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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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Affordable Housing Presentation, Covid Vaccines & BID Issues Still in the Forefront 2/8/21 Caucus

By: Carolyn Maxwell

PERTH AMBOY – At the beginning of the 2/8/21 Caucus, there was a presentation regarding a Draft Housing Element and Fair Share Plan. It was presented by Elizabeth McManus from KMA Associates who is a New Jersey Professional Planner. She made her presentation through Zoom. The council was provided with copies of the plan. Additional copies were available for those who attended in person in the Council Chambers. Before McManus spoke, Assistant Director of the Office of Economic and Community Development Tashi Vazquez told the council that on December 2, 2020, this plan was adopted by the Planning Board. “We need to adopt by a resolution that we will bring forward to you (the council) in two weeks.”

Ms. McManus explained that Perth Amboy is obligated to do rehabilitation projects and not new construction for this housing plan.

Councilman Joel Pabon asked, “What is affordable housing?”

Ms. McManus explained, “It is restricted to income levels of regions, depending upon what region you are in.” She gave an example of in Perth Amboy can be a high of \$154,000 to a low of \$50,000 yearly household income.

Pabon continued, “I think the lower number fits half of Perth Amboy’s residents. We may raise the rents of some people in affordable units if their income goes up. Those people should be moved out of those units. Other people in the lower income bracket should be placed in those units instead.”

McManus explained, “Landlords do not check on the income of their tenants every year, and they can’t evict prior tenants.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejada then asked, “How often should this plan be looked at?”

McManus explained, “When this program ends in 2025, I recommend the plan should be looked at annually. It needs to be a living and breathing document.”

Tejada continued, “A lot of these units are being overcrowded and it impacts our school sys-

tems.”

Councilman B.J. Torres asked, “Would the expansion of Code Enforcement or the Law Department be needed to address the overcrowding?”

McManus responded, “I don’t know about expanding the Law Department, but I think expanding Code Enforcement would help in addressing the overcrowding.”

Council President Bill Petrick spoke up. He questioned, “Can we rely on the existing affordable housing list to put people in those units?”

McManus suggested, “I would like for you to go to the Housing Authority to see who needs housing the most. It could be done as a lottery.”

Petrick continued, “We should not advertise for people to come into town when we already have a large number of people on our list already (for affordable housing).”

McManus responded, “70% of people on the existing Housing Authority list already live in Perth Amboy. New people will be added to the bottom of that list. The Housing Authority lists are for people who are waiting for Section 8 and HUD Vouchers. This program is different. In 2015, there was a New Jersey Supreme Court ruling that some municipalities do not have to work with the COAH (Coalition of Affordable Housing), but with the Superior Court.”

After the presentation was completed, Council President Bill Petrick then started the regular portion of the meeting.

There were questions regarding the reports submitted by the tax collector Nancy Martin, specifically Item No. 3 - the 2020 Annual Report of Tax Collections/Adjustments. Ms. Martin came up and explained that this report had nothing to do with water. “The Middlesex Water Company did not follow our ordinance. They sent notices to tenants of some buildings and not the actual owners. I can give you (the council) a spreadsheet to let you know if the tenants or the owners of the buildings are responsible for the bills. Middlesex Water is reviewing all the statements for verification. Over 400 accounts are under review

or went under review already. The ones on the agenda (R-69, R-71 thru R-87) are entitled to the refund. Some go back to the year of 1999.”

Councilman Joel Pabon asked Martin to explain the Duane Marine Property. She stated, “In 2013, it was removed off of the books. Anchor Marine was part of litigation in the beginning, but they are no longer a part of the litigation. We foreclosed on the property because Anchor Marine was not going to pay, and it will cost of millions of dollars to clean the property. It was part of the litigation of the 1970’s.”

Pabon responded, “We need a mechanism in place to have an ordinance of any property owner not paying taxes that are becoming excessive.”

Martin continued, “This is before I started working here. Now, it is just small strips of land, and some have small liabilities. The city had put a sewer moratorium on a piece of the property. Helga Van Eckert had been involved on some of the litigation going on.”

Council President Petrick spoke up and stated, “At one time, Anchor Marine was being paid to take waste products from some companies. Some of this waste was spilled on their property and they walked away.”

Martin concluded, “I think the EPA is the one who sued them over the spills (of the waste materials) and not the city.”

OEM Director and Deputy Police Chief Larry Cattano answered a question via Zoom regarding R-68-2/21 – Accepting a grant for Middlesex County to provide services in innovative approaches for at-risk youth in the amount of \$47,342.50.

Cattano stated, “This is the cost of two police officers.”

Fire Chief Ed Mullen explained via Zoom R-90-2/21 – Authorizing the proper city officials to submit an application to FEMA for the Port Security Grant Program 2021 to be used for Marine 5, the current replacement boat.

Mullen said, “This boat replacement grant would be for money that will be used for

**Continued on Page 7*

Snowstorms in Perth Amboy

**Photos by Filomena Gianfrancesco, Katherine Massopust, Orlando Perez*



Two snowstorms hit the area in the last two weeks.

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Wastewater Issues Discussed, Ongoing Grievance Continues, Minutes of the 12/19/18 Council Meeting Approved 2/3/21 Business Meeting via Teleconferencing

By: Katherine Massopust
SOUTH AMBOY – The 2/3/21 Business Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. The first order of business was a discussion on a few items. According to Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski, Jay Elliot (from Code Enforcement) is attempting to obtain a grant for a new senior bus. Councilwoman Zusette Dato noted that this new bus will be fuel efficient, even though it states gasoline powered. B.A. Skarzynski stated the newest trucks are more fuel efficient.

Councilwoman Dato wanted more details on the resolution adjusting the sewer bills for a citizen. City Clerk Deborah Brooks stated the tax collector asked her to put this on the agenda. Brooks mentioned that this individual stated his water is not wastewater but going to fill his pond. He asked for relief. They are asking the approval of the council.

Councilwoman Dato was concerned about this. “How do we know this is accurate?”

Councilman Brian McLaughlin felt this should not be granted. Councilwoman Dato felt it would set a precedent.

Law Director Francis Womack stated that the sewer bill is based on water consumption. “If you fill a pool, it’s between the consumption of water and wastewater and sewer.” Womack then stated that this would be for someone who has heavy water use for watering a large lawn or filling a pool.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski stated, “If someone puts in a 20,000-gallon pool and fills the pool – at the time. We have no way to verify if this water is in the pond.”

City Clerk Brooks took a straw poll. Everyone voted “no”.

Another topic for discussion was the ongoing grievance between Business Administrator Skarzynski and the P.B.A. This grievance has been ongoing since May 2020. (The details of this grievance were explained in the 6/2/20 issue of the Amboy Guardian’s coverage of the 5/26/20 South Amboy Council Meeting (p.2 & p.7.)).

P.B.A. Representative Brian Noble was present on the teleconference.

Council President Mickey Gross wanted to end this grievance now. “Can you come together and work this out. Look at it with an open mind.”

Although both parties felt that this would not do any good, they both agreed to speak with each other again in closed discussion. Gross asked again to please resolve this issue.

“Maybe Mr. Skarzynski and me will come to an agreement,” stated Brian Noble.

When it came to voting on the resolutions, Council President Gross asked for a vote on R-21-061 “The City Council of the City of South Amboy does hereby approve and release the Council Minutes of the Decem-

ber 19, 2018 Council Meeting.

Councilman Tom Reilly felt that the audio was impossible to make out all the comments from the public.

The vote was: Dato, Noble, and Gross voted “Yes,” and Reilly and McLaughlin voted “No.” Motion passes 3-2. The minutes of the 12/19/18 meeting was approved.

There also was a vote on Resolution No. 21-063 – The City of South Amboy does hereby approve and release the Council Minutes of the October 22, 2018 Council Meeting.

The vote was: Dato, Noble and Gross voted “Yes,” and McLaughlin and Reilly voted “No”. 3-2 motion passes.

Council Comments:

Council Vice President Christine Noble thanked the DPW for their work in plowing the snow from the recent storm. “I can’t imagine how many hours they had to put in.”

Councilwoman Zusette Dato said, “I echo Christine’s (Noble) comments. The 2-day snowstorm. Kudos to our Public Works Staff – to all those people – we extend our thanks.” Dato then asked, “What can we do more with our seniors with vaccine progress?”

Councilman Tom Reilly thanked the first responders and volunteers at the food pantry. “I encourage everyone to sign up for the vaccine.” Reilly then asked if the late payments for taxes be eliminated for financially struggling residents.

Law Director Womack answered him, “We as a council can wave penalties in that circumstance.”

Reilly stated that he was in favor of doing this, but he did not know how the rest of the council felt.

Womack stated that he would draft up an ordinance.

Councilman Brian McLaughlin commented that the last snowstorm of this magnitude was in 1996.

B.A. Skarzynski stated that we are authorizing the funds to redo the athletic fields. “When the funding is released, it will be a gamechanger.”

City Engineer Mark Rasimowicz stated the survey work element is done on the ball fields. “We will be moving forward with design and plans.”

McLaughlin asked about the fire vehicle orders.

B.A. Skarzynski answered, “The budget first, then the vehicles could be ordered. The (Fire) Chief identified the vehicles they want. We are going to buy the vehicles from outside

vendors. The chief will see that it is properly outfitted.”

Council President Mickey Gross thanked the DPW and First Aid. “I think they did a fabulous job.” Gross then stated, “We (the council) had our differences of opinion with the minutes (of the 12/19/18 Council Meeting), but we respect each other, whether we agree to disagree, I love each and every one of you. Brian (McLaughlin), you are right, we cannot let this stuff slide. We said new vehicles. We need to get this done asap. I am working at vaccine sites. I am very proud of all of them. We are at it every day. As soon as we get those shots, we will give them away. Everyone needs to sign up online. Please extend my thanks to Shannon.”

Mayor Fred Henry said, “I also want to thank our First Responders and Fire Department. They always do a great job. I thank the DPW. People kept their cars off the street. Stay safe. We are working on those emergency vehicles.”

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski said, “Vaccines for seniors – we are doing everything we can to help our seniors. The state or county hotlines are available so seniors can reach the county. The moment we can get our seniors vaccinated, we will. I had a meeting with Assemblywoman (Yvonne) Lopez and the new Perth Amboy Mayor (Helmin Caba). We maintain a lasting relationship with our county. Asw. Lopez has procured \$25,000 in grant money for some economic hardship and some relief.”

Councilwoman Dato added, “Thank you for the update on the vaccine. The hotline number – they are overwhelmed. You may not be able to get a live person. Maybe people who work in our senior center can help.”

B.A. Skarzynski said, “We are working on that. Make sure information is accurate on the availability and how it is going to be administered.”

Public Portion:

Resident Brandon Russell was the only person from the public to speak. He stated that there is lack of transparency from Fred Henry’s administration regarding the 12/19/18 minutes. He said it was a violation of law and he is taking the issue to court. He also stated that the city is in violation of OPRA laws.

The council went into executive session at 6:43 p.m. which was closed to the public. All council members were present.




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GROUNDHOG DAY 2/2/21

Phil (6 more weeks of winter) & Chuck (early spring) disagreed. It remains to be seen who is right that day. (Top photo) Staten Island Chuck (2020) *Staten Island Advance - Jason Paderon (Bottom photo) Punxsutawney Phil (*Barry Reeger AP)

I Beg to Differ

2/10/21 Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – Resident Stanley Sierakowski was the first to speak in person at the 2/10/21 Council Meeting which took place at the Council Chambers and on Zoom. Sierakowski questioned R-95-2/21 – A contract with the law firm of Gluck, Walrath for legal services regarding 225 Elm St. in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

“What is the issue?”

He also questioned R-98-2/21 – A contract with CME Associates as the Perth Amboy Zoning Board Engineer and Planner and R-99-2/21 – A one year contract to Marc A. Leckstein as the Zoning Board of Adjustment Attorney.

Council President Bill Petrick answered his concerns about all 3. “The first one is regarding underground utilities and to upgrade the fault line. For R-98 and R-99, it was renewal of the contract for those who are already there (in those positions).”

He then asked, “What was removed on R-110 which was voided on the council meeting agenda?”

Petrick answered, “It was the adoption of the 2021 BID Budget.”

The next person who came up to the podium was Ken Balut. He asked about Resolution R-103-2/21 – Authorizing the proper city officials to execute a contract at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA/Center for Support, Success & Prosperity in the amount of \$15,000 in accordance with the CDBG grant. Also, R-108-2/21 – Authorizing the proper city officials to execute a contract with the Jew-

ish Renaissance Foundation/Alternative Education Institute in the amount of \$15,000 in accordance with the CDBG grant.

Balut urged the council to take these two resolutions off the agenda, “Until you figure out what they are doing with the housing. People got houses they were not entitled to. Do it properly. I believe the BID is a scam. The YMCA is not part of the business district or the BID, but they get façade money. What happened to the forensic audit of the Y? We are 50 days into the new administration, yet nothing has changed.”

Resident and businessman Jeremy Baratta came up next and referenced R-97-2/21 – Consenting to the appointment of Mark J. Cintron as Municipal Prosecutor and waiving the residency requirement.

Baratta stated, “He is not qualified, and he is part of the pay-to-play.”

Law Director William Northgrave disagreed, “Pay-to-play is not relevant because it only applies to contractors.”

Baratta replied back, “I believe you are wrong. He (Cintron) is a contractor.”

Baratta then read off different ordinances to back up his statements. “These ordinances can be found on the state website. They go to when Corzine was the Governor of New Jersey. A contract doesn’t need to be written. This is pay-to-play.”

BID Chair Barry Rosengarten spoke next, “There were a lot of inaccurate and unfounded and detrimental comments made about the BID which I will not respond to. I invite all that are

here to come to the BID meetings.

The meeting then was opened up to anyone on Zoom, but no one made any comments.

The council then voted on the consent agenda. Councilman Joel Pabon asked that R-97 (Re: Cintron) be moved to be voted on separately. R-65 thru R-96; R-98 thru R-109 was moved by Pabon and seconded by Councilwoman Milady Tejeda. Regarding R-97, Pabon stated, “Because of election contributions, and I ran for Mayor as did two other council members, the perception alone gives us a bad vibe. It was moved by Pabon to tabled; Tejeda seconded. All voted “yes” to table R-97.

Council President Bill Petrick then spoke briefly about Communication No. 6 – Bernadette Falcon-Lopez submitted a letter resigning as Commissioner of the Housing Authority and P.A.R.T.N.E.R. Board. “We have several openings on our municipal boards. I encourage people to submit applications.” Public Portion:

Resident and Businessman Jeremy Baratta was first to speak. He addressed the council and said, “You have a copy of a complaint against Billy Delgado (prosecutor) being prosecuted by the ethics committee. Can this be introduced for the next meeting?” Baratta stated he had OPRA’d information on the BID. “You will get that information tomorrow. There are documents not signed by the BID. You have the same businesses getting multiple grants. There are handwritten invoices and some of them are in Span-

ish. A lot of companies are fictitious. There is incomplete paperwork. Everything I said about the BID are factual and are founded. I can backup everything I said about the BID.”

Resident Ken Balut came up next. “\$20 million was given to someone to cleanup their property. Tashi Vazquez had a raffle of dogs. She is on the Board of Education and the OEC (Office of Economic and Community Development). Irving Lozada is not qualified for the Code Enforcement job. Judge Gonzalez dismissed a harassment case without talking to the victim. Sexual harassment is still going on. You have high paying jobs going to unqualified people. Did the Communications Director jump the line to get vaccinated? People are hired for civil service jobs without asking our employees first. Former B.A. Adam Cruz had an improper relationship with someone in the court system. He was able to get a job in another city, but what about the girl involved?”

Council President Petrick spoke up, “Remember, all of this happened under a prior, female mayor.”

Resident Stanley Sierakowski was next to speak. He talked about the Anchor Marine property, “It was 6 acres, and they paid no taxes for 25 years. Ask the tax collector, Ms. Martin if that is true. Were there others that did not pay any taxes? When the former Business Administrator Greg Fehrenbach was here, he gave a \$2.3 million assessment of Anchor Marine. Who was involved in this property? Who had an interest in this

property? Who were the officers and the principals of this property?” He then asked Councilman Pabon, “Do you know who the main partners were?”

Pabon answered, “No, but Nancy Martin of the tax department was here on Monday to give a brief history of that property.”

Sierakowski continued, addressing all the council members, “Are you curious to see who owns Anchor Marine?”

Petrick responded, “Nancy Martin said the property was up for sale on a tax lien. Nobody wanted this contaminated property.”

Sierakowski continued, “People walked away from \$6 million. It would only have taken a half million to clean up this property which became a dog park for dogs to mess on.”

The meeting was then opened up to Zoom participants. Maria Vera from Madison Avenue spoke first. “Is there an update on the truck traffic traveling on residential streets. There was a serious truck accident on Market Street. We need more truck route signs.”

Council President Bill Petrick said, “We still are waiting for the report from Councilman Joel Pabon.”

Pabon spoke up and said, “I and Deputy Police Chief Cattano are looking at the zoning in your area.”

Vera continued, “There are a lot of schools where the trucks are going.”

Pabon then pleaded, “Please give us a chance to look at this

**Continued on Page 11*

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Trailblazers in Black History,
Giving Kudos to the DPW
& Remembering Pastor William Gerak



The Tuskegee Weather Detachment
*Photo Courtesy of the United States Air Force



Rear Admiral Evelyn Fields
*Photo Courtesy of NOAA



June Bacon-Bercey
*Photo Public Domain

I constantly look at AccuWeather to check out the weekly forecast. I was surprised to see a storyline by AccuWeather staff writer Ashely Williams. She wrote an article titled, “These Trailblazers Were America’s First Black Meteorologists. The Tuskegee Weather Detachment, made up of 15 men, formed on March 21, 1942, originally organized as part of the Tuskegee Army Flying School, according to the American Institute of Physics” (from <https://www.accuweather.com/>)

Another Accuweather staff writer wrote about Evelyn Fields, who was the first woman and first African-American to be director of NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, saying it was "the ultimate challenge of my career."

She also was the first woman and African-American to command a ship in the United States uniformed services for an extended assignment, taking charge of the research vessel McArthur in 1989. And Fields was among the first group of women to join NOAA's officer corps in 1973, the first African-American woman to reach the rank of rear admiral and, at one point, the highest-ranking officer in the corps. (from <https://www.accuweather.com/>)

June Bacon-Bercey was the first African American to be trained in the field of meteorology in the United States. (from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/June_Bacon-Bercey) She faced opposition and discouragement

**Continued on Page 8*

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Pride

Why is it that some people take more pride in and have more loyalty toward the country they ran away from than

the country they ran to (The U.S.A.)? Thank you!

The Honorable
Michael Rusznak

Can ShopRite
Wake Up?

The recent revelation the brand ShopRite will open 39 of their pharmacies to provide Covid-19 vaccines at New Jersey locations was quickly perplexing since the ShopRite on Convery Boulevard in Perth Amboy was not listed. The reason I was given by the city business representative was the supermarket lacked a technician in the pharmacy. What?

ShopRite revenue for the 2020 year nationally and globally reached 156 billion dollars, up to 10 billion from 2019. Gross income was also steeper at 10 percent higher than the previous year. Noteworthy – the supermarket business has done quite well during the Pandemic. Please acknowledge the equity of distribution when it comes to vaccine access.

Business executives need to allow for a town resource, with largely Hispanic and People of

Color population, to have available life sustaining vaccines at their stores. Perth Amboy and Woodbridge represents a quarter of the Covid-19 cases in Middlesex County. Pfizer, Moderna, and soon Johnson and Johnson will have large quantities of vaccines.

Jewish Renaissance Medical Center and Raritan Bay Medical Center have begun the job of providing dosages (or potentially) for local people and healthcare staff. Large facilities such as Middlesex Vo-Tech, the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, and smaller Pharmacy locations such as Walgreens and Rite-Aid have promised cooperation in distributions.

I hope as many people as possible realize the need to get vaccinated to save lives and help our community. Our healthcare facilities cannot survive with an un-controlled deadly virus. I speak only for myself in this letter but feel the need to speak out. My letter will be sent to

President Joe Biden’s representative in the Equity Task Force, Marcella Nunez-Smith, as well as local, state and national officials.

I am requesting that ShopRite allow for the use of their infrastructure (massive parking area), refrigeration capability and geographic location within walking distance of healthcare facilities for staff and community volunteers.

The surrounding towns cared by our medical institutions (Sayreville, South Amboy, Carteret, Woodbridge and the sister city Perth Amboy) represents a third of Covid cases in Middlesex County (Almost 24,000 people and over 520 deaths). Isn’t that reason enough to have a large-scale facility-area to provide the life-saving vaccine to our people?

In a city of 60,000 plus (approximately), a small-scale vaccine allocation is not enough.

Vince Mackiel

We Value Your Opinion! Please Send Us A Response!

Hackensack Meridian Health Reaches
100,000th Covid-19 Vaccine Milestone
New Jersey’s Largest Health Network Administered Its 100,000th
Vaccine, Marking Major Milestone in the Fight Against COVID-19

Press Release 2/12/21
EDISON, NJ – Hackensack Meridian Health, the largest and most integrated health network in New Jersey, announced today that it has administered its 100,000th COVID-19 vaccine on February 12, 2021. The network reached this major milestone just two months after it launched its vaccination deployment program on December 15, 2020.

“We are thrilled to mark this major milestone and be a vital part of the effort to protect our communities against this deadly virus,” said Robert C. Garrett, FACHE, CEO, Hackensack Meridian Health. “Thanks to the tireless efforts of our frontline team members, we have been able to safely and efficiently distribute the vaccine to 100,000 people. While we are proud to mark this moment, we recognize there is much more work to be done and we must

continue our efforts to expand the vaccine to finally defeat this devastating virus.”

Hackensack Meridian Health began administering COVID-19 vaccines in December 2020 to frontline team members, who have heroically cared for more COVID-19 patients than any other health system in New Jersey. On January 22, 2021 the health network, in partnership with the New Jersey State Department of Health, State Police, and National Guard, opened the Bergen County COVID-19 Vaccination Mega Site at the former Meadowlands Racetrack. The network is now vaccinating approximately 1,500 people per day and is on track to reach up to 3,000 shots daily.

“We are so proud to have reached this key milestone in the fight against COVID-19,” said Regina Foley, PhD, MBA, RN, senior vice president integration/transformation for

Hackensack Meridian Health. “Our teams continue to work around the clock to ensure we are able to successfully administer this vaccine to more and more people across our communities. We remain focused on accelerating our distribution efforts in order to better serve the public.”

As of today, New Jersey has distributed more than 1.2 million vaccines, according to the New Jersey Department of Health.

The Bergen County COVID-19 Vaccination Mega Site is located at the former Racetrack/ West Gate Entrance- Lot M. The public can register for the vaccine here. Please note that appointments fill up quickly and Hackensack Meridian Health is continuing to expand service over the next several weeks as the state provides vaccines. No walks-ins will be accepted.

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FAMILY FOOT CARE252 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 PHARMACY75 BRACE AVE.
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 LIBRARY196 JEFFERSON ST.
PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION100 FIRST ST.
QUICK CHEK853 CONVERY BLVD.
QUICK STOP DELI814 AMBOY AVE.
QUISQUEYA MARKET249 MADISON AVE.
QUISQUEYA LUNCHEONETTE 259 MADISON AVE.
RARITAN BAY AREA Y.M.C.A.365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
RARITAN BAY MEDICAL CENTER530 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SANTANDER BANK 365 CONVERY BLVD.
SANTIBANA TRAVEL 362 STATE ST.
SCIORTINO'S RESTAURANT473 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SHOP-RITE365 CONVERY BLVD.
SIPOS BAKERY 365 SMITH ST.
SUPERIOR DINER.....464 SMITH ST.
SUPREMO SUPERMARKET270 KING ST.
TORRES MINI MARKET403 BRUCK AVE.
TOWN DRUGS & SURGICAL 238 SMITH ST.
WELLS FARGO 214 SMITH ST.

IN SAYREVILLE:

BOROUGH HALL 167 MAIN ST.
SENIOR CENTER 423 MAIN ST.
SUNNYSIDE RESTAURANT 111 MAIN ST.

IN SEWAREN:

PUBLIC LIBRARY546 WEST AVE.
SEWAREN CORNER DELI514 WEST AVE.

IN SOUTH AMBOY:

AMBOY BANK100 N. BROADWAY
BROADWAY BAGELS105 S. BROADWAY
BROADWAY DINER126 N. BROADWAY
CITY HALL140 N. BROADWAY
COMMUNITY CENTER200 O'LEARY BLVD.
KRAUSZER'S200 N. BROADWAY
KRAUSZER'S717 BORDENTOWN AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY100 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 HALL1 MAIN ST.
MAIN ST. FARM107 MAIN ST.
NEWS & TREATS 99 MAIN ST.
ST. JOSEPH'S SENIORS RESIDENCE1 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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Katherine:
732-261-2610
Email the Amboy
Guardian:
AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

Attention!

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

2021 Amboy Guardian Publication Dates

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

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

MON. Feb. 22 City Council, Caucus 5:30 p.m.
City Hall, High St. & Zoom
WED Feb. 24 City Council, Regular,
City Hall, High St. & Zoom
Thurs. Feb. 25 Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m.
Brighton Ave. Community Center
THURS. Mar. 11 Board of Education, 5:30 p.m.
PAHS, Eagle Ave.

South Amboy

WED Feb. 17 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway
WED. Mar. 3 City Council, Business, 6 p.m.
City Hall N. Broadway.

**All meetings are subject to change. Check the City Website or www.amboyguardian.com to see if the meeting will take place via phone or video conference or for updates on meeting times, places, and details how to participate.*

PERTH AMBOY CAUCUS MEETING

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, take notice that the Caucus Meeting of **February 22, 2021** will be held in the **Council Chambers, City Hall and VIA A ZOOM ON-LINE CONFERENCE AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:**

Topic: 2/22 -Caucus Meeting

Time: **Feb 22, 2021 05:30 PM** Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85110905660?pwd=S3p3TTc1em9OMXUwWERTOGITV2VnUT09>

Meeting ID: 851 1090 5660

Passcode: 865695

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

The public is invited to attend.

Please note that all Caucus Meetings will start at **5:30 pm** beginning February 22, 2021

PERTH AMBOY COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, take notice that the Council Meeting of **February 24, 2021** will be held in the **Council Chambers, City Hall and VIA A ZOOM ON-LINE CONFERENCE AT THE FOLLOWING LINK::**

Topic: 2/24 - Council Meeting

Time: **Feb 24, 2021 07:00 PM** Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86574516859?pwd=ZER4bHc4dFh u WHVRN IYvZHdyVH hVUT09>

Meeting ID: 865 7451 6859

Passcode: 088837

Dial by your location

+ 1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

The public is invited to attend.



Safety Announcement

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

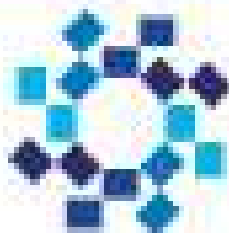
Please Submit Community Events
2 Weeks in Advance!
Email: AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

SOUTH AMBOY
MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, February 17th 2021, 7:00 pm
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/946806885>
You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (571) 317-3122
Access Code: 946-806-885
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TO KEEP GETTING**

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WELLNESS CHECKUPS

BETTER.



Hackensack Meridian
Raritan Bay Medical Center
KEEP GETTING BETTER

Affordable Housing Presentation, Covid Vaccines & BID Issues Still in the Forefront

2/8/21 Caucus

**Continued from Page 1*

training members of the dive team.”

Councilman Joel Pabon questioned, “Why are we hiring the law firm of Gluck, Walrath for legal services for the development of supplementary documents regarding 225 Elm St. in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 (R-95)?”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch stated, “It is for an underground sewer system.”

Tax Collector Nancy Martin came forward to answer questions regarding R-96-2/21 – An installment payment agreement with Mayelin Ventura for waterline repair service at 740 Hansen Ave.

Martin explained that she had an appointment for this repair (to have her meter changed), but it was cancelled due to Covid. “We had to enter an installment agreement with her because she had a water bill of over \$5,000.”

Tashi Vazquez came up to explain Resolutions R-102 thru R-109. (Various different grants). “The city receives funding annually from different state departments. Some of this funding or grant money will be retroactive because of a delay due to Covid. Some of this money will

be used for public facilities and public support such as rental assistance and to prevent homelessness. In some of these cases, it is due to Covid. \$75,000 are used for home improvements. Over \$100,000 is targeted to first time homebuyers.”

Councilman Joel Pabon asked if most of the money in some of these resolutions was used.

Vazquez responded, “Yes. Some funds were expended and there will be reimbursements given.”

Pabon then thanked Ms. Vazquez, “And your running partner, Maritza (Rodriguez from the OECD) for the work you both do.”

There were questions regarding R-107-2/21 – Authorizing the proper city officials to execute a contract with the Business Improvement District in the City of Perth Amboy in the amount of \$20,000 in accordance with the Community Development Block Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Vazquez explained, “The OECD and the BID have been working together. It is for a part-time person that would be a support staff for businessowners. They would be a BID employee. Our Executive Director is paid

by the city who is reimbursed by the BID.”

Noelia Colon from the BID joined the meeting via Zoom. She said, “Funding for the BID is in our operating budget. The support staff is in the unexpended budget. We have not determined if the person hired would be a city employee. The BID will determine this.”

Council President Bill Petrick spoke up, “The BID should not burden the city by having someone they hire be a city employee who will be reimbursed by the BID.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda spoke up and requested the name of businesses who got the money from the façade grant.

Colon explained that no grants were given out this year, “But I can give you a list of businesses who received a façade grant in the past year.”

Councilman Joel Pabon had a question regarding one of the items in Communication No.11. Mayor Helmin Caba submitting the following community update: the Perth Amboy Campus of Middlesex County Vocational and Technical High School will be the County Covid-19 Vaccination Site opening on Monday, February 8, 2021.

Pabon stated, “I don’t think

anyone in the city received the vaccine. When people call the different agencies or places (who are supposed to be giving the vaccine), they get no answers.”

Council President Petrick spoke up, “I saw cops directing traffic by the vocational school – so something is going on. Nursing homes are giving their staff vaccinations.”

OEM Director and Police Chief Larry Cattano answered the question, “On Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, the Vocational School was giving out vaccinations for those who were already registered. They administered 400 vaccinations today. They are due to do 400 more on Tuesday, and another 400 on Friday. It is county residents, and we are working to get our residents vaccinated. Our numbers were high last week. One day last week, we had 85 new Covid cases and 3 more deaths.”

Councilwoman Tejeda (who also works a hospital) says, “We are opening the hospital to visitors. I have gotten my first shot.”

Councilman Pabon continued, “We should not be used as a county site. It should be only for Perth Amboy residents. The president has been talking about opening up classrooms. I haven’t seen anything posted on our website. I know a lot of people who got vaccinated at the Perth Amboy Vo-Tech Site probably were not Perth Amboy residents. There is a pecking order. We haven’t gotten solid information on getting shots, and the county keeps failing us. The Jewish Renaissance is still doing Covid testing, and there are also some drive-thru locations.” Cattano concluded, “Some people here have had to go to other counties to get vaccinated.” Public Portion:

Those who came to the meeting in person were given the opportunity to speak first for a 3-minute timeframe.

Resident Jeremy Baratta spoke first. He talked about R-97-2/21 – Consenting to the appointment of Mark J. Cintron as Municipal Prosecutor and waiving the residency requirement.

(Earlier in the meeting, Councilman Pabon made a comment regarding this resolution stating, “When we needed a part-time prosecutor, because of a heavy workload of cases, the county would send someone at a great cost to the city.”)

Baratta said that Cintron was not eligible for this position because he made a monetary contribution to the Caba campaign. He then referenced all the grants in R-102 thru R-107. “This is just more funding for the BID, especially for the Executive Director. I have asked for information regarding the BID operations. Two BID Meetings are in question. Postpone anything regarding the BID until all questions are answered. They have \$300,000 in the bank.”

Resident Ken Balut spoke next. “I heard our Communications Director jumped the line and got the vaccination. A city employee got a housing grant in the past. One of

our judges changed paperwork on the first-time homebuyer’s grant. We have an unqualified Code Enforcement Director for \$130,000. Two high ranked police officers were suspended with pay. When are we going to stop the bleeding? There was a recent shooting at McDonald’s.”

Tashi Vazquez came up to the podium very briefly regarding the presentation of the Housing Program that was given earlier, “The median household income in Perth Amboy is \$53,000.”

Resident Vince Mackiel spoke next, “It is good we are having vaccination shots at the Vo-Tech. The ShopRite in Perth Amboy is not giving shots, but the corporation has a lot of money to hire qualified personnel. I hope people know it is important to get vaccinated. ShopRite should at least open up a part of their parking lot to have a vaccination site.”

The next person who came up to speak was Joel Rosa who introduced himself as a new city employee who is working with the mayor and the new business administrator. “I am always available to the council.”

The meeting was then opened up to Zoom participants. Madison Avenue Resident Maria Vera spoke first, “I want to thank Councilman Joel Pabon for helping out in our area with the serious problems of trucks driving in residential areas. Pabon is working with us on this issue and Cattano is acknowledging there is a problem, especially on Market Street and Silzer Street.” She addressed Council President Petrick and said, “You are a very smart man. Trucks are not allowed on parts of Market Street and Silzer Street. We need to control our town. Fords has a weight limit for trucks on their streets. Joel Pabon communicates with me and so does Larry Cattano. There are trucks parked in the front of Wilentz School.”

Petrick responded, “Councilman Joel Pabon can discuss this issue (truck parking) with the council. He can be our representatives.”

Vera responded, “You (the council) should all be involved.”

Resident Lisa Nanton spoke next, “I support Councilwoman Morales who wants to table Resolutions R-107 and R-110 (R-107 refers to a \$20,000 grant for the BID and R-110 – adopting the 2021 BID Budget for January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021) until you get a chance to review all the items for transparency.” Nanton also had a question regarding the presentation on affordable housing, “Will new developments have to have a portion (of their units) for affordable housing?”

Council President Petrick responded, “Only if we approve it.”

The public portion was closed session and the Council went into closed session at 7:30 p.m. All council members were present in person. The substitute Law Director was in person. Interim B.A. Remsen was present via Zoom.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAMS FUNDING APPLICATIONS FOR FY 2021

The City of Perth Amboy is initiating planning for Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Action Plan as part of its application for funding to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City expects to receive approximately \$660,000.00 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and \$420,000.00 in HOME funding. Funds may be used to assist persons with low to moderate-incomes, remove slums and blight, or address urgent needs.

Starting Friday February 12, 2021, applications and guidelines for FY 2021 CDBG and HOME funds will be available on the City’s website www.ci.perthamboy.nj.us through the Office of Economic and Community Development webpage. Be advised, all proposals will be due by 5:00 P.M. on Friday, March 12, 2021.

A public hearing is set to be held on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. via a phone and ZOOM meeting due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and following the social distancing guidelines.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87815646632?pwd=WTdrczNGOVF4NTVBSjAwT0t3Zk9PUT09>

Meeting ID: 878 1564 6632
Passcode: 428877

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

Meeting ID: 878 1564 6632
Passcode: 428877
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdkp6SV3tE>

The draft FY 2021 Annual Action Plan will be prepared following the close of the application period and committee review. This document will be available for public review in the City’s website www.ci.perthamboy.nj.us through the Office of Economic and Community Development webpage for 30 days starting Wednesday, March 26, 2021 to Monday, April 26, 2021 in order to receive comments on the proposed plan prior to finalizing the document and to meet the timing submission requirements established by HUD.

Comments can be sent to the Office of Economic and Community Development, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861, or by emailing tvazquez@perthamboynj.org or mrodriguez@perthamboynj.org.

Thank you.

Helmin J. Caba
Mayor

Trailblazers in Black History, Giving Kudos to the DPW & Remembering Pastor William Gerak

**Continued from Page 4*

in her pursuit of her meteorology degree, as she stated during a 1977 interview for a Baltimore Sun article, "When I chose my major, my adviser, who is still at U.C.L.A., advised me to go into home economics... I got a D in home economics and an A in thermodynamics." [3][11] Bacon-Bercey became the first African American woman to be conferred a meteorology degree from UCLA.[9]

The storm on January 31st thru February 2nd impacted our area and was a whopper! Although there was criticism about snow removal in some parts of Perth Amboy, I have to give kudos to the Perth Amboy DPW, and any other departments or individuals involved in the snow removal on Smith Street. I know for a fact, because I saw them with my own eyes that by late Thursday morning, Smith Street was closed. Cars were towed, and snow was removed not only from the street, but from the sidewalks and curbs. It was a pleasure to open the passenger side car door on Smith Street (on February 4th) and not be greeted by a mound of snow. I don't know where they put that snow, but I congratulate them on a clean sweep. I can only tell you about the parts of Smith Street that I personally walked on. That would be the intersection of Smith and High Streets to Smith and Maple Streets.

Unfortunately, it wasn't long after that we got hit by a second storm which compounded the cleanup. I also have to give kudos to Woodbridge Township who cleaned up Main Street completely of snow on the sidewalks and the curbs by Friday, February 5th so when people departed on the passenger side, they were not impeded by anything.

I know it is exceedingly difficult for towns to do a snow removal after having so much snow. People will complain about their street not being cleaned up. But your business district streets and main arteries are your lifeline, especially when people have to use city resources to pay their bills. When you depart your vehicle, it is important that passengers can get out on their side and not have to depart on the driver's side.

On February 8, funeral services were held for Pastor Gerak of the First Baptist Church of Perth Amboy who recently passed away. I had intended only to pay my respects to the family, but something made me decide to stay for the service. February 8th is also my late father's birthday and maybe that is why I was compelled to stay.

To me, the most important part of a funeral or home going service are when family members or friends speak. It did my heart good to hear the glowing remarks made by Pastor Gerak's children. The night before the funeral, one of his sons wrote a special song about his dad which he performed with one of

his brothers while he strummed the guitar. Pastor Gerak's daughter and another son sang one of Pastor Gerak's favorite songs. The children also spoke about their childhood memories of their dad. The children spoke about how he was always there for them, their mom, and any family members or friends. They never heard one bad word come out of his mouth and he always took the Lord's word literally and expected others to do so.

It was a service befitting who Pastor Gerak was. You could tell how special he was when the first one to speak was his daughter-in-law who first attended Gerak's church at the age of 12. It made a huge impact on her life. At the end of her remarks about her father-in-law, she wanted to thank the Lord for giving her the strength to speak those words.

There were also sprinkles of humor throughout the service. Pastor Jose Santos told a story

when Pastor Gerak invited him and another minister on a fishing trip. After they were ready to go back to shore, the motor wouldn't start after several attempts. Santos said he and the other pastor were in a panic mode, but Gerak just took that extra time to catch more fish, and didn't have a care in the world.

He also told a story that Pastor Gerak's sister had told him when Pastor Gerak was about 10-11 years old.

Gerak's sister, his sister's friend, and Gerak went ice skating on a frozen pond. Suddenly, the ice gave in and Gerak was submerged up to his shoulders. The sister's friend gingerly crawled into the spot where Gerak was and she pulled him out to safety.

I guess the Lord knew that Gerak had many important work to be done and it wasn't his time.

Another story that was told is when Pastor Gerak was teacher



Perth Amboy DPW clearing Smith Street
**Photo by Orlando Perez*



Pastor William Gerak
1948-2021

at an elementary school. At the end of the year, students would give a gift to their teachers. When someone asked Pastor Gerak what was one of the most memorable gifts he ever got from a student, he responded quickly. Twin girls in his class said they had a special gift for him, but requested that he bend

down to their level. When he did so, they both gave him a kiss on the cheek. What a special gift.

It was a home going celebration we all wish we could have. *C.M.*

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Pallone Announces Recycling Caucus for 117th Congress

Press Release 2/10/21

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) today announced the relaunch of the bipartisan Recycling Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives for the 117th Congress. Pallone will serve as a Co-Chair of the Caucus with Representatives David P. Joyce (OH-14), Haley Stevens (MI-11), and Rodney Davis (IL-13). The Caucus educates House Members on the environmental and economic benefits of recycling and seeks to increase the visibility of the recycling industry in the United States. The Caucus will hold regular events starting with a briefing and discussion on microplastics that will be announced in the near future.

“Recycling has long been one tool we have used to reduce pollution, protect our environment, and fight the climate crisis. It’s clear we need to do more to ensure that our recycling system solves the pollution crisis instead of contributing to it.

The U.S. recycling industry is an important economic engine and jobs provider on the cutting edge of innovations to improve how we handle waste and scrap materials. That’s why the House Recycling Caucus will highlight how Congress can improve recycling to fight climate change, address the plastics crisis, and boost local economies,” Pallone said. “I am excited to welcome a great group of colleagues as Co-Chairs of the House Recycling Caucus. The Caucus has a great tradition of bipartisan leadership, and I welcome their enthusiasm for improving our country’s recycling systems.”

“ISRI welcomes Chairman Pallone’s initiative to regenerate the House Recycling Caucus in the 117th Congress along with new co-chairs Haley Stevens (D-MI), David Joyce (R-OH) and Rodney Davis (R-IL). The House Recycling Caucus was established 15 years ago as a way to bring Members of Congress together to learn more and help promote recycling,”

said Billy Johnson of Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI). “ISRI is excited to again work with Chairman Pallone and the new co-chairs to help illustrate why recycling is essential to the manufacturing supply chain, environmental protection, energy conservation, and a solution to combat climate change.”

“America is litter-ally awash in waste, washing-up on beaches and smothering communities in piles of trash and costly bills -- especially due to the pandemic. Yet, with leadership, innovation, and ingenuity these piles of waste can become an economic and environmental boon, creating thousands of jobs. Mr. Pallone is answering the call and leading the way by reviving the House Recycling Caucus with a dynamic bi-partisan team of Co-Chairs. United, they can bring urgency, purpose, and 21st century savvy to improve and protect communities and stop wasting our planet’s resources,” said Cindy Zipf, Ex-

ecutive Director of Clean Ocean Action.

Pallone organized the House Recycling Caucus in 2006 in the 109th Congress. As Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Pallone held a hearing last year on the plastics waste crisis. His draft CLEAN Future Act outlined a plan to improve waste and recycling issues in the United States.



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 #ALLIN-FORWAITINGKIDS! 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.

Takeout Lenten Fish Fry

SOUTH AMBOY – The South Amboy Elks, 601 Washington Ave., are having a Takeout Lenten Fish Fry on Fridays: 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Serving Platters & Haddock, Shrimp & Clam Strips Combo Platter, Fish Sandwich, Chicken Fingers. All come with fries and slaw. Call to place your order: 732-727-7170.

Drive-Up Irish Breakfast Fundraiser

SOUTH AMBOY – The Knights of Columbus is having a Drive-Up Irish Breakfast Fundraiser on Sunday, March 14th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the K of C Council #426, 308 Fourth St., South Amboy. Breakfast includes bacon, sausage, mushrooms, potatoes, tomatoes, scrambled eggs, and beans. Cost: \$10pp. Simply drive up and have your to-go meal brought up to your car.

Lenten Fish & Chicken Dinner Fundraiser

SAYREVILLE - The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville, 172 Main Street, Sayreville, will be having a Lenten Fish and Chicken Dinner on March 19, 2021. All dinners will be take-out. Tickets are \$15.00 and may be obtained by calling the church office at 732-257-6353 or emailing us at churchoffice172@optimum.net. Chicken must be specified in advance. All meals include a 6 oz. piece of cod/chicken, french fries, green beans, coleslaw, rolls and fruit pie. Dinner pickups will be from 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

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SESIONES INFORMATIVAS VIRTUAL (Inglés y español)
Domingo, 21 de febrero de 2021, 1 pm
Sábado, 27 de febrero de 2021, 11 am
Se publicará un enlace de Zoom en nuestro sitio web.
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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.

A court on Morotai Island, in the Moluccas, on February 15, 1946, convicts 36 Japanese of torturing Australian and Dutch prisoners on the island group's Ambon Island. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police announces the arrest of 22 current and former government employees suspected of spying for the Soviet Union in Canada. The United Steel Workers of America and the United States Steel Corporation bring an end to the strike that had begun on January 21. Under their agreement, 130,000 employees will return to work on February 18 in return for an 18-1/2-cent-per-hour wage increase.

The Sikorsky S-51 — the first helicopter designed for commercial, rather than military, use — is tested at Bridgeport, Connecticut, on February 16. The Soviet Union registers the first veto to be cast in the United Nations Security Council, killing a resolution regarding the presence of British and French troops in Syria and Lebanon. In New York, Macy's markets the first frozen french fries. Pre-fried and intended for reheating in the oven, the Maxson Food Systems product is not immediately popular.

With Soviet occupation troops planning to withdraw from Manchuria within a month, Chinese Nationalist forces move into and claim Liao Chung, Manchuria, on February 17. In the first elections held in Belgium since 1939, the Christian Social Party wins the most seats, followed by the Socialists.

The Royal Indian Navy Mutiny begins at 8:00 a.m. on February 18 at the port of Colaba, near Bombay. In the first mutiny in British India since 1857, some 1,600 sailors from the shore facility designated HMIS Talwar walk out of their mess hall because of inadequate food, and begin to chant, "No food, no work!" The next day, sailors on other ships and shore bases in and around Bombay join the strike to protest substandard food, intolerable conditions aboard ships, and no addressing of their complaints by officers. Rioting breaks out by roving bands of sailors.

The Cabinet Mission to India is announced in the British House of Commons on February 19 by Fredrick Pethick-Lawrence, the Secretary of State for India. He, along with Sir Stafford Cripps, of the Board of Trade, and Albert V. Alexander, the First Lord of the Admiralty, will depart the U.K. on March 15 to meet with representatives regarding the eventual independence of British India and the maintaining of unity within the country.

In the U.S., the Employment Act of 1946 is signed into law on February 20. It lays the responsibility for the economic stabilization of inflation and unemployment onto the federal government. In the U.K., British Prime Minister Clement Attlee announces plans "to effect the transference of power to responsible India hands by a date not later than June 1948." In Palestine, the Palmach — the fighting arm of the Jewish underground in Mandatory Palestine — attacks the British Coast Guard station at Givat Olga, near Haifa. One person is killed and ten are injured. Documents found during and after the raid indicate that the attack is in retaliation for the seizure on January 17 of the Italian ship Enzo Sereni, which was attempting to smuggle Jewish refugees into Palestine. A coal-mine explosion in Bergkamen, Germany, about nine miles northeast of Dortmund, kills 405 people.

The Royal Indian Navy Mutiny continues to expand on February 21, as Indian seamen in Poona, Karachi, Calcutta and other cities begin seizing ships and detaining officers. Gunfire breaks out between Indian sailors and British army and naval troops sent to subdue them. In Egypt, riots and demonstrations against British rule take place amidst a general strike in Cairo. British troops fire into crowds of demonstrators, killing at least 12 people and injuring over 100. Former Finnish president Rysto Ryti, two former prime ministers and five former ministers are convicted in Helsinki of driving Finland into war allied with Germany. All receive prison terms.

On February 22, 1946, support for the Indian naval mutiny grows among the civilian population, which begins a general strike in Bombay. An anti-British demonstration in that city draws a crowd of 300,000. Rioting and looting break out, with nearly 200 people killed and 677 injured in subsequent fighting as authorities try to quell the unrest. George Kennan, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. embassy in Moscow, sends his "Long Telegram" from the Soviet capital to U.S. Secretary of State James Byrnes in Washington, D.C. Consisting of five separate cables, Kennan's message urges a new strategy for diplomatic relations with the U.S.S.R., stating that Joseph Stalin's Soviet regime is, among other things: fundamentally insecure, if not paranoid; opposed to the U.S.; and holds designs for the violent destabilization of the world. Kennan's communiqué is the trigger that leads the U.S. to redesign its foreign policy to one of firm "containment" of Soviet expansion and hostility over the long term.

On February 23, Indonesian prime minister Sutan Sjahrir rejects the Dutch proposal of February 10 that Indonesia remain within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, with Dutch citizenship for its population, commonwealth status and internal autonomy. The mutiny in the Indian Navy ends when the mutineers, essentially leaderless and receiving no support from India's political leaders (in fact, both Mohandas Gandhi and the Muslim League condemn the sailors' revolt and the civilian rioting), find themselves facing heavily armed British military and naval forces with orders to "forcibly repress" the uprising. In all, over 20,000 Indian sailors on 78 ships and at 20 shore bases are involved. The mutineers suffer 8 dead and 33 wounded; among civilians across the country, there are 233 deaths and 1,027 injuries related to the mutiny. In the Philippines, Lt. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita is hanged as a war criminal in Los Baños, 34 miles south of Manila, along with Lt. Col. Seichi Ohta, who had headed security for the kenpeitai, Japan's secret police. Yamashita — who led the Japanese in Singapore and in the Philippines — had been found guilty on December 7, 1945, of being responsible for his troops' atrocities even though there was no evidence that he approved of their actions or even knew about them. In fact, many of the atrocities were committed by troops that were not even under his command. Yamashita had maintained that what he had really been charged with was losing the war.

In the first open elections held in Argentina since 1928, Juan Perón on February 24 is elected president despite U.S. State Department evidence that he aided Nazi Germany during the war.

In Palestine, 22 British Royal Air Force planes are destroyed on February 25 in attacks on four different airfields. Chinese Nationalist and Communist leaders sign an agreement in Chungking to unify their armies.)

France closes its border with Spain on February 26 as a formal protest of that nation's execution of ten Spanish communists who were veterans of the French Resistance during the war. British authorities in Palestine round up 5,000 Jews in response to the attacks on RAF airfields the previous night. A race riot erupts in Columbia, Tennessee, as black residents take up weapons in response to white residents attempting to lynch a 19-year-old black Navy veteran. When the violence ends, four white local policemen are shot and wounded, two African-Americans have died in jail, 10 people are injured, and over 100 are arrested by the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

Spain on February 27 closes its border with France in retaliation for the French border closing of the previous day and — escalating the situation — sends troops to the area. After reviewing a report from National Urban League executive secretary Lester Granger on his tour of U.S. naval bases worldwide, U.S. Navy Secretary James Forrestal issues the order (applying to the Navy only): "Effective immediately, all restrictions governing the types of assignments for which Negro naval personnel are eligible are hereby lifted." President Harry Truman requests former president Herbert Hoover's assistance in persuading the American public to help with worldwide famine relief.

British commanders announce on February 28 that Indian troops will begin leaving the Netherlands East Indies immediately. Béla Imrédy, former prime minister of Hungary, is executed by a firing squad in Budapest for collaborating with the Nazis. The U.S. Army declares that it will use the V-2 rocket to test radar as an atomic-rocket defense system. Hồ Chi Minh, newly elected as president of Vietnam, sends a telegram to U.S. President Harry S. Truman, asking that the United States use its influence to persuade France not to send occupation forces back into Vietnam, and to "interfere urgently in support of our independence." Truman does not respond, and ultimately backs France to keep that nation solidly in the Western bloc against Soviet expansion. Ignored by America, Hồ ironically turns to the U.S.S.R. to seek assistance.

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I Beg to Differ 2/10/21 Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 3*

first.” Vera then finished and stated, “I don’t know why we have the same unqualified person running Code Enforcement.”

Vera was the only person to speak through Zoom. The public portion was then closed. Council Comments:

Councilwoman Rose Morales said, “I will be happy to help Pabon with any assistance he needs regarding the heavy truck traffic on residential streets.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up next. He was upset because no one got their temperature taken tonight when they entered the building. “Someone should have been downstairs to do so.” He then stated, “There was no snow removal or cleaning of sidewalks near Washington Park and Brace Avenue. The bridge on Convery Boulevard is never cleaned of snow. The state never cleaned the bridge. It might be the city’s responsibility. At least throw some salt on it. There is a sheet of ice on the sidewalk by one of the churches

near city hall circle. Any supervisor who sees something like this should call Code Enforcement or DPW Director Hoffman when it comes to snow removal or ice. The intersection of Smith and Hobart Street leading to the Jewish Renaissance needs to have snow removed.”

Barry Rosengarten, who was still at the meeting said, “That has already been done earlier today.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda spoke next. “Regarding snow removal, across from my house no one bothered to clean the cars.” She also wanted to thank the administration who talked about the vaccine coming to Perth Amboy and the Covid numbers that she requested. “When I request information, I need it so I can vote properly. Don’t be offended. I want to thank everyone who came here tonight and all those who participated on Zoom.”

Councilman B.J. Torres said, “There are openings on the Arts Council. I ask all to apply because we need to have many people included for different

ideas.”

Council President Bill Petrick thanked all who participated. “Stay safe.”

Just before he was about to close the meeting, all of a sudden Code Enforcement Director Irving Lozada spoke up via Zoom. He assured the council that he will have the answers about the ice on the sidewalks by the church near City Hall Circle tomorrow.

Business Administrator Edward Remsen spoke next on Zoom, “I will make sure that the DPW cleans all the areas of snow and ice that was mentioned tonight.”

Petrick then concluded, “I want to make sure there is someone to check temperatures when people enter the building to address Councilman Joel Pabon’s concerns.”

The other council members all spoke up and said they were concerned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m. All Council Members were present in the chambers.

Attend Public Meetings *Have Your Voice Heard!*

Scholarship Bequeathment, Status of New High School, Covid Status 2/4/21 Board of Education Meeting via Zoom

By: Katherine Massopust
PERTH AMBOY – After some brief technical issues, the Board of Education Meeting began at 5:47 p.m. The Board immediately went into executive session at 5:51 p.m. and returned at 8:21 p.m. There was only one public portion in which each individual was allowed to speak on anything.

The first individual to speak was Lynn Audet, District Representative for the Perth Amboy Federation. She thanked the Board for adopting a schedule for food distribution. She then asked that the grading window be moved from 2 days to 5 days to give teachers ample time to post grades on the computer.

Perth Amboy Federation President Pat Paradiso spoke next. She indicated that the Staff needs Covid protocols in our buildings and that there should be more transparency on how things are done. She also asked if there are outbreaks, the staff should be informed.

After the public portion was over, Assistant Superintendent Delvis Rodriguez stated that the district follows all Covid guidelines. “The security guards work for 4 days, then are off 1 day.”

Superintendent Dr. David Roman stated that when visitors come to the building, we want someone professional there to greet them. “We will get through this. Thank you to all of our staff.”

Board Member R.L. Anderson asked about one of the programs for students which helps give emotional support, especially during this pandemic, “How are these kids selected?”

Dr. Vivian Rodriguez answered, “This is a pilot program going to the middle school level

with Dr. Foster who is a psychiatrist. Tier 3 intervention – she will start this pilot.”

Board Vice President Tashi Vazquez added, “This is with the national collaboration with WellCare. It is important to bring different people into the mix.”

Board Member Junior Iglesia said, “Part of the rational is that there is a lot of social-emotional need. I’m glad we are making social-emotional programs.”

It was noted by Board Secretary Derek Jess that Katherine McDermott who recently passed away left 2 bequests to the district to be used for scholarships. (She had no family) “I want to acknowledge the generosity to our district. She left \$446,000 to our schools.”

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Vivian Rodriguez said, “We are glad to have a committee like this regarding this grant.”

It was noted that MaryJo MacAdam is retiring. Board Vice President Tashi Vazquez gave a few remarks, “Mary Jo MacAdam started when I was in the Seventh Grade. Happy blessed retirement.”

Dr. Vivian Rodriguez stated, “I worked with Mary Jo (MacAdam) for over 20 years. We worked really close together. Thank you very much.”

Board Member Dr. Danielle Brown stated, “When I went to college, I would come back to visit Ms. MacAdam. I still go to visit Ms. MacAdam. Congratulations on your retirement.”

Board Member Junior Iglesia asked about the status of the new high school.

Superintendent Dr. David Roman answered, “We should be proud of our academic program which will be implemented in

our new high school. With the pandemic, things have changed. We are on time. Our programs are intact. It will be the biggest high school ever built by the SDA (School Development Authority) in New Jersey. It will be a place where the children of Perth Amboy will go to become future leaders of this nation.”

Board Vice President Tashi Vazquez gave a statement on why winter sports were cancelled. “That decision was made with the safety of the children in mind.”

Dr. David Roman added, “When we started, Perth Amboy was leading Middlesex County with Covid cases. It was not clear what we should be doing on the state, county, and national level. We went remote. How do we say it is not okay to be in school and be okay to participate in a sport? We need to keep children safe. That is what we made our decision on.”

Board Member Dr. Danielle Brown said, “We understand these decisions are not made easily. Your safety is important to us. This is from a former student athlete and a mother of one.”

Board Comments:

Board Member Junior Iglesia stated that it is important to emphasize social distancing and not to expose yourself to large crowds. “Stay safe.”

Board Member Dr. Danielle Brown said, “It is Black History Month. Celebrate our community leaders.”

Board Vice President Tashi Vazquez echoed Board Member Iglesia’s statements. “We lifted some restrictions. Be safe.”

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m. All Board Members were present.

Pallone Calls for Swift Action on House Democrats’ Legislation to Help State and Local Governments *COVID-19 Relief Bill Would Provide \$9.43 Billion For New Jersey State and Local Governments*

Press Release 2/12/21

LONG BRANCH, NJ – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) today issued the following statement on recently released estimates for state and local aid to New Jersey state and local governments. House Democrats’ proposed COVID-19 legislation would inject critical funding into these governments.

“State and local governments have been hit hard by this pandemic, facing devastating budget shortfalls that threaten vital day-to-day programs and the dedicated public servants who provide them. First responders, teachers, and public servants across our state are risking their lives to serve our communities. We cannot let state and local governments fall into bankruptcy as they provide our cities and towns with critical services. The COVID-19 relief package House Democrats are advancing is estimated to provide \$9.43 billion to New Jersey state and local governments, including more than \$280 million to Middlesex and Monmouth Counties and more than \$150 million to municipalities in New Jersey’s 6th Congressional District.”

The estimates for state and local aid in New Jersey include:

New Jersey	State government: \$6.48 billion
	Local Governments: \$2.95 billion
Middlesex County	\$161 million
Monmouth County	\$121 million
Asbury Park	\$10 million
Edison	\$14 million
Long Branch	\$12 million
Middletown	\$6 million
New Brunswick	\$20 million
Old Bridge	\$6 million
Perth Amboy	\$15 million
Sayreville	\$5 million
Woodbridge	\$16 million
Aberdeen Township	\$3.4 million
Allenhurst	\$89,600
Atlantic Highlands	\$797,500
Deal	\$133,600
Hazlet	\$3.6 million
Highlands	\$881,213
Interlaken	\$146,300
Keansburg	\$1.8 million
Keyport	\$1.3 million
Loch Arbour	\$33,500
Marlboro	\$7.4 million
Matawan	\$1.6 million
Monmouth Beach	\$596,500
Ocean Port	\$1.1 million
Sea Bright	\$252,000
Union Beach	\$1 million
West Long Branch	\$1.4 million
Carteret	\$4.4 million
Highland Park	\$2.6 million
Metuchen	\$2.7 million
Piscataway	\$10.5 million
South Plainfield	\$4.5 million



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Dowdell Library Events

Press Release
SOUTH AMBOY — March Madness, anyone? We may not be playing basketball at the library this month, but we do have a fun, crazy schedule planned! There is a little bit of fun for everyone, from Birthday celebrations to new programs. Grab your calendar because you won't want to miss a thing!

The Dowdell Library is turning 107 years old! Drop in and grab your free (individually wrapped) birthday cake from March 15-19 (while supplies last)! We are also celebrating Read Across America on Dr. Seuss's birthday. Listen to Ms. Maryanne virtually read a special birthday book on our YouTube channel. Stop in between March 1-5 to grab a free Dr. Seuss birthday surprise take-home bag (ages 0-10)!

March 19 is Makers Day. Makers day is all about encouraging creativity and exploration using your imagination. We are holding a gumdrop engineering challenge from March 1 until March 18. Stop in and grab a take-home kit and try to create a structure strong enough to support a large textbook. Bring your creation back to the library before the 18th, and we will test its strength! One lucky winner will receive a Microscope Kit (ages 8+)! Feel like getting even more creative at home? Tune into Sadie's Studio with Ms. Laura on YouTube. She will be demonstrating how to make a real Lava Lamp!

Is the luck of the Irish with you? Adults (18+) can stop by the library and enter our Luck of the Irish Trivia Contest during the entire month of March. One lucky person will win a gift card to Shop Rite where you can purchase all your St. Patrick's Day essentials. The contest runs from March 1- 15.

The 2021 Tax season is here! The Sadie Pope Dowdell Library is pleased to support financial stability in our community. Free, contactless, tax return assistance is available to people earning less than \$64,000/year. A Dropbox is stationed inside the building. You will need to fill out the Intake and Consent Forms and provide the requested tax documents. You MUST place your documents in an envelope prior to dropping them off. To learn more about this special program or pick up the required forms, please contact the library at 732.721.6060 or comments@dowdell.org.

New to the library this March: Brainfuse, and Libby! Brainfuse is a free online service that offers tutoring, homework help, and a full studying suite designed to help patrons of ALL ages succeed. Libby is a free app where you can borrow eBooks and digital audiobooks and magazines from your public library. You can stream with Wi-Fi or download them for offline use anytime, anywhere. Look for both the Brainfuse link and the Libby Logo on our webpage Dowdell.org.

Invest more time in yourself this year! The Dowdell Library is excited to offer a free virtual class through the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Nadine Roberts, a stress management practitioner, will present A Virtual Guided Imagery Relaxation Session on March 9 & 23. Join us for a virtual relaxation session of guided imagery and creative visualization. Learn techniques to practice at home when life's daily stressors make you feel overwhelmed. The one-hour session will 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.

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. Due to all services being staff-assisted, walk-in service is available Monday-Friday 12-5pm and Thursday 12-5pm and 6-8pm. Grab & Go Service by Appointment-Monday morning 9:30-10:30am

SOUTH AMBOY — Borrow and read eBooks and audiobooks from the Dowdell Library for FREE! Visit the Dowdell Library website at Dowdell.org to learn all about the Libby and LMX-PRESS PLUS mobile phone applications.

The Libby app is the easiest way to access the latest digital books, audiobooks, and magazines. Libby is available for Android and Apple devices, and in your browser at libbyapp.com.

Check out the LMXPRESS PLUS app to quickly manage your library account 24/7. Easily place holds, view checkouts, or renew items. You can also store a digital copy of your library card so you will never leave home without it again!

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Woodbridge Public Library Events

Free Virtual Events - All are Welcome to Attend

February 16 | Pick Up Available All Week | Fords Library
Valentine's Day Door Decor
Registered adult (18+) participants are welcomed to come to the Fords Library to pick up the supplies for this activity. Registration Required

February 16 7PM | Filling Our Hearts With Love Through Meditation
Join long time meditator Arvind Naik, MBA as he offers this engaging workshop on how to use the practice of meditation to transform the heart. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/3iai8or>

February 18 | 7PM
Movie Trivia Night
Test your movie knowledge! Join us for a virtual trivia night using Zoom and Kahoot!. Registration is limited and required - <https://bit.ly/3qJERed>

February 22 | Pick Up Available All Week | Iselin Library
Adult Cozy Self-Care Kit
Winter blues got you down? Take a moment with this cozy, little kit and renew your spirits! Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/3qHfk5p>

February 23 | 7PM | Financial Wellness : Taking a Rational Approach to Managing Your Wealth
This webinar is designed to help you develop strategies for making objective decisions about money so you can manage your wealth more wisely. Presented by Bradley Baskir, a financial advisor at Morgan Stanley. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/2XBC7TH>

February 24 | 7PM | Taking Their Freedom: Ona Judge and Harriet Tubman
Continue our celebration of Black History Month with a riveting discussion by Dr. Linda J. Caldwell Epps of the lives of Ona Judge and Harriet Tubman. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/2Nh36lv>

February 26 | 3PM | Mystery/Thriller Book Club
Join us virtually for a discussion of The Wives by Tarryn Fisher. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/39Uf7oz>

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

Audio CD Review: Doctor Who: Out of Time



By: Anton Massopust III
Doctor Who has expanded through the many different aspects of popular culture and media. The long running science fiction series can be found on DVD, home video and has extended into comic books, graphic novels, and audio adventures. In “Doctor Who: Out of Time,” two of the best actors who have played the Doctor unite in an adventure.

The Doctor’s longtime enemy, the Daleks are trying to control a cathedral that connects to multiple dimensions. David Tenant's Doctor arrives in this cathedral. He is unsure what he wants to do next with his life. He runs into his fourth incarnation of the Doctor, played by Tom Baker who is panting a fresco inside the cathedral which is rally a time ship. People come their doors for prayer and meditation or to contemplate aspects of the universe. A young private army deserter from the future decides that she doesn't want to fight in the war, so she joins up with the Doctor to find her place in the universe. She decides to travel with the fourth doctor who talks a lot about himself and the artist Michelangelo. When some soldiers pursue the young private (one is her father) from the far future, both the Doctors discover they are from the far future battling the Daleks. And indeed, the Daleks are not far behind. The Dalek Supreme the evil Leader of the Daleks and his Dalek soldiers are on their way. They kill the Abbot, who is the only one who can fly the cathedral (she is a symbiont and a central part of it). The two Doctors must unite to prevent the Daleks from taking over the cathedral and save the people who are stuck in the cathedral and before the Daleks reach earth.

Are these Doctor Who audio adventures worth listening to? Heck yeah! You can even take your imagination further than it’s ever been before through wonderful storytelling. You imagine what everything looks like. It's up to you. It is a Wonder to hear these two British actors together to make a great story, especially if you're a big Doctor Who fan. It's a bit predictable here and there, but that's okay. If you know This character and these types of stories, you know more or less the Doctor will win in the end. This is available for you through Big Finish Productions. Order from them directly or download it. Happy Listening.

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- Professional development

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.

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 D.B.

Novena to St. Jude

Most holy Apostle, St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the Church honors and invokes you universally, as the patron of difficult cases, of things almost despaired of, Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Intercede with God for me that He bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, particularly - *(make your request here)* - and that I may praise God with you and all the saints forever. I promise, Oh Blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor granted me by God and to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen. *E.M.I.*

Remember to Say Your Novenas!

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 8, 2021. More details to follow in late March 2021.

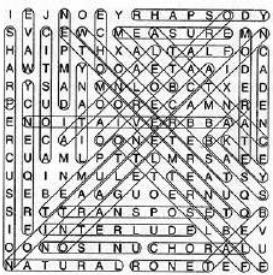


PERTH AMBOY - Meet Boy Blue! He lived in the streets on Jacques in Perth Amboy and was on his death bed, skin and bones when a lady in her 80s started feeding him and sneaking antibiotics into his food on her back porch of her apt. She finally got senior housing and was devastated to leave Boy Blue and the other cats she cared for over a year. I took him because I knew without shelter or food and meds, he would die. I have been caring for him since June 4th and he's finally healthy enough to have a loving home of his own. He is FIV+ and loves to eat! He is a timid boy but very sweet without a mean bone. He is used to being around cats and a small dog. I really hope someone gives Boy Blue a chance. If not, I would really appreciate a FOSTER home. To adopt Boy Blue email Vmoralespps@yahoo.com for adoption application or text 1.732.486.6382. He is fixed, vaccinated, dewormed, etc... Allforthepaws.org Donation fee applies.

Have a Special Pet?

E-mail us your Pet Photos to AmboyGuardian@gmail.com with Pet of the Week in the Subject line and explain why your pet is special. Please include Name and Phone# for verification.

Answers From Puzzle On Page 13

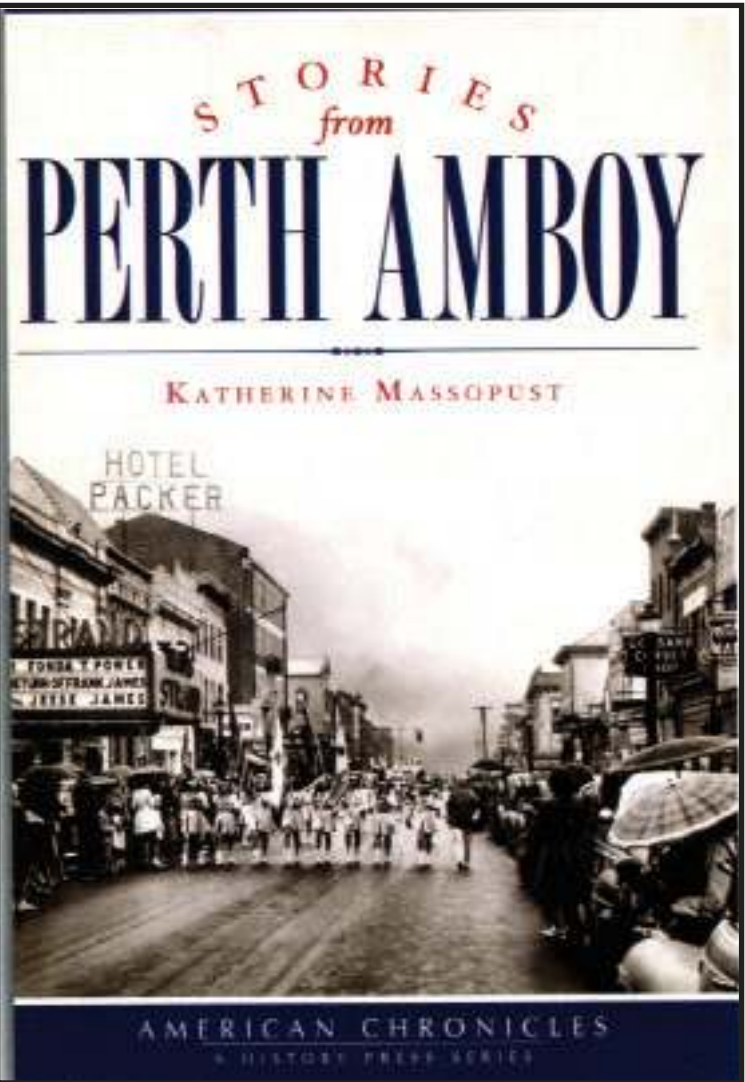


LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – Swans and ducks at the Waterfront 1/21/94

**Photo Courtesy of Mike Keller
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 at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy - 732-442-3000 or at: www.amazon.com A Great Gift! Get it now along with Then & Now: Perth Amboy!



Maurice "Moe" Day
Realtor/Agent



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PERTH AMBOY - Desirable Hidden village Townhouse. 2 large bedrooms with access to large bathroom from both bedrooms. Separate tub and shower stall. 1 & 1/2 bathrooms, 3 balconies - one on each level. Enjoy maintenance free living. Large oversized 2 car garage. Close to Train Station, Hospital and Perth Amboy Downtown Area. **\$237,500**



PERTH AMBOY - Perth Amboy waterfront area, 3 family, 3,720 square foot property, 50 x 150 lot with big patio, garage and driveway. Move on one side and rent the others two. Great investment!!!! Huge attic and basement for entertainment or storage. Property needs TLC. Tenants for more than 5 years and wants to stay. Showing date Saturday January 30th from 11 am to 3 pm by appointment ONLY, not open house. **\$565,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Beauty salon in business for more than 15 years, close to downtown. Waiting for new owner to star making money. **\$55,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great brick two family with lots of potential but needs lots of work. Buyer is responsible for all trash-out, smoke cert, termite cert, and all repairs. It is being sold strictly in AS IS condition. **\$295,000**



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



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**



SAYREVILLE - Great investment property fully rented immediate income producer. Don't miss out. All separated utilities. Apartments 2 & 3 are all electric, large apartment 1 is gas. It is being Sold in AS IS condition. Buyer is responsible for C/O, Termite Cert. and all repairs. **\$459,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great condition condo with many upgrades, master bedroom with private bathroom, 2 car garage. Close to most public transportation and shopping district and more. **\$2,400 rent**



SOUTH RIVER - Large three family with lots of potential needs some TLC, apartment A has 2 brs, apartment B has 3 brs and apartment C has 2 brs. Apartments B & C entrance is around the back. large attic space for storage. A must see. **\$409,000**