where they did the work. They are charging me for repairs, and this work is done across the street from where I live. I pay almost \$10,000 a year in taxes. They messed up the blocks in front of my house. I had to put something there so people wouldn't break their legs. It took them months before they even came to take care of the leaks."

Council President Petrick explained that the water and gas lines run on both sides of the street. Your homeowner's policy might have a rider on your service line."

B.A. Carr went on to explain, "This problem with the waterline started last year in July. The water company had to fix the line. There are two houses involved. The municipal water line was across the street. The homeowner is responsible for the repairs from the main to their home. There was a leak in the 30-foot line. In April, the resident got the tax bill and it went through a tax sale, but she was taken off of that sale list. Ken Ortiz from the Department of Recreation and Human Services is checking for different services that can help people with payment plans who are behind because of leaks occurring."

The resident stated, "I have never been behind on my taxes or water bill. It looks to me like the water leak is about to happen again."

Carr continued, "The bricks that were in front of the resident's property were at the curb line."

Councilman Irizarry then questioned, "What can we do about those displaced bricks?"

Carr explained, "We tried to contact the homeowner without any luck."

Petrick spoke up, "Usually the city charges less than a private contractor (when there's a break in the waterline)." He then asked, "Can the city take out a policy to help with repairs?" He then asked B.A. Carr, "Maybe you can talk to the water company to see if you can replace the bricks that they dug up from the homeowner's property and give them back to the homeowner."

The resident said, "There are still holes where the water company dug up. The holes are as big as a head."

Petrick added, "It's an old section of town."

Carr said, "I will talk to all people involved (to try to come up with a solution)."

Alberto Rosario from 76 Gordon Street came up to speak next who spoke in Spanish. Councilman Irizarry translated for him. Rosario explained that he had an accident in 2016 and has gone through 3 surgeries. "I had my last surgery on July 7th of this year. On July 10th, I applied for handicapped parking. It has been 4 months and I have gotten no response. There are 2 no-parking signs because of cleaning on Wednesday and Thursday on certain hours and 2 more signs were put up in addition. I'm waiting for a response to see if I can get handicapped parking. At certain times of the day after I drop my kids off in school, sometimes I am in my car driving around 3-4 hours looking for a parking space. If I filled all the requirements to get a handicapped parking space, why is it taking so long?"

Law Director King responded, "It's in an ordinance tonight. (No.2)."

Irizarry spoke up and explained, "It was approved, and it will be given to you in December."

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch explained the procedure is when the Council votes on an ordinance, after 20 days it goes in the newspaper and when it is printed in the newspaper, it becomes law.

Resident Stanley Sierakowski came up next. He spoke about when Ken Oritz came here to speak about the land swap between the city and the Board of Education, specifically about the half-acre on Seaman Avenue and the acre of land at Flynn School. "The city doesn't want to develop the Seaman Avenue property and its contaminants. It's too expensive to remediate. The standard to build housing is higher than what you need for a parking lot. Let the city donate the land and sell it for \$1 to the Board of Education and let the school take care of it. Get the property assessed. The city wants the property on the corner of New Brunswick Avenue and East Avenue. That is the jewel. Don't do anything until there is an appraisal."

Resident Vince Mackiel came up next. He talked about Communication No. 19 - Business Administrator Frederick Carr advising that proactive actions have reduced the levels of TTHM in the water system and the quarterly running average is below 80.

Mackiel stated, "The water needs improvement and so does the entire water system. This issue goes back to the 1970's. I addressed this in May when I talked about the BASF site. What are you going to do about that site? In Toms River, they are turning one of their contaminated sites into a superfund site. The Federal Government will have to clean up and monitor the site. The city should be sending one to investigate that

site. It needs a new solution."

Resident Lisa Nanton came up and referenced Communication No. 6. She asked, "Who is Wenzel (Planning Board Attorney) advising? It's not a belief - it's an ordinance."

Council President who is on the Planning Board stated, "We didn't know about this and he decided on his own to submit this letter. I don't remember him (Wenzel) discussing this at a Planning Board Meeting. The HPC should revise the ordinance to make it stronger."

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up and suggested they pull the ordinance and take a look at it.

Nanton then commented about Communication No. 19. "In the 1990's, the waterlines were displaced. Will they be replaced? There are 5,000 gallons of water a minute going through the current waterline. If that line goes, we will be forced to buy water."

Council Comments:

Councilman Fernando Irizarry was first. He requested there be an audit on the UEZ employees. "Maybe we need to change the educational requirements for department heads. I look at what other towns require and some of those requirements include a master's degree."

Law Director King responded, "There may be additional costs."

Irizarry continued, "Some of them may have to be grandfathered in, but I'm looking at the future." He then again warned the public about people coming into the neighborhoods to question them who their utility carriers are. "Call city hall." He also mentioned the November 5th election coming up and urged all to participate on this day. "Use your right to vote."

Councilman Joel Pabon said he wanted to talk about positive things happening in the town, especially in the Recreation Department, "Check their Facebook Page and Twitter. The Prop House had many great events this year and still more to come. Enjoy what's happening in the city now and what's to come. We have 65,000 people and only 15,000 voted. It's important to vote, especially with this Board of Education Election coming up. All the parks in the city are very busy (with activity). I want to thank everyone who came out today and talking about your concerns."

Councilman Milady Tejada said, "I want everyone to be safe on Halloween. Come out to vote on November 5th and our (school) district is moving forward. It's our town and we should take care of it."

Council President William Petrick warned residents of the scammers going around to different communities and to call the police for suspicious activity. He mentioned that the YMCA and the JRF are holding a Trunk or Treat for Halloween. He told the parents and guardians make to check your children's bags to make sure everything is safe to eat. He thanked all those watching out on TV land and all who came.

Councilman Helmin Caba was absent due to illness.

November Is All Gravy at The Dowdell Library!

Press Release

SOUTH AMBOY — As trick-or-treat gives way to Turkey Day, Plymouth Rock on down to the Dowdell Library! (Just don't confuse Halloween with Thanksgiving—you might end up haunted by a poultry-geist or troubled by a house full of gobble-ins.) Though the Dowdell won't help you fix Thanksgiving dinner (it's not broken, is it?), it is offering all the cookbooks you can handle and a truly stuffed programming slate. (we'd stop telling Thanksgiving jokes but can't stomach the thought of doing so cold turkey.) Pile your plate with the cornucopia of details below and resist the urge to engage in fowl play.

Sadie's Study Hour runs from 2:30pm to 3:30pm every school day from Monday to Thursday and 2:30pm to 3pm on Fridays! Take advantage of free Wi-Fi and fast ethernet, computer-based and wireless printing, a quiet workspace, and knowledgeable librarians for every assignment.

November is International Picture Book Month, and the Dowdell Library is celebrating with four weeks of unique activities including daily storytimes, weekly book bingo contests, and a month-long community mural-making event! Some additional events are listed below, but picture book lovers are urged to consult the library website, November calendar flyers, or the handy International Picture Book Month infographic (printed separately) for a complete schedule!

For the entire month of November, artists between the ages of eight and seventeen are invited to participate in the Dowdell's Scarecrow Contest! Use the provided supplies and tools to make the most creative physical or digital scarecrow possible. The winner will receive a gift card at the end of the month!

Ever wish you could create your own picture book? Live your dreams at the Dowdell's Picture Book-Making Workshops! Learn about the medium and work on a print book every Monday from 3:30pm to 5pm or get digital by making an ebook every Tuesday from 2:30pm to 3:30pm.

Get your hands full of history at the Dowdell's new Hands-on History Puppet-making Workshops every Tuesday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm! From Guy Fawkes Day to George Washington's First Thanksgiving, attendees will learn about an event that took place on that very date, then commemorate a key historical figure in puppet form!

As always, Wednesdays are three-dimensional! Learn about 3-D printing while the Dowdell's 3-D printer whips up pilgrim hats, veterans, cornucopias, and turkeys between 3:30pm and 4:30pm. A different object is printed each week!

November Thursdays are a potpourri! Kick off the month

by celebrating everybody's favorite decorative vegetable at Gourd Only Knows: An Ornamental Gala on Thursday, November 7 from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Celebrate the season by mashing your favorite autumnal fruits into a

Fall Smoothie on Thursday, November 14 from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Commemorate the coldest movie release of the year (Frozen 2!) at the Dowdell's Frozen Party on Thursday, November 21 from 1:30pm to 3:30pm! Make your own snowflake with paper or a 3-D pen, enjoy some chilly refreshments, and participate in every parent's favorite sing-along.

Fridays are Club Days! Options include Anime Club, Art Club, Board Game Club, and Gaming Club. Meetings are planned for every Friday and will run on a drop-in basis from 3pm to 4:30pm. No registration is required; please contact the library for additional information. The Dowdell is also hosting a Super Smash Showdown Video Game Tournament on Friday, November 8 from 1pm to 3pm (yes, on the Switch; no, there aren't banned characters). Finally, everybody's favorite November paper are scheduled to star in the Dowdell's Shuck-in' and Jivin': Hand-Turkey and Corn Craft on Friday, November 22 from 1pm to 3pm.

Adult audiences have their own November entertainment options. The Dowdell's Yoga Series continues with Yoga for Beginners on Thursday, November 7 from 6pm to 7:30pm and Meditation for Beginners on Tuesday, November 12 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Have a tech question? Bring your device to the Digital Café, available Monday through Friday from 12pm to 2pm and Thursdays from 6pm to 7:30pm. Finally, a Stuffing Taste Test is slated for Monday, November 4 from 11am to 12pm.

As a reminder, the Dowdell is now operating on Fall Hours and is open 10am to 8pm Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays; 10am to 5pm Wednesdays and Fridays; and 12pm to 4pm on Saturdays.

Curious what else is going on at your local library? (We can never fit everything here!) Stop by in-person or visit our website to sign up for our newsletter and view adult and children's activity calendars, which are updated on a monthly basis.

Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org. The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School. Summer hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10am to 8pm; and Wednesday and Friday from 10am to 5pm.

Perth Amboy Fire and Police Officers Honored in Swearing in Ceremony

Press Release 10/31/19

PERTH AMBOY – Mayor Wilda Diaz proudly looked over the crowd gathered to honor five of the city's finest, four police officers and one firefighter during a swearing in ceremony October 28 in City Hall.

"All these men are here because they've givers, not takers," said the mayor. "They give back to the community. They are the best of the best."

Firefighter Carlos L. Gonzalez Jr., fresh from fighting a major fire the night before that destroyed six stores, was promoted to battalion chief. Gonzalez, who has served in the fire department since 2004, is the recipient of several awards including the Middlesex County 200 Club Award in 2019 for rescuing multiple, unconscious victims in a carbon monoxide incident. The lifelong Perth Amboy resident will combine his new position with his previous one as the department training officer. A former marine, Gonzalez served two tours of duty in Iraq and received the Distinguished Service Medal for his service.

Fire Chief Ed Mullend described working with the new battalion chief during the recent incident in Colonia when a plane hit a house. "We faced that together. Although we have been firefighters for a number of years already, we remain as motivated to do what we do."

Longtime police officer Paul Cannamela is now the acting captain. He joined the Perth Amboy police in January of

1991 when he was assigned to the patrol division. During his time on patrol, he received a meritorious award and a life-saving award recognized by the City of Perth Amboy.

Captain Cannamela was also honored with a mayoral citation by Mayor Wilda Diaz in recognition of his outstanding act of kindness for an incident in January 2016. He rose through the ranks to sergeant where he served as a street supervisor for a squad of nine officers. He was promoted to lieutenant in 2007 and became an administrative lieutenant in 2016, assisting in the daily operations of for approximately 100 officers.

New Lieutenant Christopher Joy is another Perth Amboy native son who joined the police department in 2005 after serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom as a member of the Army Reserve where he earned the Bronze Star. He began his career as a police officer in the patrol division before moving to the detective bureau in 2007. There, he investigated numerous homicides, robberies, burglaries, domestic violence assaults, aggravated assaults, thefts, car thefts and check fraud. Currently, he is assigned to the traffic bureau.

Lt. Joy is a certified radar operator, certified taser operator, and a certified field training officer. He was awarded with an honorary award and certificate of merit by the Recording Industry Association of America for investigative work that resulted in the conviction of pirat-

ing defendants.

Newly promoted Sergeant Wilson Manuel Tavarez has been an officer with the Perth Amboy Police Department since 2013 in the patrol division. In that relatively short time, he has received several commendations and awards. He has served in the Juvenile Aid Bureau investigating crimes against children and was a liaison to local public schools. In 2017, he was assigned to the detective bureau where he was lead detective in major indictable crimes. Most recently Sgt. Tavarez was assigned to The Office of Professional Standards. He is certified in crisis negotiations, advanced interview and interrogation, truth verification, testing and examination techniques, sex crimes Investigations, criminal interview and interrogation techniques and missing persons investigations.

Born and raised in Perth Amboy, new Sergeant David Guzman joined his hometown police department in 2005 where he was assigned to the Uniformed Patrol Division. He joined the Special Investigations Bureau where he assisted and mentored his fellow detectives and conducted numerous vice cases alongside state, municipal, and federal agencies alike. He served with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office Guns, Gangs,

Drugs, Task Force in 2016, leading numerous narcotic investigations throughout the county and state. In 2017, he was assigned to the Office of



Mayor Wilda Diaz at the Swearing in Ceremony. *Photos Submitted



The Swearing in Ceremony.

Professional Standards where he currently works. Presently he is the only drug recognition evaluator in the department.

Sgt. Guzman is the recipient of several commendations and awards including Mothers against Drunk Driving

(MADD), Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders Award, Detective of the year award, Narcotics officer of the year award, and 200 Club of Middlesex County Meritorious Award.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen Awarded Accreditation from The Joint Commission

Press Release 10/29/19

PERTH AMBOY - Once again, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for accreditation by demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for health care quality and safety in behavioral health care. Catholic Charities first achieved accreditation in January of 1998; this year marks the 21st straight year of accreditation for Catholic Charities in all services surveyed under the Commission's Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Behavioral Health Care.

"We are proud to continue to participate in the Accreditation process. The Joint Commission's standards focus on important functions that are essential to providing safe, high-quality care," said Julio Coto, Acting Executive Director of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. "We rely on this rigorous process to measure, assess and improve our performance on an ongoing basis. Because it is a voluntary process, it is a testament to our Agency's commitment to excellence in service delivery."

The Joint Commission's behavioral health care standards address important functions relating to the care of individuals served, and the management of



(L to R) Acting Executive Director Julio Coto, Quality/Accreditation Manager Nora Dixon, and Director of Programs Marci Booth. Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen first achieved accreditation in January of 1998; this year marks the 21st straight year of accreditation for Catholic Charities in all services surveyed under the Commission's Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Behavioral Health Care. *Photo Submitted

behavioral health care organizations. Catholic Charities' Accreditation was awarded after undergoing a demanding onsite survey completed on May 10, 2019. Compliance with behavioral health care standards related to care, treatment, services, environment of care, leadership, and screening procedures were evaluated. Onsite observations and interviews also were conducted. Catholic Charities demonstrated compliance in meeting in depth performance

standards in the delivery of quality, safe care.

Last year, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen served 50,000 people from all walks of life, all races, all religions, and all economic levels, through more than 100 programs in the Diocesan counties of Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren. More information about the agency's programs can be found on their website, www.ccdom.org.

Wills, Estate Planning & Probate Seminar

SAYREVILLE - Sayreville Senior Center, November 26, 2019 at 10 a.m., 423 Main Street, Sayreville NJ 08872. Open to the public. You do not need to be a resident.

SPEAKER: Kenneth Vercammen, Esq. Edison, (Author-ABA's "Wills and Estate Administration book")

Main Topics:

1. NJ Estate Tax eliminated in 2018
2. The 2019 changes in Federal Estate and Gift Tax
3. Power of Attorneys recommendations
4. Living Will & Advance Directive
5. Administering the Estate/ Probate/Surrogate
6. Avoiding unnecessary expenses and saving your family money

COMPLIMENTARY MATERIAL: Brochures on Wills, "Answers to Questions about Probate" and Administration of an Estate, Power of Attorney, Living Wills, Real Estate Sales for Seniors, and Trusts.

For information Call Sayreville Senior Center 732-390-7059 Jen Krushinski jkrushinski@sayreville.com For materials if you can't attend, email vercammenlaw@njlaws.com or go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/1095113354031388/>

Kenneth A. Vercammen is a trial attorney in Edison, NJ. He is Author of the American Bar Association book "Wills and Estate Administration". He is co-chair of the ABA Probate &

Estate Planning Law Committee of the American Bar Association Solo Small Firm Division. He is a speaker for the NJ State Bar Association at the annual Nuts & Bolts of Elder Law & Estate Administration program.

He was Editor of the ABA Estate Planning Probate Committee Newsletter. Mr. Vercammen has published over 150 legal articles in national and New Jersey publications on litigation, elder law, probate and trial topics. He is a highly regarded lecturer on litigation and probate law for the American Bar Association, NJ ICLE, New Jersey State Bar Association and Middlesex County Bar Association. His articles have been published in noted publications included New Jersey Law Journal, ABA Law Practice Management Magazine, and New Jersey Lawyer. He established the NJlaws website www.njlaws.com which includes many articles on Estate Planning, Probate and Wills. He is a member of the AARP and often lectures to groups on the importance of an up to date Will, Power of Attorney and Living Will.

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Perth Amboy Civic Trustees Host First Ever Civic Week

Press Release 10/25/19

PERTH AMBOY - The Citizens Campaign today announced that Perth Amboy Trustees, Cesar Romero, a high school senior, and recent Perth Amboy High graduate Ismael Nunez organized the first ever Perth Amboy Civic Week to teach people in the City about the power they have to solve problems and become citizen leaders.

Civic Week featured 3 events: discussion at the library with Harry Pozzycki, the author of Citizen Power; a forum on No Blame Problem Solving at the local community center; and a "Call to Service" at City Hall. The events were designed to educate and empower residents and call them to the service of their community:

"A Civic Week in Perth Amboy serves as a prime opportunity for folks my age and younger to become the voices of our growing city. We're almost 60,000 strong and one of the youngest cities in the state, yet we are absent when the time comes to make the big decisions," said Ismael Nunez. The events are summarized below:

Harry Pozzycki Presents Citizen Power; A Citizen Leadership Manual

Harry Pozzycki provided insights and how-to-tips from his new book Citizen Power; A Citizen Leadership Manual to interested residents at the Perth Amboy public library.

Pozzycki's civic leadership manual provides regular citizens with the know how to use the full measure of their political power to better their communities and our Country. The book informs citizens about new legal rights they can use to participate in government decision making, proven political techniques for gathering results, and a menu of powerful citizen leadership positions that do not require a run for public office. It also teaches citizens how to operate the power levers of local politics and government, and identifies the primary political and government decision making bodies where citizens can introduce their own solutions.

Citizen Power is currently used as a course text at Perth Amboy High School and at high schools in Newark, Trenton and Plainfield. New Jersey colleges use it as well, including Rutgers-Newark, Thomas Edison State University and Middlesex County College. It is available for purchase or download on The Citizens Campaign website.

City Residents Trained in No Blame Problem Solving

Joel Rosa led an interactive No Blame Problem Solving training session. Held at the Jankowski Community Center, attendees learned how a step-by-step method in how to identify evidence-based solutions, adapt them for use in Perth Amboy and present them for adop-

tion at the City Council or other government decision making centers.

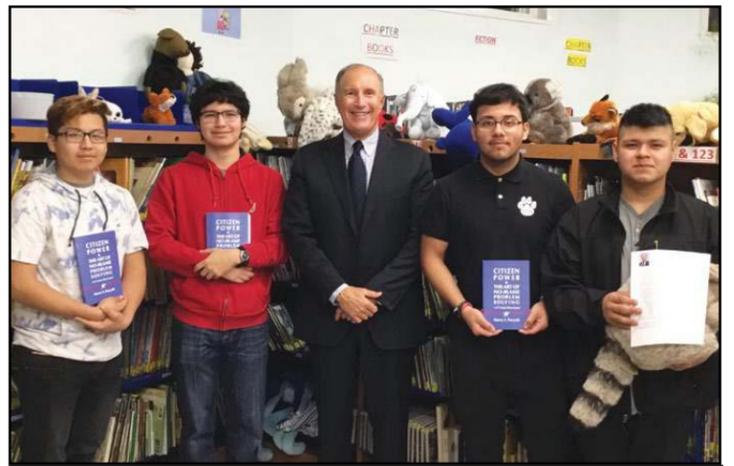
The local issue in which the most attendees were interested was cleaning up the pollution in Raritan Bay, which would result in Perth Amboy beaches becoming safe for swimming. Attendees were pleased to learn that the Perth Amboy Civic Trust is now working on this issue, building on their successful effort to create a Green Team and secure grant funding for environmental improvements.

The Perth Amboy Civic Trust is developing a solution to clean up the Bay, using green infrastructure and a variety of other cost-effective techniques. Attendees expressed interest in becoming Trustees and several committed to attend the next Civic Trust meeting.

Citizen Service Opportunities Explained at Forum

Perth Amboy residents were introduced to accessible citizen leadership roles in their city at a "Call to Service" Forum held in the Council Chambers at City Hall. These included immediate opportunities to serve on Perth Amboy's boards and commissions, with tips for interested citizens on how to apply.

Mayor Wilda Diaz introduced the forum, telling attendees about the City's rich history and emphasizing the importance of the fact that Perth Amboy students, through the addition of Solutions Civics to their high



*Photos Submitted

school curriculum, are now educated to become public citizens who can contribute to leaving their city better than they found it.

The students who attended expressed an interest in participating in boards and commissions, even if they were not old

enough to become formal members. Based on this feedback, The Civic Trustees are beginning to explore the idea of proposing a limited number of advisory positions on city boards and commission for those under 18.

Meditation & Peace of Mind: An Interview with Uday Kumar

By: Katherine Massopust

NEWARK – Uday Kumar, who is a trainer in Heartfulness Meditation offered a free meditation program at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark on Saturday, September 7, 2019. Uday Kumar has been practicing Meditation for 14 years and is actively involved in training several students in the art and science of meditation. The Amboy Guardian asked Kumar some questions about the event and the importance of meditation.

Amboy Guardian: What made you interested in meditation?

Uday Kumar: I started meditating way back in college. That interest was from a perspective to be able to focus better. I've been on this journey twenty years now. Now, I train everyone to meditate.

AG: What are the benefits of daily meditation?

UK: Why do you want to meditate? There are different answers. Mine was stress, looking for belief in self-realization. There are many reasons to start. To start for stress – you find peace. Why would you do something again and again if you get nothing back? It's a journey towards inner peace. Meditation opens up external happiness, joy, and commitment.

There's a lot of scientific interest in meditation. In these studies, there is a correlation between the physical and mental benefits. At the Heartfulness Institute, there is ongoing research. Dr. Jayaram Thimmapuram, who works at the Wellspan Group spoke at the conference. (9/7/19 - The whole event is available on YouTube.)

One major reason to meditate is burnout. We are able to find significant improvement with people who meditate with the study. There is longevity and wellness. We all want to live long and better. There was a study on what is called telomere. At the peaks of the caps of DNA strands, there is a large length of telomere. (They function to protect the ends of chromosomes from sticking to each other. They also protect genetic information during cell division because a short piece of each chromosome is lost every time DNA is replicated. Cells use a special enzyme called telomerase to keep dividing, which lengthens their telomeres. Source: Study.com) For those who meditate, there is a better quality of life. There is a clear link that the longer the telomere caps are means more concentration and self-worth. It is being measured by being empathic, compassionate, and becoming a better human being.

AG: When is the best time to meditate?

UK: Whenever you want to. We become better or worse by the strength of our habits. With meditation, you are able to create a habit. The science is the circadian rhythm (physical, mental, and behavioral changes that follow a daily cycle). We want to use the natural cycle of your brain - morning is advisable. Some say meditate at a fixed time and stick to that time.

AG: In the information given, it states there have been 288 school shootings since 2009. How does meditation help students deal with the stress of this reality in schools today?

UK: America is a living, thriving

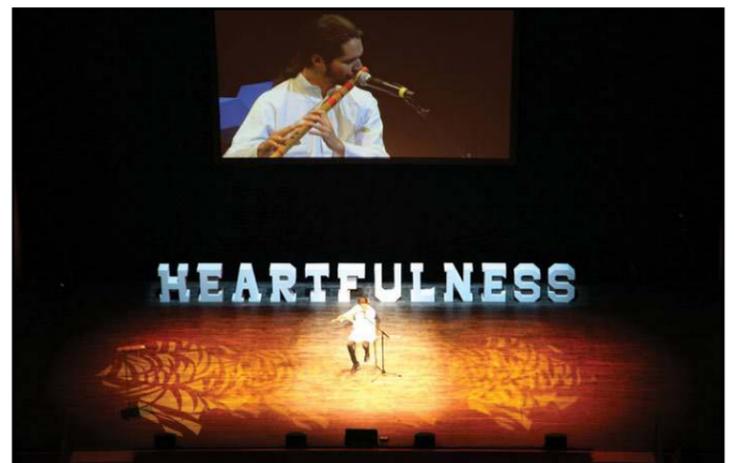
experiment in democracy. When human beings come together, good overcomes evil. We have challenges we face regularly. We have silent battles stemming from loneliness. It has the same effects on human body as 15 years of smoking. At Bingham University in New York, there was a study of old people with no social interaction and young generation where the human minds are unhappy. We all want to be happy. Can I be happy if I'm not at peace? Obviously not. First, I need to be at peace. Can I have a peace of mind if there are twenty different distractions? When I meditate, I focus on one problem (at a time) and manage my thoughts. We lost the ability to be at peace and focus. I need to regulate my mind and focus. Meditation is the gym work of my mind. If you want to be happy, you have to meditate. Your mind is focused because of peace. I'll be happy. It's not rocket science. If someone is nasty to me, I take the higher ground. Inner peace is what reflects on the outside. If society is peaceful, it creates more harmony. Violence goes down. If my heart is filled with love, I've elevated my conscious. Meditation goes up and violence goes down.

AG: Do you suggest students meditate at the beginning of every school day?

UK: Yes. You need to create some quiet time. We tried meditation in some schools. I've seen benefits. We need to create the opportunity. It's quiet time.

AG: How do you teach uncooperative students meditation?

UK: Do you have to teach kids to eat ice cream? One needs to



*Photos Submitted

show the benefits. A child learns by osmosis. If I'm on my phone all day long, it doesn't work. I can't change anyone in the universe but myself. If I change myself, that changes my environment.

AG: How did you become involved with the Heartfulness Institute?

UK: The Heartfulness Institute is one of volunteerism. It started in India. They are located in over 160 countries. The Medita-

tion Center in New Jersey is in Monroe Township. In New Jersey, there are over 50 trainers can who offer 1:1 lessons. Volunteers drive the organization. Services are offered for free. You cannot sell peace of mind.

For more information about Meditation, you can download the HeartsApp.

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Stranger Among Saints:
Stephen Hopkins of the Mayflower
 WOODBRIDGE – Monday November 25, 2019 at 7p.m., Fellowship Hall, First Presbyterian Church, Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge

David Emerson of History on the Hoof will give a dramatic performance of Stephen Hopkins, the navigator of the Mayflower who traveled with his family to Plymouth, Massachusetts. Stephen Hopkins was no Saint (as the Separatist founders of Plimouth colony referred to their congregation- the Church of Saints) but his previous experience in the New World made him a respected member of the New England settlers popularly known as the Pilgrims. During the performance, you will learn about the politics, religion, economics, Native American relations and social life of the first permanent New England settlement from the unique perspective of Stephen Hopkins.

David Emerson is a partner in History on the Hoof, a company that specializes in unique presentations on themes in American history. An independent storyteller, Mr. Emerson makes his living by being a character-teaching history through the eyes of a person of the past. He also is a speaker with the New Jersey Council for the Humanities' Horizons Speakers Bureau. Presented by the Historical Society of Woodbridge. For further information contact Brenda Velasco, Township Historian: 732.428.2403.

Table of Plenty

PERTH AMBOY – St. John Paul Parish will be serving meals on November 23rd, and December 21st from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Perth Amboy Catholic School, 500 State St., Mechanic Street Entrance. Open to anyone who needs a hot meal. If you would like to donate food for these meals, please contact Rosemary: 732-826-5385 or Geri: 732-637-7593. Please use collection box in vestibule for monetary donations.



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MOVIE REVIEW: HARRIET

By: Anton Massopust III

"I will spend the rest of my life and the last drop of my blood to end this monster of slavery!"

There are many people that fought to end the cruelty and injustice of slavery. Abraham Lincoln was one; John Brown was another. And there was Harriet Tubman...

Many people know that Harriet Tubman was Conductor on the Underground Railroad and that she fought to end slavery, but many people don't know her entire story.

When Slave Minty (Cynthia Erivo) was 14, she was injured in an accident when a store weight was hurled at a runaway slave and accidentally hit her in the head instead. She was injured and had spells where she would "Speak to God."

Minty's master refused to let her children from her husband, who was a free man be born free, so Minty facing being sold decided to escape. She ran away and made her journey by herself from Maryland to Phila-



delphia with the help of a few individuals. Minty then took on the name "Harriet Tubman". Tubman took a risk and traveled back to Maryland to get her husband only to find out he had moved on and remarried. So, Tubman decided to lead the rest of her family to freedom and escape to the North. Tubman would go on to free many more slaves like a biblical superhero. During the Civil War, Tubman became a Union Scout and Spy

who led troops into battle to free slaves.

Should we see "Harriet?" Yes, and I think Cynthia Erivo will definitely get an Oscar nomination and probably the movie will as well. The music and costumes are accurate to the period. It's as if you are right there. The movie moves very quickly it's definitely something you should see. Take your teenagers to see it, especially if they're interested in history.

South Amboy Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee Announces 2020 Parade Honorees

Press Release

SOUTH AMBOY - 2020 marks the 44th annual South Amboy Saint Patrick's Day Parade set to begin at 2 pm on Sunday, March 15. This year, the committee has chosen to highlight residents of South Amboy who have a history of volunteerism and service to the city and residents of South Amboy.

Serving as Grand Marshals of the 2020 parade will be Tim and Karen Woziak, lifelong resident of South Amboy have a 20 plus year history of volunteering for various organizations throughout the city. Mr. Woziak, in addition to his position as a volunteer fire fighter with the South Amboy Fire Department,

he also serves as a member of the South Amboy First Aid Squad. Mrs. Woziak, is also a member of the South Amboy First Aid Squad and along with her husband has been active in South Amboy's youth baseball, softball, football and basketball programs.

Dennis Kelly, President of APG Security, has been named Honorary Grand Marshal and joins his brother Brian, mother and father as individuals recognized and honored by the South Amboy Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee. Dennis has been honored and recognized over the last 30 years for his contributions and philanthropy by various local, county and

state civic groups.

Hoffman High School graduate and South Amboy resident Larry Parsons will serve as Deputy Grand Marshall. A member of the Protection Engine Company #1 since 1973, Larry is also a retired member of the South Amboy First Aid Squad and active in many civic organizations that benefit the residents of South Amboy.

In addition, Karen Robson, Director Of Operations, South Amboy YMCA Branch and Mary Szaro, President of the Historical Society of South Amboy will be recognized as Special Honored Guests for their contributions to the City of South Amboy on parade day.

Amboy Bank Hosts First Shred Day

Press Release

OLD BRIDGE - On October 19th, Amboy Bank hosted its first ever Shred Day at their Browntown Branch on Gaub Road. This free event offered the clients of Amboy an opportunity to properly discard documents containing confidential information, such as old tax returns, bank statements, and check stubs. Materials were collected from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm in the parking lot of the branch, disposed of in the truck and shredded on site by Shred-It Company.

As the rate of identity theft grows in the US, Amboy Bank President and Chief Executive Officer, Gregory Scharpf, states, "We're proud to host this event to help keep our clients' and neighbors' information safe. At Amboy, we're working to bring awareness to the rising concern of identity theft, especially to seniors who are often the victims this crime."

To find out more about Amboy Bank and for future Shred Day and other events, visit their website at www.AmboyBank.com.

CASA of Middlesex County Seeking Volunteers

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - CASA of Middlesex County is seeking volunteers to advocate for children who have been abused or neglected. When a child is in foster care, having a CASA means they are more likely to find a permanent home, spend less time in foster care, and perform better in school. Champion one of these children from your community and safeguard a child's well-being through advocacy in the court today. Join our next information session on Saturday, October 26th 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and learn what it takes to be an advocate and change a child's life forever.

RSVP to Nora Siklosi Szabo, at nora@casaofmiddlesexcounty.org

Where: South Brunswick Public Library, 110 Kingston Lane, Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852

When: Saturday, October 26th 10.30-11.30 AM

For more information: <http://www.casaofmiddlesexcounty.org/volunteer>

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Book Sale

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library have a book sale every other Saturday from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the Brighton Avenue Community Center at the corner of Brighton Avenue and Sadowski Parkway in Perth Amboy. The schedule for the fall is as follows: Saturday, November 9. Paperbacks are \$.50, hardcovers are \$1, \$5 for a bag full, no limit to size of bag except no lawn or garbage bags. We have best sellers by popular authors that are like new. The money we raise goes to support the library with providing programs, promoting literacy or to provide funds to the library with their needs beyond their budget. For more information email us at friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com, or call us at 201-381-1903 and like us on Facebook. Dealers are welcome.

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For more info please call 732-293-1090



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.folperthamboylibrary.com For more information, please call the Perth Amboy Free Public Library: 732-826-2600.

Pets of the Week



Jack and Sophie need a loving, forever home. They were rescued from the streets of Perth Amboy. They love to play and be loved. They are cat and dog friendly. Jack and Sophie are fixed, vaccinated, tested negative for FIV and Leukemia, have been dewormed, and are fully vetted and healthy. Adoption application and donation fee apply.

ADOPT. SPAY. NEUTER. LOVE. Allforthepaws.org www.paypal.com allforthepaws@gmail.com

We need fosters. Food and litter supplied. Contact Virginia at 732.486.6382 to foster or adopt a fur baby.

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.

Amboy Bank Hosts Its Annual Food Drive

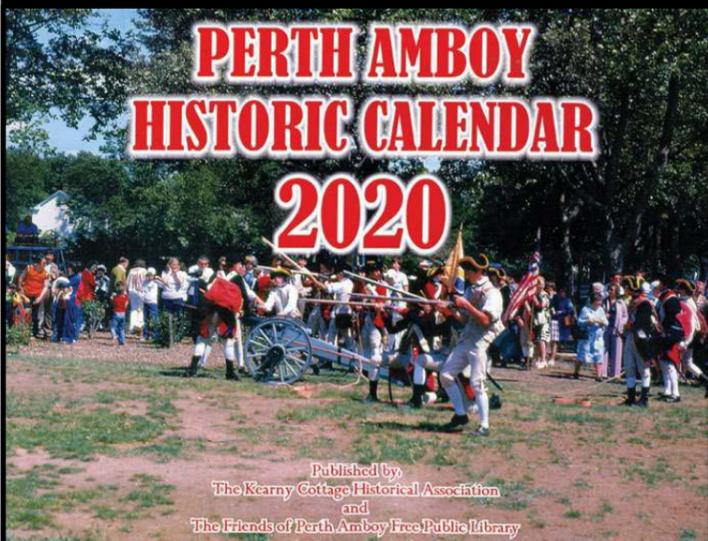
News Release

SOUTH AMBOY - Throughout October and November, all 23 offices of Amboy Bank will collect food and household items for food banks in their branch area. Every Amboy office manager has selected a food bank to collect for in their community. In many cases, Amboy has a strong relationship with the organizations, including St. Laurence Food Bank, Lunch Break and Freehold Open Door.

Gregory Scharpf, President and CEO, stated, "At Amboy Bank, we are dedicated to helping our local community prosper, and we are proud to lend a helping hand to our neighbors who need it most. Our annual food drive will help to restock the shelves of the food banks in our area."

Branch locations and details about the food drive can be found on Amboy's website, www.AmboyBank.com.

2020 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars



2020 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, and Perth Amboy City Hall. For more information: 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.

Tom's Tax Tips

Courtesy of Tom Ploskanka C.P.A. 1-800-801-1099

To Our Clients and Friends:

With year-end approaching, now's the time to take steps to cut your 2019 tax bill. Here are some relatively foolproof year-end tax planning strategies to consider, assuming next year's general election doesn't result in retroactive tax changes that could affect your 2020 tax year.

Year-End Planning Moves for Individuals

Here are some strategies that may lower your individual income tax bill for 2019.

- **Game Generous Standard Deduction Allowances.** For 2019, the standard deduction amounts are \$12,200 for singles and those who use married filing separate status, \$24,400 for married joint filing couples, and \$18,350 for heads of household. If your total annual itemizable deductions for 2019 will be close to your standard deduction amount, consider making additional expenditures before year-end to exceed your standard deduction. That will lower this year's tax bill. Next year, you can claim the standard deduction, which will be increased a bit to account for inflation.

- **Carefully Manage Investment Gains and Losses in Taxable Accounts.** If you hold investments in taxable brokerage firm accounts, consider the tax advantage of selling appreciated securities that have been held for over 12 months. The maximum federal income tax rate on long-term capital gains recognized in 2019 is only 15% for most folks, although it can reach a maximum of 20% at higher income levels. The 3.8% Net Investment Income Tax (NIIT) also can apply at higher income levels.

- **Take Advantage of 0% Tax Rate on Investment Income.** For 2019, singles can take advantage of the 0% income tax rate on long-term capital gains and qualified dividends from securities held in taxable brokerage firm accounts if their taxable income is \$39,375 or less. For heads of household and joint filers, that limit is increased to \$52,750 and \$78,750, respectively. While your income may be too high to benefit from the 0% rate, you may have children, grandchildren, or other loved ones who will be in the 0% bracket. If so, consider giving them appreciated stock or mutual fund shares that they can sell and pay 0% tax on the resulting long-term gains. However, if you give securities to someone who is under age 24, the Kiddie Tax rules could potentially cause some of the resulting capital gains and dividends to be taxed at the higher rates that apply to trusts and estates.

- **Give away Winner Shares or Sell Loser Shares and Give away the Resulting Cash.** Don't give away loser shares (currently worth less than what you paid for them) to relatives. Instead, you should sell the shares and book the resulting tax-saving capital loss. Then, you can give the sales proceeds to your relative. On the other hand, you should give away winner shares to relatives. These principles also apply to donations to IRS-approved charities.

- **Convert Traditional IRAs into Roth Accounts.** The best profile for the Roth conversion strategy is when you expect to be in the same or higher tax bracket during your retirement years. The current tax hit from a conversion done this year may turn out to be a relatively small price to pay for completely avoiding potentially higher future tax rates on the account's earnings.

- **Take Advantage of Principal Residence Gain Exclusion Break.** Home prices are on the upswing in many areas. More good news: Gains of up to \$500,000 on the sale of a principal residence are completely federal-income-tax-free for qualifying married couples who file joint returns (\$250,000 for qualifying unmarried individuals and married individuals who file separate returns). To qualify for the gain exclusion break, you normally must have owned and used the home as your principal residence for a total of at least two years during the five-year period ending on the sale date.

- **Don't Overlook Estate Planning.** Thanks to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), the unified federal estate and gift tax exemption for 2019 is a historically huge \$11.4 million, or effectively \$22.8 million for married couples. Even though these big exemptions may mean you're not currently exposed to the federal estate tax, your estate plan may need updating to reflect the current tax rules.

Year-End Planning Moves for Small Businesses

If you own a business, consider the following strategies to minimize your tax bill for 2019.

- **Establish a Tax-favored Retirement Plan.** If your business doesn't already have a retirement plan, now might be the time to take the plunge. Current retirement plan rules allow for significant deductible contributions. Contact us for more information on small business retirement plan alternatives, and be aware that if your business has employees, you may have to cover them too.

- **Take Advantage of Generous Depreciation Tax Breaks.** 100% first-year bonus depreciation is available for qualified new and used property that is acquired and placed in service in calendar year 2019. That means your business might be able to write off the entire cost of some or all of your 2019 asset additions on this year's return. So, consider making additional acquisitions between now and year-end.

- **Cash in on Generous Section 179 Deduction Rules.** For qualifying property placed in service in tax years beginning in 2019, the maximum Section 179 deduction is \$1.02 million. The Section 179 deduction phase-out threshold amount is \$2.55 million.

- **Time Business Income and Deductions for Tax Savings.** If your business is conducted via a pass-through entity, the traditional strategy of deferring income into next year while accelerating deductible expenditures into this year makes sense if you expect to be in the same or lower tax bracket next year. On the other hand, if you expect to be in a higher tax bracket in 2020, take the opposite approach. Accelerate income into this year (if possible) and postpone deductible expenditures until 2020.

- **Maximize the Deduction for Pass-through Business Income.** For 2019, the deduction for Qualified Business Income (QBI) can be up to 20% of a pass-through entity owner's QBI, subject to restrictions that can apply at higher income levels and another restriction based on the owner's taxable income. Because of the various limitations on the QBI deduction, tax planning moves (or non-moves) can have the side effect of increasing or decreasing your allowable QBI deduction.

- **Watch out for Business Interest Expense Limit.** Thanks to an unfavorable TCJA change, a taxpayer's deduction for business interest expense for the year is limited to the sum of (1) business interest income, (2) 30% of adjusted taxable income, and (3) floor plan financing interest paid by certain vehicle dealers. Fortunately, many businesses are exempt from this limit. We can help you determine if an exemption applies.

- **Claim 100% Gain Exclusion for Qualified Small Business Stock.** There is a 100% federal income tax gain exclusion privilege for eligible sales of Qualified Small Business Corporation (QSBC) stock that was acquired after 9/27/10. QSBC shares must be held for more than five years to be eligible for the gain exclusion break. Contact us if you think you own stock that could qualify.

This letter only covers some of the year-end tax planning moves that could potentially benefit you, your loved ones, and your business. Please contact us if you have questions, want more information, or would like us to help in designing a year-end planning package that delivers the best tax results for your particular circumstances.

Best regards,
Thomas M. Ploskonka, CPA

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

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.

The German 20th *Gebirgsarmee* (Mountain Army) evacuates the mineral-rich Petsamo region of northern Finland on November 3, 1944. The two supreme military commanders of the Slovak National Uprising in Czechoslovakia (put down by the Germans on October 28, 1944) are captured. Generals Rudolf Viest and Ján Golian are taken to the Flossenberg concentration camp in Bavaria, where they are tortured and likely murdered (the camp's records of their final disposition having been lost or destroyed). As the Red Army approaches Budapest, members of the pro-German Hungarian government prepare to flee.

The last of the Axis forces remaining on the mainland of Greece leave on November 4. German occupation troops will remain on several of the Greek islands until they individually surrender. Long-range Soviet artillery bombards Budapest. In Asia, British Indian troops capture Kennedy Peak, near Tiddim, in northwestern Burma. They hold the heights against several strong Japanese counterattacks.

In Asia, U.S. planes on November 5 bomb Singapore, held by the Japanese since 1942. U.S. planes also pound Manila, destroying 249 Japanese aircraft. In Cairo, Egypt, two members of the Zionist organization *Lehi* (sometimes called the "Stern Gang," after the group's founder, Avraham Stern) assassinate Lord Moyne, the British Resident Minister for the Middle East. *Lehi* leaders say the purpose of the assassination is to strike a blow at British imperialism. In addition, they say they feel that Moyne, in particular, was the architect of the United Kingdom's strict policy limiting Jewish immigration to Palestine. The German Fourth Army recaptures the town of Goldap, in East Prussia. In Italy, British troops move into Ravenna, cutting the railroad line to Bologna.

On November 6, while pursuing the surviving Japanese ships retreating from the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the aircraft carrier *USS Lexington* is badly damaged off Luzon, the Philippines, by a Japanese *kamikaze* aircraft. In France, the provisional government strikes down all French anti-Semitic laws. In Moscow, Stalin, in a discussion, refers to Japan as "an aggressive nation."

In the U.S., Franklin Delano Roosevelt on November 7 is elected to an unprecedented fourth term as President of the United States, defeating New York Governor Thomas Dewey, the Republican candidate. Senator Harry S. Truman of Missouri will be Roosevelt's vice president. Over Yugoslavia, in the vicinity of Niš, Serbia, an air battle occurs between U.S. and Soviet air force planes. A flight of 27 U.S. P-38 Lightning fighters begins strafing a column of Red Army troops (thinking they are Germans), killing 37, wounding 31 and destroying several vehicles. Soviet ground commanders, thinking they are being attacked by German planes, call for air support. Two groups of Soviet Yak-3 fighters respond, engaging the American planes in a 25-minute battle over the city, resulting in 3 Lightnings and 4 Yaks downed. Afterward, the U.S. apologizes to the Soviet Union for the "misunderstanding." In Athens, the Greek government orders the dissolution of the country's two largest resistance groups.

On November 8, for the first time in the history of the Third Reich, Adolf Hitler fails to appear in Munich to address "the Old Fighters" on the anniversary of the 1923 Beer Hall Putsch (the failed *coup d'état* by the fledgling Nazi Party). Instead, Heinrich Himmler reads a speech in *der Führer's* place. The *Luftwaffe's* Austrian fighter ace (258 victories), Maj. Walter Nowotny, is killed in his Me-262, which crashes near Achmer, Germany, in Lower Saxony, about 12 miles north of his home airbase at Osnabrück. In Hungary, 25,000 Hungarian Jews are "loaned" to the Germans as forced laborers by the on-the-run Hungarian government. In Tokyo, Prime Minister Kuniaki Koiso makes a public commitment to victory on Leyte, the Philippines.

In France, the troops and tanks of the U.S. Third Army, under Gen. George S. Patton, by November 9 have captured the outer defenses of heavily fortified Metz and threaten the city. In Norway, the Switzerland-based International Committee of the Red Cross is named as the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize "for the great work it has performed during the war in behalf of humanity." Because of the war, no Peace Prize had been awarded since 1938. In France, Georges Suarez, editor of the pro-German newspaper *Aujourd'hui* ("Today"), is executed by firing squad for collaborating with the Nazis.

Heavy fighting continues on the island of Leyte, in the Philippines, on November 10. In Washington, D.C., the War Department estimates that total U.S. war casualties have surpassed the 500,000 mark. In the Balkans, the Allies recognize the Albanian government of anti-Nazi partisan Enver Hoxha. In Rotterdam, the Netherlands, German occupation troops begin rounding up the first of 50,000 men to be sent to Germany to be used as forced laborers. While lying at anchor at Manus Island, in the Admiralties off Papua-New Guinea, the ammunition ship *USS Mount Hood* suffers an internal explosion that detonates the 3,800 tons of ordnance aboard. The ship disintegrates immediately, and the entire crew (267 men, less 20 who are ashore) is vaporized. Over 100 sailors on other nearby ships and small boats are killed (their remains are never found) and some 382 others afloat and ashore are injured. Eighteen ships are damaged, some heavily, while 22 smaller vessels are sunk, destroyed or damaged beyond repair.

U.S. Navy carrier-based aircraft attack a Japanese convoy off Leyte Island, the Philippines, on November 11. Four destroyers, one minesweeper and five transports carrying nearly 10,000 troops are sunk. The Japanese capture the Allied airbase at Liuchow, in southern China. U.S. Navy planes bomb the Japanese-held island of Iwo Jima.

On November 12, the German battleship *Tirpitz*, anchored in a fjord near Tromsø, Norway, is attacked by the RAF. Two bombs find their mark and the vessel quickly capsizes, trapping over 1,000 crewmen inside her hull. Removal of *Tirpitz* — the last threat to Allied convoys to the Soviet Union — means that Britain's Royal Navy can transfer its heavy warships to the Pacific. In southern Europe, Allied bombers attack the railway running through the Brenner Pass on the Austrian-Italian border. In Rome, 80,000 leftists parade through the streets to celebrate the anniversary of the Russian Revolution and to protest against Italy's monarchy.

German troops evacuate Skopje, Macedonia, in Yugoslavia, on November 13. U.S. Navy aircraft attack shipping around, and land targets on, the island of Luzon, the Philippines. The Japanese submarine I-12 is sunk midway between Hawaii and the U.S. mainland by two American warships (one Navy, one Coast Guard) escorting a six-ship convoy to the Islands from the West Coast.

From London, the Norwegian government-in-exile on November 14 announces that Norwegian troops are operating alongside Soviet forces in the far north. Bulgarian and Yugoslav forces enter Skopje, Macedonia. In Prague, Czechoslovakia, a Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia is founded (with Nazi encouragement and support) by anti-communists from various regions of the U.S.S.R.

In Hungary on November 15, the Red Army captures Jászberény, 37 miles east of Budapest. In the Korea Strait between Korea and Japan, the Japanese amphibious assault ship *Akitsu Maru* is torpedoed and sunk by the American submarine *USS Queenfish*. The sinking kills 2,046 men, mostly soldiers of the Imperial Japanese Army's 64th Infantry Regiment.

On November 16, the RAF drops 5,689 tons of bombs — a record for one day — on German lines to the east of Aachen, Germany. With Antwerp, Belgium, Marseilles, France, and other liberated ports now available for Allied use, the "Red Ball Express," a relay of U.S. Army supply trucks operating between the front lines and the Normandy beaches, is shut down. In Belgium, political disagreements between the government and representatives of the resistance movement result in the resignation of three ministers. Sweden announces that the German minister has been recalled and that Swedish police are rounding up *Gestapo* operatives.

St. Peter's Gala Auction

PERTH AMBOY - Please join us on Sunday November 10th from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. for our annual Gala Auction. Admission is \$10 and food available for purchase. St. Peter's Church, 183 Rector Street. All are welcome.



A.C. Bus Trip

San Salvador Seniors

PERTH AMBOY - The San Salvador Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Caesar's Casino in AC on Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019. Bus leaves 12 Noon. Bus will depart from behind St. Stephens Church parking lot on Mechanic Street, Perth Amboy. (New Location) Cost 30 pp. Receive \$30 back in slot dollars. For more info call Joe at 732-826-0819.

A.C. Bus Trip

Holy Rosary Seniors

HOPELAWN - Holy Rosary Seniors is sponsoring a bus trip to Wind Creek Casino (formerly known as Sands Casino) in Pennsylvania, Tuesday, 11/12/2019. Cost is \$30 with \$25 back in play and \$5 for food. Bus leaves Church parking lot at 10:00 am. Any questions please call Ronnie at 732-442-5252.

A.C. Bus Trip

St. John Paul II

Seniors

PERTH AMBOY - A trip to the Resorts Casino in Atlantic City will be held on Wed. Nov. 20, 2019. Cost \$35 pp.; \$25 back in slot play. Bus will depart from behind St. Stephens Church (St. John Paul II) parking lot on Mechanic Street at 9:30 a.m. Call Bobbi to reserve a seat: 732-636-2867.

Bus Trip

to LiGreci's

HOPELAWN - The Holy Rosary Seniors is sponsoring a bus trip to LiGreci's, Staten Island, NY on Monday, December 9, 2019. Cost is \$90 which includes bus, Christmas show, music, comedian and luncheon. Bus leaves Church parking lot at 10:00 am. Any questions please call Ronnie at 732-442-5252.

Puerto Rico Discovery Day Celebration

PERTH AMBOY - Join us as we honor Jadelyn Cardenales with the "Outstanding Scholar of the Year" Award and Edison Jaquez with the "Outstanding Community Service Award". Sunday, November 17, 2019. Puerto Rico Flag Raising Ceremony, City Hall, High Street, Perth Amboy at 1 p.m.; Event at Robert N. Wilentz School, 51 First St., Perth Amboy from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cultural Activities will include folkloric music, Salsa dancing, and food. For more information, call 732-638-2846. Sponsored by PRAHD. This event is being made possible by the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and New Jersey State Council on the Art/Department of the State.

Book &

ReGifting Sale

SAYREVILLE - Saturday & Sunday, November 16th & 17th from 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Sayreville Free Public Library, 1050 Washington Road, Parlin. All Proceeds Go to the Sayreville Free Public Library. For More Information, call: 732-727-0212 Presented by the Friends of the Sayreville Public Library

The Battle of Gettysburg

PERTH AMBOY - Perth Amboy City Historian Anton J. Massopust is having a lecture at the Kearny Cottage, 63 Catalpa Ave., on the little known reasons why the South lost the Battle of Gettysburg. Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 2 p.m. Light refreshments. Everyone is welcome. This event is free, but donations are welcome.

Perth Amboy

NAACP Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Unit of the NAACP meets Monday Nov. 18, 2019 at the Jankowski Senior Center, 1 Olive Street Perth Amboy NJ at 7 p.m. sharp. All are welcome. Reverend Donna Stewart President.

Pirohi Sale

PERTH AMBOY - St. John's Orthodox Church will be holding their Pirohi Sale at \$9.00 Per Dozen. Orders may be called in from November 4 to 6, 2019 to 732-826-7067 between 9:00 A.M. and 12:00 Noon. Please call early to be sure your order gets in. Orders may be picked up on November 12 or 13, 2019 at 404 Division Street, Perth Amboy, NJ. Orders can be picked up after 2:30 P.M.

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

AMBOY SPOTLIGHT: Aleman Carpeting

Aleman Carpeting Celebrates 50 Years of Outstanding Customer Service Aleman Carpeting, 336 Madison Ave., Perth Amboy

By: Carolyn Maxwell and Katherine Massopust
PERTH AMBOY – Aleman Carpet founder and original owner Raimundo Aleman immigrated from Cuba on July 14, 1968. Along with his wife and two sisters, Elsa Aleman, and Caridad Miranda. Caridad, better known as Mimi has been with the company since day one. Raimundo worked at the Jewelry Exchange in New York and later would sell his custom-made gold jewelry as a vendor in Newark. In addition to his expertise as a jewelry maker, he also specialized in making custom designed furniture for people in a variety of professions. Aleman Jewelry & Furniture Store opened its doors at 219 Smith Street, Perth Amboy on October 24, 1969. In the 1980's, the business expanded to also selling and installing flooring. In 1988, Adolfo Perez married the daughter of Raimundo Aleman. Aleman Carpet then became solely dedicated to selling and installing flooring. The store relocated to 198 Smith Street, Perth Amboy. The company later moved to 336 Madison Avenue. On March 1, 2019, the company was taken over by his nephews Christian and Mitchell Nogueras and the name was changed to Aleman Carpeting.

The Aleman family celebrated their 50th Anniversary of business in Perth Amboy on October 24, 2019. When asked the secret of their success, Raimundo Aleman simply answered, "Hard work." He proudly stated how much he loves this town and how in all the years the company has been in business, there has not been one complaint. The family prides themselves on quality customer service which separates them from the big box-stores who often are not specialists in the department they work in. Aleman Carpet clients know they will be treated as an individual and not a number.

The nephews learned hands on the business from Raimundo and worked in the store since they were teenagers. It's a third-generation business. Raimundo and his wife, who also works at the store just celebrated their 58th Wedding Anniversary on September 23, 2019.

The business has served many clients over the years from private houses to large corporations and everybody in-between. One of their many large corporate orders included Port Elizabeth in Elizabeth, NJ. Aleman Carpeting carries many major brands and a large majority of options and materials to choose from for your needs including laminate, tile, and vinyl to name a few. They are a



full-service flooring contractor. The current location on Madison Avenue is close to all public transportation, parking, and accessible by all major highways.

The Aleman family has donated to the Perth Amboy Police Department and as part of the celebration will be having specials for the community and public servants.

Raimundo, who is now retired states he enjoys every day of his life. It was our joy and a pleasure to interview the Aleman family who during the interview would joyfully kid each other which to us shows the respect and love of what a true loving family should be.

Congratulations to Aleman Carpeting on your 50th Anniversary of being in business in Perth Amboy!



(L to R), Mitchell Nogueras , Adolfo Perez , Raimundo Aleman , Dalia Aleman , Caridad (Mimi) Miranda and Christian Nogueras
 *Photos by Paul W. Wang

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Call For the Plan Which Will Best Suit Your Needs.

732-896-4446

Classified Ads

Please Notify Us Immediately After Your Item is Sold!
Email: AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

Please Note: Only One Classified Ad per Phone# will be published per week. If you already have a classified ad in the paper and another is sent, the new one will replace the one that's already published

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

Ads Sell! Call Carolyn! 732-896-4446	For Sale	For Sale
For Sale: Exercise Equipment	Sayreville Bombers 14 KT Charm - \$75 in Box; can add Specialty Sport Charm, etc. - 732-525-2405	Baseball Card Collection, Old Mint Superstars in Binder \$60 - 732-727-8417
	3/4 Size Acoustic Guitar. Good for young child - \$50. 732-541-5491	Chairs - Dining- 6; 4 side; 2 arms; good condition, oak, will rush seat \$75 - 732-738-4283
Tony Little Gazelle Free-style Exercise - Excellent Condition \$150 - 732-442-5252 11/6	Brand New Electric Heater Radiator. Was \$65 Now \$20 New Never Used. 732-547-7406	40 lbs. of Weights for \$15. All 10 lb. weights. 732-771-1961
For Sale	Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Dining Hutch - Wood - Good Condition \$50 - Self Pick-up 732-826-6324
Solar Pool Cover Roller - Easy to use 16 x 32 - \$75 - 732-236-4479	Safe Combination 21" High 13 1/2" wide on wheels \$75 732-634-1851	Christmas Tree Lights - 7 feet \$25; 2 bikes: Girl - 23 inches; Man - 23 inches 732-887-2235
Lighted Three Piece Wall Unit Plenty Storage - Excellent \$75 - 732-238-8439	Patio cushions - Perfect Condition- 6 - \$30 -732-634-3589	Moving - tables, lamps, dresses, dishes, tools grandfather clock \$5-\$75 - 732-925-6542
Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975	Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5th Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-6305	Girl's Bicycle 24" Panasonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or B.O. 908-501-3993
Dinette Set with 4 Chairs Dark Wood- Mint - \$70 - 732-290-1551	Portable Singer Sewing Machine \$35; Shower Doors \$20 - 4'4"x29 1/4" 732-679-0086	Sissy Bar and Pad for Harley Sportster - Great Condition \$65 - 908-590-8885
GPS Tom Tom - 3 pcs Stereo System - Dog Bed \$65 ea. 732-293-0151	Custom Jewelry \$5-\$10; Sled \$25; Sports Memorabilia \$10; Dream Catcher Cane \$15 - 732-713-0536	Power Lift \$75. Wing Chairs, Sofa, End Tables, Lamps, Microwave \$10-\$50 - 908-803-9623
New Deluxe Fireplace Glass Door Fire Screen and Tool Set \$75 - 732-297-4457	New never used Mirror 27"/41" Brown Frame was \$120 - Now \$75 - 732-721-7186	
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How to Publish a Novena

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

A Petition to St. Joseph

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

Prayer To St. Clare

Prayer To Blessed Mother

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

St. Jude Novena

Cost \$10.

Pre-payment required.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____

Initials at end of prayer _____

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

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

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 _____

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.

Prayer to The Blessed Virgin

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

Designer Bag Bingo & Tricky Tray

PERTH AMBOY – Dooney & Bourke, Coach, Michael Kors, & KateSpade; Louis Vuitton Bag Raffle: \$20.00 ticket & 50/50 Raffle. \$30.00/12 games door prize ticket, coffee and cake. Friday, November 15, 2019 Doors open at 6 p.m.; Game starts at 7:30 p.m. St. Stephens Church, 490 State St., Perth Amboy.

Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library Meeting

PERTH AMBOY – The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library are having a meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 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.

Hungarian Kolbasz and Nut Roll Sale

WOODBIDGE – Kolbasz Sale: Made by the members of the Calvin Hungarian Reformed Church of Woodbridge on Friday, December 13, 2019. Place your orders with Audrey Marciniak: 732-494-1431. Price: \$6.00 per lb. Deadline for order: Saturday, November 30, 2019. Orders may be picked up on the day of the sale between 12 noon and 4 p.m. Use Ross Street entrance.

If you are ordering Nut Rolls, you can also place your order for Kolbasz at the same time. Nut Roll Sale: Sponsored by the Women's Guild of the Calvin Hungarian Reformed Church, Woodbridge. Each individually hand rolled. Made from the best ingredients, each weighing 1lb 8oz. Available in English Walnut, Poppy Seed, Prune-Lekvar, Apricot, Raspberry, Pumpkin-Cheese. Price \$17.00 each.

Deadline for orders by Saturday, November 30, 2019. Orders will be available for pick-up on Friday December 13, 2019 between 12 noon and 4:00 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall of the Church. Please use Ross Street Entrance.

All orders must be paid in full upon ordering. Please call: Florette Pastor: 732-636-2868.

Senior Scene Happenings

Perth Amboy

- TUES. Nov. 5 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. Nov. 6 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. Nov. 7 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
- MON. Nov. 11 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
- TUES. Nov. 12 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. Nov. 13 Good Shepherd Wednesday Seniors, 12:30 p.m. Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.
- St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
- THURS. Nov. 14 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m. Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

- WED. Nov. 6 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- MON. Nov. 11 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
- MON. Nov. 25 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.

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

Remember to Say Your Novenas!

Answers From Puzzle On Page 19



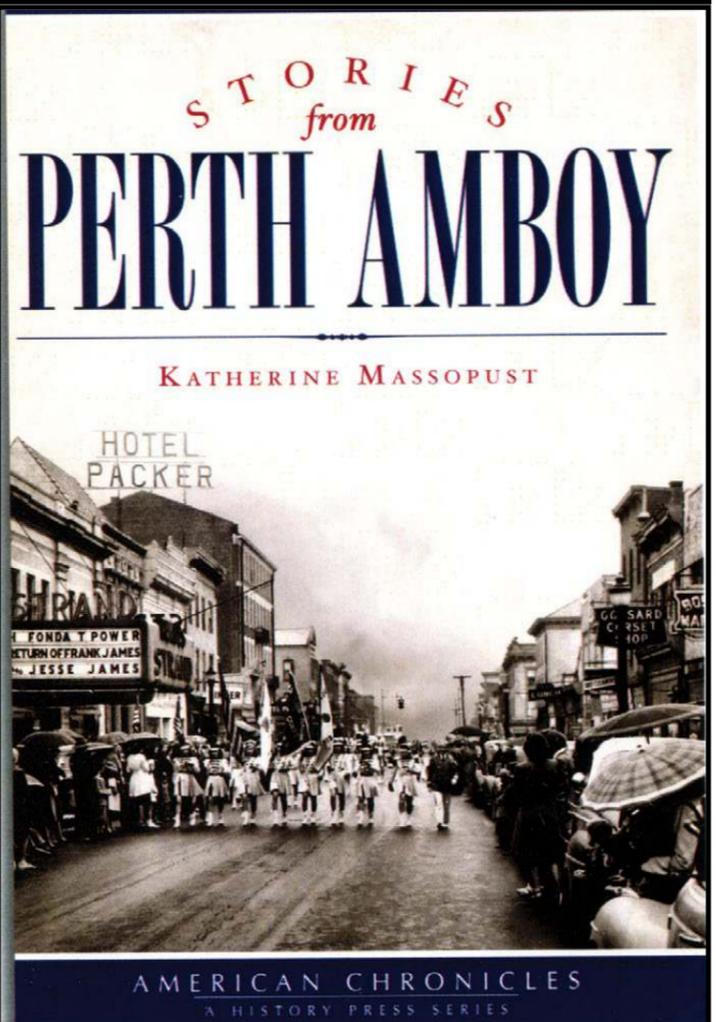
LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – Halloween No. 1 School circa 1960's

**Photo Courtesy the Perth Amboy Free Public Library*

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



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!

Fire Prevention Open House, PAFD, Perth Amboy 10/11/19

**Photos by Ray Kawka, Jr.*



Halloween Trunk or Treat, Sadowski Parkway, Perth Amboy 10/26/19

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



Halloween, South Amboy 10/27/19

**Photos by Carolyn Maxwell*



Halloween, Perth Amboy 10/27/19

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



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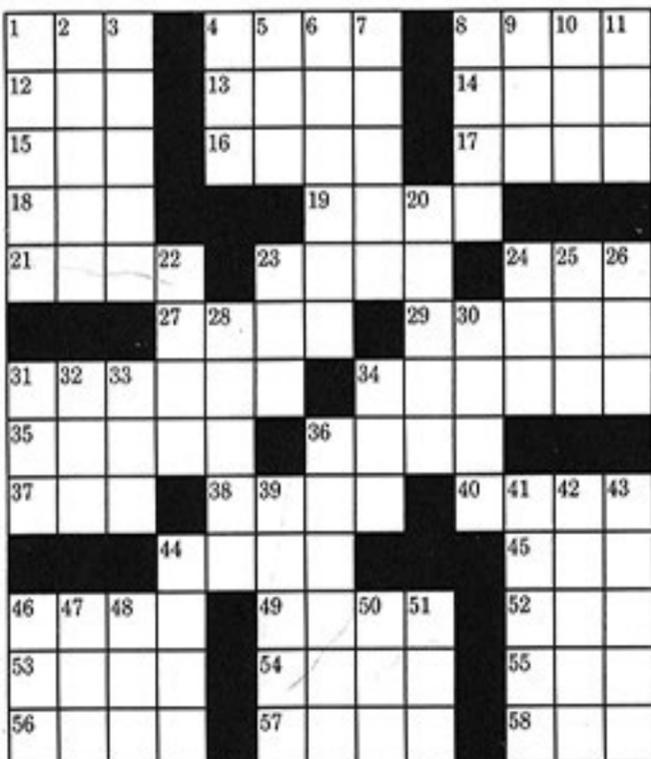
1. Atlas picture
4. Elongated circle
8. Genesis man
12. In the tradition of: 2 wds.
13. Harsh sentence
14. Soda-machine possibility
15. Signal for help
16. Be bold
17. Exam
18. Blasting compound: abbr.
19. Part of "MFA"

21. Furry sea mammal
23. Serving receptacle
24. Mr. King Cole
27. Very enthusiastic
29. Newport, _____ Island
31. TV dog
34. Got misty-eyed
35. Revises (copy)
36. Typical freshman
37. Uppermost point
38. Remove wrinkles from
40. Be aware of
44. Bit of gossip
45. Rhyming heavy-weight champ

DOWN

46. Jab
49. Operation reminder
52. Fool (around)
53. Fence bar
54. City vehicle
55. Mate of 8-Across
56. Nothing but
57. Daisy stalk
58. Family room
1. Poles on schooners
2. Without any company
3. Fettuccine or ziti
4. Like Father Time
5. By means of
6. Scared
7. Sly glances
8. Plays a role

9. Fawn's mother
10. Gore and Jolson
11. Bathroom rug
20. Age after two
22. Final
23. Expire
24. Word with "neither"
25. Summer citrus drink
26. TV's Koppel
28. Call on
30. Singer Williams
31. "_____ sleeping dogs lie"
32. Fuss
33. Wee swallow
34. The _____ Commandments
36. Male feline
39. Takes five
41. Not wearing any clothes
42. Pimento-filled food
43. Become broader
44. In a nonchalant way
46. Old hand
47. Was a cross-country competitor
48. Petroleum product
50. Lumberjack's tool
51. Cup edge



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PERTH AMBOY - Great single family two blocks from High School, lots of off street parking, very clean. a must see. **\$249,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great condition, close to downtown and public transportation. **\$289,000**



SEWAREN - Don't miss the opportunity to own this great property. New Kitchen with stainless steel microwave, refrigerator, dishwasher, range gas oven. Granite countertops, cherry cabinets. New bathroom on 2nd floor. 3 bedrooms, 2 full bath, formal dining room, deck, big backyard, above ground pool and much more! **\$379,000**



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PERTH AMBOY - Beautiful Brick Ranch, very desirable location, A/C, stunning kitchen all stainless-steel appliances, granite, garage, finished basement nice recreation area with office and large saltwater fish tank, very close to Staten Island and all major highways. A must see. **\$369,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Large office space 6 offices large conference room, 1.5 bath, kitchen, storage room 3 parking spaces, A/C. **\$2,250 Mo/Rent**