• VOL. 10 NO. 10 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020 •

Equipment Purchases, Pleading for Relief, Interim Appointment& Quality of Life Among Topics Discussed

8/10/20 Caucus

By: Carolyn Maxwell

PERTH AMBOY – The meeting was held at the YMCA theater in order to accommodate no more than 25 people and practice social distancing per Governor Murphy's order.

Fire Chief Ed Mullen made a quick presentation regarding the purchase of a 1994 Pierce 75' Quint Rear Mount Ladder from Harrington Park. "We currently have a 2005 Tower Truck that costs too much to repair. The truck will be purchased through our Our Fire & Safety contract. We're requesting \$15,000 towards the price. We have \$40,000 in yearly contracts with Fire & Safety. We'll receive \$5,000 to get rid of the old truck. We need to have a backup truck at all times. The new truck will have to pass a Pump & Ariel Test. We need \$15,000 by September."

The next speaker to come forward was Chief Operator Officer of Tropical Cheese Orlando Rodriguez. He stated that Tropical Cheese has been in Perth Amboy for over 40 years. "Over 300 of our employees are Perth Amboy residents. We

spend around \$700,000 on sewer charges plus other additional charges. We have been approached by other cities to relocate there. We recently received a \$1.6 million bill in water & sewer charges. We can't afford this."

Councilman Helmin Caba sympathized and told Rodriguez, "I fear and share your frustrations. The water bills are out of control."

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up and asked one of other spokesmen from Tropical Cheese to explain in detail what some of the aforementioned items such as the BOD and PSS stands for.

It was explained that the terms refer to a type of solid waste material that they dispose of.

Pabon continued, "We asked the previous Business Administrator to reach out to you, but I don't know if he ever got a chance. I don't know if there are any grants available to help you (Tropical Cheese) out."

Tashilee Vazquez, Assistant Director of City's Office of Economic & Community Development came up to respond to Pabon's last statement. She explained, "There was only one option, but the grant was topped at \$3,000, and they (Tropical Cheese) didn't apply."

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda stated, "We have to see what's the best way to keep them here."

Orlando Rodriguez spoke up again, "What goes down the sewer (from Tropical Cheese) helps the ecosystem."

The council then went on to have a discussion regarding Ordinance No. 1: Adding a loading zone on New Brunswick Avenue (in the vicinity between Oak and Elm Streets).

Councilman Pabon stated, "This is a bad location. It will hurt existing businesses even though I know this new business needs a loading space. Without that space, it will mean double parking for the delivery trucks."

Councilman Helmin Caba then added, "Someone already painted a yellow line on the curb."

Council President Bill Petrick spoke up, "The amount of feet that they asked for the loading zone was reduced from 40 feet to 20 feet."

Ordinance No. 2 was discussed next regarding the Division of Engineering.

Law Director Peter King told Council President William Petrick that the changes that the council requested were made. Petrick let the people in attendance know that they require the person be a licensed Engineer, a Planner, and Public Waste Manager.

Councilman Joel Pabon then questioned an item under Bids which was: A request for proposals received on July 31, 2020 for the following: 1.) Online Tax Sales – Realauction. com - \$15 per property.

Pabon asked, "What is it costing us?"

It was decided that they would hold this discussion until Wednesday at the council meeting (8/12/20) so they can get more information.

Luis Perez Jimenez, Director of Operations at the USA-PA (Utility Service Associates Perth Amboy) Middlesex Water Company) came up to explain the bid that was received on August 4, 2020 for the cleaning

and lining of the sewer main between Gordon Street and High Street. He explained, "The gas company did not do a good job impacting Rector Street. There was a sinkhole that we had to put a camera in to detect the problem which was between Rector and High Streets."

There was a lengthy discussion regarding Ordinance No. 2 First Reading regarding Interim Appointment. Pabon started off, "We just made a move and put another individual in place. It's not right."

Councilman Helmin Caba said, "It should be retroactive."

Council President Bill Petrick then spoke up, "The ordinance should be changed to 60 days."

should be changed to 60 days."

Pabon said, "We don't have enough time to work with this person (the new Interim Business Administrator)."

Petrick spoke up again and stated, "With Carr (the former B.A.) who just left and the other Business Administrators, we always had an open-door policy."

Councilwoman Tejeda re-

*Continued on Page 2

Our 9-11-01 Commemorative Issue is Coming Up on September 2, 2020 Deadline: Friday, August 28, 2020 We Have Special Advertising Rates Call Carolyn: 732-896-4446 or Katherine: 732-261-2610 or Email: AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

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Perth Amboy Appoints New Interim Business Administrator City Welcomes Patricia Perkins to Historic Community

Press Release 8/7/20 PERTH AMBOY – Mayor Wilda Diaz is pleased to announce the appointment of Patricia Perkins, as the Interim Business Administrator for the City of Perth Amboy, effective August

"I am so pleased to appoint Ms. Patricia Perkins as our new Interim City Administrator," said Mayor Wilda Diaz. She is a respected, dedicated public service professional with extensive experience within the public legislation process for regulatory of activities and capital projects. She was instrumental in the economic development for the city of Elizabeth and the State of New Jersey. Ms. Perkins will work with the administration and the City Council to best serve our residents and taxpayers. Her widespread knowledge will also provide much value to the continued business growth in Perth Amboy. I am confident that Ms. Perkins will be instrumental in providing guidance and oversight throughout our municipal operations."

Ms. Perkins has over 28 years of experience in municipal management that includes being First African American women elected to the Elizabeth City Council and the First African American Council President. In addition to her professional experience, Ms. Perkins served as President of the NAACP, Elizabeth Branch; Co-founder NCNW Elizabeth Area; National League Cities and Democratic National Committee.

Ms. Perkins Graduated for Rutgers University and has completed graduate courses in Public Administration.

Ms. Perkins is known for her professionalism and years of leadership experience among



Interim Business Administrator Patricia Perkins

many in the State. She is well respected for her leadership style and for providing effective management in operational budget preparation and execution, long-term planning, facilities management and administrative oversight.



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Equipment Purchases, Pleading for Relief, Interim Appointment & Quality of Life Among Topics Discussed

8/10/20 Caucus

*Continued from Page 1

marked, "Things will go wrong if we don't have leadership with open communications."

Petrick then continued, "The administration has shown lack of consideration for each of us or the people they dismissed. Wilda (Mayor Diaz) is supposed to give 20 days notice to us (the council) and the person she is going to dismiss. Wilda changed the locks on the city hall doors and didn't give us the keys. We oversee what is going on. The administration created the need for this ordinance. She insulted us."

The Council went to the reading of the resolutions.

DPW Director Frank Hoffman came up to discuss R-285-8/20 – Inserting into the 2020 Budget \$63,456.39 for the Clean Community Grant. "All of this is for recycling. The BID gives money for the mini-sweepers."

OEM Director Larry Cattano came up to talk about R-293-8/20 – Authorizing 12 police officer recruits to attend the Basic Course for Police Officers at the Cape May Police Academy in an amount not to exceed \$30,000

"These officers have graduated and are going there for training. There are between 124-126 officers in Perth Amboy. Based on our population, the amount of officers we should have is 135."

DPW Director Hoffman came up to discuss R-294-8/20 - A proposal to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for two Electric Powered Sanitation Trucks. He explained, "They are rearloaders, and they are automated. Everything associated with them will be covered by a grant. Their charging time is anywhere between 8-14 hours. We are getting \$1 million worth of trucks. We have to scrap 2 of our older trucks. One of our present onearmed-bandits will be used in other parts of town."

Councilman Joel Pabon questioned R-295-8/20 – A contract with Suburban Consulting Engineers for the design engineering specifications bid document and construction inspection for improvement to the Washington Park Project in an amount not to exceed \$3,950.00.

Pabon questioned, "We spent a lot of money on this park, so what is this for?"

Petrick responded, "It's to refurbish the basketball court. The sewer lining work was already done. The money was secured by Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez."

Tashi Vazquez Assistant Director of City's Office of Economic & Community Development came back up to speak, "\$75,000 was allocated for fencing for this park and a bid package is being repaired."

Pabon then suggested, "It's good to do the work while the park is closed."

Vazquez ended the discussion, "The esthetics of the park will be taken into consideration."

Luis Perez Jimenez, Director of Operations at the USA-PA came up to speak about R-300-8/20 — A contract with A&D Industrial & Marine Repair Company for the replacement of well#5 pump, motor and valves in an amount not to exceed \$2,090.00. "The original pump was a stage 3, but this one is a stage 5. This well is 85 feet deep and the state does not allow us to go any deeper."

Perez Jimenez then spoke about R-301-8/20 – A emergency contract with A.C. Schultes, Inc. for emergency repairs at the Runyan Water Treatment Plant – cleaning of the screen and redevelop of well#5 in an amount not to exceed \$25,200.00. "We had to put a camera in the well and we found some clogging on the screen. We cleaned the screen and pump with a brush."

Tashi Vazquez came up to speak about R-302-8/20 — A contract with Ecolsciences, Inc. as a licensed site remediation professionals to conduct additional site investigation services at the former municipal complex at 366 High Street in an amount not to exceed \$30,315.45. "This remediation was started in 2013 and it's our land and our responsibility."

Pabon spoke up, "We need new developers. It's an eyesore to the residents who live there and to anyone who passes by there."

Council President Petrick agreed, "We need to put a "For Sale" sign on the property. Gas and oil tanks have to be removed on the property and remediated."

After the resolutions were read, the Interim Business Administrator Patricia Perkins responded to comments regarding the relationship the council had with former B.A.'s. "I gave my personal cell phone number and my email address to all the council members" She then gave an update of the Covid-19 numbers in Perth Amboy. "The latest report is: we have 2,385 cases with 135 deaths. We have to work together (the council and myself) and with the residents and the businesses to move the city forward."

Council President Petrick asked if anyone had any remarks to make about any of the communications.

Joel Pabon asked to address Communications #4 & #10 which were letters written by resident Stephanie Williams. One letter was regarding addresses 490, 492 & 484 Neville Street complaining about noise, loud music, and fireworks. Her second letter was to the council to take action on the lack of police patrols. Pabon complained, "There is a lack of action regarding our police department."

Councilman Caba also remarked, "We (the council) were inundated with quality of life concerns from our residents. How many calls did the police receive and how many summonses were given out?"

Pabon then added, "The residents are telling the police who the violators are. I need to be filled in because people are blaming us (the council)."

Council President Petrick said, "I'm not blaming Cattano (Deputy Police Chief)."

Cattano then came up and told

the council that Sgt. Simone is handling the case involving the addresses on Neville Street.

Pabon then asked about the lights not working on Elm Street.

Cattano responded, "I contacted the Transit Police and Code Enforcement Director Lozada to get information for me."

Caba then addressed the complaints about Neville Street, and asked to get complaints overall and their results from quality of life issues.

Public Portion:

Resident Ken Balut came up first. He rattled off some of the recent crimes that happened in Perth Amboy, "There was a rape on Madison Avenue and a shooting at the McDonald's parking lot and fireworks in the middle of the street. The manpower is misappropriated. You're paying the former Business Administrator Frederick Carr for three months. Why did Carr leave?"

Petrick stated, "He wasn't getting along with some people."

Balut continued, "The prior B.A. (before Carr) had a relationship problem. At the Yacht Club, someone died. Ciro's had a big party. The Armory had a party, and someone was almost killed."

Petrick spoke up and said, "We may need to have a special meeting about the incident that happened at Seabra's Armory."

Balut concluded his remarks by stating, "These people should be held accountable, and Kushner should not have gotten an extension on his property. Put a "For Sale" sign on it."

Jeremy Baratta came up next. "How many B.A.'s and Law Directors have there been in the past years?"

Petrick responded, "About 10-11 B.A.'s."

Baratta continued, "The turnover is unreal. The shooting at McDonald's, a rape near the police substation (on Madison Avenue), and gunplay all over town. They (the police) take orders from the top. There are several lawsuits going on. People are put in positions they are not qualified for. There are no press releases or anything on Nixle regarding crime. These things are happening in the afternoon. Where is the mayor or the police chief? There are no communications to the public." He then made a comment regarding R-290-20 – A settlement in the mater of John Benyola vs. The City of Perth Amboy in an amount not to exceed \$350,000. "How much is being paid in lawsuits. It is at least \$2 million. She (Mayor Diaz) has no idea how to do her job. There was a disabled car in the middle of Fayette and State Street. A police car went by and saw it and did nothing."

Councilman Fernando was not present at the meeting - excused.

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Public Meetings
Have Your
Voice Heard!

Flooding from Storm Isaias, Perth Amboy

Waterfront 8/6/20 *Photo by Justin Bognar



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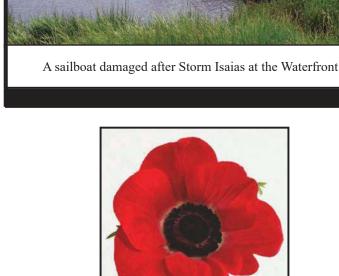
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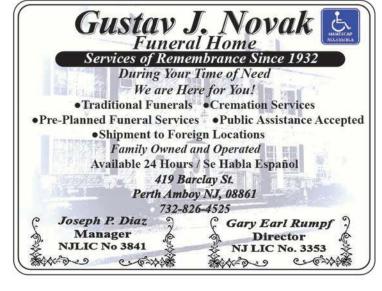












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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Hidden Treasures of Nature in New Jersey



The Great Swamp
*Photos by Katherine Massopust



Sunset Beach, Cape May

New Jersey is blessed with having a beautiful seashore in a multitude of towns. We also have the Pine Barrens which go through 7 counties in New Jersey. New Jersey has all 4 seasons and many beautiful state parks.

This past March I lost my dad. He always loved nature and I'd like to share some of his favorite places to visit. Due to the pandemic, there may be limited hours. Be sure to check if they are open if you plan to go.

1.) The Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, New Vernon, NJ - 973-425-1222. The Great Swamp is open from Sunrise to Sunset. Home to many varieties of birds, snakes, frogs, and insects etc. There are different trails. It's a great quiet place to relax and take in nature. There's beautiful colors there in the fall.

2.) Cheesequake State Park, 300 Gordon Rd., Matawan, NJ

07747 – 732-566-2161 – A nice place to hike and enjoy.

3.) New Jersey Pinelands National Reserve, 15 Springfield Rd, New Lisbon, NJ 08064 – 609-894-7300 – One of my dad's favorites – home to the curly grass!

4.) Nature Center of Cape May, 1600 Delaware, Cape May, NJ 08204 – 609-427-3045 – The center features an observation tower and trails. The center is home to many varieties of birds, butterflies, etc.

5.) Sunset Beach, 502 Sunset Blvd., Cape May Point, NJ 08212 – 1-800-757-6468 – Every evening in the summer (only on Saturdays in September) there is a flag ceremony honoring a Veteran. There is also a great gift shop.

There are many more hidden treasures of nature in New Jersey. Just Google them! Enjoy! *Katherine M*.

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Promises in the Dark

Here's some concerns we have: who will be the next Mayor of Perth Amboy, NJ? Or maybe the current Mayor will be recycled again. Will they keep their promises or is it just a trip

to "Fantasy Land" like always? We all know Perth Amboy became a so-called "Bedroom" city with its overpopulation of housing and overcrowded schools, plus it is not businesses friendly - a known fact. These so-called actors running for Mayor will sell us a good line of propaganda, but I know their

pockets are lined up and friends are promised a nice job. This is nothing new in politics and it is part of the agenda. Most voters are tired of hearing the same old song: "Promises in the Dark". Can they sing a better song?

Orlando "Wildman" Perez

Statement by
Councilman
Helmin Caba
on Appointment
of New Interim
Business
Administrator

Councilman Helmin Caba cited several concerns about the interim appointment. "First, the mayor sprung this temporary appointment on the City Council without warning or prior consultation. The mayor's hasty decision has serious financial repercussions, asking our taxpayers to double-pay for two business administrators," Caba said.

"The city is legally required to pay Mr. Carr nearly \$38,000 for 90 days and now pay Ms. Perkins as an interim replacement. This is another example of wasteful mismanagement and unnecessary turbulence in City Hall that I intend to end," said Caba, the city's Democratic chairman and a mayoral candidate.

COVID And Fear and Hypocrisy -Perfect Together I was under the impression

that wearing a mask plus social distancing was the way to go and what was generally accepted as the way to combat this COVID-19 thing along with washing your hands frequently. I bring this up because I recently saw a sign, (you know the kind of sign that is lit up and flashes messages that are placed around our sleepy little hamlet), at the water front that read; "State of Emergency, Masks Required If Not Six Feet Apart". I thought this odd since I thought masks were required in conjunction with being six feet apart, (social distancing). It may sound similar, but there is a huge dif-

The hypocrisy surrounding this COVID-19 thing astounds me. It seems you can't get a straight answer about it no matter where you turn, at least not the same answer. The CDC says one thing and the NJ Health Dept. says another as does the W.H.O. and the NJ COVID Information Hub, just to name a few. They do however agree on one thing, well almost.

From the NJ COVID Information Hub: Wearing a simple cloth face covering is not a replacement for social distancing. From the W.H.O.: Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and others. Why? When someone coughs, sneezes, or speaks they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If you are too close, you can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus if the person has the disease

From the CDC: "Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The mask is not a substitute for social distancing."

From the NJ Dept. of Health: Wearing a simple cloth face covering is not a replacement for social distancing. Keep six feet between yourself and others whenever possible and avoid crowded areas. Face coverings, social distancing, staying home when you're sick, and good hand hygiene are all vital tools in the fight against CO-

Our City: "Masks Required If Not Six Feet Apart".

VID-19.

Then I saw pictures of the protests from around the world, but basically from our own town. There were people at this protest that were six inches apart no less six feet. Yes, most had a mask on, but still. Then it hit me. You cannot protest and maintain social distancing. Well you can, but it is very difficult, hence the discrepancy in the wording of the sign.

Some would say that you cannot deny people their first amendment right to protest. Oh, but you can deny them the right to practice their religion as they please, which is also protected under the first amendment, that's perfectly fine.

The fear mongers are out in force and they are using fear as a skilled surgeon uses a scalpel. It is only as bad as claimed when it doesn't fit your agenda. When it fits your agenda it is not so bad.

I cannot wait until they come up with an alleged vaccine on November 4th. Will we all be required to be inoculated? Will they make the ones who refuse to take it wear a little CORONA Virus patch so that they will be

easily recognized? Will the people, who are not vaccinated, be allowed to shop or do business with all the vaccinated people? That was done in Nazi Germany only it was a little yellow star that was required to be worn.

If all these regulations work on this new virus, it should also work on the flu and the common cold, right. What is going to happen when the companies that make all of the cold and flu remedies start to loose money? Not saying that would be a bad thing.

The powers that be are going to keep kids out of school. In place of going to brick and mortar schools, the children are going to be taught at home via computer. Well, maybe that is a good thing also. We won't have a need to pay inflated salaries and benefits to the teachers and maintenance people, not to mention retirement benefits, and our taxes will go down. Yea right, our elected officials will just find another way to squander our hard-earned money.

Recently I have heard that some are trying to equate this virus outbreak to the tragedy of 911. Now that beats all. Some have said that they will read the names of people who died from the Virus along with the names of people who were murdered on 911. Hell, how about reading the names of all the people who died of heart attacks, strokes, car accidents, etc.? Their families are grieving just the same, are they not?

It is amazing how fear will influence the thinking of some very smart people. People who are much smarter than I.

Joe Bayona

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October 21

November 4

November 18

December 2

December 16

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

THURS. Aug. 27 Board of Education, 5:30 p.m.
PAHS, Eagle Ave.
WED. Sept. 9 City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m.

YMCA, New Brunswick Ave. 4:30 p.m.

WED. Sept. 9 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.

YMCA, New Brunswick Ave. 7 p.m.

South Amboy WED. Aug. 19

City Hall N Broadway

City Hall, N. Broadway

WED. Sept. 2 City Council, Business, 6 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway

All meetings are subject to change. Check the City Website to see if the meeting will take place via phone conference and for details how to participate

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

SOUTH AMBOY BUSINESS & REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020 6:00 P.M. - 8 P.M.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/838400861

You can also dial in using your phone. United States: +1 (646) 749-3112

Access Code: 838-400-861

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/838400861



Flea Market

SAYREVILLE - The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville has rescheduled their June Flea Market to September 12, 2020. The rain date is September 19, 2020. It will be held in the church parking lot at 172 Main Street (across from Borough Hall) from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. There are also still spaces available for vendors. For more information, please contact us at 732-257-6353 or email: churchoffice172@optimum. net. You can also check out our website at FPCSAYREVILLE.

Please Submit
Community
Events
2 Weeks in
Advance!
Email: AmboyGuardian@
gmail.com

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

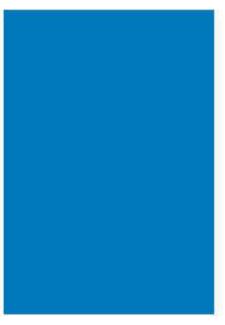
BETTER OVERCOMES ADDICTION



TREATING ADDICTION IS PART OF STAYING HEALTHY AND SAFE.

Addressing addiction is never easy. And lately, triggers for abuse or relapse are more abundant than ever. That's why we've made it even safer for you or a loved one to keep getting inpatient and outpatient care through every level of treatment and recovery.

Hackensack Meridian Health.org/Get Behavioral Care Now





Old Issues Resurface

8/12/20 Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell

PERTH AMBOY - Before the beginning of the regular portion of the August 12, 2020 Council Meeting, Businessman Jeremy Baratta spoke for 10 minutes regarding city taxpayer liability for Business Improvement District Legal Fee. Barata said, "The BID is supposed to be set up to have special taxes paid by the business owners to support them. I've OPRA'd for BID business activities. The records have not been turned over yet. I have a lawsuit against the BID Executive Director. The Executive Director is a city employee. I'm personally suing her, and the city has to defend her. The taxpayers will have to pay the legal bills. Wilda moves employees around and their money. Documents (I requested from the Executive Director) were not presented until she received the lawsuit. There's always the same roster of people on the BID. Their insurance lapsed and they had no coverage. Now, the city is on the hook for the city's legal fees. I'm tired of Wilda picking my pockets. And where is the BID budget? The Executive Director is being sued for not turning over documents."

Baratta then mentioned other lawsuits that the city is still dealing with. One is a lawsuit filed by resident Susan Batista. The city's legal bills are up to \$300,000 and she only asked for a \$30,000 settlement. You (the council) have no insight into the BID's budget. I'm going to draft an ordinance to eliminate the BID. The BID gave out \$10,000 in checks to another BID member and the YMCA."

Councilman Fernando Irizarry spoke up and told Baratta, "We received the BID 2020 budget."

Baratta continued, "I didn't get any of the requested BID paperwork until after Noelia (Exec. Dir.), Wilda, and Barry (BID Chair Rosengarten) got summonses. We are still in court fighting over other documents. Now, I see what they are hiding."

Council President Bill Petrick directed a question to Law Director Peter King asking him if he is defending the BID.

King answered, "The BID employee (Executive Director and who is a city employee) – we have to defend them. The BID has an attorney who is putting the documents together."

Petrick added, "I remember when the BID had a former Executive Director, the BID would provide money to pay for her benefits."

Baratta finished his presentation, "The BID insurance ex-

CITY OF PERTH AMBOY, NJ

pired in 2017 and they didn't renew it until after the lawsuits came in."

The meeting was opened for the public to speak on ordinances on the agenda.

The first person to speak was Former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez who spoke about Ordinance No. 1 – RE: Loading Zone on New Brunswick Avenue. "We are adding too many liquor stores and this is the last thing we need in this town."

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch stated, "This establishment can be zoned for a bar, liquor store, or combination liquor store and bar."

Jeremy Baratta came up to speak next, "This will eliminate all parking in this area. This is an uncontrolled intersection in a well-traveled area. This business should arrange to get their delivery once a week at night."

Former Councilman Ken Balut spoke next, "The problem with loading zones is they should not be for all day." Balut cited that many people just paint yellow lines on the curbs.

Resident Stanley Sierakowski came up next, "I've heard medical personnel say that liquor stores are like pharmacies. You have to keep them open to make the drunks happy."

Resident Eddie Tejada

claimed, "In this block (where the liquor store will be located) there's already a tire shop and an auto shop already located there. They will be taking up to ³/₄ of a city block 24/7. If you pass this ordinance, it will kill businesses."

The next Ordinance that came up for discussion was Ordinance No. 2 – Division of Engineering.

Jeremy Baratta spoke first, "Is it an individual or corporation that is required to have all 4 credentials required by the council?"

Council President William Petrick answered, "The City Engineer, which is an individual person must hold those credentials."

Ordinance No. 1 was moved by Irizarry, seconded by Caba. When it came to vote, all council members voted "No". Ordinance No. 2 was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Pabon. They all voted "Yes". Ordinance No. 3 – Designating restricted parking spaces for use by handicapped persons was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Pabon. All council members voted "Yes".

Ordinance No. 1 (no public discussion) – Restricted parking spaces to be used by handicapped persons regarding additions was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Caba. (All voted "Yes").

Ordinance No. 2 (no public discussion) – An Ordinance entitled: "Administration of Government" RE: Interim Appointments was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Pabon. (Irizarry & Pabon voted "No". Tejeda, Caba, Petrick voted "Yes".)
Public Comments on Agenda

Items Only:

Stanley Sierakowski came up to question R-303-8/20 — Rejecting the illegal dismissal of Frederick Carr as Business Administrator and R-310-8/20 — Authorizing that the Business Administrator be paid in keeping with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-137 & N.J.S.A. 40A:9-138. "Is there anything wrong with the salary range for R-310?"

Petrick responded, "R-310 is referring to former B.A. Frederick Carr and for R-303 – the mayor did not notify the council of her intent, and she is required by state and city statute to do so. We can start a lawsuit, but we don't want to waste taxpayer's dollars."

Sierakowski concluded, "You may have no other recourse."

Ken Balut came up next. He questioned R-293. "Are they (police officers) getting paid overtime for this?" He also mentioned R-291-8/20 - A settlement in the matter of Maria Powell vs. The City of Perth Amboy in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. "The new B.A. is getting \$164,000." Balut then questioned, "What happened to the Accreditation that the police department received, and you all fell for it. Did it save us any money? The police departments are doing birthdays and graduation celebrations. There was a \$150,000 lawsuit involving an ex-police chief. You're

holding the top chiefs to a lower accountability than the lower ranking officers. There are certain select people that get training. There was a female officer who scored high on a test and was skipped over for promotion." Balut also referred to the presentation given earlier in the evening by the Perth Amboy Civic Trust who talked about a public safety improvement policy. "You never had a guy come after you with a machete."

Jeremy Baratta came up next and spoke about interim appointments. "Under this administration, appointments are misused. The council should have time to get to know a new appointee. Advise and consent is passed over. There's a rapid turnover of directors. 60 days is more than enough time to see if you want to keep an interim appointment."

Fernando Gonzalez came up and spoke about the BID. "You need to look at it (the BID). It's no longer serving its purpose. Let them operate on their own. They have a complicated system on who they select. They are not doing anything for the businesses. The administration is using the BID money."

Gonzalez then spoke about R-290-8/20 – A settlement of the matter of John Benyola vs. The City of Perth Amboy in an amount not to exceed \$350,000. "The money payouts of some of the people involved – look a list of the police (involved in these incidents). Some should be on desk duty. Some of the actions on Facebook put out by some members of the police department are embarrassing."

Former Councilwoman Lisa Nanton came up to speak about R-303. "You (the council) ran on holding the line on taxes. The Mayor's behavior is erratic. We are paying two B.A.'s while there are people in line at foodbanks. This is immoral."

Resident Vince Mackiel spoke next about Tropical Cheese who had a presentation at the Monday Caucus regarding their large water/sewer bill. Mackiel handed out material to the council with stats on the finances of Tropical Cheese. "They went threefold on their revenue, yet they stated they couldn't afford their water/sewer bill. The received \$2 million in the PPP (Paid Protection Program) Loan. They made \$100 million. Refer them to the water utility to resolve this issue."

When it came time to vote on the consent agenda, R-254 thru R-264, R-266 thru R-295, R-297 thru R-304, and R-306 thru R-310 was moved by Irizarry, seconded by Caba. (All council members voted "Yes".)

R-265 (A refund of an inactive water/sewer account overpayment to David Caba in the amount of \$219.72) was pulled to be voted on separately by Council President Petrick was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejeda. (All voted "Yes" except for Helmin Caba who abstained (relative).)

R-296 – A contract with Hen-

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
and HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (HOME)

The City of Perth Amboy is planning for the 2020-2024 Five (5) Year Consolidated Plan as part of its application for funding to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the Home Investment Partnership (HOME) programs. These funds may be used to assist persons with low-to-moderate incomes, remove slums and blight, and/or address urgent needs in the City of Perth Amboy.

Two public hearings are being scheduled with community stakeholders/partners and City residents. Due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and following the social distancing guidelines, the public hearings will be via a phone and video conference.

The first community meeting is for collaborating stakeholders/partners, by invitation only scheduled for <u>Thursday</u>, <u>August 20, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.</u>

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83348570556?pwd=aUZYNzljUzJ0VlorVE1Bb1RCS1FXQT09 Meeting ID: 833 4857 0556 Passcode: 011181

Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

The second public hearing is for City residents, scheduled for <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>August 26, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. via a ZOOM meeting:</u>

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88336982195?pwd=Y0wyTkNDVIVqZWNoSG1DbTMrcDdI UT09

Meeting ID: 883 3698 2195 Passcode: 573033

One tap mobile Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

These hearings will assist the City in the preparation of the 2020-2024 Five (5) Year Consolidated Plan. The hearings are designed to obtain views and to respond to questions. Information will be made available regarding application procedures, timing, eligible activities and other regulations in relation to CDBG and HOME, focusing on the City's housing and community development priorities: suitable living environment; provide decent affordable housing and create or expand economic opportunities. These priorities will be reviewed and the public is encouraged to make written or verbal comments.

The draft of the 2020-2024 Five (5) Year Consolidated Plan will be prepared following the closing of pubic hearing meetings, to ensure resident participation is considered and will be made available on the City's website www.perthamboynj.org upon completion. The draft plan will be available for a 5 days public access period adhering to HUD's waiver that provides flexibilities for public participation due to the Coronavirus, COVID-19 Pandemic. The previous five (5) year Consolidated Plan 2015-2019, as well as eligible activities and a comment section will be available on the City webpage leading up to the public hearings, starting on August 14, 2020.

Comments and inquiries can be sent via email to Tashi Vazquez, Assistant Director, Office of Economic and Community Development tvazquez@perthamboynj.org or through mail at 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861.

Wilda Diaz, Mayor City of Perth Amboy

*Continued on Page 9

Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge Opens New Endoscopy Suite



New Endoscopy Suite at Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge.

*Photo Submitted

Press Release 8/3/20

OLD BRIDGE - Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge unveils a new outpatient endoscopy suite. The new suite features larger and more private preparatory and recovery bays, and a waiting/discharge lounge. The new, self-contained suite is part of the hospital's outpatient services located in its Medical Office Building at 2 Hospital Plaza.

"Patients will be able to receive endoscopy care in a new environment designed to provide a more comfortable experience—without having to travel far from home," said Thomas Shanahan, chief hospital executive, Raritan Bay Medical Center "

The new endoscopy suite at Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge provides the most advanced care for all gastroenterology needs, including both complex and routine procedures such as colonoscopies; upper GI endoscopies to diagnose and treat problems in the esophagus, stomach and small intestine; pulmonary bronchoscopies and procedures to diagnose diseases of the gallbladder, biliary system, pancreas and liver. It will also support diagnoses and provide therapies for digestive health disorders such as acid reflux, Crohn's disease, gastritis, peptic ulcers, gallstones, appendicitis, and more.

"The new endoscopy suite's advanced equipment and efficient layout offer an ideal setting in which to provide the highest quality of patient-centered care," said Sanjeev Nayyar, M.D., interim division director, Gastroenterology and president, medical staff, Raritan Bay Medical Center.

Raritan Bay Medical Center Old Bridge is currently undergoing a major revitalization with a \$39 million investment expanding its Emergency Department. The new endoscopy suite is part of that transformation

CASA Online Information Series

NEW BRUNSWICK - CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children 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. We are conducting information sessions for people who would like to learn more about our organization and the role of the volunteer advocate.

CASA of Middlesex County is having online information sessions on the following dates: August 20th at 12 noon; September 3rd at 6 p.m.; September 19th at 10 a.m. These sessions will be held online via Zoom. CASA of Middlesex County Our fall training starts in October, so you still have time to apply for this unique volunteer position. Please join us to learn more about CASA and the role of the volunteer advocate. For more information and to register please email: nora@casaofmiddlesexcounty.org

A.C. Bus Trip San Salvador Seniors

PERTH AMBOY – The San Salvador Seniors are having a bus trip to Caesars Casino, Atlantic City on Thursday, September 3, 2020. Cost: \$30 per person, \$30 back in slot play. Everyone must bring a mask to board the bus. Bus leaves 12 Noon. Bus will depart from behind St. Stephens Church parking lot on Mechanic Street, Perth Amboy. For more info call Joe at 732-826-0819.

L2B> Library to Business

SOUTH AMBOY – L2B seeks to connect job seekers, businesses, and nonprofits of New Jersey with organizations and experts who are actively engaging in business and workforce development webinars. View the CALENDAR for FREE webinars and online training. Click on eRESOURCES for businesses, nonprofit organizations, and economic information. https://libs2b.com/

For more information contact the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library: email: comments@dowdell.org or go to www. dowdell.org

The #FTLO (For the Love Of) Quality Education Team welcomes the Youngest School Board Candidate to its Seasoned Slate.

Press Release 8/15/20

PERTH AMBOY—Perth Amboy residents will have the opportunity to elect the youngest school board member in New Jersey's history on November 3rd 2020. Meet Keryn Morales, a high school student who has joined the #FTLO Quality Education team to run for a seat on the Perth Amboy School Board. Morales joins incumbent Perth Amboy Board of Education member Maria E. Rodriguez, community advocate and businesswoman Sharon D. Hubberman, and lifelong resident and county committeewoman Hattie Harrell. The #FTLO Quality Education slate has over a combined 50 years of community service and offer a multi-generational perspective to help improve the direction of the school district.

Keryn Morales is a highly motivated and socially conscious school board candidate who wants to make a difference in her community: "The reason I want to run for the Board of Education is to help society be better and to make sure education is a number one priority to our lives," said Morales.

Maria E. Rodriguez, who currently serves on the School Board, and is a retired business professional, states that we urgently need a new direction on our School Board: "In order to offer a quality education, a "business as usual" approach will not help our Education system. Our children's success depends on how we embrace new ideas and respond to changes," said Rodriguez. "Our team is about showing our children that opportunity, determination, and commitment are the cornerstone of success, and together our team will help bring much needed attention to areas that can be improved."

Rodriguez continued to stress that the FTLO Quality Education team is well-rounded and will lead through example, "We are very enthusiastic to work together and are eager to inspire more of our youth to reach for the stars just like Keryn."

"It is vital for our community to have school board members who are diligent, professional, and offer a wide and unique perspective," said Hubberman. "Our FTLO Quality Education team will focus on making sure our Educators, and our Students are heard first, and that good programming is enhanced."

Hattie Harrell, a Perth Amboy High School Alumnus, a retired EKG technician, and grandmother to several children in our school system focuses on areas of engagement: "As a future Board member I hope to help improve the quality of communication between the parents and schools," said Harrell. "We need to enhance the quality of the school experience."

You can follow their campaign on facebook @FTLOQualityEducation.

Special Public Council Meeting

August 3, 2020 at 6 p.m.



The Perth Amboy City Council meets at the YMCA 8/3/20
*Photo by Katherine Massopust

By: Carolyn Maxwell

PERTH AMBOY – R-252-8/20 – Authorizing a closed session at the 8/3/2020 meeting to discuss the following: personnel.

Council President William Petrick announced that this meeting was held at the YMCA Auditorium because of unexpected events that recently happened recently so that city residents may attend in person. The meeting was open to the public.

Jeremy Baratta came forth first. He asked about the dismissal of any administration appointments. "Under our form of government (Faulkner Plan B), is there a 20-day notice given to the council."

Petrick answered, "Yes."

Law Director Peter King cautioned the council, "What you are to discuss at this meeting is bound by what you advertised. I will give you guidance on comments by the public."

Attorney JB Vas spoke next and asked, "Is personnel included (speaking about the B.A.)? Was he amicably discharged? The B.A. is in charge of services of day to day functions. Was there a hearing if he (the B.A.)

justifiably terminated or were there other grounds? What was the reason for the discharge? Did you get any email (regarding this)?"

Resident Alan Silber came up next, "On July 15, 2020, I saw pictures online with Mayor Diaz, Jackie Quiles (Deputy Mayor of Community Engagement in Newark), the new Interim Business Administrator Patricia Perkins and they are all sitting two inches apart from each other." Silber then asked if the video photographer (who records the council meetings) gets paid by us.

Petrick responded, "The Mayor insisted that no police or video photographer from the city could film this meeting."

Silber continued and told the council they should watch the video stream of "Hamilton". He quoted one particular line: "If you stand for nothing, you will fall for everything." Addressing those councilmen that are running for mayor, he suggested, "You should worry less about running for that office and concentrate more on standing for something. There are 9 council

members in Elizabeth, and she has been on that council for 28 years."

Former Councilwoman Lisa Nanton came up next, "Are the council members still locked out of city hall?"

Petrick stated, "We don't have keys."

Law Director King spoke up and stated, "I never had a key to city hall, but the council can request keys, or I can request keys for you."

Petrick responded, "We'll have a meeting about where the next meeting will be."

Nanton then questioned Petrick if he found the mayor's behavior appalling.

Petrick responded, "Yes." She then asked King the same

question.

He responded, "I have no opinion. You can only discuss

opinion. You can only discuss personnel matters and nothing else."

The meeting was closed to the

The meeting was closed to the public at 6:20 p.m. The council then went into closed session. The video of this meeting is available at www.amboyguardian.com

Old Issues Resurface 8/12/20 Council Meeting

*Continued from Page 7

ning Lumber Supply Company for materials and supplies on an as need basis for building and repairs in an amount not to exceed \$30,000. R-296 was moved by Pabon and seconded by Irizarry. (All voted "Yes".)

R-305 (Online tax sales by RealAuction.com) was asked to be tabled by Council President Petrick.

After the resolutions were voted on, Council President Petrick asked if any of the council had any questions on any of the communications.

Irizarry spoke first, "Is there any further information from the police department regarding Communication No. 10?" (A letter submitted to the council from resident Stephanie Williams for them to take action on the lack of police patrol)

Interim Business Administrator Patricia Perkins stated, "We need to discuss this in closed session."

Petrick wasn't happy with her response, "We have discussed this issue in public in the past."

Irizarry then continued, "At least the person who wrote the letter identified herself."

Petrick then stated further. "The police should be responding more vigorously. I don't know what the issue is."

Irizarry said, "Some people are living in fear."

Petrick concluded the discussion, "We have to take care of the quality of life issues. This has bee going on for 3-4 years. This would not be going on in other communities.'

Public Portion:

Stanley Sierakowski came up first and questioned if the mayor comes to the meetings. "I also heard the mayor told the directors not to come to the meetings."

Petrick responded, "Some of the directors were here on Monday at the caucus."

Sierakowski continued, "All directors are required to be at Freeholder Meetings. All directors should attend at least one meeting here. 20 years ago, there would be dogs roaming the street, loud noises and screaming, but it would have been dealt with. There were fireworks going on for 3 weeks and nothing was done." Sierakowski made a personal plea and begged the mayor to, "Please come here to the meetings and the directors should be here, too."

Ken Balut came up next. He thanked Councilman Fernando Irizarry for sticking up for the cops. "Politicians hire cops. Zero things happened to a police officer who wrote a sexual harassment letter to a private citizen. Police do their jobs. A judge misfiled paperwork. I complained about Code Enforcement and they wrote up a complaint about my property and that was not even my property. A judge parked illegally at a bank parking lot. I have pictures if you need them. There is misconduct in the court system. We are going to hold police

making \$30,000 a year more accountable than the higherups. It's incompetency of the Police Director. The Yacht Club violated the curfew and social distancing. You are in charge of judges and liquor licenses. Judges and prosecutors are guilty, too."

Jeremy Baratta came up next. "I took pictures of a judge parked in a fire zone at an ATM at a bank in a handicapped spot. There is a misuse of executive sessions. This administration doesn't enforce codes. It doesn't surprise me that people call 40 times about illegal housing. The council has no oversight."

Resident Eddie Tejada came up next. He pleaded that there is a need for a rent leveling board. He talked about a building where his mother lived, and the new owner of that building wanted the rent doubled. "The tenants went to court and got their judgement." Tejada stated that unbeknownst to the tenants and their lawyers, the landlord went to higher court, won his case and the rents were doubled.

Petrick responded and said, "The mayor did not appoint anyone to the Rent Leveling Board."

Law Director King said, "There were notices about vacancies, but no one applied."

Some members that attended the meeting shouted out that they had applied but received no answer.

Petrick continued, "People can still fill out an application for any board. You don't have to wait for a vacancy.'

Interim B.A. Patricia Perkins said, "It's my intention to start a Rent Leveling Board, especially with the pandemic going on."

Eddie Tejada became emotional due to the fact that his mother is up in age and lives in that building. "Perth Amboy agreed with the landlord. Somebody can just come to this city and look at us as a cash cow. Where are the tenant's rights?"

Petrick responded, "Wilda is not for the tenants or property owners."

Tejada continued, "The tenants were not notified when the landlord went to higher court, nor was their lawvers. My mother has to pay \$700 more in

Fernando Gonzalez came up to speak next. He told the council that they didn't know about suits filed against them. "People are placed on boards with no concerns for the citizens. The guy who bought this building overpaid for it. Improvements must be made for rent to be increased. Tell the Mayor to appoint a Rent Control Board."

Attorney JB Vas came up to speak. "I represented a tenant who lives in that building. You have to make substantial improvements to do a rent increase. Having a Rent Control Board is necessary. The city agreed to a rent increase without the tenants being aware of a new judgement."

Vince Mackiel came up next. He told the council, "You should do something regarding the loading zone on New Brunswick Avenue. Be proactive when the vaccines for Covid-19 become available. Make sure the residents get it for free."

Former City Employee Dave Benvola came up next, "In my job, I handled tenant problems by myself for 9 years. If you need my assistance, you have my number to call me." **Council Comments:**

Helmin Caba wanted to thank the new Business Administrator Patricia Perkins for making a point to reestablish a Rent Leveling Board. "The police have been taking a beating this week, but it all starts with leadership. We have a young police force, and bad apples are everywhere. That's why we need ongoing training, accountability, and transparency. Let them walk the beat everyday and everywhere. There are too many quality of life issues. There's a huge gap between the police and the community. The PAL (Police Athletic League) was shut down by the administration. They are not in competition with other youth programs such as the YMCA or other Department of Recreation programs. They (the PAL) offer boxing and wrestling to attract at-risk kids. They are also mother and father figures to these kids. I am not for defunding the police."

Fernando Irizarry stated, "It's been awhile since we had an in-person meeting and I thank Steve Jobin and the YMCA for offering the use of their auditorium." Irizarry then was concerned about the Covid-19 cases going up in Perth Amboy. "A lot of people are not doing their part. Please cooperate and enjoy a safe and healthy summer and have a happy Labor Day."

Joel Pabon made comments regarding the presentation on the Public Safety Improvement Policy given by Harry Pozycki. Pabon praised the de-escalation part of the presentation. "Everyone gets trained and it has nothing to do with the position they are in. We are trying to put things in place so things don't get out of control. It's our job to see why things are not getting done." He then asked for a status report on Second Street Park. He thanked all food providers, some of whom came from out-of-town and out-of-

"The caucus meeting on Monday was 4 hours and people were talking into the mic (during the public portion) without wearing a mask. Find a way that we can also utilize Zoom for all of our meetings. We should be having our meetings at the council chambers. I want to thank Msgr. John Gordon for his service to Perth Amboy. He is going on to serve on Carteret. I want to thank the DPW for the work they did in the cleanup after the recent storm."

Milady Tejeda welcomed new B.A. Patricia Perkins. "When we talk about police training, we are talking about leadership. Training is important to make our police department better and for the citizens. We need answers to all our questions.

thinking about the schools when they reopen and about the kids, parents, and the teachers."

Before Council President William Petrick made his comments, Interim B.A. Perkins wanted to give a status report on crime in Perth Amboy. She stated, "From May 1st thru August 11th there were 15,907 calls. 361 were arrests, 452 disputes, 6 incidents involving shots, 3 were unfounded, 2 arrests made, 1 police shooting, and 125 thefts, 1,454 loud music complaints, 457 complaints regarding fireworks. From the month of May 4,421 calls, June – 4,734; July 4,960. All across New Jersey, there were issues caused by the pandemic. All summer events were cancelled. 6-7 police cars are on duty. The police are doing their job. You can't talk about some cases (crimes) when they are under investigation. Some police have to be retrained or retooled and the pandemic has affected everyone."

Council President Petrick responded to Perkins' crime stats: "Leadership starts at the top. There was a police chief indicted for sexual harassment. The police chief had a birthday celebration using 5-6 police cars and posted it on social media. We are waiting for the next shoe to drop. Councilman Caba made a point when he said we needed to go back to foot patrol. There's a former police officer who goes around the county who talks how to M.O. (Modus Operandi - a learned, dynamic behavior) people. People in the community are suffering because of Wilda's neglect. She loves the job but doesn't do the job. Someone in Wilda's office

came down with Covid-19 and was infecting others."

Perkins spoke up again and reported, "Crime is down 21% from the same time last year."

Petrick asked Perkins to provide daily crime rates, Covid-19 cases, and deaths. "If there is a violent crime, people need to know, and it would not taint the case."

Perkins responded, "The Middlesex Prosecutor's Office makes the calls."

Petrick continued, "We had crime stopper reports to let people know what is going on. Nixle is not up to date on reports. This became chronic before you came here. In the beginning, The Mayor had an open-door policy. Now, that has stopped. We need firm numbers and more of a breakdown of the crime stats."

Perkins then stated that she gave a detailed report and breakdown of the crimes and read some of the stats again.

Councilman Caba spoke up again and disputed what Perkins said about the pandemic stopping a lot of programs. "As far as the PAL program, I recommended getting it back years ago. Crime is down everywhere because of the pandemic."

Perkins spoke up and stated, "The quality of life issues always exist. The rent control is important, and we have to work together. We have to look at numbers in real-time."

Petrick ended his remarks by thanking everyone for their patience and indulgence. "Stay safe and healthy."

The meeting started at 7 p.m. and ended at 10:15 p.m.

Attend Public Meetings Have Your Voice Heard!

Speaker Coughlin on NJ Supreme **Court Ruling on COVID-19 Emergency Bond Act**

Press Release 8/12/20

TRENTON - The New Jersey State Supreme Court today unanimously ruled that the borrowing under the COVID-19 Emergency Bond Act is constitutional and may go forward. Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin released the following statement:

"I am pleased the State Supreme Court unanimously validated the action taken by the Legislature to address the unprecedented needs created by the public health crisis brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

'An unparalleled course of action is necessary. The coronavirus pandemic represents the greatest public health and economic challenge we have faced since the Great Depression, nearly a century ago. Giv-Have a safe summer and I'm ing the compelling nature of the

times we are in, the Legislature took the necessary steps to enable borrowing by the State.

"Our residents face record unemployment, loss of business and difficulty in paying rents and mortgages. The middle class is struggling to make ends

"The State Treasurer has estimated billions in loss of revenue. It's an economic tsunami that requires an extraordinary action. While not ideal, we must borrow the necessary funds through bonding.

"The court's decision provided reasonable measures to guide borrowing. We will work within those parameters and ensure proper Legislative oversight is included. With this, our economic position will be strengthened for both the present and future."

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.

Three of Japanese Emperor Hirohito's family are dispatched to China on August 17 to carry the news of the cease-fire to Japanese troops still fighting there. In the Netherlands East Indies, nationalists Sukarno and Muhammad Hatta declare the independence of the Republic of Indonesia, with Sukarno as President. Dutch colonial authorities do not approve, thus beginning the Indonesian Revolution. Korea is divided along the 38th Parallel, with Soviet troops occupying the country north of the line, and U.S. troops occupying the country south of the line. In France, President de Gaulle commutes the death sentence against 89-year-old Marshal Henri Pétain to life imprisonment because of the former Vichy leader's advanced age and his heroic service to the country in "The Great War."

Most of Manchuria has been overrun by Soviet forces by August 18. A photographer is killed and two crew members are wounded when one of two American Consolidated B-32 Dominators flying over Tokyo on a photo-reconnaissance mission is attacked by 14 Japanese fighter planes. In the U.S., President Truman orders the full resumption of collective bargaining and the production of consumer goods, and the return of free markets. Indian nationalist Subhas Chandra Bose — who aligned with the Japanese in hopes of overthrowing British rule — dies in a plane crash on Formosa.

Japanese forces in South China surrender to the Chinese First Army in Canton on August 19. The Soviet Far Eastern Army captures Harbin and Mukden in Manchuria. Mao Tse-tung and Chiang Kaishek meet in Chungking, China, to discuss an end to hostilities between their two factions. However, before too long, long-simmering hostilities between Chinese Nationalists and Chinese Communists break into the open. Representatives of the Japanese government arrive in Manila to conclude the surrender of the remaining Japanese troops there and to receive instructions from Gen. MacArthur on the plans for the occupation of Japan and the signing of the surrender documents.

After discussions in Manila, the Philippines, on the previous day, 16 Japanese surrender envoys depart for Tokyo on August 20. Gen. MacArthur announces that Allied occupation troops will land on the Japanese mainland within 10 days of the signing of the surrender. In Shansi province, in northern China, fighting breaks out between Chinese Communists and Nationalists. In Oslo, Norway, the trial of Vidkun Quisling begins. The former ruler of German-occupied Norway proclaims his innocence after listening to a 14-page indictment accusing him of high treason, murder and theft of royal property. In London, Ernest Bevin, the British Foreign Secretary, condemns Soviet policy in eastern Europe as "one kind of totalitarianism replaced by another."

The Japanese announce on August 21 that the first landings of Allied occupation troops on Japanese soil will take place on or shortly after August 26th. The government appeals to kamikaze pilots to cease operations. In the U.S., President Truman officially ends the Lend-Lease Program.

Japanese armies in Manchuria surrender to the Soviet Red Army on August 22. The U.S. War Dept. releases an estimate that there are a quarter-million POWs and civilian internees in Japanese hands at present. In the U.S., the government permits amateur radio operators to broadcast over the airwaves once again.

In China, Soviet forces on August 23 capture Port Arthur, taken from Russia by the Japanese in 1905 during the Russo-Japanese War. Japanese forces in Burma say they are ready to surrender now that "the situation has been clarified." The Japanese government announces that U.S. air raids have left 9.2 million people homeless, with 44 cities completely obliterated. In northwestern England, a USAAF B-24 Liberator bomber, attempting to land during a violent storm, crashes into a school and several houses in Freckleton, killing 61 people, including 38 children as well as the three-man crew.

Although honoring orders to cease fire, Japanese commanders in New Guinea and on Bougainville, in the Solomon Islands, on August 24, 1945, say they cannot order their men to surrender until they receive instructions from higher levels of command. The U.S.S.R. and China sign a treaty of alliance. Jews who had fled from Europe to the British crown colony of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean are permitted to depart for Palestine. In London, British Prime Minister Clement Attlee informs Parliament that the United Kingdom is "in a very serious financial position" due to the sudden ending of the U.S. Lend-Lease program.

On August 25, in China, U.S. Army Air Forces Capt. John Birch, leading a party of Americans, Chinese Nationalists and Koreans on a mission to reach Allied personnel in a Japanese prison camp near Xi'an, is killed in a scuffle with Chinese Communist troops. (The widely known, ultraconservative, anti-communist political advocacy group, the John Birch Society, is named for him.) Radio Tokyo reports large numbers of people committing suicide in front of Japan's Imperial Palace. In the U.S., seven German U-boat sailors are hanged at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for the murder of a fellow U-boat crewman, Werner Drechsler, whom they had suspected of being a spy and a traitor. In fact, U.S. authorities had enlisted Drechsler — whose father had been incarcerated in a Nazi concentration camp as a political prisoner — to spy in POW camps. His transfer to a naval POW camp (which was never supposed to happen) was a glaring error; he was killed within hours of arriving.

Soviet troops on August 26 begin occupying the Kurile Islands and the southern part of Sakhalin Island, which stretch between Japan and the far-eastern U.S.S.R. Chinese Nationalist forces enter Shanghai and Nanking ahead of the Communists.

The Allied fleets anchor in Sagami (Tokyo) Bay within sight of Mount Fuji on August 27. Adm. William Halsey, commander of the U.S. Third Fleet, is present for what is probably the greatest display of naval might in history. The armada includes 23 aircraft carriers, 12 battleships, 26 cruisers, 116 destroyers and escorts, 12 submarines and 185 other vessels. In addition to American and British ships, there are vessels present from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the Netherlands. Japanese envoys arrive at Rangoon, Burma, to carry out surrender arrangements there. In Hong Kong, instructions have been given to the Japanese garrison to surrender to Rear Adm. Cecil Harcourt of the British Royal Navy.

Japanese armies in Burma surrender in ceremonies held at Rangoon on August 28. In Nuremberg, Germany, 24 former Nazi officials are indicted as war criminals per a list drawn up by a "Four Power" Commission that had met in London. Hermann Göring heads the list. Rudolf Hess, formerly deputy to Hitler, who has been a prisoner in Great Britain since May 1941, is next, followed by Martin Bormann, the secretary of the National Socialist Democratic Workers (Nazi) Party, who had disappeared from the *Führerbunker* in Berlin. An advance team of 150 U.S. Army personnel, led by Col. Charles Tench of Gen. MacArthur's personal staff, debarks from an aircraft at Atsugi airfield outside of Tokyo to perform the groundwork for the Allied occupation of Japan.

The American battleship *USS Missouri* arrives in Tokyo Bay on August 29. The Red Army announces that it has captured 513,000 Japanese prisoners in its Manchurian campaign.

Allied forces come ashore in the Tokyo area on August 30. The U.S. Army's 11th Airborne Division arrives at Atsugi airfield, while the 4th Marine Regiment of the U.S. 6th Marine Division lands at the naval base at Yokosuka. They are the first occupation troops to set foot on the main islands of Japan. Gen. of the Army Douglas MacArthur flies in from Manila to organize the occupation. (The occupation of Japan by American troops will continue until April 28, 1952.) A British Royal Navy force under Rear Adm. Cecil Harcourt liberates Hong Kong. British Royal Marines clash with Japanese suicide detachments in isolated and sporadic fighting in the territory.

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Tossin' for Mike

Cornhole Tournament & Fundraiser

SOUTH AMBOY - On Sunday, August 23, 2020, the Independence Engine and Hose Company of the South Amboy Fire Department will be hosting a benefit Cornhole tournament. One of our lifelong and most active members, Michael Coman passed away shortly after being diagnosed with metastatic kidney cancer. Mike was a career firefighter for the Lyons VA Medical Center and retired as Deputy Chief. As a lifelong resident of South Amboy, he has volunteered with the fire department for over 37 years. He served throughout the ranks of several companies over that time attaining the position of Chief of the Department in 2003-2004. Mike was a NJ Certified EMT and a Level 2 Fire Instructor at the Middlesex County Fire Academy.

He was also a married family man with two sons who have followed in their father's footsteps and joined the South Amboy Fire Department.

We are asking our community and fellow brothers and sisters to help us with our efforts to support Mike's family in their time of need. All funds raised from this day will go directly to Mike's family to help cover medical costs. Anything you can provide to help us make this day possible would be immensely appreciated.

Donations can be made out to: Independence Engine & Hose Co #1

and mailed to: c/o Mike Toth, 14 Haven Terr, Parlin, NJ 08859

& Now: Perth Amboy!

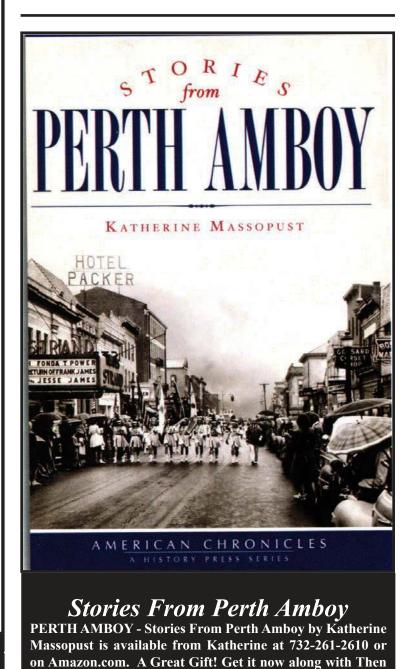
If you prefer to provide goods or services please reach out to our president Mike Toth at 908-930-3497 so arrangements can be made for pickup or delivery of your goods, services, gift cards, etc.

If you wish to participate in the tournament, teams of two players are \$100 and include two commemorative t-shirts. If you wish to show up the day of in support of Mike admission is \$20 and kids under 12 are free. Please see the included flyer for more information.

Thank you for your support and generosity in helping us with this great cause and supporting one of our own. Mike has been there for all of us over the years and now is the time for all of us to step up and show him we are there for him too in his time of need.

Thank you, Michael Toth President, Independence Engine & Hose Co #1 908-930-3497 Mtoth1@optonline.net

If attending the Tossin' for Mike cornhole tournament: Sunday, August 23rd from 10am to 5pm. Rain date is set for Sunday, August 30th. Location will be at Enterprise Truck 8 firehouse, 107 George St. in South Amboy. All parking will be behind the firehouse in the school parking lot. First and second place cash prize, food, soda, beer, 50/50, raffles, and a good time for a great cause.



Wilda Diaz to Run for New Term as Mayor of Perth Amboy, Junior Iglesias, and Bernadette Falcon-Lopez join the Team Wilda Diaz 2020 slate for the Perth Amboy City Council

Press Release 8/17/20 PERTH AMBOY - Today, Wilda Diaz announced she is running for re-election as Mayor of Perth Amboy. She is running for a fourth term with an undisputed record of accomplishment as Mayor that has put Perth Amboy at the forefront of fiscal responsibility, job creation, development and community investment. She is running with two recognized local leaders as her running mates; Junior Iglesias and Berny Falcon-Lopez who are running to become members of the City Council of the City of Perth Amboy.



Pastor Bernadette Falcon-Lopez, Mayor Wilda Diaz, Junior Iglesias *Photo Submitted

"I'm proud of all the many achievements of our administration. We have focused our work on making sure our City's resources are used to help our community directly," stated Mayor Diaz. She specifically highlights the following accomplishments:

1. "Our aggressive response to help Perth Amboy residents during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Thousands of Perth Amboy residents have been pushed to their limits, financially and health wise. One of our first missions was to ensure that every family had enough to eat. You can't stay healthy if you don't eat, and you can't buy enough food to eat right if you've lost your job. We've worked in partnership with community organizations to provide thousands and thousands of free meals and groceries per week to any Perth Amboy resident who needs help. Between the schools and our community efforts, Perth Amboy has distributed over 250,000 meals, so far, this year.

Further, we've instituted an aggressive coronavirus safety education program including strong social media messaging and electronic signs throughout the town reminding people to wear a mask and to social distance. Our fight to end this pandemic is far from over, and I am committed to continue to provide the support and necessary vital services that residents will need during the pandemic.

2. Second, our commitment to fiscal responsibility and discipline allows our City to create a surplus, or "rainy-day fund", in the city budget. This surplus has allowed us to continue to provide necessary vital services to residents during the pandemic and to aid our small business owners with grants to use in order to prepare for re-opening during this crisis. Fiscal responsibility is about making sure we have the funds to help citizens when needed. I am committed to continue doing so during this crisis.

3. Third, is our development of brownfields, formerly polluted sites that we have been developed into tax paying, and job creating businesses. We've reclaimed sites that no one said could be developed including hundreds of union jobs, and long-term local living wage jobs for city residents.

We've done all this and more while stabilizing taxes and receiving an A+ rating from (who) Understand, though, I'm not running on what I've done, but on what needs to be done to make sure we come back stronger from this pandemic.

We need to be prepared for a second wave of the coronavirus which will tax us even more than the current wave. We have already begun preparing for this. This will impact us like no other crisis before us. We need to ensure that people have food, housing and utilities during the coming months. We need to be ready and we need steady and responsible leadership in our City Council to do so.

That is why I am glad that two community leaders have accepted the challenge of public service and are running for City Council with me.

Junior Iglesias, a public school teacher for 12 years, is Vice Chair of the Board of Education and Chair of the BOE Finance Committee. He also serves as the Perth Amboy Board of Education's Urban Schools Delegate. Heavily involved is his community, Junior was co-founder and served as Vice Chair of the Perth Amboy Soccer Club. Mr. Iglesias was, also, Secretary of the Perth Amboy Democratic Organization. He holds a master's degree in childhood education.

Pastor Bernadette Falcon Lopez is Senior Pastor at God's Armies Ministries of New Jersey. As Program Director of the Center for Support Success & Prosperity, "Pastor Berny", as she is affectionately known, provides services for the homeless and those in danger of being homeless, as well as entitlement program assistance and job readiness and self-sufficiency programs. She, also, provides mentorship, educational, employment, parenting classes, financial literacy and soft skills for pregnant and parenting youth.

As a member of the Perth Amboy Police Chaplaincy, she is trained in suicide prevention awareness, domestic violence awareness, crime scene response and preparedness. She is Coordinator of the Perth Amboy Domestic Violence Response Team.

Mayor Diaz is the first woman elected Mayor of the City of Perth Amboy, the first Puerto Rican female Mayor in the USA, and the longest serving female Mayor in NJ of a city above 30K citizens. Mayor Diaz Biography https://www.perthamboynj.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=11205008&page Id=15245495

Speaker Coughlin on Recent Reports on Long-Term Healthcare Industry

Press Release 8/14/20

TRENTON – Speaker Craig Coughlin (D-Middlesex) issued the following statement on the recent investigative report on the long-term healthcare industry and CareOne:

"Covid-19 pandemic has brought to light the many inefficiencies in the long-term healthcare system in our state. Recent investigative reports involving Care One reveals a system overwhelmed and unable to handle critical care for our elderly and disabled. The stories were infuriating and heartbreaking to learn.

"We have taken a step toward addressing statewide concerns in the Legislature and listen to families and professionals in the industry. The bottom line is that there is a serious problem with long-term healthcare and more must be done to help the patients in these facilities. I commend Senator Joseph Vitale and Assemblywoman Valerie Huttle for their leadership on the joint committee looking at the long term industry. I look forward to their efforts resulting in meaningful reforms."

Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation Welcomes New Trustee

Press Release 8/10/20 PERTH AMBOY, NJ – Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation is pleased to announce the addition of Laura Bianchini to the Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees.

"We are thrilled to welcome Laura to the board of trustees," says Joseph Stampe, president and chief development officer, Hackensack Meridian – Meridian Health Foundation, to which the Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation belongs. "Laura is a vital part of the construction team for the new Emergency Department at the medical center's Old Bridge campus, which will be incredibly beneficial as we work to raise \$5 million towards this historic renovation project for Raritan Bay Medical Center and the community."

Bianchini is the vice president and director of projects for Almasi Companies, a mutigenerational construction company specializing in site work, utility installation, soil remediation and material delivery. She manages all phases of Almasi's construction projects, responsible for preparing and administering project budgets, negotiating contracts, quality and cost control and client relations. Additionally, she approves expenditures and payroll, develops and implements jobsite policies and procedures and organizes all project documentation. Bianchini supervises and evaluates all jobsite employees and subcontractors, administers safety control and ensures compliance of government regulations. She also oversees various other aspects of Almasi, including customer service, communications, sales and marketing.

"I am truly excited to be part of this fantastic board of trustees and to have made a gift in support of the new Emergency Department," says Bianchini. "Working with the team literally building the future of health care for Old Bridge is inspiring. Many of the tradespeople working with Almasi on the project live locally and this Emergency Department will serve as the place they bring their own families to receive emergency care.



Laura Bianchini

It is personal to me and I look forward to serving the community with my fellow trustees."

Bianchini will work with fellow trustees, as well as Michael Eagan, M.D., chair of emergency medicine at Raritan Bay Medical Center, and Timothy O'Brien, who are co-chairs in the efforts to raise funds in support of the new Emergency Department.

The funds raised for this project all contribute toward a \$150 million fundraising goal as part of Meridian Health Foundation's Giving Heals campaign. Giving Heals supports four important initiatives: strengthening oncology services, improving clinical outcomes, enhancing the patient experience and broadening clinical research and academic programs at the following Hackensack Meridian Health medical centers in Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean counties: Bayshore Medical Center, Jersey Shore University Medical Center, K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital, Ocean Medical Center, Raritan Bay Medical Center in Old Bridge, Raritan Bay Medical Center in Perth Amboy, Riverview Medical Center and Southern Ocean Medical Cen-

To learn about how you can make a gift to Raritan Bay Medical Center or to the Giving Heals campaign, please call Linda Hill, executive director, Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation, at 732-324-5376, or visit www.Hackensackmeridianhealth.org/givingheals.

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Residential Paper Shred Program

MIDDLESEX COUNTY – Middlesex County will be having their Residential Paper Shred Program on Saturday, August 22, 2020 in the South Amboy Middle/High School Parking Lot, 200 Gov. Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. This is a free program for county residents.

Recycle your old confidential files safely and securely! Limit of 5 file boxes or 100 pounds

per car.

Residents must wear face coverings, keep their vehicle windows closed and stay in their vehicles at all times. Please have your materials in your trunk, cargo area or truck bed, easily accessible to our staff, who will remove it from your vehicle.

For more information call 732-745-4170.

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Call Carolyn @ 732-896-4446

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

Call For the Plan Which Will Best Suit Your Needs.

732-896-4446

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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

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Portuguese restaurant. Please call 908-616-3540 8/19 For Sale	Movano Watch SS Museum Style Mint Condition \$75 Firm. 732-540-5351	Lionel Electric Train Transformer KW 190 Watts. Excellent Condi- tion \$65 - 732-727-8417
Solar Pool Cover Roller - Easy to use 16 x 32 - \$75 - 732-236-4479	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
Lighted Three Piece Wall Unit Plenty Storage - Excel- lent \$75 - 732-238-8439	Brand New Electric Heater Radiator. Was \$65 Now \$20 New Never Used. 732- 547-7406	Dining Hutch - Wood - Good Condition \$50 - Self Pick-up 732-826-6324
Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975	Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Free Firewood. Must pick up and cart away. 732-826-8024
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GPS Tom Tom - 3 pcs Stereo System - Dog Bed \$65 ea. 732-293-0151	Air Conditioner, LG Used - like new - 5200 BTU - \$50 - Each (two) 732-636-3345	Girl's Bicycle 24" Panosonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or
1 Large Christmas Tree \$25; 1 Small \$15; Lounge Chair \$15 - 732-297-4457	Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5 th Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-	B.O. 908-501-3993 Sissy Bar and Pad for Harley Sportster - Great Con-
Older New Toy Trucks Su- noco, Exxon, Mobil Hess \$20 Each or B.O 732- 316-5092	Portable Singer Sewing Machine \$35; Shower Doors \$20 - 44"x 29 1/4"	dition \$65 - 908-590-8885 Power Lift \$75. Wing Chairs, Sofa, End Tables, Lamps, Microwave \$10-
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Sled \$25; Sports Memora-

bilia \$10; Dream Catcher

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CUURDIU

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 confi- Name dently place myself and all my concerns under your care and Address protection. I ask that, through Phone_(__ your powerful intercession with God, you obtain for me all Initials at end of prayer_ the help and graces that I need for my spiritual and temporal welfare and in particular, the Please circle one prayer, and return special favor I now ask there form with check or money order to: 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.*

Cost \$10. Pre-payment required.

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

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. Clare For Employment

Prayer To Blessed Mother Prayer To Holy Spirit

Prayer To Blessed Virgin Thanksgiving Novena

Pray The Rosary St. Jude Novena

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 St. Jude

To be said when problems arise or when one seems to be deprived of all visible help, or for cases almost despaired of.

Most holy Apostle, St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor who delivered our beloved Father into the hands of His enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the Church honors and invokes you universally, as the patron and invokes you universally, as the patron of hopeless cases, of things almost despaired of. Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Make use I implore you, of that particular privilege given to you, to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations and sufferings, particularly (Here make your request) and that I may praise God with vou and all the elect forever. I promise, O blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor, to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen.

Thank you, Saint Jude I.N.S.

Prayer St. Jude

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Thank you, Saint Jude K.M. & C.M.

Petition to St. Jude

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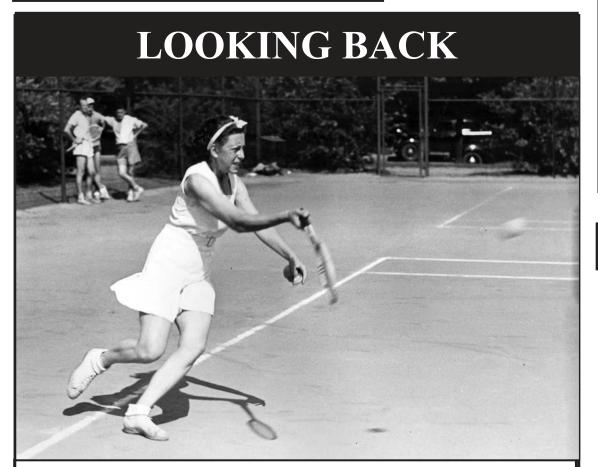
Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.

Thank you, St. Jude D.A.B.

Remember to Say Your Novenas!

Answers From Puzzle On Page 15



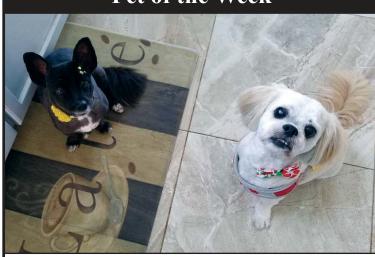


PERTH AMBOY –Tennis at the Waterfront- 1960's.

*Photo Submitted

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

Pet of the Week



Baby Girls Mimi & Perla, Love Leslie & Jose

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.

Unmasked by Mr. Toney Lee

Forty seven miles and a lifetime away
Thank God I've moved on
A hundred and twenty better days
Bad times critical situations
Energy I'll soon forget
Moments drift in and out of my mind
Time heals regret
I guess
To what was then
To what is now
I'm thankful for the journey
Any how
Irreconcilable differences
Was the name of the game

Was the name of the game
Some fault but no shame
Cause the outcome
Inevitably was always going to be this way
Now the past is the past

As the sands of time
Keep blowing away
To a new vista
To a new beginning
In a land far away

So goodbye
And may God bring you much happiness
cause not only will we survive
I'll thrive

On this life's road
To more success
So you see
The future is now unmasked.

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CITY OF PERTH AMBOY THE HONORABLE MAYOR WILDA DIAZ



Join our growing team! Grow your Home Depot career by exploring General Warehouse Associate and management roles in our new Flatbed Distribution Center! FDCs deliver products to our Pro costumers directly to their job sites. The Home Depot is committed to the community of Perth Amboy through our plans to open two facilities over the next year. We look forward to bringing essential jobs to this community.

OVERVIEW

Flatbed Distribution Centers (FDC) focus on delivering bulk items, such as lumber, building materials, ladders, etc., to our customers and stores. FDCs are unique in that flatbed trucks drive into the building to be loaded and unloaded. Trains also run on tracks into the building to allow for speedy unloading.

This new mix of equipment and systems means new career opportunities.

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

General Warehouse Associates (GWA)
GWAs are responsible for picking, packing, and loading trucks with the orders that our

customers place online.

General Office Associates (GOA)
GOAs provide customer service by
troubleshooting online orders and help with
other office tasks.











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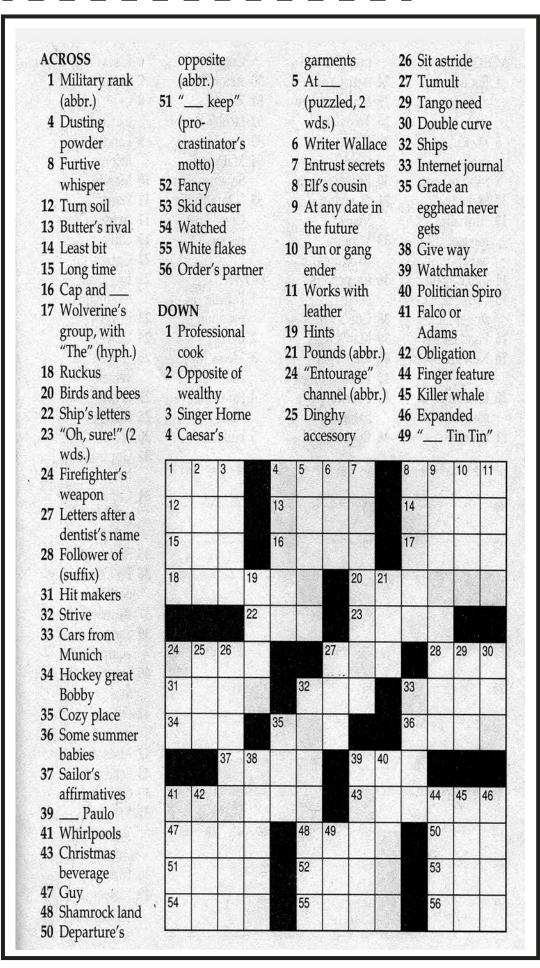
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OLD BRIDGE - Enjoy peace of mind in this stunning 4 bedrooms 2.5 baths. lots of storage 3 car garage 9'x8'doors, beautiful Salt water in-ground pool. parklike yard, tiki bar, large finished basement. Florida room, fire place, beautiful kitchen with many upgrades and granite counter tops, 2 zoned A/C units,6 zone baseboard Heating unit, 14 kilowatts generator, multiple sheds, close to all majors highways Rt9, Rt34&35 and Parkway a must see; too much to mention. \$649,000



PERTH AMBOY - Great two-family house well-kept in the family for many years. separated utilities, large apartments, great investment, great location close to shopping and most public transportation. \$425,000



PERTH AMBOY - Looking to buy a new construction house? You got it! close proximity to shopping, schools, entertainment and recreation. Minutes from major routes, 2 tory home. Brand new from top to bottom. Central AC Harwood floor and Ceramic, granite, 2 car garage and more. 2 Brand new houses one next to the other one. \$415,000



PERTH AMBOY - Pool and all appliances freezer, refrig, dryer, washer, D/W, micro and stove as is condition. May be able to fit a small car in the driveway. **\$269,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great potential needs some work large apartments is being sold in AS IS condition. Buyer is responsible for all repairs and C/O. \$365,000



PERTH AMBOY - Move in condition. Well-kept single family. Must sign seller's and buyer's hold harmless and release regarding COVID-19. Central air. \$239,000



PERTH AMBOY - WOW only minutes from Staten Island, shopping malls, freeways and downtown business district you will find this delightful 1-bedroom high ceilings bright, airy very charming and contemporary condo. A must see. \$145,000



PERTH AMBOY - Nice beautiful two-family house with lots of potential. \$439,900



BURLINGTON TWP - Potential Short sale - this 4 bedroom 1-1/2 bath home located on cul-de-sac in a well-manicured neighborhood with loads of potential. Unique floor plan with large open kitchen. home features lots of closets and storage. needs some TLC. Buyer responsible for CO and all repairs and termite cert. Short sale subject to third party approval. 50% commission split subject to lender approval. \$199,900