



THE

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# AMBOY GUARDIAN

• VOL. 11 NO. 10 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2021 •

## Continuing Zoom Meetings One of Many Topics Discussed 8/9/21 Caucus

By: Carolyn Maxwell

**PERTH AMBOY** – There was a lengthy discussion amongst the council members whether the meetings should be continued on Zoom. Council President Bill Petrick was the one who requested that this be put on the agenda.

Councilman Joel Pabon was the first one to speak up regarding this matter. He was adamant about continuing Zoom meetings in light of the fact that Covid cases are continuing. “We are not out of the woods, yet. We are getting 20+ people calling in (from the public) via Zoom and a good number of people from the public are coming in person. It is a huge plus having Zoom participation. The Council is here, so it is a win-win and a plus having in-person and Zoom.”

Councilwoman Rose Morales spoke next stating that she agreed with Pabon. “I would love to see the faces of the people in person. It is a great tool having Zoom in place.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda said, “Zoom is the way of the future. It is a good way for people to participate from home.”

Councilman B.J. Torres also referenced the rise in Covid cases. “No one should fear going to public meetings. Zoom should continue.”

Councilman Joel Pabon said, “Since we have money coming in, the administration should make this call (on continuing Zoom Meetings).”

Council President Bill Petrick brought up the fact, “The final decision will come down to us because we would have to add money to the budget. The Zoom Meetings cost extra money because we will have to have an IT person here to be able to operate the equipment (for the Zoom Meetings). This requires overtime for them.” Petrick questioned how many IT personnel there are.

IT Tech John Alleman indicated that there was only himself and one other person.

Councilwoman Tejeda then suggested the money be used to hire a third person to do the Zoom Meetings instead of paying the present technicians overtime.

Business Administrator Michael Green stated, “We have recovery funds and provide money for overtime and will continue to do so. You will see technology items on the agenda for our IT Technicians.”

Council President Petrick then stated that for Ordinance No. 1 (Public Hearing) regarding Amending Chapter 430 Zoning and Land Development to prohibit the operation of any class of cannabis business within the city. “There was a change to remove the medical restriction.”

There was a discussion involving the discrepancy between bids for certain work to be done such as repairs for the Jefferson Street Parking Garage. The high bid was \$420,094 and the low bid was \$117,860.

One council member asked, “Why is there such a big discrepancy?”

Purchasing Agent Maria Rivera came to the podium, “There are a lot of contractors who already have a lot of work and they may bid very high because they really don’t want to do the job.”

Councilman Pabon then questioned, “Of all the contractors who bid for this job, did they do any prior work for the city?”

Rivera responded, “I don’t know. I will get the answer for you.”

Jeannette Rios spoke up via Zoom, “One of the bidders did work for the city previously.”

Another voice came on via Zoom who happened to be the architect consultant on the job for the parking deck, “The contractor whom they recommended for the job did do previous work on the parking deck.”

Council President Petrick asked B.A. Green, “What is the city’s current rating?”

Green stated, “We have two ratings: A and A+ and this is due to the hard work of CFO Jill Goldy, the Tax Assessor Nancy Martin and the residents paying their tax bills.”

Councilman Joel Pabon had a question regarding Ordinance No. 3 (First Reading) – The donor agreement with Duke Realty donating property at 215 Riverview Drive which will contain the new amphitheater park and renovated lab building. “Is this

ready to be handed over to us?”

Director of Human Services/ Recreation Ken Ortiz spoke via Zoom, “The final walkthroughs were done a few months ago. There are discussions about having a small theater or ballpark and having a place for supplies and equipment at the amphitheater.”

The next topic for discussion involved Ordinance No. 4 (first reading) – General Development Plan Administration.

B.A. Mike Green explained, “There is a 2.5% assessed value on new developments that have a certain percentage of affordable housing units built. That money will remain in the city to add our trust fund.”

Tashi Vazquez Assistant Director of City’s Office of Economic & Community Development came up to speak to introduce two people in order to give more detailed information.

Ms. Leslie London came up to speak first. “The council needs to have an ordinance to collect fees to establish a trust fund and this will have to be submitted to the courts for approval for your city housing plans. This is for residential and nonresidential units. 100% of affordable housing will not be assessed. It is developer driven. The money collected is strictly for affordable housing uses and programs which can also include group homes and single-family homes, but there are certain income levels. There will be a whole slew of programs to help the city.”

The next person to speak was Elizabeth McManus, New Jersey Professional Planner from the New York Architect Firm of Perkins Eastman who talked about the spending plan. “Part of what has to be presented to the court would be your spending plan, the money the city collected, and how it is spent to benefit Perth Amboy.”

Ms. London spoke again, “This ordinance is mandatory. You can adopt it now or you can wait to present it to the court. That may be up until a year later.”

Council President Petrick asked if this ordinance would

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## Mayor Helmin Caba, Joined by The Citizens Campaign Signs Measures to Put De-Escalation at the Forefront of Perth Amboy Public Safety



Mayor Helmin J. Caba



Perth Amboy Civic Trustee &  
Citizen's Campaign Founder  
Harry Pozyski



Acting Chief of Police  
Larry Cattano



Leader of Frontline Youth  
Samantha Castro



Mayor Helmin J. Caba signs the executive order



See press release inside p.2.



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## Comcast Renewal, Marijuana Discussion & Amphitheater Among Topics Discussed

### 8/11/21 Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell

PERTH AMBOY – The first order of business was a presentation and public hearing for Comcast of New Jersey which was asking for a renewal of their contract with the city.

Leslie London from the Law Firm of McManimon, Scotland & Baumann came up to speak first. “We have reached out to Comcast and they provided materials to you, what they can provide, and the terms and the duration of the contract. She then introduced Charles Smith (Top Executive of Comcast). He told the council that they are in the final stages of renewal and have to follow federal, state, and local guidelines. There are 4 aspects to the contract:

- 1.) Compliance to federal, state, and local guidelines.
- 2.) Quality of the service we provide to the community.
- 3.) Our financial obligation and are technological abilities.
- 4.) To serve the future needs of the community.

“Our rates are governed by the state and federal government and are covered by the BPU. We are a nonexclusive franchise and provide basic service.”

Council President Bill Petrick asked the question as to whether the boxes can be upgraded.

Smith answered, “There is a cost to do that.” He also said, “Maybe some of the senior citi-

zen buildings (owned by the city) can probably be eligible for basic courtesy services. We operate over 300 communities.”

Councilman Joel Pabon then spoke up, telling Smith that the number one issue is with the audio. “Do you provide equipment to help with this?”

Smith replied, “We require equipment for the signal for the transmitter. The production equipment cost will be the city’s responsibility. We have upgraded our technology. We provide grants to cities for upgrades to their signals.”

Leslie London came up to speak again, “You have a list of all the equipment from Comcast that is provided to the buildings they serve. You to make sure that everything that on that list was provided to you.”

Smith then addressed Pabon’s concerns about the audio, “I was not aware of audio problems until you brought it to my attention. I should be the first point of contact. I’ve been with Comcast for over 20 years.”

Petrick then suggested, “Maybe the amps on the poles have not been upgraded which is causing audio problems in the Budapest section of town. We used to have Channel 36 which was given to another municipality. Can we activate it?”

Smith replied, “It is available to the city, and we can put equipment in place, but it will be a cost to Comcast, and we have a budget. Ask for it and we will make it happen.”

Petrick then talked about the items on the list that we were supposed to check to make sure everything was received. “It was old analog equipment which we can’t use because everything is digital. Would you send service personnel to install the new equipment and take out the old equipment?”

Smith replied, “Yes, we will. We just need a location to install the equipment for Channel 36. Your access channel is fiber.”

The meeting was then opened up to the public to ask questions only about the Comcast renewal.

Resident Lisa Nanton came up. “The problem is getting customer service to show up. I had trouble with Xfinity not working. I found out that whole street was having trouble with their cable. The access cable and a bunch of cable lines were all over my house on the outside.”

Councilwoman Rose Morales then asked, “Does anyone go around checking the cable wires to make sure that they are not in disarray?”

Smith replied, “Our techni-

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## Mayor Helmin Caba, Joined by The Citizens Campaign Signs Measures to Put De-Escalation at the Forefront of Perth Amboy Public Safety

*\*Continued from Page 1*

Press Release 8/11/21

PERTH AMBOY, NJ - Mayor Helmin J. Caba, issued an Executive Order today that enhances public safety with de-escalation policies and publicly signed an ordinance creating a community advisory board, the Perth Amboy Citizen’s Public Safety Advisory Board.

The Board, designed to build mutual respect between the police and the community by ensuring de-escalation training and other de-escalation policies are brought to the attention of the City’s leadership, were proposed by the Perth Amboy Civic Trust and developed in consultation with experts from The Citizens Campaign, as well as with the input of Perth Amboy police officers, the Frontline Youth and the Perth Amboy City Council.

The Executive Order requires de-escalation performance in accordance with the de-escalation training provided to Perth Amboy Police Officers, be an explicit factor considered in officers’ promotion decisions. This reinforces Perth Amboy Police Department’s commitment to developing police officers that are “guardians” of public safety and the community.

The Citizen’s Public Safety Advisory Board, which the City Council adopted unanimously, will ensure a continuing search for, and implementation of, best practice de-escalation poli-

cies and programs, including increased and improved de-escalation trainings, better use of force reporting and more effective recruitment and hiring practices for consideration by the mayor and police director. Evidence shows that an emphasis on de-escalation helps to reduce avoidable incidents and injuries for both Perth Amboy residents and police officers while reducing the legal fees and the pay-outs cities make to settle excessive use of force lawsuits.

The Advisory Board will also review an annual audit provided by the Perth Amboy Police Department to report progress on any policies or practices adopted and planned to improve the de-escalation capabilities and performance of the Department. The Board will additionally conduct public hearings to receive best practice de-escalation policy input from members of the community, including police officers.


The 7-member Advisory Board will be appointed by the City Council. It will include 3 youth members (2 that are twenty-one to thirty years old, and 1 that is sixteen to twenty years old). The Board will also include two police officers, one with training expertise and the other with community policing experience.

“The Executive Order and ordinance I’m signing today will ensure a comprehensive community-wide commitment to de-escalation and the continuing development of our city’s public safety measures,” said Mayor of Perth Amboy Helmin Caba. “We will all benefit from this, police and residents alike.”

“I commend Mayor Caba for his leadership in issuing this executive order making de-escalation performance an explicit factor in police officers’ promotions and for his strong support of establishing the Advisory Board that will keep the focus on de-escalation” said Harry Pozyski, Perth Amboy Civic Trustee and Founder of The Citizen Campaign. “His actions combined with those of the leaders of the George Floyd march, the City Council and the Perth Amboy Police Department, demonstrate that we need not be captives to a choice between opposing and supporting the police. We can work together to achieve the best in 21st century public safety.”

“These measures will directly improve and impact the lives of all Perth Amboy residents by allowing youth leaders, along with veteran leaders, to actively engage in improving our City’s public safety and will foster a relationship of mutual respect between the Perth Amboy Police and the community,” said Samantha Castro, Leader of the Frontline, and organizer of a peaceful protest of over 1,000 Perth Amboy residents. “It allows all Perth Amboy residents to be part of the solution!





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PERTH AMBOY - We're two weeks away from my Annual Back to School Drive and Ice Cream Social and I wanted to announce that in addition to snacks and fun, I am also partnering with the City of Perth Amboy to offer attendees the opportunity to get vaccinated through a mobile vaccination clinic! Please remember vaccines are safe, secure and the best way to protect ourselves and our community. Looking forward to seeing you on August 27th from 3:30 to 5:30pm. Hope to see you there! - Asw. Yvonne Lopez

Concerts by the Bay, Wilentz School, Perth Amboy  
8/8/21 \*Photos by Paul W. Wang




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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Field of Dreams

I love baseball. My grandmother used to play baseball with my brother and me when I was 4 years old, and he was 2. We used tubes from paper towels as the bats and a small plastic ball. The chairs in the room were bases and a home run was over the couch. As we got a little older, we had a Wiffle ball and plastic Wiffle ball bat. We played in the backyard and any hit that went over Krauser’s roof was a home run and different locations in the yard were the bases. When we got older, I played softball in Hopelawn Little League, then in high school (my dad coached in both) and college and later in the Woodbridge Recreational League.

I love to watch baseball, too. Those who know me know that I am a lifelong New York Met’s fan. I remember the Mets in the 1973 World Series (They lost to the Oakland A’s). I remember Willie Mays last days of his career playing on the Mets, crying when Tom Seaver was traded, and sticking by the Mets in the awful 70’s, cheering for them in 1986 when they won the World Series, and later in the early 2000’s into the 2010’s and now. I remember my first game at Shea Stadium (Mets vs. Houston Astros. The Met’s lost). I even remember Kiner’s Korner and the guests after the game.

Back in the 1970’s, the games started at 8 p.m. and Monday nights were only on the radio. I used to listen to them on my Fred Flintstone radio. I still have it somewhere.

I’ve seen the Phillies at Veteran’s Park and eventually Citizen’s Bank Park (I love the liberty bell sound). My aunt took me to see the old Yankee Stadium before they knocked it down and built a new one. She also took me to Baltimore to Camden Yards (a beautiful park). And I’ve been to both Shea Stadium and Citi Field many times. I’ve seen many greats of the game play.

I’ve been to the Babe Ruth Museum in Baltimore. I’ve also been to Cooperstown to the Hall of Fame. There are many displays to all the greats. When the All-Star Game was in Yankee



Kevin Costner walks on to the Field of Dreams in Iowa  
\*Stacy Revere, Getty Images

Stadium in 2008, my aunt and I went to New York to see the parade of all-stars. It was like a living Cooperstown.

As a child, I met Rusty Staub. As a member of the Amboy Guardian, I had the opportunity to meet Dwight Gooden and Carlos Beltran.

When I heard on the radio that David Wright was retiring and his last game was sold out in 7 hours, I was disappointed I couldn’t go. But I would win 2 tickets on WOR radio. I’m certain my late grandmother had something to do with that. Carolyn and I went. The game went 14 innings, the Mets won, and David Wright retired. We saw the fireworks from the Long Island Railroad platform.

I watch baseball at the end of my day. It relaxes me. Every day I learn something new about the game, whether it be about sabermetrics, fundamentals, or the business end of the sport.

Last Thursday was the “Field of Dreams” game in Iowa where the 1989 film was filmed (in an adjacent field because of the proper measurement requirements of the field). First, actor Kevin Costner came out from the cornfield stating, “This is Perfect,” and the players from both the Chicago White Sox and the New York Yankees wearing retro uniforms walked through the cornfield onto the field. It was like magic.

The Field of Dreams Baseball Game was the most watched baseball regular season game in 16 years. It was the first MLB game played in Iowa. Tickets

were only available to Iowa residents.

I had never seen the movie, “Field of Dreams,” so I watched it OnDemand on Friday. The movie is based on the 1982 novel, Shoeless Joe by W.P. Kinsella. When the movie was over, I was almost in tears. The movie shows Kevin Costner’s character, Ray Kinsella who owns a farm in Dyersville, Iowa. He hears a mysterious voice that tells him, “If you build it, he will come.” So, with the support of his wife, Annie (Amy Magidan), and young daughter Karin (Gaby Hoffmann), Ray builds a baseball field in the middle of his farm. In order to build the field, he destroyed a large amount of his crops which was the family’s livelihood and the bulk of their income. Despite this and pressure from his brother-in-law, Ray builds his field.

Then, the ghost of Baseball Great Shoeless Joe Jackson (Ray Liotta) appears to him. Shoeless Joe was accused of being involved in the Chicago Black Sox scandal where eight members of the Chicago White Sox were accused of throwing the 1919 World Series against the Cincinnati Reds in exchange or money from a gambling syndicate. Many people felt that Shoeless Joe Jackson had nothing to do with the scandal. The famous saying, “Say it ain’t so, Joe,” comes from this. Babe Ruth modeled his swing after Shoeless Joe Jackson because he felt that Shoeless Joe was the greatest hitter he ever saw.

Then the ghosts of many baseball players including the 1919 Chicago White Sox come to the field to play. At first, only Ray, his wife, and young daughter see them. Ray teaches Karin all about baseball as the family watch the ghosts play. Then after seeing a vision one night (Ray finds out that his wife Annie had the same vision). So, with his wife’s blessing, Ray goes on a quest all the way to

\*Continued on Page 15

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Congestion Price Tolling

In coming months, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority will be scheduling public hearings in New Jersey concerning the introduction of Congestion Pricing for those diving south of 60th Street in Manhattan. Tolling is to begin by January 2023. This is part of the MTA meeting federal requirements under the Federal Highway Administration National Environmental process known as NEPA. It will be an Environmental Assessment for introduction of Congestion Pricing.

If approved, NJ residents will be paying a portion of revenues generated by Congestion Price Tolling. The MTA estimates it will generate \$1 billion annually. These revenues will be used to leverage another \$2 billion annually via bonding. This is supposed to raise \$15 billion that will be allocated to the MTA \$51 billion 2020 - 2025 Five Year Capital Plan. Both

NJ Transit and the Port Authority have similar multiyear Capital Plans. NJ should ask for a fair share of revenues generated by these new tolls that they will be paying.

Some of these dollars could go toward the NJ share for the \$11 billion Gateway Tunnel, \$10 billion Port Authority 42nd Street Bus Terminal or other transportation improvements that would benefit NJ residents. After all, fair is fair.

Sincerely,  
Larry Penner

(Larry Penner is a transportation advocate, historian and writer who previously worked for the Federal Transit Administration Region 2 New York Office. This included the development, review, approval and oversight for billions in capital projects and programs for NJ Transit, NY MTA, NYC Transit, Long Island and Metro North Rail Roads along with 30 other transit agencies in NY & NJ).

We Value Your Opinion!  
Please Send Us A Response!

Pathways Program Unveiled at Academy for Urban Leadership Charter Schools this September

Press Release  
PERTH AMBOY - Beginning this September, the students of Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School will be participating in the Pathways to Leadership Program. Pathways is an innovative program founded by Dr. Mario C. Barbieri, Interim Superintendent of Schools for the district and will aim to provide opportunities for student leadership skills. Additionally, all students were tested to determine their learning style and multiple intelligence, as the Pathways Program has been established based on student intelligences.

Teachers and staff will engage the students in learning sessions called clusters, in grades 8-12. The students will participate in STEAM based BRIDGE BUILDING, LEGO ENGINEERING, GROWTH MINDSET PRINCIPLES, 21st CENTURY SKILLS, AND VARIED

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Dr Mario C. Barbieri  
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AMBOY BANK .....100 N. BROADWAY  
BROADWAY BAGELS .....105 S. BROADWAY  
BROADWAY DINER .....126 N. BROADWAY  
CITY HALL .....140 N. BROADWAY  
COMMUNITY CENTER .....200 O’LEARY BLVD.  
KRAUSZER’S ..... 200 N. BROADWAY  
KRAUSZER’S .....717 BORDENTOWN AVE.  
PUBLIC LIBRARY .....100 HOFFMAN PLAZA  
SCIORTINO’S HARBOR LIGHTS ..... 132 S. BROADWAY  
SOUTH AMBOY MEDICAL CENTER.....540 BORDENTOWN AVE.  
WELLS FARGO BANK.....116 N. BROADWAY

IN WOODBRIDGE:

CITY HALL .....1 MAIN ST.  
MAIN ST. FARM .....107 MAIN ST.  
NEWS & TREATS ..... 99 MAIN ST.  
ST. JOSEPH’S SENIORS RESIDENCE .....1 ST. JOSEPH’S TERR.

Deadline for Print Ads:

7 p.m. Thursday

Office Hours:

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

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

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

Safety Announcement

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

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!!**

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

Do not think that any call or report is too small

Don’t allow the actions of a few dictate your quality of life

**FOR ALL EMERGENCIES, DIAL: 9-1-1**

**FOR ALL NON-EMERGENCIES, DIAL: 732-442-4400**

Important!

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

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

Attention Businesses Open During Pandemic Crisis:

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

Call Carolyn:  
732-896-4446 or  
Katherine:  
732-261-2610  
Email the Amboy  
Guardian:  
AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

Attention!

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

2021 Amboy Guardian Publication Dates

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

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

THURS. Aug. 26 Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m.  
City Hall, High St.  
TUES. Aug. 31 Board of Education, 5:30 p.m.  
PAHS, Eagle Ave. & Zoom  
WED Sept. 8 City Council, Caucus, 5:30 p.m.  
City Hall, High St. & Zoom  
WED. Sept. 8 City Council, Regular, immediately following Caucus  
City Hall, High St. & Zoom

South Amboy

WED. Aug. 18 City Council/Business/Regular, 6 p.m.  
City Hall N. Broadway

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

The Barge Restaurant is looking for a Cook and Servers For More Information Contact Alex: 732-442-3000

PERTH AMBOY CAUCUS/COUNCIL MEETINGS Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, take notice that the Council Meeting of **September 8, 2021** will follow the Caucus Meeting of the same date at **5:30 p.m.** will be held in the Council Chambers, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy. The meeting will also be held VIA A ZOOM ON-LINE CONFERENCE AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84332215512?pwd=V2k5NVVnWjBFa3lwRU9xVDU4UHBTUT09>  
Meeting ID: 843 3221 5512  
Passcode: 317390  
Dial by your location  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
All members of the public are invited to participate.

SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING & CLOSED SESSION DELIBERATIONS September 21, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, this is to advise you that the Council of the City of Perth Amboy will hold the following Special Public Meeting in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Perth Amboy: **September 21, 2021 SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING & 7:00 P.M. CLOSED SESSION DELIBERATIONS.** Formal hearing on one Liquor License and Closed Session Deliberations (as required). Formal Action May Be Taken.

The meeting will also be held VIA A ZOOM ON-LINE CONFERENCE AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84200381224?pwd=cmswNm1UQ3dqMm9mQ1pIVmw5cUlwQT09>  
Meeting ID: 842 0038 1224  
Passcode: 974030  
Dial by your location  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
All members of the public are invited to participate.





Homeownership more affordable.

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**AFTNJ’s Book Fair is a Hit at  
Perth Amboy Vaccination Clinic**  
*Teachers Union Distributes Educational Books to  
Vaccinated Individuals at Raritan Bay Area YMCA*

Press Release 8/12/21  
FORDS, N.J.: The American Federation of Teachers’ Back to School for All campaign rolled through Perth Amboy on Aug. 11, with American Federation of Teachers New Jersey (AFT-NJ) President Donna M. Chiera and Perth Amboy Federation President Pat Paradiso distributing educational books to individuals who received a COVID-19 vaccine that day at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA.

More than 30 people were vaccinated during the three-hour event, according to Rebecca Pauley, the Raritan Bay Area YMCA’s community health coordinator.

“It was great to be part of an event that promoted vaccinations and literacy,” Chiera said. “The partnership among the YMCA, Visiting Nurses and the Perth Amboy Federation is making a difference, one person at a time. As a retired Perth Amboy teacher, seeing children and



young adults asking if they can take more than one book made me appreciate the success of local educators in nurturing the love of reading and learning.”

Among the books chosen by visitors to the Raritan Bay Area YMCA were “Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You” by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi and “Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre” by Carole Boston Weatherford and

Floyd Cooper.

The AFT’s 60-project, 30-state Back to School for All initiative features vaccine clinics, book fairs and other efforts to engage families, students, educators and school staff in returning to full-time, in-person learning for the 2021-22 academic year.

For more information, contact AFTNJ communications coordinator Chris M. Junior: [cjunior@aftnj.org](mailto:cjunior@aftnj.org)

**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.

**Raritan Bay  
Cruisers  
Car Show**  
WOODBIDGE - Tuesdays May 11th thru Oct. 5th from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. at Pizza Hut, Rte. 9, Woodbridge (Wal-Mart Parking Lot). Weather permitting. Rock & Roll Music, Trophies, Kids Games - Just Family Fun! For more info, call 1-732-407-2396.

**Summer  
Concert Series  
2021**  
PERTH AMBOY – Enjoy the Summer Concert Series with free live music: Ryan Tomski, Thursday, July 22, 2021, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; The Voice, Friday, July 30, 2021, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Bayview Park, 250 Water St., Perth Amboy. For more information, call the Dept. of Recreation: 732-826-0290 ext. 4305.




GET VACCINATED  
AT THE YMCA!

The Raritan Bay Area  
YMCA will provide the  
Pfizer Vaccine, school  
supplies, prizes and  
FREE ice cream for  
residents age 12 and up!

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN AUGUST!  
3PM TO 6PM  
357 NEW BRUNSWICK AVENUE






¡VACÚNATE EN LA  
YMCA!

¡El Raritan Bay Area  
YMCA proporcionará la  
vacuna Pfizer, útiles  
escolares, premios y  
helado GRATIS para  
residentes de 12 años en  
adelante!

¡TODOS LOS MIÉRCOLES DE AGOSTO!  
3PM TO 6PM  
357 NEW BRUNSWICK AVENUE



**Annual Church  
Flea Market**

SAYREVILLE - The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville will be having their Annual Flea Market on September 18, 2021, from 8am-2pm. We are located at 172 Main Street, Sayreville, directly across from the Borough Hall. There will be multiple vendors in addition to the Church Table, which will be filled with treasures of every kind. We have books, clothes, household goods, toys, etc. The rain date will be September 25, 2021. If you would like more information, please contact the church at 732-257-6353 or email us at [churchoffice172@optimum.net](mailto:churchoffice172@optimum.net). Hope to see you there.

**Elks Host  
Food Drive**

SOUTH AMBOY – The South Amboy Elks are hosting a Food Drive for the month of September. Drop off days are Thursday & Fridays from 5 p.m. -8 p.m. and Saturdays from 2 p.m.-4p.m. In addition to food, the Pantries have requested personal hygiene products, Men’s and Women’s toiletries and paper products. All food items must be Non-Perishable! If you need assistance dropping off or need more information, please call 732-727-7170 Thank you in advance for your donations. ELKS CARE, ELKS SHARE!



# Continuing Zoom Meetings One of Many Topics Discussed

## 8/9/21 Caucus

*\*Continued from Page 1*

benefit developers and homeowners.

London stated, “It is to benefit the city’s residents. The developers have to set 20% of the units for affordable rentals. There are certain exemptions. There are also deed restrictions so that anyone who is accepted to buy an affordable unit cannot sell it for profit. The court will decide if on the time frame that unit can be resold. You (the council) will have to monitor to make sure that these units will go to another person who meets the income requirements.”

B.A. Michael Green said that Ordinance No. 6 (first reading) – Police Department. “References Public Safety Officers.”

Council President Bill Petrick discussed R-388-8/21- Authorizing an installment payment agreement with 199 Madison Avenue Laundromat due to a hardship.

He questioned, “Do we have Covid funds to help businesses and homeowners?”

B.A. Green responded, “Applications can be filled out for assistance.”

Councilman Joel Pabon had a question regarding R-391-8/21- A change order with Z Brothers Concrete Contractors increasing a contract for 2019 Capital Road Improvements in an amount not to exceed \$11,350.08.

Pabon wanted to know, “Why are the same streets being worked on again and again? Especially the streets by the schools. We need a schedule of streets to be worked on before the cold weather comes in.”

Petrick spoke up. “Elizabeth-town Gas seems to be digging up recently paved streets.”

Councilwoman Tejeda then added, “I thought they were supposed to do the streets by the schools earlier.”

City Engineer Ernest Feist spoke up via Zoom, “We have preconstruction meetings coming up to discuss the streets by the high school. In late May, we received money for street repairs. We had a short timeframe to work on this.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up, “There was work that was done by some of the crosswalks by the high school which looked to be unsafe.”

Feist responded stated that Middlesex County Engineers did some work that was questionable on specific crosswalks by the high school. “We wrote to them about this, and we are waiting for them to respond to us about the problem.”

Tashi Vazquez came to the podium to give a brief synopsis on R-396 thru R-403 all involving city agencies that will be receiving Community Block Grants. She explained some of the programs, “There is annual HUD (Housing Urban Development) money for Habitat for Humanity, and rental assistant programs, in-house and community-based organizations.”

Councilman Joel Pabon asked about the Jewish Renaissance Foundation request for funds

since they relocated out of the Proprietary House.

Vazquez explained, “They still have the Medical Center on Hobart Street in Perth Amboy. The Foundation part (that was located in the Proprietary House) relocated to Edison, but they still have some of their operations in Perth Amboy at the Dunlap Homes Administration Building and online. It is a requirement that they have to serve our residents.”

Council President Bill Petrick had a question regarding R-407-8/21 – accepting the bid and awarding a contract for OEM Video Wall installation to AVS Installation, LLC. in an amount not to exceed \$95,799.78.

He questioned, “Will they ever get this project done?”

IT Technician John Alleman answered, “We will just have to wait and see.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke regarding R-412-8/21- Extending the contract with CDM Smith for Professional Services Assistant with the NJDOT Route 35 (Convery Boulevard Bridge) over the Perth Amboy 440 Connector Project and Interference with the City 24-inch Force Main in an amount not to exceed \$17,100.

He wanted to know, “Are they finally going to start the work on the bridge?”

Luis Perez Jimenez - Director of Operations at the USA-PA ((Utility Service Associates Perth Amboy) Middlesex Water Company) came up to explain, “This is for the consulting engineers to check on the vibrations. We tried to get the DOT to pay for this, but we are the ones who had the bridge designed.”

Council President Bill Petrick had a question regarding R-413 which also involved a contract with CDM Smith to analyze the report of the Alaimo Group for Woodbridge regarding the appropriate responsibility for repair and rehabilitation of the Woodbridge Trunk Sewer Interceptor not to exceed \$5,000.

Petrick questioned, “Can we put our own line together with the money coming in to bypass Woodbridge and Carteret?”

Before Perez Jimenez could answer the question, Pabon said, “We need to have a parade when they start to work on that bridge.”

Perez responded to Petrick’s question about having our own line, “That would be nice and something to look into.”

Petrick then suggested, “We should have a parade after they finish their work on the Rte. 35 Bridge.”

Perez Jimenez then spoke about R-414-8/21 – A contract for the painting of the Runyan Water Treatment Plant backwash tank and the Albert Street Standpipe Project to US Tank Painting Inc. in the amount of \$1,071,000.

He stated, “This is for painting and repairs on the tank without taking it out of service. If it goes out of service, you will have to buy water from Middlesex Water company and that will cost us at least a half-million dollars depending on how long the tank

would be out of service.”

Petrick asked if we have a rust problem at Runyon.

Perez Jimenez answered, “We do flushing of the hydrants every year, and there are no rust problems at Runyon.”

Council President Bill Petrick questioned R-419 thru R-423 which dealt with consenting appointments to members of the Rent Leveling Board. He asked if a lot of people left that board.

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch responded, “That board had a lot of vacancies.”

There was a question as to why on R-424-8/21 – A contract to Margret Newman for professional services relating to the Historic Preservation not to exceed \$10,000. Currently for the anticipated total contract up to \$20,000.

A council member asked, “Why was this a non-fair and open contract?”

Substitute Law Director William Opel answered, “There were two submissions.”

Deputy Chief and OEM Coordinator Larry Cattano came up to answer questions regarding R-427-8/21 – Authorizing 19 police officer recruits to attend the Basic Course for Police Officers at the Cape May Police Academy in an amount not to exceed \$47,500.

Petrick asked, “Why Cape May?”

Cattano responded, “They are the only residential police academy. Union and Monmouth also have academies. Cape May has a relationship with Cape May County and they are universal and also have excursions with the senior citizens. There is more emersed training in Cape May County.”

Councilman Joel Pabon had a slight disagreement with Cattano’s assessment. “As someone who has been in the military.” Pabon pointed to Mike Green, “You know how strict the training is. If you are a good recruit, you will learn wherever you go. They should be sent to whichever academy is the closest.”

Councilman B.J. Torres spoke up and compared this to college students, “There are some commuting college students who do just as well or better than students who live on campus.”

Public Portion:

Resident Ken Balut spoke first. He asked if we ever received a check from Kushner for paving the part of Rector Street (where Kushner’s properties are on).

Substitute City Attorney William Opel answered, “There is one more step to go through. We should get the check next week.”

Balut continued, “Could we get a breakdown on what we will do with the federal money coming in?”

B.A. Mike Green responded, “\$8 million was received in May and we are evaluating how that should be used and the results of that will be published soon.”

Balut continued, “Renters are being helped, but what about the people have to pay mortgages? We need to reevaluate the

Kushner properties. We are fixing them up and making them better for Kushner. The house on Rector Street is disgusting, and it should have been taken care of years ago. Millions of taxpayer dollars are being lost.”

Council President Petrick spoke up, “Is there an open-ended date on Kushner’s properties? Can we put a for-sale sign on the properties? William Northgrave said they were waiting for a permit (to demolish the house on Rector Street).”

B.A. Green said, “The permits are ready to be picked up. Kushner owes us \$49,000 (for the Rector Street Property). We will follow up on this.”

The next person to come up was Resident Stanley Sierakowski. He questioned if Northgrave is representing Kushner right now.

Opel responded, “No.”

Sierakowski then asked about Ordinance No. 5 (first reading) – A transfer of a to be subdivided block 95 known as 590 Smith Street.

“As we know, we are one of many cities that have been involved in corruption. How many acres are involved in this ordinance?”

B.A. Green responded, “It’s 11,670 sqft. We had an independent appraiser which appraised the land at \$198,000 and the city will sell it for \$258,000.”

Sierakowski then asked, “What is the proposal of the developer on that land?”

Green responded, “For commercial use.”

Sierakowski said, “Rental is where it is at (the most profitable).” He then questioned, “What is the zoning?”

Green responded, “There are plans in place.”

Resident Lisa Nanton came up next and questioned the marijuana ordinance regarding the medical use.

Council President Petrick responded, “This will not disallow medical use.”

Nanton then questioned the donation of land from Duke Realty to the city. “As of now, there is no amphitheater in that park. I and some of the members of the HPC took a tour of that property. They also want to put wayside signs. What ex-

actly is going on this property? Now they have a sign stating: “Copperworks Amphitheater Park.” That sign needs to be redone. There is a lot of overgrass on Water Street and the streets have been littered with advertising cards and whomever is doing this should be fined.”

Petrick then spoke up, “Annie Hindenlang is one of the people working on the project for the amphitheater on the donated property from Duke Realty.”

Reinaldo Aviles came up next. He wanted to thank the council for having candidates for the Zoning Board of Adjustments interviewed in person. “You should have had the Rent Leveling Board Candidates also be interviewed. I am also in favor of having Zoom meetings continue because of the large number of people participating. I also sent you letters regarding issues related to the library, but I see it is not on the agenda. Could you give me the proper format to have this done? Regarding the cannabis situation, Carteret did opposite of what you did. We have the same regulatory landscape as Carteret. You need to revisit the cannabis issue. It will increase funds needed to the city. I hope that Councilman B.J. Torres can bring some sanity to this issue. Carteret discussed the marijuana issue very seriously and Carteret’s mayor was very much behind approving marijuana be sold in his town. I even talked about this where I live in East Brunswick.”

Councilman B.J. Torres spoke up and smiled in appreciation of the remarks of the compliment given to him by Aviles. Torres explained, “We (Perth Amboy) are turning our backs on the industry that can help us with our water/wastewater issues (to pay for the cost).”

Code Enforcement Director Irving Lozada spoke up via Zoom. He asked if Ms. Nanton had some of the addresses of where flyers were left on Water Street. “I will look into this.”

No one from the public spoke via Zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m. All council members were present.

## Friends of the Perth Amboy Library Book Sale Return!

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library are once again having a book sale on Saturday August 21<sup>st</sup>, September 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the Brighton Avenue Community Center at the corner of Brighton Avenue and Sadowski Parkway in Perth Amboy. I know many people have been starving for reading material for these long months we were at home. We will be wearing masks and providing hand sanitizer and bags if needed. We also insist that anyone coming to peruse our collection also wear a mask as mandated by the State of NJ. Paperbacks are \$.50, hardcovers are \$1, \$5 for a bag full, no limit to size of bag except no lawn or garbage bags. We have best sellers by popular authors that are like new. The money we raise goes to support the library with providing programs, promoting literacy or to provide funds to the library with their needs beyond their budget. We look forward to your visit.

For more information email us at [friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com), or call us at 201-381-1903 and like us on Facebook. Dealers are welcome. At this time, we are not accepting donations of books.



# Comcast Renewal, Marijuana Discussion & Amphitheater Among Topics Discussed 8/11/21 Council Meeting

*\*Continued from Page 2*

cians are very observant and will report any problems if it is our cables. We are not allowed to touch any equipment belonging to any other cable providers.” Smith also addressed Mrs. Nanton and said he would send someone out at her address to see the problems with excessive cable wires outside of her house.

Councilman B.J. Torres then asked if Comcast had any internship programs.

Smith replied, “We are not a production company and we do not have any internship programs.”

The meeting was then opened up to the public to speak on ordinances that have a public hearing.

The first person to speak regarding Ordinance No. 1 - Zoning and Landing Development to prohibit the operation of any class of cannabis business in the city.

Lisa Nanton came forward, “It would be cruel not to provide this for people with pain and suffering. No one speaks about the addictions to food and liquor. If you abuse them, you may develop pain and may need medical marijuana (to relieve that pain). Do you hear anyone ask for over the counter medications and give a reason for why they are needed? (They just buy it off the shelf.) To be an American, and to have freedom of choice. We need to plan properly to sell marijuana to reduce pain and suffering.”

The ordinance was opened up for people on Zoom to speak.

Resident from Eatontown, New Jersey Jeffrey King said that the last speaker spoke very eloquently. “I agree with everything she said, but it should be for adult use. The marijuana business is an asset. I use it when I need a better quality of speak and it also has helped people with M.S. and cancer. I appreciate your compassion for medical use of marijuana. Many veteran organizations and other organizations endorse marijuana. Our voting rights matter. Cannabis is healthy and safer than alcohol. It is a positive thing for the community, and it will help people of color. I’m asking that you table this and work more on the zoning of the ordinance.”

The next speaker was Mr. Giordano who is a representative from the UFC (United Food and Commercial Workers). “We approve of the ordinance as is, especially for adults and medical use. It is an opportunity for young people to have jobs in the cannabis industry. There are good labor laws in place with good trade and labor jobs available. It is a long-term economic opportunity. We are working with the AFLCIO. There are a lot of aspects involved in the cannabis business including applications, renewal fees, and licenses to protect working class people. There are environmental standards in place and local ownership. A lot of retired police officers work as security guards for some of the canna-

bis businesses. Look at the way Bayonne, Montclair, and Highland Park (have embraced marijuana).”

Council President Petrick said, “We are in favor of all of our pharmacies to carry marijuana products.”

Giordano responded, “State laws say you must choose what type of licenses you want. Right now, it is not set up for pharmacies to dispense all marijuana products, but I am not opposed to it.”

Public Comments on agenda items only.

Resident Ken Balut came up. He asked about R-389-8/21 – Appointing Fund Commissioner and an Alternate Fund Commissioner for the Public Entity Joint Insurance Fund.

“Who will be the Commissioners?”

Patrick responded, “It will be our Business Administrator Michael Green, and the Alternate will be Maria Rivera from the Purchasing Department.”

Ordinance No. 1 – Zoning and Land Development for Cannabis. Was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 2 – Parking Spaces for Handicapped regarding additions was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 3 – entitled Arts Council regarding meetings was moved by Tejeda and seconded by Pabon. Ordinance No. 1 (first reading) entitled Storm Water Management was moved by Tejeda and seconded by Torres. Ordinance No. 2 (first reading) – entitled Handicapped Parking Additions was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejeda. Ordinance No. 3 (first reading) – Donated property from Duke Realty. Was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejeda.

Council President Bill Petrick made a comment about Ordinance No. 3 (Donated Property). “We need a change in the language. I don’t anything resembling an amphitheater on that land.”

Ordinance No. 4 (first reading) – General Development Plan Administration was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 5 (first reading) – Transfer of land known as 590 Smith Street. Was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejeda. Councilman B.J. Torres abstained because he did not have enough information to vote on it.

Ordinance No. 6 (first reading) – Police Department – moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejeda.

The consent agenda was voted upon next. Councilman B.J. Torres asked if R-403 – (A Contract with the Jewish Renaissance Foundation for an Alternative Education Entity in the amount of \$15,616.00 under a CDBG Grant from the Department of HUD) be voted on separately.

R-386 thru R-402 and R-404 thru R-428 was moved by Pabon and seconded by Tejeda. R-403 was moved by Pabon; seconded by Tejeda. All voted “Yes” except B.J. Torres who abstained.

Public Portion:

Resident Ken Balut spoke first. “Has anyone seen the report from the Government Strategy Group?”

The whole council responded, “No.”

Business Administrator Michael Green said, “I have not seen the final report – only a draft of it. As soon as Government Strategy gives the final results, you all will be given a copy.”

Balut spoke again, “You have to vet consultants. I filed ethnic violations against former Mayor Joe Vas. Government officials subpoenaed all my records that I gathered. Two police officers are suing the city. They were suspended with pay even though there were no charges filed against them. Years ago, we had a law director (Capece) who the city sued for over \$500,000 for not doing his job. We won that lawsuit.”

Resident Vince Mackiel came up next. He asked for a list of community agencies who have received federal grant money to help residents with relief such as to pay their rent. Notices should have been sent out (to make people aware of this money). We also need demographic information on this. I see they are taking baby steps on the Market Street Bridge. New Jersey Transit designated someone to look at the bridges. New Jersey Transit is not taking care of their own infrastructures such as the sidewalk. I appreciate the councilman who talked about our other bridges in disrepair.”

Resident Lisa Nanton came up next. “I talked to a representative from Duke Realty, and they told me that the amphitheater could not be built because it was too expensive. Did they tell PARA this? You should remove the word amphitheater from the ordinance.”

Council President Petrick then questioned, “Are we agreeing in this ordinance to accept what we thought we were getting but we are not getting? We need an official design.”

B.A. Green replied, “Everyone seems to have a different connotation (what the amphitheater should look like). We have to see what was in the original design.”

Petrick continued, “They were adamant (Duke Realty) about dollar figures. They told us about that when we had a discussion. It has to do with if there was enough money and dollar figures.”

Councilwoman Rose Morales said, “It is just a matter of what is in it in black and white.”

Petrick then remarked, “Before accept this project, we need to do check and balances to make sure we get what we agreed upon.”

Pabon then added, “It’s been sitting like that for a couple of months.”

Nanton then asked, “This was the first time this was presented.”

Green then spoke up, “The key to all of this is what was in the artist’s rendering that was presented to the council.”

Petrick said, “It is different

from what we thought.”

Nanton said, “What is there right now is useless.”

Resident Alan Silber then jumped up, came to the podium, and said, “The speaker’s time is up, and you wouldn’t let the last speaker go over their allotted time. The first speaker asked one of the councilmen why they abstained on one of the resolutions. “You would not give an extra second for that speaker to wait for an answer. I believe in transparency and if someone abstains, they should give a reason why. Why did Councilman Torres abstain on R-403? He should have given an explanation. In December, the Code Enforcement Director said they were on top of the situation of the property at 395 Rector Street which had a lot of violations. Did the property owner pay fines?”

Green responded, “The permits are ready for the owner to pick up.”

Councilman Pabon spoke up. “I was driving by, and I saw the city shut down services at that property.”

Green said, “I will see if the owner of that building picked up the permits (to demolish that structure).”

Silber concluded, “I wish the mayor would come to the meeting to give an update on the Rector Street property.”

Councilman B.J. Torres then responded to Silber as to why he abstained on R-403, “It is because the Jewish Renaissance said they moved out of town to Edison. I am not sure they are serving the citizens of Perth Amboy. No one spoke on their (JRF) behalf. I don’t know if they are benefiting our residents and I couldn’t vote on that because of that reason.”

No one spoke via Zoom.

Council Comments:

Councilwoman Rose Morales was glad meetings will continue to be broadcast via Zoom. “A lot of people can be involved. There are a lot of positive things happening in the city such as movie nights, vaccinations, National Night Out. I would like to congratulate all involved for a job well done for National Night Out. Concerts by the Bay were great. I want to congratulate Acting Chief Cattano and the Acting DPW Director and to our two retired police officers who were recognized today (Officers Henry Rogers and Richard Zaleski).

Councilman Joel Pabon said, “I would like to see a number of people who received rent assistance. “If rents are not paid, the owners of those building cannot pay their mortgages. I’m glad there is work starting on the Second Street Park. There is also a park adjacent to it and I’m hoping they are starting repairs on that adjacent park before school starts in September. Can we get a report on the appraisal on all the old city buildings on High Street?” He also asked, “Are we still paying the company (The Strategy Group) even though their contract expired?”

Green responded, “No, we are not paying them.”

Pabon then asked if Kenny Ortiz can give an update on the proposed amphitheater.

Ortiz came forward and said, “There were several design models. I can look at the agreement and emails between former Law Director Frederick Carr and City Engineer Jeffery Rauch.”

Council President Bill Petrick said, “There is no seating in what is supposed to be an amphitheater. And what about the lab building and the facilities they were supposed to have inside that building? The renderings are different from what we accepted.”

Ortiz responded, “I can look at the conceptional plans. I know there was a change by the previous administration.”

Pabon then asked, “Were there any monies given to the city?”

Ortiz replied, “I know the city was offered \$900,000 to refurbish a building, but they turned it down.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda spoke next. “I take all the comments made by the public very seriously, but changes take time. Congratulations to Chief Cattano and the new DPW Director. I have missed some very good events because of work obligations.”

Councilman B.J. Torres said, “We are going in the right direction regarding cannabis, but not far enough. We didn’t take federal money which would pay for some of the cost to repair our sewers. We will be forced to raise taxes. We’ve heard from other cities and labor unions who have talked about the benefits from marijuana sales. I hope we can open up for adult use. Please get vaccinated.”

Council President Petrick thanked all who came here in person and all those who participated via Zoom. He then asked the lawyer, “When can we expect to get the payment from Kushner for paving the part of Rector Street that his property is on?”

Substitute Law Director William Opel replied, “I can’t speculate when the payment will come to the city.”

Petrick went on, “How many summonses have been issued on 395 Rector Street? Kushner has been getting away with this for 12 years and with prior administrations. Can we advertise Kushner properties for sale? We need an assessment on them. There was supposed to be improvements for the city clerk’s office. There were photos of fire chiefs that were in the hallways who were elected officials. Where are they? An Archbishop was here tonight at St. Demetrios Church. There were several orthodox priests in attendance who recognized St. Demetrios Church and Greek community’s contributions the city.” Petrick then encouraged the public to report any audio problems with Comcast to the city clerk or the Business Administrator’s office. They can forward those complaints to us.”

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m. All council members were present in person.



DVD Review: Batman : Long Halloween Parts I & II

By: Anton Massopust III

DC does great animated movies with their superheroes. They've done a lot with the Caped Crusader (Batman) over the past couple of years and a few of their graphic novels have made new comics more grown up. During the first part of Batman: Long Halloween, Batman is a young hero who is trying to learn how to become a detective. Two mob families are at war that blame each other when a mysterious killer who kills only on holidays. The killer uses an untraceable gun. Captain Gordon, D.A. Harvey Dent and Batman are trying to bring down this Godfather's who calls himself: "The Roman".

With most of Gotham's rogue's gallery locked up in Arkham Asylum. Batman and Gordon seek the help of "Calendar Man" who is obsessed with the days of the week and holidays. No one is sure who "Holiday" is. Gangsters start blaming each other and killing each other. Batman, Captain Gordon and Harvey Dent have no clue who this person is. Catwoman helps Batman as much as she can.

Bruce Wayne is trying to figure out his connections between his father and this gangster "The Roman". All through the holiday season, Arkham's inmates escape. The Joker is determined to find out who Holiday is, even



by killing people on Christmas and hundreds on New Year's Eve.

By the end of Part I Batman defeats the Joker and thinks he figured out who Holiday is, but he is dead wrong. In Part II, Bruce Wayne becomes possessed by Poison Ivy and Catwoman helps break the spell. Meanwhile the holiday killer is covering his tracks. When Bruce Wayne breaks loose of Poison Ivy's grasp, he figures out that the connection between Holiday and the gangsters. One of the gangster's father is killed and he goes to Harvey Dent trying to convince him that he knows all the information, but in court he throws acid in Harvey's face transforming him into Two-Face. In this new villain persona, Two-Face believes that justice is only determined

by a flip of a coin. Who is Holiday? I'll never tell. Go watch it for yourself and don't forget to read the graphic novel.

I wouldn't let you go without telling you about the extras. In Part I, we get to see two Batman classics: "Christmas with the Joker" and "It's Never Too Late" from Batman the Animated Series in the 1990's. On disc 2, we also get part one and part two of Two-Faces origin from Batman the Animated Series starring Night Court's Richard Moll as Harvey Dent/Two-Face. There are also two DC Showcases: one on Disc 1. The other on Disc 2. Disc 1 has "The Losers," a military unit that battles Nazis and Dinosaurs. Disc 2 is Blue Beetle and The Question. Add it to your growing DVD collection.

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FED UP! Is Going LOCAL!  
International Overdose Awareness Day

SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy Municipal Alliance is hosting an International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31<sup>st</sup> that is calling for an end to our nation's epidemic of addiction and overdose deaths attributed to opioids (including heroin) and other prescription drugs.

Tuesday, August 31, 2021, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at South Amboy Middle High School, 200 Governor Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy.

Speakers – Resource Tables – Memoria Vigil

If you have lost a loved one to substance use, feel free to bring a photo to display.

Hosted by the South Amboy Municipal Alliance. Contact Information: Kim Seber – 908-565-4415.

Rite Aid Announces Availability  
of Flu Vaccines at All Locations

Press Release 8/12/21

Beginning Aug. 12, Customers Can Walk in or Schedule Vaccine Appointments Online

CAMP HILL, Pa.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Rite Aid (NYSE: RAD) announced the availability of flu vaccines at all stores beginning today. Additionally, by expanding its COVID-19 online scheduling tool to include flu and ancillary vaccinations, Rite Aid now offers online scheduling in addition to walk-in availability for flu shots. Following CDC warnings that influenza infection rates could return to pre-pandemic levels this flu season, Rite Aid is making it as simple and convenient as possible to get the whole family vaccinated.

This year, Rite Aid's flu vaccinations include:

- Quadrivalent flu vaccine, which provides protection against four strains of the flu: the influenza A H3N2 virus, the influenza A H1N1 virus and two strains of influenza B virus
- FLUAD, a quadrivalent vaccine with adjuvant, an ingredient that helps create a stronger immune response to vaccination, approved for people 65 and older
- Fluzone HD, a high-dose quadrivalent vaccine indicated for patients 65 and older

"With an in-person school year upon us and some people going back to the office, the last thing anyone wants is to have their lives derailed by flu," said Jocelyn Konrad, executive vice president and chief pharmacy officer, Rite Aid. "We're always looking for ways to make it easier for our customers to take care of their family's health, and extending online scheduling to flu, shingles and the full slate of vaccines is one great exam-

ple of Rite Aid doing just that. Whether they choose to walk in or schedule their vaccine in advance, we aim to make it simple and convenient for our customers to get their flu shots and other vaccines to achieve whole health for life."

How online scheduling works:

- Customers may visit <https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/schedule> to select a convenient time and location to schedule a vaccine appointment for flu, COVID-19 and other recommended vaccinations.
- Customers supply necessary information and consent forms securely online in advance of their appointment.
- Reminders will be sent in the days leading up to the appointment via customers' chosen communication preferences of text or email.

As part of the company's Rx-Evolution strategy, Rite Aid has continued to update its digital presence to provide a seamless experience for customers. This includes the use of scheduling tools, as well as options for on-demand delivery of prescription medications and healthcare essentials.

About Rite Aid Corporation

As the trusted, everyday care connector, Rite Aid drives lower health care costs through better coordination, stronger engagement, and personalized services that help you achieve whole health for life. We provide an array of whole being health products and services for the entire family through over 2,500 retail pharmacy locations across 17 states. Through Elixir, we provide pharmacy benefits and services to millions of members nationwide. For more information, [www.riteaid.com](http://www.riteaid.com).

P.J. Sears USA Powerlifting Champion, 8/8/21



PERTH AMBOY, NJ/DERBY, CT – P.J. Sears brought home the Gold Medal from the USA Powerlifting Dennis Gleason Memorial Meet in Derby Connecticut. Competition date was on August 8, 2021. Congratulations!

*\*Submitted by Richard Zaleski*



Thomas Hennigan in Bodybuilding Competition, 8/7/21

EDISON, NJ/KNOXVILLE, TN - Former Edison resident Thomas Hennigan placed in a bodybuilding competition held in Knoxville Tennessee on August 7, 2021 and used the band Mikell's plot's song Monster on My Wall during his performance. Congratulations!

*\*Submitted by Michael O'Connor*





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.

August 16, 1946, is designated “Direct Action Day” in India by Ali Jinnah, leader of the All-India Muslim League, to demonstrate Muslim power in the country. A general strike by Muslims takes place as a protest calling for a separate state of “Pakistan” (“land of the pure,” in Urdu) for Indian Muslims rather than for them to remain as citizens in a Hindu-majority India upon independence from Great Britain. Riots between Muslims and Hindus break out in Calcutta in which 3,000 people are killed over the next four days. Sectarian rioting and mass killings also take place elsewhere in northern and eastern India. The communal fighting lasts for months, resulting in over 10,000 dead and 100,000 left homeless.

At the port of Haifa, British Mandatory Palestine, on August 17, a disturbance begins among 1,450 Jews gathered for deportation; one person is killed, and several are injured. In the United Kingdom, George Orwell’s *Animal Farm* is published. Orwell himself describes the novella as a satirical tale against Stalin. First Sgt. Lawrence Lambert of the U.S. Army Air Forces becomes the first American to test an airplane ejection seat, exiting a British Gloster Meteor Mark III jet fighter.

British troops, on August 18, use tear gas and fire hoses to force over 600 Jewish refugees onto a ship at Haifa for deportation to Cyprus. However, shortly after departure, two bombs explode in the vessel’s hold, forcing the ship to return to port. In London, the British report that captured German records show that Palestinian Arab leader Haj Amin al-Husseini assisted the Nazi leadership for three years against British plans in the Middle East. Just after 2 p.m. in Pola, in northeastern Italy, 12 large pieces of ordnance — containing 9 tons of explosives — suddenly explode on a bathing beach. The blast kills 70 people and injures up to 100 who were attending an annual swimming event. The munitions had been swept from the water and piled up on the beach awaiting disposal.

On August 19, for the second time in 10 days, a U.S. C-47 transport plane is shot down over Slovenia. Yugoslavia claims that the plane repeatedly violated Yugoslav airspace. The airplane is a total loss and five people are killed. The U.S. reacts with outrage and demands access to its plane that had been forced down 10 days earlier, the return of its passengers and crew, and a full investigation of the circumstances.

The United Nations on August 20 completes its move from temporary quarters at Hunter College in the Bronx, New York, to a building in Lake Success, New York, on Long Island.

At Marburg, in the American Occupation Zone of Germany, the U.S. Army on August 21 reinters the bodies of Frederick the Great, who ruled Prussia from 1740 to 1786, and of his father, Frederick William I of Prussia, who ruled from 1713 to 1740. (In 1943, Hitler had ordered the bodies to be disinterred and moved to a salt mine to protect them from damage.)

After receiving an ultimatum from the U.S. on August 22 demanding action within 48 hours “or else,” Yugoslavia frees seven Americans and three Hungarians who were aboard the U.S. transport plane forced down on 9 August. A Turkish officer who had also been aboard the plane remains hospitalized from wounds he sustained during the attack. The incidents cause the U.S. to realize that its framework for international relations, heretofore focused on the Soviet Union, will have to be modified to also accommodate countries — such as Yugoslavia — that are not squarely within the sphere of either the U.S. or the U.S.S.R. In Budapest, Döme Sztójay, Hungarian prime minister during the German occupation, is executed by a firing squad after being convicted of treason and crimes against humanity.

Producer-director Howard Hawks’s *film noir*, *The Big Sleep*, premieres in the United States on August 23. The movie’s convoluted plot is made even less comprehensible due to post-production re-shooting, story cuts, and editing by Warner Bros. to emphasize the chemistry between hot-item stars Bogie (Humphrey Bogart) and (Lauren) Bacall rather than the clarity of the story. The picture makes money anyway.

The lower house of the Japanese Diet on August 24 approves a new constitution that includes a prohibition against making war. (The upper house will approve the document later in the year.) Philippines communist leader Juan Feleo disappears and is presumed murdered, triggering an eight-year-long insurgency — known as the Huk Rebellion — by former soldiers of the People’s Army Against the Japanese. In Hollywood, 20-year-old actress Norma Jeanne Baker signs a contract with 20th Century-Fox. For the first time, she uses her new stage name, which she has borrowed from parts of the names of actress Marilyn Miller and her mother, Gladys Monroe Baker. And, voila! Marilyn Monroe is born.

In Italy, the recovered remains of dictator Benito Mussolini are secretly moved on August 25 from police headquarters in Milan to the cemetery of a Capuchin monastery in Cerro Maggiore, a suburb about 12 miles to the northwest. (Admirers of Il Duce had stolen his body from its previous gravesite.) In Germany, the body of Paul von Hindenburg, former president of Germany who died in 1934, is re-buried in Marburg, in the American Occupation Zone. Hitler, in 1944, had had the body disinterred from the Tannenberg Memorial in Poland and hidden in a salt mine to prevent its desecration by the approaching Soviets. (The Memorial was a monument to victorious German soldiers at the Battle of Tannenberg [near what is now Olsztyn, Poland] in 1914. The body of Hindenberg — the German commander at the battle — was entombed in the Memorial in 1934.)

The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party on August 26 issues the resolution “On the Repertoire of Dramatic Theatres and Measures for Improving It.” It is an attack on Soviet theatre as part of the government’s ongoing official assault on the arts.

France signs a treaty with Laos on August 27, establishing a protectorate and recognizing Sisavang Vong as monarch with limited autonomy. Owners of American and National League major-league baseball teams meet in secret and vote 15-1 to retain the unwritten ban on African American players. The argument is that integrating the majors would hurt the Negro Leagues. The one nay-sayer: Branch Rickey, president, general manager and co-owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

In Asmara, the capital of Eritrea, in the Horn of Africa, soldiers of the Sudanese Defense Force get into an argument and then an all-out brawl with a group of Eritrean civilians on August 28. (The Sudanese have been part of the British occupying force since the Italians were driven out of Eritrea in 1941.) One Sudanese soldier dies of injuries. When word gets back to their barracks, 70 armed Sudanese arrive on the scene and engage in a two-hour-long shooting spree that kills 46 unarmed Eritrean civilians and wounds 70 more. Three Sudanese soldiers are killed in related violence, and 13 are injured. The incident does much to incite anti-British fervor in the country and increase tensions between the Muslim Sudanese and mostly Christian Eritreans.

Chinese Nationalist forces on August 29 capture Chengde, in Hebei Province northeast of Peking, China. Meanwhile, Communists take Tatung, 325 miles to the southwest, in Shanxi Province, after a siege of 25 days. In the Netherlands, Jacob Eduard Feenstra, a lieutenant-colonel in the Wehrmacht-controlled Dutch military police (*Marechaussee*), is executed for collaboration with the Nazis and for torturing captured Dutch resistance fighters.

Our Special 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Remembrance of 9-11-01 Issue is Coming Up on September 1, 2021  
Call: Carolyn 732-896-4446 or Katherine 732-261-2610  
For Our Special Advertising Rates - Deadline: August 27, 2021

Woodbridge Public Library Events

For August we are introducing hybrid programming! Some of our programs this month will be in-person outside at the Woodbridge Main Library in our courtyard located under the overhang near the parking lot by the side of the building. We will also continue to stream the programs live over Zoom. In the event of extreme weather the program will revert to completely virtual at the advertised time.

August 27 | 3PM  
Mystery/Thriller Book Club

Join us virtually for a discussion of *The Shape of the Night* by Tess Gerritsen. Registration Required - <https://bit.ly/3AWjRH0>

Annual Summer Reading Club!

Our annual summer reading club begins June 21 and runs through August 13. Participants are welcomed to read any book they like. Submit a brief review of the book and be entered to win a weekly prize. All participants of the club will also be entered into a grand prize drawing! You are welcomed to sign up in person at one of our locations or online at [tinyurl.com/WPLAdults21](http://tinyurl.com/WPLAdults21).

Dowdell Library

Fall @ Dowdell

Press Release

SOUTH AMBOY - The Dowdell Library would like to thank everyone who participated in the many summer events! Everyone had so much fun creating, exploring, laughing, and of course, reading! In between all the excitement, the library has been busy planning the September calendar, and think you are going to love the events coming up!

September is National Library Card Sign-up month! Have you lost or misplaced your card? No worries! You can swing by the library all month and have it replaced for FREE! Your account needs to be in good standing with no overdue or missing books and no outstanding fines. You will also need proof of South Amboy residency: a valid driver's license or utility bill. Never got a card, just stop in anytime!

This September marks the 20th anniversary of the September 11 attacks on the nation. The Dowdell Library is honored to receive and display the poster exhibition "September 11, 2001: The Day That Changed The World." The poster exhibition is curated by the 9/11 Memorial & Museum, and it includes a series of 14 posters. The display depicts the events of September 11, 2001, the immediate aftermath of the attacks and the nine-month recovery period, and the ongoing repercussions of 9/11 to this day. Archival imagery, artifact photography, and individual stories accompany the explanatory text to give visitors a deeper understanding of a critical moment in modern American history. This poster exhibition has been made possible in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Dowdell Library is also hosting a special event to commemorate the 20th anniversary of 9/11. Are you, or do you know, a First Responder involved with the 9/11 attacks who would be willing to share their story during the live event? If so, please get in touch with the library at 732-721-6060 or email us at [comments@dowdell.org](mailto:comments@dowdell.org). From September 7-10, patrons may bring their children in to make a first responders' badge craft.

The library will celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month in September. This year we are showcasing Hispanic and Latino culture and art. Stop in anytime during the month to create a paper flower craft and help us decorate the Frida Kahlo mural in the library. On Monday, 9/27, at 6:30 pm, join us in celebrating Hispanic music, arts, and culture during our open house event. Mrs. Marcia Mercado will be presenting a bilingual storytime with music and a craft. There will be music, Paletas- Mexican popsicles, dominoes and you can enter to win the door prize!

The library will be closed on September 6 in observation of Labor Day. Information about all the monthly programs is posted on our website [Dowdell.org](http://Dowdell.org) and shared on our social media pages. Sign up for our monthly newsletter on our website and have all the program information sent directly to your email! Expanded Fall Hours: Monday 10 am - 8 pm, Tuesday & Thursday 12 pm - 8 pm, Wednesday & Friday 10 am - 5 pm, and Saturday 12-4 pm.

Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit [www.dowdell.org](http://www.dowdell.org), or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or [comments@dowdell.org](mailto:comments@dowdell.org). The library is located off John O’Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School.

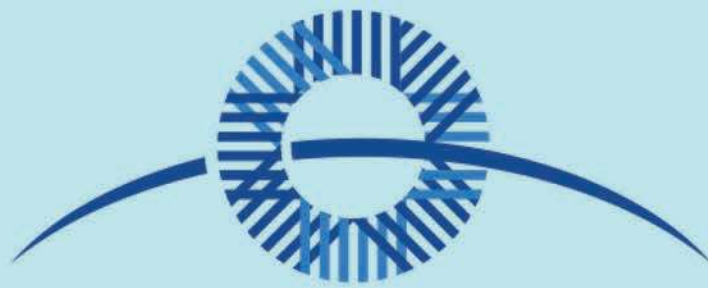


Don't Get Scammed Workshop

PERTH AMBOY - In light of the unemployment scams that have occurred recently, the City of Perth Amboy is hosting a Don’t Get Scammed Workshop presented by the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs on Thursday, August 26, at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library, 196 Jefferson St.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with snacks and refreshments, followed by the workshop at 6 p.m. A representative from the Division of Consumer Affairs will give a presentation in both English and Spanish. Seats are limited! If you’re interested in attending, please RSVP by calling the Perth Amboy Library at 732-826-2600.





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Electric Husky Power Washer 1750psi - Good Condition \$75 - 732-277-4635	Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Free Firewood. Must pick up and cart away. 732-826-8024
Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975	Safe Combination 21" High 13 1/2" wide on wheels \$75 732-634-1851	Girl's Bicycle 24" Panasonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or B.O. 908-501-3993
Dyson Vacuum Cleaner Mint Condition \$45 - 732-290-1551	Three Window AC's 5000BTU, 5000BTU, 8000BTU; \$50; \$75; \$50 732-636-3345	Sissy Bar and Pad for Harley Sportster - Great Condition \$65 - 908-590-8885
GPS Tom Tom - 3 pcs Stereo System - Dog Bed \$65 ea. 732-293-0151	Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5 <sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-6305	Power Lift \$75. Wing Chairs, Sofa, End Tables, Lamps, Microwave \$10-\$50 - 908-803-9623
Older New Toy Trucks Sunoco, Exxon, Mobil Hess \$20 Each or B.O. - 732-316-5092	Portable Sears Sewing Machine - Used Twice \$25; Epson Printer with new ink (never used) - \$40 - 732-679-0086	Children's Sports Lamp w/shade. Really cute, BB, FB, Etc. Large \$20 - 917-670-4908
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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"

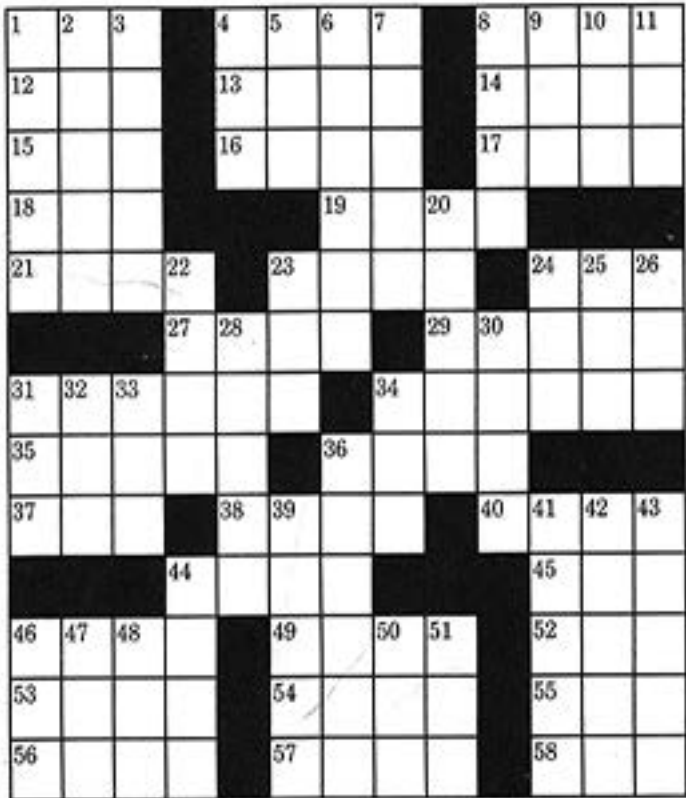
21. Furry sea mammal
23. Serving receptacle
24. Mr. King Cole
27. Very enthusiastic
29. Newport, \_\_\_\_\_ Island
31. TV dog
34. Got misty-eyed
35. Revises (copy)
36. Typical freshman
37. Uppermost point
38. Remove wrinkles from
40. Be aware of
44. Bit of gossip
45. Rhyming heavy-weight champ

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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Open House at Recovery Centers of America at Raritan Bay, 901 Ernston Road, South Amboy 7/29/21

\*Photos by Katherine Massopust



Chief Executive Officer  
David Dorschu



Medical Director  
Dr. Andrew Youssouf



Clinical Director  
Sharon Cartwright



Outpatient Program  
Caitlyn Higgins



Brothers Dylan (L) and Justin  
(R) Gasser



By: Carolyn Maxwell and Katherine Massopust

SOUTH AMBOY – Chief Executive Officer David Dorschu started his tenure at RCA in 2016 as CEO of Lighthouse located in Mays Landing, New Jersey which has 133 beds. He has experience in substance abuse treatment which saw him serve in several positions as director and management. He said that the facility in Sayreville opened up in December 2019. This was the first open house that they had after the Covid pandemic. Employees are a Gold Standard Leadership Team. “They are phenomenal people and dedicated. I am the longest tenured employee.” He stated. “Five years ago, this was an outpatient facility. We were addressing the opioid abuse. This facility has 138 beds. I am fortunate to have met Brian O’Neil who has been doing intervention for 40 years. O’Neil’s mission was to help 1 million people to fully recover from addiction. I see faces of children who suffer because of parents on drugs or the parent’s faces who see their children O.D.”

He then introduced Dr. Andrew Youssouf, the Medical Director and Sharon Cartwright, the Clinical Director and a former Juvenile Correction Officer. She spoke about a female trauma program, young adult male program, older adult program, and evolution program. “It is okay to ask for help.” She explained that the facility offers self-help groups, and that safe space. “We don’t see numbers. We see people.”

The next person to speak was Caitlyn Higgins. She spoke about the Outpatient Program and the APP called “Shoutout” where people can interact with others from programs that they are involved in and other programs as well. “You are a part of a recovery community. It connects you with RCA’s licensed therapists. You could also be in contact with your peers and alumni association.”

The next people to speak were brothers Justin and Dylan Gasser who were both former patients. Justin is a case manager. His brother Dylan is Director of Admissions. They told the story of how they became involved in RCA after going through treatment together and it was Justin who became an employee first. Dylan had been collecting the disability and he said he wasn’t really looking for employment and his family are the ones who encouraged him to get a job. Dylan started out at the Lighthouse Facility and started doing small maintenance jobs and worked his way up to become Director of Admissions. They both were involved in the alumni association.

Chief Executive Officer David Dorschu came back up to speak. “We have one thing to say to our first responders and service personnel. Thank you for serving and for your sacrifice to the community and your country.”

First Responders were present for the open house. There is a special program at RCA specifically directed to First Responders and their needs.

The Amboy Guardian suggests you look at their website [recoverycentersofamerica.com](http://recoverycentersofamerica.com) which will give you a much better insight to all the programs they offer to families and individuals or call 855-769-0596.

Officials Cut Ribbon to Open New Rescue Program Specifically Designed for First Responders at Recovery Centers of America at Raritan Bay

Press Release

SOUTH AMBOY - Local leaders, first responders, and executives from Recovery Centers of America in South Amboy, NJ, cut ribbon to celebrate grand opening of new RESCU Program at Recovery Centers of America at Raritan Bay. The new RESCU Program will help first responders, correctional officers, and military service members, both active and retired, overcome addiction to drugs and alcohol.

First responders can now find help in a specialized therapy curriculum, counselors, and residential beds within a completely separate unit at RCA at Raritan Bay.

Representing Recovery Centers of America at the ribbon cutting will be David Dorschu, CEO, Sharon Cartwright, Clinical Director, Stephanie Davis, Regional Manager, and Dr. Andrew Youssouf.

The organization partnered with first responders from Middlesex, Atlantic, and other New Jersey counties to ensure the RESCU Program properly addresses the needs of the state's first responders and military ser-

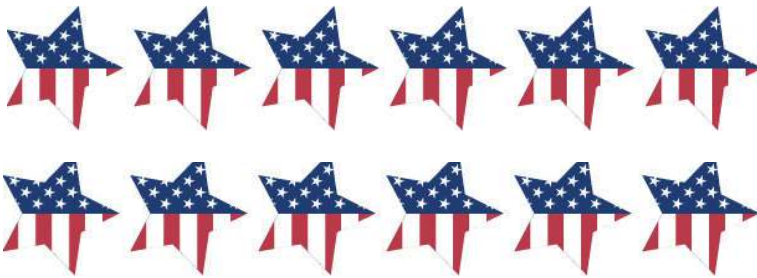
vice members.

Patients admitted to RESCU will be part of an intimate RCA community of fellow military service personnel and first responders who are experiencing similar challenges due to the nature of their work. Treatment includes private group therapy sessions, peer support groups, specific programming for first responder families, and individualized treatment led by a specially trained clinical team. The RESCU unit which RCA refers to as a "neighborhood," includes a separate lounge, separate group rooms, separate bedrooms, meals, as well as a clinical schedule that maintains physical separation from non-first responder patients.

“This is a giant step forward in the treatment of our first responder, law enforcement, and military service community in the state,” said Dorschu. “The RESCU Advisory Board's support for the program is essential and will include supporting critically needed infrastructure such as the implementation of Cop2Cop, a 24-Hour Hotline available to law enforcement and their families. Plans are

also in development for mobile crisis teams and first responder-specific intervention services for the entire state.”

RCA will also offer first responder-specific AA and NA meetings and special targeted family programming for RESCU patients and families called "Badges to Recovery." About Recovery Centers of America Recovery Centers of America (1-800-Recovery) is based in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania and provides evidence-based addiction care at 10 inpatient centers, eight outpatient facilities, and five opioid treatment programs spanning Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Illinois, and Indiana. RCA at Raritan Bay is located at 901 Ernston Road, South Amboy, NJ08879. RCA substance use disorder treatment facilities were recently named as 2020 best U.S. treatment facilities that focus on addiction by a leading national statistics firm and media outlet. RCA has also pioneered a successful comprehensive telehealth addiction treatment program to expand services to patients.



Join the  
Cub Scouts!

FORDS – Pack 53 wants you to join the cub scouts! For boys K thru 5. Our 70th year. Sign up now! Be ready to start up in September! Our 2021-2 Plans are done and ready for the Scouts to have lots of fun! These pictures are our scouts and some of the numerous activities they participated in last year. Fishing, hiking, BB guns, archery, service time (planting, Scouting for Food, Cleanups, and toy collections), parades, Pinewood Derby, Raingutter Regatta and much, much more. We are Pack 53 Fords Clara Barton, but scouts are from all over. We are Sponsored by Fords Fire Department, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and Fords Middle School. See our website: [pack53fordsnj.shutterfly.com](http://pack53fordsnj.shutterfly.com) for more information! Send me your email to [pack53cs@gmail.com](mailto:pack53cs@gmail.com) for more information.

Christmas In  
August  
Ham Dinner

SOUTH AMBOY – The South Amboy Elks are hosting “Christmas in August Ham Dinner” on Thursday August 26<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Dinner includes Roasted Ham, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Beans and Dessert. Adult tickets are \$15.00 in advance (by 8/20) or \$18.00 at the door. Kids 6-10 \$6.00, 5yrs. and under are free for the Ham Dinner only .Kids option 2; 3 pc chicken tender with fries is \$6.00 All children will receive a gift from Santa, bring your camera for photos. This event benefits our Peer Leadership Program. Bring a hygiene or paper product for a door prize ticket. We are located at 601 Washington Ave. For more information call 732-727-7170. Thank you in advance for your Support! Elks Care, Elks Share!



### 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!*

### Friends of the Library Meeting

PERTH AMBOY – The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library are having a meeting at the Kearny Cottage, 63 Catalpa Ave., Perth Amboy at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2021. All are welcome to attend.

### You're Invited to Sunday Worship

PERTH AMBOY - Please join us on Sunday mornings: 9:00 AM for English Worship and Sunday School; 10:30 AM for Hungarian Worship and Sunday School  
Rev. András Szász – Pastor; Organ Prelude - Richard Russell, Organist. We Extend an Open Invitation to All!  
Magyar Reformed Church, 331 Kirkland Place, Perth Amboy, NJ - 732-442-7799; www.mrchurchnj.org  
Parking behind the church on the Wilson Street side.

### JEMMS 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Pasta Night & Tricky Tray Cancelled

PERTH AMBOY – The JEMMS Foundation Inc. 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Pasta Night & Tricky scheduled for Sept. 17, 2021 has been cancelled.

### Concerts by the Bay

PERTH AMBOY – To be held in Bayview Park from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday Afternoons from August 8, 2021, to August 23, 2021.

### PAHS Class of 1971 Reunion

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy High School Class of 1971 50-Year Reunion will be held on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the Armory in Perth Amboy. The cost of \$85.00 per person. Contact Val Tarr's email – voltarr@aol.com

### A.C. Bus Trip Time Change!

**San Salvador Seniors**  
PERTH AMBOY - The San Salvador Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Thursday, Sept. 2, 2021. Bus will depart from behind St. Stephen's Church (St. John Paul II) Parking Lot on Mechanic Street, Perth Amboy at 11 a.m. Cost: \$30 per person; \$20 back in slot play For more information, call Joe at 732-826-0819. Masks are required to be worn on the bus. *You Must Reserve Your Seat!*

### A.C. TRIP

**Holy Rosary Seniors**  
HOPELAWN - Holy Rosary Seniors is sponsoring a bus trip to Resorts Casino, Atlantic City, Tuesday, August 31, 2021. Cost is \$35 and \$20 back in play. Bus leaves Church parking lot (625 Florida Grove Rd., Hopelawn) at 10:00 am. Any questions please call Connie at 732-442-4978.

*Answers  
From Puzzle  
On Page 13*



### Pets of the Week



PERTH AMBOY, NJ RESCUES - Please open your heart and home to Philly, Buttercup and/or Pinky. They were rescued from the streets. They only need love. This kitty or another will be waiting patiently for you. Can't adopt, then maybe consider fostering. They're fixed, vaccinated, dewormed, microchipped, have their nails trimmed, are deflead and fully vetted. Visit Allforthepaws.org for adoption application and email to Vmo-alespps@yahoo.com. Donation fee applies. Upon approved application, adoption will take place at adopter's home. Rescue will transport. Text 1.732.486.6382 for questions.

### 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.

### Editorial

*\*Continued From Page 4*

## LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – Tennis Courts 1940's

*\*Photo Courtesy of the Perth Amboy Dept. of Recreation  
This photo was restored under a grant from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission to the Kearny Cottage Historical Association.*

Boston to find (fictional) author Terance Mann (James Earl Jones) and Dr. Archibald "Moonlight" Graham (Burt Lancaster) a baseball player who only played one inning of baseball in the majors but quit baseball to become a doctor.  
During the trip, Kinsella tells Mann about how his father loved baseball, but at age 14 he refused to play catch with his father because he felt alienated by him. It was something he forever regretted.  
When they come back home, they watched the ghosts play baseball on the field. Ray then realizes the real reason he built the field was to play one last game of catch with his father. It was a second chance to show him that he loved him. It's definitely worth a download. During the interview with former Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez, he stated, "The movie comes down to a son playing catch with his father. How Americana is that?"  
My mom and aunt grew up Yankee's fans. They had the

Junior Yankee Club with their friends and played baseball in the street together. My aunt is still a Yankee's fan and listens to the FAN daily. My mom converted to being a Mets fan. Both know their baseball.  
As most of you know, I lost my dad in March 2020. He grew up a Brooklyn Dodger fan, and later a Met fan. He always watched the Mets as religiously as I do. He would get mad when they were losing and cheer when they were winning.  
Watching the Field of Dreams Game on Thursday, I thought of my dad and how he loved baseball. It reminded me of how we played catch or pepper or riding in the back of his blue pickup truck with the team (the Blue Koalas) in the late '70's early '80's after softball practice or the league games.  
So, cherish those good times because those days will never come back. Take time to play or watch a movie with your family. Enjoy those moments in your field of dreams. **Katherine M.**





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**PERTH AMBOY** - If you are fussy come to see this immaculate 2 bedrooms, all you have to do is bring your furniture and unpack, beautiful private patio mutual driveway to park in the back of the yard. A must see. **\$265,000**



**SAYREVILLE** - Don't miss the opportunity to own this completely renovated property. finish basement, Stainless steel appliances, back deck and patio and much more. Storage Shed sold As Is. **\$449,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Well, maintained two-family home located in quiet, desirable neighborhood of Perth Amboy. First floor is a 2-bedroom apartment, and the second floor is a 3-bedroom apartment. Full sized basement partially finished with enough space to create the perfect entertainment area. The attic has lots of space for storage with high ceilings. First floor is currently in a lease through 1/31/2022 while the second floor is living month to month. Ample off-street parking, within close proximity to supermarkets, restaurants, schools, and public transportation. Buyer is responsible for C/O. Lots of potential many possibilities. **\$440,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Beautiful large 1/2 duplex High School section, features 4 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, possible off-street parking, it is being sold strictly in AS IS condition buyer is responsible for C/O and all repairs. **\$270,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Great investment two family fully rented in the heart of Perth Amboy only 3 blocks from NYC Train station and Business District. This property features 3 bedrooms each apartment, all separated utilities and much more. It is being sold strictly in AS IS condition Buyer is responsible for C/O, termites and all repairs. Hurry this is a unique opportunity!!! **\$405,000**



**LAKEWOOD** - You will love this beautiful 2-bedroom 2nd floor unit with its own enclosed front porch facing this stunning lake view. A must see. Hurry!!!! **\$112,000**



**WOODBIDGE PROPER** - A must see this beautiful well maintained Cape Cod located in the heart of Woodbridge featuring sliding door to deck, 2.5 baths, 4 bedrooms close to train station, most major highways and shopping district. Great home all around. It is being sold strictly in "AS IS" condition. **\$349,000**



**BURLINGTON TWP.** - Approved Short sale @\$250,800 as per bank - this 4 bedroom 1-1/2 bath home is located on cul-de-sac in a well-manicured neighborhood with loads of potential. Unique floor plan with large open kitchen. home features lots of closets and storage. needs some TLC. Buyer responsible for C/O and all repairs and termite cert. Short sale subject to third party approval. 50% commission split subject to lender approval. **\$199,900**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Don't miss out on this cozy ground level 1bdrm 1 bth in the heart of Perth Amboy. This unit won't last so don't wait!! **\$1,500 rent**