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Going Around in Circles 9/23/20 Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – During the public comments, resident Ken Balut came up to talk about Resolutions R-349-9/20 thru R-352-9/20 (settlements filed by Landings at Harborside LLC for various properties). Balut insisted that whoever who did the tax appeals did it wrong. “One of the tenants was given a summons for not having a firewall. It is Kushner’s responsibility and why are there no amounts listed for the settlements? It’s really sad what Kushner gets away with.” He then went on to talk about R-359-9/20 - Adopting the personnel policy manual revised as of September 18, 2020. “Does this include judges, chaplains, business administrators, and other administrative hiring’s? What about sexual harassment? A judge dismissed (sexual harassment) charges without a hearing. No one wants to handle sexual harassment charges. There were no penalties for someone who wrote sexual harassment letters. Can the public see the Best Practices/Personnel Manual? Don’t pass this resolution until the public views the manual?”

Resident Alan Silber came up next to talk about the same resolution. “When was the manual put up for the public to see? Was it in the backup material on Monday? The public couldn’t even ask questions. Did the Former Business Administrator (Frederick Carr) work on this policy?”

Council President Bill Petrick answered, “Yes. There’s a possibility that the personnel manual was late because of Carr being let go. The manual is also 117 pages long.”

Silber then continued, “There was no continuity and instability because of personnel being changed.”

Interim Business Administrator Patricia Perkins spoke up, “Only a few abbreviated changes were made - not the full manual.”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch said, “The latest changes in the manual were not available until today for me to distribute to the council.”

The council voted on the ordinances: Ordinance No. 1 – Renovations to the Parking Deck and Parking Utility; Ordinance No. 2 & 3 – Bond Ordinance for the water/wastewater utility improvements; Ordinance

No. 4 – Bond Ordinance for various capital improvements; Ordinance No. 5 – Designating handicapped restricted parking spaces for handicapped persons; Ordinance No. 6 – Salary and salary ranges regarding Blue Collar Teamsters Local#27. (First Reading) were all moved by Councilman Fernando Irizarry and seconded by Councilman Joel Pabon.

For the consent agenda: R-345 thru R-348; R-353 thru R-358; R-360, R-361, R-363, R-366, R-368 thru R-370 was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Pabon. R-349 thru R-352 (Landings Settlements) and R-367 (Change Order to contract of Maser Consulting for the Raritan River Park Green Acres Project in an amount not to exceed \$36,000) were asked to be pulled by Councilwoman Milady Tejada. When it came to vote, R-349 thru R-352 was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Pabon. Tejada was the only council member to vote “No” on R-349 thru R-352. Pabon made a comment that he had talked to people in Code Enforcement and there were 6 fines pending on these properties. Petrick also made a statement regarding these resolutions, “The reason I voted “yes” is the tax assessor stated that if the city had to go to court, it would cost us more money.”

For R-367, Tejada asked, “What was the reason for the change order?”

Petrick explained that it was in the backup material.

B.A. Perkins then stated, “It has to do with abutment by Conrail or New Jersey Transit.”

Law Director Peter King had additional comments and stated, “That additional property had been discussed.”

Council President Petrick then added, “It had to be determined what property was under the Department of Transportation. Surveys were needed for the mason to do other plans. Most of the property is a parking lot and this is off Riverview Drive.”

R-367 was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Tejada. All voted “Yes”.

Irizarry had asked that R-359 (Adopting the Personnel Policy Manual) be pulled to be voted on separately. The council had many concerns.

Irizarry said, “We got the manual on Friday and the rest I

got on Monday. I will not vote on something handed to us at the last minute. Our financial situation is not good.”

Petrick said, “It is 117 pages and most of the documents were revised.”

Caba said, “We need more time to review the manual because there are too many pages.”

Irizarry wanted to know if the chaplains and all city employees would be under the guidance of this personnel manual.

Law Director Peter King said he didn’t know.

Irizarry asked, “Are the chaplains considered city employees?”

Interim B.A. Perkins said she would confirm if the chaplains were city employees and whether or not they are paid.

Irizarry moved to table R-359 and it was seconded by Caba. All voted “yes” to table.

Petrick stated, “I don’t know if the chaplains receive stipends. I think they get badges.”

Irizarry asked, “Are they under the personnel policy?”

Law Director King explained that the policy is put out by the city’s insurance policy which you can go on the city’s website to view.”

For R-362 – Renewal of certain plenary retail consumption licenses, club licenses, and distribution licenses effective September 24, 2020.

Petrick stated that these licenses cannot be renewed until after their hearings, so it was voted on to table that resolution. Irizarry moved and Caba seconded. R-362 was tabled.

The topic of the Personnel Policy Manual was still a hotbed. Irizarry asked, “Is there a sexual harassment clause in the policy?”

Petrick stated, “We need to make sure the administration follows up on these cases (sexual harassment).”

Law Director King then rattled off some of the resolutions on these cases: “Some of these employees were terminated. The Police Department has more stringent policies and a hire-up was taken to court and terminated.”

Petrick asked if there is anything in the policy regarding whistleblowers.

King responded, “We review their statements and have them file complaints if necessary. It depends on the circumstances



Councilman
Fernando Irizarry



Council President
William Petrick

(if it is verbal or physical abuse or a combination of both). We need to separate the two parties involved for safety sake. You want all complaints reviewed. We need to make sure everything is reviewed due to liability issues.”

Public Portion:

Resident Ken Balut came up first. He questioned the responsibility of who transfers people in the library. “The Library Board of Trustees were in charge of personnel. The chaplains are very important. Everyone should be held accountable. The Personnel Manual is not proper. You are always getting last minute stuff. There is no accountability for people who act irresponsible. High ranking people are not being held accountable. The bottom of the barrel is always taking the brunt. The mayor yelled at former B.A. Fehrenbach. You should start investigating judges. Another employee had an illegal lottery. One of the prosecutors gave me the finger.”

Law Director King spoke up, “The municipal prosecutor falls under the present personnel manual. It doesn’t address citizen complaints and we are looking to make a change to this. One of the previous Law Directors (Mark Blunda) had been working on the personnel manual.”

Balut concluded his remarks, “The council can investigate the top moneymakers not being held accountable. This needs to stop.”

The next speaker was Mr. Tejada who spoke about the building his mother resides in and the rent had been doubled. “The owner of this building (Candyland LLC) is suing the

city.”

Petrick responded, “The mayor appoints members to the Rent Leveling Board.”

Tejada continued, “We got a call from the city saying that the court settled the case along with the council.”

Petrick then went on to explain that the council creates the legislature for Boards and the mayor assigns who is on the Boards. The lawyer (who represented the tenants of the building) should be able to explain this to them. You and your mom can be on the Rent Leveling Board.”

Mr. Tejada then asked, “Who represented the city?”

Law Director King replied, “I did.” King then continued, “Candyland LLC which owns the building proved why rent had to be increased, and the judge made the final decision. (JB) Vas (the tenant’s attorney) is a very good attorney.”

Mr. Tejada then stated, “Candyland never made any improvements to the building.”

Petrick then stated, “Your attorney should have filed the proper paperwork.”

Pabon then spoke up, “The decision (by the judge) was based on no one following up. You could go to the post office to see if the tenants got certified letters regarding the court date.”

Petrick continued, “The only remedy is to go to the court system because we have no power to help you.”

Tejada said, “I am concerned, because if it can happen to us, it can happen to anyone.”

Petrick countered, “It will be the Rent Leveling Board who can help if it is ever created and

*Continued on Page 8

What Lies Ahead

9/21/20 Caucus

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – Before the start of the Caucus Meeting, Council President Bill Petrick announced that Councilwoman Milady Tejada would not be able to attend. Because of her work schedule, she requested if the starting time for the Caucus could be changed to begin at either 5:30 p.m. or 6 p.m.

Councilman Joel Pabon started off the meeting with a question on road improvements taking place. “Will we be doing Kushner’s property this year or next year?”

DPW Director Frank Hoffman came forward, “We hope that road improvements (which will include milling) will be this year.” Hoffman warned that if the temperature falls below 40o, the materials used cannot be put in place.

Council President Bill Petrick asked if the city put a lien on Kushner’s tax bills.

Law Director Peter King responded, “We are going after the bonds on the Kushner properties.”

Pabon then talked about pavers missing and the lights are still not working on the large buildings that we knocked down that the contained the models for the Landings condos.

Petrick then said, “The administration is responsible for this matter.”

Pabon continued, “It’s also pitch dark in that area.”

Interim Business Administrator Patricia Perkins stated, “We can see if bond money can be used to get the lights fixed.”

Frank Hoffman came up to answer Councilman Fernando Irizarry’s question regarding work to be done on Hall Avenue. “There will be no paving or milling. We will be working on sidewalk improvements.”

Council President Bill Petrick explained why 2 contractors were awarded bids for lumber and supplies. Continental Hardware Inc. was the main contractor, and the backup supplier was Henning Building Supply (in case Continental Hardware Inc. ran out of needed supplies). An example he gave was when a main supplier ran out of materials after Superstorm Sandy aftermath. “We need a backup supplier just in case we have an emergency such as this.”

Interim Business Administrator Patricia Perkins answered a question pertaining to bids for a stair tower reconstruction at the Perth Amboy Public Library with alternates. “This will include an elevator and a lift.”

Bill Petrick then questioned if the company who won the bid (H&S Construction and Mechanical) can do this job. The backup material that we received on this company looks good.”

A representative for H&S construction came forward to speak who is an architect in Trenton. “H&S has done a lot of construction work with community colleges, municipalities, and mechanical work. They will not have to hire subcontractors and they are qualified by the state to do masonry and steelwork which was a challenge for the old contractors. The first masons who started the job were replaced by a second contractor.

That second contractor could not match the materials used by the first contractor. When we looked at what was being done to the building, there was no need to tear it down. There were no existing drawings from the original building.”

Councilman Fernando Irizarry then spoke up and stated, “We (the city) have a liability and a fire hazard, and I’m concerned about the quality of work and safety issues. Are we working under the current subcode and in a 6-month timeframe?”

DPW Director Frank Hoffman fielded that question, “There had been some leaking affecting the children’s department which was fixed.”

The representative from HSM also spoke up, “The boilers were fixed in the children’s room.”

The next item discussed was Ordinance No. 1 – Renovations so to the Parking Deck on Jefferson Street.

Irizarry questioned, “What improvements are to be made?”

Petrick responded, “There were spots in the ceiling that were falling and holes in the ramps.”

Interim B.A. Perkins said, “These cracks need to be repaired before the winter comes in.”

CFO Jill Goldy came in to respond to Irizarry’s question regarding long term improvements and repairs for the parking deck. “\$115,000 would be used.”

Irizarry continued, “The cleaning of the decks and staircases are needed because they are very dirty, and urine infested. The trash has been accumulating and money is needed for cleaning on a regular basis.”

Goldy then mentioned that there are cameras that are placed in the parking deck.

Councilman Pabon spoke up and stated, “There is an office right there (under the parking deck) and people can see the stairwell from the street. Someone should be checking those stairwells everyday (to make sure they are clean).”

Petrick then added, “We need cameras to monitor all parts of the deck, including parking spaces, the cashier’s office. The ticket agents should check the stairwells.”

There was a question regarding Ordinance No. 3 – A bond for various water/wastewater utility improvements appropriating \$3,790,000 and issuing \$2,930,000 bonds or notes of the city to finance part of the cost.

CFO Jill Goldy explained, “There are minor operating costs and major costs that are in the ordinance.”

Director of Operations at the USA-PA (Utility Service Associates Perth Amboy) Middlesex Water Company) Luis Perez Jimenez added some comments regarding this bond, “We have to do a Treatability Study to see a different treatment is needed for the Runyon System. The last Treatability Study was done in 1995. We have to make sure that the chlorine is sufficient and that our hydraulic system is working correctly. We need to improve our GIS (Geographic Information System). Water can ferment

if left alone too long. There are 2 buildings on Smith Street that will be demolished and replaced by a new building.”

Ordinance No. 4 – Providing for various capital improvements. Appropriating \$5,110,355 and authorizing an issuance of \$4,200,000 in bonds.

Goldy explained that this was upgrades for the Department of Public Works.

DPW Director Hoffman explained that this was needed for old, beat-up trailers.

Godly continued, “The BID uses the city’s mini-sweepers, and they also provide the money for the salaries of the mini-sweeper operators. Part of this money will also be used for the new firehouse.”

Fire Chief Ed Mullen came up and spoke regarding this matter, “There is a feasibility study being done to determine where the new firehouse should be located, and we worked with Councilman Joel Pabon. We are looking at property located on the corner of Amboy Avenue and Inslee Street. A quarter of a million dollars is needed to buy these properties and we have been pursuing building an additional firehouse for 6 years.”

Council President Bill Petrick then remembered that there was a gas station located at a property where there were 5 to 6 old oil tanks discovered.

Councilman Irizarry lives in that area and said that he has neighbors who are concerned about speeding, especially near schools and houses that are shaking due to truck traffic.

Mullen stated, “There will be yellow flashing lights if the firehouse is built there and we will have utmost caution when dealing with the schools.”

Pabon then stated that his sister and others who live in that neighborhood are happy that the firehouse is coming there. “The building that the firehouse wants to purchase is falling apart and should be taken down. That road should be a priority. We need to get this done and we also need another access road in that area. The members of the fire department gave their input into a new firehouse and its location.”

Mullen then continued, “Since 2014, we have been looking for property for a new firehouse and we have money set aside for an architect. We need money to go out for bid and need to lock in low rates. A building is needed to house an engine, a ladder, and space for extra equipment.”

Irizarry then asked, “What items are needed for the Office of Emergency Management?”

Goldy came up to answer, “It’s to enhance the existing systems. The audio-visual equipment which is located in the basement is 13 years old.”

Irizarry continued, “We need improvements for audio and visual in the council chambers so we can do a better job during the meetings.”

Councilman Helmin Caba stated, “If we had that in place, we could have Zoom Meetings right now.”

Petrick chimed in and emphasized, “We want equipment that can be used in the future. It’s over-do.”

Irizarry also stated, “It’s embarrassing.”

Pabon asked, “How many meetings have we had at the Y so far?”

Petrick suggested that the IT guy come to the meetings (so he can answer some of these questions).

Pabon then said, “It would be nice if the administration was here.”

Interim B.A. Perkins said, “The IT guy (John) said we need to do the best job and not just rush it and it’s a great undertaking. Covid tariffs need to be considered. Right now, Zoom can only have 100 participants.”

Pabon suggested, “If we can’t do this (with city personnel), maybe we need to hire outside contractors.

Perkins then stated, “When the IT Department put in for additional funding, it was looked at as being assessed as too much.”

Petrick spoke up, “We have been talking about updating technology in the council chambers for a long time.”

Goldy made one additional comment about Ordinance No. 4 regarding money for Code Enforcement. “There was \$800,000 in capital improvement money for the land purchased for the firehouse.” She also stated that the \$5 million debt - \$4.2 million will be issued thru bonds.”

Petrick had a question in regard to some of the vehicles that Code Enforcement were looking to purchase, “Are they looking at fuel-efficiency vehicles?”

Code Enforcement Director Irving Lozada came up to answer, “We are looking at 4x4 vehicles that will be used at construction sites so they don’t get stuck (sometimes in muddy conditions).”

There was then a question regarding R-349 thru R-352 – all regarding settlements resolving complaints filed by Landings and Harborside LLC for various properties. Tax Assessor William FitzPatrick came forward, “These cases are from June. The property owners agreed on a settlement and one person withdrew. These cases go back to 2014. The judge involved in these cases required appraisals. If we went to court, we would probably have had to pay out more money.”

Councilman Pabon asked, “Is there anyone paying taxes?”

FitzPatrick explained, “Kushner is paying the taxes on the properties.”

There was a rather lengthy discussion regarding R-359. Council President Bill Petrick asked, “What is the deadline for Best Practices (one of the questions on Best Practices dealt with personal policy manuals for the city)?”

CFO Jill Goldy stated that the last time the personnel manual was revised was September 2017.

Law Director Peter King then added, “It’s based on a 3-year cycle.”

Councilman Pabon spoke up, “We received the personnel manual at the last minute.”

Interim B.A. Perkins said, “We’ll miss the Best Practices Deadline if we don’t complete the form in October or November.”

ber.”

Petrick then responded, “We are already out of compliance if we already missed the deadline. Do you want to table R-359? (adopting the personnel policy manual for the City of Perth Amboy revised as of September 18, 2020). We can table it until Wednesday’s meeting.”

The council decided to table the resolution until Wednesday (9/23/20).

Some of the council members then decided to make remarks on Communication No. 1 – The Perth Amboy Municipal Alliance thanking Rosemary Oarsley for her long-term commitment for over 20 years to the prevention of drug & alcohol abuse in the city of Perth Amboy.

Pabon thanked Oarsley for her commitment for 20 years. Petrick suggested a resolution be drawn up and a certificate made up to present to her. Councilman Caba said Oarsley has been dedicated to the city for 20 years. “I’ve worked with her and this is a well-deserved recognition.”

Public Portion:

Resident David Caba spoke first. “It’s been a while – maybe a year since I’ve been here, and I’ve been in real estate for over 20 years. Some of Rector Street is not paved and whoever is doing that project is insulting our residents. We have several candidates running for office who mention nothing about our beautiful waterfront. Other communities have improved their waterfronts and the real estate, but not here. Can we at least bring someone to make a difference in our waterfront? I only criticize to make things better, but we need to hold people accountable. We have a poor community and need to have a better quality of life. A billionaire has abandoned his property for 14 years, but residents get a letter if they neglected their property.”

Resident Alan Silber spoke next. He mentioned the Landings settlement on the agenda. “This guy (Kushner) leaves a property from 14 years ago. Condos selling originally for \$450,000 now sell for half the price. Commerce Street is not safe to walk at night. My neighbor gets cited if they have a half-inch of grass that is overgrown, but nothing is done about Kushner’s neglected properties. This is pathetic. We need prices on the agendas for property settlements. The mayor has been in office for 12 years and the new ballpark looks very nice.”

Department of Recreation and Human Affairs Director Kenny Ortiz came up to speak, “The county will maintain the park. The Vocational School will have first use of the facility, and then the city.”

Silber then said he needed an explanation of the personnel policy manual.

Petrick explained the council needs to wait for the Governor to send out the Best Practices checklist which involves the city’s personnel manual.

Silber concluded his remarks, “It makes no sense to vote on something (until you have a chance to review it).

12 YEARS OF BETRAYAL AND BROKEN PROMISES

- ✗ RAISED PROPERTY TAXES
- ✗ ABOLISHED RENT CONTROL
- ✗ FAILED TO SOLVE CRIME
- ✗ DUMPED RAW SEWAGE
- ✗ BACKED CORPORATE WELFARE
- ✗ POTHOLES & DIRTY STREETS
- ✗ MISMANAGED POLICE DEPT

The people who caused our problems

Mayor Wilda Diaz & the Diaz Team members of City Council who want to be mayor have a record of ignoring serious problems, like unsolved crime, cancer-causing contaminants in our drinking water, invalidated rent control laws and rising property taxes.

**JOSEPH B. VAS
IS THE ONLY
PERTH AMBOY
CANDIDATE
FOR MAYOR
WHO OFFERS
REAL CHANGE**

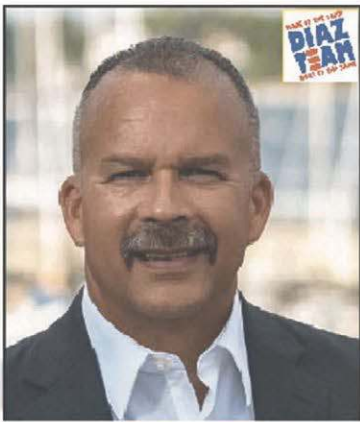


**THE OTHERS
ALL REPRESENT
NOTHING BUT
MORE OF
THE SAME**

Cannot be trusted to solve them!

Watch out for cheap imitations...

MORE OF THE SAME
**DIAZ
TEAM**
APATHY NEGLECT INACTION



**IF YOU THINK PERTH AMBOY NEEDS REAL CHANGE,
DON'T CAST YOUR BALLOT FOR MORE OF THE SAME**

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

The Covid Card (Mail-in Ballots)



I really don’t understand the reason that Governor Murphy insisted that New Jersey has to vote-by-mail. Look how many times people had to stand in long lines for hours just to buy essential goods. Before Covid-19 hit, there were already many people requesting absentee or vote-by-mail ballots. If people go to vote in person, they essentially want to vote and go home, especially if they have to work the next day. The only people I’ve seen hang around longer than that are the challengers who are working for the specific candidates. People use Covid and the rules associated with it only when it serves their advantage.

Voter fraud with mail-in ballots have been going on for years and is not a bulletproof system. So, there is no reason to deny people a right to vote in privacy. I don’t care what anybody says – your mail-in ballots are being traced to you. In my view, that is a violation of your privacy. There are 1,285 proven cases of voter fraud in America as of May 10, 2020. (source: The Heritage Foundation).

Not too long ago, I had to endure 5 hours of loud, nonstop music for a fundraiser while a sign flashed: “No loud music; no large gatherings; practice social distancing.” I guess Co-

vid was not needed for that occasion. As others have written in the past, depending on your cause, or what group you belong to, you are exempted from the Covid rules. Also, during the shutdown, when Covid first appeared as a threat, many smaller stores were ordered to be shut down. This is understandable while safety precautions were put in place, some of these local smaller stores has supplies that were thoroughly needed and could be easily accessed by senior citizens. These products included: gloves, masks, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, toilet tissue to name a few.

These smaller stores were shut down for too long, especially the ones who made or sold clothing, but didn’t have a dressing room for someone to try on their clothing. I believe this hurt our local economy in a big way and price gouging would not have gotten so out of hand. If you have rules, then no one is too important or too powerful to be excluded from them. Unfortunately, I’ve seen a lot of this happen.

A lot of people will recognize their irresponsible behavior in this editorial. Whether or not they care or not is up to them. C.M.

We Value Your Opinion!
Please Send Us A Response!



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THE COMMUNITY VOICE

A Message from
Assemblywoman
Yvonne Lopez on
Puerto Rico Day

“New Jerseyans of Puerto Rican descent make up over five

percent of our state’s population. They are public servants, union members, business owners, military members, doctors, lawyers, engineers, judges, business executives and artists. Most importantly they are Americans. That is why I am

honored to have sponsored the law designating the third Sunday in September Puerto Rico Day.”

Assemblywoman 19th District
Yvonne Lopez

Good vs. Evil

As we know, politics is a dirty game, but this election will be even dirtier with name calling, finger-pointing, blackmail, illegal voting, and the best one: those "Mail in Ballots". Yes, get ready for some action on Election Day because it will divide

the nation: "Good vs. Evil". As for the Perth Amboy Election, it's all Democrats and those candidates will be fighting each other. Maybe some of those candidates are being used to split the votes. Will there be angry voters at the polls or protesters causing problems? Will the police department might

have to use tear gas to disperse the crowd? We as concerned voters demand fair elections, and do not want to have to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Justice. Remember there's always people watching, and they leave a paper trail.

Orlando “Wildman” Perez

Supreme Court
Changes

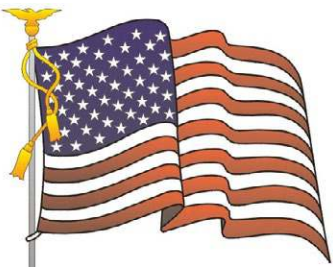
There should be an age limit of seventy years for Supreme Court Justices. Other Federal

judges must retire at this age. Should Supreme Court Justices have a term of twelve years? This would allow renewal of the Supreme Court. A life term is anti-democratic. What states

have lifetime terms for judges? There should also be an age limit for Presidents.

Ronald A. Sobieraj

Concerns About Covid Numbers
in Perth Amboy



PERTH AMBOY - As reported by OEM Coordinator and Deputy Chief Larry Cattano, Covid numbers in the last ten days are rising in Perth Amboy. Cattano stated that In the last 10 days, there have been 50 new cases of Covid reported in Perth Amboy. That has brought the number up to 2,527 people who have tested positive. The total number of deaths are 137. There have been some cases of juveniles under the age of 10 testing positive for Covid, and some young adults. We're not sure if it's children infecting the adult or vice-versa. We saw 10 new cases in one day, a number which we have not had in months. Now, the flu season is coming up, and it's even more important to get a flu shot and other important



OEM Coordinator/Deputy
Police Chief Larry Cattano

inoculations that you may need. Please consult your health care provider.

Unfortunately, the Amboy Guardian cannot print every press release from every candidate that are submitted on a daily basis. These articles would take up more pages than it's allowable or practical to print. To read the candidate's press releases, please go to www.amboyguardian.com

Poll Workers Needed

Press Release

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - John Anagnostis Regional Vice Chair of the Middlesex County Republican Organization has announced there are openings for Poll Workers for the 2020 General Elections to be held on November 3, 2020.

You can be a poll worker if you are 18 years old, a registered voter and live in Middlesex County. The following communities need poll workers: Carteret, Perth Amboy, Woodbridge, Sayreville and South Amboy.

A poll worker attends a training class, reports to the polling places 45 minutes prior to the polls opening on election day, prepares the polling place, verifies voters are registered in the district, assists the voter if there are questions, maintains order at the polls, closes polling places at the designated times. The pay for the Election Day is \$200.00

This is a chance for residents to participate in our democracy. If you are interested please -contact John’s office at 732-371-9967 Monday to Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. if no answer leave a message.

Temporary
Employment
Opportunity
with Middlesex
County Board
of Elections

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - The Middlesex County Board of Elections is looking for persons to assist in the counting of mail in ballots. The temporary workers will be needed from the end of September until the end of November and will have to be able to travel to Middlesex County College. Hours are flexible, there will be three shifts and the wage is \$15 per hour. If interested you may contact Maria at 732-745-3471.

Keep those Letters Coming! We Love to Hear From You! E-mail letters to the editor to amboyguardian@gmail.com or write to the paper at Letters to the Editor, The Amboy Guardian, P.O. Box 0127, Perth Amboy, NJ 08862-0127. Letters must include your full name, address and daytime telephone number or cell phone number for verification. First time letter-writers must be called for verification or your letter will not be published. If you are a public official, please include your title. All letters are subject to editing or rejection. All submissions may be published or distributed by us in print, electronic or other forms. Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the writers and do not represent or reflect the views of the Amboy Guardian.



Where to Find Us . . .

IN FORDS:	
COLONIAL RESTAURANT.....	366 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
LIBERTY BAGEL CAFE.....	326 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY.....	211 FORD AVE.
ROOSEVELT'S DELI	684 KING GEORGE'S RD.
SUPER DUPER DELI III	650 KING GEORGE'S RD.
IN HOPELAWN:	
KRAUSZER'S.....	683 FLORIDA GROVE RD.
IN LAURENCE HARBOR:	
HOFFMAN'S DELI	5 LAURENCE PKWY.
IN MORGAN:	
SOUTHPINE LIQUORS	467 S. PINE AVE.
IN PARLIN:	
DAD'S ROYAL BAKERY.....	3290 WASHINGTON RD.
IN PERTH AMBOY:	
1 ST CONSTITUTION BANK	145 FAYETTE ST.
ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTER	178 BARRACKS ST.
ALAMEDA CENTER	303 ELM ST.
AMBOY CHECK X-CHANGE	321 MAPLE ST.
ANDERL & OAKLEY PC	309 MAPLE ST.
THE BARGE	201 FRONT ST.
BAY CITY LAUNDRYMAT.....	738 STATE ST.
C-TOWN	272 MAPLE ST.
CEDENO'S PHARMACY	400 STATE ST.
CITY HALL	260 HIGH ST.
COPA DE ORO	306 SMITH ST.
DUNKIN DONUTS	587 FAYETTE ST.
EASTSIDE DRY CLEANERS	87 SMITH ST.
ELIZABETH CORNER	175 HALL AVE.
FAMILY FOOT CARE	252 SMITH ST.
FU LIN	79 SMITH ST.
HY TAVERN	386 HIGH ST.
INVESTOR'S BANK	598 STATE ST.
JANKOWSKI COMMUNITY CENTER	1 OLIVE ST.
JEWISH RENAISSANCE MEDICAL CENTER	272A HOBART ST.
KIM'S DRY CLEANERS	73 SMITH ST.
LAW OFFICES	708 CARSON AVE.
LEE'S MARKET	77 SMITH ST.
LUDWIG'S PHARMACY	75 BRACE AVE.
MITRUSKA CHIROPRACTIC	788 CONVERY BLVD.
PETRA BEST REALTY.....	329 SMITH ST.
PETRICK'S FLOWERS	710 PFEIFFER BLVD.
POLICE HEADQUARTERS	365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
PORTUGUESE MANOR	310 ELM ST.
PROVIDENT BANK	339 STATE ST.
PUBLIC LIBRARY	196 JEFFERSON ST.
PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION	100 FIRST ST.
QUICK CHEK	853 CONVERY BLVD.
QUICK STOP DELI	814 AMBOY AVE.
QUISQUEYA MARKET	249 MADISON AVE.
QUISQUEYA LUNCHEONETTE	259 MADISON AVE.
RARITAN BAY AREA Y.M.C.A.	365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
RARITAN BAY MEDICAL CENTER	530 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SANTANDER BANK	365 CONVERY BLVD.
SANTIBANA TRAVEL	362 STATE ST.
SCIORTINO'S RESTAURANT	473 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SHOP-RITE	365 CONVERY BLVD.
SIPOS BAKERY	365 SMITH ST.
SUPERIOR DINER.....	464 SMITH ST.
SUPREMO SUPERMARKET	270 KING ST.
TORRES MINI MARKET	403 BRUCK AVE.
TOWN DRUGS & SURGICAL	238 SMITH ST.
WELLS FARGO	214 SMITH ST.
ZPA	281 GRACE ST.
IN SAYREVILLE:	
BOROUGH HALL	167 MAIN ST.
SENIOR CENTER	423 MAIN ST.
SUNNYSIDE RESTAURANT	111 MAIN ST.
IN SEWAREN:	
PUBLIC LIBRARY	546 WEST AVE.
SEWAREN CORNER DELI	514 WEST AVE.
IN SOUTH AMBOY:	
AMBOY NATIONAL BANK	100 N. BROADWAY
BROADWAY BAGELS	105 S. BROADWAY
BROADWAY DINER	126 N. BROADWAY
CITY HALL	140 N. BROADWAY
COMMUNITY CENTER	200 O'LEARY BLVD.
KRAUSZER'S	200 N. BROADWAY
KRAUSZER'S	717 BORDENTOWN AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY	100 HOFFMAN PLAZA
SCIORTINO'S HARBOR LIGHTS	132 S. BROADWAY
SOUTH AMBOY MEDICAL CENTER.....	540 BORDENTOWN AVE.
WELLS FARGO BANK.....	116 N. BROADWAY
IN WOODBRIDGE:	
CITY HALL	1 MAIN ST.
MAIN ST. FARM	107 MAIN ST.
NEWS & TREATS	99 MAIN ST.
ST. JOSEPH'S SENIORS RESIDENCE	1 ST. JOSEPH'S TERR.

Important!

Always call ahead of time to make sure any event you intend to attend will take place.

The Amboy Guardian will only put a cancellation notice in if we receive notice from the organizer of the event.

Attention Businesses Open During Pandemic Crisis:

Let customers know your services are helping to serve the community. Consider Advertising in the Amboy Guardian. Our rates are reasonable for both print and/or online advertising. Are you hiring? Get the word out!

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Attention!

Our Newspaper is available at Shop-Rite, Perth Amboy at the Courtesy Counter!

2020 Amboy Guardian Publication Dates

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

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

WED. Oct. 14 City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m.
YMCA, New Brunswick Ave.
• City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
YMCA, New Brunswick Ave.
THURS. Oct. 15 Board of Education, 5:30 p.m.
PAHS, Eagle Ave.

South Amboy

WED. Oct. 21 City Council, Regular, 7 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

Attend Public Meetings Have Your Voice Heard!

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Lunch- 11:30 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Dinner- 3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

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Safety Announcement From Mayor Wilda Diaz Regarding the Recent Incidents in NYC and NJ

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

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!!
Report Suspicious Activity - Be Vigilant - **STAY ALERT!**
Do not think that any call or report is too small
Don't allow the actions of a few dictate your quality of life
FOR ALL EMERGENCIES, DIAL: 9-1-1
FOR ALL NON-EMERGENCIES, DIAL: 732-442-4400

Deadline for Print Ads:

7 p.m. Thursday

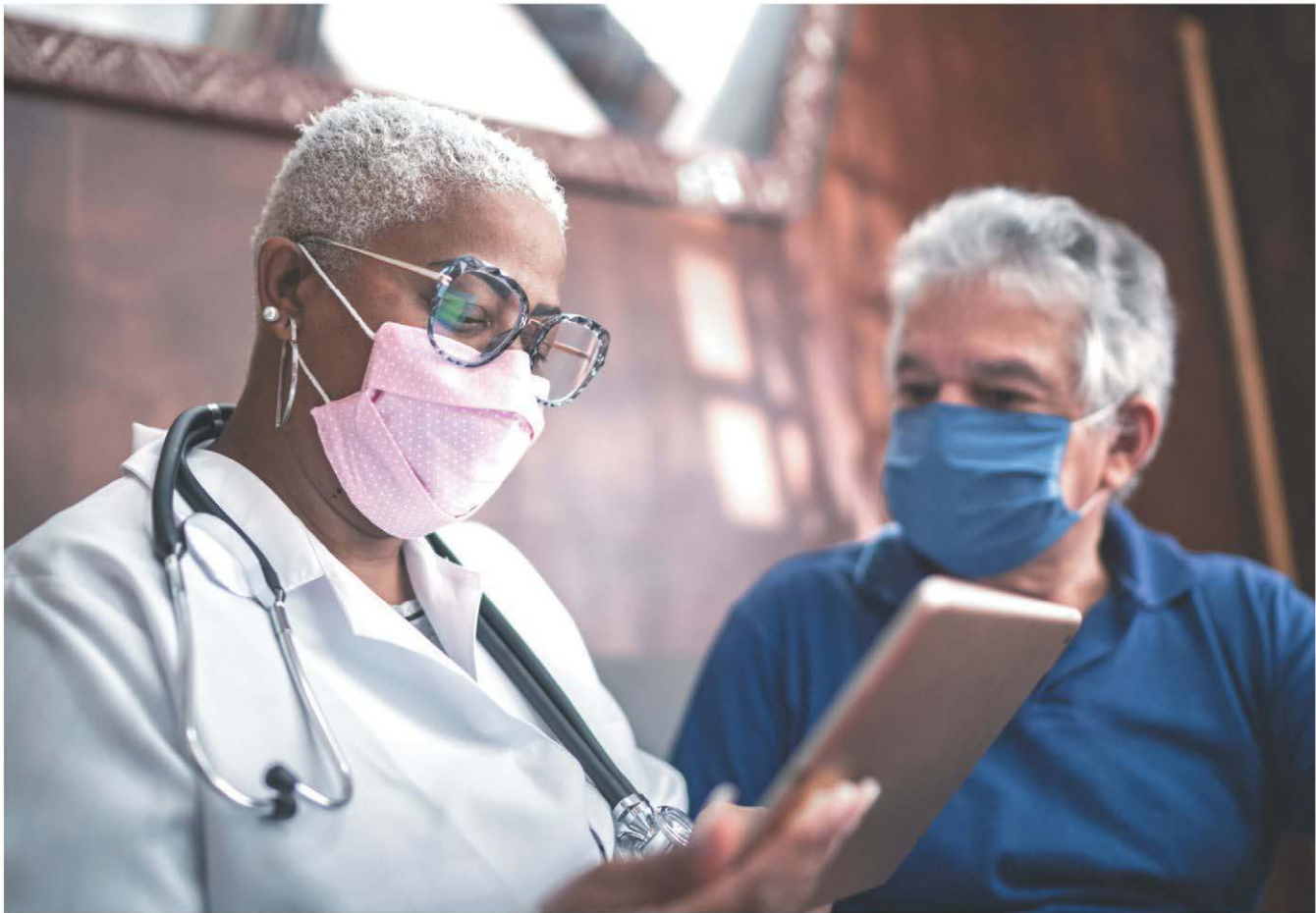
Office Hours:

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

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

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

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KEEP GETTING BETTER

Handicap Ramp to be Constructed in front of City Hall, Vaping Ordinances Passed; Illegal Palette Business; Illegal Apartment Rentals

9/16/20 Council Meeting via Virtual Conferencing

By: Katherine Massopust
SOUTH AMBOY – Three ordinances were unanimously passed. Ordinance No.9-2020 regarding building a handicapped ramp in front of city hall and two ordinances (No. 10-2020 & 11-2020) regarding limiting and prohibiting the sale of vaping products and e-cigarettes in the B-1 General Business Zone and the B-2 Highway Commercial zone of South Amboy.

Council Comments:
Council Vice-President Christine Noble asked for prayers for the recovery of Jimmy Kehoe who was recently struck by a vehicle.

There were questions about the upcoming November 3, 2020 election. Councilwoman Zusette Dato explained that the goal is to get ballots out by September 24, 2020. “No one has to apply for it if you are registered to vote and are an active voter. As soon as you get it, fill it out and put it in a secure dropbox. Right now, 10 dropboxes are in place. There is one in the Sayreville Municipal Building. Another option is to bring your ballot at South Amboy High School, or you can drive it to the Board of Elections, Kennedy Boulevard, New Brunswick. The county is doing what it can to educate voters.”

Councilwoman Zusette Dato then spoke about the Rotary Club Car Parade at 1p.m. on

Sunday, September 20, 2020. “The map is on the city website. The Rotary Club is collecting nonperishable food products which are really needed at South Amboy High School from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Councilman Brian McLaughlin asked about the illegal palate operation going on.

Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski stated that they have been cited for violations, but they have not gone to court, yet. He stated that the fire marshal was also called.

Councilman McLaughlin asked how many businesses hired South Amboy residents at Manhattan Beach.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski answered that he would get a full list of all local suppliers. He stated that he only knew of 2 local residents who were hired.

McLaughlin stated that there should have been a job fair to offer residents employment.

Skarzynski stated he would get back to the council with more insight on the matter.

Councilman McLaughlin asked about expediting the acquisition of a fire truck for the city.

B.A. Skarzynski stated that if the city ordered the fire truck today, they were still looking at a 4 month waiting period.

McLaughlin answered, “Let’s order it tomorrow.”

Councilman Tom Reilly thanked the food pantries and

gave a shout out to Janet Kern who gave a lot of her time to help with the food pantries.

Reilly noted that the palette operation has been going on for years. “It’s a fire hazard. These stacks of pallets are piled up next to a building.” Reilly then inquired about illegal rentals and inspections of boarding houses.

B.A. Skarzynski informed the council that Code Enforcement Director Jay Elliot was addressing the boarding house issues. “As far as the illegal rentals, letters are going out. The building (owners) have been issued a notice.” The council was concerned when Skarzynski informed them there are over 200 illegal apartments in South Amboy.

Council President Mickey Gross noted that it is important to stay on target regarding the illegal apartments. “I’m alarmed there are over 200 illegal apartments in South Amboy. Our focus should be on that.”

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski informed the council that addressing the illegal apartment issue is difficult. “It’s not a quick process. It took us 9 months to get a list. Each building is a separate case. We must have proof ahead of time. All proceedings are virtual. Each residence will be inspected by different departments (in code enforcement).”

Council President Gross noted that there is a chance of a coro-

navirus spike and added, “Flu shots are coming out soon.”

Mayor Fred Henry spoke about shared services with Woodbridge Township. “Our very capable First Aid Squad needs our help. We worked out a deal to do what we can.” Henry noted that it will cost \$24,000 to replace the airbags in the South Amboy Fire Department. Thanks to City Engineer Mark Rasimowicz for replacing the handicapped ramp in front of city hall.” Henry then added, “I thank Congressman Frank Pallone for the \$5.4 million grant for the Ferry. Thanks to Governor Murphy for the groundbreaking of the new train bridge.”

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski noted that Roswell Market has changed hands and been demolished.

Public Portion:

Resident Bill DeMasi thanked the council for following up with the bamboo issue with his neighbor. “I don’t know what happens at this point. My neighbor is required to remove all the bamboo in my yard. Do I need to remove my shed (where bamboo was growing under)? What do I do? I need to understand the process.”

B.A. Skarzynski assured DeMasi that he would get Code Enforcement to help. Law Director Francis Womack added, “I will give you a call to help with legal options.”

Resident Greg Batluak stated, “I’ve been attending the council meetings. I was looking at the archives (online) from 2007-2019 of council minutes. There are a lot of missing minutes. In 2017 –12 months are posted. In 2018 there are 11 months posted. In 2019 – 2 months posted. For 12/19/18 there were no minutes posted. This was one of the most important meetings being held in this town – there were a lot of people at that meeting.”

Law Director Francis Womack stated, “There were minutes taken. We can provide you with those minutes. The recording device was not working. The minutes were taken by the acting city clerk at that time.”

City Clerk Debra Brooks stated, “I started a year ago in September. All the minutes have been approved and posted. Before that, the past practices of the acting city clerk – I don’t know what happened. We can work in getting the gaps posted.”

Law Director Francis Womack stated that the city is not required to record audio or video but minutes are required be taken.

Batulak stated, “It’s very important to trust this administration. Ms. Brooks has to take measure that minutes are posted.”

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. All council members were present.

Virtual vs. In-School Learning Request for Half-day Lessons Heat up

Board of Education Meeting

9/17/20 Board of Education Meeting Via Phone-Conferencing

By: Katherine Massopust
PERTH AMBOY – There was no executive session at the 9/17/20 BOE Meeting due to the fact the Board had nothing to discuss. Therefore, the meeting began with one public portion of which anything could be discussed. There would be no public portion at the end of the meeting.

The first person to speak (first name Johanna) was a parent of students in the Rose M. Lopez School. She argued that the virtual learning school day was from 8:35 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and it was too long and stressful day for her child. “It’s hard to focus. At 1 p.m. my daughter gets tired. Consider the half-day model.”

The next person to speak was a mother of a boy in elementary school. “My son’s elementary school there are so many distractions. Every time you update the computer system something happens. Everyone blames it on the Wi-Fi. A lot of times since this is going on everything is out of control. No one is looking out for the kids. Reconsider for all the kids to have a half-day. Right now, half the day I take him to work. The kids are straining their eyes and the teachers don’t give them a break. Leave selfishness aside. We are in a crisis and there should be a half-day for all kids.”

District Representative Lynn Audette for the PA-AFT spoke next. “The parents’ preference for remote decision – do here

for grades 5-12. Then there is more planning time for teachers. Teachers have a 45-minute preparation period and they are losing that prep time. Please consider the time for teachers.”

President of the PA-AFT Pat Paradiso spoke next. “I echo what Lynn Audet said, specifically spending hours and hours to prepare from scratch. We need books and Brain Pop for science. Everything they do – they are exhausted. We need clear protocols when teachers get sick. We need it in writing and in English and Spanish.”

The next person to speak was the mother of 4 children in the school system. “I’d like to voice my opinion on virtual learning. 3 of my 4 children are miserable. Children who love to go to school are miserable. My one daughter thinks of this as an invasion. It takes its toll on mental health. A full day is too much. Go to the half-day learning. Kid’s need to socialize in 1:1 groups.”

After the public spoke, there was a long discussion of the survey sent out to parents on their preferences for online learning, how many responded, and what needed to be done.

Board President Tashi Vazquez began the discussion, “We hear you – the survey - the administration has been working around the clock. This situation is not ideal, and we will continue to reach out for suggestions. DO NOT use social media for your platforms. Email your teacher, the superintendent, a Board of

Education Member. We hear you. Social media is not an avenue. I have concerns. Let’s continue to do that. We work together to get the steps needed to get there. We are not alone. These issues are not unique to Perth Amboy. Let’s do this together. Covid is still very real.”

Superintendent Dr. David Roman said, “Putting your heart out on the line puts you in jeopardy. I ask parents to continue. I want to commend the board. This pandemic is not easy. We are listening to you. We are getting email daily. Please communicate with us. We welcome correspondence of parents. Dr. Vivian Rodriguez and Mr. Delvis Rodriguez are actively involved to resolve issues. We cannot make everyone happy. Some parents want half-day. Some parents want a full day. As superintendent, to the parents of this community, I hear you. I see you. I love your children. We are trying to get them to compete in this world. If we don’t provide instruction, they may not be able to reach their ability to compete in this nation. To balance – that’s what we are up against. They need to be at a reading level that has to be on the level of this nation. We will make the decision that is best for the community. Children need to be able to read at an appropriate level. I want them to be able to compete in this world. Staff members have concerns. We have to come to some balance. We need to be transparent – what would you

like? I can’t provide for half-day programs in the afternoon. We want to provide instruction for students. It’s complicated.”

Dr. Roman then stated that for pre-school children, mornings on the computer are better, but effectively parents must assume all of the tutorials. “For Kindergarten and Grades thru 4, 60% to 80% of parents want half day morning online classes. We are looking at that. We have to look at the availability of staff. We have special ed students to think about. For grades 5 thru 12 there is no way that any district can solve all the problems. I will challenge their students. There are 2000 school districts in the state of New Jersey. Our focus is on helping to reach the students.”

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Vivian Rodriguez said, “Proficiency for the third-grade reading goes from learning to reading to learn. 4 out of 5 low income students miss this critical milestone. Many parents work and come home and go over the lessons with the children. Some can’t work and stay home with their children. All over the country – what to do with the earlier grades? Parents are asking for half day schedules. I can’t say how worried I am at this schedule. This is a very serious decision. I don’t know how far we are going behind. We try to look at all sides of the decision. It is not isolated. We have to know the decision on the elementary level.”

Superintendent Dr. David Ro-

man said, “Respectful, thoughtful, considerate – we have to design a new schedule. I hear you. It is very cumbersome. Our graduation rate has increased again. I care about the child in the graduation rate. We have to do it the right way.”

Dr. Vivian Rodriguez added, “We have to schedule elementary (level) first.”

Dr. Roman said, “As far as the half-day, the reality of the afternoon is we cannot provide a serious level of instruction for your children.”

Dr. Vivian Rodriguez said, “Everyone said small group inside (school) in the afternoon. We have only a finite number of teachers and staff. We may be looking at scattered tutoring during the week. There is a desire of coming in in small groups.”

Dr. David Roman said, “As long as parents understand it is a major responsibility. The decision we make today impacts us 2 years from now. In 2 years from now, the children won’t be where they need to be. If everyone is okay with that, I’m okay with that. We’ll accommodate what we need to accommodate. Programs need to be modified to meet the needs of the community. For us to address students with special needs, teachers need to be in a classroom.”

Assistant Superintendent Delvis Rodriguez said, “\$620,000 is spent to ensure the safety of

**Continued on Page 10*

Public Safety Community Outreach Event, YMCA Parking Lot, Perth Amboy 9/24/20

*Photos by Paul W. Wang



Going Around in Circles
9/23/20 Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 1*

people are appointed.”

Councilman Irizarry then added, “Even if we had a Rent Leveling Board, it has limited powers.”

JB Vas (the attorney who represented the tenants) came up to speak, “You are sidestepping the real issue. You knew the Rent Control Board was not operating.”

Petrick responded, “We saw no evidence that the Rent Leveling Board was not filled.”

JB Vas continued, “This affects 70% of the people in this town. They are being stripped of their rights. On November 25, 2019, the council considered removing the Rent Leveling Board under Ordinance No. 2. Council Members could have served on the board. This entire council did nothing in the middle of the pandemic. The rent was doubled, and you can’t blame it all on the mayor. You can change the ordinance so you can appoint members.”

JB Vas then addressed Councilman Caba and asked him if he volunteered to be on the

Board.

Caba turned the question around and asked Vas the same thing.

Petrick advised Councilman Caba not to answer that question.

King then commented, “The mayor appoints members to the Rent Leveling Board and the council approves the appointments. Without the Rent Leveling Board being active, the owner has to go before the courts.”

Petrick told Attorney JB Vas, “When your dad was mayor, he wanted to do all the appointments of members to the Boards with the consent of the council.”

Vas also mentioned that he represented the residents of this building pro-bono. “I filed all paperwork diligently.”

Tejeda’s mother then came up to speak (in Spanish). Councilman Irizarry translated for her, “I am a 40-year resident and I never want to leave this town. Legal services didn’t want to deal with me because I didn’t have the money. I always heard the rent could not be increased more than 5%. I went to see many people in city hall. I was

not taken care of. My sister and I went to see Wilda. I’ve known Wilda since she was a little girl. Wilda’s aunt had lived in that building and she told me to speak to a lawyer. Wilda was a good friend in the past. If there was a law (stating the rent can only be raised by 5%), it’s not for the poor, and only for the rich. We need a mayor so that people can be respected. No one will do anything for me.”

Resident Samantha Castro came up to speak as a member of The Perth Amboy Advocacy Group, “Frontline Views”. She had a list of 17 Demands that she presented to the council. She talked about a few of them - #11 – which included a violation of human compliance; #4 – Civilian Review Board; #16 – Need to celebrate Perth Amboy’s history; #17 – Having an open dialogue. She also mentioned Thomas Mundy Peterson importance in Perth Amboy and that he needed to be recognized, “Especially since we have a statue of George Washington who was a slave owner.”

Council President Bill Petrick told the young woman, “If you get the chance to visit the Perth

Amboy Council Chambers, there is a large plaque on the wall honoring Thomas Mundy Peterson.”

Resident Dorothy Daniel came up to speak next. She wanted to let Castro know, “When I was member of the Board of Education, I was instrumental in getting a school named after Thomas Mundy Peterson (on State Street).” Daniel also commented on the Police Chaplain Corps, “It is an adjunct of the city under the Police Department and they should be protected from being sued. And as a member of the Housing Authority, I was appointed by the council – not Mayor Vas. In the last year, there has been racial violence against black people in general. My grandfather was born in Anguilla and came to New York. Some people went to Cuba. One of my grandfathers lived in Cuba until the age of 6. He came to Perth Amboy at the age of 21. This is the best town in New Jersey, and I appreciate the town and the elected officials. We can live in this town and treat each other with respect.”

Resident David Caba came

up next, “A millionaire disrespected our residents. I grew up in that lady’s (the woman whose rent was raised) building. No one is looking out for them and it is shameful. I have no problem with people who go back to their mansion and I don’t think the owner of that building cares about the tenants. Kushner doesn’t care about maintaining their buildings. How many developers live in town? They just collect poor people’s money. Tears came from my eyes when that lady whose rent was doubled was speaking. I will find out where that owner lives. They just want their money. Now Kushner wants to build 500 new rental apartments. In 2007, the average price of Landings Condos was going for \$450,000. In recent sales lowest priced Landings Apartment went for \$190,000. The highest sales price was for \$385,000. In Asbury Park and Long Branch, the sale prices (for comparable units) have increased.”

Resident Alan Silber came up last, “I think it’s great that people come out and speak their minds.”

Perth Amboy Fire Department Promotion & Swearing-In Ceremony, PAFD Fire House, Perth Amboy 9/30/20

*Photos by Paul W. Wang



Perth Amboy Fire Honor Guard



Isaias Rodriguez Receives a Citation



Captain Brian Bonilla



Captain Derek Kraese



Captain James Dean Garrison



Captain David Ramos



Firefighter Michael Delfosse



Firefighter Piotr Matuszewicz



Firefighter Jermaine Clark



PERTH AMBOY - James Dean "JD" Garrison is the first Black firefighter to achieve the rank of captain in the Perth Amboy Fire Department. James Garrison's father was Carl Dean Garrison, known as "Pee Wee" Garrison. Carl Dean Garrison was the first Black firefighter in the Perth Amboy Fire Department. He was a firefighter from 1987 until 2006 (a total of 19 years) and a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He died in 2010 at the age of 60.

Carl's father-in-law, Eugene Francis Foley was a Volunteer Firefighter in the McClellan Fire Company, Engine 3 in Perth Amboy from 1957 until his death in 1990. It was Eugene Foley and Anton J. Massopust (PAFD Fire Chief 1984-1987) who encouraged Carl to take the Firefighter exam and he passed the test.

This makes James Garrison (age 33 with 7 years of service) a third-generation firefighter in the Perth Amboy Fire Department. As a child, James would visit his father at the firehouse after school. They would hang out with fellow firefighters. When James would watch a fire on television, he would run around the house with his father's fire boots and helmet on. It was difficult for James because his father never got to see him being sworn in as a firefighter.

As a captain, Garrison will be assigned to Battalion 4, out on Rescue 1 and will be involved with heavy rescue service that does special operations.

The swearing-in ceremony took place on September 30, 2020 at Perth Amboy Fire Headquarters on New Brunswick Avenue. Garrison was one of four new captains sworn in during the ceremony. The others are: Captains Brian Bonilla, Derek Kraese and David Ramos. Bonilla's father was a volunteer firefighter and Kraese's father, the late John Si-berry, was a city firefighter for 28 years. Also sworn in were city Firefighters Jermaine Clark, Michael Delfosse and Piotr Matuszewicz.

Also during the Ceremony, Civilian Isaias Rodriguez received a Mayoral and Department Citation. "On Saturday night (9/19/20), a basement fire broke out at 410 Smith St. A quick-thinking Good Samaritan, Isaias Rodriguez, was passing by and saw the building engulfed in smoke, with lights on in the apartment on the second floor. Seeing that no one was outside, he banged on the first-floor door to no avail. He then proceeded up the stairway, through the smoke, to yell and bang on the second-floor apartment door. Here he was able to alert the family that their building was on fire as smoke now began to fill the apartment. Isaias was able safely evacuate all the occupants, who were having a small gathering, through the smokey stairwell to safety." (Source: PAFD Facebook)

There also was a blessing of a statue of Saint Florian, Patron Saint of Firefighters which was donated on behalf of the Gall family to the Perth Amboy Fire Department during the promotion ceremony in memory of The Most Reverend Father Florian Gall who died June 28, 2003. Fr. Martin Vavrak (Police & Fire Chaplains Corps.) gave the blessing.

Middlesex County Gathers Community Experts to Discuss COVID-19 Recovery at Fourth-Annual Business Summit, Rutgers President Jonathan Holloway, PhD, to Serve as Keynote Speaker

Event to be held virtually Thursday, October 8 at 9 a.m.

NEW BRUNSWICK - This year's Business Summit, Leading Together for a Better Tomorrow, will bring together leading experts across a broad continuum serving New Jersey and the County as the community navigates through COVID-19 recovery. As the County and the community lead together, each panelist will examine what their organizations have learned and offer insights and recommendations on how best to move forward in this "new normal." A question and answer session will be included. **This free event is open to the public and media.**

Additionally the Summit serves to illustrate how Middlesex County continues to serve as the thought leader and broker at the intersection between research, policy and implementation, as well as the broker between government; private sector entities; partners such as Rutgers; and the County's businesses, residents, and workers. Hosted since 2017, this summit is part of a larger strategic planning initiative across the County which culminates in the creation of the Destination 2040 Comprehensive Master Plan. Destination 2040 will shape how the County will grow and change in the future through input from those who live, work, and learn here. The plan will help guide the municipalities within the County with programs and policies to help achieve goals to improve the quality of life for all residents.

WHEN: Thursday, October 8, 9 – 10:30 am

WHERE: Event to be held virtually. Registration can be found here: MiddlesexCountyNJ.gov/BusinessSummit2020

WHO: The event will be moderated by **Tom Bergeron**, editor and chief content officer of ROI NJ, and hosted by Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders **Director Ronald G. Rios** and **Deputy Director Kenneth Armwood**. The Keynote Speaker will be **Jonathan Holloway, PhD**, president of Rutgers University

Event panelists include: **Luis De La Hoz**, chairman of the board of directors for the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of NJ and SVP director of community lending at Valley National Bank

Christiana Foglio, founder and CEO of Community Investment Strategies

Debbie Hart, MS, CAE, APR, president and CEO of BioNJ

Jose Lazano, president and CEO of Choose New Jersey

William Rodgers, III, PhD, professor of public policy and chief economist at the Heldrich Center for Workforce Development at Rutgers University

In Perth Amboy, Mayor Wilda Diaz Rallies with Essential Laundry Workers Seeking Greater Protections Against COVID-19 and Fair New Union Contract
If Employer Unitex Fails to Address the Concerns of These Workers, the Company May Force a Strike and Create a Health Crisis at Many Area Hospitals



Press Release 9/29/20
PERTH AMBOY — Today, Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz rallied with essential laundry workers who are calling for greater protections against COVID-19 and a fair new union contract as they continue to perform difficult jobs cleaning and processing medical linens for many area hospitals and nursing homes.

Mayor Diaz joined the workers in front of the Med-Apparel laundry processing plant at 35 Washington Street in Perth Amboy, which is owned by Unitex. (Several photos from the news event are attached to the bottom of this press release.)

The unionized employees at this Perth Amboy industrial laundry facility are considered essential workers. During the current pandemic, these dedicated workers have cleaned patient bed linens, gowns and other linens for hospitals and nursing homes that were often contaminated with COVID-19.

These workers are overwhelmingly Latina immigrants who live in northern New Jersey on low incomes. Their essential, demanding jobs cleaning and processing medical linens – gowns, sheets, towels, scrubs, and other washables—have helped ensure the safety of hospital and nursing home patients, staff, and visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the rally, Mayor Diaz and

Unitex employees were joined by leaders of the Laundry, Distribution, and Food Service Joint Board, Workers United/SEIU, the labor union representing these essential workers in contract negotiations.

Recently, Unitex refused to disclose exactly how many employees of its Perth Amboy facility have contracted COVID-19. Despite a clear requirement to keep employees at least six feet apart whenever possible, according to Governor Murphy’s Executive Order 122 that covers all essential businesses, Unitex claims it has “not measured” the distance between employees.

Unitex is also under investigation by Region 22 of the National Labor Relations Board for alleged unfair labor practices, including illegally threatening to fire its Perth Amboy workers during contract negotiations if they walk off the job.

Unitex is a financially successful and growing company that once reported more than \$150 million in annual revenue. It currently owns several laundry plants in New Jersey and New York. But instead of rewarding its Perth Amboy employees for their dedication and sacrifice during the COVID-19 pandemic, Unitex is demanding unreasonable concessions on retirement benefits, and treating employee’s safety demands with callous indifference.

If Unitex keeps ignoring the health and safety concerns of its Perth Amboy employees, and tries to force concessions on benefits, the company may force these essential workers to strike. A strike would disrupt the cleaning and availability of medical linens for many hospitals and nursing homes in New Jersey and New York.

If hospitals and nursing homes are unable to get clean linens, infection and disease could spread more quickly and could create a major health emergency endangering patients, staff, and visitors as New Jersey and New York grapple both with COVID-19 and flu season in the weeks ahead.

“During the most challenging days of the COVID-19 pandemic, these essential laundry workers here in Perth Amboy have put their lives on the line to keep many hospitals and nursing homes safe. It’s time for Unitex to deliver a fair new contract that includes increased health and safety protections for these workers, along with continuation of earned pension benefits for current and future employees. No one should have to worry about contracting COVID-19 while on the job. Unitex should immediately address the concerns of these workers, and implement the social distancing guidelines that Governor Murphy’s executive order requires for all essential businesses,”

said Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz.

“These essential laundry workers in Perth Amboy have helped Unitex achieve extraordinary growth and success in recent years. Our members have stepped up during the COVID-19 pandemic and faced significant health risks to keep many hospitals and nursing homes safe. They have earned a fair new contract. Unitex should immediately give its Perth Amboy employees stronger health and safety protections against COVID-19, and continue paying into the pension fund for current and future employees,” said Alberto Arroyo, Co-Manager of the Laundry, Distribution, and Food Service Joint Board, Workers United/SEIU, and a top union official negotiating on behalf of the Perth Amboy Unitex employees.

“I have dedicated years of my life to this job. It’s very hard work cleaning and processing gowns, sheets, and other linens for hospitals and nursing homes in New Jersey and New York City. But I am proud to help keep these healthcare facilities clean and safe every day, especially during the COVID-19 crisis. My co-workers and I have helped Unitex become a very wealthy and successful company, and we deserve to be treated fairly. We hope Unitex does not force us to strike and prevent hospitals from receiving the

clean medical linens they need,” said Brigida Vidal, a Perth Amboy Unitex employee who lives in Perth Amboy and has worked at the facility for 5 years.

Unitex employees in Perth Amboy clean and process medical linens for the following New Jersey hospitals: Hackensack Medical Center in Hackensack; John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Edison; St. Peter’s Hospital in New Brunswick; Trinitas Regional Medical Center in Elizabeth; and South Ocean Medical Center in Stafford Township.

They also clean and provide linens to a large number of New York City hospitals.

That list of New York City hospitals includes: Columbia University Medical Center, The Allen Hospital, Lower Manhattan Hospital, David H. Koch Center, Weill Cornell Medical Center, Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, all part of New York Presbyterian; Brooklyn Hospital (affiliated with Mt. Sinai Hospital); Mt. Sinai Hospital (Mt. Sinai Beth Israel); Memorial Sloan Kettering in Manhattan; Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn; The Hebrew Home at Riverdale in the Bronx, NY; The NY Jewish Home, Bronx, NY St. Patrick’s Home Rehabilitation and Health Care, Bronx, NY; Methodist Home for Nursing and Rehabilitation, Bronx, NY.

Virtual vs. In-School Learning Request for Half-day Lessons Heat up Board of Education Meeting
9/17/20 Board of Education Meeting Via Phone-Conferencing

**Continued from Page 7*

your children: 24,000 for disposable masks, 16,000 for reusable masks, 30,000 filters for the masks. \$6,000 for plastic face shields for nurses, \$800 for gowns, 44 sprayers to clean. It is approximately \$500,000. There are decals (with directions) how to wash your hands. More than \$22,000 for more decals, hand sanitizers, 235 1-gallon hand sanitizer containers, 1,500 automatic dispensers and toilet seat covers, 500 plexiglass covers, and thermal scanners when you walk past it and take the temperatures, hand held thermometers (\$7,500).”

Superintendent Dr. David Roman said, “When you say you are not adequately prepared, we cannot solve all of this in the pandemic. You tell us what you want. I’m proud that the decision we make is in the best in-

terest of our students.” Dr. Roman changed the subject for the moment and discussed the SAT exam. “We are still addressing the SAT and PSAT exams.”

Board Member Dianne Roman said, “The SAT day is open all day and handles up to 500 students.”

Board Secretary Derek Jess said, “Every student has been issued a Chromebook. They are given Wi-Fi if they need it.”

There was a brief discussion on fall sports. Dr. Roman said, “Adhering to safety protocols regarding the state. It changes say by day. Students, staff, are regularly tested. We have not stopped our participation in the GMAC.”

Board Member Ken Puccio thanked the Board, especially Board President Tashi Vazquez for all their support during his illness. “Hearing you guys kept me going.”

The SBYSB came up for voting. Board Member Tashi

Vazquez stated, “The resolution we present is a state program which is in its 20th year and is now back for 2020. In 2001, I had received my first employment at the Jewish Renaissance through this program. I want to thank the Board of Education for support of this program. I support them and their efforts. It exposes them to other students.”

Dr. Roman added, “Here is a program that speaks to uplift children.”

All the Board Members voted “yes”.

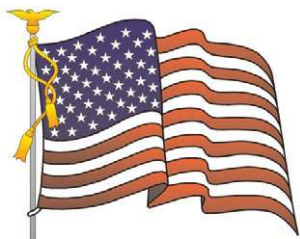
Dr. David Roman said, “Are we looking to change the upper grades? No. For PreK, K, & 1-4, if we go half-day, we may fall behind.”

Dr. Roman discussed the survey sent out to the parents. He stated that 80% of the parents responded for grades PreK, K, 1-4. He noted that of the 20% who did not respond and special needs students, they may want the full day of online learning

and their feelings must be noted. For grades 5-12, 60% of the parents surveyed answered they want half-day of online learning. Dr. Roman stated that 40% of the parents didn’t answer and may want full-day learning.

The Amboy Guardian contacted the Board President for further clarification. The Board President stated she would get back to us. As of this printing, she has not yet given a response.

Superintendent Dr. David Roman and the Board agreed for PreK, K, and Grades 1-4 to have the half-day learning. But not for Grades 5-12. “We see you. We love you and we try.”



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

TOGETHER
PERTH AMBOY
CAN DO BETTER.
JUNTOS PODEMOS HACER UN MEJOR PERTH AMBOY.

The ONLY Real Change

November, the ballot is as important as it has ever been nationally and especially locally. The global pandemic has served to heighten focus on local shortcomings and identified areas for accountability and reform. In Perth Amboy, the ballot will present voters with two distinct options despite the presence of multiple candidate groups. On the one hand is the current administration who over the past twelve and a half years has consistently raised taxes; destabilized, mismanaged and politicized the police department; endangered the environment by neglecting the oversight of the water and wastewater management agreement resulting in the discharge of raw sewage into our waterfront and carcinogens in our drinking water; all while denying the public the right to know through transparent government at City Council meetings.

On the other hand is the ticket featuring Joseph B. Vas, Vanessa Bermudez and Angel Mota Ramirez. Under the banner “Together, Perth Amboy Can Do Better” the team is poised to guide the city they love to its full potential. The investment of time and energy in Perth Amboy by the team is longstanding as demonstrated by their civic commitments and in the case of Mr. Vas, his work on behalf of nearly a thousand Perth Amboy homeowners to reduce their property taxes when the current administration failed to fulfill their property tax relief campaign promises. In this regard, savvy Perth Amboy voters will recognize the other ballot options as cohorts, associates and enablers of the current administration who have stood shoulder to shoulder with the current mayor as all of the promises for reform and relief proved empty.

Despite promises of implementing a two-term limit, the current administration is seeking a FOURTH term this November. Similarly, despite criticizing the current administration’s track record, the other slate of candidates cannot distance themselves from their complicity in the very shortcomings that they are highlighting in their supposed campaign platforms.

The choice this November cannot be made without taking the current administration and their cronies to task for their horrible track record of failing Perth Amboy. Although they would prefer that voters focus on their campaign promises, the aftermath of those broken promises over the past twelve and a half years is apparent in tax bills, water quality and increased crime. Perth Amboy voters have an opportunity to improve their quality of life by voting for a team who have the drive, fresh voices, and roadmap ready for positive change.

Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez Announces Support for Biden’s Plan for Puerto Rico

Press Release 10/5/20
NEW JERSEY - Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez recently announced her support for Vice President Joe Biden's plan for Puerto Rico.

“Joe Biden has a longstanding history of supporting Puerto Rico as both a Senator and Vice-President and I know he will continue this support as the 46th President of the United States of America,” said Lopez. “As Puerto Rico continues its fragile recovery from several natural disasters and financial turmoil, the Puerto Rican people need a leader who will revitalize the Puerto Rican economy creating better jobs and an overall improved quality of life. I gladly join the thousands of Puerto Ricans who will be supporting Joe Biden in the upcoming election and I look forward to seeing the Vice President help Puerto Rico get back on the right track.”

The Biden-Harris Plan For

Asw. Yvonne Lopez

Recovery, Renewal And Respect For Puerto Rico will:

- Support a full recovery and infrastructure reconstruction to modern standards.
- Invest in Puerto Rico’s future through economic development initiatives and support for families.
- Provide relief from unsustainable debt.
- Expand access to education and workforce development

Ending with a Zoom 9/23/20 Council Meeting Comments

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – During the Council Comments, Councilman Helmin Caba recognized the young woman who spoke from an organization called, “Frontline Views”. The spokeswoman for the group presented each member of the council a list of 17 demands. One of the items they discussed was having a statue built of Thomas Mundy Peterson whom they gave a brief history about.

Councilman Caba appreciated their concerns that Thomas Mundy Peterson should have a statue, “We need to take it a step further. We need a bust or a monument, and it was talked about when I was on the Historic Preservation Commission. The best spot would be in front of city hall, so all can see not only what he did for the town, but for the country. What are we doing about the Surveyor’s General Office? There was a grand opening, and it was open to the public for a little while, but then it closed down.”

Councilman Fernando Irizarry thanked everyone who came to the meeting to express their views and concerns. “Everyone spoke in a civil manner.” He then asked to be provided with information on a recent homicide, a violent rape and cases that have been solved so far (this year). He urged all residents to fill out the census forms that are due on September 30th and emphasized that this can also be done online. “If you want better and improved streets, fill out the census so we can get funding.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke. He asked the City Clerk to give him the information as to who applied for the Rent Leveling Board. He stated he was confused when the woman who was part of the group (who had her rent doubled) mentioned

that she talked to the Mayor and Pabon about this rent increase matter. “I was not at any meetings at all with this woman. People in this building who had their rent increases should have received certified letters about pending court dates. That is what they should have looked into first.” Pabon then turned his attention to a clothing bin located at the corner of Market and Second Street, “It looks terrible. Trash is also being dumped there. If owners can’t maintain those boxes, they should get rid of them. There are a lot of food being donated to Perth Amboy residents and we should thank the suppliers. A lot of the food coming into Perth Amboy are being supplied from people who are from out-of-state. Let’s not take credit for the goodness of others. I hope that we are able to get back to city hall to have our meetings there.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda thanked all for coming and then asked Councilman Pabon if he had an update on the Patten School Road opening.

Pabon answered, “There is supposed to be an opening of the Elizabeth Street going to the Division Street, but because of the Covid-19 situation there was a holdup and there has been no update from Conrail. There was also supposed to be an opening of the cul-de-sac near Sadowski Parkway and we even had prices for what it would take to do that project, but so far there has been no further updates.”

Tejeda continued, “There is no need in pointing fingers. Everyone has done their jobs and tried to move forward. I came here in 1974 and we need to work together for the betterment of the town.”

Council President Bill Petrick then added, “We are committed to this town and this is why we serve. My grandfather came

here and had ten kids. We are in a crazy season. I feel badly for those tenants who had a rent increase, but someone came to this meeting to grandstand (regarding this issue). If they (the people who had the rent increase) were not given proper notice, can a (judge’s) decision (who granted the landlord the increase) be overturned?”

Law Director Peter King responded, “Yes.”

Petrick then held up a flyer and asked the person manning the camera to zoom in on this flyer, which happened to have a picture of the municipal complex on it. Petrick continued, “We will be paying for this building for 30 years. The person who built this building was incompetent. The C/O was not issued until a new council came in. All safety measures were not in place when the building was first opened. We still have one courtroom which still cannot

be used because of deficiencies. This is propaganda material stating how they are going to fix all these problems, but they were all caused by the prior administration’s problems. Under renegotiated contracts, we took over the billing from the water company. We have a schedule of lining repairs and improved water.”

Councilman Fernando Irizarry then spoke up, “We spent \$17.7 million in water improvement.”

Law Director Peter King then spoke up, “The Kushner projects began under the Vas administration.”

Petrick continued speaking, “Mayor Wilda Diaz released Kushner from his obligation on the city buildings. The Mayor doesn’t run the city. She sometimes appoints qualified people, but department heads run the city. We had a very qualified Business Administrator who was fired on a whim and she

(Diaz) broke all levels of the law (in doing so). This Business Administrator (Frederick Carr) was not given a 20-day notice and we were not given any notice either. The last B.A. (Carr) had the support of this council, but Wilda doesn’t care about the city. There was recent activity by the MS-13 Gang with gunshots, a shootout, and multiple gunplay. Under Vas, we did have a professional police department and now we have none of that. There were even bullet holes in one of the Cathedral International Buildings. She had many ribbon cuttings for businesses that closed shortly afterwards. When there are food distributions, she pretended the food is coming from her. Corruption is happening under her.” He ended by saying, “God Bless everyone.”



World War II - 75 Years Ago

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

The news program “American Mercury Presents: Meet the Press” premieres on the Mutual Broadcasting System radio network on October 5. (Moving to television in November 1947, the show, which still airs today, is the longest-running program in television history.) In Hollywood, a six-month-long strike by motion-picture set decorators boils over into a riot at the gates of Warner Bros. studios in Burbank.

In the Netherlands, Gen. of the Army Dwight Eisenhower, arriving in The Hague on October 6 — on what had been Adolf Hitler’s personal train — is given a hero’s welcome.

In Germany, Gen. George S. Patton on October 7 turns over command of the U.S. Third Army to Lt. Gen. Lucian Truscott. At Southampton, England, the liner SS Corfu docks, carrying home the first 1,500 British prisoners of war from Asia.

President Truman announces on October 8 that atomic-bomb secrets have been shared with the United Kingdom and Canada. Former Deputy Führer Rudolf Hess is transferred from the United Kingdom to Germany to stand trial for war crimes at Nuremberg. Hess had been imprisoned in England since being captured in Scotland in May 1941 on an unauthorized, ill-advised “peace mission.” In Palestine, Jews stage a five-hour general strike to protest British restrictions on Jewish immigration.

British troops occupy the Andaman Islands, in the Bay of Bengal, on October 9. In France, Pierre Laval, the former head of state of Vichy France, is sentenced to death for collaborating with the Germans. In Argentina, Juan Perón — the nation’s vice president, secretary of war and minister of labor — under pressure from opponents in the military who are wary of his growing power in the government and popularity among the general populace, resigns from all his public offices.

The Communist Party of Korea is established, on October 10. The Detroit Tigers defeat the Chicago Cubs 9-3 in the seventh game of the World Series. It was in the fourth game of this series that the “Curse of the Billy Goat” was visited upon the Cubs. The Cubs were up in the Series, two games to one, when William Sianis, owner of Chicago’s Billy Goat Tavern, as the story goes, brought his pet goat, Murphy, the tavern’s mascot, with him to Game Four. Despite his paid-for box seats, Sianis is asked to leave the park because the goat’s odor is offending nearby fans. Outraged, Sianis leaves, and then sends an angry telegram to Cubs owner, Philip K. Wrigley, which says: “You are going to lose this World Series and you will never win another World Series again . . . because you insulted my goat.” And, indeed, the Cubs never again win a World Series — until 2016, 71 years later. In New York City, CBS conducts a successful test of color television when it broadcasts images in color between two locations in Manhattan.

On October 11, Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-shek and Communist leader Mao Tse-tung announce an agreement in Chungking to maintain peace and order, to find a way to reconcile and to promote democracy. In North Africa, the governments of the U.S., the U.K. and the Soviet Union set up a new international administration to govern Tangier, located in Morocco on the western side of the Strait of Gibraltar. The city, strategically located where the Atlantic Ocean meets the Mediterranean Sea, had been occupied by Spanish troops in June 1940 and held by them for the duration of the war.

In the Netherlands East Indies, the Dutch government on October 12, 1945, offers to negotiate with Indonesian nationalists who are willing to agree to self-government for Indonesia under the Dutch crown (that is, accepting Commonwealth status). In Italy, General der Infanterie Anton Dostler becomes the first German general to be tried for war crimes. Dostler stands before a military tribunal in Caserta, accused of ordering the execution of 15 American POWs who had been captured in a raid in March 1944. Although the soldiers were in U.S. Army field uniforms and carried no civilian clothing, they were classified as commandos. Dostler defends his action by saying he followed Hitler’s “Commando Order,” issued in October 1942, that stated (in part): “. . . all Allied Commandos encountered in Europe or Africa should be killed immediately without trial, even if in proper uniform, or if they attempted to surrender.”

French troops in Vietnam on October 13 are fighting Viet Minh insurgents that are led by Hồ Chi Minh. In Argentina, Juan Perón is arrested and imprisoned. Political opponents and the military fear that, enormously admired by the country’s workers and the poor (Perón had done much toward eliminating poverty and dignifying labor), Perón’s popularity could surpass that of the sitting president and of even the government itself.

A new, provisional, national legislature is elected in Czechoslovakia on October 14. In the Dutch East Indies, the Indonesian People’s Army declares war on the Netherlands. At Bad Nauheim, Germany, Gen. George Patton takes command of the U.S. Fifteenth Army, at this time a small organization tasked with documenting the war in Germany. Insiders consider that Patton has been “kicked upstairs.”

Pierre Laval, the former head of state of Vichy France, on October 15 is executed by a firing squad for treason. In London, the House of Commons votes to extend the British government’s wartime emergency powers for five more years, in an effort to recover from the cancellation of American Lend-Lease support. The British economy relied heavily on the transfusion of American aid, and the British find they must maintain austere economic measures to prevent financial collapse. In Manchester, England, the Fifth Pan-African Congress opens. Some 90 delegates spend the week discussing independence for African colonies.

The Food and Agriculture Organization is established in Québec, Quebec, Canada, on October 16 as a specialized agency of the United Nations. Its mission is to lead international efforts to eliminate hunger worldwide.

In Argentina, following huge demonstrations of popular support (300,000 people rally in Buenos Aires alone), Juan Perón — the country’s vice president who had resigned on October 9 because of pressure from the Argentine military — on October 17 is released from prison and returns to politics as a “strong man.” In Tokyo, Emperor Hirohito grants amnesty to nearly one million Japanese as a “step toward national unity.” Soviet troops begin to evacuate Manchuria.

The first open session of the International Military War Crimes Tribunal at Nuremberg, Germany, takes place on October 18, with the indictments of 24 top Nazis. First on the list is Hermann Göring, Supreme Commander of the Luftwaffe and President of the Reichstag (the German parliament), followed by: Rudolf Hess, Deputy Führer of the Nazi Party until 1941, when he was captured in Scotland and held prisoner by the British; Martin Bormann, Chief of the Nazi Party Chancellery and private secretary to Adolf Hitler; and Wilhelm Keitel, Chief of the Wehrmacht High Command. All are charged with four counts: conspiracy to commit crimes, crimes against peace, war crimes and crimes against humanity, in violation of international laws governing warfare. Japanese troops quell an uprising in Semarang, Java, Netherlands East Indies, then hand the city over to British forces.

Amboy Bank Hosts NJ Virtual Senior Property Tax Freeze Workshop

Press Release
OLD BRIDGE - As part of an ongoing commitment to assisting their community, Amboy Bank has implemented a series of workshops to assist seniors applying for a New Jersey Senior Property Tax Freeze reimbursement. The Senior Tax Freeze program reimburses senior citizens for property tax increases. This year, Amboy Bank has taken the initiative to host a virtual Senior Property Tax Freeze Workshop via Zoom on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 10:00 am, where an Amboy banker will assist applicants with the necessary forms, answer questions, and review tax payment options. The workshop

will be recorded and sent to registered individuals. There are also one-on-one appointments available at all branches.

“As a community bank, we are always delighted to help our neighbors in any way we can,” said Amboy Bank’s President and Chief Executive Officer, Gregory Scharpf. “With our knowledgeable staff, we’re able to provide seniors with assistance and information on the tax programs that are available to them.”

To register for the virtual Tax Freeze Workshop on Wednesday, October 14, or for more information about the program, visit AmboyBank.com/Tax-Freeze or call 877.222.6269.



Posting Home Addresses & Phone Numbers of Judges and Prosecutors Online Passes Assembly

Press Release
TRENTON – To protect the privacy and safety of judicial officers and prosecutors, the full Assembly on Thursday voted 79-0 to approve legislation to prohibit their home addresses and telephone numbers from being posted online.

Under the bill (A-1649), sponsored by Assembly Democrats Annette Quijano (D-Union), Yvonne Lopez, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin (both D-Middlesex) and Ralph Caputo (D-Essex), individuals, State and local agencies, and businesses would be prohibited from posting or publishing home addresses and phone numbers of judicial officers and federal, State, county or municipal prosecutors, regardless of whether they are currently working or retired, as well as their spouse or child. Specifically, the bill would amend the current law that prohibits such disclosure for law enforcement officers.

Additionally, the measure would make it a crime of the third degree for a person to knowingly and purposefully post this information online to expose another to harassment or risk of harm to life or property. A third-degree crime is punishable by three to five years in prison, a fine of \$15,000, or both.

If a person posts the information online with reckless disregard for the risks it may cause to another, it would be a crime of the fourth degree punishable by up to 18 months in person, a fine of \$10,000, or both.

Under the bill, the home addresses of law enforcement of-

ficers, judicial officers and prosecutors would be redacted from government records before a document is provided to a member of the public through the Open Public Records Act.

If the home address of a law enforcement officer, judicial officer or prosecutor is posted online, they may request the person or entity that disclosed the information to remove it. If the information is not removed in a timely manner, the affected individual could bring civil action in Superior Court.

After the attack at the New Jersey home of federal Judge Esther Salas this summer, it was discovered that the shooter had found her home address online. This legislation would be known as ‘Daniel’s Law’ after Judge Salas’ son, Daniel Anderl, who lost his life in the attack.

The measure’s sponsors released the following joint statement on the bill:

“Making tough decisions is part of the job for judges and prosecutors. Sometimes these decisions aren’t popular, and they become a target. It’s frightening to think that disgruntled individuals may be able to find their home addresses and personal phone numbers readily available at the touch of a button.

“Our hearts continue to break for Judge Salas and her family. The goal of this bill is to better protect the privacy of judges and prosecutors by prohibiting their personal addresses and contact information from being shared online without their consent.”



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.

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 - A.L.S.

**St. Therese
Novena Rose Prayer**

Little Therese of the Child Jesus, please pick for me a rose from the heavenly garden and send it to me as a message of love.
Little Flower of Jesus, ask God today to grant the favors I now place with confidence in your hands.
(mention specific requests)
St. Therese, help me to always believe, as you did, in God's great love for me, so that I might imitate your "Little Way" each day.
Amen.
A.L.S.

**Miraculous Invocation
to St. Therese**

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

Pet of the Week

Kamden aka Kami is such a sweet boy! Anyone that adopts him will be so lucky. He was found in Keasby crying for 5 hours after he was dumped. He is lovable, playful and he's a cuddler. He gets along with cats, dogs and kids. He's just the perfect boy. Barely 8-9 months he deserves to have a home of his own. Kamden is neutered, vaccinated for rabies and distemper vaccines, tested negative for FIV and leukemia, was dewormed, flea treated,



had his nails trimmed and ears cleaned. Email Vmoralespps@yahoo.com for adoption application or text 1.732.486.6382 Allforthepaws.org Donation fee applies.

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.

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

**Remember to
Say Your Novenas!**

**Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 20**



Petition to St. Jude

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

**Attn: Walgreens Customers:
We Are Now Accepting Express Script Ins. Plans**



*Fernando Oliveira
Proprietor*

LUDWIG'S PHARMACY
FREE Rx Pickup & Delivery
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LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – The dedication of the original Victory Memorial Bridge on June 24, 1926 which goes over the Raritan River between Perth Amboy and Sayreville. The bridge was replaced in the early 2000's.
**Photo Courtesy of Perth Amboy Office of Recreation*
This photo was restored under a grant from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission to the Kearny Cottage Historical Association.

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Woodbridge Library Events

The 350+ Year Evolution of Salsa

WOODBIDGE - Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with us virtually as we are taken on an immersive musical experience with José Obando who will trace the history of the musical genre—salsa! Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020 at 7 p.m This event will take place virtually over Zoom.. Please register at woodbridgeli-brary.evanced.info/signup or call 732-634-4450 ext. 7120 Regis-tration Required - <https://bit.ly/33DmayN>

Meet the Artist: The Murals of Downtown Woodbridge

WOODBIDGE - You may have heard of, if not seen, the mu-rals on the tunnel and etchings on the waiting room at the Wood-bridge NJ Transit station. But, do you know who created them? Saumya Ganguly, of Woodbridge Downtown, interviews this talented artist! Thurs. Oct. 8, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Woodbridge Public Library, George Frederick Plaza, Woodbridge. For more information call 732-634-4450. Registration Required *More information to come regarding this event. Please check our cal-endar for updates.*

Ghosthunting NJ & NYC

WOODBIDGE Hear what experiences have been had at these famously haunted locales! Author and investigator L'Aura Hla-dik Hoffman updates us on some of her favorite paranormal sites contained in her books. Mon. Oct. 19, 2020 at 7 p.m. via Zoom at the Woodbridge Public Library. For more information call 732-634-4450. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/33zUKKp>

Medicare Workshop

WOODBIDGE - Michael Salum of Medicare Planning Ser-vices will fill you in on everything you need to know about the changes to Medicare for upcoming enrollment period. Thurs. Oct. 22, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Woodbridge Public Library, George Frederick Plaza, Woodbridge. For more information, call 732-634-4450. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/2FwOlrs>

Hispanic Heritage Month

WOODBIDGE - Continue our celebration of Hispanic Heri-tage Month with a virtual tour lead by the NJ Hispanic Research & Information Center (NJHRIC). A representative will guide us through a digital exhibit on the history of US Latinx civil rights movements. Wed. Oct. 21, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Woodbridge Public Library, George Frederick Plaza, Woodbridge. For more information call 732-634-4450. Registration Required. *More information to come regarding this event. Please check our cal-endar for updates.*

WPL Virtual Book & Movie Club

WOODBIDGE - Join us for an informal chat about the movies, books or TV shows you have seen or watched (binged watched) recently that you loved. Or, tell us what and why you strongly disliked something. Mon. Oct. 26, 2020 at 7 p.m. via Zoom at the Woodbridge Public Library, For more information call 732-634-4450. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/33CfNf9>

Votes for Women:

A Portrait of Persistence

Exhibition at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library

SOUTH AMBOY – Celebrate the centennial of women’s suf-frage with commemorative posters on exhibition at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library. Organized by the Smithsonian Institu-tion Traveling Exhibition Service in collaboration with the National Portrait Gallery. The project received support from the Smithsonian American Women’s History Initiative. sites. si.edu For more information including library hours, call 732-721–6060 or go to www.dowdell.org. The Dowdell Library is located at 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza adjacent to South Am-boy Middle High School.

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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, November 5, 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 de-part from behind St. Stephens Church parking lot on Me-chanic Street, Perth Amboy. For more info call Joe at 732-826-0819.

A.C. TRIP

Holy Rosary Seniors

HOPELAWN - Holy Rosary Seniors is sponsoring a bus trip to Harrah’s Atlantic City, Tues-day, November 10. Cost is \$40 and \$10 back in play. Seating is limited. Bus leaves Church (625 Florida Grove Rd.,Hopelawn) parking lot at 10:00 am. Any questions please call Connie at 732-442-4978.



St. John’s Fall Pirohi Sale

PERTH AMBOY -. Orders may be called in on October 19&20 to 732-826-7067 between 9:00 a.m. and 12 Noon. The Pirohi are Potato /Cheese and Jalapeno Cheddar they are \$9.00 a dozen and are Frozen. Pick up will be on October 21 from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. at 404 Division Street, Perth Amboy.

Fish/Chicken Fry

SAYREVILLE - The First Pres-byterian Church of Sayreville, 172 Main St, Sayreville will be having a Fish/Chicken Fry on October 16, 2020. There will be drive-in and pickup only. There is no indoor eating due to Covid rules. The event will run from 5-6:45 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 and available now by calling the church a 732-257-6353 or con-tacting us by email at churchof-fice172@optimum.net. You can also find information on our website at FPCSAYREVILLE.ORG. Chicken dinners must be specified in advance.



St. Patty’s Day Luncheon

SOUTH AMBOY - K of C Council 9199 originally planned a St. Patty’s Day Luncheon on March 15th, but COVID-19 had other ideas. So, they are spon-soring the first (and hopefully never again - "This COVID-19 Really Has Messed Things Up”) St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon”, to be held on Sunday, October 11, 2020. The meals will be served from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. and will be TAKE OUT ONLY at the Parish Center.

The menu will include Tra-ditional Corn Beef and Cab-bage, Potatoes, Rye Bread, and of course, Irish Soda bread and dessert. The cost will be \$15 per meal. **Preordering is required.** We will honor tickets purchased prior to shut down in March. For info, or to place your order, call Rich Fetzer at 732-822-4957.

L2B> Library to Business

SOUTH AMBOY – L2B seeks to connect job seekers, busi-nesses, and nonprofits of New Jersey with organizations and experts who are actively engag-ing in business and workforce development webinars. View the CALENDAR for FREE webinars and online training. Click on eRESOURCES for businesses, nonprofit organiza-tions, and economic informa-tion. <https://libs2b.com/>

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



Friends of the Perth Amboy Library Book Sale

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Pub-lic Library are once again hav-ing a book sale October 10 and October 24, Saturday from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the Brighton Avenue Community Center at the corner of Brighton Avenue and Sadowski Parkway in Perth Amboy. We are delighted to be back after being sidelined by the pandemic for 7 months. I know many people have been starving for reading material for these long months we were at home. We will be wearing masks and providing hand sanitizer and bags if needed. We also insist that anyone coming to peruse our collection also wear a mask as mandated by the State of NJ. Paperbacks are \$.50, hardcovers are \$1, \$5 for a bag full, no limit to size of bag except no lawn or garbage bags. We have best sell-ers by popular authors that are like new. The money we raise goes to support the library with providing programs, promoting literacy or to provide funds to the library with their needs be-yond their budget. We look for-ward to your visit.

For more information email us at friendsofperthamboyli-brary@gmail.com, or call us at 201-381-1903 and like us on Facebook. Dealers are wel-come.

Sayreville Wills & Power of Attorney Seminar

SAYREVILLE – There will be a Wills & Power of Attorney Seminar at the Sayreville Public Li-brary via zoom on Thursday October 20 @ 6:00 p.m. Open to the public. You do not need to be a resident.

Speaker: Kenneth Vercammen, Esq. Edison, (Author- ABA’s “Wills and Estate Administration book”)

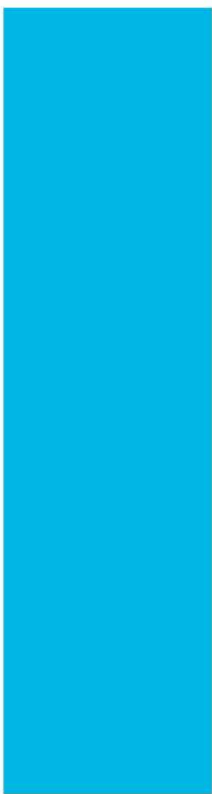
Main Topics:

1. NJ Estate Tax eliminated
2. Wills and problems if no Will
3. Power of Attorneys recommendations
4. Living Will & Advance Directive
5. Administering the Estate/Probate /Surrogate
6. Avoiding unnecessary expenses and saving your family money

Wills & Estate Administration-Protect Your Family and Make Planning - This event is free & open to the public. Registration at sayrevillelibrary.org or 732.727.0212 is suggested. Sayreville Public Library

Complimentary Material: Brochures on Wills, “Answers to Questions about Probate” and Ad-ministration of an Estate, Power of Attorney, Living Wills, Real Estate Sales for Seniors, and Trusts. <https://www.facebook.com/events/950851175326327/>

Can’t attend? We can email you materials. Send email to VercammenLaw@Njlaws.com



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<i>Yard Sale</i>	Sayreville Bombers 14 KT Charm - \$75 in Box; can add Specialty Sport Charm, etc. - 732-525-2405	Lawn Mower - Sears - Self Propelled Mulcher - no bag 6.75 HP - \$45 732-727-5056
October 10 th & October 17 th (Saturday) 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. - 91 Lewis, St., Perth Amboy; Coats \$30; Clothes \$3 to \$20; Shoes \$30; Items \$5 + up; Jewelry \$2 - \$5; Sneakers \$30 Free Gift with Purchase	Movano Watch SS Museum Style Mint Condition \$75 Firm. 732-540-5351	Lionel Electric Train Transformer KW 190 Watts. Excellent Condition \$65 - 732-727-8417
<i>For Sale: Dining Room Set</i>	3/4 Size Acoustic Guitar. Good for young child - \$50. 732-541-5491	Daybed with pullout sleeps two. Excellent condition. - \$75 - 732-738-4283
Dining Room Table - 6 Chairs - Fabric Seats - Asking \$400 - 732-599-2329	Brand New Electric Heater Radiator. Was \$65 Now \$20 New Never Used. 732-547-7406	Powerlift for motorcycle \$75 - must pick up. Please call 732-738-7074
<i>For Sale</i>	Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Dining Hutch - Wood - Good Condition \$50 - Self Pick-up 732-826-6324
Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975	Bedroom set - twin bed, dresser with mirror, chest, mattress and spring. \$75 732-618-6985	Free Firewood. Must pick up and cart away. 732-826-8024
Dyson Vacuum Cleaner Mint Condition \$45 - 732-290-1551	Safe Combination 21" High 13 1/2" wide on wheels \$75 732-634-1851	LP's Cassettes, CD's DVD's \$1.00 each; Radio, CD \$20 - 732-887-2235
GPS Tom Tom - 3 pcs Stereo System - Dog Bed \$65 ea. 732-293-0151	Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5 th Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-6305	Girl's Bicycle 24" Panasonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or B.O. 908-501-3993
1 Large Christmas Tree \$25; 1 Small \$15; Lounge Chair \$15 - 732-297-4457	Portable Sears Sewing Machine - Used Twice \$25; Epson Printer with new ink (never used) - \$40 - 732-679-0086	Sissy Bar and Pad for Harley Sportster - Great Condition \$65 - 908-590-8885
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Pancake Air Compressor 3 Gal 100 PSI \$30 - 732-395-1551 - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	New never used Mirror 27"/41" Brown Frame was \$120 - Now \$75 - 732-721-7186	Children's Sports Lamp w/shade. Really cute, BB, FB, Etc. Large \$20 - 917-670-4908
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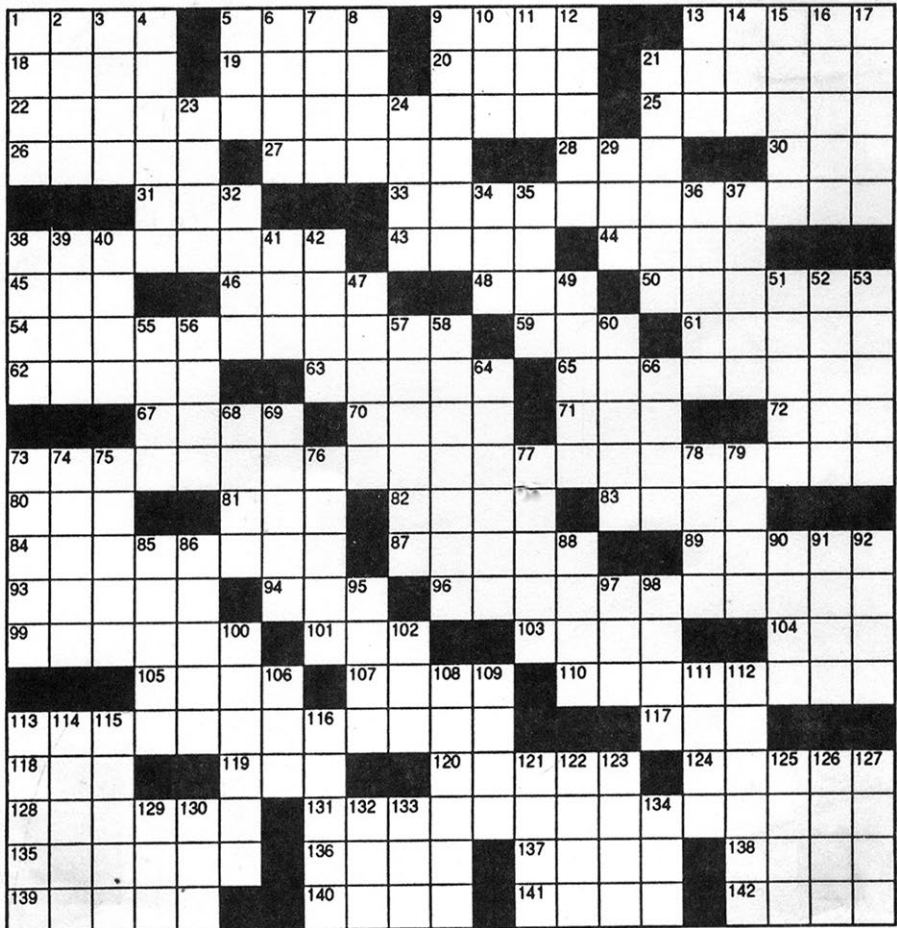
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38 Andreotti's milieu
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46 Overhead
48 Lamb's mother
50 Pre-pupal
54 Durable humorist?
59 Actor Brynner
61 Old hat
62 Zhou —
63 "Some Like —" ('59 film)
65 '75 Peace Nobel
67 Mother of Horus
70 Try one's patience
71 Native: suffix
72 Stout relative
73 Fluffy vocal duo?
80 Make a midi into a mini
81 — Mineo
82 Approx- mately
83 Geraint's better half
84 Tuna type
87 Tuscan town
89 Peter of Herman's Hermits
93 — France
94 Pirate's quaff
96 Synthetic golfer?
99 Urgently
101 Pull hard
103 Field of study
104 "Exodus" protagonist
105 Raindrop sound
107 Othello's inducer
110 "Jumbo shrimp," e.g.
113 Coarse comic?
117 Utter
118 Clark's "Mogambo" costar
119 Rowan or Rather
120 Morocco's capital
124 Long Island town
128 Take in
131 Soft actress?
135 Pinnock or Howard
136 "Hi- —, Hi-Lo"
137 Harness part
138 Cain's nephew
139 Kildare
140 Very impres- sive
141 Computer "food"
142 Carry on
DOWN
1 Certainty
2 Reverberation
3 Give off
4 Write graffiti
5 Sgt.'s counterpart
6 Suggest
7 Alan of "The Four Sea- sons"
8 Antlered animal
9 Incarnation
10 Tynemouth title
11 Every last bit
12 Showy shrub
13 — relief
14 Current unit
15 Antitoxin
16 Actress Verdugo
17 Moshe of Israel
21 Former military chairman
23 Took off
24 Prop for "Kookie"
29 Inoperative
32 Man — (racehorse)
34 Basketball's Auerbach
35 Hors d'oeuvre holder
36 Indisposed
37 — Incognita
38 Location
39 Hostage
40 Actor Jannings
41 From — Z
42 Hindu mediator
47 — dish (lab vessel)
49 Orchestra offering
51 Like a cold
52 Coral outcrop
53 Mississippi mound
55 Temporal
56 Bonet or Whelchel
57 Horned herbivores
58 Hospital areas
60 Wood- working tool
64 Not as loose
66 Quick-witted
68 — facto
69 Singer Kay
73 Bangkok natives
74 Opening remark?
75 Brazier bit
76 Kayak commander
77 Reed or Mills
78 1492 vessel
79 Superstar
85 Proficient
86 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
88 Flying start?
90 General Bradley
91 Caligula's nephew
92 Davis of "The Sinbad Show"
95 "The Ghost and Mrs. —"
97 Villainous Luthor
98 Shells out
100 Over there
102 Guy's friend
106 Cops' org.
108 Vampire repellent
109 Fall birth- stone
111 Cardinal
112 Pearl harborer
113 Devilfish
114 Tower material?
115 Time for chores?
116 Quitter's cry
121 Ornitholo- gist's concern
122 On a cruise
123 Dweeb's cousin?
125 — the Hyena (Capp character)
126 Heavy metal
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Movie Review: Antebellum

By: Anton Massopust III
“The past is not dead.”

In the spirit of The Twilight Zone and Black Mirror comes Antebellum which means “Before the Civil War”. A young successful woman author and lecturer, Veronica (Janelle Monae) finds herself in a forced-labor Plantation in the Deep South during the Civil War. She learns that disobedience or even speaking can lead to horrible brutality and punishment. But we find out that Veronica is not in the past, but in the present time and she becomes the target of a U.S. Senator who imprisons her and several others in a camp with Civil War reenactors who are reenacting a battle, and no one knows they are being held prisoner.

With no way of finding a way to connect with the regular civilization, Veronica fights her way out of this camp, finds a cell phone and tells the outside world what is going on here, and the terrible place which hidden in plain sight and no one



would ever know that this is going on.

Antebellum is probably one of the weirdest movies that I've ever seen. The trailer was completely deceptive, and you think that this movie is about time travel, like Kurt Vonnegut's Slaughterhouse-Five, and it isn't at all what you are led to believe. You're completely and utterly deceived. Through the first half of the movie I was completely fooled.

The soundtrack is eerie and

frightening, and the cinematography is gorgeous. The acting is good, but some characters are flushed out and some are not. This film will probably be nominated for several academy awards. They are great performances here and it is interesting plot. The film is packed with action and stomach wrenching brutality. Is it worth renting or watching? Yes, give it a try. You will either love it or hate it. I would say make your own decision what you think of it.

"Citizen Power" NJ Edition Published by Rutgers Press

This Citizen Leadership Manual provides the knowledge for all New Jersey residents to realize the full measure of their political power and take on significant, unelected

Press Release 9/30/20

PERTH AMBOY - The Citizens Campaign today announced the publication by Rutgers Press of its NJ edition of Citizen Power; A Citizen Leadership Manual. The book includes a practitioners' guide for practical problem solving of government issues, equipping New Jersey citizens with the knowledge and skills they need to apply the full measure of their political power to better their communities and nation. By teaching people how to lead with pragmatic, evidence-based solutions, it serves as a powerful antidote to today's partisan polarization and finger pointing in our politics and government.

Written by Harry Pozyski, the founder of The Citizens Campaign, the book is available for \$19.95 at <https://www.rutgersuniversitypress.org/citizen-power/9781978824393>

The book teaches citizens about their new legal rights to participate in government problem solving and decision making. It also includes proven political techniques and a roadmap to powerful leadership positions that people can take without having to run for public office. In short, it teaches regular citizens how to operate the power levers of local politics and government and where to go to introduce their own solutions.

Citizen Power's; Practical Problem Solving Guide, developed in concert with successful practitioners of local government, puts citizens in the drivers' seat with a step-by-step method on how to find policies that are working successfully in other communities and adapt them for adoption in their own

towns. It also informs citizens of a new platform to leverage their local solutions for national impact.

"Anyone who believes in personal civic responsibility can use this book to provide powerful leadership, both by example and by practical solutions in their own community without having to run for public office," said Harry Pozyski.

"We no longer need to feel powerless and frustrated" added Pozyski. "We have the power to drive government from the bottom up. And our example of unselfish service can restore mutual respect and pragmatism to our political and governmental culture."

Praising the new book, former Governor Tom Kean said, "By teaching citizens to be informed participants in government problem solving and giving all citizens the opportunity for public service, The Citizens Campaign is laying the foundation for a new chapter in American democracy."

Distinguished Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania and past President of the American Political Science Association Rogers Smith, said, Citizen Power provides proven practical guidelines for how Americans from all backgrounds can work together on common problems. In this age of polarization that paralyzes us in facing our most severe challenges, nothing is needed more."

This citizen leadership manual has proven its worth in Civic Trusts facilitated by The Citizens Campaign. In Newark, Paterson, Plainfield, Perth Amboy and Trenton, service-driven,

practical minded citizens serve as Civic Trustees. They have used the know how gained from Citizen Power to bring critical solutions to their cities to beat COVID and create 21st century policing practices.

Citizen Power; A Citizens Leadership Manual is also used as a text book at Rutgers, Newark School of Public Affairs, Middlesex County College and serves as the main text for Power Civics, now being taught to all high school students in Newark, Trenton, Perth Amboy and Plainfield. Power Civics is a course module developed by The Citizens Campaign for use in university and college political science courses and high school social studies courses. It introduces students to the information and skills they need to be problem solvers and emerging leaders in their own communities.

Pozyski's first civic book, published in 2002, resulted in regular citizens passing hundreds of local laws with a success rate of over ninety-percent. He is also the author of a national edition of Citizen Power, published by Rutgers Press.

An accomplished attorney, who is the founder and full-time volunteer leader of The Citizens Campaign, a community of citizens who with the help of experienced government practitioners is building a culture focused on practical problem solving. Pozyski draws on the lessons he's learned getting results, often against steep odds, as an elected official, policy advisor to Governors of both parties, county party chair, and civic innovator.

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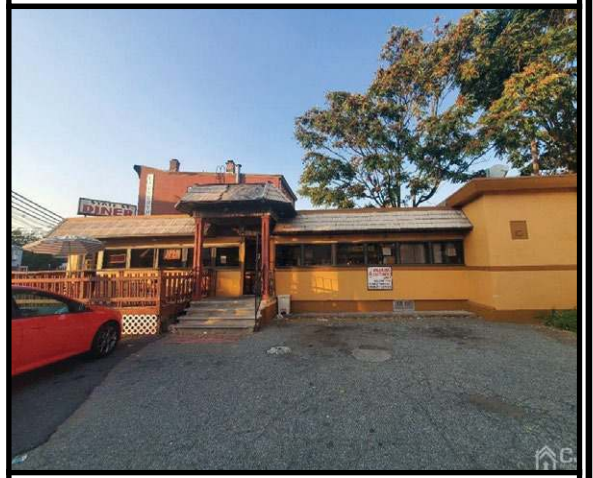
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