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Ouch! Flexing Their Muscles 2/22/21 Caucus

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – The 2/22/21 Caucus was the first time the meeting started at its new time at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the council chambers and people were allowed to participate via Zoom teleconferencing.

Councilman Joel Pabon was the first to speak regarding R-113-2/21 – Authorizing emergency temporary appropriations to extend the CY: 2021 Temporary budget in an amount of \$12,686,566.52.

He questioned, “Why didn’t we have a preliminary budget in place? The longer we wait, it will be more difficult to balance. I’m requesting a preliminary budget.”

Interim Business Administrator Edward Remsen responded, “We expect to have a preliminary budget by next week and we are within a timeframe for the state budget request.”

Pabon continued, “Governor Murphy just came up with this new timeframe, but we should have been working on this.”

Remsen then added, “We started working on the budget when I got here, and I started to meet with the department heads two weeks ago. We had to wait for the revenue amounts to come in.”

Pabon still wasn’t satisfied, “We have been spending over what we have.”

Remsen answered back, “We would have had to start working on this (temporary budget) in November.”

Pabon finished, “I want no more excuses. We need a preliminary budget.”

Council President Bill Petrick suggested that the council hold off on voting on R-114-2/21 – Adopting the 2021 Perth Amboy Business Improvement District Budget from January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021.

“We need to hold off because of lawsuits, and will there be ramifications?” Petrick asked the substitute lawyer for Law

Director Northgrave.

The substitute lawyer stated he would get back to the council on Wednesday.

Pabon spoke up, “Law Director Northgrave said their will always be lawsuits going on.”

Petrick then turned to Councilwoman Rose Morales and asked her if she had all the questions answered that she asked previously regarding BID operations. She responded, “Yes.”

Petrick then said that he was concerned about the \$20,000 line item where the BID requested getting a new employee. “Would that new person be a city employee?”

Executive Director of the BID Noelia Colon was on Zoom answered, “They are using the \$20,000 to replace the assistant employee of BID that left in 2019. As of 2021, we (the BID Board) discussed getting staff support. The salary of that new employee will be reimbursed by the BID if the person is a city employee.”

Petrick still was not happy, “The new BID employee would get city benefits and we don’t have the budget in our hand. We are almost at 100% taxation, now.”

Colon continued, “The option could be that the new person could be a BID employee instead of them being a city employee.”

Petrick answered back, “Everything would impact the city’s budget. We need a definite answer to see if the new employee will be employed by the city or just employed or paid by the BID? I heard that only Rosengarten signed off on the documents (approving the BID budget).”

Noelia Colon continued, “The BID can discuss at the next meeting to see if that new employee will be employed by the city or the BID. It’s correct that only Rosengarten signed off on the documents. We can have someone else also sign off on the documents.”

DPW Director Frank Hoffman participated on Zoom to let the council details regarding R-117-2/21 – A change order with H&S Construction and Mechanical for the stair tower reconstruction at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library with alternates in an amount not to exceed \$9,463.13.

“This is for a stairway leading to the boiler room at the library which were not up to code.”

Councilman Pabon had a concern about R-122-2/21 – The extension of the appointment of Edward A. Remsen as interim B.A. for a period no longer than 60 days from March 7, 2021.

“At first, when he (Remsen) was hired, it said 6 months and it looks like it was meant to be that way from the beginning. “We hired a company (Government Strategy Group) who was supposed to look for a permanent B.A. Now the same company is also doing audits.”

Petrick spoke up next, “The council hears things in the streets, which turns out to be facts. Are these people (who are looking for a permanent B.A.) also qualified to do audits?”

Remsen spoke up, “The proposal was to do a variety of services. The people from this group also have municipal experiences. They are doing a search for a permanent B.A., and when one is found, I will leave. They are doing a management review and a meeting with the department heads on ways to save money.”

Petrick spoke up again and stated that he is pleased with Remsen’s professionalism. “But I don’t agree with some of the duties that this group is performing.”

Pabon then added, “Maybe I didn’t get the memo about the part about what this group would do when meeting with department heads. Give us the tools we need to we need to help the city.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda then said, “The firm was hired to look for a permanent business administrator and I would like to see how much money is being spent by this company.”

Remsen responded, “They (the group) would discuss different strategies with depart-



PERTH AMBOY - Council President William Petrick (C) with Former Councilman (Now Mayor) Helmin Caba (L) and Former Councilman Fernando Irizarry (R) who were honored for their service on the City Council at the 2/24/21 Council Meeting
*Photo by Carolyn Maxwell

ments heads, and some things they were doing at no additional cost.”

Mayor Helmin Caba came up and confirmed that the consulting services group are meeting with our department heads at no additional cost. “The B.A. is only here temporarily and is earning less than the minimum suggested cost.”

Interim B.A. Remsen spoke up, “I am earning \$20,000 less than the entry level cost that is associated with this position. This is not a part-time job. I am getting less than the last Interim B.A.”

Caba spoke up again, “We are very transparent, and you all get CC’d (on all important correspondence). I made him (Remsen) sign an agreement on his salary, so he does not come back and try to sue us.”

The next discussion involved R-123-2/21 – Payment to Peter J. King, Esq. for legal services rendered in 2020 beyond the regular duties of the Director of

Law in an amount not to exceed \$128,873.14.

Councilwoman Tejeda asked, “Did we pay on some of these items already listed in this resolution?”

Petrick spoke up, “I had asked King to itemize his bill. We should table this resolution. We blocked him (King) because he didn’t give us all that we asked.”

Pabon said, “Before we table, we should reach out to King. He has quite a list (of expenses) here.”

Tejeda spoke up again, “King repeated some of the same items.”

The council decided to table the resolution.

Pabon then mentioned R-124-2/21 – An agreement with Middlesex County to provide funds in an amount of \$89,246 to the City of Perth Amboy for Code Blue Warming Services.

*Continued on Page 8

**Remember Turn Your
Clocks Forward 1 hr.
Sunday, Mar. 14, 2021, 2 a.m.**

Updates on Coronavirus Outbreak: www.perthamboynj.org & www.southamboynj.gov & www.amboyguardian.com

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Covid Vaccine Availability & Administration Procedures Discussed 2/17/21 Council Meeting via Teleconferencing

By: Katherine Massopust
SOUTH AMBOY – Council President Micky Gross announced that the grievance between Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski and the P.B.A. had been settled.

The consent agenda was passed unanimously. Councilman Tom Reilly asked a question regarding Resolution No. 21-072 (Bill List). Reilly asked why the city was still paying bills to former City Attorney John Lanza who has not been with the city for some time.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski explained that there were some foreclosures and that there will be one more small bill.

Council Comments:

Councilman Tom Reilly applauded the first responders, and the volunteers at the food pantry. He asked when there will be a dropbox in front of city hall. B.A. Skarzynski answered that when time permits, the city will have a dropbox.

Reilly then asked about the status of the demolition of the infamous "Pigeon Palace".

Law Director Francis Womack stated, "In order to show cost, we would not move forward until the court says we can move forward and begin demolition. We need to do this as soon as possible before we lose the contract with the contractor. I believe it won't get past March."

Reilly then asked about the illegal palate operation. B.A. Skarzynski stated there was no change.

Reilly asked about Covid vaccinations in town.

B.A. Skarzynski answered, "At this stage, there is not ample supplies in the county. When the county decides to open up in South Amboy, we have a plan in place."

Reilly asked how many city employees take home a vehicle.

Skarzynski stated there was no more than three.

Councilman Brian McLaughlin thanked emergency services. Due to the impending snowstorm, he asked if the DPW could work in the middle of the night to clear Broadway.

B.A. Skarzynski answered, "We will do what we can for snow removal. There is a whole lot of regulations for disposal of snow."

McLaughlin asked if the city ever purchased a bobcat.

Skarzynski answered, "To my knowledge we don't have a bobcat. We have the equipment to do the job. There is a question of where to put the snow."

McLaughlin then asked about

the status of the First Aid/Fire Department merger. Skarzynski explained that there were some financial matters that had to be taken care of first before finalizing the merger.

McLaughlin asked about the purchase of the two new firetrucks. Skarzynski stated that the firetrucks will arrive in August and will cost approximately \$1.3 million. Skarzynski added, "The ambulance for the first aid squad is in this year's fiscal budget."

McLaughlin then referenced a press release regarding the Covid-19 Relief Bill called for by Congressman Frank Pallone. McLaughlin wanted to know if South Amboy received any money for Covid because it was not listed in the press release.

CFO Dan Balka stated that South Amboy received \$135,000 last year and another \$44,000 on December 31, 2020.

B.A. Skarzynski added that there are strict guidelines for Middlesex County regarding funding for Covid.

Councilman McLaughlin then asked about Covid vaccines.

Skarzynski stated that there wasn't enough supplies of the vaccine for South Amboy seniors (as of 2/17/21).

Councilman Brian McLaughlin congratulated Tom Kross for his anniversary of 50 years serving the city in the Fire Department.

Councilwoman Zusette Dato said, "We all share the same concerns with the Covid vaccine and our seniors and the vulnerable population to receive the vaccine. This issue has to do with diminishing supplies."

Council President Micky Gross stated, "If our seniors have a problem, they can call: 732-745-3100 who will answer their problems. I think if they are not computer savvy, a call to this number will accommodate them, or they can call me. I am not going to turn anybody away."

Councilwoman Dato expressed her concerns that the county was overwhelmed with phone calls and so would Gross (if he stated people could call him regarding Covid). "They (the people) are reaching a breaking point. Everyone appreciates what the County Health Department and you (Mickey Gross) are doing. This is a frustrating situation for everyone. We have to wait until supplies are replenished." Dato then thanked everyone in the food pantry. "In one day, 1,200 bags of food were distributed. The need for food is great.

Many people are out of a job. Please be generous. You can donate food, money, or manpower." Dato then remarked about the impending snowstorm, "I am concerned about snow. Residents on Prospect Street and those on side streets that are narrow (and difficult to drive down without snow). Is there any way we might consider someone to plow over there?"

B.A. Skarzynski answered, "I will reach out (to the DPW). Many residents do not have driveways (making it difficult to move their cars)."

Council President Christine Noble asked when the lights on the beach walk will be finished.

Skarzynski answered that it is 99% completed and will be finished when the weather breaks.

Council President Mickey Gross who works for the County Health Department explained why South Amboy does not presently have a vaccine site. "Take a look at these sites. We can't do it at the senior center. Every person being vaccinated needs to be seated down for 15 minutes. They need to be clear a 6-foot perimeter (for social distancing). By the time we bring in our nurses who are doing the shots, we have to have a registration area. It is not possible to use the senior center. We must have a fully handicapped accessible building. St. Mary's Grammar School or the high school (maybe). There's are a lot more to it than just sitting someone down and giving them a shot. There are sites in Perth Amboy, the Fire Academy in Sayreville and in East Brunswick. You need parking available for 500 people."

Mayor Fred Henry congratulated Tom Kross for his dedication of 50 years of service to the South Amboy Fire Department. "I want to thank Tom and his family." Mayor Henry was pleased to announce that on March 1, 2021, schools will be reopened in South Amboy. "We will do all that is necessary." Mayor Henry encouraged everyone to be careful.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski encouraged everyone to see Broadway's lights (at night) which there is a remarkable difference.

Law Director Francis Womack wished everyone to be safe in the upcoming snowstorm.

No one spoke during the public portion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m. All council members were present.

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- ✓ Delivered critical funding for utility and transportation infrastructure projects throughout the 19th Legislative District, despite one of the largest revenue shortfalls in New Jersey's history.
- ✓ Led legislative reforms to advocate and improve infectious disease control in nursing homes throughout the State to protect our loved ones.

Our commitment to the District has never wavered. We are running to support the District's recovery and keep the progress going!

We thank you for entrusting us to represent you in the New Jersey State Legislature.

Joseph Vitale
Senator

Craig Coughlin
Speaker

Yvonne Lopez
Assemblywoman

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Perseverance: Benefiting Mankind

In the endless stream of Covid-19 in all forms of media, I thought I would write about something positive. On February 18, 2021 the Mars Rover Perseverance safely landed on Mars after surviving the “7 minutes of terror (the descent and landing on the planet,” to the cheers of scientists back on earth. Like its predecessors (Sojourner (landed 7/4/97), Opportunity (landed 1/25/04), Spirit (landed 1/4/04), and Curiosity (landed 8/6/12)), Perseverance is also exploring the surface of Mars, but this time, this sophisticated rover is searching for ancient (microscopic) life on Mars. Perseverance is About 10 feet long (not including the arm), 9 feet wide, and 7 feet tall. Billions of years ago, Mars was not the frozen desert it is now. The Red Planet had water and a warmer environment that could have supported life. Perseverance is searching for evidence of that ancient life. It is exciting to see what Perseverance sees and to learn the geological history of Mars. “Understanding Mars’ past climate conditions and reading the geological history embedded in its rocks will give scientists a richer sense of what the planet was like in its distant past. Studying the Red Planet’s geology and climate could also give us a sense of why Earth and Mars – despite some early similarities – ended up so different.” (Mars 2020 landing press kit)

Perseverance has 19 cameras to photograph the surface of Mars. “The rover has a drill to collect core samples of Martian rock and soil, then store them in sealed tubes for pickup by a future mission that would ferry them back to Earth for detailed analysis. Perseverance will also test technologies to help pave the way for future human exploration of Mars.” (mars.nasa.gov)

Presently, there are plans to return to the moon and one day have a mining colony there. Also, there are plans for a manned exploration to set foot on Mars, and one day to have a Martian colony. There are even plans by space mogul Elon Musk to terraform Mars (make



Perseverance lands on Mars

*Photos NASA



Mars Rover Perseverance

*Photo NASA



Mars Surface as photographed from Perseverance

*Photo NASA

it habitable) by detonating nuclear weapons on Mars’s poles to free up the CO₂. Although this plan is controversial, Musk believes it is promising. (PopularMechanics.com May 19, 2020)

I love both Star Wars and Star Trek and as a child I wanted to be an astronaut and dreamed of exploring the galaxy in a starship. I always supported the space program and its importance. When working on the space program nations work together peacefully for a common goal: space exploration. People work together to solve

problems and create technology not only for the space program, but to enrich our everyday lives. Many of today’s technologies came about because of the space program. Such technology includes: memory foam, many commercial baby formulas, the Dustbuster, space blankets, food safety (HACCP), the freeze-drying process, CAT scans and other technologies. (Source: “15+ Space Age Inventions and Technologies We Use Everyday”, Christopher McFadden 6/14/20 <https://interestingengineering.com>)

I believe that one day, the colonization of the moon and Mars will eventually alleviate the overpopulation problem on earth. It is time the human race stops its senseless bickering over pettiness and works together in other matters as well as space exploration. **K.M.**

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Letter from Assemblywoman
Yvonne Lopez
19th Legislative District

Representing my hometown as a member of the General Assembly has been one of the great honors of my lifetime. I am proud of the progress our great city has made over the past three years and the role I have been able to take in supporting the city and its residents.

First and foremost, I am proud of the city’s resilience and strength in dealing with the unprecedented consequences of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. I feel Perth Amboy came together to support its community and as a member of this strong community I was able to provide real help for our residents.

In the midst of one of the largest unemployment crises to face our State, my office continues to assist hundreds of Perth Amboy residents in troubleshooting their unemployment claims to ensure everyone that is owed benefits receives their benefits. For our business community, I advocated for State and Federal aid and committed myself to informing our businesses about every loan and economic support program available to them. Moreover, realizing the increase in food insecurity as a result of the pandemic, I partnered with Feed NJ to introduce an initiative where small businesses were contracted to provide meals for organizations like Hogar Crea, Renovation House and the Salvation Army. The program not only provided crucial meals to those in need but also gave our restaurants the business they were lacking during the pandemic. Finally, as the vaccine roll out continues, I regularly communicate with our hospitals to ensure supply and successfully advocated for Perth Amboy to have a site at the Middlesex County Vocational School within the county’s vaccination program.

As your voice in Trenton, I along with my district mates have advocated for Perth Amboy in every single budget. Thanks to this work and collaboration with local leaders on priorities, Perth Amboy has received millions in state funding to support vital programs and projects. Investments include funding to renovate our treasured Proprietary House, support towards the construction of Fayette Street Bridge, dedicated funding to bolster our aging water infrastructure and support towards park improvements and open space development. Moreover, I continue to act as conduit for further information, status

updates, inquiries and any other help needed for our city’s most important infrastructure projects. From the completion of our new high school to the long over-due renovation of our train station, I have always fought to ensure Perth Amboy’s most important projects were both funded and completed.

Each year, I have also made it my prerogative to support this community through sponsored events. In partnership with many wonderful donors throughout the State and the city, I am able to host an annual toy drive, where each year hundreds of toys are collected and given directly to Perth Amboy’s children and families. I also look forward to my annual ice cream social community event and back to school drive, where I host the community in a day of celebration towards the fantastic cause of preparing our children for school.

I also firmly believe that my legislative accomplishments and voting record are indicative of the importance I place on supporting this community. Whether it be requiring seat belts in school buses to keep our kids safe, prohibiting electric utilities from discontinuing service to customer with life-sustaining equipment, ensuring nonprofits are not penalized for missed contract obligations due to the pandemic or amending state law to match the Federal standard of extended unemployment to increase the beneficiary pool; Perth Amboy residents have always benefitted from the laws I sponsor and fight for.

When I took my oath of office in January of 2018, I swore to defend the constitution of New Jersey and more importantly to protect and represent the residents of the 19th District, which includes the great City of Perth Amboy. Over the course of my two terms in office, I believe that I have lived up to that oath and look forward to keep the progress going in Perth Amboy and the entire 19th District.

Please remember should you ever need assistance my office number is 732-638-5057 and my email is aswlopez@njleg.org. Thank you for your ongoing support and please stay safe.

Y. Lopez

Yvonne Lopez
Assemblywoman
19th Legislative District



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October 20
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November 17
December 1
December 15

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

WED. Mar. 3 Planning Board, 7 p.m.
Zoom (see info below)
MON. Mar. 8 City Council, Caucus 5:30 p.m.
City Hall, High St. & Zoom
WED Mar. 10 City Council, Regular,
City Hall, High St. & Zoom
THURS. Mar. 11 Board of Education, 5:30 p.m.
PAHS, Eagle Ave.

South Amboy

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



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PERTH AMBOY PLANNING BOARD MEETING

Date & Time: March 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87897830506?pwd=c1VRRFFreUhTWEdsMkxDWE03TIUvdz09>

Meeting ID: 878 9783 0506

Passcode: 764933

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

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Safety Announcement

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

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Report Suspicious Activity - Be Vigilant - **STAY ALERT!**

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SOUTH AMBOY MAYOR & COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, March 3rd 2021, 6:00 p.m.

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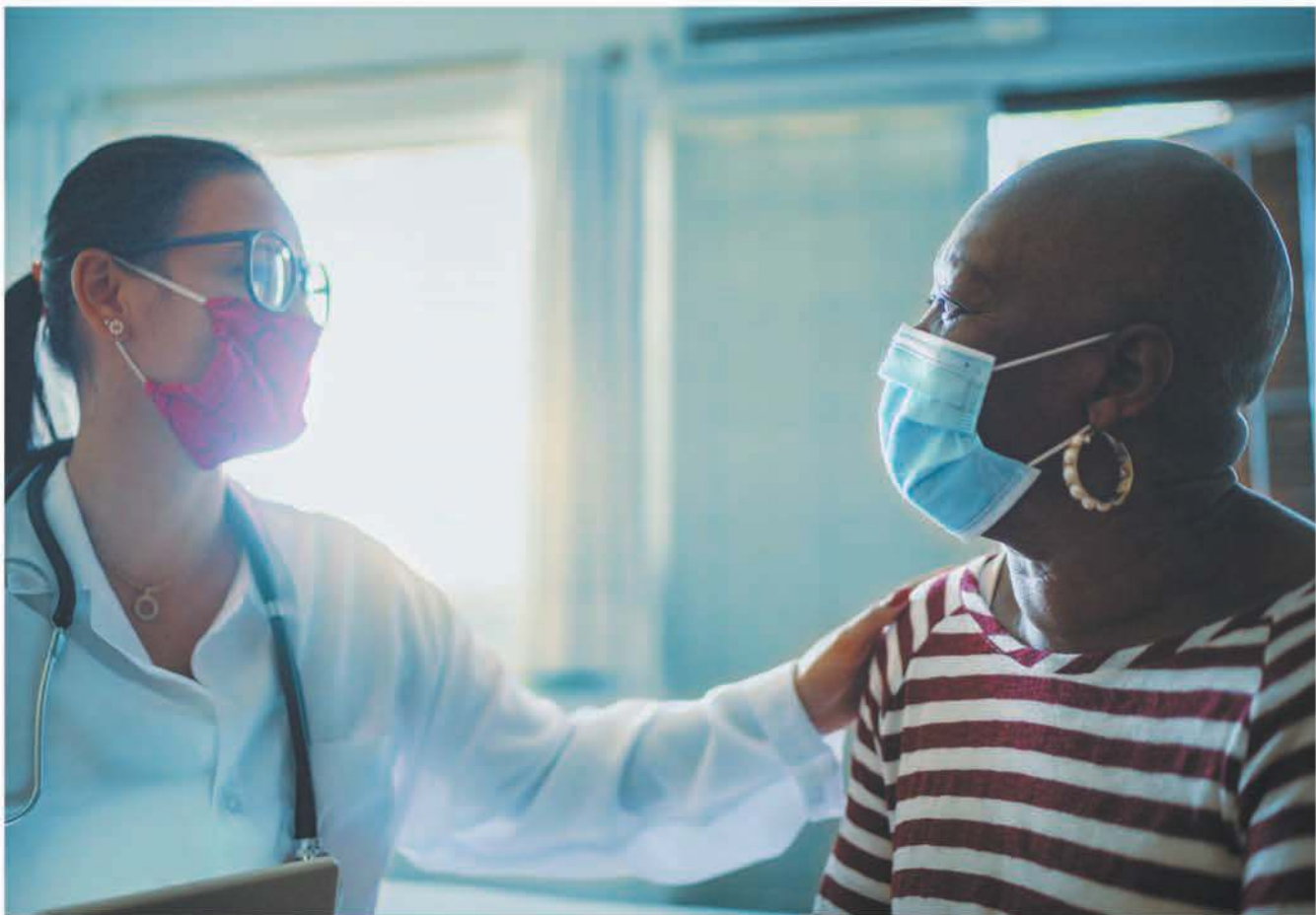
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KEEP GETTING BETTER

Disputing Facts, Stats, and Walking Back

2/24/21 Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY — The first order of business was a presentation by Samantha Castro who is a member of the Frontline Youth. She talked about the Perth Amboy Civic Trust Public Safety Improvement Policy.

She first thanked the council for having this presentation. “Essential force by the police is a public safety issue, not only for the citizens, but for the police.” She then started to read information from two studies, which basically said the Perth Amboy Police Department is using much more excessive force than other municipalities and states.

After she made her presentation, Councilman Joel Pabon said he appreciated Ms. Castro sticking with this issue. “I’m behind you.”

Council President Petrick said, “I am looking forward to getting this ordinance on the next agenda.”

Police Chief Roman McKeon came up to speak via Zoom. He was concerned. “The Perth Amboy Civic Trust needs to give us fact-based information.”

P.B.A. John Marcinko said he has worked with Harry Pozyski (from the Citizen’s Campaign) and has spoken numerous times about the public safety policy. “I am floored by the stats given (when Castro spoke). Where did it come from? In 60,000 interactions with our police department there were zero incidents with a baton. Tasers were used two times in the last year. There was an ordinance that the FOP put together. There’s a certain level of training needed by this committee (Perth Amboy Civic Trust Committee).”

After Ms. Castro’s presentation, the meeting was open for the public comments on agenda items only.

Public Comments:

The first person to speak was Stanley Sierakowski, who commented on the presentation of The Public Safety Improvement Policy. “The New Jersey Attorney General assessed the standard for all departments of law enforcement. This includes training and all protocols. This (Public Safety and Improvement Policy) is a moot point, and you are wasting time. The state law supersedes all law of municipalities and counties.”

Resident Alan Silber came up next. He was upset that the amount of time for the public to speak was changed from 5 to 3 minutes. “When was this decided?”

Council President Petrick responded, “The council was polled, but no vote was needed.”

Silber continued, “You have no authority to do this and this has nothing to do with the meetings being conducted through Zoom. We survived having a time of 5 minutes to speak with the Vas and Diaz administration who never changed the public hearing’s time.”

Petrick then said, “We can put it on the next agenda, because on this agenda, it says 3 minutes.”

Law Director William Northgrave spoke via Zoom, “It is the council’s legal right to establish a time for speakers and you can extend the time for speakers by polling the council.”

Resident and Lawyer Daniel Gonzalez came up next, “Sometimes the peanut gallery and I mean that in a respectful way will challenge the council. 5 minutes is cool. Several people come here to speak most of the time. I also want to give kudos to Samantha Castro who gave the presentation this evening and her group. I’m usually the person protecting the community and the police. We’ve had issues since Fuller (a detective who was involved the 1988 controversial shooting of two Mexicans in Perth Amboy which resulted in a riot). A lot of the new group (of police officers) are military. It’s reactionary. I’ve seen hundreds of cam videos. 4 negative interactions I would say happens in one day – not one year. Harry Pozyski’s group (the Perth Amboy Civic Trust) and Samantha Castro (from Frontline Youth) just want the police and citizens to get along. It is protection for the citizens and the police.”

Union Delegate Police Officer Danny Gonzalez (no relation to the previous speaker) came up to speak. “I have been in the department going on 14 years and I also have lived in the city for over 30 years. We are not taking this abuse, especially when someone says we use excessive force 4 times a day. I can’t believe this. We take a lot of abuse during those “peaceful” protests. No one tells the full story of the interactions that the police have with the community where the police were abused. Who is speaking up for the police when something happens to them?”

Resident and former Councilman Ken Balut came up to speak next, “I don’t know where these numbers (stats of excessive force by the Perth Amboy Police Department) came from. Politicians hire cops and they should be held accountable for hiring unfit cops. I want to thank Councilman B.J. (Torres) for saying what he said about me (during council comments at the 2/22/21 caucus meeting). I got a lot of phone calls from people. I came up to speak about the wasted taxpayer dollars on these façade grants. You want a civic trust. We (speakers) come here, and I’ve been asking for an audit. What is the BID budget? \$240,000? We have all those grants. And those bricks that are downtown on the sidewalks are disgusting.”

BID Chair Barry Rosengarten came up to speak, “For myself, and the BID Directors, I just want to say we support the police. As far as the façade grants, we only give 50% of the cost up to a certain amount (to approve applicants). The signs and improvements are posted (on our website). Balut’s comments are wrong.”

Resident and former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez came up, “I think it is wrong to reduce

the time (for the public to speak) from 5 minutes to 3 minutes. I want to thank you for recognizing the two former councilmembers. This is the first time we had a mayor who first served on the Council. Give this mayor an opportunity to work with the BID and turn it around.”

The next speaker was Sergio Diaz who is also a BID Board Member. “The downtown businesses that needs façades – we cannot police those businesses. At every meeting, we talk about all the programs available and about our neighborhoods. Business meetings are held at businesses that are part of the BID. I was born to serve, and not to be served. Give us solutions by coming to our BID meetings. We do not always have the same businesses getting the façade grants. We have not turned away qualified businesses who request façades. I want to thank Barry Rosengarten for his service to the BID.”

Resident and former Councilwoman Lisa Nanton came up, “The mic should be cleaned between speakers. I commend the council for asking questions about the BID. While I was on the council, my experience with the BID was disappointing, especially with the cost of the banners and planters. When Roxana Troche (Former BID Coordinator) was here, I suggested about the placement of the planters and their shapes. The BID also had material about different menus (in the city restaurants), but those menus were gone in a few minutes. I suggest having house tours and tree lighting during the holiday season. I know a lot of things fell through the cracks when Roxana left, but I’m willing to give the BID another chance with our new mayor.”

No one from the public spoke via Zoom.

For Ordinances No. 1 – Amending refunding bond ordinance in order to among other things permit a tax-exempt refunding. Was moved by Pabon, seconded by Morales.

Before voting on the consent agenda, Councilman Joel Pabon had a comment regarding R-122 – the extension of Edward A. Remsen as Interim B.A. “This is a replay of last year. He has no experience, but I understand the pressure to get this done.” Pabon then talked about R-132 – Appointment of Mark Cintron as municipal prosecutor. “I’ve heard nothing good about him, but to me, it’s “Pay to Play,” and I vote “no”.”

Councilwoman Morales also had a comment about R-132 and asked if Cintron violated the “pay-to-play” ordinance.

Law Director Northgrave replied via Zoom, “This is not a contract. It is a mayoral appointment and not a violation of “pay-to-play”.”

Morales then asked, “Can I vote on this resolution since I was part of the ticket that Cintron gave money to?”

Northgrave replied, “It is a city ordinance that the State Ethics Board will not get involved in. There is no ethical

violation.”

Council President Petrick then asked Northgrave if he could call the State Ethics Board to get an answer (is this pay-to-play?).

When it came to vote on the consent agenda, the following were asked to be pulled to be voted on separately: R-114, R-115, R-116, R-119, R-122, R-132 (see 2/22/21 Caucus). R-123 was voided.

For the consent agenda R-113, R-117 thru R-118; R-120, R-121; R-124 thru R-131; R-133 thru R-135 were moved by Pabon and seconded by Torres.

Late-starters R-136 thru R-141 were moved to be added to the agenda by Pabon and seconded by Torres. The council voted to add the resolutions as late-starters to the agenda. R-136 thru R-141 were appointing commissioners to the Redevelopment Agency.

R-114 was moved by Pabon and seconded by Torres to adopt the BID budget. All voted yes. Council President stated he voted yes as long as the additional person the BID hires for \$25,000 is “completely supported by the BID and not an employee of the city”.

R-115 – Appreciation to Fernando Irizarry for his dedicated public service. R-116 – Appreciation to Helmin Caba for his dedicated public service. Both resolutions were moved by Pabon and seconded by Torres.

R-119 – Workers compensation settlement entitled “Jennifer Morales vs. the city of Perth Amboy” for the amount of \$12,500. R-119 was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejada. Councilwoman Rose Morales abstained.

R-122 – The extension of the appointment of Edward A. Remsen as Interim Business Administer no longer than 60 days from March 7, 2021. R-122 was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejada.

R-132 – The appointment of Mark Cintron as municipal prosecutor and waiving the residency program. R-132 was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejada. Pabon voted “no”.

Two council members had remarks regarding former Councilmen Fernando Irizarry and Helmin Caba.

Councilman Joel Pabon said he appreciated the work that they did. “You can’t get paid enough to do this. Caba went even deeper and became the mayor. We thank you and we enjoyed working with you. I wish you well, and the citizens appreciate what you did.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejada said, “It was a pleasure to work with both men, especially Councilman Fernando Irizarry because everyone expects me to be the translator. I appreciate the time and dedication they put in. Our new mayor has a new vision for the town.”

Before the late-starters were voted on, Petrick had a couple remarks he wanted to make.

Petrick first asked, “Will the council appoint members to PARA?”

Northgrave explained that

state law will pre-exempt the city ordinance. “The mayor will appoint. The council will advise and consent.”

Petrick continued, “Will this weaken us?”

Northgrave suggested, “You can bring your challenge to superior court, but you can’t go to the local finance board or the DCA (Department of Community Affairs).”

Petrick wasn’t convinced and stated, “We need a firm decision. This will set a precedent for other municipalities.”

Northgrave responded, “I will research the law where there may be something on the books (who has the final say on PARA appointees pertaining to your form of government). The governing body is different regarding the form of government we have.”

Pabon then spoke up, “We have an ordinance in place, but we are doing something different. We should eliminate one of the ordinances.”

Northgrave continued, “There are some ordinances on the books that are no longer enforceable.”

Pabon then suggested we should pass these resolutions, “This board has so few members.”

Petrick concluded by asking Northgrave to give final judgement that the council can make appointments to PARA.

The council voted to pass R-136 thru R-414. Public Portion: Those in attendance in person spoke first.

Resident Alan Silber came up first. “When Fernando Irizarry was here, he was criticized for asking questions. I heard about Monday’s meeting where Councilwoman Morales stated we should hear about more positive things. You (addressing Morales) were known as the “Queen of Recalls”.” Silber then turned his attention to Mr. Torres. “You should have not said to cut the mic on Balut. He is a legend in this city. The public is the one who told the council about what is going on with some of the people in the last administration: Former B.A. Adam Cruz – inappropriate behavior; Former B.A. Peter Pelissier – paid vacations; Former Law Director Peter King – changing the law on nepotism. What happened to the reports of the head count and new hires? Brian Walensky who was hired to head the Parking Utility was paid to work on 3 different campaigns. The council didn’t know he was hired by the city until the public told them. Now you change the time how long the public can talk during the public portion. When you talked about Baratta, it was wrong, especially when you voted to give him an award.”

Councilman B.J. Torres responded to the Balut remark, “I just asked for him (Balut) to follow the rules.”

Former Councilman and Resident Ken Balut came up next, “There still is a light that is outside of City Hall on High

**Continued on Page 12*

Ouch! Flexing Their Muscles

2/22/21 Caucus

**Continued from Page 1*

“I want to give a shout out to the people who work during Code Blue.”

Tejeda also wanted to thank any departments, the YMCA employees, and the county (for providing this money).”

Council President Bill Petrick asked for a more detailed explanation of R-129-2/21 – A contract with the Jewish Renaissance Medical Center Covid-19 Response in the amount of \$217,127 in accordance pay with the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES ACT) for the CDBG-CV3 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Tashi Vazquez from the Office of Economic and Community Development came up, “It should have been done with an amendment to R-131-2/21 – Amending Resolution R-148-4/20 – Accepting an additional \$583,908 in CDBG Grant Coronavirus Round 3 Aid totaling \$971,931 in CDBG – CV Funds. These resolutions are for testing and vaccinations. It is to hire employees, doctors, and staffing and to extend the hours and to offset costs. The federal government does not pay for execution fees.”

JRMC (Jewish Renaissance Medical Center) CEO John O’Leary participated via Zoom to give a more detailed answer, “5,800 Covid tests have been administered as well as 2,000 antibody tests, and 2,000 vaccines for senior citizens. \$16 will be reimbursed for every vaccine given. We will start to administer vaccines soon, and people will be working on Saturdays to do vaccines. We also have positive pressure rooms in service, and we had 20 walk-ins today. The rooms have safety measures in place for the staff and residents.”

Vazquez spoke up and added, “Funds were fully expended today.” Vazquez then talked about R-130-2/21 – A contract with the Puerto Rican Association for Human Development – Tenant Based Rental Assistance Covid Response Program in the amount of \$150,000 in accordance with the Coronavirus Aid CARES Act. “This is a Tenant Rental Assistance specific to those that had Covid hardships. Those qualified can get up to \$5,000 in assistance.”

PRAHD Executive Director Kim Ruiz joined in from Zoom, “PRAHD has been administering other money for decades and now this additional money is for Covid assistance. We get between 75-100 phone calls a day from people asking for rental assistance.”

Vazquez spoke again, “PRAHD is audited every year for their rental assistance program. For those tenants that are qualified, the check is written to the landlord and not the tenant. A person who is asking for rent assistance can only do it for one time.”

Tejeda thanked those involved

who got this funding. “We have been hit hard with this pandemic.”

Pabon then spoke about R-132-2/21 – Consenting to the appointment of Mark J. Cintron as Municipal Prosecutor and waving the residency requirement.

“I don’t agree with the City Attorney saying that council consent is not needed.”

Mayor Caba came up to respond, “I want to clarify what Law Director Northgrave said. State law always supersedes the city ordinances and federal laws supersede state laws.”

Council President Bill Petrick spoke up, “I am pleased to announce we have several applications for people who want to serve on Boards that have vacancies.”

Pabon then interjected, “I’m just hoping some of these new applicants get a position.”

Petrick continued, “There are many more applicants that there are positions to fill these vacancies. I want to thank all who applied.”

Pabon spoke up again and asked if Northgrave could supply a list of employees who are on suspension. “Two suspended officers are already back on duty. I requested a suspension list more than a few meetings ago. Things are falling through the cracks and people should not be paid to sit at home.”

The substitute Law Director said he would follow up on employee suspensions.

Tejeda said, “I thought Law Director Northgrave would have this information at the 2/24/21 meeting.”

Mayor Caba continued, “The Planning and PARA Boards appointments need the council’s consent.”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch corrected the mayor and stated, “For the Planning Board, council consent is not needed.”

Caba continued, “PARA needs council consent for appointment. An agenda prep meeting was cancelled on Friday (2/19/21) and this could have been put on the agenda. Council members were informed of the PARA appointments.”

Council President Petrick disagreed, “The Law Director does the resolutions, and it goes to the clerk’s office.”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch spoke up. “There is a discrepancy with the terms of the PARA members. This could be done for Wednesday’s meeting.”

Petrick still argued, “We didn’t get this information on Thursday for us to review to put the appointees for the resolution for tonight.” Then Petrick addressed the mayor and said, “I told Vicki (City Clerk Kupsch) I would not be able to put them on for tonight’s caucus meeting. I just have appointment letters. I need copies of the resolution to look at and that is the issue. It is the city council’s choice.”

City Clerk Kupsch then reminded the council, “To put on late-starter resolutions require a unanimous vote. Public Portion:

Those present in the council chambers spoke first.

The first person to speak was Ken Balut, “\$105,000 was the combined salaries of the two officers who were suspended with pay. Go down Smith Street and look at one of the restaurants called: “Happy Pizza”. Some people get signs from the BID grant. Where did the Wells Fargo Grant money go to? Joel Rosa, who is on the mayor’s staff will have an inside position and he is part of the civic trust. Someone on the civil service list was jumped over. Will these people who are doing audits and meeting with department heads look at code enforcement and see if Irving (Lozada) is qualified? There was a recent armed robbery at the Dollar Store.”

Resident Carlos Cruz who works for a towing company came up next. He reminded the council that he was at the last council meeting complaining about a police officer who continues to give the towing company he works for tickets. “I emailed the council members, Law Director Northgrave, and the business administrator to complain about this. Our towing business has only been here two years and I keep getting all these tickets. I have to go to court, hire a lawyer, and the tickets get dismissed. I keep getting kicked in the butt. When the meeting was shown on TV, I was blocked.”

Council President Bill Petrick stated that Law Director Northgrave will be at the meeting on Wednesday.

Pabon then spoke up, “This gentleman is right. He has gotten no responses about his complaint. He is a citizen and needs help.”

Cruz then said, “I called Northgrave’s cell phone number. When I got a hold of him, he told me he only does emails and does not take phone calls.”

Petrick spoke again and suggested that he might have to take this to internal affairs.

Cruz continued, “I’ve talked to the mayor, Northgrave, Lozada, the police department, and I’ve gotten no satisfaction.”

Pabon spoke up, “I remember when Cruz was here and gave his personal information to Business Administrator Remsen and Law Director Northgrave and Cruz deserves an answer.”

Cruz then spoke up again and stated, “I have 8-9 properties, and I bought 2 lots from another tow company in the city and those companies got tickets from the same officer. You don’t see this as harassment?”

Petrick spoke up again and said, “Northgrave said he will be at Wednesday’s meeting.”

Deputy Police Chief Larry Cattano joined the meeting on Zoom and said, “I will be glad to meet with this gentleman. I will get your information from Law Director Northgrave and will get answers for you at Wednesday’s meeting.”

The next speaker to come up was business owner and BID member Antonio Abreu. He stated, “The BID beautifies our

downtown. We welcome all to our meetings. If there is anything you need, ask for it and it will be provided to you. We’ve held meetings at the YMCA and on Zoom.”

Council President Bill Petrick spoke up and addressed Carlos Cruz in regards to what he said about not being shown when the meeting was posted on TV. “All things are posted on the local station when meetings are held.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda added, “The Board of Education controls the information on PA-TV.”

Petrick continued. He addressed Abreu. “The flowerpots on Smith Street are not at convenient locations and there is no seating downtown for senior citizens. We need benches with dividers. There are not enough signatures on documents on those who voted on the BID budget. Abreu finished his statement and stated, “We do this (our BID duties) in our own time.

Business Owner and BID Member Jeremy Baratta came up next. “A lot of BID Meetings are not attended by business owners. Votes were not marked off on their minutes. Signatures were not needed. As of today, I have 3 lawsuits against the BID regarding Open Public Meetings. They asked for an extension regarding these lawsuits. Two BID Meetings were not held in accordance with the law. It was tape recorded. The BID has to file an answer to these charges before the BID budget is voted on. There was also a Peter King bill list that had BID items on it. The reimbursements are not full. There were \$75,000 in legal fees.”

Council President Bill Petrick spoke up, “The BID should pay for King’s items, and not the city. The city is a BID member.”

Mayor Helmin Caba came up, “We need to wake up to the last speaker. He has a dangerous past. Three lawsuits were filed against the city by him, and the cost of the lawsuits against the BID is \$50,000. He attacked city employees with no merit. I fully support the BID. It has enormous potential. Talk to the business owners and not someone who files lawsuits against them and other cities. Don’t entertain people like him. He keeps speaking 3-5 minutes and sets up secret meetings to attack Perth Amboy. Google his name and you will get all the answers you want.”

Tashi Vazquez came to the mic and invited all to a Zoom Meeting regarding the NPP Zones. “Which now has expanded from High Street to Sipos Bakery on Smith Street. We’ve received \$560,000 in three months to help businesses recover due to Covid. We will give you minutes to the BID meetings. We will have more benches in the downtown area by the end of June. More murals are coming and also a tree project. Additional funds may come down the pike from the state. We will put in applications if the funds

become available.”

Petrick requested, “When the benches come back, make sure they have back support for the seniors. When the trees are planted, they should have rubber around them, and not iron gates.”

Vazquez continued, “When it comes to the trees, we will make sure all the necessary departments are involved. We have talked to P.A.R.T.N.E.R. about some projects to do with us. BID Director Noelia Colon also sends information to everyone on her contact list.”

The meeting was now opened up to Zoom participants.

The first person to speak on Zoom was Jeannette Perry. She had a question regarding Communication No. 8 – Regarding the item on the Covid-19 update. “Is the Wellness Call Program part of this? There is no phone number listed.”

Council President Petrick answered, “I don’t see a phone number for Wellness connected to this item.”

OEM Director Larry Cattano joined in on Zoom and responded, “The Office on Aging at Olive Street can help you with this.”

Perry continued and asked, “Can the City post the number on their website because of all the positive cases we’ve had in the city? It is hard to go through the state and county phone numbers to register for the vaccine.”

Cattano then said, “Nixle and the city’s website have information.”

Lisette Lebron from the Housing Authority, P.A.R.T.N.E.R. and the Jewish Renaissance joined the conversation via Zoom. “The Housing Authority refers callers to the Wellness Program. The Jewish Renaissance and the Housing Authority and P.A.R.T.N.E.R. are working together to provide Covid vaccines for our clients starting in April. We are asking Section 8 Residents to see if they want help in registering for the Covid vaccine and we also reached out to the Office on Aging.”

Perry then ended her remarks with thanking all who assisted in the snow removal and who worked overtime to clear the streets and sidewalks.

The next person to speak via Zoom was Ms. Sanchez who is a BID member. “We are not paid to be on the Board. We’re here to help the BID members and improve the business district. We should reach across the aisle to help each other and the city.”

Resident Susan Batista spoke next and questioned why PRAHD and the Jewish Renaissance get money from the CDBG CARES Act and Catholic Charities does not.

Tashi Vazquez responded, “All nonprofits can apply for CDBG money as well as any agencies ”

Petrick also responded to Batista and suggested she reach out to the Catholic Charities to

**Continued on Page 9*

Ouch! Flexing Their Muscles

2/22/21 Caucus

**Continued from Page 8*

see if they applied for this money. The public portion was closed. Council Comments:

Councilwoman Rose Morales wanted to thank the DPW for the job they did doing the snow removal. She also agreed with Ms. Sanchez who is a member of the BID about all the negative comments made by some members of the public regarding the BID operations. “Let’s see some positive comments and have a positive attitude. Hopefully, we can turn things around.” She then asked about the loading zones on Madison Avenue (that a resident had questioned at a previous meeting).

Council President Petrick responded, “The council has to approve any loading zones.”

Pabon then spoke up and added, “You can’t stop truck traffic on some streets, especially if they have to deliver to a commercial building. I don’t know how a loading zone for 20 feet gets away with a 50-foot delivery truck.”

City Clerk Kupsch added, “An ordinance for truck weight is in the books.”

Police Chief Cattano then spoke up via Zoom regarding the truck routes, “The weight issue is because of the bridge work on State Street. Double parking and blocking driveways can be ticketed.”

Pabon spoke up again, “Some of these trucks need to be told if they are in violation.” Pabon then asked, “When will the streetlights get fixed?”

Interim B.A. Remsen responded via Zoom, “We are looking to fix 10-15 lights at a time. We are looking at 6 different times to replace the bulbs.”

Pabon continued, “There are no lights working at the parking deck. Between 10-15 lights on the first floor alone are not working.”

Parking Utility Director Jeanette Rios spoke via Zoom, “In the beginning of February, I did an inventory of lights that were out and submitted it to Supervisor Danny Cleaver from the DPW so we can fix the lights. The municipal lights in the parking lots belong to PSEG.”

Cattano spoke up again, “We (the police department) have videos of the parking deck.”

Pabon continued, “People are taking leaks at the parking deck. People (who are using the parking deck) are paying for a service, but we are not taking care of the lights at the parking deck. I saw a big block of ice on Convery Boulevard. I saw two people sitting in a truck who were supposed to salt the bridge (near ShopRite), but they did not know what to do – and they were state contractors.”

Remsen responded, “We were told by the state that they sent a contractor to clear the bridge and it is not our responsibility. The state should have sent a crew and not have hired a con-



Former Councilman Fernando Irizarry with his wife, Vivian at the 2/24/21 Council Meeting.
**Photo by Carolyn Maxwell*

tractor.”

Mayor Caba came up to speak. “We (Mayor Caba, DPW Director Frank Hoffman, Geri Barcheski (DPW Recycling Supervisor)) contacted the state. We’ve had a lot of snow and the DPW has been working a lot of overtime and 7 days a week. Convery Boulevard is county and state property. If we do it (clearing of the snow on the bridge) and our employee gets hurt, we have to pay. We are not going to pay for lights that are out, and we can’t touch PSEG property.”

Remsen spoke again, “I called Deputy Police Chief Cattano, and the next evening the auxiliary police went out to check which lights were out.”

Pabon concluded. “We need to have someone assigned to these lights and hold people accountable.”

Caba then stated, “The DPW will contact the state about the lights. We have a plan in place and the downtown district is getting LED lights. We’ll keep track of any lights that are out, and PSEG will not get paid if the lights are not fixed in a timely manner.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejada spoke next. She wanted to know if Comcast money can be used for technology. “I also want to be the city liaison to the Board of Education. We should have a meeting with the Board of Education regarding shared services. There should be meetings between myself, the Board of Education, and the Mayor.”

Vice President of the Board of Education Tashi Vazquez came up to speak, “There are two members of the Board of Education are the liaisons with the representative from the council.”

Council Member B.J. Torres was bothered by speaker Ken Balut who refused to adhere to the meeting rules. “You should just cut off his mic (when his time is up).”

Council President William Petrick thanked all who participated. “I hoped you learned something, and all your questions were answered. Have a good night.”

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. All council members were present.

Vitale, Coughlin & Lopez On Launch of NJ Smart Emergency Rental Assistance Program in Middlesex County

Press Release

TRENTON – Senator Joseph F. Vitale, Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin and Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez (all D-Middlesex) released the following joint statement on the announcement that statewide nonprofit NJSHARES will be launching the “NJ SMART” Emergency Rental Assistance Program in the 19th District:

“Families and residents of the 19th District have suffered tremendous economic loss and prolonged unemployment due to the pandemic. For many, these losses have impacted their ability to afford their rent or mortgage payments. While

there is a moratorium on evictions and foreclosures, we must continue to work diligently to maximize every resource possible to help residents get through these difficult times.

“The NJ SHARES “NJ SMART” rental assistance program is specifically designed for individuals who lost their household income because of the pandemic. We applaud the organization’s delivery of this pilot program in our district. This program will undoubtedly make a positive impact on the lives of so many families in need.”

Eligible applicants must reside in the 19th Legislative Dis-

trict (Carteret, Perth Amboy, Sayreville, South Amboy and Woodbridge) and must document a loss of income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and evidence of imminent eviction or foreclosure due to arrears. Applicants will be eligible for assistance with rent, mortgage and property tax payments in arrears.

To apply to the NJ SMART program, please call (866) 657-4273 or email njsmart@njshares.org with the subject line NJ SMART 19th District application.



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC HEARING CONSOLIDATED PLAN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER) PROGRAM YEAR 2019

City of Perth Amboy, New Jersey

Notice is hereby provided that the City of Perth Amboy, NJ has completed its draft of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the 2019 Program Year for the Community Development Block Grant CDBG and HOME Investment Partnership programs. This report contains information including: 1) summary of the resources and accomplishments, 2) status of actions taken during the year to implement the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan, and 3) evaluation of the progress made during the year in addressing identified priority needs and objectives.

This report is available to the public for review in the City’s website www.ci.perthamboy.nj.us and at the Office of Economic and Community Development located at 260 High St., Perth Amboy NJ 08861. As required by HUD, the CAPER will be available for a 15 days public period as of Wednesday, March 3, 2021 during which time the public is invited to address written comments to: Maritza C. Rodriguez, Economic Development Representative, Office of Economic and Community Development at mcrodriguez@perthamboynj.org.

The City will also hold a public hearing for citizens desiring to comment on the CAPER report on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 3:00 P.M. via a phone and ZOOM meeting due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and following the social distancing guidelines.

Topic: HUD’s FY 2019 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation
Time: Mar 11, 2021 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83466767723?pwd=QzBOaDB2RER4OHNiM3M2VWVvblRHQT09>

Meeting ID: 834 6676 7723
Passcode: 896436

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

Meeting ID: 834 6676 7723
Passcode: 896436

Perth Amboy intends to submit the final 2019 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Friday, March 19, 2021.

Thank you.

Helmin J. Caba,
Mayor

Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine Achieves Provisional Accreditation
Major Accrediting Body Advances School’s Status, Bringing Institution Closer to Full Accreditation for First New Medical School In New Jersey in Decades

Press Release 2/23/21
NUTLEY, NJ – The Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine has been granted Provisional Accreditation by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), bringing it nearer to Full Accreditation.

The LCME voted at its meeting this month to grant Provisional Accreditation to the School’s medical education program. Full Accreditation will require its first class of students to graduate.

Coming soon this year: a “match day” in March for select students from the inaugural class, followed in June by the School’s first-ever commencement ceremony.

“This medical school has been surpassing expectation since day one,” said Robert C. Garrett, FACHE, the CEO of Hackensack Meridian Health. “Its progressive mission and commitment to excellence has already created a reputation that is getting noticed in New Jer-

sey, and beyond.”

“Building a new medical school is not an easy task, as one might imagine,” said Bonita Stanton, M.D., the School’s founding dean. “But our unique mission and vision are worth this massive undertaking, and we are gratified that all the hard work is coming to fruition.”

Aside from the LCME, the School has received its license from the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE); is a Candidate for Accreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE); and is eligible for, and participates in, the management of Title IV funds through the U.S. Department of Education.

The School has grown quickly in the three years since its founding. Its inaugural class in 2018 included 60 students, and the 2019 class admitted 90 students. Another 123 students made up the 2020 cohort, as selected from more than 5,000

applicants. The latest incoming class is expected to number 165, who will have been admitted from more than 6,000 candidates.

The school also aims to diversify New Jersey’s next generation of physicians. Nearly half of the 2020 cohort is female, and students speak 33 different languages. Half of the class identifies as persons of color (other than white), and more than a quarter are from groups categorized as under-represented in medicine (URIM).

The school’s innovative curriculum includes inter-disciplinary learning, the opportunity for a three-year path to residency, an optional fourth year which offers combined master’s degree or graduate certificate programs, and the Human Dimension Course. This immersive community-based experience links pairs of students to families in the community, with a focus on the domains of the social determinants of health: social,

environmental, psychological, and medical. Throughout their stay at the School of Medicine, students in the Human Dimension follow the health trajectories of individuals and families, in locations including Hackensack, Garfield, Paterson, Passaic, Bloomfield, Clifton, Nutley, Union City, and West New York. Through experiences in the family’s home, community, and health care settings, students come to understand the role of community and context in health and well-being, as well as the role of the physician in maintaining health.

This humanistic mission has continued through the COVID-19 era. Although some of the first-year students have conducted their studies remotely, they nonetheless have continued their community-based medical education. The Human Dimension course, for instance, has helped partners get access to care and safely reopen schools

in midst of the pandemic.

Last July, the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine achieved independent operation, after three years of partnership between Hackensack Meridian Health and Seton Hall University. The university continues to lease space in the health network’s Interprofessional Health Sciences campus in Nutley, in which the School of Medicine is housed, for its College of Nursing and School of Health and Medical Sciences.

“We are forging a new path – and we believe that it will make all the difference for all the new doctors in the years to come,” said Stanton.



**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
Fridays with
the Hibernians**

SOUTH AMBOY - The Colonel D.B. Kelly Ancient Order of Hibernians located at 272 Stevens Ave in South Amboy across from the old St. Mary’s High School wishes to advise everybody that we are having Lenten Fish Fridays. The menu includes Fish & Chips platter (made with FRESH Cod) \$15.00 / A Shrimp Po Boy sandwich and Chips \$12.00/ A Fish & Po Boy Shrimp Platter \$20.00/A Shrimp Platter w/ Chips \$15.00 and Chicken fingers w/chips \$8.00 as well as Fried Calamari for \$8.00 and 10” bar pies for just \$5.00. Check for the weekly Special and to make reservations or place orders go to our FACEBOOK page and by calling 732-721-2098, email: colkel-lyaoh@aol.com, or message us on our Facebook page.

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ONLINE OPEN HOUSE DATES
Sunday, February 21, 2021 - 1 pm (English & Spanish)
Saturday, February 27, 2021 - 11 am (English & Spanish)
A Zoom link will be posted on our website. Please contact us if you would like a school site visit.

© Rigorous STEM curriculum © Special Education & ESL services
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© Technology integration & innovation

Locations | Email | Phone
430 Market St & 613 Carlock Ave, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
admission@middlesexcharter.org | 848-242-1818 & 848-286-0050

Pallone Applauds House Passage of American Rescue Plan

The legislative package includes provisions to expand COVID-19 vaccines, provide another round of direct payments, and deliver aid to state and local governments

Press Release 2/27/21

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) today issued the following statement after the U.S. House of Representatives passed the American Rescue Plan:

“Early this morning, the House passed an American Rescue Plan that struggling families desperately need to help stay afloat during this ongoing public health and economic crisis.

“This legislation implements a national plan to crush the COVID-19 pandemic. It provides the tools and resources we need to ramp up distribution and administration of lifesaving vaccines and testing to track and trace new hotspots before they become larger outbreaks. The bill expands access to quality, affordable health care coverage to millions of Americans who lack access to care in the midst of the pandemic. The American Rescue Plan also includes vital assistance to help families keep the lights on, the heat work-

ing, the water running, and to expand internet connectivity to help students and teachers without home internet access.

“This bill will deliver critical aid to state and local governments in New Jersey that have been hit hard by this pandemic and face 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. They deserve our support.

“The House’s decisive action meets the urgency of this moment, and I’m hopeful we can send the American Rescue Plan to President’s Biden’s desk for signature soon.”

The American Rescue Plan provides critical funding to speed up vaccine distribution and administration and to increase COVID-19 testing and contact tracing with:

- Over \$20 billion to establish

a national COVID-19 vaccination program and improve the administration and distribution of vaccinations

- \$51 billion for testing, contact tracing, and mitigation
- \$27 billion to address health disparities and protect vulnerable populations

The American Rescue Plan also helps hardworking families by:

Providing additional direct payments of \$1,400 per eligible person using the same income threshold as the December legislation to determine which individuals receive the full \$1,400 payment. Under the bill, single filers with incomes up to \$75,000, head of household filers with incomes up to \$112,500, and joint filers with incomes up to \$150,000 will receive the full payment of \$1,400.

Extending unemployment benefits through August 29 and increasing the weekly supplemental benefit from the cur-

rent \$300 per week to \$400 per week.

Gradually raising the federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2025 and guaranteeing that tipped workers, youth workers and workers with disabilities are paid the full federal minimum wage – increasing wages for at least 27 million American workers.

Extending SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) maximum benefits by 15 percent through September 30, 2021.

Helping struggling families pay their energy and water bills with \$5 billion for home energy assistance through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and \$500 million in additional funds for the Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program.

Expanding internet connectivity for students and teachers without internet access by allocating \$7.6 billion to schools

and libraries to purchase equipment such as hotspots, internet service, and computers on behalf of students and patrons and ensuring schools and libraries can quickly access this critical funding by relying on the Federal Communications Commission and its E-rate program to administer the funds equitably.

The American Rescue Plan would deliver critical state and local aid to New Jersey, including an estimated:

- \$6.483 billion for New Jersey’s state government
- \$3.564 billion for New Jersey’s local governments

Click here for a complete breakdown of estimated funding for cities and towns in New Jersey’s 6th Congressional District.

The American Rescue Plan also supports small business and non-profits by:

- **Increasing Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funding** and expanding eligibility to ensure it reaches nonprofits of all sizes and types. The bill includes \$7.25 billion in additional funding for PPP and expands eligibility of 501(c) nonprofits of all sizes and types, except for 501(c)4 lobbying organizations.
- **Helping live entertainment venues** with an additional \$1.25 billion for the Small Business Administration’s Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program.
- **Creating a Restaurant Revitalization Fund** with \$25 billion for a new program at SBA to offer assistance to restaurants and bars with 20 or fewer locations that have been hit hard by the pandemic.

The American Rescue Plan allocates the resources our schools need to safely re-open by:

- **Delivering funding to help K-12 schools re-open safely** with an estimated \$2.9 billion for New Jersey’s K-12 school districts for immediate and long-term relief so they can work with public health experts to safely re-open schools and make up for lost time in the classroom.
- **Funding support to colleges and universities**, including an estimated \$895 million for higher education institutions in New Jersey to help make up for lost revenue due to the pandemic.

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.

Comuníquese con nosotros si desea una visita a la escuela.

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Disputing Facts, Stats, and Walking Back 2/24/21 Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 7*

Street that is still out. We lost UEZ money because it was stolen. The prosecutor lives in Bergen County, but gave a political contribution in our election. Somebody had to call him (about getting a job).” Addressing Councilman Torres, “You need to take a lesson from your Father-in-law (Harry Pozyski). We are taxpayers and can speak.”

Resident Stanley Sierakowski spoke next. He told the council, “Go to the Attorney General’s Office regarding who will be the governing body when it comes to appointing PARA members. With the Faulkner Act, the Mayor is the governing body. As far as the Anchor Marine property, when they didn’t pay taxes, people kept their mouth shut. The tax collector said she couldn’t do anything. Did she tell anyone what the annual tax report was? Was she threatened with losing her job? Who had the lien? And how much was the lien when it was taken off the tax rolls? Foreclosures take 25 years. You should investigate how you were robbed of millions of dollars.”

Councilman Pabon asked Business Administrator Remsen if he could answer the questions regarding the Anchor Marine property. “Can we get any money from this? It will be worth it.”

Remsen answered via Zoom and asked that Mr. Sierakowski send any information he had on Anchor Marine.

Carlos Cruz from a towing company spoke next. “I have received 25 tickets in a short period of time. On Monday, the Deputy Police Chief said he would be in contact with me, and he hasn’t. An officer uses excessive force by giving me an excessive amount of tickets.”

Law Director Northgrave responded via Zoom, “I’m reviewing all the information sent to me on this matter. This should not be a council matter. At the end of January, I got information from Mr. Cruz and the Police Chief should not get involved.”

Wanda Rivera, who is the owner of the towing company with her husband, Carlos Cruz came up to speak. “We are up in the air right now, and only Councilman Pabon responds to us. I have been fighting these tickets since 2019.”

Resident and Former Councilman Fernando Gonzalez came up next. “We’ve got to stick to having people speak during the public portion for 5 minutes. It has been that way for 30 years. I’m supporting the BID because the new mayor is working with them. The BID has money to help with the lighting. The mayor is not part of the Redevelopment Agency. I had a problem with mayors sitting on the PARA Board. Our new mayor I not part of PARA.”

Resident and Former Councilman Fernando Irizarry came up next, “I want to thank the council for this recognition. I want to recognize my wife who has been my greatest supporter and the sacrifices she made. I want to thank the public and it was a privilege to serve and I will stay involved. I would like to know what is the alternative when the Handicapped Parking Committee was eliminated. What is the status of the permits?”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch said, “No new permits have been done yet since the committee was eliminated.”

Irizarry then asked if there was a marijuana ordinance put in place.

Petrick responded, “We were waiting for the state’s actions first. We want to make sure

there are no dispensaries near houses of worship, schools, hospitals, and residential areas.”

Irizarry ended with, “We don’t have open spaces in our city for that kind of business.”

Petrick said, “We hope to have an ordinance in place soon.”

B.A. Remsen spoke up, “People have been calling to open marijuana dispensary sites in town and the council should act on this asap.”

Irizarry concluded, “People said that they are opening in towns that have not had laws on the books.”

Resident and Former Councilwoman Lisa Nanton came up next, “It is not legal to sell marijuana.” She then made comments regarding the BID, “As members of the Prop House, we would take field trips to other towns. I suggest that the BID do something similar to see how other cities beautify their business district. We have outstanding historic buildings. When I was on the council, I was intrigued by the speakers that came here all the time. They turned out to be great resources. People who appreciate what you do will send you cards, but it is important you have principles before personality. Everyone wants the new mayor to succeed. You may have disagreements but listen to your fellow councilmembers in closed sessions.

Former Perth Amboy Resident Reinaldo Aviles spoke next, “With the PARA current ordinance, the council makes the appointments. Should the current mayor abide by the ordinance? The state said the mayor is the governing body. You can take this to the supreme court. The mayor is changing his point of view from when he was a councilman regarding PARA appointments. As far as the appointment of Cintron as municipi-

pal prosecutor, the mayor said he didn’t have to bring this to you. Then why did he? Something sounds dirty if someone makes a campaign contribution and got a job.

Council President Petrick responded, “There was a donation in a previous year, and the person or entity that made the donation sat out the year.”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch made a statement, “There was a veto, which was overridden by the former mayor regarding PARA which the council wanted to change regarding the council making appointments.”

The meeting was then opened up to the public to participants via Zoom.

Resident Susan Batista spoke first. She talked about the CARES Act and CDBG Grants. “Some you have to apply for, and some are curtailed. Catholic Charities should get money which would benefit the city. Catholic Charities gave free homes to qualified applicants.”

After Batista’s remarks, B.A. Remsen came online via Zoom and reported that Public Works Supervisor Danny Cleaver and Parking Utility Manger Jeanette Rios took care of 18 lights in the parking deck. “Cleaver is working with PSEG to replace the lights with LED’s in some cases.”

Council Comments:

Councilwoman Rose Morales was surprised to be addressed as the “Queen of Recalls”. “This is the first time I’ve heard that. I was hoping to address Mr. Silber, but I see that he has left.”

Someone summoned Alan Silber in the hallway, so he came back.

Morales continued, “It was husband (Miguel Morales) who initiated a recall on former Mayor Wilda Diaz. When you believe something is wrong, you question it. I supported my

husband when he did the recall on Wilda Diaz. We (the council) are the punching bag, but we need to see suggestions of how to improve the town – constructive criticism. We want to work together. I’m going to pick your brains, Mr. Silber because you are a very smart man. Give our mayor a little more time.”

Silber responded, “I don’t want to see a repeat of the Joe Vas administration.”

Pabon spoke next, “Our meetings were going 3-4 hours. No one has been turned down when requested additional time to speak at the mic. I get a lot of text messages and phone calls from people asking questions. We need to investigate the Anchor Marine property. I don’t take anything for granted. Some people don’t want to be identified when they speak. Some people question why there are only 3 minutes to speak, but leave the meeting before it is over. Thanks to the Public Works Department for getting the lights done. We have a new mayor, but the employees don’t change, and they need to make him look good.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda, who spoke via Zoom said she appreciated all that was said. “It gives you a good idea what is going on in the city.”

Councilman B.J. Torres said he appreciated all the comments that were made tonight. He applauded Governor Murphy signing the law decriminalizing marijuana, “Which treated minorities unfairly. Times are changing.”

Councilman Bill Petrick thanked everyone who participated here or on Zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. Councilwoman Milady Tejeda participated on Zoom. All other councilmembers were present in person.

Middlesex County Officials Provide a COVID-19 Vaccine Update

Press Release 2/22/21
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NJ - “The COVID-19 vaccine has given residents around the nation and our County the hope that they have been longing for throughout this COVID-19 pandemic. Middlesex County has been committed to ensuring everyone that wants a vaccine receives a vaccine; however, unfortunately, the County is not immune to the vaccine supply challenges, including those caused by recent severe weather around the country, facing counties throughout the United States. Specifically, as a result of the severe weather around the Country, and particularly in the mid-west last week, the State of New Jersey’s vaccine shipments from the federal government have been delayed. As of this morning, we have received the delayed shipments and are

actively working on rescheduling appointments.

Though these challenges have forced us to cancel appointments over the past week, those appointments will be rescheduled for this week. If a resident had an appointment canceled, they will receive an email from NJVSS with a date for your new appointment. For those concerned about the timing of their second dose, while it is recommended that a second dose of the vaccine be received within 28 days of the first dose, we want to reassure residents that second doses are effective up to six weeks following a first dose. We recognize the desire for those vaccine-eligible residents to receive their first and second doses, but we ask for residents’ understanding as we deal with factors outside our control.”

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.

South Amboy Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee Announces Plans to Offer Residents a Parade in September 2021

Press Release
SOUTH AMBOY - The year 2020 has been a stressful one and we were all looking forward to enjoying the annual South Amboy Saint Patrick's Day Parade. The stress of social isolation, virtual learning and scheduling a COVID vaccination had residents looking forward to a family day outside celebrating at the annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade previously scheduled for March 23, 2021.

Recognizing that this year’s parade may draw larger crowds than in the past, the Parade Committee made the difficult decision to postpone this year’s parade with plans to hold the celebration in September or early Fall.

"The decision to postpone the parade was made after much discussion,” stated Parade Committee Co-Chair Mickey Gross. "As hard as that decision

was, doing what must be done to keep the residents of South Amboy and her surrounding communities safe and healthy must be our first priority."

Co-Chair Jay Elliot, went on to explain, " This event has always drawn large crowds of participants and spectators which may make following precautionary social distancing and masking measures intended to stem the spread of the virus more difficult to enforce. We cannot, in good conscience, put thousands of people at risk for exposure."

The Parade Committee is hoping to be able to provide a parade, although on a much smaller scale in September. We will all have to wait and see if current efforts to stem the spread of the virus and to vaccinate residents of New Jersey will allow them to do so.

Ads Sell! Call Carolyn! 732-896-4446

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 LMxPRESS PLUS mobile phone applications.

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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 Monday morning 9:30-10:30am

Woodbridge Public Library Events

Free Virtual Events - All are Welcome to Attend

March 3 | 7PM

Meet the Artist: Vincent Van Gogh

Vincent Van Gogh is a painter whose name is known throughout the world, but this wasn't always the case. What do you really know about Van Gogh? Join us on zoom as we discover the life of history's most famous and storied painter. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/371calo>

March 9 | 7PM

Wills & Estate Administration: Protect Your Family and Make Planning Easy

Join guest speaker Kenneth Vercammen, Managing Attorney from Kenneth Vercammen & Associates, for this comprehensive seminar. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/3qb58Ca>

March 11 | 7PM

The Fundamentals of Investing

This webinar will allow you to gain a familiarity with how to make sense of the risks and opportunities associated with investing. Presented by Bradley Baskir, a financial advisor at Morgan Stanley. Registration Required.

March 18 | 7PM

What's Next for Human Space Travel?

Paul Cirillo of the New Jersey Astronomical Association will fill us in on what's in store for space stations and gateways, moon bases, a journey to Mars and even space tourism. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/3p8oKWrr>

March 23 | 7PM

Remember the Ladies

In honor of Women's History month the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts brings us a presentation which highlights the contributions of the first ladies of the United States. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/2Z4sQE1>

March 29 | 7PM

Why Garden Off The Ground?

Get an introduction to raised beds, straw bales, and container gardening and learn what types of plants to grow in these environments. Presented by Rutgers Master Gardener Pat Donahue. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/2MVP2y7>

Try our new app, WPL on the Go! Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram! For more information, call 732-634-4450 ext. 7120 www.woodbridgelibrary.org

DVD Review: The Chosen



By: Anton Massopust III

There were many movies about Jesus, but none really talked about how he gathered the apostles to start his ministry. In this three-disc set, which is available on Blue-Ray, we explore the beginnings of Jesus's ministry.

Episode 1 – “I Have Called You by Name,” we are introduced to Mary Magdalene who is possessed by a demon. The Roman soldiers ask Nikodemus (a high teacher of the Sanhedrin) tries to heal her, but the wise teacher eventually would heal her miraculously. Episode 2 – “Shabbat,” Mary Magdalene prepares her first meal and Jesus comes to attend it as he starts to gather his apostles. Episode 3 – “Jesus Loves the Little Children,” little children find a stranger in the forest (Jesus) who teaches them about the coming messiah (which is him). Episode 4 – “The Rock of Which I it is Built,” throughout the series, we find out that fisherman Peter owes a great deal of money to the Romans and he has to pay his taxes or lose his livelihood. We area also introduced to tax collector Matthew and his Roman bodyguard. We also see “The Miracle Catch,”. Episode 5 - “The Wedding Gift” – Jesus meets another

new apostle, Thomas and the miracle at Cana of turning water into wine. Episode 6 – “Indescribable Compassion,” – Jesus heals the paraplegic and causes a disturbance among the Sanhedrin. Episode 7 – “Invitations,” – Jesus meets Nikodemus by night, and explains his philosophy. Jesus wants him to join his ministry, but he is undecided. Episode 8 – “I Am He,” Jesus goes to the well and speaks to a Samaritan Woman and continues his ministry. The bonus disc is a Christmas Special.

“The Chosen” is privately funded. The story of Jesus is portrayed in a TV Series. There is a disclaimer at the beginning of the first episode that "The Chosen" does not directly follow the gospels.

My only complaint is it is a little slow, and it is hard to tell who is who (because of how the actors are dressed). This is a fun series to watch during the easter season. It is well acted, well written, and well produced. There is a good music backdrop and they interblend some of the teachings of the Old and New Testaments. It shows the story of Jesus under the perspective of ordinary people and brings Jesus's ministry to life.

Buy the DVD and enjoy, “The Chosen.”

Pallone on FDA Authorization of Johnson & Johnson’s COVID-19 Vaccine

Press Release 2/27/21

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) released the following statement today after the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted an emergency use authorization for Johnson & Johnson’s COVID-19 vaccine:

“Today’s authorization of Johnson & Johnson’s COVID-19 vaccine brings us another step closer to the light at the end of the tunnel. Notably, this new vaccine is easier to store and transport than other COVID-19 vaccines and only requires one shot to protect patients. This will greatly improve our ability to protect millions of people against COVID-19 in communities across the country and is a giant step toward crushing the virus.

“At our Oversight and Invest-

igation Subcommittee hearing earlier this week, Johnson & Johnson’s Dr. Richard Nettles said the company would be able to deliver enough doses to vaccinate 100 million people in the first half of this year, and 20 million in just the next month.

“This breakthrough today underscores the importance of Congress getting the American Rescue Plan—which provides over \$20 billion to support vaccine distribution—to President Biden’s desk as soon as possible.

“As the Chairman of Energy and Commerce and as the proud Representative of New Brunswick, New Jersey, I look forward to working with the Biden Administration, state and local governments, and stakeholders to quickly and equitably distribute this lifesaving vaccine.”

**Please Submit Your Events to
AmboyGuardian@gmail.com**

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.

After 252 years as a privately owned entity, the Bank of England is nationalized on March 1, 1946, with control taken over by the British government. Dutch troops land on East Bali in the Netherlands East Indies. In Pyongyang, in Soviet-occupied northern Korea, anti-communist activists attempt to assassinate Kim Il-sung, the leader of the Korean People's Army, by throwing a hand grenade at him at a political rally. Kim is saved by the quick action of nearby Second Lt. Y.T. Novichenko, of the Red Army, who catches the grenade and throws it away, where it explodes harmlessly.

Soviet troops evacuate some areas of Iran on March 2 but remain in the northwest of the country. Arabs strike for twelve hours in Palestine over the deportation of Arab leaders to the Seychelles, in the Indian Ocean, after their capture in Germany. Residents of Greenwich, Connecticut, hold a special referendum on whether the United Nations headquarters should be built in their town. (Many U.S. cities are vying to be the venue of the UN headquarters, but a UN site-selection committee's first choice is a 42-square-mile plot that includes much of Greenwich and parts of Stamford and North Castle, because the site's location in "idyllic countryside" is in close proximity to New York City.) Residents oppose "UNOville," as it is called locally, because over one thousand families would be displaced, and traffic — already bad — would get much worse. Of the residents who cast ballots in the referendum, over 69% vote "no," telling the UN to go somewhere else. (The final tally is 4,450 "no" votes to 2,019 "yes" ballots.) Prominent among opposition leaders is banker and politician Prescott Bush (the father of U.S. President George H.W. Bush and the grandfather of U.S. President George W. Bush).

American Airlines Flight 6-103 from Tucson, Arizona, on March 3 crashes into a mountain on its approach to San Diego, California, killing all 27 aboard the DC-3. The flight had originated in New York, with multiple scheduled stops en route.

In Alexandria, Egypt, 19 people are killed and 299 are injured in anti-British rioting on March 4. Fifteen armored brigades of the Red Army invade Iran's Azerbaijan region while other brigades are deployed along the borders of Turkey, Iraq and Bulgaria. Leftist rioters in Teheran prevent Iran's parliament from sitting. In Finland, Carl Gustav Mannerheim resigns as president, due to illness, and is succeeded by former prime minister Juho Passikivi.

In a speech at Westminster College, in Fulton, Missouri, on March 5, former British prime minister Winston Churchill says, "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended upon the continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe. Warsaw, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Budapest and Sofia, all these famous cities and the populations around them lie in . . . the Soviet sphere." The speech popularizes the term "iron curtain" and draws attention to the division of Europe.

Prime Minister Ahmad Qavam of Iran on March 6 personally protests to Joseph Stalin in Moscow about the continued presence of Soviet troops in his country. The U.S. government ends wartime controls on many consumer items, including musical instruments and phonograph records. With weapons, uniforms, vehicles and landing craft supplied by the United States, French troops, with the permission of the Vietnamese, come ashore at Haiphong to oversee the peaceful departure of Nationalist Chinese occupation forces. Ten French soldiers are killed when Chinese troops fire on them "by mistake." Shortly after the departure of the Chinese, the First Indochina War ignites when the Vietnamese realize the French will be staying to re-colonize the country. Jackie Robinson becomes the first African American in the Twentieth Century to play in a Major League Baseball game — a spring-training contest in Florida between the Brooklyn Dodgers and their farm club, the Montreal Royals. Robinson plays shortstop for the Canadian club. (Robinson is not the first black player to play in "the majors." Between 1870 and 1883, at least four African Americans — Frank Stewart, Charles Bannister, John "Bud" Fowler and Moses Fleetwood "Fleet" Walker — (and likely more) played on "white" professional baseball teams. In 1883, a segregationist, unwritten "Gentlemen's Agreement" among team owners went into effect that precluded blacks from playing in the major leagues for 63 years. The "Agreement" is broken when the Dodgers' part-owner, president and general manager, Branch Rickey, signs Robinson to a minor-league contract.)

Police on March 7 fire on rioters in New Delhi, India, killing six. The rioters are objecting to the presence of U.S. troops in a British victory parade. A show of force by armed police allows the Iranian parliament to meet in Teheran for the first time in three days. In Moscow, the U.S. embassy delivers a note to the Soviet Foreign Ministry calling on the Soviets to honor their agreement to depart Iran. The 167 residents of Bikini Atoll, in the Marshall Islands in the Pacific, are evacuated by the U.S. Navy so atomic-bomb testing can get underway there.

The U.S. Civil Aeronautics Board gives its approval on March 8, 1946, for helicopters to be used by civilians in the U.S. It grants certification to Bell Aircraft Corporation for its Bell 47, a modified version of the military's H-13 Sioux rotorcraft.

In Cairo, the British ambassador announces on March 9 that British troops will be withdrawn from Egypt.

Italian women are allowed to vote for the first time on March 10, in local elections. In Lviv, Ukraine, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, under pressure from the Soviet government, severs its longstanding ties with Rome and enters into a union with the Moscow-controlled Russian Orthodox Church.

Rudolf Höss, an SS functionary who had been the longest-serving Nazi commandant of the Auschwitz concentration and extermination camp, is arrested by British military police at Gottrupel, near Flensburg, in northern Germany, on March 11. He has been working on a farm under an alias. Upon interrogation, he admits to overseeing the murder of over 2.5 million people, mostly Jews, at Auschwitz. Accused of murdering 3.5 million people, Höss corrects the interrogator: "No. Only 2.5 million; the rest died of disease and starvation." (Höss is tried before a tribunal at Nuremberg in April 1946, found guilty of war crimes, transferred to the Polish government, and executed by hanging, at Auschwitz, in Oświęcim, Poland, on April 16, 1947.)

The Chinese occupation of Laos north of the 16th parallel ends on March 12. Paul-Henri Spaak, an influential Socialist politician, replaces Achille van Acker as prime minister of Belgium. In Yugoslavia, Gen. Dragoljub "Draža" Mihailović, Serbian leader of the Chetnik guerrilla group, is found by government agents after two years in hiding and brought to Belgrade where he is to be tried for war crimes. (Initially, Mihailović's Chetniks — staunch royalists and nationalists — and Tito's communist Partisans were anti-Nazi allies. By 1941, the Chetniks had begun collaborating with the Axis and were involved in massacres of Bosnians and Croats in an attempt to position themselves in power after the war ended.) Ferenc Szálasi, Hungary's head of state and prime minister during the last six months of the country's Axis-allied participation in the war, is hanged in Budapest. He had been tried in February 1946 and convicted of "war crimes and high treason."

Chinese Nationalist troops peacefully replace the Soviet occupation force in Mukden, Manchuria, on March 13. In the Netherlands East Indies, formal negotiations begin for a peace settlement between Dutch and Indonesian leaders.

On March 14 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, Fred Rose, the first (and to date, only) member of the Communist Party of Canada elected to the House of Commons of Canada, is arrested by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on suspicion of spying for the Soviet government. (Rose is ultimately tried and convicted of conspiring to turn over information to the Soviets and sentenced to four-and-a-half years in prison. He is expelled from the Canadian Parliament on January 30, 1947.)

Attn: If Your Club changes its Schedule
Due to the Holidays Or if you have
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Roast Pork
Dinner

SOUTH AMBOY - The Trinity United Methodist Church at 815 Bordentown Avenue in South Amboy is holding their Roast Pork Dinner on Saturday, April 17 from 4 pm – 6:30 pm. The dinner is TAKE OUT only and includes Roast Pork, mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots, green beans, applesauce, and a homemade dessert. Call Lori at 732 763 6232 to place your orders starting April 1. Delivery options. Tickets are \$14.



Trinity
Treasures
Thrift Shop

SOUTH AMBOY - Trinity United Methodist Church Trinity Treasures Thrift Shop located at: 815 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy is open on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. through 12 p.m. weather permitting. Household items, clothing, appliances, and much more. Any questions, please call 732-763-6232.

Takeout Lenten
Fish Fry

SOUTH AMBOY – The South Amboy Elks, 601 Washington Ave., are having a Takeout Lenten Fish Fry on Fridays: 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.

Deadline for Print Ads:

7 p.m. Thursday

Office Hours:

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

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Happy St. Patrick's Day!



St. Patrick's Day with the Hibernians

SOUTH AMBOY - The Colonel D.B. Kelly Ancient Order of Hibernians located at 272 Stevens Ave in South Amboy across from the old St. Mary's High School wishes to invite everyone to start making your St. Patrick's Day plans with us. With no St Patrick's parades planned for the month of March, join us for a night of celebrating our Irish Heritage. On Wednesday March 17th, beginning at 5:00pm, we will have our St. Patrick's Day Dinner. For the price of \$35 per person includes choice of dinner (Irish Spring Salad/ Potato Leak soup and choice of Corn-beef and Cabbage Platter or Shepherd's Pie) and dessert (Irish Tea Cake or Irish Cheesecake).

There will be a cash bar with an added authentic Irish Coffee Special for \$6.00. We will also be drawing the winners of our 50/50 raffle at 8:00pm. The Colonel D.B. Kelly Pipes and Drums will be performing for all our guests. We will limit the capacity of our hall to only 50 people (subject to change with state guidelines). The upstairs bar will be open also if you don't wish to participate in the dinner. For more information and to make a reservation please call 732-721-2098 Or email: colkellyaoh@aol.com and get your reservations in early!!!

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For Sale		Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Powerlift for motorcycle \$75 - must pick up. Please call 732-738-7074
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GPS Tom Tom - 3 pcs Stereo System - Dog Bed \$65 ea. 732-293-0151		Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5 th Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-6305	Girl's Bicycle 24" Panasonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or B.O. 908-501-3993
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ACROSS

1. Atlas picture
4. Elongated circle
8. Genesis man
12. In the tradition of: 2 wds.
13. Harsh sentence
14. Soda-machine possibility
15. Signal for help
16. Be bold
17. Exam
18. Blasting compound: abbr.
19. Part of "MFA"

21. Furry sea mammal
23. Serving receptacle
24. Mr. King Cole
27. Very enthusiastic
29. Newport, _____ Island
31. TV dog
34. Got misty-eyed
35. Revises (copy)
36. Typical freshman
37. Uppermost point
38. Remove wrinkles from
40. Be aware of
44. Bit of gossip
45. Rhyming heavy-weight champ

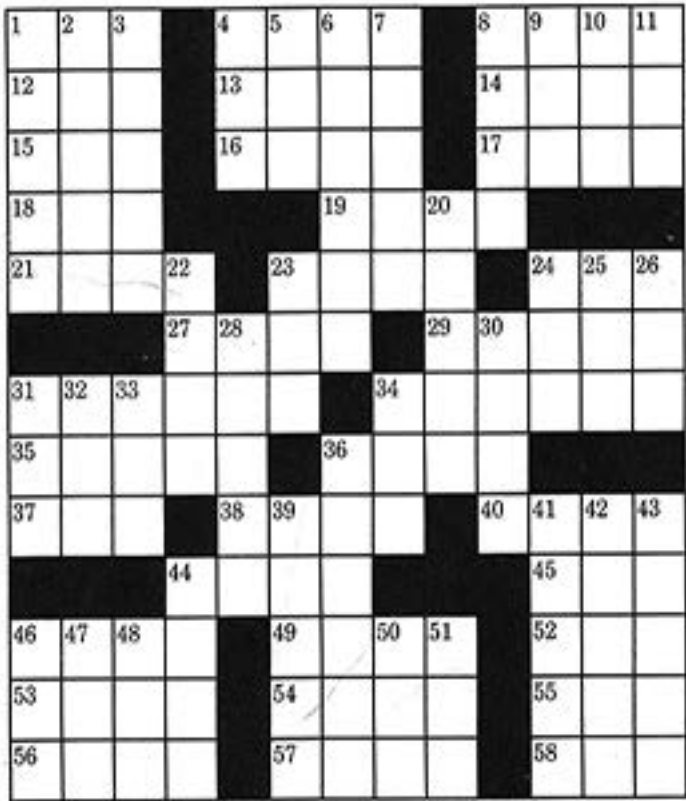
46. Jab
49. Operation reminder
52. Fool (around)
53. Fence bar
54. City vehicle
55. Mate of 8-Across
56. Nothing but
57. Daisy stalk
58. Family room

DOWN

1. Poles on schooners
2. Without any company
3. Fettuccine or ziti
4. Like Father Time
5. By means of
6. Scared
7. Sly glances
8. Plays a role

9. Fawn's mother
10. Gore and Jolson
11. Bathroom rug
20. Age after two
22. Final
23. Expire
24. Word with "neither"
25. Summer citrus drink
26. TV's Koppel
28. Call on
30. Singer Williams
31. "_____ sleeping dogs lie"
32. Fuss
33. Wee swallow
34. The _____ Commandments

36. Male feline
39. Takes five
41. Not wearing any clothes
42. Pimento-filled food
43. Become broader
44. In a nonchalant way
46. Old hand
47. Was a cross-country competitor
48. Petroleum product
50. Lumber-jack's tool
51. Cup edge



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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



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.

Donald & Alease Hilliard-Chapman Foundation to Donate 500 Books to Perth Amboy Kindergartners & The Giving Bookshelf Organization Honors the Late Alease Hilliard-Chapman Who Would Have Turned 88 this Weekend

Press Release 2/26/21
PERTH AMBOY – To promote early childhood literacy, primarily with marginalized youth, the Donald and Alease Hilliard-Chapman Foundation (DAHCF) is hosting a book drive to donate more than 500 books to Perth Amboy Elementary School and The Giving Bookshelf, an organization that aims to increase inner-city youth success by increasing the opportunity to read.
The late Alease Hilliard-Chapman, who DAHCF is partly named after, would be celebrating her 88th birthday this weekend. Her love for children was so strong, and has been passed down to her children and grandchildren who are honoring her memory with the book drive. They have made it their mission to advocate for what she was truly passionate about

– children.
“We’re so happy to honor my late mother in this way,” said Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr., Senior Pastor of The Cathedral International. “She would be turning 88 years-old this Sunday, and we wanted to bless young children and promote literacy in a meaningful way.”
According to The Literacy Project Foundation, 61 percent of low-income families have no books at all in their homes for their children. DAHCF is on the battleground to combat this issue to ensure that all children are afforded an opportunity to the right of literacy.
DAHCF has an Amazon registry for books and donations can also be made via PayPal. For more information, please email dahcf228@gmail.com and visit DAHCF’s Facebook page.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Happy St. Patrick's Day

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Broadway Ange, 124 South Broadway Avenue, South Amboy *Photos by Carolyn Maxwell

Governor Signs Law Setting Municipal Contributions for Non-Profit Hospitals
Sarlo/Cryan/Vitale/Singleton Measure Will Protect Non-Profit Status, Provide for Consistent Municipal Payments

Press Release 2/22/21
TRENTON – The Governor today signed into law legislation sponsored by Senator Paul Sarlo, Senator Joe Cryan, Senator Joe Vitale and Senator Troy Singleton that will protect the non-profit status of hospitals while ensuring that they compensate their communities for municipal services.
The law, S-357/A1135, codifies the tax-exempt status for non-profit hospitals and for certain satellite emergency care facilities, allowing them to retain their non-profit status while they are assessed a community service contribution paid to the host municipality.
“This is an important law that protects the non-profit status of hospitals at the same time it provides for consistent and reliable contributions to their home communities,” said Senator Sarlo (D-Bergen/Passaic), chair-

man of the Budget Committee. “They play an important role in the lives and livelihoods of the towns and cities they serve with medical care. The relationships between the hospitals and their communities will be strengthened by this legislation.”
“Non-profit health care facilities have long been part of the lifeblood of the communities they serve,” said Senator Cryan (D-Union). “They have answered the call time and again when their professional health care services were most needed. This law makes sure that special relationship – between a hospital and those it serves – is maintained in a way that is reasonable and fair to all parties involved.”
“These hospitals continue to make invaluable contributions to our communities through an array of health care services,” said Senator Vitale (D-Mid-

dlesex). “At the same time, this plan will have them make meaningful financial contributions to their home towns at the same time it helps to bolster the important services the communities provide, including operations for first responders and emergency services.”
“Hospitals offer a substantial economic benefit to their communities through health care jobs and services. Equally as important, they are a significant presence in the community from donating to local charities and organizations to sponsoring local events,” said Senator Singleton (D-Burlington). “This community presence and generosity is bolstered by their non-profit status. Continuing to protect this status, as laid out in the bill, will ensure these hospitals remain major civic benefactors.”

Novena to St. Rita

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

Remember to
Say Your Novenas!

Novena to St. Joseph

Glorious St. Joseph, foster-father and protector of Jesus Christ! To you do I raise my heart and hands to implore your powerful intercession. Please obtain for me from the kind Heart of Jesus the help and graces necessary for my spiritual and temporal welfare. I ask particularly for the grace of a happy death, and the special favor I now implore *(name it)*. Guardian of the Word Incarnate, I feel animated with confidence that your prayers in my behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God.

O glorious St. Joseph, through the love you bear to Jesus Christ, and for the glory of His name.

Hear my prayers and obtain my petitions. *F.M.*

The Miraculous Prayer

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favors. This time I ask you for this my special one *(mention favor)*. Take it, Dear Jesus and place it within your own broken heart, where your Father sees it. Then, in his merciful eyes, it will become your favor, not mine. Amen.

Say this prayer for 3 days, promise publication and your favor will be granted. Never known to fail. A.L.S.

Novena Rose Prayer
O Little Therese of the
Child Jesus

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

Prayer to St. Jude

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

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

Thank you, Saint Jude L.B.

Pet of the Week



Our new cat Abbey. Yes, like the Beatles album. We just adopted her 2 weeks ago and she is a joy. Loves to play and loves her snacks. She made herself right at home without any problems. She is about 11 years old and was a rescue, and is extremely well behaved, but a little skittish. Don and Anne

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 17

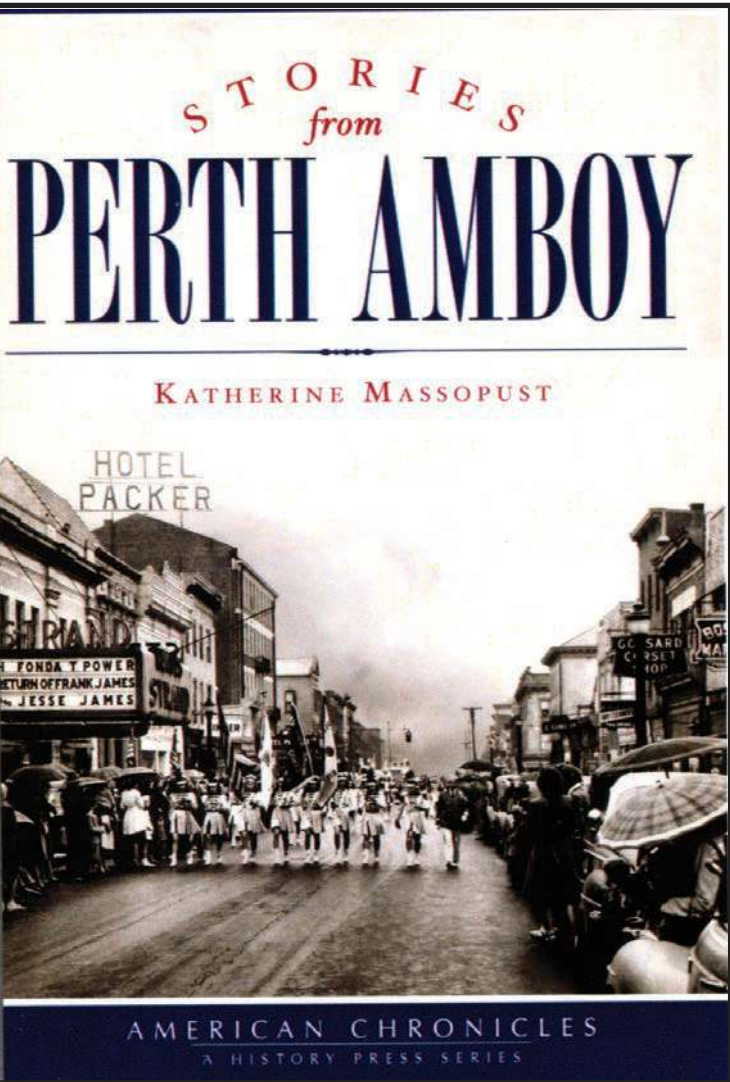


LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – Window Murals of the Original Hibernians circa late 1890's by Patrick Burke Sr. on New Brunswick Avenue. First two windows across from hospital parking deck entrance are now moved to Brace Avenue. BLDG FUND DONATIONS NEEDED. Happy St. Patrick's Day! Photo taken around 1970's.

**Photo Courtesy of AOH Archives
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!



Enrique Hernandez
Broker/Owner CRB, SFR, CRS

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



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PERTH AMBOY - Don't miss this opportunity to own this single family in the heart of Perth Amboy, within blocks from train station, Downtown and Business district. currently is being used as 2brs, buyer is responsible for C/O, termite and all repairs. **\$175,000**



HOPELAWN - See this Terrific 2-bedroom ranch with all the charm you had ever want very cozy and beautiful, you will recognize the quality when you see it. This beauty is priced for a quick sell. Hurry!!!!!! **\$229,000**



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 and all repairs. It is being sold strictly in AS IS condition. **\$295,000**



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 garages, close to most public transportation and shopping district and more. **\$2,100 Mo/Rent**



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. **\$540,000**



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



PERTH AMBOY - Located in downtown business district. **\$100,000**