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Merry Christmas! - Happy Chanukah! Happy New Year - 2021



Some Photos taken at Broadway Ange - South Amboy

**Photos by Katherine Massopust, Carolyn Maxwell, Paul W. Wang*

Season' s Greetings



A Christmas Gift



During this season of giving
Each one of us can give a Christmas Gift to our fellow man
With giving respect and kindness you may be giving a person
that is down on his luck a reason to keep on living
You may lift up someone's spirit by giving him a helping hand
By giving the gift of reverence of every human being
You will be receiving a Christmas Gift
A gift that was given to us over two thousand years ago
The gift of being selfless
The gift of love
By being tolerant and giving love to everyone you meet during
this Christmas Season
You will be giving and receiving "A Christmas Gift"

By "The Poet" Dioris Luis Arlequin

Vainieri Huttle, Reynolds-Jackson Measure Re-quiring Registration of Vacant and Abandoned Properties Released by Assembly Panel
Legislation Establishes Enforcement Tools to Maintain Properties

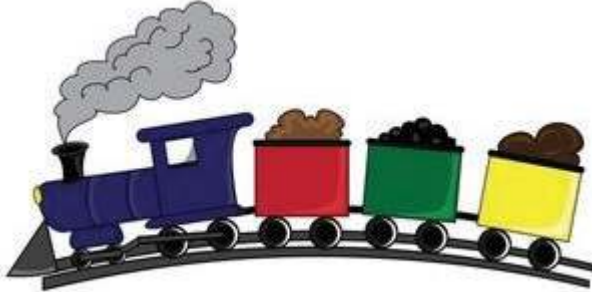
Press Release 12/14/20
TRENTON – To help ensure that communities can enjoy their home’s surroundings, a bill that would require the responsible parties of vacant and abandoned properties to register them in the municipality where they are located was released by the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee Thursday.
The measure (A-2877) includes enforcement tools to help ensure that the properties are properly maintained and


allows municipalities to hold those parties accountable.
Assembly Democrats Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-Bergen) and Reynolds-Jackson (D-Hunterdon, Mercer) are sponsors of the legislation and released the following joint statement:
“Whether a single or multi-family home, a modest dwelling or a mansion, properties that are well-maintained help instill a sense of pride in our communities and make them more inviting. There truly is ‘no place like home’—especially when home is pleasant visually.
“Yet when properties and lots are abandoned and not maintained, they become an eyesore to the community, bring down property values, and are a source of stress to those who must see them daily.
“This measure will help ensure that the parties responsible for such nuisances are held accountable, take corrective action and are fined accordingly when they fail to do so.”



Virtual Holiday Concert

WOODBIDGE – The Woodbridge Township Cultural Arts Commission presents: The Navesink Brass Quintet. Available soon on the Woodbridge Township Facebook Page and Woodbridge Channels Video on Demand.





CITY OF PERTH AMBOY
THE HONORABLE MAYOR WILDA DIAZ

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I want to thank every resident in the City of Perth Amboy for their resilience and strength during this difficult year. The greatest gift we could exchange this season is to protect our loved ones and consider one another's health and wellbeing. My heart goes out to those who lost a loved one this year.

I am so proud to serve such a beautiful and caring community, year after year we continue to unite to serve others. I want to give a special thanks to all of our first responders and essential personnel for the tremendous, selfless response, to not only safeguarding the public's health, but for going beyond and meeting the everyday needs of our residents.

I wish everyone a happy holiday season full of love, laughter and giving, with your immediate family. I look forward to what we will achieve together in 2021. On behalf of the City of Perth Amboy, have a joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year. As always, please remain safe and healthy.

Hon. Wilda Diaz, Mayor

City Council Members

William Petrick, Council President

Helmin Caba

Fernando Irizarry

Joel Pabon

Milady Tejeda



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Manager
NJLIC No 3841

Gary Earl Rumpf
Director
NJ LIC No. 3353

Catholic Charities,
Diocese of Metuchen
Announces
Free COVID-19
Testing at Unity
Square, New
Brunswick, NJ
on Tuesdays in
December



Unity Square,
81 Remsen Ave.,
New Brunswick

CAR RAFFLE

Sponsored by
Saint John Paul II Parish



\$20.00
Ticket

- 1st Prize – 2020 Honda Civic
- 2nd Prize – 70” Smart TV, donated by Zevallos/Skrocki, Home for Funerals
- 3rd Prize – \$500 Gift Card, donated by United Poles Federal Credit Union
- 4th Prize – 15.6” Laptop, donated by First Guard FG & Julio’s Auto Repair
- 5th Prize – Michael Kors Bag, donated by Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez
- 6th Prize – iPad 10.2” 32GB, donated by Rosemary Oarsley
- 7th Prize – \$300 Restaurant Gift Certificate, donated by Dom Polski LLC
- 8th Prize – Dual Fuel Combination Charcoal/Gas Grill, donated by B&L Polish Deli & Meat
- 9th Prize – Men & Women’s Bike, donated by Alex & Geri Barcheski
- 10th Prize – Microwave Oven, donated by Quisqueya Restaurant

Saturday, December 26th, 2020 @ 3:00 P.M.

At St. Stephen’s Auditorium

500 State Street, Perth Amboy, NJ

*(732)826-1395 * www.johnpaulsecond.com*

No substitution of the offered prize may be made and no cash will be given in lieu of the prize.

No one under the age of 18 is permitted to participate.

Winner need not be present. Winner is responsible for all Federal and State tax.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT SAINT JOHN PAUL II PARISH

Press Release
NEW BRUNSWICK The NJ Department of Health through the City of New Brunswick is offering COVID-19 testing at Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen’s Unity Square at 81 Remsen Avenue in New Brunswick. The testing will be offered on Tuesdays throughout December from 10AM to 2PM and will be free of charge. Those wishing to obtain a rapid test are advised to refrain from eating or drinking within 30 minutes of testing. Insurance is requested but not required.
Unity Square is a community organizing and social concerns initiative of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen that works to empower community members and catalyze change in the residential neighborhood of New Brunswick, NJ. Unity Square’s efforts focus on a target neighborhood of about 6,000 low-income residents. Unity Square addresses a diverse set of issues, including economic development, employment, civic participation, immigrants’ rights, and tenants’ rights. More recently, Unity Square began emergency food distribution as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Since April 2020, Unity Square has provided emergency food bags to over 1,000 unique households. Catholic Charities Acting Executive Director, Julio Coto said “We are committed to the health and safety of the New Brunswick community and are pleased to partner with the City of New Brunswick and the NJ Department of Health to make COVID-19 testing accessible to Unity Square residents.”



LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

The End of 2020
Time to Put Our Differences Aside

Perth Amboy is one of the few towns which had to have a runoff election. Unfortunately, there was a lot of animosity going around. At the end of the day, this should all be put aside during the holiday season. Just like we did during Superstorm Sandy, we have to pull together for the benefit of our community that has been hit the hardest during the coronavirus. Forget any pettiness, but to tell you the truth – people are more concerned about putting food on the table and if the politicians are going to come together regarding a stimulus package. Talk is cheap.

At the end of the council meetings, most of the speakers will say the same thing: “Stay safe; wash your hands; practice social distancing.” In spite of all of this, you are still going to have people who are going to buck the system. You know why? You always have knuckleheads who only care about themselves. It really has nothing to do with someone’s race or culture.

Children sometimes will have better hygiene than adults, because these safety precautions are being drilled into their heads at a young age and sometimes adults will just fall into their bad habits. You have to be responsible for your own actions. So, as we end 2020, there is hope on the horizon for a vaccine which has already been administered to people in other countries and soon to be distributed in the United States.

We as Americans have always overcome many disasters and there is no reason to be pessimistic that we will not overcome this virus, too.

I think personally we are all looking forward to 2021 as we should be. As we stated in our

last editorial, I saw a t-shirt that said: The first thing you should do in 2021 is not mention 2020. But mark my words, some of the hottest selling items in 2021 will be anything that says: I survived 2020! At the end, all you have is hope. If you don’t have hope, everything else is lost.

We will leave you with the lyrics from a song called "Smile": Music by Charles Chaplin, Lyrics by John Turner and Geoffrey Parsons, 1954. Smile has been recorded by Jimmy Durante, Judy Garland, Louis Armstrong, Nat King Cole, Robert Downey, Jr., and Michael Jackson, to name a few.

"Smile"
*Smile, though your heart is aching
Smile, even though it's breaking
When there are clouds in the sky
You'll get by...*

*If you smile
Through your fear and sorrow
Smile and maybe tomorrow
You'll see the sun come shining
through for you*

*Light up your face with gladness
Hide every trace of sadness
Although a tear may be ever so near*

*That's the time you must keep on trying
Smile, what's the use of crying
You'll find that life is still worthwhile
If you just smile*

*That's the time you must keep on trying
Smile, what's the use of crying
You'll find that life is still worthwhile
If you just smile*

C.M. & K.M.



THE COMMUNITY VOICE

"Let Go! Let God! Give Patience and Peace a Try!"
T’is the season to “Let Go! Let God! Give patience and peace a try. The years have brought about many conflicts in our

lives which never seem to fade away. The old grudges, family feuds and misunderstandings stay with us because we don’t take the time or are afraid to talk about the unresolved hurts from the past. Now is the time to set about righting the old hard feelings. I assure you all parties will become away stronger, happier and with a better understanding

of what really matters in life. Reach out. You will be amazed to learn that the other party has wanted to forgive and forget but was afraid to make the first move. Let Go! Let God. He will show you the way.

Respectfully,
Robert A. Brown

It's Christmas Enjoy It!
Ok folks! Christmas is the time of the year to enjoy with your family and friends and to

forget about that circus election we had and wearing a mask here and there because some "Control Freak" said so. Let's celebrate this Christmas with joy and peace on earth for man-

kind. Make this Christmas a special one like never before!
So, enjoy this Christmas. Merry Christmas and enjoy life!

Orlando "Wildman" Perez

Masks
Perth Amboy is the coronavirus hotspot in Middlesex County, with the most cases, and they are rising. Dr. Anthony Fauci, the director of Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, has predicted continued surges of Covid-19 into at least the end of February, making this period even more dangerous than the Spring surge. I have noticed some Perth Amboy residents not wearing masks and ignoring other proper hy-

giene criteria. Perhaps not all Perth Amboy residents can afford cable news where they hear these precautions every day or they do not hear it regularly on Spanish language television. Considering that, I suggest that signs outside telling residents to wear masks, avoid crowds, and socially distance at least 6 feet apart be displayed in both English and Spanish. Channel 34 and Channel 47 should also display bilingual hygiene guidelines and facts about coronavirus precautions inside and

outside and about the dangers of having holiday get-togethers with people not in your household. Remember, the coronavirus has no symptoms in some people, and you can unknowingly spread it to others. You may be saving your life, or that of a precious family member’s life or other lives by listening to the medical experts and practicing caution.

Marianne Zanko Komek

The Perth Amboy Renaissance
The City of Perth Amboy is in the midst of a renaissance and we, at Duke Realty, have been proud to take part. Over the past several years, the Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency (PARA) and the City of Perth Amboy have worked tirelessly to revitalize parts of the city that had been largely neglected. For our part, we’ve developed several projects that have brought new investment to the city, created new job opportunities for Perth Amboy residents, and cleaned up once contaminated land.

Perth Amboy has an industrial history, going back to the mid-1800s, but over the past few decades industries that once thrived, including the manufacturing of steel, chemicals, and textiles, have fallen upon hard times. As many of these industries were relocated or shuttered, places like Perth Amboy were left with hundreds of thou-

sands of vacant square footage and the lost tax revenue that accompanied it. These types of sites are notoriously difficult to clean, upgrade, and develop.

The City and PARA both have demonstrated tremendous leadership and vision and it is one of the biggest reasons we have chosen to build projects here. But more than that, Perth Amboy is strategically located and is home to a high-quality workforce.

An example of one such project is the Gerdau Ameristeel project. This site laid unused for ten years and had industrial uses going back well over 100 years. As a result, the land was heavily contaminated and brought no value to the City. We spent tens of millions of dollars cleaning up the site and building new green infrastructure, with PARA advocating to include public spaces, providing public access to the waterfront. Now, Home Depot has chosen to move into this site and is opening a distribution center that will provide

thousands of local jobs and further investment in the City.

The fact that the City and PARA served as both invaluable partners and tireless advocates for the people of Perth Amboy is notable. They were there every step of the way ensuring that the projects brought a real benefit to the City. Attracting tenants like Home Depot is extraordinarily competitive, but we were able to do it in part because of the collaboration with PARA and the City.

We firmly believe that Perth Amboy has a bright future ahead. The City by the Bay is uniquely positioned for success, while many other towns and cities work to find their footing. Duke Realty is looking forward to continuing to act as an engaged partner in providing opportunity and creating high-quality projects.

Art Makris
Senior Vice President
of the Northeast Region
for Duke Realty



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

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P. O. Box 127 • Perth Amboy • New Jersey 08862
Carolyn Maxwell - (732) 896-4446
Katherine Massopust - (732) 261-2610
AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

Carolyn Maxwell
Publisher & Advertising Manager

Katherine Massopust Layout & Asst. Writer	Paul W. Wang Staff Photographer	Lori Miskoff Website Manager
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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.
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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.
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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

THURS. Jan. 7	Board of Education, 5:30 p.m. PAHS, Eagle Ave.
MON. Jan. 11	City Council, Caucus 4:30 p.m. City Hall, High St.
WED Jan. 13	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.

South Amboy

WED. Jan. 6	City Council, Reorganization, 6 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway
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All meetings are subject to change. Check the City Website to see if the meeting will take place via phone conference or at another location and for details how to participate

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

SOUTH AMBOY MAYOR & COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.

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Holiday Model Train Show

WOODBIDGE – The Barron Arts Center Holiday Model Train Show will be open from November 28 thru December 30 (Closed December 25). Featuring the setup design of Mike Gelsky. Now it is in its 30th year at the Barron Arts Center.

Due to the on-going health crisis, we will be presenting our holiday train show by reservation only. To make your reservations visit <https://register.communitypass.net/townshipofwoodbridge> Please note: we can only allow groups of 10 or less to visit the train show at one time. Face masks are required, and social distancing will be kindly enforced.

Free Admission. Donations are welcome. The Barron Art’s Center is located at 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. For more information contact Cynthia Knight, Director: Phone: 732-634-0413; Fax: 732-634-8633.

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

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7 p.m. Thursday

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By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – The meeting started at 4:38 p.m. Councilman Fernando Irizarry spoke first regarding Ordinance No. 2. – Special Event permit.

“At the last meeting, we requested that changes be made to this ordinance regarding the timeframe of people presenting their events for approval, etc.”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch said, “The changes were made.” Council President Petrick requested, “We need to have the present ordinance that we made changes on.”

Irizarry continued, “My email is not working again.”

Kupsch said that he needed to bring in his iPad for this problem to be fixed.

There was then a long discussion on Ordinance (First Reading – No public discussion) RE: Creating a Perth Amboy Citizens Public Safety Advisory Council.

Petrick started the conversation, “We (the council), the police, the FOP, and the PBA had no real involvement. We want openness, responsibility, and accountability.”

Police Chief Roman McKeon came up to speak, “I’m not saying that this advisory council is a negative, but we all need to be together in those meetings.”

Petrick then advised the council, “Maybe we need to table (this ordinance).” He also suggested that it should be changed to an Advisory Board or Committee and not use the word, “council”.

Irizarry agreed, “It should be changed to an advisory board.

Petrick also was concerned about the number of people that could be on this advisory committee and the ages of the people to be on it.

Law Director Peter King suggested that the ages start anywhere from 18 to 20 years old.

McKeon continued, “I have a problem. I had very brief discussions with Bob McCoy (From JEDI) and Donna Stewart (Perth Amboy Chapter of NAACP). I also agree that having somebody on this advisory group from the ages of 15 to 20 will be too young. The original age group are not even old enough to live on their own.”

Police Chief McKeon also mentioned, “They were one of the first departments to have bodycams, and we have an open-door policy. A lot of discussions were done behind my back. They left me out of a lot of discussions, and I felt that I was being disrespected. Harry Pozycki (Founder of the Citizen’s Campaign and one of the spear-headers of this group) and I agree with the residents on having large participation.”

Harry Pozycki then raised his hand for permission to speak, “We came here six months ago to meet with the police chief and mayor. You (the council) have to adopt this – not the police chief or the mayor. Take your responsibility to lead. You (the council) could have met with the FOP and the PBA. You can save the lives of the police and also save money. I am asking

you to introduce this ordinance.”

Petrick responded, “It’s very tricky. We need to fully flush it out. Let’s get it right the first time. These are very legitimate concerns, but there has not been enough input from the police department. Why are you pushing for this to be passed in December?”

Pozycki answered, “We have offered you this proposal in good faith and are bringing you fact-based solutions. You are turning away our good youth who want to be involved and want to help. All of your questions were answered at previous meetings (when we were here).”

Petrick talked again, “We respect our authority, but I’m hearing from the police chief and the FOP that you never really met with them. I don’t think this advisory committee is ready.”

PBA Local 13 President John Marcinko came up to speak, “We have put down several areas that the PBA had a voice and responsibilities for.”

Councilman Irizarry then asked, “Did the PBA Local 13 agree with the ordinance presented by the Public Safety Advisory Group?”

Marcinko said, “We could not be in the room when the group were voting on certain items. I don’t have the same ordinance that the council has in their hands.” Marcinko then handed a copy of the ordinance that he had for the council to look at. They all agreed what he had, and they had was different.

McKeon spoke up again, “There is a miscommunication and we (the police) need to be in the same room when the public safety council were having their discussions.”

Councilman Joel Pabon then spoke up, “I remember when we had the peaceful protest in Perth Amboy. This has been going on for six months. This group also said that the Police Chief and the Mayor were involved (in discussions) and they weren’t. Only the PBA was involved, and there is too much pointing of fingers going on. What is the problem? Something needs to be put in place. I hope everybody reads this ordinance.”

Petrick continued, “The copy of the ordinance that the PBA have, and our copy are different. We need to be on the same page.”

Pozycki continued, “We met with the PBA’s attorney who drew up the documents. There was no real change in the substance, except maybe in parts of the language. It is consistent to what the PBA has.”

Irizarry then said, “The citizen complaint review board is not part of the ordinance presented that we have. What we have may be the final draft.”

Petrick then said, “We all should have the same draft.”

Councilwoman Tejada voiced some concerns, “I can see the urgency, but let’s take the time to meet so we are on the right path. Get everyone who needs to be involved to be here. We (the council) need to be a part

of the process and the Council President should be at those meetings.”

Petrick then turned to Councilman Irizarry, “I nominate you to be on this advisory board. You’ll have plenty of time now (that you no longer will be on the council). You can also take notes at the meeting.”

Irizarry then asked, “Are you going to pay me?”

Petrick continued, “This is important for the community, but I hope it’s not adversarial.”

Pabon spoke up, “At first, the PBA was not even part of the committee.”

Petrick then suggested, “We need to have the police department’s point of view. It needs to go back so this committee so they can meet with the PBA and the FOP.” He then asked that Ordinance No. 1 (first reading) be tabled. Councilwoman Tejada seconded the motion.

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch said she would have it removed for the next meeting.

Councilman Helmin Caba had a couple of thoughts regarding this ordinance, “This has been going on too long and it was presented to us 6 months ago. I talked to many people about this public safety ordinance and each person had a different view. Neither the police nor the mayor was present at the council meetings to discuss this. We will be the first city in the state to have this.”

Pozycki then corrected Councilman Caba stating that Orange Township has a Citizen’s Public Safety Council.

Caba then said, “We will be the first city in Middlesex County to have this.”

After that discussion, DPW Director Frank Hoffman came up to discuss R-502 – Inserting \$7,439 into the revenue in the CY: 2020 budget for the Middlesex County Recycling Subsidy Grant.

He explained, “The reason why we got this money is because we are not in the County-wide Collection Program. It cost us about \$45,000 a month for recycling.”

For Resolution R-503-12/20 – Authorizing cancellation of current appropriations, balances, and the water/wastewater utility fund.

CFO/Comptroller Jill Goldy came up to explain R-503, “We have a running deficit. The governor said we can’t put residential accounts into our tax sales. We are moving some of the unpaid bills to close out some of the \$300,000 of unpaid bills. We are not allowed to shut off residential water. Commercial buildings are different.”

Councilman Irizarry then spoke up, “People don’t realize that after the executive orders are lifted, your rent and other bills will have to be paid.”

Law Director King then clarified, “The landlord will have the liens on their properties.”

There next was a discussion regarding R-528 – 12/20 – Adopting official newspapers

A Difference of Opinion

12/7/20 Caucus

**Continued from Page 6*

for legal notices.

Law Director King said, “This will be done in the reorganization meeting in January.”

Petrick disagreed, “We need to do this now.”

City Clerk Kupsch said, “We always have done this in December in past years.”

There was also a discussion R-532-12/20 – Setting the 2021 Council Meeting dates, times, and location.

Kupsch said, “This was also always done in December.”

Councilman Helmin Caba then brought up the question about fluoride in our water, “Even though there are positives (in reference how it works in regards to dental hygiene), but it is not a valid enough reason, especially if no one else in the county is doing it. We need to remove the fluoride from our water.”

King said, “I had asked Luis Perez-Jimenez (Director of Operations at the USA-PA (Utility Service Associates Perth Amboy) Middlesex Water Company) to look into this.”

Perez-Jimenez said, “We would have to modify the permits.”

Irizarry then spoke up, “I’ve heard no complaints about the fluoride in the water. I think it’s good to have healthy teeth and a lot of people can’t afford to go to the dentist.”

Councilwoman Tejeda then asked about the pros and cons of fluoride in the water.

Perez-Jimenez, “The DEP gives the limits on how much fluoride that we can have, and we have a 0.7 level which has no negative health effects.”

Petrick then spoke up and stated, “I heard that fluoride is good for the development of teeth in younger people. Just to make it clear, you still need to brush and floss your teeth every day.”

Caba continued, “We also shower and bathe in this water.”

Petrick continued, “What is the immediate and lifetime exposure to fluoride?”

Irizarry answered this question, “We were told a person would have to drink 2 liters of the water every day for 70 years to harm them.”

Perez-Jimenez then said, “Fluoride is a corrosive material.”

King suggested that straw poll be taken of the councilmembers if we should remove fluoride from the water. Pabon stated that the council doesn’t have enough information to make a decision right now.

King asked Perez-Jimenez if there was any financial savings to remove the fluoride, “It’s about \$10,000 a year to add the fluoride.”

Petrick also suggested that they be given the pros and cons of fluoride.

King then asked, “Will there be any upgrades needed to remove the fluoride?”

Perez-Jimenez again stated, “There are no harmful effects, and the fluoride is added after the water filtration process is completed.”

Tejeda also agreed that more information is needed in this decision.

There was a discussion regarding R-408-12/20 – An agreement with Bayshore Single Stream Solutions, LLC for marketing and recycling of single stream recyclable materials.

Hoffman explained, “This is an award-winning company, and they adhere to high ethical standards.”

Irizarry was concerned, “This company says that they will not accept coat hangers as recyclables.”

Hoffman explained, “It’s the wooden ones that would not be accepted and we have sent out mailers regarding recyclable materials (and how they should be disposed of). This company may do dual streaming in the future. We used to make a larger profit on recyclables in the past.”

There was a question to as why pots and pans are not recyclable. Hoffman explained that anything that newer appliances have requiring an outlet for them to operate would not be acceptable. “There is a way for them to be disposed of (bring them down to the Department of Public Works to determine where to dispose of them).”

OEM Director Larry Cattano came up to explain R-511-12/20 – For the Perth Amboy Police Department to participate in the 1033 Program to request and acquire excess Department of Defense Equipment.

Cattano explained that this would be under the category of Code No. A which would be Regular and Non-Military Supplies that you can purchase in a regular store. “For us to get weapons or any heavy-duty artillery, we would have to get council’s approval before acquiring it.”

Cattano was then asked if the police department was aware that Seabra’s liquor license had been suspended. Cattano explained, “We should get the notice from the city clerk’s office to go to Seabra’s Armory with a notice in our hands so they can hand over their liquor license to us.”

Law Director King then spoke up, “Seabra’s cannot serve liquor – only food – and their liquor license was supposed to be turned over to the city on 12/6/20.”

Victoria Kupsch had a comment to make about the council’s question about changing the meeting time. “You can do this at Wednesday’s (12/9/20) meeting.”

It was decided that R-528 – adopting legal newspapers for official notices and R-532 – setting the 2021 council meeting dates, times, and locations would be reworded for Wednesday’s meeting. R-529 thru R-531 – appointing members to the Planning Board and Board of Adjustments would be voided. These appointments will be done at a January Meeting.

R-535 – 12/20 – Awarding a contract to Turn-Key Technologies for the purchase of parking garage cameras in an

amount not to exceed the sum of \$22,619.04

R-535 was discussed by Council President Petrick. The old cameras we have can’t cover the whole parking area (in the Jefferson Street Parking Garage).

Petrick then explained R-536-12/20 – A public hearing and adoption of the 2021 budget for the Perth Amboy Business Improvement District (BID) for January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021. had to be removed because they didn’t have a meeting.

Public Portion:

Resident Vince Mackiel was the first to speak, “The city council should approve the Public Safety Committee. Martin Luther King, Jr. always advocated for better housing and community involvement. “We need something in place. We are faced with healthcare issues. We need a public safety committee to discuss housing, healthcare issues, and the economic state of the 10% of black people to help them. More needs to be done. They renamed Madison Avenue “Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. It’s only symbolic.”

Resident Jeremy Baratta came up next, “Why was the BID Meeting cancelled? Could it be because they may not have followed the proper procedures? Sometimes the worst vice is advice. We are in the middle of a pandemic. We have a lot of federal police agencies that discuss police activities and training. Take time to look at this ordinance (Citizen’s Advisory Group). They are trying to promote a certain political platform and want to exclude the police in some of their discussions. There should be a committee to describe their function.” He then disputed the comment made earlier by Perez-Jimenez. “Fluoride costs \$1.10 per resident per year. You would save \$100,000 to eliminate fluoride.”

Alan Silber came up next. He referenced R-539 – Commending B.J. Bienvenido Torres and Caroline Pozzycki Torres for the contributions they have made to our waterfront community. “Everyone should abstain from voting to give an award to someone who is presently running for office.” Silber then asked, “What are the duties and qualifications of a Library Director? We have not had a certified Director for close to 5 years. In 2017, there’s a posting for the job for Library Director and they needed to have a license. Wilda does whatever she wants, even when it comes to interim appointments.” He then turned his attention to the Code Enforcement Department and talked about a house at 395 Rector Street which is part of the Landings property and in terrible condition. “It was bought in 2016 and this house is boarded up. Has Code Enforcement looked into this? J.B. Vas would come to meetings and talk about the housing in Perth Amboy and he lives close to that address. Did he ever talk about this? Were any citations

or summonses issued at this address? Is there any list of vacant homes?” He then questioned, “There are many dead fish at the marina, and it can’t be because of the fluoride.”

Cattano came up to answer the question regarding the fish. “We are trying to determine if it is because of algae or lack of oxygen.” He also wanted to let the council know that an officer did go to the Armory and confiscated their liquor license.

Councilman Fernando Irizarry questioned, “Why was the ordinance that I asked to be put on the agenda regarding marijuana not here? Is it possible to have a special meeting? If we don’t have time to get a special meeting in December, I ask that it be put on the agenda in January.”

Council President Bill Petrick promised Irizarry that he would make sure this was done. “I have two more years to be on the council.”

King then told Irizarry there was something in place regarding the marijuana ordinance.

Code Enforcement Irving Lozada came up and addressed some of the Landings Properties, “There were 7 that were issued summonses, but you have to remember that the courts are still closed.”

Petrick then stated that Covid only happened recently. These seven properties are 12 years old.”

Lozada said, “I was not an employee, then.”

Petrick questioned, “Can these proceedings be done through Zoom?”

Lozada responded, “We can’t control court dates if the lawyers have to reschedule. Zoom is a lot more difficult. Documents have to be loaded also.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up, “I have been complaining about the property at 395 Rector St. for a year. The old Armory building was knocked down. We need to put these properties up for sale. Let Kushner sue us. The Landings residents deserve better and we can’t give Kushner any more breaks. They should knock that building down at 395 Rector. Kushner knocked down the old Armory to save on taxes.”

Petrick then suggested, “We should let the appropriate departments see if they are unsafe structures.”

The meeting went into closed session at 7:00 p.m. with no further action to be taken.



Food Drive, Old Bridge

**Photo Submitted by Amboy Bank*



Press Release
OLD BRIDGE - Gregory Scharpf, Amboy Bank President and CEO, and Anthony DeToro, Vice President and Branch Administration Deposit Officer, help Anahita Feltz, Old Bridge Food Bank Manager, and Matthew Mercurio, Director of Parks & Recreation and Social Services, gather the food collections from the Amboy Bank Administration Building and neighboring branches. Scharpf said, “Through the generosity of our staff and clients, we were able to help the Old Bridge Food Bank feed the members of our community who need it most. We’d like to thank everyone for making our annual food drive such a success.” Amboy Bank’s food drive included all 23 offices making donations to their local community food banks.

Endorsements of Political Candidates Questioned Among Topics Discussed 12/9/20 Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – The meeting commenced at 7:12 p.m. All Council Members were present. No one from the audience came up to speak on any of the ordinances. When it came to the first public portion, resident Ken Balut was first to speak.

He questioned R-508-12/20- An agreement with Bayshore Single Stream Solutions LLC for marketing and recycling of single stream recyclable materials.

“Why isn’t there any money mentioned?”

Law Director Peter King responded, “Bayshore will be paying the city \$82 per ton.”

Balot then questioned R-509-2/20 – Professional Services agreement with Center State Engineering for project cost for design engineering, specifications, BID documents, and construction inspection for the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal and Urban Aid Grant improvements to certain streets off of Convery Boulevard. Cost not to exceed \$39,000.

“Why was this contact not bidded out?”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch answered, “This is for professional services. It is not bidded out.”

Balut wasn’t satisfied, “Still some of the work involved in this project should be bidded out. I’m also waiting to see the bills that Centerstate Engineering sent out to Kushner. I already OPRA’d this. There has been no action for over a year.”

He then went on to question R-531-12/20 – A contract to Turn-Key Technologies for the purchase of parking garage cameras in an amount not to exceed \$22,619.04.

“Will they (the cameras) work?”

Council President William Petrick fielded this question. “This is the same company who installed the cameras that are presently in the Jefferson Street Parking Deck.”

Balut continued, “The cameras on Smith Street never worked and information can be deleted. You need to have a backup system.”

Petrick then stated, “Maybe Cloud Storage can be used.”

Balut ended by stating, “Cameras were altered and changed in the past. I have copies of original tapes that I had turned over to the prosecutor’s office that were later altered.”

After the public portion was closed, Council President Petrick announced that the council needed to take a brief break to go into a closed session. The council went into the closed session at 7:28 p.m. and returned at 7:55 p.m. When the council returned, Law Director King told the council that you cannot have a resolution to amend an ordinance. The question was regarding putting a late starter on agenda.

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch told the council they would need a unanimous vote to put this particular resolution on the agenda. It was moved by Council President Petrick and seconded by Councilwoman Tejada to add the late-starter on the agenda. When it came to voting, Councilmen Caba and Irizarry voted “Yes”, but Councilman Pabon voted, “No” which stopped the voting since the vote had to be unanimous.

For Ordinance No. 1 – RE: Handicapped Parking. It was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Tejada. Ordinance No.

2 – Special Events. Moved by Irizarry and seconded by Pabon. Ordinance No. 3 – Administration of Government RE: Budget and Fiscal Procedures. Moved by Irizarry and seconded by Caba.

For the consent agenda, R-498 thru R-532, R-534 thru R-535, was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Pabon. R-533 was voted on separately.

R-533 – 12/20 – Expressing appreciation to Lisa Nanton for her outstanding efforts and dedication to the city.

Before voting, Pabon wanted to thank Lisa Nanton for her service, especially when it came to securing funds for the Prop House which has cleaned up this place a lot. “The ball room is open, and the lights are working. As someone who lives right across the street from the Proprietary House, I can tell you that I and the other homeowners on that street are very happy.” R-533 was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Caba. All voted “Yes”.

Public Portion:

Ken Balut came up to speak and questioned whether municipal prosecutors can make political endorsements. He also questioned how a captain who worked as a campaign manager for the mayor received a \$12,000 raise. “A captain had been suspended. There is a video showing people going into mailboxes and they had been investigating this since September 24, 2020. Why have there been no announcements from the business administrator, the mayor, or the police department for people to make sure they watch their mailboxes?” He then talked about the Kushner properties. “The mayor in 2009 extended Kushner’s contract even though he had done nothing for the city. The mayor took it upon herself to do this contract – and its garbage. She doesn’t want to take on Kushner.” Balut then talked about Code Enforcement. “They should enforce the law. How many tickets did Code Enforcement give to the Landings? They have no fire-blocks in their building. It is about time people stood up and not let Kushner build more garbage. Kushner likes to brag about his developments in Long Branch.”

Law Director King responded to Balut’s question involving the municipal prosecutor giving endorsements. “They are not held to the same standards as judges would be. There is nothing governing prosecutors.”

Council President Petrick asked if a prosecutor can endorse the mayor during the elections.

King emphasized again, “Nothing precludes a prosecutor from doing this as there are for judges.”

Petrick then asked, “Can a provisional captain get additional pay?”

King responded, “If they are doing the duty for that position, then they can get the pay. If he is on his own time, he can work on a political campaign.”

Pabon questioned, “Will this

be a civil service violation?”

Petrick said, “Would there would be a problem because a code enforcement employee was interviewing people who may have taken ballots from people’s mailboxes?”

King explained, “If this was done during the working hours and they were using city equipment, that would be illegal. If this was done on their own personal time, and using their own personal electronic devices, there is no violation. I don’t know if there were any criminal complaints.”

Petrick spoke up, “People did file complaints.” Petrick then described the video. “An individual filed a complaint of theft of mail from their mailbox.”

King responded, “The county can investigate.”

Petrick asked if he could be informed how far up the complaint went.

King gave two scenarios: “A person can get suspended with pay while an investigation is going on. If there is an indictment, a person can be suspended without pay.”

Council Comments:

Helmin Caba was concerned because Covid numbers are rising at alarming rates. “There were a thousand cases this month and sixty kids got it in one day. We are number one in the county. Protect all your loved ones. We need to get the Covid numbers on a daily basis.”

B.A. Patricia Perkins responded, “We get the numbers from OEM Director Cattano, and sometimes they (the county) will miss a day or two. As soon as I receive them, I give them to you.”

Caba reminded everyone that there are now two dropboxes for the mail-in ballots. “The one that was at the police department for the first election, and now an additional one was added at city hall. Exercise your right to vote. This is my last meeting as Councilman, and I want to thank all of you, especially for the ones who voted for me four years ago. There are many challenges left ahead and anyone coming into my seat (on the council), God bless you. Rest assured, no matter what, I’ll always be involved. Have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.”

Councilman Fernando Irizarry, who is also at his last meeting as councilman read from a prepared statement (see p.).

Councilman Joel Pabon was also very concerned about the Covid numbers. He suggested that the council put out a letter

to go to the county explaining that we need more screening in the city. “They were no-shows during the election. It’s almost a year (since the Covid hit) and it’s not getting better – it’s getting worse. We have a large amount of people here. The county needs to help us as we have always helped the county.” Pabon then urged when people who fill out the mail-in ballots, don’t write-in names of people who are not on the ballot. Don’t waste your ballot. There is only two people running for mayor. The county Board of Elections was closed because of Covid-19 in their office. I hope the county gets everything in place. We need help with Covid relief and with the election. Covid is not something to play with. I just can’t believe the Covid numbers, especially when it comes to the kids. Enjoy the holidays and do the right thing. Use your mask and wash your hands. I want to thank Councilmen Irizarry and Caba for their service. I have respect for those who serve the public. From the bottom of my heart, I wish you both the best.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejada said, “People have been getting sick from their Thanksgiving celebrations. I want to thank Councilmen Caba and Irizarry for their service. It’s been an honor to be a part of this team. We are going to miss Irizarry as our official translator. Maybe he could come back and work as a translator for the council. Enjoy your holidays and be safe.”

Council President Bill Petrick stated, “The JRF is supposed to be getting the 15-minute response Covid test kits from the state.”

B.A. Perkins spoke up, “The rapid test that Council President Petrick is talking about is not that accurate.”

Petrick then continued. He thanked YMCA CEO and President Steve Jobin for the use of the Y facilities. “I want to thank both my colleagues: Caba and Irizarry for all of their hard work and efforts. No one can compare with Irizarry when it came to his translation skills. I appreciate your insight, diligence, and questions and I appreciate all the hours that you spent on this dais. I will miss you. Be safe. Be cautious. Wear a mask and practice social distancing. I have relatives who are waiting to see if they are getting sick. We are all still waiting for the vaccine. I wish everyone Happy Holidays and most of us will be back in January.”

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Lopez, Coughlin & Mazzeo Bill to Expand Eligibility for Extended Unemployment Benefits Signed into Law

Press Release 12/5/20

TRENTON – In an effort to help out-of-work residents who have exhausted their unemployment insurance (UI) benefits amid the current economic recession caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, a bill to make certain workers eligible for extended unemployment benefits was signed into law Friday by Governor Phil Murphy. The measure received final legislative approval in November, passing the full Assembly 74-0 and Senate 39-0.

Previously, an individual who exhausted regular UI benefits may have then qualified for extended UI benefits if the wages they were paid during their base year – which are used to calculate their benefits – were 40 times their weekly benefit rate.

The new law (A-4852) provides that a person would be eligible for extended UI benefits either because they had qualified for regular UI benefits or they attained the current re-

quirement of being paid wages 40 times the individual’s weekly benefit rate, instead of being required to meet both qualifications, as previously required.

The new law applies to claims filed after June 27, 2020.

Sponsors of the law, Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez (D-Middlesex), Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin (D-Middlesex) and Assemblyman Vince Mazzeo (D-Atlantic) released the following joint statement:

“As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to surge in New Jersey with no clear end in sight, we must do everything in our power to bolster our unemployment program and help unemployed workers through this difficult time. Uncertain times call for innovative measures and extending unemployment benefits for eligible workers under this new law will certainly help bridge the gap for workers to find new employment opportunities.”

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Hackensack Meridian Health Palisades Medical Center Remains Safe for In-Person Care

Current COVID-19 Cases Represent 2% of all Hospitalizations in Northern New Jersey

Press Release 12/7/20
NORTH BERGEN, NJ – Hackensack Meridian Palisades Medical Center and its dedicated physicians, nurses and staff are safely and effectively providing high-quality, compassionate care. Given the rampant community spread of COVID-19 in New Jersey, following is an update for patients and physicians on COVID-19 cases at Hackensack Meridian Palisades Medical Center:

- There are currently 1,560 COVID-19 hospitalizations in North Jersey. Hackensack Meridian Palisades Medical Center currently has 35 COVID-19 patients, or 2% of all North Jersey hospitalizations. Two-thirds of the beds are non-COVID-19 cases.
- The infection control team is confident that the COVID-19 cluster, identified the week of November 12, is isolated and has not resulted in any new cas-

es. **There are approximately three dozen team members out of 1,265 who are out of work due to either a positive COVID-test or because they were in contact with someone who had COVID.** This number fluctuates daily.

- There is no evidence of transmission from team members to patients, or vice versa.** Rigorous contact tracing and testing are being conducted daily.
- The hospital continues to be adequately staffed and daily reviews are conducted to safely redeploy team members where care is needed most. Staff from non-emergent health care procedures have been deployed to support COVID-19 efforts.

“In these unprecedented times, it is normal to feel concerned about practicing medicine or seeking in-person care for non-COVID-19 conditions, and we want to assure patients and physicians that their health and

safety is our top priority,” said Anthony J. Passannante, Jr., M.D., FACC, President, Hackensack Meridian Palisades Medical Center. “In many cases, delaying care could worsen conditions or lead to more serious treatments and procedures, and we urge patients to get the care they need in close consultation with their doctor’s office.”

In addition, many robust steps have been taken to protect team members and patients, and these measures are continually enhanced to maintain an environment where it is safe to practice medicine and seek in-person care, including:

- Strict adherence to all safety protocols established by the CDC and the New Jersey Department of Health.
- All of our clinical team members are wearing N-95 masks, and properly trained and fit-tested.

- Increased daily COVID-19 testing of team members in any of our units with a greater probability or incidence of confirmed cases. Greater surveillance of team members better enables us to identify those who are asymptomatic but test positive and ensure they rest at home.
- Suspending visitation with hospitalized patients, with exceptions for labor and delivery, end-of-life care, pediatrics and adult patients with special needs.
- All team members must undergo comprehensive screening, including a temperature check, before working at a hospital or patient care locations. If there is an issue, the team member is instructed to report to Occupational Health immediately and not come to work.
- Patients are tested for COVID-19 on admission and we have begun serial testing any

patients that stay for more than two days. This is because patients may initially test negative upon entering the hospital but convert to positive over the next few days from illness acquired in the community.

- Team members who test positive are required to self-quarantine at home. Additionally, the network conducts rigorous contact tracing so that if a team member comes in contact with a team member who is positive, they too must self-quarantine as well.
- Intensive cleaning of all facilities including hand-held misters, and UV lighting in all treatment and common areas.
- Continuing to provide universal masking, enforcing its usage and ensuring everyone has the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) by creating an equipment stockpile, including eye protection.

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The Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency Pays Tribute to Tate Goss, Early Investor in Perth Amboy's Future


Press Release
PERTH AMBOY, NJ -- The Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency would like to pay tribute to Tate Goss, President and CEO of Viridian Partners, who passed away in late October. Mr. Goss and Viridian Partners spearheaded several significant redevelopment projects in the City of Perth Amboy including the ePort Logistics Center.

“Tate created deals with unparalleled commitment to strengthening the communities fortunate enough to work with Viridian. His work in Perth Amboy was no different. We are deeply saddened by his passing,” said Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency Executive Director Annie Hindenlang.


Since co-founding Viridian Partners in 2004, Mr. Goss was instrumental in redeveloping over 1,000 acres of contaminated land into 13.2 million square feet of warehouse distribution buildings. In partnership with PARA, Viridian created over 1 million square feet of warehousing space while cleaning up over 70 acres of heavily contaminated land and improving public infrastructure as a part of their ePort project when most other private investors abandoned projects as a result of the 2008 financial crisis.

“Tate saw the Perth Amboy its residents know and love. He wanted to be a part of its next renaissance and helped lay part of the foundation for it,” said Hindenlang. “The ePort project is a product of his persistence and vast expertise. He will be deeply missed.”


Viridian Partners will carry on Mr. Goss's legacy and will continue to collaborate with PARA and the City, particularly in regards to efforts underway to remediate the 50-acre former Celotex site along the Raritan River.



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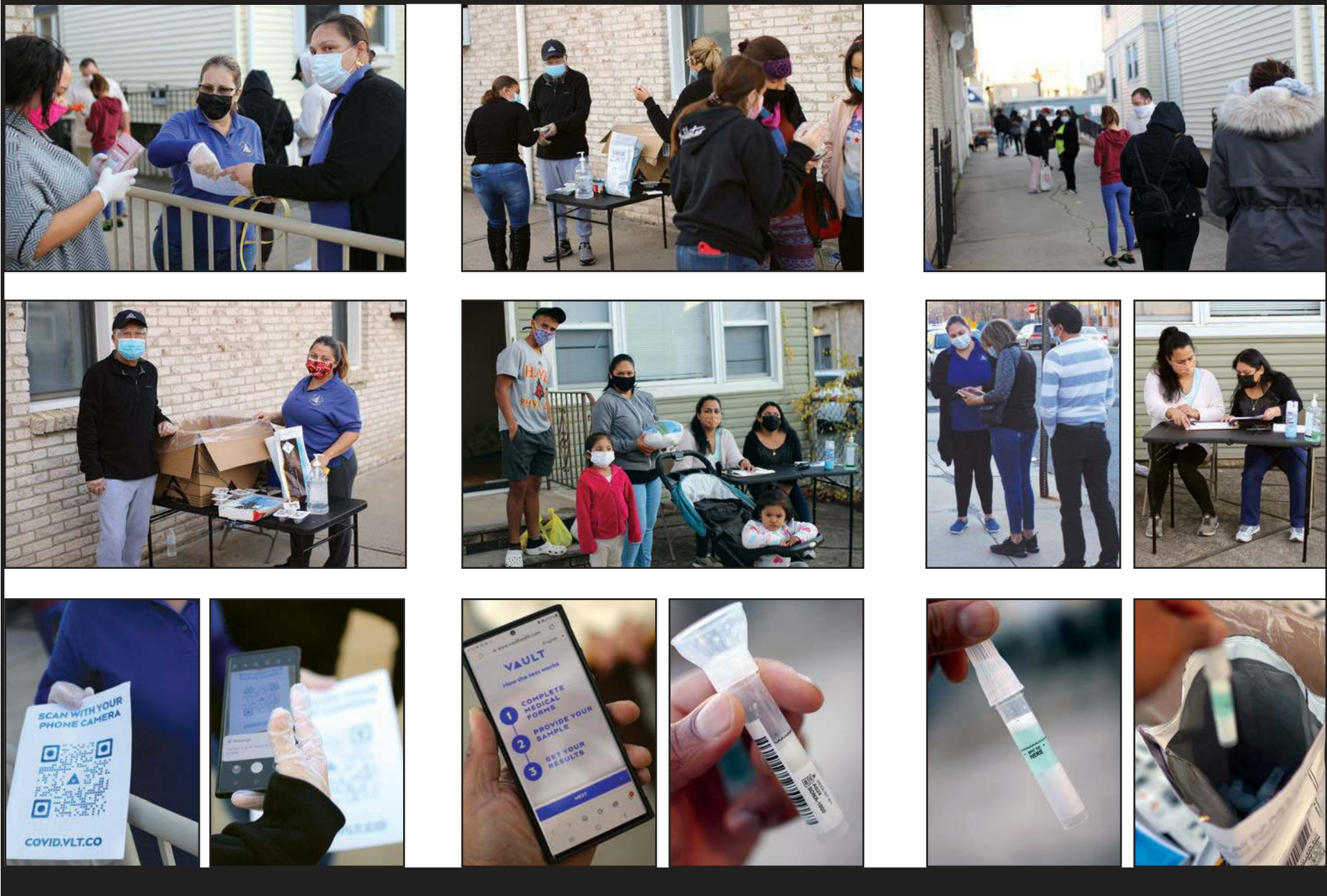
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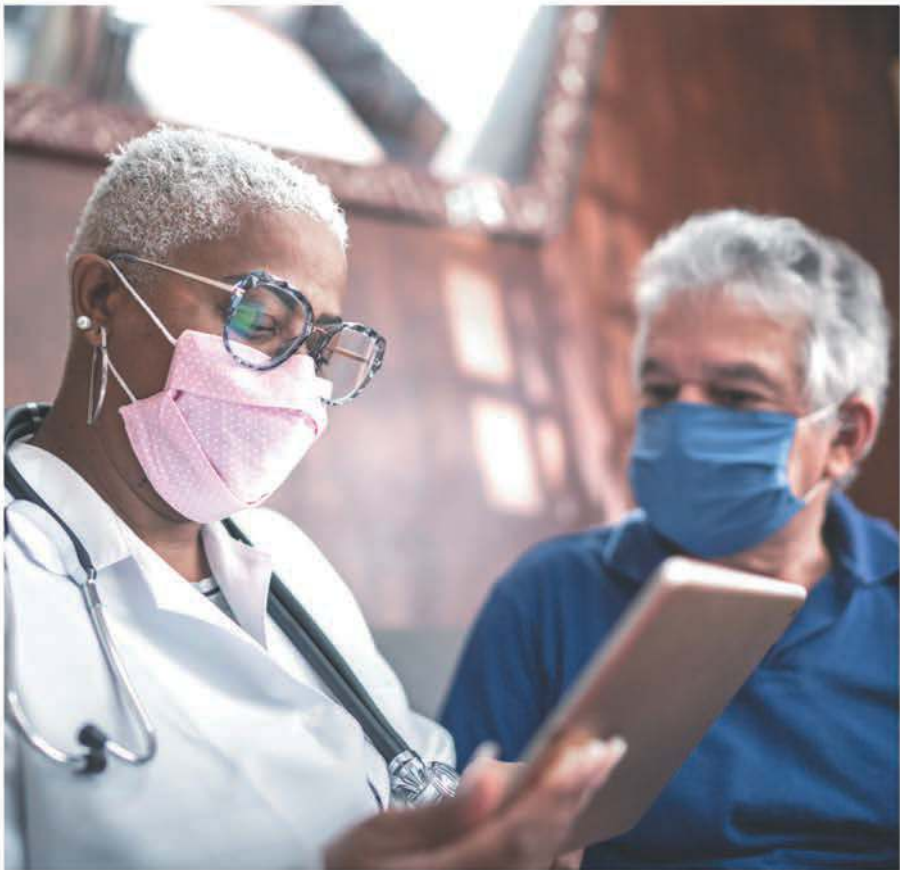
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Turkey Giveaway & Covid Testing, PRAHD, Perth Amboy, 11/20/20

*Photos by Eric Salvary



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Cookie Walk
PERTH AMBOY - St. John's Annual Cookie Walk at 404 Division Street, Perth Amboy, NJ will be Held on Saturday December 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. please come and pick out some homemade baked goods.



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PERTH AMBOY - St. John's Orthodox Church Winter Cake Sale. Orders may be called in on December 7 & 8 for: Walnut, Poppyseed, Prune (Lekvar), Apricot, Raspberry Cakes are \$13.00 to (732) 826-7067 between 9 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Call early before we sell out. Cake orders may be picked on December 16 or 17 between 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. at 404 Division Street.



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Stop & Shop's Christmas & New Year's Hours

NEW JERSEY - On Christmas Eve, New Jersey stores will close at 6 p.m., but the Pharmacy will close at 5 p.m. Online shopping will close at 5 p.m. On Christmas Day, all stores will be closed. On New Year's Eve, New Jersey stores will close at 9 p.m., but the Pharmacy will close at 5 p.m. Online shopping will close at 8 p.m. On New Year's Day, stores will follow regular hours.

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Deck the House Merry & Bright House Decorating Contest

SOUTH AMBOY - Let's light up South Amboy this holiday season and spread some joy! Contestants wanting to participate in the "Deck the House: Merry & Bright" holiday home decorating contest can email picture(s) of their decorated home including address to kellyj@southamboynj.gov starting November 30th, 2020 until December 18th, 2020.

Photos will be posted for judging and will also be featured in our Virtual Holiday Trolley Tour video that will be posted later in December on our Facebook and website page.

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Happy Holidays • Felices Fiestas

PERTH AMBOY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

OPPORTUNITY OPORTUNIDAD

The Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency is proud to serve the City of Perth Amboy by creating opportunity through collaborative redevelopment projects. **Here's a look back at some of what we've accomplished, together:**

La Agencia de Reurbanización de Perth Amboy se enorgullece de prestar servicio a la Ciudad de Perth Amboy creando oportunidades a través de los proyectos conjuntos de reurbanización. **Aquí presentamos una mirada retrospectiva a algunas de las cosas que hemos logrado juntos:**

Cleaned up over 200 acres of contaminated land.

Limpiamos más de 200 acres de terreno contaminado.

Created over 2,000 new high-quality jobs.

Creamos más de 2000 nuevos empleos de alta calidad.

Brought in over \$1 billion in private investment.

Atrajimos más de 1000 millones de dólares en inversiones privadas.

Stay tuned for all the exciting work coming in 2021. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & our website for updates on job fairs and new and existing projects.

Manténganse atentos a todos los trabajos emocionantes que se vienen en 2021.

Sígannos en Facebook, Instagram y en nuestro sitio web para conocer las novedades acerca de las ferias de empleo y los nuevos y actuales proyectos.

perthamboynj.org/government/municipal_boards/redevelopment_agency

facebook.com/PerthAmboyRA • instagram.com/perthamboyra

Dowdell Library Events

SOUTH AMBOY - 2020 has undoubtedly left a lasting impression on each of us. It was filled with highs and lows. As the New Year approaches, so does the hope for new opportunities and the promise for a new beginning. The Dowdell Library is ringing in the New Year with programs to help you become the best version of yourself!

Invest more time into yourself this year! The Dowdell Library is excited to offer free virtual classes through the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Three courses will be available in January. Nadine Roberts, a stress management practitioner, will present A Virtual Guided Imagery Relaxation Session on January 12 & 27. Stretch It, a Stretching and Flexibility Workshop guided by RWJ Outpatient Physical Therapy Specialist John Lancaster, will be available on January 7 & 21. Lastly, RWJ Community Health Organization, in coordination with Alzheimer's New Jersey, presents Meredith Gemeiner, Director of Programs and Services, in a virtual meeting about Understanding Memory Loss. All classes start at 1:00 pm, and you must be pre-registered. For more information or to pre-register, please email susan.capolongo@rwjbh.org or kathleen.johnson@rwjbh.org.

The New Year also starts a whole new tax season. The Library is happy to offer contactless, drop-off tax assistance. Individuals earning less than \$64,000 annually are eligible to sign up for the free VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program starting in January. The VITA program has operated for over 50 years, offering free tax help to low- to moderate-income, individuals with disabilities, and non-English speaking taxpayers. Contact the Library for additional information about this valuable service!

If the last year has taught us anything, it is to make the most of the time we have with our loved ones. The Dowdell Library is working hard to add new virtual programs to our YouTube channel that the whole family can enjoy! Please tune in this month to hear South Amboy Councilwoman Christine Noble read a holiday story about a snowman who keeps melting! Stick around and learn how to cook a new recipe during Test Kitchen, or learn a new hobby during our Virtual Exhibit! New content is added each month. Is there a new trend or technology you would like to learn about? Let us know at comments@dowdell.org.

New Year, fun new Teen Social Media challenges! For the winter months of January and February, choose from one of five categories, including a South Amboy category, and participate in our social media challenge! Look for the challenges on our website soon! Those who complete the SA category will be given credit for community service! Please take a picture and send your finished objective to comments@dowdell.org with your name and which category you chose. The Library will share your accomplishment on our Social Media pages! Each month will have a different set of objectives, and each teen will be able to choose more than one category to complete.

You still have time left to enter the Teen 3D Printer Contest. Tinkercad is a free, online 3D modeling program where you can create objects that can be 3D printed at the Dowdell Library. Watch and learn while Ms. Laura explains how to use Tinkercad and print her creation in the latest installment of Sadie's Studio on our YouTube Channel. Then, use all your new knowledge and create your very own 3D model using Tinkercad at home or on one of the library's computers. Please submit your name and a picture of your 3D item to comments@dowdell.org to enter our drawing! The deadline to enter is December 31st!

The Dowdell Library is still operating on a modified schedule, as well as providing staff-assisted services for faxing, notary service, photocopying, as well as assistance choosing books and media. These changes have helped us ensure the safety of our patrons and staff. Walk-in service is available Monday-Friday 12-5 pm and Thursday 12-5 pm and 6-8 pm. We offer a Grab-and-Go Curbside service Monday morning from 9:30 to-10:30 am. Want to be "in the know?" Sign up for the monthly newsletter at dowdell.org

Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org. The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School.

Holiday Cheer at the Dowdell Library

SOUTH AMBOY - Come in from the cold when you're finished shopping and share some holiday cheer! Join the Dowdell Library for a holiday celebration on Thursday, December 17 at 6:30 pm. Enjoy a virtual zoom concert presented by Collegium Musicum featuring the Veritas Youth Orchestra- under the direction of Dr. Mira Kang, Artistic Director (via Zoom). The Zoom performance will be streaming live in the library. While you're here, make a donation and decorate a holiday ornament to hang on the tree or purchase a new Dowdell Library tote bag! Don't forget to let us know what services you'd like at Dowdell in 2021! Before you head out, make sure to pick up a free gingerbread ornament take-home craft and grab a cup of Hot Cocoa to go! Staff will serve hot drinks in disposable cups and use social distancing.

Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org. The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School. Walk-in service is available Monday-Friday 12-5 pm and Thursday 12-5 pm and 6-8 pm. We offer a Grab-and-Go Curbside service Monday morning from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.



Toy Drive

Press Release 11/28/20

SAYREVILLE, NJ – The Sayreville Republican Municipal Committee will be presenting a check and new unwrapped toys to the Sayreville Recreation Departments Annual Toy Drive to support local families during the Holiday Period.

Chair Art Rittenhouse and Councilwoman Donna Roberts along with other members of the Republican Party will be present at the Sayreville Recreation Department 167 Main Street, Sayreville, NJ at the Mickey Sedlak Recreation Center on Monday November 30, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.

The Sayreville GOP recognizes the needs of families during this difficult time of year. Especially 2020 with the Pandemic and people out of work. The Sayreville Recreation Department will be collecting new unwrapped toys until December 4, 2020. If you have any questions call Jeff Schnitzer at 732-390-7096.



Book Sale

PERTH AMBOY - Stop by the Brighton Avenue Community Center located at 56 Brighton Avenue & Sadowski Pkwy. in Perth Amboy on Saturday, December 12 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and shop our selection of used books. Soft cover books are 50¢, hardcover books are \$1 and a bag of books are only \$5. Book Dealers Welcome! Your support is appreciated.

Due to COVID-19 Restrictions: Rules of Physical Distancing Apply; Face Coverings Must Be Worn.

We thank you all for your continued support and extend our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

L2B> Library to Business

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

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

Woodbridge Public Library Events

Free Virtual Events All are Welcome to Attend

January 6 | 7PM

Meet the Artist : Frida Kahlo

Join us as we examine, discover, and discuss the life of the fearless, iconic Mexican painter Frida Kahlo. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/3ot6SFR>

January 12 | 7PM

How To Get Great Photos With Your New Camera

Got a new camera this holiday season? Join local photographer and multimedia artist Kris Khunachak as he guides you through unlocking that camera's potential and take better pictures. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/33PeACo>

January 13 | 10AM

Community Yoga

Join us virtually for a relaxing hour of yoga led by yoga instructor, Holly Onorato. All abilities and levels welcomed. Please wear comfortable clothing and use a yoga mat or towel. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/3gmgPly>

January 20 | 6:30PM

Beginners Astrology Workshop

Vikki Anderson will guide us through the world of Astrology! Understand astrology vs. horoscope dates, sun signs, planets, qualities, and elements of each sign. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/33SbSvG>

January 27 | 7PM

The World of Tea

January is National Hot Tea Month! Get an introduction to the world of loose-leaf tea; from tea plant to teacup with tea enthusiast Nina Androski. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/2JXgl3V>

January 29 | 3PM

Mystery/Thriller Book Club

Join us virtually for a discussion of The Nanny by Gilly Macmillan. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/33ZGueO>

Thank you for your support!

For more information, call 732-634-4450 ext. 7120

Foster Adoption Challenge

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - Every child and every young person deserves to have a family who will love and support them, forever. The Administration for Children and Families ALL-IN Foster Adoption Challenge is a national effort led by Assistant Secretary Lynn Johnson with the goal of finding loving, permanent homes for the 122,000 children and youth who are currently waiting for adoption in the foster care system.

Partners are needed in every state, including governors, public figures, agencies, courts, faith-based and community organizations, businesses, and the public. Join us and be #ALLINFORWAITINGKIDS! Find out how YOU can be ALL IN at <https://bit.ly/34Ym4V1>

Everyone can do their part to be ALL IN! Take the next step toward becoming a forever family for a waiting child/youth. Be a support for foster/adoptive families in your community. Become a mentor for a youth in foster care. Volunteer with a local agency that supports children and youth in foster care.

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- Professional development

Middlesex County College and The Citizens Campaign Partner to Establish First Citizen Leadership Center in the State of New Jersey

(Part of 1st Cohort in the Nation)

Press Release 12/2/20

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - The Citizens Campaign and Middlesex County College today announced the establishment of a Citizen Leadership Center designed to train students in pragmatic problem-solving skills of community issues and provide opportunities for them to put their training to use as “citizen leaders” working to better their communities and our Country. Middlesex County College is the first of 10 community colleges around the nation where model Citizen Leadership Centers will be launched in partnership with The Citizens Campaign in the coming year. These pioneering Citizen Leadership Centers are designed to pave the way for putting our nation’s 1,100 or so community colleges at the center of a new national public service generating pragmatic and principled citizen leaders.

The Middlesex County College Citizen Leadership Center will have three core components: (1) offering Power Civics© citizen leadership training in one or more undergraduate courses; (2) offering Power Civics citizen leadership training to the broader community via the college’s continuing education program; and (3) hosting a Civic Trust at the MCC Perth Amboy Center, where those who have completed the citizen leadership training work together in No-Blame Problem Solving sessions to better their communities by searching for cost-effective, evidence based solutions.

“The missions of the College and the Citizens Campaign align

well,” said Mark McCormick, President of Middlesex County College. “The mission of The Citizens Campaign is to educate all Americans to the fullness of their political power as citizens and to introduce them to the shared experience of public service performed by participating in seeking solutions to issues in local communities.”

Harry Pozyski, Founder of The Citizens Campaign, said, “The pioneering work done here at Middlesex County College creates a model for the development of Citizen Leaders whose example of unselfish service and No-Blame Problem Solving can heal the Nation. President McCormick and the talented professors, administrators and students at the college are ideal partners for this exciting new venture in restoring our democratic standards.”

Bart Oates, President of the NFL Alumni Association and a member of The Citizens’ Campaign Citizen Leadership Centers Selection Committee said, “The NFL Alumni Association provides its enthusiastic backing of this essential effort to empower citizens to take responsibility for governing themselves and develop the leaders we will need at all levels of our nation. As a former Giant, who enjoyed the support of so many New Jersey fans over the years, I am especially pleased to see this nationwide effort here in the heart of the Garden State at Middlesex County College.”

The core components of the Citizen Leadership Center are elaborated upon briefly below:

•Power Civics citizen leadership training incorporated in

undergraduate courses: Both as stand-alone courses and as a course component, Power Civics Leadership Training will be incorporated into undergraduate course offerings. Power Civics introduces students to the power levers of local government, a proven No-Blame Problem Solving method developed by ‘successful practitioners’ in local and state government, and accessible opportunities for your students to put this knowledge to work as non-partisan Civic Trustees.

•Power Civics citizen leadership training added to the Continuing Education Offerings: To provide the broader community with the opportunity to learn how to become effective leaders improving their own hometowns, Middlesex County and the nation, Middlesex County College will provide Power Civics as a continuing education offering.

•Hosting Civic Trust: The Middlesex County College Perth Amboy Center serves and will continue to serve as the host of the Perth Amboy Civic Trust, comprised of 24 resident Civic Trustees, who come together in monthly no-blame problem solving sessions, searching the nation to identify successful solutions to better Perth Amboy Trustees commit to at least one year of service and pledge to work to “leave their city better than they found it.” Students who complete Power Civics at Middlesex County College will have the opportunity to become a Trustee, participating as part of the Perth Amboy Civic Trust and then potentially forming a Trust in their own hometown.

Pallone Leads Call for Adequate Health and Safety Protections for Laundry Workers in Perth Amboy

Press Release 12/1/20

LONG BRANCH, NJ – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06), Senator Joseph Vitale, Speaker Craig Coughlin, and Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez today sent a letter to Unitex/Med-Apparel Services, Inc. demanding that the company uphold safety standards to protect workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The workers clean linens for hospitals in New Jersey and New York. The workers held a rally on September 29 to demand stronger protections during the pandemic and went on strike on November 18 and 19 to protest the company’s alleged unfair labor practices.

“We write with concern regarding reports on the lack of adequate health and safety protections for essential workers at your Perth Amboy, New Jersey, facility. We are also troubled by reports that Med-Apparel Services, Inc. and its parent company, Unitex, are attempting to use workers’ pension funds as a bargaining chip before the company will give its employees the modest wage increases it has proposed, and that Unitex/Med-

Apparel flatly refuses to commit to implementing COVID-19 safety reforms. We urge you to immediately return to good-faith negotiations with these workers and their union and to uphold critical COVID-19 safety standards in your Perth Amboy facility,” the lawmakers wrote.

“We’re grateful for the support from Congressman Pallone in this important fight for justice for essential workers. Our members are essential laundry workers, and they have stepped up during the COVID-19 pandemic, facing significant health risks to keep many New Jersey hospitals and nursing homes safe. These brave and dedicated workers will not accept intimidation, illegal threats, or unreasonable concessions from Unitex,” 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. “It’s time for Unitex, a wealthy corporation, to deliver the fair new union contract our members have earned. For us

and our members, a fair new union contract must include COVID-19 protections, modest wage increases, and continuation of pension benefits for current and future employees.”

“We’re glad to have Congressman Pallone on our side as we fight for a fair new union contract. We’re essential workers, and we deserve to be treated much better by our employer Unitex. I have dedicated years of my life to this job. It’s hard work cleaning and processing gowns, sheets, and other linens for hospitals and nursing homes in New Jersey,” Brígida Vidal, a worker at the Perth Amboy facility said. “But I am proud to help keep many of New Jersey’s health care facilities clean and safe every day, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the years, my co-workers and I have helped Unitex become a very wealthy and successful company. But instead of treating us fairly, Unitex recently forced us to strike after they illegally threatened us and tried to intimidate us into accepting a bad contract. We won’t stop fighting until we win the fair new union contract we deserve.”

Review: How The Grinch Stole Christmas



By: Anton Massopust III
"All the Who's down in Whoville love Christmas! But the Grinch who lives just north of Whoville did not!"

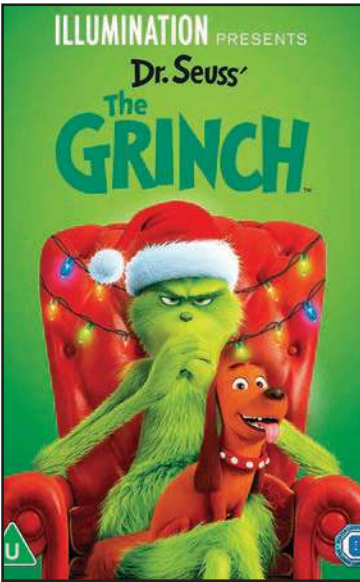
That's the beginning of one of the most famous Christmas stories ever written. One of the most famous children authors of all time Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss "Ted" Geisel). He wrote some of the most famous children's stories of all time including “The Cat in the Hat”, “The Sneeches”, “Green Eggs and Ham”, and of course, “How the Grinch Stole Christmas”. He helped thousands of children learn to read with his works of literature. Of course, these stories were made into television specials and movies.

I will look at all three versions of “How the Grinch Stole Christmas.”

The original, if you’ve never seen it, “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” animated TV special, won an Emmy and a Grammy award. The Grinch believed that Christmas would come without all the Christmas cheer, presents, etc. We know in love he disguises himself as Santa Claus and using his dog, Max as a reindeer makes his way down to Whoville from the mountains and steals everybody's Christmas presents, their trees and every piece of Christmas cheer in order to destroy it. At the top of a mountain. when the Grinch realizes the Christmas does not come from the store or from a box or from the Christmas tree - it comes from the love that's inside us all of us. Dr. Seuss wrote the story about commercialism in 1957. When he wrote the story on how commercialism has infected Christmas, the Grinch was just one of those personas that Dr. Suess had.

The 1966 animated special featured Boris Karloff who both narrated and performed the voice of the Grinch. Warner Brothers famous voice actress June Forey voiced Cindy Lou Who and Thurl Ravenscroft (who voiced Tony the Tiger) sings the famous “You’re Mean One, Mr. Grinch”.

The 2000 Live Action Movie, “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” featured Jim Carrey as the Grinch. This version isn't too bad. It is a little bit too dark, but



Jim Carrey is so funny in it. He added lots of great jokes. The look of the film is a little weird, but I think that the costumes really make up for it. It's a lot better than any of the other live action film versions of Dr. Seuss that were made later on (such as “The Cat in the Hat”).

They concentrate a little too long on other aspects of the Who's and the backstory of the Grinch. Remember, the book is only a few pages long.

My biggest complaint about the animated 2018 Benedict Cumberbatch version is that Cumberbatch does not use his English accent which takes away from it. It takes away from Cumberbatch, who is a wonderful actor. The animation is fine. There is a lot of gags added that is not really needed a give no dimension to the Who's, especially Little Cindy Lou Who, who is turned into “a supergirl” who jumps around doing crazy stunts.

This version is okay with beautiful colors that make you feel like Christmas, but there was no real reason for its existence. There is a rap version of “You’re A Mean One, Mr. Grinch,” sung by Tyler, the Creator.

I think there are good things in both animated versions, but the original version by the great animator Chuck Jones is the one to go for. Chuck Jones brought back the Grinch into other sequels or prequels: “Halloween is Grinch Night” and “The Grinch Grinches the Cat in the Hat.”

Merry Christmas!

Ads Sell! Call Carolyn!
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World War II - 75 Years Ago

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

On December 14, 1945, the Truman Administration intervenes in the Chinese Civil War by dispatching General of the Army George C. Marshall to China to negotiate a truce between the Nationalists and the Communist Chinese.

The United Nations announces on December 15 that its permanent headquarters is to be located in the U.S. In the Netherlands East Indies, the almost-two-month-long Battle of Ambarawa, in central Java, ends in a victory for the newly formed Indonesian Army as the British are forced to retreat to Semarang, some 10 miles to the north.

In Tokyo on December 16, Gen. of the Army Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, orders the end of Shinto as the official religion of Japan. Former Japanese prime minister Fumimaro Konoe, central to transforming Japan into a totalitarian state in the 1930s and suspected of possible war crimes, commits suicide in his home by swallowing poison. The Sinclair Oil Co. ends a long wage dispute when it grants an 18% pay raise and a 40-hour work week to members of the Oil Workers International union.

The Senate on December 17 votes for the U.S. to assist in establishing a Jewish homeland in Palestine. In Japan, voting laws are amended to permit women to cast ballots.

In the U.K. on December 18, the House of Lords dismisses William Joyce's appeal against his sentence of death for high treason. Joyce, as "Lord Haw Haw," had broadcast Nazi propaganda over the radio from Berlin.

Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of the late president, on December 19 is appointed as one of the first U.S. delegates to the United Nations. The Swiss parliament passes a law allowing for the immediate expulsion from the country of any foreigner holding pro-Nazi or fascist views.

In Italy, on December 20, Edda Mussolini Ciano — *Il Duce's* daughter and the widow of Italian foreign minister, Count Galeazzo Ciano (executed for treason in January 1944 because he had voted to remove Mussolini from power in July 1943) — is sentenced to two years in prison for aiding Fascism. Rationing of automobile and truck tires ends in the U.S. In the Soviet Union, seven Germans are hung in Smolensk for crimes against Soviet citizens, including murder and rape; three others charged are sentenced to long terms of forced labor. Over 50,000 Smolensk residents gather to watch the executions.

George S. Patton dies in his sleep in a hospital in Heidelberg, Germany, from a combination of fluid in his lungs and congestive heart failure. Karl Renner becomes the first president of a reconstituted Austria.

Both the United Kingdom and the United States on December 22 officially recognize the government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, headed by Josip Broz Tito.

From Vatican City, Pope Pius XII on December 23 publishes an encyclical — *Orientales omnes Ecclesias* ("All the Eastern Churches") — to the faithful of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic and the Ruthenian Greek Catholic Churches, commemorating their 350 years of union with Rome. After the war, many members of these churches have come under the rule of the Soviet Union, which is exerting pressure for church members to forsake Rome, abandon their church and join the Russian Orthodox Church (controlled by Moscow). In the document, the Pontiff writes: "We know that grievous snares are being set for your faith. There seems ground for fear that in the near future still greater hardships will befall those who refuse to betray their sacred religious allegiance." (In fact, between 1945 and 1958, six Ruthenian bishops are murdered, sentenced to death or die in prison camps. In 1946, after continued persecution, the Ruthenian church is folded into the Russian Orthodox Church.)

On December 24, the remains of Gen. George S. Patton are laid to rest in the Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial in Luxembourg City, Luxembourg.

On Guam on December 25, Rear Adm. Shigematsu Sakaibara of the Imperial Japanese Navy is sentenced by a military tribunal to death by hanging for ordering the execution on October 7, 1943, of 98 American civilians on Wake Island.

Adm. Chen Shaokuan is relieved as supreme commander of the (Nationalist) Republic of China Navy on December 26. Ordered by Chiang Kai-shek to attack Communist positions in Shantung Province, Chen refuses, stating that the navy had not recovered sufficiently from the war with Japan. The Gaoyou-Shaobo campaign in China ends in a Communist victory after a week of fighting. The Nationalist forces lose 80 artillery pieces, over 6,000 small arms and suffer over 4,000 casualties.

The Moscow Conference of Foreign Ministers takes place on December 27. Representatives of the "Big Three" powers — the U.K., the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. — meet and make some far-reaching decisions. Among them: international control of atomic energy; creation of a Far Eastern Commission and Allied Council for Japan; withdrawal of foreign troops from China; and an independent Korea within five years. As to the latter, despite the demands of many Koreans for immediate independence, the Allies agree to a four-part trusteeship (the Big Three plus the Republic of China) that over time will work out the governmental details of a unified and independent Korea. In the meantime, the Soviet Union will administer the nation north of the 38th Parallel, and the U.S. will administer south of it. Terrorist attacks are carried out against British military bases in Palestine, including a police station in Jaffa and an ammunition dump in Tel Aviv. In Washington, D.C., the International Monetary Fund (IMF) begins its official existence. First formed at the Bretton Woods Conference in 1944, the IMF has 29 member countries. The organization's goal is the rebuilding of the international payments system.

On December 28, 1945, in Washington, D.C., President Truman signs into law the War Brides Act that exempts spouses and natural and adopted children of U.S. military service personnel from the immigration quotas and mental and health standards currently in force. A spokesman for the United Nations says that the organization will choose a site "in the general area" of either Boston or New York City for its permanent headquarters.

Koreans in Seoul attack U.S. soldiers on December 29 to protest the decision made at the Foreign Ministers' Conference in Moscow on December 27 to wait for as long as five years before reinstating Korean independence. In the Soviet Union, the Politburo on December 29 approves Lavrenty Beria's request to be dismissed as the head of the NKVD, the interior ministry, responsible for law enforcement and secret-police activities. (The "dismissal" is to allow him to focus on his secret new role in leading atomic-weapons research. Sergei Kruglov is named to replace Beria as head of the Soviet Internal Affairs Ministry (MVD), the re-named NKVD.) In Paris, the government announces that all air transport will be taken over by the state-owned airline, Air France.

Friedrich Gustav Bernhard, a German Lt. Gen. of Cavalry and Panzer commander, captured by the Red Army, is tried on December 30 by a Soviet military tribunal and found guilty of atrocities and war crimes in the Bryansk region of Russia, about 360 miles southwest of Moscow. He is hanged the same day. In the Netherlands East Indies, 2,600 U.S.-trained Dutch troops land at Batavia, Java, to reimpose colonial rule.

In the U.K., the British Home Guard is disbanded on December 31. Chiang Kai-shek announces his conditional acceptance of a Chinese Communist offer of a ceasefire in the Chinese Civil War. In Washington, D.C., the Marine Corps reports that, as of December 31, there are about 46,000 U.S. Marines stationed in northern China.

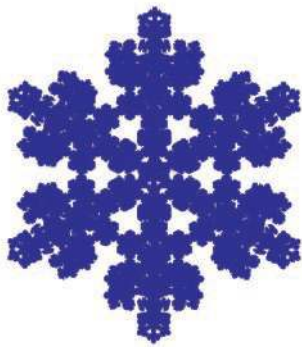
In Tokyo, Emperor Hirohito issues a proclamation on January 1, 1946, requiring that his subjects refrain from: believing that he is descended from divinity and the notion that they are superior to other races and destined to rule the world. The United Kingdom, India, and Thailand sign a treaty of peace in Singapore. In the U.K., London Airport (later renamed Heathrow Airport) opens to serve civilian air traffic. The results of the December elections for the Central Legislative Assembly for India are announced: the Indian National Congress wins half of the contested seats, while the Muslim League wins all seats reserved for Muslims.

King Zog I of Albania formally abdicates his throne on January 2. General strikes protesting French rule take place in Damascus, Syria, and Beirut, Lebanon. The U.S. Army partially lifts its ban against soldiers marrying enemy nationals, allowing GIs to wed Austrian women. (The prohibition against marriage to Germans continues.)

The Polish government on January 3 nationalizes all industries with over 50 workers and all businesses formerly owned by Germans. In London, William Joyce, who had broadcast Nazi propaganda over German radio during the war as "Lord Haw Haw," is hanged for treason.

San Salvador
Seniors Atlantic
City Trips
Notice

PERTH AMBOY - We are temporarily suspending our Bus Trips to Atlantic City. Our next trip to Atlantic City will be on Thursday, April 1, 2021. More details to follow in late March 2021. We wish all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and A Safe and Healthy New Year.



Sacred Heart
Church
Commences
Regular
Spanish Masses

SOUTH AMBOY - Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church at 531 Washington Street South Amboy is happy to announce **regularly Scheduled Masses in Spanish at 2:00 p.m.** Bishop Checchio saw the need to meet the diverse needs of the Spanish speaking religious community in the surrounding communities and this Mass will address those needs.

In compliance with the Governors Executive orders, all masses offer a socially distant environment, hand sanitizers and mask must be worn at all times by all, except when receiving communion after completion of the mass.

For more information, please visit sacredheartsa.org



2020 Holiday
Giving

SOUTH AMBOY - The City of South Amboy, PBA Local #63 and the South Amboy School District will be collecting gift card donations for local families in need this holiday season. If you wish to donate, please drop off your gift cards to the Mayor's office by December 18. For additional information, please call 732-525-5932 or email kudelkak@southamboynj.gov

Some suggestions include: ShopRite, Wegmans, Aldi, Walmart, Target, Amazon, Home Depot and restaurants such as dine-in, take out and fast food.....

Wishing you peace, health and happiness this holiday season.

Attn: If Your Club changes its Schedule Due to the Holidays
Or if you have Community Events to Submit Please Give Us
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or email: AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

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- 1 18th-century card game
4 Fa follower
7 Reference
11 French islands
13 Memorable years
14 ____ about (approximately, 2 wds.)
15 Less than one
16 Walking like a duck
18 Vase
20 Written reminder
21 Neighbor of Phoenix
24 Dueler's memento
26 Wish undone
27 Eager beaver
29 Sound repetition
33 Mine products
35 "____ Loser" (2 wds.)
36 College post
37 "Oz" dog
38 Bird beaks
40 Adam's madam
41 Hardwood trees
43 Desert stops
45 Animal lairs
47 Opposite of SSE
48 Tedious
51 "Pequod" · captain
55 Bald man's lack
56 Letters on some tow

trucks

- 57 Workout spot (abbr.)
58 Caribous' kin
59 Highest point
60 Baseball great Mel

DOWN

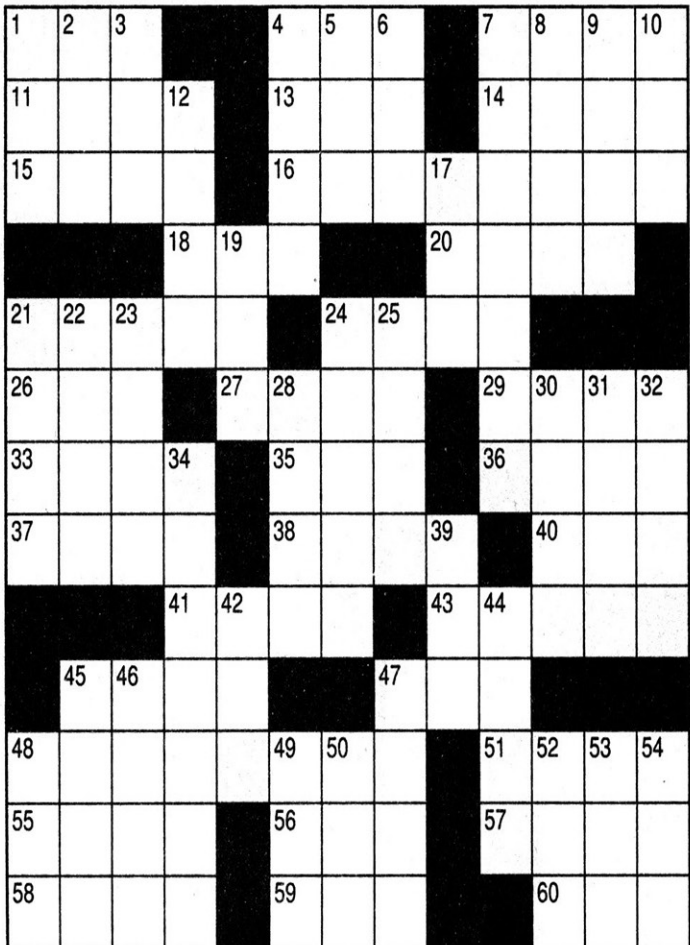
- 1 Actress Taylor's nickname
2 Barcelona "rah"
3 "____ the ramparts..."
4 Stitched
5 "...man ____ mouse?" (2 wds.)

6 Scottish boy

- 7 Used crayons
8 Name's first letter (abbr.)
9 Color quality
10 Unit of energy
12 "Duck ____"
17 Heredity inits.
19 Primary color
21 Turkey ____
22 Currency unit in Italy
23 Get together
24 Big rigs
25 Grouchy person
28 Sty sound
30 Fair grades
31 "____ fun!"
32 Smallest bills

34 Oklahoma natives

- 39 Junior
42 Brayer on the farm
44 Gone
45 Clock face
46 Estrada of "CHiPs"
47 Lowest tide
48 Common title start
49 Granola grain
50 ____ Tse-tung
52 "Managed care" inits.
53 Perform onstage
54 Flutter



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

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

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

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THE AMBOY GUARDIAN

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

A Petition to St. Joseph

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

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Cost \$10. Pre-payment required.

Name _____

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

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For Employment

A Petition to St. Jude

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

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

Prayer To St. Jude

Prayer To Blessed Mother

Prayer To Holy Spirit

Novena To St. Anthony

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

Thanksgiving Novena

Novena To St. Joseph

St. Jude Novena

Pray The Rosary

OTHER _____

Novena to St. Rita

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

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.

Blood Drive

SOUTH AMBOY/SAYREVILLE - South Amboy Sayreville Rotary Club, South Amboy Senior Center – Hall, 108 S. Stevens Avenue, South Amboy on Monday, January 11, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Rotary Club 5664 to schedule an appointment.
Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.
Give something that means something!



Clothing Bin Now Open

SAYREVILLE - The Clothing Recycling Bin located at First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville, 172 Main Street, across from Borough Hall has been reopened for donations. With ART, the recycling company, one may donate in 3 ways:
1.) Usable clothing is donated directly to the needy.
2.) High-quality clothing is given to organizations that sell to those who cannot afford new clothing.
3.) Unusable clothing is washed and sold for industrial use and leftovers are used in the auto industry as seat stuffing for large trucks. They also help charities, schools, police departments, fire departments and non-profit organizations.
If you have clothes, shoes or other fabrics please consider using our recycling bin. Thank You.

Pets of the Week

PERTH AMBOY - The day Santana was rescued from Sherman Street in Perth Amboy he had a terrible upper respiratory infection, and I knew he had to be trapped or he would've died. After recovering and getting fixed I found him a home, but he got sick from toxicity. Now he's all better after a major scare and he's waiting for someone to give him a chance to have a forever home with someone that will be patient in allowing him to learn to trust. He's a sweet, shy boy. If you want to adopt Santana fill out the adoption application at Allforthepaws.org or email Vmoralespps@yahoo.com Santana is fixed, vaccinated, dewormed, deflead, tested for FIV and leukemia, had his nails trimmed and ears cleaned. Donation fee applies. Upon approved application we transport to your home.



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.

Robe

Like clothes always the wrong size,
Now too small, now too large,
The ill-fitting present I cast aside
And the future, the gamble of clowns,
I firmly decline like gaudy circus attire;
The past is what I wear.

Like some wonderous, linen robe,
Impossible to tear, impossible to stain,
The best of my life is woven there.
Glad moments in every thread.
Incredible memories in every fold,
This, this I put on wherever I go.

Jerry Shonda

Remember to Say Your Novenas!

*Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 17*

LOO		SOL	CITE
ILES		ERA	ONOR
ZERO		WADDLING	
	URN	NOTE	
TEMPE		SCAR	
RUE	DOER	ECHO	
ORES	IMA	DEAN	
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	OAKS	OASES	
DENS		NW	
TIRESOME		AHAB	
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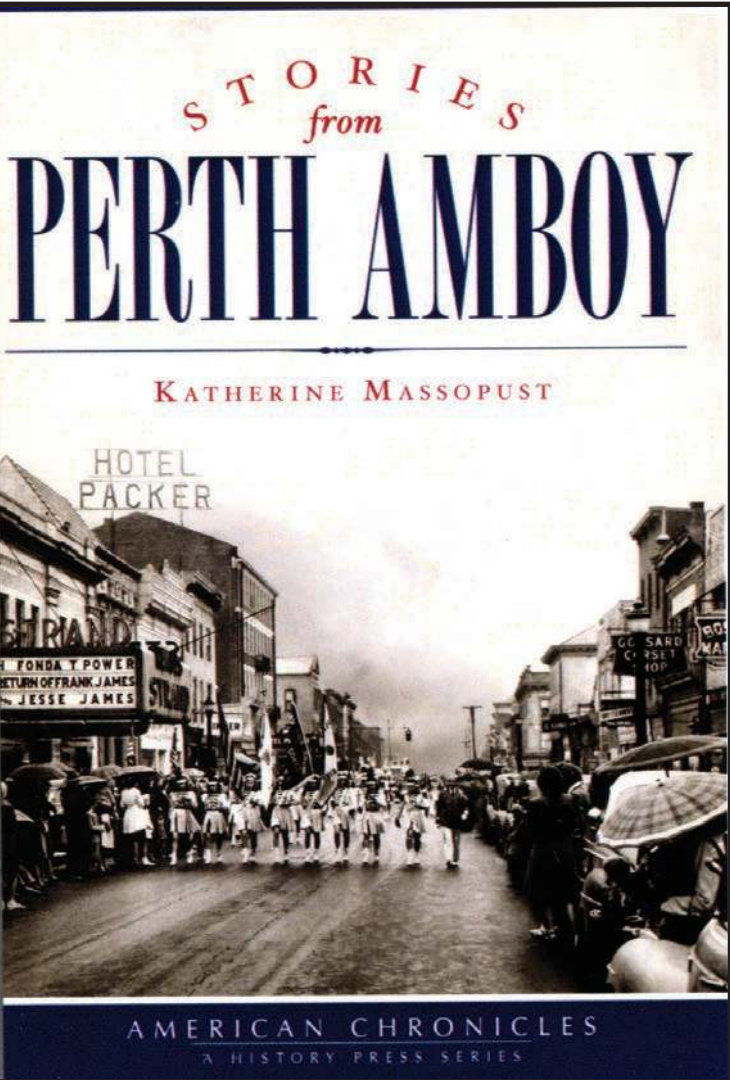
LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – Christmas circa 1940's.

**Photo Courtesy of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library*

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



Stories From Perth Amboy

PERTH AMBOY - Stories From Perth Amboy by Katherine Massopust is available from Katherine at 732-261-2610 or on Amazon.com. A Great Gift! Get it now along with Then & Now: Perth Amboy!

Season' s Greetings

CELEBRATE

Christmas
Eve and
New Year's Eve
At The Barge

On The Waterfront in
Historical Perth Amboy



Open Christmas Eve
(12/24/20)

&

New Year's Eve
(12/31/20)

11:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Open for Dining in Only
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Reservations Required

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(12/25/20) &
New Year's Day (1/1/21)

The Barge

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.thebarge.com



The Perth Amboy Business Improvement District would like to wish you and your family a

Merry Christmas &
Happy Holidays

As we reflect on the past year, we would like to commend our business owners for their continued investment, continuity of service and care shown towards their patrons. They have demonstrated such perseverance and words cannot describe our gratitude. Thank you for all that you do!

We would also like to thank our first responders and essential workers, who helped navigate and execute our City's response and recovery, during these trying times. THANK YOU!

We will continue to serve the Business Improvement District and support in ways that help to promote and revitalize our downtown area. On behalf of the BID board members, Mayor Wilda Diaz and the Perth Amboy City Council, we wish our historic city a bright and prosperous 2021. Together, we will achieve great things.





Clients of Elijah's Promise in New Brunswick
Aided by Mount St. Mary Academy Sock Drive

**Photo Submitted*



Press Release

WATCHUNG – Students, parents, faculty and staff at Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung donated 315 pairs of socks in various colors, sizes and styles during the H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Everywhere) Club's annual Sock It To 'Em collection. The socks aid clients of Elijah's Promise in New Brunswick, who will have a warmer winter thanks to the generosity of the Academy community. The Club will hold a Cereal Super Bowl collection in January for Star Fish Food Pantry in Plainfield. Pictured, left to right, with boxes of donations from the sock drive beneath the Mount Saint Mary Academy Christmas tree, are: Julia Falcone, a sophomore from Chatham, and Mikayla Sharif, a freshman from Union.



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Merry Christmas!





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Season' s Greetings

Merry Christmas

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Season's Greetings

"He who has a garden and a library wants for nothing"
-Cicero-

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Phone: 732-826-2600

www.folperthamboy.com
friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com



The Kearny Cottage Historical Society

Wishes Everyone a Joyous Holiday Season!

The Kearny Cottage
Historical Society

63 Catalpa Ave.
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

www.kearnycottage.org
kearnycottage@gmail.com



HOLIDAY SPECIAL

2020

HALF TRAY CHICKEN PARMESAN

HALF TRAY PASTA WITH MARINARA SAUCE

HALF TRAY TOSSED SALAD

TWO 2 LITER SODAS

PICK-UP ONLY

BOTH LOCATIONS

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STAYING HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS THIS YEAR?
CHECK OUT OUR CATERING MENU!

WWW.SCIORTINOSHARBORLIGHTS.COM • WWW.SCIORTINOSPERTHAMBOY.COM

WISHING YOU A

MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

From our family to yours!



OPEN Christmas Eve
11:30AM-6PM
CLOSED Christmas Day

OPEN New Year's Eve
11:30AM-10PM
OPEN New Year's Day 4PM



***Congratulations to Carmen Schlesinger
for being the #1 Agent
for the Month of November***

***Happy Holidays! Wishing Everyone a
Safe & Healthy New Year - 2021!***

**- Enrique Hernandez -
Broker/Owner CRB, SFR, CRS**



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PLEASE CALL FOR FREE MARKET ANALYSIS!**



NEWARK - Why rent when you can own this 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home in a gated community. off street parking, close proximity to shopping, highways and train stations. Priced to sell. **\$199,900**



PERTH AMBOY - Back on Market! Buyer couldn't get loan. Welcome to this large 3 level Townhouse, with 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, family/office room, Master bedroom has a full master bath with double sink, tub, and shower stall. This unit also has a private front Paver Patio yard before you enter the Townhouse. Two parking spots in covered garage/parking deck included. Seller just got a reduction in property taxes via tax appeal! **\$259,000**



SAYREVILLE - Move-in condition this property has been manicured from top to bottom. even more impressive is its gleaming kitchen and bath room. a must see. **\$319,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great investment opportunity, great location, large parking lot, close to mayor highways. Well established restaurant in business for many years. Has lots of potential, hurry it won't last! **\$340,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great business opportunity, very busy restaurant, great location. Owner offering 5-year lease \$1,800 monthly rent, this is a turnkey operation, be your own Boss. **\$60,000**



BLOOMFIELD - This is a two-bedroom apartment on the third floor. This is a six unit building that is self-managed. Conveniently located close to Garden State Parkway, public transportation, and local shopping. Must be cash or Non-Warrantable form of financing. **\$215,000**



SAYREVILLE - Welcome to Sayreville!! Newly refinished second floor apartment. Granite counter, new cabinets, new bathroom, new floor, freshly painted. New stainless refrigerator, double-paned thermal windows. One bed on the first level and 2 on the second floor. Convenient to everything: Train, School, church, public transportation, banks, etc. Laundry area available on the share basement (washer and dryer not available). Property will be ready for showing on 12/12/2020. **\$1,800 Mo/Rent**



PERTH AMBOY - Newly remodeled apartment. Don't miss out on this opportunity. **\$1,525 Mo/Rent**



PERTH AMBOY - Welcome home to this cozy 1-bedroom apartment in this quiet neighborhood. Employee Verification and Credit Report are a MUST. **\$1,300 Mo/Rent**