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Unresolved Issues Continue 11/25/19 Caucus & Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – Code Enforcement Director Irving Lozada was present at the caucus to give a brief overview of the operations and the differences between what has occurred so far versus the same time period in 2018. “This year, we’ve had 396 citizens’ complaints. This includes illegal housing, noise, and parking problems. The illegal housing complaints are down because of more enforcement. We are going after owners of multiple houses. There have been more significant issues regarding code compliances certificates because of more people who either bought or sold their houses.”

Scott Melski who is a Sub-Code Supervisor in Code Enforcement spoke next, “There were 3,568 licenses issued for construction. These numbers are higher than last year. Many regulations were relaxed by 30% because the state no longer requires permits to be issued for certain work or improvements done to a house. For instance, in the past if you wanted to do siding, roofing, or any kind of window treatments to your house you needed to have a permit. State regulations said that permits are no longer required for those types of jobs. We are battling the state on some of those changes.”

Councilman Fernando Irizarry then questioned, “If someone does a roofing job on your house, and they do a terrible job, do you have any recourse?”

Melski said, “The owner would have to take that person to court.”

Councilman Helmin Caba suggested, “We should upload on the city’s website what a person no longer needs a permit for.”

Council President William Petrick then added, “People can go on the city’s website to see if the contractor they hired is telling them the truth regarding needing a permit to do a job.”

Melski said, “We have received \$1.5 million in fees for permits and the fees for 2018 were over \$600,000. This figure does not include plumbing, electric, and fire permits.”

Lozada then spoke up, “People are buying and fixing more houses. There was \$1.7 mil-

lion collected in fees so far this year.”

Petrick then questioned Lozada about the IPads that Code Enforcement had obtained in previous years. “They were supposed to input information into these IPads while conducting a property inspection to transmit to the office computer. This was before you became Director of Code Enforcement.”

Lozada replied, “That never happened. We are requesting additional vehicles for Code Enforcement, and we will be using the money from collected fees for this purpose.”

Councilman Joel Pabon talked about making sure that permits are not closed if there is a call for reinspection.

Melski said, “Fees are collected before the work is done.”

Lozada then told the Council, “We need more people in Code Enforcement. We are down because one person is expecting a baby.”

Melski then added, “We need at least 3 people in the office all the time.”

Pabon then suggested, “We should have a team focusing on illegal housing. I think it’s that serious. It affects parking and the quality of life.”

Lozada responded, “We only have 5 inspectors for 5 zones in the city. Sometimes people will begin to work on a house, but that work will not be finished. They can take as long as they want due to the fact that the state relaxing some the permit laws. This make the city look bad.”

Melski continued, “We can only enforce what the state guidelines tell us.”

After the presentation, Councilman Irizarry had a dispute regarding the minutes from the November 13, 2019 minutes in regards to R-500-11/19 – Resolution. He stated, “At that meeting, I said we are being taken advantage of (regarding being a Code Blue city). Mr. Carr said the same and Mr. Carr also said he saw an out-of-town police car drop off someone by the 7-11 near the train station. This should have been reflected in the minutes.”

There was also a brief discussion regarding Ordinance No. 2 – Rescinding Chapter 353, Rent Control, of Ordinances of

the City of Perth Amboy – first reading.

Law Director Peter King told the Council, “We need the Rent Control Board in place for this ordinance (to take place).”

Council President Petrick then asked, “Is there is a 5% cap statewide when it comes to raising rent?” Deputy Municipal Department Head Department of Housing and Social Services Tashi Vasquez said she believed the state does not have a 5% increase, “They leave it up to the town to decide what they want to do.”

Law Director King then replied, “The courts will decide under certain circumstances what a rent increase should be.”

Director of Recreation and Humans Resources Ken Ortiz came forward and stated, “There is a renter’s registration. This will show the number of people in an apartment and the rents they are being charged. This is important because it has evidence and it will benefit both the owners and the renters.”

It was decided that Ordinance No. 2 to be tabled.

During the public portion, Resident Ken Balut came up to speak. He talked about 2 cases that have not been settled in court yet. “So far, the legal fees



Code Enforcement Director Irving Lozada and Sub-Code Supervisor Melski at the 11/25/19 Caucus *Photo by Carolyn Maxwell

are over \$300,000. The Mayor is filing a deposition on one of these cases. The lawyer fees are more than what the plaintiff requested. In 2016, a woman was accused of killing someone in a motor vehicle accident. Now, the Mayor is giving this woman a community service award. This woman is going on trial now for that 2016 accident. So, is the Mayor trying to influence the jury by all of sudden giving this woman an award?”

Balut then turned his attention to the YMCA, “They are not getting billed for any utility services.”

Carr explained, “We don’t send them bills.”

Council President Bill Petrick spoke up, “When one of our former B.A.’s Greg Fehrenbach was here, he would send bills to the YMCA.”

Balut then asked, “What was given by the companies who were given PILOTs? This is incompetency.”

Petrick spoke up again, “Now, it’s hard to separate all the utility bills.”

Resident Vince Mackiel came up next, “We need to recreate the Rent Leveling Board. The rents are too high. I’ll even vol-

**Continued on Page 2*

Multiple Ordinances Introduced, One Pulled in South Amboy 11/25/19 Council Meeting

By: Joseph L. Kuchie
SOUTH AMBOY - Five ordinances were introduced on first reading and one was pulled from the agenda for further review at Monday’s city council meeting.

The first ordinance introduces a fee for non-residential senior citizens who participate in the activities and programs at the South Amboy Senior Center. As it was discussed at the November business meeting, the fee will be \$60 if paid on or after January 31st, or \$50 if paid on or before January 31st.

Another ordinance introduced will appropriate \$200,000 from the capital improvement fund for the demolition of an unsafe structure at 131 South Broad-

way. The building currently resides across the street from Sciortino’s Harbor Lights near the train tracks.

One ordinance taken off the agenda for further discussion was Ordinance #27-2019, which would introduce a “No-Knock Registry” and would limit the posting of handbills or circulars. The ordinance would allow residents to sign up for a list that prevents people from coming up to their door to solicit items.

However, the council were concerned about certain things that would potentially be banned, including the South Amboy newsletters. The council decided to pull the ordinance until they could review what

was being banned or limited.

Law Director Francis Womack made a mention to the council that he planned to introduce a new ordinance regarding vape products within the next few meetings. He asked the council to send any notes or ask any questions they may have before they move forward.

Friends of South Amboy will be hosting a basketball event on December 21st at South Amboy High School to benefit the Leonard Family. Games will be at 2, 4, 6, and 8:00 PM.

All council members were in attendance for the meeting. The next meeting will be held on December 11th at 6:00 p.m.



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Unresolved Issues Continue 11/25/19 Caucus & Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 1*

unteer to be on the Board. I appreciated the comments made by Councilmen Irizarry and Pabon and their concerns for the residents. Some people affected by rents going up may be Veterans and low-income people. A C/O (Certificate of Occupancy) is always needed first. The Ordinance was created to protect the citizens (Rent Leveling Board)."

Councilman Helmin Caba responded to Balut's questioning the woman who got the Community Award who is on trial for killing a pedestrian in a motor vehicle accident in 2016. The lady who got the award does a lot for the community. She made a mistake that could have happened to any of us."

The council went into closed session at 6:56 p.m. The council came back at 7:39 p.m. to adjourn the caucus and opened the regular meeting at 7:40 p.m.

In the first public portion, resident Ken Balut came back to question the closed session Item No. 2 – Potential litigation – redevelopment – PARA.

Balut stated, "One of the PARA members, Mr. Jacobs had a conflict of interest. Jacobs had sued the developer (Kushner) and settled, so he should not have been able to talk about any case (involving the Kushner Companies). Even the PARA lawyer sued Kushner. The Mayor's daughter got a scholarship from a college that Kushner sits on the board. I heard this is done to other politicians' There are no firestops installed in the Kushner building apartments. There was one apartment that had water leaking into an apartment below it. Annie Hindenlang (Executive Director of PARA) had lived in one of Kushner's apartments."

Council President Bill Petrick then remarked, "This could be a level of corruption."

Balut then mentioned, "A member of PARA phoned into a 10 a.m. meeting when there was no pubic discussion. Former Law Director Arlene Quinones said that she was representing the Mayor at a meeting with Kushner's representatives after she had left the city."

Businessman Jeremy Baratta came up next and questioned R-518-11/19 – Authorizing professional service agreements with qualifying attorneys who submitted responses to request the qualifications for various legal services for CY 2020. He stated, "The council can reject any RFP's and they would not be on the approved list."

Petrick then questioned, "Can they be disqualified due to cause?"

Baratta then continued, "The engineering firm Centerstate was cut by the Planning Board. You have a right to reject and resubmit."

Law Director Peter King spoke up to make a clarification, "This resolution is an RFQ, which is for qualifications. You (the Council) have a right to refuse to use the services of someone on a qualified list. This is

an RFQ which is a request for qualifications." King continued, "If they meet the qualifications and you reject them, they can sue."

When it came time for the consent agenda R-507 thru R-530 was moved by Councilman Fernando Irizarry and seconded by Joel Pabon. For one resolution, the council asked for a slight change to be made. For R-521-11/19 – Authorizing a temporary 2-hour suspension of parking meter fees on Smith Street from November 29, 2019 thru January 1, 2020. At the caucus meeting Joel Pabon said it should be free parking – period during this time-frame. All the council members present agreed.

During the last public portion, Ken Balut came up and was concerned about the buses that were parking illegally in the Budapest section, especially on Bruck Avenue where he lives. He also mentioned there was a flyer for a house that was for sale near him. "According to the flyer, it said that the house had 2 driveways even though it's only about 25 ft. wide. There are a lot of cars parked there. Code Enforcement needs to be there to do their job instead of always complaining about a lack of manpower. Irving (Lozada – Director of Code Enforcement) is a nice man, but he is not qualified. Send the DCA to do an investigation. The clerk who worked at the court who left had a special meeting to make her a deputy court clerk. The Mayor should be made to testify about this."

Resident Vince Mackiel came up to speak next. He asked, "What are the qualifications and duties of the Rent Leveling Board? The city has public places on Convery Boulevard to safeguard them for the city to use for renewable energy to create something for the public to use."

Businessman Jeremy Baratta came up next. He was concerned because the BID is a separate legal entity and has its own budget. Since I'm in the business district, I receive their email updates. Recently, I started getting emails connected to the BID website that are from Noelia Colon. It's connected to P.I.O.PerthAmboyNJ.org. This is containing political information related to Mayor Wilda Diaz. Why am I getting my BID emails about Wilda Diaz's accomplishments and awards she has gotten? There are emails from BID which are promoting non-BID activities. They are using BID resources to promote Diaz a year before her reelection."

Resident Alan Silber came up next and questioned why was a Code Enforcement Vehicle parked illegally in front of City Hall. He also questioned the award which was given by the Mayor to a woman who was involved in a tragic motor-vehicle accident. "This award was given to this woman 3 weeks before she the trial was to begin. Was the victim a good person and did she deserve to die? I

don't know if this was an attempt to influence the jury and the judge."

Silber then talked about a shooting that happened on Hall Avenue a few years ago when a man was killed, and the 2 police officers involved also got an award." Silber then addressed the council, "How would you feel if it had been your family member that was a victim (and the person who caused their death received an award).

Council Comments:

Councilman Helmin Caba wished everyone a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving and remembered those who were having a hard time or are lonely or dealing with stress. "I am very grateful. We're always hearing about tragic news. I hope everyone has a joyous holiday."

Councilman Fernando Irizarry wanted to thank everyone who helped out during the community dinners. He also thanked PRAHD. "They did a great job on Puerto Rico Discovery Day. The food and cultural entertainment were very good." He also thanked Code Enforcement and those who did a presentation regarding the upcoming census. He also mentioned the upcoming business parade and tree lighting (Saturday, November 30th). He then asked if someone from the court system can do a presentation. "I heard someone ask on a radio show: What are you thankful for?" I want to thank everyone here, the city employees, my fellow Council Members and the administration for trying to make the city better." He also thanked the public who watch on TV. "I wish everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving."

Councilman Joel Pabon had an issue with the woman who got the award shortly before she was to go on trial. "It could happen to anyone. Texting and driving is an epidemic. Pedestrians are also at fault. Many times, they have their heads down and are looking at their phone when they are crossing the street. When I saw the video (of the accident), it hit home. It's very easy to hit someone." Pabon also cautioned, "Especially nowadays you have to look after your children. You could turn around for 2 seconds and someone can take your child. You have to pay attention. People are getting very bold with child abduction and human trafficking. We need to get this on social media. Have a safe and healthy Thanksgiving."

Council President Petrick thanked everyone and wished everyone here and those watching on TV-land a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda was absent from both the caucus and council meetings.



Old-Fashioned Caroling by Candlelight

Press Release
PERTH AMBOY – The Proprietary House, the Royal Governor's Mansion, invites all to join in some old-fashioned caroling on Saturday, December 14th with "Here We Come A-Caroling," a candle-lit, musical stroll through Perth Amboy's historic district. This special event starts PROMPTLY AT 7 P.M. and departs from Proprietary House, 149 Kearny Avenue. (Indoor caroling, in case of inclement weather.) Victorian/Dickensian attire is encouraged! Visit Proprietary House and private neighborhood homes lavishly bedecked and illuminated for the holidays. Seasonal refreshments will be served.
ADMISSION: \$10 / Members \$5 / 12 & Under FREE.

FOR TICKETS contact Proprietary House Association. WEBSITE: www.theproprietaryhouse.org. E-MAIL: info@theproprietaryhouse.org. PURCHASE BY CHECK: Make payable to Proprietary House Association and include your Name, # of Tickets, Phone Number & Address. Mail by Dec. 7th to: Proprietary House Association, 149 Kearny Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ, 08861.

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Take Time to Enjoy the View



City Hall Circle Perth Amboy 11/30/19 *Photo by Carolyn Maxwell

As I have stated several times, two of my most favorite things are nature and music. Last night, as I was walking from the intersection of Smith and High Street towards City Hall Circle, I was struck by the beauty of how the Christmas lights illuminated the tree branches. To me, it would be a perfect setting for an outdoor winter wedding if the weather had cooperated.

Several branches of two trees connected to create a beautiful lighted arch. Even though City Hall Circle has had this lighting of trees for at least 8 years, the beauty still amazes me.

The Old English Elm Tree in front of City Hall is a constant reminder of nature during the 4 seasons. I remember when that Old Elm Tree was a discussion at Council Meetings where 2 Council Members wanted the tree taken down. I'm glad they lost that battle, but in hindsight I believe they were glad, too.

People have to create their own utopia. This is why I'm glad I live in a state where there are 4 seasons. As a matter of fact, sometimes we have weather from all 4 seasons in one week.

No matter where you live, mother nature is the boss and she will decide what the weather/climate will be. By large, we have no choice.

I remember when they had to replace the Christmas tree in front of City Hall, and how small it was when they first planted it. When they lit the tree at the ceremony on Saturday, it really highlighted how much it had grown in such a short period of time. It was astonishing.

Sometimes the simple things is



Christmas Tree on lawn of City Hall, Perth Amboy 11/30/19
*Photo by Carolyn Maxwell



Perth Amboy Sunset on the Deck of Cornucopia
Riverboat St. Charles 11/8/19 *Photo by Katherine Massopust

the best doctor's prescription. Go outside, breath the fresh air, enjoy the beauty around you. Take a stroll now, especially this time of year. Enjoy the free show of all the homes decorated for Christmas. Appreciate those who took their time and patience to decorate their properties which enhances the city.

Perth Amboy, South Amboy, and Woodbridge Township and many surrounding communities are blessed with beautiful Waterfronts. Take the time to enjoy them year round. **C.M. & K.M.**

Holiday Treats

PERTH AMBOY – Hackensack Meridian health Raritan Bay Medical Center –Perth Amboy is hosting, “Holiday Treats.” Join our registered dietitian and chef as they share how to eat healthy while still enjoying your favorite holiday treats! Cooking demos and samples provided, Tuesday, December 17, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., Raritan Room C&D, 4th Floor, 530 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ. Registration required, please visit <https://www.hackensackmeridianhealth.org/classes-events>

Bariatric Weight Loss Support Group

PERTH AMBOY - The Center for Bariatric Surgery at Hackensack Meridian Health Raritan Bay Medical Center-Perth Amboy is holding a Bariatric Weight Loss support group meeting Tuesday, December 10, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is designed for individuals who have had weight loss surgery, are contemplating weight loss surgery, or are trying to maintain a healthy weight. Friends and family are welcome. The meeting will be held in Centennial Hall A, 530 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ. Registration required, please visit <https://www.hackensackmeridianhealth.org/classes-events> call 1-800-560-9990.

The Royal Charter of Trinity Episcopal Church

WOODBIDGE - Celebrate Christmas with HAWT at historic Trinity Episcopal Church: At the monthly meeting of the Historical Association of Woodbridge Township, David Wilson, Church Warden, will discuss the Royal Charter of Trinity Episcopal Church granted by King George III. Trinity Episcopal Church and its adjoining burial yard are listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

We initially will meet in the Church where the Royal Charter is displayed. After the presentation, refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall. Please bring a nonperishable food item for the food pantry.

The HAWT meeting will be on Monday-December 16, 2019 at 7p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church. 650 Rahway Ave. at Trinity Lane. Woodbridge, New Jersey.



Brookdale Community College Art Exhibition Now on Display at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library

Press Release 11/21/19 SOUTH AMBOY — The Sadie Pope Dowdell Library is thrilled to announce its latest art installment: a collection of work from Brookdale Community College!

Most of the items on display were created by traditional college-aged students enrolled in digital animation, architecture, interior design, and photography courses. All of the ceramics on display were crafted by members of the Brookdale community who are not matriculating for college credits; these artisans made their pottery and sculptures to satisfy their own creative impulses. The collection will remain in the library throughout November and December.

The exhibition is titled “Made at Brookdale Community College” because the school welcomes artists interested in a wide variety of disciplines.

Regardless of their background or preferred medium, all artists are welcome to attend classes in state-of-the-art studio facilities, explore new subjects, and refine their craft. Learn more about Brookdale and its offerings at www.brookdalecc.edu.

Don’t miss upcoming arts exhibitions at the Dowdell Library! Scheduled displays include the photography of Joshua Lisojo, sports paintings by Nick St. Clair, and quilting from Gale Thompson in January and February; and the comic and caricature art of Edwin Yuan in March and April.

For additional information about this exhibit, 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.

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PRAHD Celebrates Puerto Rico Discovery Day, City Hall Circle & Wilentz School - 11/17/19

*Photos by Eric Salvary



Thanksgiving at Jankowski Community Center, Olive Street, Perth Amboy - 11/28/19

*Photos by Carolyn Maxwell



PERTH AMBOY - Renovation House distributes over 1600 meals between Olive Street, Remington Hotel, and 2 Senior Buildings on Thanksgiving. The Lion's Club again partnered with Renovation House to help feed the homeless and just those who needed fellowship. Jackets and Coats were also provided to those in need. There was also a presentation of checks earlier in the day. Food was plentiful at Olive Street, and takeout containers were provided for leftovers. By looks on the faces of all (individuals, families, servers, and cooks), it was another success.



Museum Pass Program

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library have generously provided FREE passes to some of the area's most popular museums! Museum passes offer a great way for family and friends to experience educational and cultural fun. **Picking Up and Returning Passes:** Passes can be picked up at the Circulation Desk. Patron must present the library card under whose name the pass was reserved. Only Adult patrons whose cards are in good standing will be able to check out Museum Passes. Passes are good for a total of three days and are **NOT** renewable. Passes can be returned at the Circulation Desk or at the Book Drop after hours. **Late, Lost or Unreturned Passes:** There will be a \$5 amount late fee each day the pass is past due. The maximum fine will not exceed \$25.00. Passes not returned within 14 days after the due date, will be presumed lost and borrowers charged the full replacement cost. **Replacement costs for items are as follows: Lost museum pass:** Full cost of the pass. Replacement costs vary according to the museum and listed on the catalog record for each museum. **Pass Case:** \$1

Museum Passes available: •American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY | free admission and 1 free exhibit or show •Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton NJ | pass admits 4 people •Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, New York, NY | pass admits 6 people

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

NJSLA 2019 Perfect Scores and Advanced Placement 2019 High Achievement Level 5 Recognized 11/21/19 Board of Education Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust
PERTH AMBOY – Assistant Superintendent Dr. Vivian Rodriguez, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Damian Medina, and Supervisor of English Language Arts Ms. Jessica Urban recognized all the students who received a perfect score on the 2019 NJSLA (New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (replacing the PARCC)) and 2019 AP (Advanced Placement) Achievement Tests.

Dr. Rodriguez explained, “The NJSLA was given to students from grades 3-10. All students have to take the same assessment and every district receives the scores back. We are able to see our brightest stars tonight. We are here to recognize these students.” Dr. Rodriguez then explained that the AP exams are college level courses taken at an advanced level in High School. Depending on your score, you can receive college credit or placement. Students that received a 5 were recognized. “Congratulations. You’ve done a great, great job!” stated Dr. Rodriguez.

The Board went into closed session at 6:18 p.m. and returned at 7:52 p.m.

No one spoke at the public portion on agenda items only.

Board Vice-President Tashi Vasquez wished everyone a blessed holiday season. She mentioned the Winter Wonderland which will be on Smith Street on November 30th and on the Taste of Perth Amboy which will be on December 3rd.

Superintendent Dr. David Roman said there was a problem at McGinnis School due to a water main break on Market Street. The students were given a fire lunch, which is monitored by the Police and Fire Departments and students and staff were given an early dismissal. “I would like to thank the parents and staff and to assure that the students were safe.”

During the Business Portion of the Meeting, the subject of need for PreK was discussed. Board Member Junior Iglesia asked, “What is the total enrollment in the 2020 program?”

Dr. Damian Median was brought up to answer the question, “We are filled up to capacity. Currently we have 5 providers. These are preliminary numbers. As far as preschool, approximately 1100 students are currently enrolled in our buildings. We anticipate for that number to continue to grow.”

Iglesia then asked, “Budget wise?”

Board Secretary Derek Jess answered: approximately \$25,800,000. Up \$2 million for this year. Based on a per pupil level for 2008-2009 school year. The Department of Education has not increased the money the district funding itself.”

Board Member Igelsia later stated that he was thankful to the SDA (School Development Authority) for the construction of the new high school. “It’s important to the accountability of the taxpayers to question what items is the SDA not respon-

sible for? What are these funds being utilized for?”

Board Secretary Derek Jess answered Iglesia, “The SDA accepted bids for the new high school. Bids were for terminal construction. \$240 million to be signed by the governor. If the governor does not veto it (in time), we will proceed with the construction. The SDA has money, but they are no longer purchasing land. That is why we purchased Seaman Avenue and the Delaney Homes. It’s for emergencies and add an additional amount for emergencies.

Dr. Jessica Neu came up to speak about inclusiveness in sports, “The Special Olympics changed their policy on inclusive sports for students. It’s the first unified track team for students with or without disabilities. There is unification of basketball and we will play other teams (with unification).

Board Member Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe spoke about the contract with the Perth Amboy Federation which is still not resolved. “If we could just get the contract closed.”

It was Board Member Randy Convery’s last meeting. He had declined to run for office again due to getting a job in another school district.

Board Member Lissette Lebron thanked Convery for his service, “I’m proud to have served with you.”

Convery stated, “It’s hard to believe how quick something happens. Every student that walks into this door. I’ll definitely miss you all. Thank you all very much.”

Convery was presented with a plaque for his service and dedication to the Board.

Board Member Junior Iglesia (who just won reelection) congratulated Tashi Vasquez, Dr. Danielle Brown and Maria Rodriguez for winning the election. “The voters who came out and supported me – I appreciate what you do. We are moving forward, and I thank all the organizers who endorsed me. We will continue to move the district closer to exemplary status. I will not let you down. Thank you, Perth Amboy.”

Board Member Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe thanked the staff of McGinnis School, “I’m glad to see all the communications going back and forth. I want to thank them as well. I want to thank Millie and Dr. Roman for all the emails.”

Board Member Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe commented that it is the last Board Meeting of this year and that the previous Board Meeting was not on PATV on demand.

Dr. David Roman remarked that there were some issues with Ch. 34 (Fios 47) and that Brian Wilson would get back to her.

During the public portion, Wilfredo Soto was the sole speaker. He congratulated the students who were recognized for their achievements. “The people of Perth Amboy spoke loudly, and every school had accomplishments. God Bless. My prayers are with you.”



PERTH AMBOY - NJSLA 2019 Perfect Scores: Ewdy Ortega (5) (McGinnis School); Kamilah Hernandez (5) William Ortiz (5) Nicolle Ferraz Silva (5) Evelyn Hernandez Chico (7) (Shull School); Kimberly Vazquez Chico (7); Angel Antonio Robles (7) (Dual Language School); Daniel Jose Acosta (8); Yadhira Milagros Mercado Moreto (8) (McGinnis School); Gerry Alexis Frialda (8) Anna Kodak (8) (Shull School); Rachel A. Iglesia (9); Joshua Preza (9) (Freshman Academy); Paulina Castro (11); Jaylyn Murillo (11); Jirandy Taveras (11); Azmuneer Watkins (12) (Perth Amboy High School)

Advanced Placement Assessments - 2019 - High Achievement - Level 5 - Calculus AB & World History; Dahian Grullon (12) (Perth Amboy High School); Calculus AB - Alexander Barrios (12); Andrea Febres (12); Lesley Garcia (12); Patrick Ponce (12); Bryan Rosario (12); Alan Villegas (12) (Perth Amboy High School); Spanish Language and Culture - Eymi Liberata (11) Willenia Melendez (12); Vanessa Rodriguez (12); Karla Urena (12); Rubelina Vargas Roca (12); Anahi Xochimitl (12) (Perth Amboy High School); United States Government & Politics - Cesar Romero (12) (Perth Amboy High School)

Note that there were other students recognized that took NJSLA and the AP exam in 2019 as Seniors achieving a perfect score or a 5 (on the AP Exam) but have since graduated.

**Photos by Katherine Massopust*



PERTH AMBOY - Board Member Randy Convery (center with plaque) attended his last meeting on the Board of Education. Convery declined to run for the BOE after his term was up because he had accepted a position in another school district. (LtoR) Board Members Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe, Anton J. Massopust, Lissette Lebron, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Vivian Rodriguez, Board Members Junior Iglesia, Randy Convery, Superintendent Dr. David Roman, Board VP Tashi Vasquez, Board Member Jesus Martinez, Assistant Superintendent Delvis Rodriguez.

Soto then turned the subject to his wife, who was dismissed as a substitute teacher. “My wife was a substitute teacher for many years. What she found out – they took her out of the district. She found out that some student from Shull School com-

plained. My wife knew what an educator does. She has lupus and had a kidney transplant. The student complained. They didn’t want her there. She sent a letter to Dr. Rodriguez. A lot of principals fought for her. Will they ever reinstate her?” Soto

then added, “I want to take this opportunity to thank the school district for what they’ve done.”

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. Board Members Dr. Danielle Brown and Ken Puccio were not present.

Wassail, Wine & Song at Proprietary House



PERTH AMBOY - Proprietary House is kicking off the holiday season with “Wassail, Wine & Song,” from 7 to 9 PM on Friday, December 6th. Leading the festivities will be renowned heritage musician, Jim Kurzenberger, performing in the colonial brick & stone wine cellar. Tour the historic mansion, lavishly bedecked for the holidays. Enjoy Wassail (spiked punch), Mulled Wine, Hot Cider &

Seasonal Desserts. Shop in the Museum Gift Shop. ADMISSION: \$25 per person; Members \$20. (Alcoholic beverages - Must be at least 21 years old.) LIMITED SPACE - Advance Ticket Purchase Encouraged. FOR TICKETS contact Proprietary House Association. WEBSITE: www.theproprietaryhouse.org. E-MAIL: info@theproprietaryhouse.org.

org. PHONE: (732) 826-5527. PURCHASE BY CHECK: Make payable to Proprietary House Association and include your Name, # of Tickets, Phone Number & Address. Mail by Dec. 1st to: Proprietary House Association, 149 Kearny Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ, 08861. (Museum is accessible for people with disabilities.)

Pets of the Week

I seriously can't believe there is not ONE application on California aka Cali! Just look at her cute face, her light calico markings and stunning posture, but no interest in her. She has patiently waited for a forever home of her own while seeing other kitties come and go. California aka Cali was rescued by two ladies that brought her into their home temporarily in Carteret. I vetted her and didn't have the heart to put her back out. I gave her months to adjust to humans, cats, and dogs.



She prefers humans and tolerates cats from a short distance. She is up to date on her vaccines, spayed, dewormed, flea treated, and FIV/FELV negative. She is fully vetted, and just needs a home of her own now! Could it be you? Please.
To adopt: Email Vmoralespps@yahoo.com or text 1.732.486.6382 for an adoption application. Donation fee applies.
ADOPT. SPAY. NEUTER. LOVE.
Allforthepaws.org

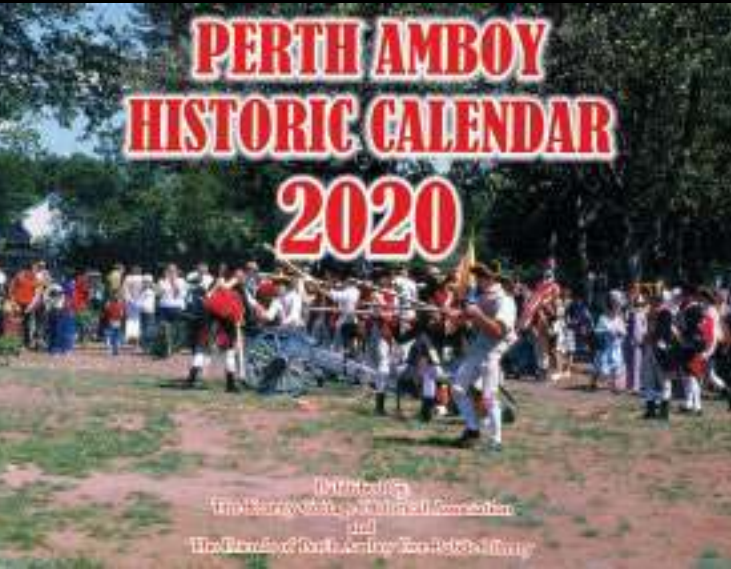
Have a Special Pet?

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.

SkillUp Middlesex

MIDDLESEX COUNTY – County offering over 4,500 Courses Through Free Online Learning Platform. Enhance skills and obtain industry recognized credentials by taking online courses developed by Skillsoft, a training provider used by Fortune-500 companies. Transportation/Logistics, Business Etiquette, QuickBooks, Project Management/Microsoft Office, Adobe, Accounting, Human Resources, Six Sigma, Informational Technology, Sales/Marketing, Custom Service, + 100's More!
Explore Career Pathways, Browse the Catalog, Find a Job! Bonus: Visit the Industry Certification page to choose from 130+ Certifications (Exam Fee May Apply)
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• Courses to train for industry-recognized certifications
• Pass courses with 80% or higher to earn a completion certification
• Download and print your completion certificates
• Certifications for your resume that provide new interview talking points
• Professional development

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.

MOVIE REVIEW
A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood



By: Anton Massopust III
“No life is without pain.”- Mr. Rogers

In “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood,” Tom Hanks plays Mr. Rogers: everyone's favorite television host, a wonderful man who taught us how it was okay to be happy and okay to be sad.

In Mr. Rogers' wonderful neighborhood of make-believe, Lloyd Vogel (Matthew Rhys) a cynical reporter who's going through some family problems (mainly with his father) toils with his feelings because of anger he has from his father, Jerry (Chris Cooper) who left him and his sister with a sick mother. With all his own personal problems, a very angry Lloyd is assigned to write an article for Esquire Magazine to write a small profile on Mr. Rogers. He usually writes cynical expose about people who are in the public eye, but this time things are different when he meets Mr.

Rogers.
The movie starts just like any episode of “Mr. Rogers Neighborhood” as he walks in the door and sings his signature song and puts on one of his very famous sweaters and tells us the story of Lloyd and his problems. When Lloyd meets Mister Rogers, he reveals a little bit about himself, but he also reveals to Lloyd that he doesn't have to hide his feelings and he can deal with the anger deal that he has. Lloyd's father wants to make amends with him, but he just can't let go of his personal pain.

Tom Hanks nails it completely with his performance of Mr. Rogers. Hanks' performance is not a parody as comedians have done in the past. Hanks does an acting job showing us how Mr. Rogers truly was and how. Mr. Rogers didn't play a character - Fred Rogers was that person. We understand some of his attributes through his world-famous

puppets from the Neighborhood of Make-Believe, especially Daniel the Tiger. Mr. Rogers would address issues that children have and bring them to light.

This beautiful well-orchestrated movie is not just a biopic. It is based upon a true story on the 1998 article "Can You Say ... Hero?" by Tom Junod, published in Esquire.

Everyone in the supporting cast is terrific as well, and you understand who Mr. Rogers is. As a companion piece, I also recommend the documentary, “Won't you be my neighbor.” It talks about all the things that made Mr. Rogers Neighborhood so famous, and the wonder who Fred Rogers was. This could be the Academy Award winner for best picture and Tom Hanks is sure to get an Oscar nod for best actor. Yes, go see “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood.”

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Phone: 908-351-0957; Fax: 908-351-0959
Email: ecabrera52@hotmail.com

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, December 7. 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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2019
Amboy Guardian
Publication Dates

January 9
January 16
January 23
January 30
February 6
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December 18

World War II - 75 Years Ago

By Phil Kohn. Dedicated to the memory of his father, GM3 Walter Kohn, U.S. Navy Armed Guard, USNR, and all men and women who have answered the country's call in time of need. Phil can be contacted at ww2remembered@yahoo.com.

On December 1, 1944, the U.S. Ninth Army, commanded by Brig. Gen. William Hood Simpson, captures Linnich, Germany, about 19 miles northeast of Aachen. Regular mail deliveries resume in the southern part of the Netherlands. Six communist members of the Greek Provisional Government in Athens resign.

The 11th (East Africa) Division of the British Fourteenth Army, pursuing the Japanese who are retreating from Imphal and Kohima, India, arrives at the Chindwin River, in Burma, on December 2. In France, the U.S. Seventh Army advances to the Rhine River after the Germans withdraw across it to Kehl, Germany, located directly across from Strasbourg, France. Progress halts, though, as the Germans destroy all three bridges in the vicinity.

In Athens, fighting breaks out on December 3 between the leftist National Liberation Front and government forces, which are backed by the British. An attempt by British troops and Greek police to break up a massive demonstration and to disarm the leftists results in the deaths of 28 people and the wounding of over 100 others, triggering a general strike throughout Greece. In England, with the threat of a German invasion extremely diminished, the British Home Guard — the volunteer civilian militia assigned to defend Britain against an assault — is ordered to stand down. King George VI declares: “You have fulfilled your charge.”

The Greek government declares martial law in Athens on December 4 as fighting continues between communist and anti-communist forces. With food supplies becoming increasingly scarce in the northern, Nazi-occupied region of the Netherlands, German occupation authorities reduce the bread ration for civilians to two pounds per week per person.

The Allies take control of Ravenna, Italy, on December 5. The Soviets attack with two armies from northeast of Budapest, Hungary, and make a 60-mile advance in eight days. British Army tanks become involved in the fighting between communists and anti-communists in Greece. British warships shell communist positions in Piraeus.

The Japanese on December 6 capture Tushan, China, south of the Nationalist capital of Chungking. In Greece, fighting between government forces, supported by British troops, and communist rebels continues. The British commander says there is evidence that a number of former German soldiers are being employed by the communists. In the Netherlands, the Germans begin removing electric-powered trains and their associated wiring and shipping them to Germany to replace equipment destroyed in Allied bombings. In the Philippines, 400 Japanese paratroops are dropped on Leyte to coordinate with Japanese infantry attacking the Allies from the west.

In Hungary, the Red Army reaches Lake Balaton, about 80 miles southwest of Budapest, on December 7. Gen. Nicolae Rădescu, Chief of the General Staff of the Romanian Army, becomes prime minister of Romania and forms a new government with strong anti-communist leanings. U.S. forces on Leyte, the Philippines, counterattack and stop the coordinated Japanese paratroop-infantry offensive.

On December 8, a 72-day “softening up” bombardment of the island of Iwo Jima begins, conducted jointly by the U.S. Army Air Forces and the U.S. Navy, using planes, three heavy cruisers and a destroyer escort. In Europe, the Red Army begins an offensive aimed at encircling Budapest, Hungary.

The Red Army reaches the Danube north of Budapest on December 9. The U.S. 8th Air Force bombs Stuttgart, Germany, during daylight hours. In Great Britain, the government relaxes blackout regulations for private homes. The U.S. government says it will reinstate the drafting of men between the ages of 26 and 37 for military service.

The U.S. Army’s 77th Infantry Division captures Ormoc, on Leyte Island, the Philippines, on December 10. In Moscow, representatives of the French and Soviet governments sign a 20-year treaty of alliance and mutual assistance. In Burma, British and Indian forces capture Indaw, 78 miles north of Mandalay, along with two Japanese airfields.

Soviet troops are within five miles of Budapest, Hungary, on December 11. Over 2,000 U.S. Army Air Force bombers from the 8th and 15th Air Forces attack various rail targets in Germany as well as an oil plant and several ammunition depots near Vienna, Austria. The Germans gas the last patients at the Hartheim Euthanasia Centre, in Alkoven, Austria, near Linz. (It is estimated that some 300,000 mentally and physically handicapped patients were gassed or otherwise murdered under the Nazis’ “Aktion T4” euthanasia program to eliminate “incurables” since its beginning in May 1940.)

In Burma, a new British offensive begins on December 12 with an advance toward Aykab, near the Bay of Bengal. In Greece, the communists, having suffered recent heavy losses, ask for a cease-fire. The government demands that the rebels surrender their weapons. In eastern France, the U.S. Third Army captures a German V-rocket factory at Wittring.

On December 13, the Battle of Mindoro, in the central Philippines, begins. A kamikaze strikes the American light cruiser *USS Nashville* off Negros Island, the Philippines, killing 133 sailors and wounding 190. In Greece, the communists continue their offensive, with heavy fighting in Athens. Communist attacks are made on several British bases in and around the Greek capital, but they are beaten off.

A Japanese prison ship on December 14 is mistakenly sunk by U.S. planes off the Philippines. Less than half of the Allied POWs survive, only to be recaptured. In Washington, D.C., Congress passes, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs into law, an act authorizing the creation of the ranks of General of the Army and Fleet Admiral, both to be indicated by five stars. This is done so that the highest-level American officers will hold a rank equivalent to that of Field Marshal. Over the next week, George C. Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Henry “Hap” Arnold are promoted to the rank in the Army, while William D. Leahy, Ernest J. King and Chester Nimitz are made Fleet Admirals. (Subsequent to the war, William F. Halsey will be promoted to Fleet Admiral and Omar N. Bradley will become the last General of the Army.) In the Philippines, units of the Japanese Fourteenth Area Army perpetrate a massacre on Palawan Island. To prevent captured soldiers from being liberated by the approaching Allies, 150 POWs are herded into air-raid shelter trenches, doused with gasoline and set afire. Those who try to escape are machine-gunned, clubbed or stabbed. Eleven prisoners survive and escape to Allied lines, aided by Filipino guides and guerrillas.

CASA for Children of Middlesex County
CASA of Middlesex County Launches Ambassador Program,
Seeks Ambassadors

Press Release 11/12/19
MIDDLESEX COUNTY - Join CASA as an Ambassador and raise awareness of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Middlesex County and children in foster care. In this new role, you will help CASA build connections with local organizations and community groups and assist in growing their volunteer pool so they will be able to serve more children. CASA Ambassadors will share CASA’s mission with the community and create awareness of the difference CASA makes in the lives of Middlesex County children in foster care.

Activities of the CASA Ambassador include: connecting with community groups and local businesses, representing CASA at community events, distributing brochures or posters, or organizing a fundraising activity. Ambassadors commit to three Ambassador activities per year. The Ambassadors will gain new skills and meet new people while they are making a difference for children in their community.

The first training will be held on Thursday, December 12th from 6 - 8 p.m. at the CASA of Middlesex County office, 77 Church Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. For registration or more information, please email to nora@casafmiddlesexcounty.org.

Ads Sell! Call Carolyn! 732-896-4446

Tom's Tax Tips

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

Reminder: Major Employment
Tax Deadlines

Handling employment taxes can be complicated, especially when you're required to file important tax documents throughout the year. Here's a list of key forms and deadline dates to help keep you on track:

Form 941 - Employer's quarterly federal tax return

This form is used to report income tax withheld from employees' pay and both the employer's and employees' share of Social Security and Medicare taxes.

Employers generally must deposit Form 941 payroll taxes on either a monthly or semiweekly deposit schedule. There are exceptions if you owe \$100,000 or more on any day during a deposit period, if you owe \$2,500 or less for the calendar quarter, or if your estimated annual payroll tax liability is \$1,000 or less.

- Monthly depositors are required to deposit payroll taxes accumulated within a calendar month by the 15th of the following month.
- Semiweekly depositors generally must deposit payroll taxes on Wednesdays or Fridays, depending on when wages are paid.

Return filing deadlines:

- **Jan. 31, 2020** - Due date for filing Form 941 for the fourth quarter of 2019. If you deposited your taxes in full and on time, you have until Feb. 10, 2020, to file this return.
- **April 30, 2020** - Due date for filing Form 941 for the first quarter. If you deposited your taxes in full and on time, you have until May 11, 2020, to file this return.
- **July 31, 2020** - Due date for filing Form 941 for the second quarter. If you deposited your taxes in full and on time, you have until Aug. 10, 2020, to file this return.
- **Nov. 1, 2020** - Due date for filing Form 941 for the third quarter. If you deposited your taxes in full and on time, you have until Nov. 10 to file this return.

Form 940 - Employer's annual federal unemployment tax return (FUTA)

This return is due annually. However, FUTA tax must generally be deposited once a quarter if the accumulated tax exceeds \$500.

- **Jan. 31, 2020** - Due date for filing 2019 Form 940. If you deposited your taxes in full and on time, you have until Feb. 10, 2020, to file this return. This day is also the deadline for depositing federal unemployment tax for October, November and December 2019.
- **April 30, 2020** - Deadline for depositing federal unemployment tax for January, February and March 2020.
- **July 31, 2020** - Deadline for depositing federal unemployment tax for April, May and June 2020.
- **Nov. 1, 2020** - Deadline for depositing federal unemployment tax for July, August and September 2020.

Form W-2 - Wage and tax statement

Employers are required to send this document to each employee and the IRS at the end of the year. It reports employee annual wages and taxes withheld from paychecks.

- **Jan. 31, 2020** - Due date for employers to provide 2019 Forms W-2 to employees, and for employers to send copies of 2019 W-2s to the Social Security Administration, whether filing electronically or with paper forms.

Tax deadline extensions for disaster areas

For taxpayers living in designated disaster areas, the IRS extends certain filing and tax payment dates. Taxpayers living in the affected areas (and those whose tax professionals are located in those areas) have relief from penalties for filing under the new extended dates. These filing and payment extensions are also available to some relief workers.

Visit the IRS's Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief for Individuals and Businesses page for up-to-date information. Please call for help with specific details about your filing requirements and for more information on tax deadlines that apply to your business.

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

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.

The Society of St. Vincent dePaul, Perth Amboy Coat Drive

*Photos Submitted



Press Release
The volunteers at the Perth Amboy St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry recently held their annual Coat and Blanket distribution. Over 200 blankets and 380 coats were given out to needy men, women, and children in Perth Amboy. Donations came from the following churches: St. Helena's - Edison; St. Andrew's - Avenel; St. Francis Cathedral - Metuchen; Our Lady of Victories - Sayreville; St. John Vianney - Colonia; St. Bartholomew - East Brunswick; Immaculate Conception - Spotswood; St Ambrose - Old Bridge; St. Thomas Aquinas High School, and individual donors.

The Barge Turkey Giveaway, Front Street, Perth Amboy 11/26/19

*Photos by John K. Dyke



Hungarian Kolbasz and Nut Roll Sale
WOODBRIDGE – 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: Flor-ette Pastor: 732-636-2868.

Amboy Bank Annual Food Drive

*Photo Submitted



News Release
SOUTH AMBOY - Anthony DeToro, Vice President and Branch Admin Deposit Officer, and Danielle Vella, Marketing Specialist, help Old Bridge Food Bank Manager, Anahita Feltz gather the food collections from the Amboy Bank Administration Building and neighboring branches. DeToro said, “Community participation is key when it comes to food banks being able to best serve our neighbors in need. Through the generosity of our staff and clients, we were able to help the Old Bridge Food Bank feed the members of our community who need it most. We’d like to thank everyone for making our annual food drive such a success.” Amboy Bank’s food drive included all 23 offices making donations to their local community food banks. Also pictured (left to right top): Sean E. Muirhead, Parks and Recreation, and Pete Delucia.

Amboy Bank Celebrates Metuchen Branch with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony *Photo Submitted



News Release
METUCHEN - Metuchen Mayor, Jonathan Busch, assists Gregory Scharpf, President and CEO of Amboy Bank, in cutting the ribbon to celebrate the anniversary of Amboy Bank’s Metuchen Branch located at 665 Middlesex Ave in the Whole Foods shopping center.
“This anniversary celebration marks our second year as members of the thriving community of Metuchen. We have also expanded our services available in this market, and we look forward to serving our new neighbors with our quality customer service and innovative products,” said Scharpf.
(L to R) are Kathy Romano, New Brunswick Branch Manager; Joe Razzano, Metuchen Chamber Member; Dorothy Rasmussen, Metuchen Chamber Councilwoman; Gregory Scharpf; Jonathan Busch; Brendan Flynn, Metuchen Chamber President; Jason Conway, Metuchen Branch Manager; Lorraine Mulligan, Metuchen Chamber Member; and Patricia Lucas-Schnerre, Metuchen Chamber Member.

SERVICE DIRECTORY
Call Carolyn @ 732-896-4446

New Plans for the Service Directory Effective 1/1/16 Are Now in Effect. If You Offer a Service, the Place to Advertise is Here! Catering, Auto Repair, Heating, Plumbing, Home Health Aides, Landscaping, Snow Removal, Dry Cleaning, Chauffeuring, Exterminators, Hall Rentals, Insurance, Delivering Services, Hair Stylists, Photography, Counseling, WebSite Design, Computer Repair etc.

Call For the Plan Which Will Best Suit Your Needs.

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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

For Sale: Snow Blower	For Sale	For Sale
Troy-Bilt Storm 2410-in Two-Stage Self-Propelled Gas Snow Blower. Condition is used. This snow blower was rarely used. \$350 or B.O. Call 908-268-8434	Advertising Fence Enclosure - Heavy Duty 10 ft. \$25 - 732-442-1093	Collector Plates - too many - to list \$5-\$10 each. Interested - Call: 732-727-1306
For Sale: Men's Watches	Car Battery 75 Series under 1 year old. \$50 - 732-442-6057	Tires - Firestone M&S LT275170R 18 Two \$10 Each 732-727-1772
Citizen Eco-Drive men's watches. Condition is Pre-Owned. Must be sold as a pair. Each one needs a battery. Lightly worn - both look great. \$175 or B.O. Call: 908-268-8434	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
For Sale	3/4 Size Acoustic Guitar. Good for young child - \$50. 732-541-5491	Chairs - Dining- 6; 4 side; 2 arms; good condition, oak - \$75 - 732-738-4283
Solar Pool Cover Roller - Easy to use 16 x 32 - \$75 - 732-236-4479	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
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Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975	Safe Combination 21" High 13 1/2" wide on wheels \$75 732-634-1851	LP's Cassettes, CD's DVD's \$1.00 each; Radio, CD \$20 - 732-887-2235
Dinette Set with 4 Chairs Dark Wood- Mint - \$70 - 732-290-1551	Patio cushions - Perfect Condition- 6 - \$30 -732-634-3589	Moving - tables, lamps, dresses, dishes, tools grandfather clock \$5-\$75 - 732-925-6542
GPS Tom Tom - 3 pcs Stereo System - Dog Bed \$65 ea. 732-293-0151	Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5 th Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-6305	Girl's Bicycle 24" Pano-sonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or B.O. 908-501-3993
New Deluxe Fireplace Glass Door Fire Screen and Tool Set \$75 - 732-297-4457	Portable Singer Sewing Machine \$35; Shower Doors \$20 - 4'4"x 29 1/4" 732-679-0086	Sissy Bar and Pad for Harley Sportster - Great Condition \$65 - 908-590-8885
Older New Toy Trucks Sunoco, Exxon, Mobil Hess \$20 Each or B.O. - 732-316-5092	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
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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.**

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Prayer To Blessed Mother

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

St. Jude Novena

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Initials at end of prayer_____

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For Employment

Prayer To Holy Spirit

Thanksgiving Novena

Pray The Rosary

A Petition to
St. Jude

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

Prayer To St. Jude

Novena To St. Anthony

Novena To St. Joseph

OTHER _____

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.**

Remember to
Say Your
Novenas!

Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 19



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, Dec. 5, 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.

Basketball
Fundraiser

SOUTH AMBOY - This year's Friends of South Amboy fundraising event will be held on Saturday, December 21st at South Amboy Middle High School. The proceeds from this year's event will benefit the Leonard Family, long time city residents dealing with the recent loss of their husband and father, Pat. As in years past the event will feature local high school basketball games, as follows:
2:00 p.m. South Amboy Varsity Girls vs Piscataway Vo-Tech
4:00 p.m. South Amboy Varsity Boys vs Piscataway Vo-Tech
6:00 p.m. South River Varsity Boys vs Sayreville
8:00 p.m. Saint Thomas Aquinas Varsity Boys vs Mater Dei
Tickets can be purchased at the door.



Book Signing

PERTH AMBOY – There will be a book signing of Perth Amboy Author Armand Canamela's book, "Poem's from the Heart," at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library, 196 Jefferson St., on Thursday, December 19th at 3:30 p.m.



Perth Amboy
NAACP Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Unit of the NAACP meets Monday Dec. 16, 2019 at the Jankowski Senior Center, 1 Olive Street Perth Amboy NJ at 7 p.m. sharp. All are welcome. Reverend Donna Stewart President.

Freedom Fund
Brunch

PERTH AMBOY/WOODBRIDGE – The Perth Amboy Area Branch of the NAACP is hosting a Freedom Fund Brunch honoring our Veterans: "The Men and Women Who Served," on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 11 a.m. (Doors open at 10:30 a.m.) at the Grand Lake Chateau, 1002 Rte. 9 North, Woodbridge, NJ 07095. Special Honorees: Hubert Carty, Lois Ruffin, Nathaniel Briggs, and Shanel Robinson (Somerset County Freeholder). Tickets are \$85 pp. (Buffet and Unlimited Mimosas); \$65 (Veterans); \$50 Children; \$75 Vendors. For more information, please contact Co-Chairs: Rev. Donna Stewart – 732-588-6804; email panaacppresident@gmail.com or Anana Phifer – 570-656-2550.

Senior Scene
Happenings

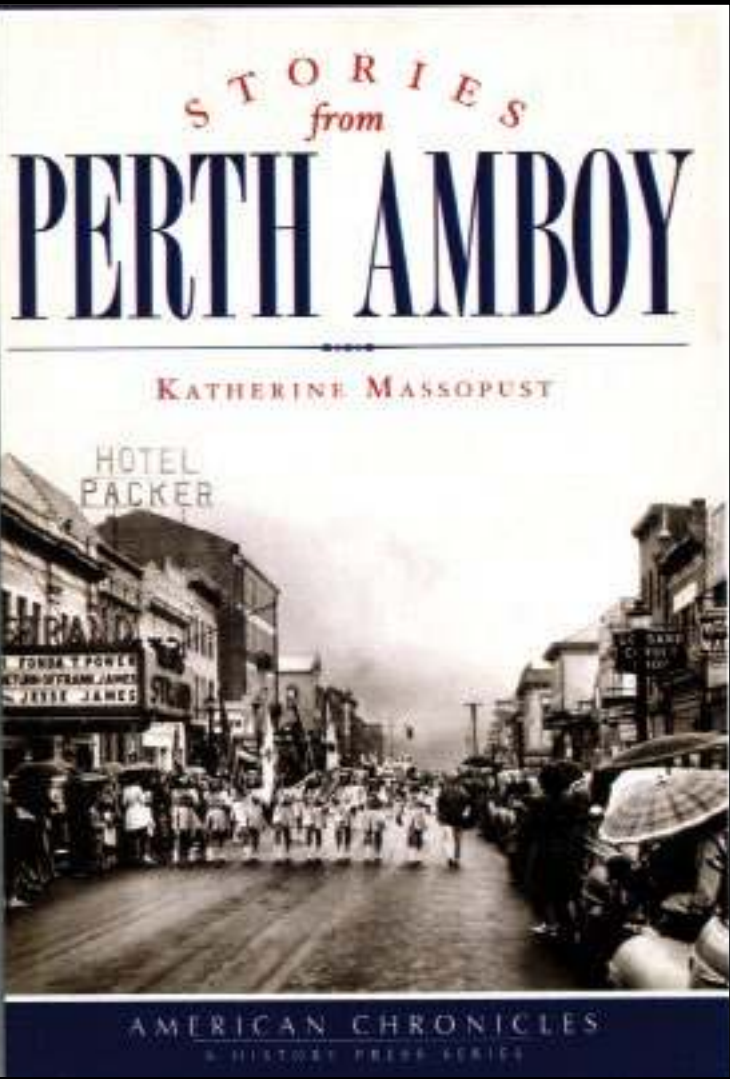
Perth Amboy

TUES. Dec. 3 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. Dec. 4 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. Dec. 5 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
MON. Dec. 9 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
TUES. Dec. 10 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. Dec. 11 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. Dec. 12 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m. Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
• Ukrainian Assumption Seniors, 12 Noon Superior Diner, Smith St.

South Amboy

WED. Dec. 4 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
MON. Dec. 9 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
MON. Dec. 23 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.

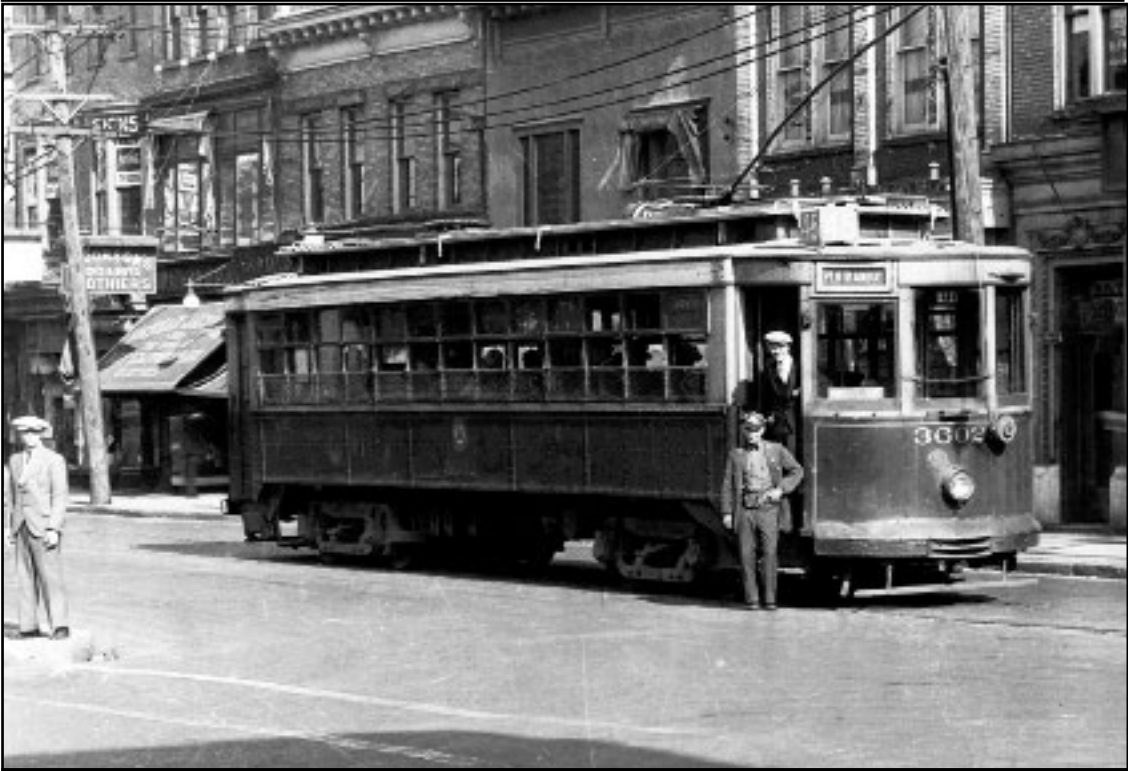
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Stories From Perth Amboy

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!

LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – Trolley went from Smith Street to State Street in Perth Amboy to Sewaren

*Photo by Louis P. Booz III

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

Shine the Light, Portuguese Sporting Club 11/14/19

*Photos by Katherine Massopust



Senior VP YMCA
Mary Ann Lawrence



Bob Durso



Pastor Anne-Marie Jeffries
St. Peter's Episcopal Church



Pastor Bernadette Falcon-
Lopez God's Army Ministries



Asw. Yvonne Lopez



Mayor Wilda Diaz



Donations of socks for the homeless



Presenting the Shine the Light Award to Geri Barcheski



YMCA Board Chair Bob DuPow offers some words



The once homeless tell their stories



The once homeless tell their stories



Watching the presentation



Giving a donation



A grateful family



YMCA President and
CEO Steve Jobin



Shine the Light Honoree
Geri Barcheski



Group photo







St. John's Orthodox Church Tricky Tray - 11/24/19

*Photos by Paul W. Wang



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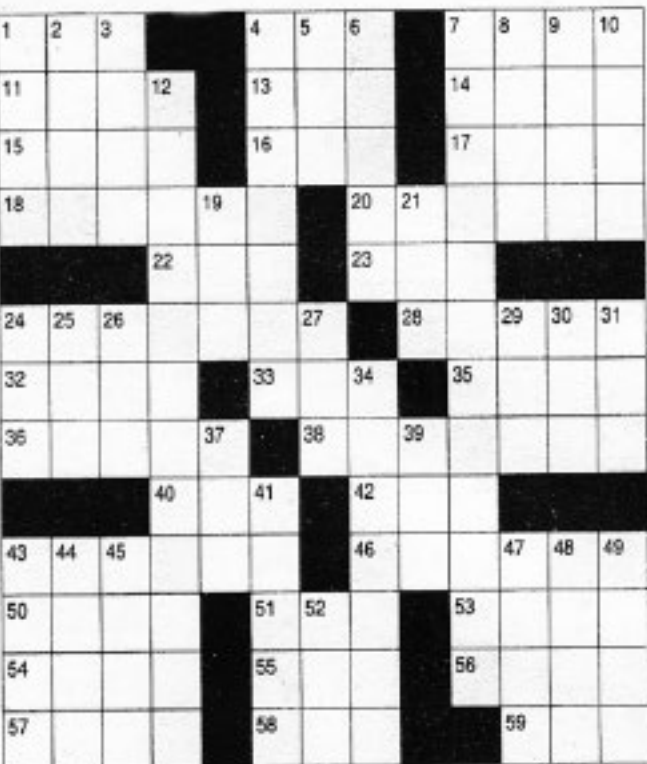


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Down

1. Flows back
2. Harper's Rhoda costar
3. Sports attendance
4. Millionaire help: "Phone ____" (2 words)
5. It's a Living waitress
6. M*A*S*H vehicles
7. Hank Hill's boss (2 words)
8. Niles's alma mater
9. ____ Blood
10. Mary of Entertainment Tonight
12. ____ Hunter (2 words)
19. Sara of Popular
21. Popeye's gal: Olive ____
24. Footnote entry: Op. ____
25. One, in Paris
26. Mandela's land (abbr.)
27. Haul behind
29. Publisher's request (abbr.)
30. Brit. VIPs
31. Hospital room, for City of Angels
34. Nolin of Sheena (2 words)
37. Tint
39. ____-CIO
41. ____ Winds
43. Rick's wife on Ozzie & Harriet
44. Tiny amount
45. Phooey!
47. Frosted
48. Timbuktu's locale
49. Paris airport
52. 240-Robert actor Saunders

Across

1. Breakfast choice at Mel's Diner
4. Pt. of speech
7. Fable
11. ABC's ____ Camp
13. Adversary
14. ____ avis
15. ____ Sides
16. 66, on TV (abbr.)
17. Traduce
18. Rappaport of NYPD Blue
20. Designing Women role for Judith Ivey: B.J. ____
22. Actor's hint
23. Neighbor of Isr.
24. A ____ Affair
28. Speaks like Sylvester
32. ____ many words (2 words)
33. Murray, on Mad About You
35. Then ____ Bronson
36. Emulate Mr. Novak
38. ____ Link
40. While You Were ____
42. Monday Night Football gp.
43. Peter Benchley's Amazon actress Margot
46. Virgil Paris on Somerset
50. King of I'm a Big Girl Now
51. ____-Star Golf
53. Mayberry's locale (abbr.)
54. Emphatic type (abbr.)
55. Grade for Bart Simpson
56. Steve Allen Show regular Gabe
57. Fill completely
58. Lamb Chop's mom
59. Handy home repairs cable channel

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PERTH AMBOY - Newly renovated 2 floor condo. New floors on first level along with new granite counter tops in kitchen. 2 car garage attached for private access. Easy access to nearby highways for commuters. **\$235,000**



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



PERTH AMBOY - Excellent investment opportunity for investor or entrepreneur. Great income producing property. 2 Buildings included. 200 Hall Ave. has Bar business and license that can continue or can be leased/rented with a large 5-bedroom apartment with 2 baths on the 2nd floor. 2nd building 638 Charles Street has 2, 1-bedroom apartments. **\$499,000**



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PERTH AMBOY - Great location!!! Just Redone with a very good taste. Long driveway plus 2 car garages, beautiful kitchen with the trendy Gray color, a very short distance from the Verrazano Bridge, close to the hospital, close to shopping centers, train, buss to NY city. Enjoy this 3 beds 2 full baths home with a big lot. **\$329,000**



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



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