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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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Reiterating the Expenses of Our Water Meters & Water/Wastewater Issues Amongst Topics Discussed 10/13/21 Caucus/Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – During the Caucus portion of the meeting, Business Administrator Michael Green again went over the ordinances pertaining to water meters, the parking deck, and the water/wastewater utilities. He explained that water meters degrade over time and the city can still recoup the losses.

Councilman B.J. Torres was concerned that bonding for all these improvements and renovations will cost the citizens another water increase.

B.A. Green responded, “We need a lot of studies done regarding our water. Some federal funds can be used for the water infrastructure. I will need the council’s guidance to make sure we are on the right track. Some of these ordinances on the agenda will be for new vehicles for the fire department and PPE (Personal Protection Equipment). Also, for forfeiture items that will go up for auction. Some of the ordinances pertain to the library for security and to sterilize their books. Some of the ordinances pertain to purchasing garbage trucks and city hall renovations taking place.”

Councilman Torres had an issue with Ordinance No. 1 (First Reading) – To amend an ordinance entitled, “Public Entertainment.” He was concerned about the portion where Beer Gardens will be permitted.

“Has someone put in a request already to have a beer garden at one of their events?”

Green responded, “We are just preparing this in the ordinance just in case someone applies for one.”

Torres countered, “It’s funny we are pushing alcohol consumption, but stalling on something that can help the citizens such as having cannabis businesses in the city.”

B.A. Green then explained that Ordinance No. 2 (First Reading) – Amending an ordinance entitled Administration of Government would put the Parking Utility under the police department

and will increase parking fees to 50 cents per hour.

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up via Zoom, “What will this mean for the police if they have to be in charge of crossing guards?”

Council President Petrick responded, “I think you are confused with the next ordinance entitled School Traffic Guards.” Petrick then spoke about Ordinance No. 2, “It makes perfect sense for the police to be over the Parking Utility Officers. It should have been this way all along.”

Pabon responded, “I think it is going to come back to bite us in the butt.”

The next topic for discussion was Ordinance No. 5 (First Reading) – to amend an ordinance entitled Parking Meter Zones.

Councilman Torres said, “A parking analysis is needed to see how it will affect the residents which in the ordinance says the Waterfront area.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda said, “We need meters, but we need to look at this ordinance more.”

B.A. Green then explained, “This ordinance defines the Waterfront as municipal lots. It basically gives us a definition of what is a municipal lot.”

Council President Petrick suggested that the title of the ordinance should be changed to a municipal lot instead of parking meter zoning. “In the past there were businesses (in the business district) that would complain of other business owners or their employees parking in front of other businesses.”

Pabon spoke up again on Zoom, “People talk about how we are the beginning of the shore, but we are the only ones who don’t charge people to park in their lots by the waterfront. Most people who park in our waterfront lots are from out of town.” Pabon also complained that the Armory does not clean

*Continued on Page 2

A Case For and Against Proposed Manhattan Beach LLC PILOT 10/6/21 Business Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust
SOUTH AMBOY – The meeting began at 6 p.m. Council President Mickey Gross was not present at the meeting because he had surgery, so Vice President Christine Noble conducted the meeting. The consent agenda was passed unanimously by the council (No. 21-200 thru 21-206). No. 21-207 was pulled. Ordinance No. 2021-16 (Second Reading/Adoption) was passed.

First Reading/Introduction

Ordinance No. 2021-19 – Ordinance of the city of South Amboy, county of Middlesex, New Jersey approving application for a long-term tax exemption and authorizing the execution of a financial agreement with Manhattan Beach Phase I Urban Renewal LLC.

Ordinance No. 2021-20 – Ordinance of the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex, New Jersey approving application for a long-term tax exemption and authorizing the execution of a financial agreement with SA 101 Main Street Urban Renewal LLC.

Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski made it clear that the Ordinance No. 19 was referring the residential portion of the project and Ordinance No. 20 referred to the warehouse portion. The plans for the redevelopment area are on South Amboy’s website at: https://www.southamboynj.gov/_Content/pdf/Proposed-Beach-Club-District-Redevelopment-Plan.pdf

Councilman Tom Reilly had a long list of issues with the proposed tax abatement. The following is the long discussion between Councilman Tom Reilly and Attorney Kevin P. McManimon from MS&B - McManimon, Scotland, and Baumann who was representing Manhattan Beach developers: Tom Reilly: Why did we do a cost analysis?

Kevin McManimon: This is not townhouses. The city reviewed the long-term tax exemption.

TR: What about the cost benefit analysis – the community impact?

KM: There was a consultant. I know it was consistent. He con-



SOUTH AMBOY - Councilmen Brian McLaughlin (L) and Thomas Reilly (R) at the 10/6/21 Business Meeting

*Photos by Katherine Massopust



SOUTH AMBOY - Lawyer Kevin P. McManimon who is representing Manhattan Beach LLC is questioned by Councilman Tom Reilly

cluded that the PILOT asked for by the developer was reasonable.

TR: I would like to see that report of the cost of cleanup.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski answered: Between \$8-\$11 million. There will be 8 buildings. There will be one cleanup for the entire property. We can provide you with this.

TR: Can we put out there what the abatements will be? Let residents see what is being put out there. After we grant the abatement, what will it show?

KM: Once the project is done, the redevelopers are subject to the agreement. PILOTS are subject to audits.

TR: Do you want to know why I’m against this PILOT? Woodmont. They spent \$24 million and sold it for \$46 million. In my opinion, they took advantage of this town. Do you think they would have gotten a profit



SOUTH AMBOY - SARA Commissioner David Kales speaks at the 10/6/21 Business Meeting

like that without a tax abatement? Who is the auditor (for this project)?

KM: The developer submits an

*Continued on Page 10

Gustav J. Novak

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Reiterating the Expenses of Our Water Meters & Water/Wastewater Issues Amongst Topics Discussed 10/13/21 Caucus/Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 1*

up their lot.

Petrick disagreed with one of Pabon's comments, "In Ocean Grove, they have no parking meters by their lots near the water." Petrick then also disagreed with Pabon, "People in the sixth ward where I live, which is far from the waterfront (or anyone else who lives far away from the waterfront in town) are driving their cars to go down there. In Woodbridge Proper, they only have parking metered lots behind JJ Bitting."

Pabon then asked, "What about other restaurants (who are suffering) in town that have meters in front of their stores?" Pabon also complained that the restrooms down by the marina are not always open to serve the public and boat owners have keys to the restrooms.

Petrick countered, "Boat owners pay for the keys to the bathroom and the gates to get to their boats."

Pabon responded back, "They (boat owners) don't pay enough, and at the end our taxpayers are paying for those bathrooms at the marina."

Petrick then talked about the portable bathrooms located on Sadowski Parkway, "People are abusing those bathrooms."

Pabon said, "I find that hard to believe, because I am at the waterfront constantly. I have never heard of any vandalism at those bathrooms."

Lawyer William Opel gave a brief overview of Ordinance No. 6 (First Reading) entitled Administration of Government to establish a policy against nepotism.

"This is to follow the Best Practices Survey. City Boards and City Contracts are to be incorporated into the employee handbook."

B.A. Green then spoke about R-499-10/21 – Rescinding resolution R-481-9/21 and authorizing the tax collector to forward the listing of properties of inactive W/S account transferred over on 12/31/2018 from Middlesex Water to the State of New Jersey to be listed and their next unclaimed monies advertisement to correct the amount to \$22,668.77.

Green explained, "All these

accounts are inactive."

Petrick then asked, "Did we contact the people on that list who were owed refunds?"

Green explained, "All the proper procedures were put in place and we did due diligence to try to contact everybody on that list who were owed refunds."

Green then briefly explained R-505-10/21 – Insertion of revenue in the CY 2021 Budget for the Home Investment Partnership American Rescue Plan Grant in the amount of \$1,476,500.

"We will have a stakeholder's meeting about how to use this money and we will have to follow certain guidelines."

Tashi Vazquez from the Office of Economic and Community Development who was present at the meeting came up to speak, "These are HUD guidelines that have to be followed and there are many different organizations that will be able to give in their input. This resolution basically will deal with tenant based rental assistance and the homeless. Some of the people involved will be those who deal with homeless prevention, such as the YMCA, legal services, those who fight for tenant rights, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, people from the county, and the council will have their input. These are just some of the people who will be invited to discuss how this money will be used. There will also be a public hearing where an action plan will be presented."

Councilman B.J. Torres questioned the resolutions where people have liens on their properties, "I never ever see the Kushner properties on the agenda with liens on their properties."

Green responded, "We have had some movement on fining Kushner and having his properties cleaned up."

Joel Pabon spoke up, "Some of Kushner's properties have been looking better. I did see they had heavy machinery on their property when I went there a few days ago. There are still a lot of lights out and there are trees that need trimming on the Kushner lots. It took them 2-3 years, but at least Kushner is doing some cleaning. I happened to see a resident who resides at

one of the Kushner properties. She told me she was shocked to see there was something finally happening with cleaning up the property."

Green gave a brief update on R-516-10/21 – City Officials executing an agreement with the BID in the amount of \$20,000 to administer the Neighborhood Preservation Program Year 2 Art Initiatives.

"The BID will be putting up an additional \$15,000."

Councilman Torres was surprised that the Arts Council was not a part of this agreement.

Tashi Vazquez came up to explain further, "This resolution is based on an existing ordinance. This year we (the OECD) put in a call to artists, and it was based on the cost of our budget."

Torres, "We (the Arts Council) should have been involved from the beginning."

Vazquez continued, "Under this resolution, there will be another project. The project will be called, "Pop-Up Art," and people actually come from out of town to take pictures of the Pop-Up Art."

Torres said, "I am very concerned, because when another artist who came into town and had to present a rendering of the mural they were going to put in town and instead did another design."

Vazquez said, "I remember that, but at the time no one from our department was involved in that project. There are other projects that would be under that agreement (neighborhood preservation) which would also include park benches."

Council President Petrick was concerned about any artist that does not do what he presented and was approved for. "There should be a penalty against that artist."

Councilman Torres concluded the discussion, "The Arts Council is an advisory board. We need to be in on the beginning of anything involving the arts in any form."

Council President Bill Petrick had a problem with R-523-10/31 – A Release of a performance guarantee and cash bonds to Duke Realty for the major subdivision, prelimi-

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PERTH AMBOY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PUBLIC NOTICE

RE: Open Public Meetings Act
Perth Amboy Business Improvement District
Special Board Meeting/Public Hearing

Please be advised that the Perth Amboy Business Improvement District public hearing will be held at the **Perth Amboy City Hall Council Chamber located at 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861, on Monday, November 15th at 5:00 p.m.** to discuss the following item:

1. Approval of the Perth Amboy Business Improvement District 2022 Proposed Budget

Note: The proposed 2022 BID Budget will be posted on the City's website for review at www.perthamboynj.org on the Business Improvement District page or directly at <https://www.perthamboynj.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11205008&pageId=16314612>

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- Made health insurance truly affordable for New Jersey residents by eliminating premiums in FamilyCare and subsidizing premiums for individuals.



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- Supported the Economic Recovery Act of 2020 to incentivize businesses affected by the pandemic to grow or relocate to New Jersey.
- Secured millions in State resources for Carteret's Performing Arts Center, Woodbridge's Cypress Recreation Center Park and Acacia Youth Center, open space acquisition in Perth Amboy, Jerry Ust Recreational Complex in Sayreville, and new water ferry terminals in Carteret and South Amboy.



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- Reformed nursing home laws to better protect residents, including residents of veterans' homes.

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

The Final Frontier

Growing up I wanted to be an astronaut. One of my earliest memories was the Apollo-Soyuz mission in July 1975. It was the first joint space mission with the United States and the Soviet Union. I remember watching that launch on TV The two spacecrafts docked in an event considered the end of the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union which began in 1957.

I remember the first space shuttle launch on April 12, 1981, and of course the horrible explosion on January 28, 1986 (I was in college). I still had dreams of going into space one day.

When I was real young, I remember watching Star Trek at 6 p.m. on channel 11 while I was finishing up my homework and wondering why they didn't make more episodes. I was so happy when the Star Trek movies and the Next Generation, Deep Space Nine, and Voyager series came out.

This past week William Shatner, Captain James T. Kirk himself was a passenger on Blue Origin, Jeff Bezos's rocket company aboard the New Shepard rocket. The launch was from the aerospace company's West Texas launch site and went off just before 11 a.m. ET on Wednesday, October 13, 2021. Glen de Vries co-founder of the clinical-research company Medidata Solutions and Chris Boshuizen, co-founder of the Earth data company both paid for their tickets. Audrey Powers, a Blue Origin vice president also flew with Shatner. Shatner was asked to go up. The ten-minute trip was successful, and the capsule safely landed.

When Shatner came out of the capsule after the flight, he was exhilarated. He said that he didn't want to lose the moment and how beautiful the earth looked from space and how blue it is. He wanted everyone to know how he felt and how everyone should go up and see the earth from space.

What better ambassador of Blue Origin than William Shatner, himself 90 years old, the oldest person to ever go into space? Like it or not, exploring



William Shatner (right) floats inside Blue Origin's New Shepard spacecraft during his record-breaking launch on Oct. 13, 2021 in this video still. (Image credit: Blue Origin)



The passenger crew of Blue Origin's NS-18 space tourist flight poses with their New Shepard capsule after landing back on Earth on Oct. 13, 2021. They are: (from left): Audrey Powers, William Shatner, Chris Boshuizen and Glen de Vries. (Image credit: Blue Origin)

space is our future. Hopefully one day we can have a domed colony on the moon and eventually terraform Mars for future colonization. How better can the nations of the world learn to cooperate if not for the exploration of space?

Some people argue that the space program is a waste of time because money could be better spent elsewhere. I 100% disagree with this statement. Over 2,000 technologies (called spinoff technologies) have come out of the space program.

While NASA didn't invent, manufacture or market technology, many commercial products came out the space program. These products are derived from NASA technology and being utilized for commercial, government, and academic uses. (NASA.gov)

Did you know that memory foam, freeze-dried food, flame resistant firefighting equipment,

the integrated circuit that gave rise to the microchip, thin lightweight insulations, emergency "space blankets," DustBusters, cochlear implants, LZR racer swimsuits, CMOS image sensors, cordless power tools, vascular bypass operations (to correct a blocked artery), improvements in kidney dialysis, lighting detectors, and automated credit card transactions all were derived from the space program? JPL (NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory) developed digital image processing to enhance pictures of the moon. That contributed to MRI's and CAT scans (computerized tomography). One of the most important technological spinoff technologies from NASA is the miniaturization of electronics and software. (Source: Spinoff 2019)

So, the Space Program has contributed technological advancements, helped with the cooperation of nations for a common goal, and has paved the way for innovation. It has touched our lives everyday mentally, physically and spiritually.

However, presently, The United States is too occupied with pettiness. Why should someone be offended from some stupid Tweet or Facebook post someone made 10 years ago? Why

*Continued on Page 5

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

No More Fantasy Land

Well folks, election day is coming, and those politician's will be looking for your vote. It's funny that right before Election Day those politicians put on a show with those grand openings like parks, new schools, etc. You know Christmas came early. Many New Jersey voters have seen too many broken

promises over the years it became a soap opera "As Your Stomach Turns," and many left with joy. So, what's left for New Jersey? "Blue Trails of Sorrow?" And are we tired of those lifetime career politicians with the same old song and empty promises? You decide - it's your vote. Yes, go out and vote! They can be replaced.

Orlando "Wildman" Perez

The World's Super Debtor

President Biden and Congress raising our national debt ceiling by \$480 billion more is nothing to be proud of. Both continue to ignore our national debt, which is will now exceed \$29 trillion by December 2021. This averages \$86,710 per citizen or \$228,999 per taxpayer. (Source: October 10 National Debt Clock). Our legal debt limit will officially run out in early December, due to our excessive current rate of spending. This doesn't include the \$1.2 trillion proposed Infrastructure or \$3.5 trillion Build Back America package.

There are thousands of employees who are familiar with the details of our federal budget. How difficult can it be to

find billions in savings? This could assist in reducing our frequent raising of the debt ceiling.

Millions of Americans cut their household budgets to make ends meet. It is time for Washington to live within its available existing revenues without excessive borrowing, just like millions of ordinary citizens.

The President and Congress have forgotten the old saying - a penny saved is a penny earned. Americans should send both a penny to remind them that it is not a sin to save. Unless we change our ways, America is on the road to losing our status as the world's No. 1 superpower to China. Just like mighty ancient Rome before the collapse, we are going down the path to become the world's super debtor.

Sincerely,
Larry Penner

We Value Your Opinion!
Please Send Us A Response!

Remember to Vote!
Tuesday,
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Polls Open
6 a.m. - 8 p.m.



BIZ FAIR @ Dowdell

Press Release
SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy's BIZ FAIR will take place on Monday, December 6 from 4-8 pm at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library (Snow date: December 13). Promote your business just in time for holiday shopping! This will be an amazing, inexpensive opportunity for local businesses, home-based businesses, online businesses, entrepreneurs, non-profit organizations or corporates who would like to reach local markets. Businesses who participate will be included in the event's Business Directory.

Register today to save a spot - contact the Library at comments@dowdell.org OR 732.721.6060 OR log onto www.dowdell.org. A \$25 donation is requested per table.

Hot cocoa will be served and holiday cookies may be purchased.

Join us for a fun, holiday shopping opportunity!

The Library's expanded Fall Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 am - 8 pm, Wednesday & Friday 10 am - 5 pm, and Saturday 12-4 pm. Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org. The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School



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SEWAREN CORNER DELI	514 WEST AVE.
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BROADWAY DINER	126 N. BROADWAY
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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!

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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

TUES. Oct. 5 PARA, 6 p.m.
via Zoom (see below)
TUES. Oct. 19 Board of Education, 5:30 p.m.
PAHS, Eagle Ave.
MON. Oct. 25 City Council, Caucus, 5:30 p.m.
City Hall, High St. & Zoom
WED. Oct. 27 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St. & Zoom
THURS. Oct. 28 Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.

South Amboy

WED. Oct. 20 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway

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

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



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On The Waterfront in Historic Perth Amboy

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1201 E. Grand St., Unit 3A, Elizabeth, NJ 07201
Phone: 908-351-0957; Fax: 908-351-0959
Email: ecabrera52@hotmail.com

Editorial *Continued from Page 4

do we give so much credence to nonsense? Now everything you do or say (both in public and in private) can and will be held against you. Your whole life can be ruined because of one moment of anger or stupidity. People are too occupied with gossip on the internet whether it be true or not. Everybody has done and said stupid things, especially in public. To quote the bible, "He that is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone ..." John 8:7 King James Version. No one is without sin and eventually the best of men and women will be destroyed

because of cancel culture.

Can you imagine what we could accomplish if we stop this pettiness and worked together on everything? What if everyone brought to the table what they could offer the world regardless of their past sins? Star Trek envisions a bright happy future, and the best of what mankind has to offer. Let's concentrate on that. Companies like Blue Origins are helping us get to that point. Way to go! *K.M.*

A NJ FEED INITIATIVE THROUGH NJEDA IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY, RBAYMCA, AND BETHEL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



SOUP KITCHEN 411

The City of
PERTH AMBOY
Helmin J. Caba, Honorable Mayor
& City Council Members

COMMUNITY DINNER
Hot Meal Distribution
Limited Supplies
First Come, First Serve

OCTOBER 13, 2021 - JANUARY 26, 2022
EVERY WEDNESDAY
STARTING 4PM

OCTOBER
Raritan Bay Area YMCA
357 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE

DECEMBER
Alexander Jankowski Center
1 OLIVE STREET

NOVEMBER
Bethel Christian Church Inc
185 HALL AVENUE

JANUARY
Brighton Ave Teen Center
56 BRIGHTON AVENUE

SUPPORTING OUR FAMILIES WITH HOT MEALS.
ONE MEAL PER FAMILY MEMBER.
For more information, contact us at
volunteer@perthamboynj.org
(732) 324-3685



SCAN ME

A NJ FEED INITIATIVE THROUGH NJEDA IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY, RBAYMCA, AND BETHEL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



SOUP KITCHEN 411

The City of
PERTH AMBOY
Helmin J. Caba, Honorable Mayor
& City Council Members

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**
for Hot Meal Distribution

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Brighton Ave Teen Center
56 BRIGHTON AVENUE

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community_dinner_volunteer
Email: volunteer@perthamboynj.org



SCAN ME

PAFD Swearing in Ceremony & Honoring Edward Hacker, Firehouse, Perth Amboy 10/8/21 *Photos by Paul W. Wang

PERTH AMBOY - On 10/8/21 at the Perth Amboy Firehouse was the swearing in of 6 firefighters: Firefighter Miguel Aponte, Firefighter Luis Aviles, Firefighter Richard Novo, Firefighter Jose Ruiz, Firefighter Matthew Snyder, and Firefighter Marcus Wicks. There was a Mayoral Proclamation by Mayor Helmin Caba to Firefighter Edward Hacker who served in the United States Naval Reserve and also as a Fire Prevention Specialist with the Fire Prevention Bureau. Thank you for your service to our nation and our city.

ZPA Fire, Grace Street, Perth Amboy 10/15/21 *Photos submitted by Joe Bayona & by Paul W. Wang



From Perth Amboy Fire Department Facebook:
PERTH AMBOY - On 10/15/21 at 1206 hours, the PAFD was dispatched to 281 Grace St for a reported fire. Upon arrival, heavy fire was showing from the second-floor apartments of the mixed occupancy with people still inside. A second alarm was transmitted as crews stretched two hoselines to contain and extinguish the fire. Primary & secondary searches were completed, and the roof ventilated. All occupants of the 10 units displaced are being assisted by Perth Amboy relocation officers and the Red Cross. There were no injuries reported. The fire is under investigation by the PAFD, Middlesex County Fire Marshal's Office and Avenel Fire Prevention Bureau. Responding units were E-1, E-2, E-3, T-2, R-1, C-1, C-3, C-5 and Fire Prevention. Mutual aid on scene was Hopelawn R-8, Woodbridge Truck 1-2-6 & Sayreville E-3. Colonia & Fords covered the City during the incident.

Fire Prevention Week, Firehouse, Perth Amboy 10/8/21 *Photos by Paul W. Wang



Fall Fun at Dowdell

Press Release
SOUTH AMBOY - Drop into the Dowdell Library for some special programs this fall! Celebrate Picture Book Month and enter the drawing for a chance to win a signed Dan Gutman bookmark accompanied by one of his books! Earn one entry to win every time you check out a book. Play a round of Picture Book Character BINGO and read any five books starring classic picture book characters. When you win, bring in your bingo board and pick a prize! Celebrate Children's book week from November 8-13 and stop in from 3:30-5 pm and decorate your very own bookmark. Join Ms. Maryanne for storytimes on Monday mornings at 10:30 am on November 8 and November 29 for stories, songs, crafts, and activities. Parents, meet other moms and dads!

Salute a local veteran as we celebrate Veterans Day! A special program highlighting Veterans will be held on Monday, November 15 at 6:30 pm. Feel free to bring in a photo of a Veteran and share their story during this program. Are you between the ages of 12 and 18? Would you like to help shape how the Library serves you? If so, consider joining the Dowdell Teen Advisory Board or TAB. The board will meet on the third Friday of each month from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm. Teens will have the opportunity to influence material purchases, create programming and earn volunteer hours. Applications can be found online or can be picked up at the Library.

Did you know the Library now has English Conversation groups for all levels and ages? For kids and teens, practice speaking English during the library's in-person conversation group facilitated by a volunteer. For adults, join us on Mondays in November from 6-8 pm for literacy assisting adults for whom English is a second language. Contact us at 732-721-6060 for additional dates and times and more information about these new programs. The last round of finals for the Video Game Challenge will take place on Tuesday, November 16, (ages 0-10) from 4-5 pm and on Thursday, November 18, (ages 11-17) from 4-5 pm and (ages 18+) from 6:30-7:30. The final round will take place in December, where a winner from each category will be crowned champion!

Invest more time into yourself! The Dowdell Library offers free virtual classes through the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. For the class schedule, please visit Dowdell.org and pre-register for the interested classes. For more information or to pre-register, please email kathleen.johnson@rwjbh.org. The Library's expanded Fall Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 am - 8 pm, Wednesday & Friday 10 am - 5 pm, and Saturday 12-4 pm. Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org. The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School.

Reiterating the Expenses of Our Water Meters & Water/Wastewater Issues Amongst Topics Discussed

10/13/21 Caucus/Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 2*

nary and final major site plan for the amphitheater portion for 215-230 Riverview Drive in an amount not to exceed \$375,449.13. “We need to take a closer look at the amphitheater description. Everything else looks fine. They did the bare minimum amount of work on the amphitheater. We need to table R-523.”

Councilman B.J. Torres said, “I second that to table.”

Lawyer Opel said he would ask the city engineer to submit a brief memo to the council.

Petrick was not satisfied. “We need to look at the rendering of that project (the amphitheater) of what was presented to us versus what was actually built.”

Councilman Pabon questioned R-527-10/31 appointing Gisela Ramos as a regular member of the Perth Amboy Rent Leveling Board to fill an unexpired term to expire December 31, 2022. “Isn’t that supposed to be a mayor’s appointment – not to be put on the agenda by a council member?”

Council President Petrick put it on the agenda.

Pabon said, “That should be checked for accuracy.”

Petrick then went back to talk about the amphitheater, “Because we are a minority community, they think they can just give us anything and we would accept it.”

Public Portion: In-house speakers first.

Resident Ken Balut came up to speak first. He questioned if the \$49,000 check that came from Kushner included any interest. “If it were a regular resident, they would be charged interest. We are always getting scammed. All of our county officials love Kushner and LSRP signs need to be put on some of Kushner’s properties. We still don’t have a full-time lawyer. I see Wilda got her vacation money. Are we setting up slush funds? Who is going to account for the mayor’s time? It is supposed to be a salary position. Now, a lot of longtime mayors can claim the same.”

After Balut finished talking, City Clerk Victoria Kupsch spoke up regarding R-527. “Pabon is right. This should be a mayor’s appointee with consent of the council.”

The next person that spoke was William Cruz, a resident from Sayreville, “I come into Perth Amboy a lot because my fiancé lives here. I am a retired and certified Fire Inspector in New Jersey. There is a police officer in town. Everyone knows the guy. He goes around issuing parking tickets between 4:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. in the morning. I just paid for a ticket issued to me at 4:00 a.m. The yellow lines we have painted on the curb are not working. There is a meter at the corner of King and Market Streets that is very close to the yellow line. Look at how dark all the streets are.” He proceeded to hand out photos to

the council to back up the statement that he made.

After Cruz spoke, Councilman B.J. Torres commented, “This is why we need a comprehensive parking analysis.”

City Resident and former Councilman Fernando Irizarry came up next. He questioned the \$500,000 needed for a fireboat. We are going to get a grant for a fireboat. Why are we now paying for renovations for the parking deck? Who is the business manager? Who is paying the additional money for the school crossing guards?” For Resolution R-505, he wanted to know how the money was going to be used for the American Rescue Plan Grant?”

B.A. Michael Green answered, “Right now parts of the parking deck are crumbling.”

Council President Petrick then added, “There is water infiltration in the Parking Utility Office and there is a hole in the ramp. There are also leaks on the parking surfaces.”

Fire Chief Ed Mullen came up and said, “The \$500,000 cost for the fireboat will be given by the city and we will be reimbursed for what we put out. By the way, we saved 41 lives last year with that boat.”

Council President Petrick spoke up again, “We need more crossing guards because of having more children in the city.”

Acting Police Chief Larry Cattano came up, “There will be no cost for those crossing guards because we have been operating with 50 crossing guards for many years and needed to put that on the record.”

Green then talked about the uses for R-505. “It’s for affordable housing and to help the homeless.”

Tashi Vazquez from OECD came up again, “As far as helping the homeless, we are looking at giving them individual rooms without leases or agreements. The stakeholders will decide what to do. It has to be in a building that is already constructed with individual rooms - not partitions. We talked to the Salvation Army about becoming a Code Blue Shelter.”

Carteret Resident Urayoan Torres who has a temporary hotdog stand called "Jucy's Hotdogs" located on Water Street in the waterfront section of town came up to speak. He referred to Ordinance No. 7 (First Reading) – To amend an ordinance entitled peddling and soliciting regarding Bayview Park fixed peddler location – removed.

Torres stated, “We rented the spot and built up a clientele.”

Petrick responded, “We got a lot of feedback from the community that felt the spot you were in was impacting the park.”

The resident then asked for another spot.

Petrick replied, “We can’t guarantee that.”

The vendor showed his frustration, “We complied with all of the laws.”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch

then said, “As far as spots in the marina parking lot, that would be a totally different type of license.”

The next person to come up to speak was Resident Marisol Gonzalez and defended the hot dog vendor located on Water Street. Before she could go any further, Petrick said, “We had to remove the stationary peddler and he has other options. The problem was he was taking up multiple parking spaces.” Gonzalez then said, “I see a benefit to have him there. There are not many fast-food places nearby. I have seen many residents on that block who buy food from him (where he parks his cart).”

Petrick spoke up again, “We can’t please everyone, but he can apply for other spots. I think if someone in the beginning saw the spot that he wanted to put his cart, it would not have been approved.”

The meeting was then opened up to Zoom Participants:

The first person to speak was Caroline Pozyski. She referenced Ordinance No. 5 (First Reading) – parking meter zones. “This will have an impact on the residents. The explanation (in the backup material) does not match what is on the agenda. This should be met with total opposition from the Waterfront residents. There is an impact, especially on weekends to the residents on Water Street. Why don’t you put meters on High Street?”

Resident Anna Daily spoke next. She thanked the city and the council for their support regarding the Middle Passage Markers. “The volume on Channel 34 is not audible. Is there a new policy and procedures regarding late payments of water bills? I sent my water bill payment a few days late, then I got a notice from the city that my property was up for sale because of an unpaid water bill. I have proof that it was paid.”

B.A. Michael Green responded, “I don’t know of any new policy. I will talk to the tax collector.”

Daily then repeated, “I was told that if my water bill was not paid by a certain date, my property would go up for sale in a tax bill.”

Council President Bill Petrick assured Ms. Daily that B.A. Michael Green would talk to her to resolve this issue.”

Resident Vince Mackiel spoke next. He read a communication sent to him by Paul Wykoff from NJ Transit addressing Mackiel’s concerns about the Perth Amboy Train Station. After Mackiel read the letter, he urged the council and those who work in this area (between Market and Elm Street) where the bridge has been closed off for a long time. “We need to have that bridge fixed. Everyone should contact NJ Transit and all public officials about getting this bridge fixed.”

Council President Petrick thanked Mr. Mackiel for sharing that letter.

A resident from 144 High Street spoke next. He stated, “I almost got in an accident because of cars parking too close to street corners which block my view. Parking laws are being ignored. This near accident happened about 9:00 a.m.”

Petrick then questioned, “Are you asking about cars that are parked too close to the intersection?”

The resident responded, “There were several cars that were parked too close to the intersection and after counting ten cars that were parked too close to the intersection, I lost count.”

Petrick concluded, “That is why we need to have this issue addressed.”

The council went into closed session at 7:25 p.m. The council returned from closed session at 8:54 p.m. to adjourn the caucus portion of the meeting. The regular council meeting began at 8:56 p.m.

Public Portion on ordinances for a public hearing – In-person first:

No one in-person spoke. When the meeting was opened up to Zoom, Resident Caroline Pozyski spoke first regarding Ordinance No. 1. Re: The Acquisition of water meters for the water/wastewater utility.

She was concerned why the American Relief funds for our infrastructure was not be used instead of the city issuing \$1,800,000 in bonds for this cost. “Why increase our cost when we have the funds to cover this? Other cities are doing discussions on how to use the American Relief Fund. I urge the council to vote “No” on this ordinance.”

Council President Bill Petrick responded, “That was shot down.”

Business Administrator Michael Green then commented, “The \$16.8 million in funding that we are to receive are supposed to be used to cover Covid related cost and essential employees. We need the 4,000 meters that is part of this ordinance. It is a payee’s rate money.”

Petrick argued, “But we can we use part of the federal money?”

Green then explained, “\$16 million cannot cover what we need. We still have expenditures from the \$350 million owed.”

Councilman B.J. Torres said, “It was the businesses that received money – not residents. We turned down revenue when we turned down not having cannabis businesses.”

Councilman Joel Pabon joined the conversation via Zoom. “We should have someone working on getting infrastructure grant money. We lost infrastructure grant money in the past.”

B.A. Mike Green then concluded, “We went to Middlesex County for infrastructure money. We are waiting to see if both parties (Republicans and Democrats) will cut the \$3 trillion infrastructure deal.

When it came time to vote on

Ordinance No. 1, it was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. B.J. Torres voted, “No”.

For Ordinance No. 2 – Bond Ordinance providing renovations to the parking deck for the Parking Utility authorizing the issuance of \$131,500 in bonds to finance the cost.

The first person to speak on this ordinance from the public was Resident Ken Balut. “We are sitting on \$8.6 million. Use this instead of doing the bond and no increase will be needed.”

B.A. Green responded, “This is for the Parking Utility and those using the parking deck and not for all the taxpayers.”

Ordinance No. 2 was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. B.J. Torres voted “No”.

Ordinance No. 3 – A bond ordinance providing for various improvements to the water/wastewater utility and issuing bonds in an amount of \$3,904,000 to finance part of the cost.

Ordinance No. 3 was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. B.J. Torres voted “No”.

After Ordinances 1,2,3 was voted on, Lawyer William Opel said, “Ordinances 1,2,3 did not pass because you need 2/3 of the council to vote “Yes” in order to pass (Councilwoman Rose Morales was absent and Councilman B.J. Torres voted “No”).

For Ordinance No. 4 – Capital improvements in and by the city of Perth Amboy appropriating \$7,890,040 and authorizing \$6,210,347 to finance part of the cost.

No one from the public spoke. It was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. B.J. Torres voted, “No”.

Ordinance No. 5 – An ordinance to amend an ordinance entitled “Designating Restricted Parking Spaces for Use by Handicapped Persons” re: Additions.

It was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. All voted “Yes”.

Public Portion on agenda items only – In-person first:

No one spoke in-person. Resident Caroline Pozyski spoke via Zoom, “Can the nepotism ordinance be explained to me. At the time when they were explaining it during the caucus, the audio was terrible, and I could not understand what was being said about it.”

Lawyer Opel read some of the backup material that was attached to the ordinance. “It’s basically to update the ordinance that has been stated in the employee handbook. This is to follow the Best Practices Survey. City boards and city contracts are to be incorporated into the employee handbook.”

The Council then voted on the Ordinances (First Reading – No public discussion)

Ordinance No. 1 – Public Entertainment was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 2 – Administration

**Continued on Page 9*

Reiterating the Expenses of Our Water Meters & Water/Wastewater Issues Amongst Topics Discussed

10/13/21 Caucus/Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 8*

tion of Government was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 3 – School Traffic Guards was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 4 – Handicapped Persons Parking re: additions, was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 5 – Parking Meter Zones was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 6 – Administration of Government establishing a policy against nepotism, was moved by Tejeda, seconded by Pabon.

Ordinance No. 7 – Peddling and Soliciting RE: Bayview Park Fixed Peddler location – Removed was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

The council then voted on the consent agenda. R-499 thru R-522 and R-224 thru R-527 was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. R-523 was tabled.

Public Portion In-person first:

Resident Ken Balut spoke first. He read a report he had in his hand regarding redevelopment. “In this report, Kushner was not mentioned at all. The quality of life and illegal housing was mentioned. So far this year, we’ve only had 96 inspections done. The person who is heading Code Enforcement now could not pass the civil service test. If anybody dies because of illegal housing, it is going to be on your (the council’s) hands. Rutgers University did a report on this years ago (regarding il-

legal housing in Perth Amboy). The police should have a report on illegal housing and any permits issued. This is a safety issue. Code Enforcement needs to be investigated.”

The meeting was then opened up to Zoom participants.

Resident Caroline Pozyski came on to invite everyone to the final concert in Bayview Park. “There are a lot of great things happening in Perth Amboy this weekend (October 16).”

Council Comments:

Councilman Joel Pabon said, “I want to report about a mugging that happened on Madison Avenue recently. The resident that this happened to said that the police did a great job catching the person who did this (recovering his cell phone). They made this resident very happy.” Pabon concluded, “A lot of good events are going on. Enjoy them while they last.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda remarked, “Downtown is looking nice and beautiful and I’m glad to see what is happening.”

Councilman B.J. Torres had no comments.

Council President Bill Petrick said, “Covid is real and serious and dangerous. Get the vaccine! I want to thank all for attending and I want to thank Mike Green for all the reports that he gave tonight. Everybody have a good night.”

The meeting ended at 8:43 p.m. Councilwoman Rose Morales was out sick for both meetings.

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

Perth Amboy BID Classic Car Show

**Photo by Bob Rinklin for the Perth Amboy BID*



PERTH AMBOY - The Raritan Bay Cruisers and the Perth Amboy Business Improvement District (BID) are presenting “The Classic Car Show” on Saturday, October 23 beginning at noon in City Hall Circle. More than 100 awesome, one-of-a-kind and custom vehicles will be exhibited. Admission is free and the event includes vendors. The photo shows two of many memorable vehicles that will be on display plus guests will see muscle and sports cars, vintage and antique vehicles, hot rods, luxury automobiles, station wagons and much more.

Mary Gordon: 103 Years Young

By: Katherine Massopust and Carolyn Maxwell

PERTH AMBOY – Mary Gordon stands proud in her apartment in Perth Amboy. She is 103 years young.

Mary Gordon explained, “I was born in 1918 in Halifax County, Virginia. My father, (Leonard Pringle) was a farmer. That’s how I know how to pick vegetables. He grew corn, wheat, rye, oats, white potatoes, red potatoes, collard greens – everything! He used to grow spinach. I never liked spinach then, but I like it now. I used to pickle and can fruits when I was young. I didn’t like them, but my boys did. I used to make preserves. My mother, (Nannie Pringle) could cook everything. Nobody had refrigerators. We only had iceboxes. My father was very smart. He used to come to our school and help teach. He loved to read. He would read anything as long as it was in English. He said, “Reading is everything.” We would bring books home from school. He would read them in 3 days. My father read everything. He emphasized reading and learning. He wanted to be a doctor. Unfortunately, there wasn’t that opportunity for a black man back then. My father said, “Kids, I want you to get an education. We can’t afford college, but I want you to learn.” My sister, Louise was able to go to Virginia College for 2 years. My dad gave everything a name. My mom was the first child born in her family and I was the first grandchild born. Both my parents died when they were in their eighties. This is the first time I’m telling my life history. I always trusted God when times were not easy.”

Mary continued, “I came to Perth Amboy when I was 21 years old. I was a nurse’s aide and home health aide. My youngest patient was 3 years old. Some patients I would clean, wash, and feed – even some men patients. God gave me my strength. I was born to be a caretaker. It was God’s will. I do mostly everything alone at even at age of 103, I still have a lot of energy thanks to God. I was able to jump a lot of hurdles.”

“I raised 3 kids by myself – 3 boys. All my sons were born in a 4-year period: 1943, 1944, and 1946. They had a lot of energy. When kids have to do something, they run from job to job. I made them do their job right. I told them to do the dishes. They did it 5 times until it was done right. It’s important to teach them to make a living. All 3 did. My oldest son, Ronald worked on the Parkway. My



Mary Gordon *Photo by Katherine Massopust

middle son, William, “Billy” we call him, was a train conductor. My youngest son, Edward took music lessons. He went to college and decided to be a musician. His stage name is La Roger. He started writing music. He originally wanted to go to the service, but when he was 3, he fractured his leg. He had metal in his leg so they wouldn’t take him. All of my sons can take care of themselves. I take care of me.”

Mary spoke of her husband who went to his job, kissed her, then said, “I’ll be back if it ain’t too late.” He left when Ronnie was 7 years old and didn’t come back home until the kids were grown and had families of their own. He came back when my middle son, Billy’s son was 5 years old. He came back and wanted to live here with Billy. I let him do it. God has blessed me to do what needs to be done.”

“I was never a vindictive person. I kill them with kindness. My oldest son traveled all over the world. I love to cook, and I make very good cabbage. I used to bake food for the church. I like good food – no junk food. I eat 5-6 vegetables a day. I’m a good cook. I can make anything. For breakfast, I eat fruit, cereal, toast. I cook what I eat. For lunch, I have chicken, pork chops, roast, ground beef, ribs...”

Mary Gordon used to belong to the church choir. “I was in many organizations. I always end up being the treasurer of everything. I was a member of the NAACP. I taught Sunday

School at the Second Baptist Church on Broad Street, which became the Cathedral International on Madison Avenue. I was doing what God would have me do. I always try to do the right thing. You can’t abuse your body and expect to live a long life. I used to take care of a lot of people. I see what needs to be done and I do it. I taught Sunday School and the kids loved me. When I took care of people, most of them didn’t want me to leave because when I cared for them, I made them my top priority. At the June-teenth Celebration, people came up to me and remembered how I took care of them. I once made food for a family whose mom was sick. They told me what I did was a blessing. My mom only went to the fifth grade but was very smart and sewed and cooked a lot. We raised our own chickens. We had a pet goat, a mule, and a horse that we would ride. It’s sad to say, but sometimes we don’t want to support one another. If you can’t follow God, then don’t ask him for anything. I have no family that still lives in Perth Amboy, but I have good friends who treat me like family and always make certain I have the necessary supplies on hand. I’ve helped other people raise their kids. Mary concluded, “I trust God all my life. I treat people how I want to be treated regardless how they treat me. We are all God’s children.”

Special thank you to Anna Daily for arranging the meeting)

**Our Special Thanksgiving Issue is
Coming Up on November 17, 2021
Call: Carolyn 732-896-4446
or Katherine 732-261-2610
For Our Special Advertising Rates
Deadline: November 12, 2021**

A Case For and Against Proposed Manhattan Beach LLC PILOT

10/6/21 Business Meeting

**Continued from Page 1*

auditor.

TR: Woodmont was supposed to bring an influx of people shopping on Broadway. It had no impact.

Mayor Fred Henry then said: The property has been there and no one who has seen it wants anything to do with it. Once they see the area, they see the cleanup needed and walk away. The developer we have right now has the means to do it. That is why the state has provisions and programs for PILOTS.

TR: What is the impact on the schools, Fire Department and First Aid?

KM: The developer will have to answer that.

TR: The PILOT is 30 years.

KM: That is what the market goes for.

TR: It takes 30 years to make up the cost? We've improved roads, got a ferry.

KM: Many costs of the developer has to pay out of his own pocket.

TR: We are taxing the land. The property is now going to be reduced in tax. Every time I do something to my house, my taxes go up. They are not bound to this property. They can sell it?

KM: Yes.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski then stated: The superintendent of schools was notified of the project and was ok with the potential number of schoolchildren.

TR: What do you think the taxes would be without the PILOT? Can you give me that number?

KM: They wouldn't be able to build the property at all.

TR: For every PILOT executed, the county gets less revenue. We are giving tax abatements all over. We need a grocery store. We start increasing the population of our town and there is more strain on our services. I think we are going down the wrong road. I spoke to Jersey City. They have \$2 billion in property value and \$120 million reflecting (tax loss). Do you think developers feel they are entitled to PILOTS?

KM: Redevelopers are atypically challenged, especially in New Jersey where most land available for redevelopment is environmentally contaminated and/or have unique space. When you consider it, it's more challenging.

TR: We did millions in infrastructure improvements. There are 1850 units. Now we are adding 600 more units.

KM: The land accounted for was underwater – not uncommon for the purpose of calculating density. It was not part of the initial project.

TR: PILOTS dictate what the developer pays the city.

KM: Developers ask for something that they collectively feel was more reasonable. It is driven by what revenue is taken in.

TR: If there is a vacancy, then there is no revenue (in that unit). The developer charges what they rent they want.

KM: Yes, if you own property, the revenue generally is that you take in as much as you can.

TR: I am voting “No” for the PILOT. This town is sinking with all the PILOTS.

Councilman Brian McLaughlin had a few questions of his own to Attorney Kevin McManimon.

BM: What towns have you had developments in? Did they all give PILOTS?

KM: Rutherford, Bergen County, Carteret, West Windsor, East Windsor, Piscataway... Most towns gave a PILOT. Not everyone, but most did.

When it came time to vote on 2021-19 and 2021-20 Tom Reilly was the only “No” vote.

Council Comments:

Councilman Tom Reilly thanked the food pantry and first responders. “I want to congratulate the fire department for Wildwood (winning trophies at the NJ State Fireman’s Convention). There is a group of individuals I want to recognize at the October 20th council meeting. I want to congratulate people who gave a lot of time to the town. This was put off due to the pandemic.”

Councilman Brian McLaughlin stated, “This was supposed to be in March 2020. There are a bunch of volunteers to be recognized. Congratulations to the fire department.”

Councilwoman Zusette Dato said, “We recently had a beach cleanup. It was well attended. We picked up litter – plastic. We had to fight off infestations of those lanternflies. Well done. The library is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. The roses in the center of the divider on Bordentown Avenue are beautiful. They have taken off brilliantly. I would like to fill the dividers on Main Street. It will beautify our city further.”

Law Director Francis Womack said, “Delivery of our new fire trucks is imminent. The library is having a Business Fair.

Vice President Christine Noble stated, “Mickey (Gross) had surgery and is recovering.

Mayor Fred Henry said, “I thank Kevin McManimon for being here tonight and anyone who helped with the Irish Festival. It was well put together. I signed the Waterfront Permit for the Army Corps. There are RFP’s for construction of the pier. Congratulations to the Fire Department. Wishing Mickey Gross a speedy recovery.

Councilman Tom Reilly added, “The Friends of South Amboy will be having 4 basketball games on December 18th. They are selling tickets. Last year we (the city) missed it (due to Covid). It benefits families in need.”

Public Portion:

Mary Szaro spoke. “On behalf of the Planning Board/Historic Preservation Commission, our first designation in town – the Independence Firehouse – the language is already part of the resolution. There is an update on the Demolition Ordinance. We feel we can move forward on the ordinance. It does not need to be updated in the Master Plan or the element. It will include an appendix.”

Law Director Francis Wom-

ack stated, “Mrs. Szaro will indicate the process at our next meeting. When it comes back, it will be on the agenda to designate the Independence Firehouse.” He then added, “There will be a Cemetery Tour on October 23rd.”

Resident Greg Babolack spoke next. “Mickey (Gross) is doing well. Are the two PILOTS for the same company – Manhattan Beach? Are they tied together? One is residential – one is a warehouse.”

Attorney Kevin McManimon answered, “It is a joint venture working together.”

Babolack asked, ‘Who looks for potential developers to come into our town? Does anyone do this for us?’

Resident and SARA (South Amboy Redevelopment Agency) Commissioner David Kales then came up to speak. “I was asked to present to why I voted “Yes” for the PILOT. I spent 20 hours on this presentation. Councilman Reilly, I commend you for your due diligence. For townhouses, we as a city get \$1.6 million in money. 43.9% is all we are expecting in tax revenue. 51.9% goes to schools; 43.2% goes to the city; 5% goes to the county. We would need \$4.3 million to generate some of the money. The city will receive for it. The revenue of the PILOT – it was in their acceptance. I am a retired police officer in South Amboy. I was also a developer. In the industry, there are only 15 developers (in New Jersey) who can build this.

Today's, the property we are talking about, there is not that. For the project, we have a contaminated property. The person is going to risk their life on the property. There is a lot of money. No one is complaining about the warehouse. The question is with the rentals. We are predicting \$2 per square foot. That is \$616,000/year. Yes, a tax credit. This PILOT – in 10 years that PILOT goes up 1%. That's \$7.5 million in gross revenue. Put your personal and professional self aside. We educated ourselves on another PILOT. What is the best for me and everyone else here? We have \$10.5 million liability. Environmental law states we find out who contaminated the property. This is not petroleum hydrocarbon. The liability is much worse than this. The city of South Amboy has liability here. This developer has indemnified the city of South Amboy. That takes the liability off of us. Ferry Road will be open to the public. This is why the state made a PILOT. It is for properties like this. Right now, we have property we can't use. The only thing the city of South Amboy is responsible for is police, fire, and first aid (departments) – if you manage our money correctly, which you are elected to do. For every one-thousand people you get, we need one police officer – three shifts – so three police officers. We are going to increase our police department (we are assured by our city council). In the first year, we will need 3 police of-

ficers. That's \$609,335/year. My taxes should not go up. We elect you to run it right. I did my due diligence. Tom (Reilly), I don't know what number will make you happy. The difference is \$89,000/year. Do the arithmetic. \$1.4 million for 1.5% in revenues from the PILOT. Over time, this is the lowest PILOT. It makes sense. Every single one can be Chapter 11. I am asking you to look at the PILOT. This is the one we need. The apartments will include: 73 studio apts.; 234 11-bedroom apts.; 117 1-bedroom apts. with a den; 62 2-bedroom-2 bathrooms. How many kids are involved? I know our schools are overcrowded. If you get 20% with 2-bedroom with kids that's 12 kids. You are going to have 12 more students. SARA gave \$300,000 for computers. How many kids did we get from Woodmont? 8 kids from Woodmont. Look at it with open minds. There are 15 developers in the state who can handle it. If we don't go forward, it puts us in 2 years. That puts us back \$2.5 million. If you walk away, you have nothing. You asked me to do my due diligence. I took it seriously. I want you to look openly and fairly. I know what you are dealing with. We get \$2 million, and we get rid of a liability. It's the biggest headache in this town.”

Councilwoman Zusette Dato thanked Mr. Kales for his work.

The meeting went into closed session at 7:40 p.m.

New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants is Accepting High School and College Scholarship Applications

New High School Minority and College Sophomore Awards Added

ROSELAND, N.J. — The New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJCPA), which already has one of the largest scholarship funds in the state, is now accepting applications for its accounting scholarships. College-bound New Jersey high school seniors and minority high school seniors, as well as sophomore and junior/senior college accounting students at New Jersey colleges or universities are encouraged to apply. The minority high school and college sophomore scholarships are new additions to the scholarship offerings this year.

Scholarships for High School Seniors

The NJCPA is providing \$1,500 scholarships to college-bound New Jersey high school seniors intending to major in accounting or obtain a concentration in accounting, with not less than 24 accounting credits.

In addition, a new \$1,500 Minority Scholarship, funded by Deloitte, was created to open the door for people of color who may lack the resources to pursue an accounting career. The four New Jersey high schools that were selected as part of the pilot program are:

Rahway High School, West Orange High School, New Brunswick High School and East Side High School (Newark). Minority high school seniors from the four selected high schools must intend to major in accounting in college. Six to eight candidates from each school are expected to be chosen.

The deadline to submit applications for both high school awards is Dec. 10, 2021.

Scholarships for College Students

The NJCPA is also opening applications for its \$6,500 scholarships for accounting students at New Jersey colleges or universities who are currently in their junior year or in their senior year and entering an accounting-related graduate program.

Additionally, New Jersey college sophomores who are continuing their education at a four-year New Jersey college are encouraged to apply for a \$2,000 award. Sophomores typically carry a heavy load of accounting coursework in their junior year, which is why the new scholarship was developed along with accommodating those students graduating from a two-year community college.

Both college scholarship awards have an application deadline of Jan. 7, 2022.

The NJCPA Scholarship Fund, which is supported by NJCPA member donations, will be distributing all of the scholarships. The Fund has given out awards to more than 2,000 New Jersey students, totaling more than \$7 million since its inception in the 1960s.

“Many students need extra financial support to continue their accounting studies. It is very rewarding to assist the next generation of CPAs,” said Henrietta Fuchs, CPA, president of the NJCPA Scholarship Fund and partner at CohnReznick LLP.

“We are grateful to Deloitte for making the new minority scholarship a reality for many deserving students, and we are pleased, as always, with the generosity of our members in making an accounting career more affordable,” added Ralph Albert Thomas, CPA (DC), CGMA, CEO and executive director of the NJCPA.

Scholarships are awarded based on academic performance, standardized test scores, essays and personal interviews. For a complete list of eligibility requirements and apply for the awards, visit njcpa.org/scholarships. Winners will be notified in March of 2022.

World War II - 75 Years Ago

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

The City of New York on October 18, 1946, formally invites the United Nations to make its permanent home there. When the world organization agrees, the city offers the use of some of the 1939-1940 World's Fair buildings in Flushing Meadows Park in Queens as the UN's temporary headquarters.

Dismantling of the U.S. Strategic Services Unit begins on October 19. Formed after the dissolution of the wartime Office of Strategic Services, the SSU will be folded into the newly created National Intelligence Authority, which has the responsibility of overseeing the Central Intelligence Group (later becoming the CIA).

In the first Berlin municipal elections since the war, Social Democrats on October 20 receive almost 50% of the vote. The Soviet-sponsored Socialist Unity Party polls only 19%. In San Juan, PIP, the Puerto Rican Independence Party (*Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño*) is founded, with the aim of creating a "free, independent and democratic republic" separate from the U.S.

Jawaharlal Nehru and two of his party are injured on October 21 when Muslims attack their car near Peshawar, in northwestern British India. A British Royal Navy vessel intercepts a Jewish refugee ship with 819 aboard and tows it to Haifa. The passengers are transferred to internment camps in Cyprus. President Juan Perón of Argentina outlines his five-year plan for industrialization and development. Nationalist Chinese president Chiang Kai-shek makes his first visit to the island of Taiwan.

On October 22, two British destroyers — *HMS Saumarez* and *HMS Volage* — are heavily damaged (one beyond repair) by mines while steaming through the Corfu Channel that separates the Greek island of Corfu and Albania. In the blasts, 44 British seamen are killed, and 42 are injured. After determining Albanian guilt, Great Britain breaks off relations with the Balkan nation. (The mines were German, but new, and were likely laid by the Yugoslavs at Albania's direction.) Subsequently, the United Nations and the International Court of Justice condemn Albania for placing the mines and not warning the British about them. In Soviet-occupied Germany, Soviet authorities round up 400 German engineers and technicians critical to the Soviet space program and deport them and their families to the U.S.S.R. for service there.

The United Nations General Assembly meets in New York City for the first time, on October 23, continuing a session that had been started in London. U.S. President Harry Truman officially re-opens the session, being held in an auditorium of the former New York City Pavilion from the 1939-1940 World's Fair in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in Queens. The U.S. government lifts all price controls on food and beverages except for rice, sugar, syrups and molasses. Kurt Daluege, the Nazi SS officer who ordered the Lidice massacre on June 9, 1942, is hanged in Prague, Czechoslovakia. In the massacre, all the residents of the Czech village were killed, and the buildings razed, in retaliation for the assassination of Reich Protector Reinhard Heydrich five days earlier.

British Lt. Col. Richard Webb detains reporters on October 24 when they try to witness a roundup of Jews in Jerusalem. Acquitted Nuremberg defendant Franz von Papen finally leaves prison. The Netherlands and Indonesia sign a cease-fire agreement. A camera on board a V-2 rocket launched from White Sands, New Mexico, takes the first photograph of earth from space (actually, 65 miles up).

In Nuremberg, Germany, on October 25, 1946, indictments are handed down against 20 Nazi physicians, two administrators and an attorney for war crimes, including euthanasia murder, human experimentation and medical torture. In response to Muslim atrocities against Hindus in East Bengal earlier in the month, Hindus in Bihar state demonstrate and riot, attacking Muslim families. Over the next week, the death toll will be officially reported as 4,580. Unofficial sources place the number at 10,000 or more.

Continued sectarian violence rages across India on October 26. In Calcutta, 27 people are killed, while attacks on Hindus by Muslims in eastern Bengal cause 250 deaths. Otto Thierack, Reich Minister of Justice from 1942-1945, commits suicide by ingesting poison while in pre-trial captivity.

The Ubangi-Shari colony, French Equatorial Africa, French Somaliland, Chad, the Comoros, French settlements in Oceania, Madagascar, French Sudan, Mauritania, New Caledonia, St. Pierre & Miquelon, Senegal, and Côte d'Ivoire are all made overseas territories of France on October 27. Georgi Dimitrov's "Fatherland Front" — a coalition of communist political parties — wins handily in Bulgarian elections with 78% of the vote. Dimitrov becomes the first communist prime minister of Bulgaria. For the first time in its history, Venezuela conducts voting by secret ballot. It is also the first election in which every citizen 18 years or older is eligible to vote without restrictions.

Reacting to persecution of leftist and communist citizens by the conservative government and the more than 150 anti-communist groups in the country, the Greek Communist Party and its allies on October 28 create the Democratic Army of Greece. Commanded by Markos Vafeiadis, the 13,000-member guerrilla force seeks to place the Communist Party of Greece into power, thus reigniting the Greek Civil War.

A train carrying Mohandas K. Gandhi is attacked and stoned in Aligarh, northern India, on October 29. Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov surprises the UN General Assembly by calling for universal disarmament and the banning of all nuclear weapons. He hints that the U.S. may not be the only possessor of an atomic bomb. In Washington, D.C., U.S. Army Air Forces Maj. Gen. Lauris Norstad, Director of Plans and Operations for the War Department, tells President Truman that the only way the U.S. could prevent the U.S.S.R. from invading Western Europe would be by an airborne attack against 17 Soviet cities with atomic weapons. (At the time, the U.S. has only nine atomic bombs in its arsenal.)

The U.S., the U.K., the Netherlands and France on October 30 establish the Caribbean Commission — to be headquartered in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago — to address and improve common economic and social issues in the region.

On October 31, two people are injured and part of the British embassy in Rome is destroyed by two bombs planted by operatives of Irgun, a Zionist paramilitary organization in Mandatory Palestine. The attack — to protest the British policy of limiting Jewish immigration to Palestine — is the first on European soil. The nascent Indonesian government launches the Indonesian rupiah as its currency and encourages its citizens to use the money in place of the Netherlands Indies gulden as a symbol of independence. An earlier attempt to launch the rupiah was foiled when Dutch colonial authorities seized the printing plant and confiscated the original press run of the currency.

Food Drive for Local Families

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy High School Interact Club (Rotary Club) and the City of South Amboy is holding a food drive to benefit local families. If you are able to donate, there will be a collection of non-perishable food, personal hygiene products and paper goods. Donations can be dropped off at the side door of the South Amboy Senior Center on Henry Street, Mondays – Friday's from 8 a.m. to 3p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Jaclyn at (732) 525-5965. You can also contact Cathy at the Nurse's office in the South Amboy Middle/High School at (732) 316-7668 option 3 to arrange curbside drop off.

Bingo is Back

PERTH AMBOY – \$1000 Bingo is back at the Magyar (Hungarian) Reformed Church located at the Reformed Church Hall, 347 Kirkland Place, at the corner of Kirkland and Fayette Streets on Mondays, starting October 11, 2021. Parking option behind the church (331 Kirkland Pl., accessible from Wilson Street.) Doors open 6:30 p.m. Bingo starts at 7:30 p.m. Masks are mandatory. No exceptions! Snacks and coffee are available for sale. For more info, call 732-442-7799. License No: BL-1060: ID No: 387-1-29395

Kolbasz Sale

WOODBIDGE - Fresh Hungarian Kolbasz (kielbasy) Sale by the Calvin Hungarian Reformed Church of Woodbridge NJ. on Friday, October 29th. Deadline for orders is October 18th. Price is \$7.00 a pound. To place an order call Audrey Marciniak at 732-494-1431 or the church office 732-634--1751. Orders can be picked up on October 29th between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Please use the Ross Street entrance to Fellowship Hall.

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.

Riley's Touch A Truck

SOUTH AMBOY - Riley's Touch a Truck Sunday, 10/24/21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the South Amboy High School. Come and touch, climb, and take pictures with your favorite trucks and vehicles! 100% of the proceeds will go to the Hugh Riley Rone Scholarship Fund. Enjoy the D.J., Live Music and the Col D.B. Kelly Pipes and Drums, Face Painting and Refreshments. Donation \$20 per family/\$5 per person. Sponsored by the Rone Family & SAHS Baseball Team @RileysTouchATruck

Boscov's 25% Off Shopping Discount

SAYREVILLE - Wednesday, October 20th, 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. Location: Boscov's (Woodbridge Center or Eatontown). Friends Helping Friends Fundraiser - \$5 Pass for 25% Discount at Boscov's (off most purchases).

The \$5 is donated right back to Friends of the Sayreville Public Library. Select our charity at the register in-store during check-out. Passes may be purchased at the library or at Boscov's the day of the event.

Presented by the Friends of the Sayreville Public Library.



South Amboy Seniors

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Senior Citizens club is looking for new members. Anyone 60+ years old that lives in South Amboy or has a 08879 zip code is eligible to join. The meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 12:00 Noon at the Senior Building on Stevens Avenue. Come have fun and join the members for lunch and see if you're interested in joining the club. If interested or seeking more information, please call Gretchen at 732-721-2501 or Sandy at 732-721-6576.

Coat & Clothing Drive

SOUTH AMBOY - The Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women will sponsor a clothing drive on October 23 and 24. Your donations will be distributed by the Jersey Shore Rescue Mission in Asbury Park, NJ to those in need, or sold in their Thrift Store where proceeds from clothing sales provide funding for meals, shelter, and essential items to those in need.

Please drop off your coats and clothing on Saturday, October 23, from 3:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. and Sunday, October 24, from 6:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Place your bagged donation in the plastic bins in front of Memorial Hall, 529 Washington Avenue, South Amboy.

Thank you, in advance, for your generosity!

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

Basketball Games Fundraiser

SOUTH AMBOY - This year's Friends of South Amboy fundraising event will be held on Saturday, December 18th at South Amboy Middle High School, 200 Governor Harold G. Hoffman Plaza. Proceeds from the event will benefit families in need. As in years past the event will feature local high school basketball games, as follows:

- | | |
|--------|--|
| 2 p.m. | South Amboy girls vs. Highland Park |
| 4 p.m. | South Amboy boys vs. Spotswood |
| 6 p.m. | Sayreville boys vs. Johnson high school |
| 8 p.m. | St. Thomas Aquinas boys vs. St. Joe's Metuchen |

Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Perth Amboy Honors Brian Taylor by Naming Basketball Courts in Washington Park the Brian Taylor Basketball Courts, Raritan Bay Area YMCA , Perth Amboy 9/9/21 *Photos by Paul W. Wang



Our Lady of Fatima Bishop Visit , 360 Smith St., Perth Amboy, 9/19/21

**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



**Attn: If Your Club changes its Schedule Due to the Holidays Or if You Have Community Events to Submit Please Give Us Two Weeks Advanced Notice!
Call: 732-896-4446 or 732-261-2610 or email: AmboyGuardian@gmail.com**

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.

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

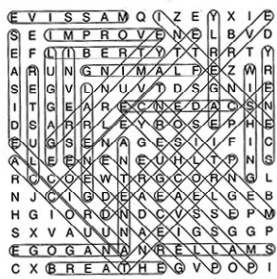
(Never known to fail)
O Most Beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity *(make request)*. There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times).
Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).
(Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. You must publish it, and it will be granted to you.) A.L.S.

Novena to St. Anthony

O Holy St. Anthony, reach down from heaven and take hold of my hand. Assure me that I am not alone. You are known to possess miraculous powers and to be ever ready to speak for those in trouble. Loving and Gentle St. Anthony, reach down from heaven I implore you and assist me in my hour of need. Obtain for me *(mention your request here)*. Dearest St. Anthony, reach down from heaven and guide me with thy strength. Plead for me in my needs. And teach me to be humbly thankful as you were for all the bountiful blessings I am to receive. Amen. *A.L.S.*

Remember to Say Your Novenas!

Answers From Puzzle On Page 17



Pig Roast for Breast Cancer Awareness

PERTH AMBOY – The American Legion Post 45, at 530 Smith St., will be having a Pig Roast Fundraiser on Saturday, October 23, 2021, beginning at 1 p.m. for Breast Cancer Awareness. Donation \$15pp. At 4 p.m. Commander Harry Scheman will have his head shaved for donations.

A.C. Bus Trip Holy Rosary Seniors

HOPELAWN – The Holy Rosary Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Resorts Casino, Atlantic City, Tuesday, 12/7/2021. Cost is \$35 with \$20 back in play. Bus leaves our parking lot (625 Florida Grove Rd.) promptly at 10:00 a.m. For more information, please call Connie at 732-442-4978.

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, NOV. 4, 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!

You must pay with exact amount of ticket and before you board the bus. We will not be able to give out change.

Pets of the Week



PERTH AMBOY - Adopt a rescue kitten or cat today! Fixed and fully vetted. Email vmoralespps@yahoo.com for the adoption application or text 1.732.486.6382 for more info. or photos of our adoptable kitties.

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.

Spotted Lantern Fly, Perth Amboy 9/5/21

**Photo by Louis Petro*



Photo of a Spotted Lantern Fly. They are considered an Invasive Species and it is recommended to kill it on sight. To report a sighting, email SLF-plantindustry@ag.nj.gov.

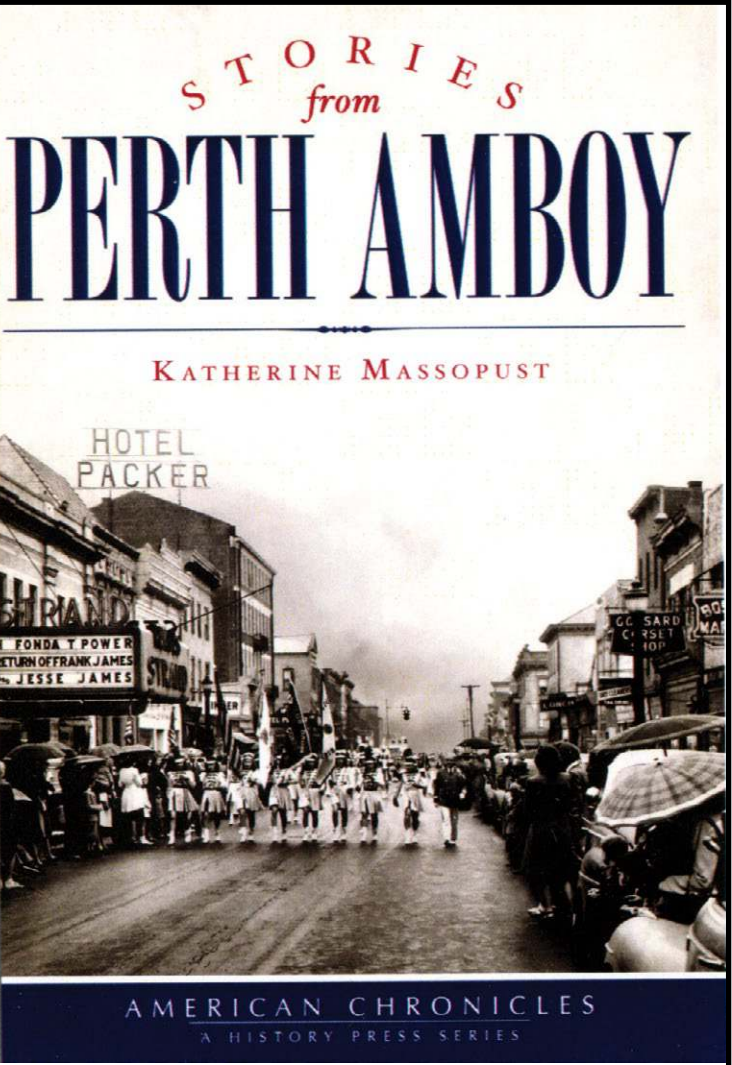
LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – Halloween at Water's Stadium

**Photo Courtesy of Gary Muska*

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



Stories From Perth Amboy

PERTH AMBOY - Stories From Perth Amboy by Katherine Massopust is available from Katherine at 732-261-2610 or at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy - 732-442-3000 or at: www.amazon.com A Great Gift! Get it now along with Then & Now: Perth Amboy!

E&C Leaders Announce Legislation to Reform Section 230

The Justice Against Malicious Algorithms Act Removes Liability Shield When a Platform Knowingly or Recklessly Promotes Harmful Content

Press Release 10/14/21
WASHINGTON, D.C. – Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ), Communications and Technology Subcommittee Chairman Mike Doyle (D-PA), Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee Chair Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), and Health Subcommittee Chair Anna Eshoo (D-CA) announced new legislation today to reform Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, which shields websites and on-line platforms from being held liable for third-party content.

The legislation, titled the Justice Against Malicious Algorithms Act, would amend Section 230 to remove absolute immunity in certain instances. Specifically, the bill would lift the Section 230 liability shield when an online platform knowingly or recklessly uses an algorithm or other technology to recommend content that materially contributes to physical or severe emotional injury. The bill will be introduced in the House tomorrow.

“Social media platforms like Facebook continue to actively amplify content that endangers our families, promotes conspiracy theories, and incites extremism to generate more clicks and ad dollars. These platforms are not passive bystanders – they are knowingly choosing profits over people, and our country is paying the price,” said Pallone. “The time for self-regulation is over, and this bill holds them accountable. Designing personalized algorithms that promote extremism, disinformation, and harmful content is a conscious choice, and platforms should have to answer for it.”

“We finally have proof that some social media platforms pursue profit at the expense of the public good, so it’s time to change their incentives, and that’s exactly what the Justice Against Malicious Algorithms Act would do,” Doyle said. “Under this bill, Section 230 would no longer fully protect social media platforms from all responsibility for the harm they do to our society. It’s my hope that by making it possible to hold social media platforms accountable for the harm they cause, we can help optimize the internet’s impact on our society.”

“The era of self-regulation

is ending, and apologies and promises are no longer acceptable: today I join my colleagues to protect American consumers from companies that consistently put profits over people,” said Schakowsky. “Technology companies like Facebook say their platforms give every user a voice, but they amplify some voices over others. The Justice Against Malicious Algorithms Act holds these companies accountable for the severe harm they cause by spreading dangerous information. Today we make clear that people are more important than profits.”

“As Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen has proven through testimony and documents, Facebook is knowingly amplifying harmful content and abusing the immunity of Section 230 well beyond congressional intent,” said Eshoo. “The Justice Against Malicious Algorithms Act ensures courts can hold platforms accountable when they knowingly or recklessly recommend content that materially contributes to harm. This approach builds on my bill, the Protecting Americans from Dangerous Algorithms Act, and I’m proud to partner with my colleagues on this important legislation.”

Online platforms use a personal user’s history to recommend or prioritize content. The Justice Against Malicious Algorithms Act would remove Section 230 immunity if an online platform knowingly or recklessly uses an algorithm to recommend content to a user based on that personal information, and if that recommendation materially contributes to physical or severe emotional injury.

The bill targets malicious algorithms but does not apply to search features or algorithms that do not rely on personalization. It would also not apply to internet infrastructure such as web hosting or data storage and transfer, or to small online platforms with fewer than five million unique monthly visitors or users.

The legislation is the result of years of hearings and oversight efforts, including an October 2019 hearing on Section 230 and content moderation, a June 2020 hearing on the rise of on-line disinformation and extremism, and March’s hearing with the CEOs of Facebook, Twitter, and Google.

Middlesex County Launches Latino Telehealth Pilot Program to Increase the Utilization of Telehealth Services and Expand Healthcare Access Within the Latino Community

Press Release 10/21/21
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NJ – Middlesex County has launched the Latino Telehealth Pilot Program to focus on increasing the utilization of telehealth services within the Latino community and expand healthcare access to uninsured and underinsured communities. In addition to healthcare benefits, the telehealth hubs will offer free internet, tech assistance, and bilingual staff and translators at physical locations, or hubs, to maximize assistance. The launch took place today at the pilot program’s first hub location, the Raritan Bay Area YMCA.

Sharing the significance of this community-based healthcare initiative for the County, speakers at the press conference included Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly Craig Coughlin; New Jersey Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez; Board of County Commissioners Director Ronald G. Rios; County Commissioner Claribel Azcona-Barber; Perth Amboy Mayor Helmin J. Caba; Steve Jobin, President & CEO of the Raritan Bay Area YMCA; Dr. Daniel W. Varga, Chief Physician Executive, Hackensack Meridian Health; Dr. Andy Anderson, President, RWJBarnabas Health Medical Group; Dr. Jordan Tannenbaum, Vice President/Chief Information Officer and Chief Medical Information Officer St. Peter’s Healthcare System.

“Through the collaboration of local health care providers, community-based agencies, and the county itself, the Latino Telehealth Pilot Program will provide easy, convenient, and efficient healthcare resources to Latino residents and communities of color,” said Board of County Commissioners Director Ronald G. Rios. “By increasing awareness of Telehealth options and providing support to our Latino community and communities of color, we are expanding access to the care those residents need both during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. For our Spanish-speaking residents, we are bringing healthcare to you, for you, in



your language.”

“As we witnessed over the past year, the COVID-19 pandemic effected Latinos and communities of color at a much higher rate than others,” said County Commissioner Claribel Azcona-Barber. “The Latino Telehealth Pilot Program is an innovative approach to create opportunities for preventative and specialized healthcare services and connections for our residents. It is safe, secure, affordable, and most importantly, vital to our overall well-being and longevity.”

“As we continue to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and reflect on the many lessons we have learned, one of the most important realizations has been the value of telehealth in the future of healthcare,” said Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez. “The Middlesex County Latino Telehealth Pilot Program specifically leverages the promise of telehealth in addressing the needs of a vulnerable community by connecting them with safe, convenient and accessible healthcare services. I look forward to the achievements of this program and improving the overall health of the community.”

“Telehealth has transformed how we provide healthcare and will prove meaningful in our approach to securing better health outcomes for our most vulnerable populations in New Jersey,” said Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin. “When we come to the table to talk with our communities, we not only listen but we act, and the pilot

program launched today is evidence of our commitment to asserting healthcare as a right, not a privilege.”

“On behalf of all the residents in Perth Amboy, I would like to thank Middlesex County for bringing this initiative to our community,” said Mayor Helmin J. Caba, City of Perth Amboy. “With the launch of this Telehealth Pilot Program, we are on the right path to addressing issues we have been concerned with for many years, including lack of access to healthcare, vulnerable populations, and health disparities.”

“Making healthcare accessible to everyone is an incredibly complex issue that cannot be addressed without key stakeholders such as community centers,” said Steve Jobin, President & CEO of the Raritan Bay Area YMCA. “The Raritan Bay Area YMCA is proud to be part of such an amazing healthcare initiative as our location will make accessing healthcare more convenient for not just residents in Perth Amboy, but the whole County. Access to healthcare benefits everyone, and telehealth is a step toward preventative care and a healthier community.”

Additionally, Middlesex County will eventually expand this pilot program to Carteret and New Brunswick to assist those in need, especially the underserved residents of Middlesex County.

For more information about the Latino Telehealth Pilot Program, please visit: middlesex-countynj.gov/telehealth.

Ads Sell! Call Carolyn! 732-896-4446

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 October 23rd and November 13th 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.

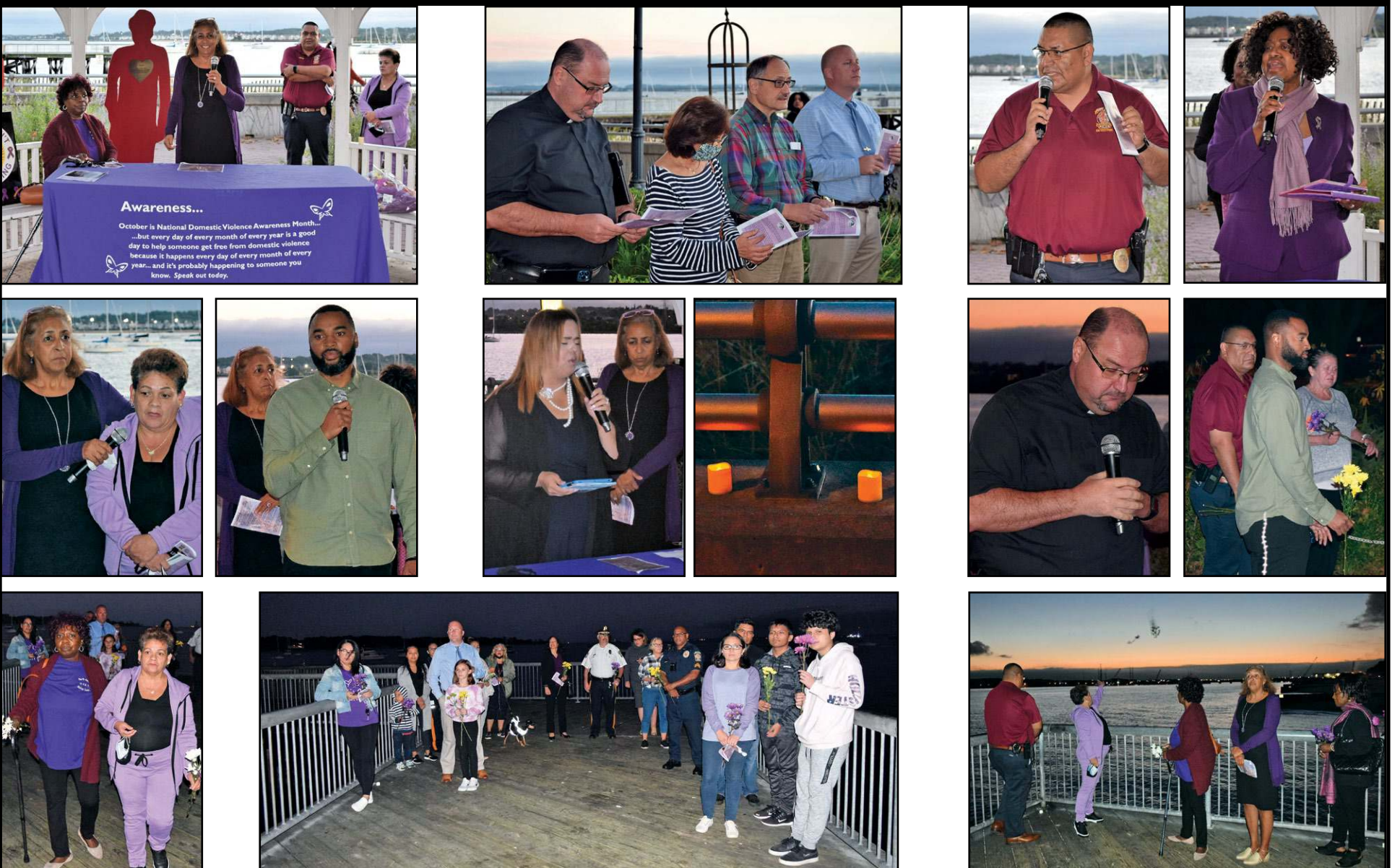
For more information email us at friendsofperthamboylibrary@gmail.com, or call us at 201-381-1903 and like us on Facebook. Dealers are welcome. At this time, we are not accepting donations of books.



Domestic Violence Flag Raising, City Hall Circle, Perth Amboy 10/12/21 *Photos by Katherine Massopust



Domestic Violence Candlelight Vigil, Sadowski Parkway, Perth Amboy 10/12/21 *Photos by Paul W. Wang



Opening of Teen Center, Brighton Avenue, Perth Amboy 10/5/21 *Photos by Paul W. Wang



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Perth Amboy Eats Food Tour, Perth Amboy 10/16/21 *Photos by Bob Rinklin for the Perth Amboy BID



Outside of the Orellana Bakery at 281 Madison Avenue.



The Perth Amboy Eats: Food Tour featured seating and resting areas. Tables and chairs were placed at 7-11 at 255 Smith Street and at different locations along the food tour route. Food tour fans had time relax, sample the cuisine and listen to live music.



Don Manuel Restaurant served guests from the Perth Amboy Eats: Food Tour delicious samples of its cuisine including wonderful chicken and fish dishes. Participating food tour eateries decorated the areas in the front of their businesses to serve visitors and create a welcoming, joyous celebration of city's food and dining scene. Don Manuel's Yanillette Cortes shows her new food tour friends the range of cuisine offered by the restaurant.

Hispanic Heritage Month, Perth Amboy Free Public Library, 10/14/21 *Photos by Paul W. Wang



How to Apply for Continued Rental Assistance from FEMA

Press Release 10/13/21
NEW JERSEY - FEMA may provide financial assistance to residents of Bergen, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Union and Warren counties who need temporary housing because they are displaced from their primary residence as a result of rains and flooding from remnants of Hurricane Ida.

If you received an initial grant of FEMA rental assistance, FEMA may provide Continued Temporary Housing Assistance to eligible applicants based on need and generally only when adequate, alternate housing is not available, or you cannot return to your primary residence. FEMA mails a reminder and an application to households after they receive their initial rental assistance grant. If you did not receive the reminder and application, call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585) to request the application. It is important that FEMA have your current contact information. Renters must call the FEMA Helpline to determine eligibility.

The application must be accompanied by these supporting documents:

- Pre-disaster and current household income status
- Copies of pre-disaster lease, utility bills, renter's insurance
- Copy of current lease or rental agreement signed by you and the landlord
- Rent receipts, canceled checks or money orders showing the rental assistance was used to pay for housing expenses.
- The continued temporary housing need must be documented, and the applicant must continue to work toward obtaining permanent housing to remain eligible for Continued Temporary Housing Assistance.

You can submit these documents to FEMA the following ways:

- Create an account at DisasterAssistance.gov (Click "Check Status" on the Home Page and follow the instructions)
- Upload via the FEMA App for smartphones
- Mail to FEMA National Processing Service Center, P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville MD 20782-7055
- Fax to 800-827-8112, Attention: FEMA

Fact Sheet Lodging Expense Reimbursement

Press Release 10/7/21
NEW JERSEY - New Jersey residents in Bergen, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Union and Warren counties who incurred expenses for short-term lodging because of Hurricane Ida, you may be eligible for reimbursement from FEMA.

What is Lodging Expense Reimbursement (LER)?

FEMA may be able to provide reimbursement to eligible disaster survivors for out-of-pocket lodging expenses that are not covered by insurance benefits such as additional living expenses or loss of use. To be considered for LER your pre-disaster primary residence must be unlivable, inaccessible or affected by an extended disaster-caused utility outage.

You may be considered for LER from FEMA if you have not received lodging assistance from any other source (e.g., voluntary organization) for the same dates the applicant is requesting LER.

By law, FEMA cannot duplicate benefits of insurance. Insurance policies may include Additional Living Expenses or Loss of Use coverage, which is a benefit that provides supplemental money to cover increased costs, including temporary housing, when you are unable to live in your home due to a loss covered by insurance.

How Do I Get Reimbursed?

To be considered for LER, eligible applicants must submit verifiable lodging receipts or itemized statements with the following information: The name of the applicant or co-applicant, information for the

lodging provider (name, address and phone number), dates of occupancy and the amount of expenses incurred.

Applicants can upload their receipts online to their DisasterAssistance.gov account. Include the following information on all documents: Your name; last four digits of your social security number; your nine-digit FEMA applicant number; and the FEMA disaster number DR-4614-NJ.

To upload documents or create an online account follow these steps:

1. Visit DisasterAssistance.gov
2. Login or create your online account
3. Select the correspondence tab
4. Select upload center
5. Follow the online instructions

Survivors can also submit through standard mail at: P.O. Box 10055 Attn: FEMA Hyattsville, MD 20782-8055; or Fax documents to (800) 827-8112 (Cover sheet required).

Haven't Registered With FEMA?

If you are uninsured or underinsured, and still have unmet disaster-related needs, you may be eligible for federal assistance. The fastest and easiest way to apply is by visiting DisasterAssistance.gov.

If you are unable to apply online, you can apply via the FEMA app or call 800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585). The toll-free telephone lines are currently operating 24 hours per day, seven days a week. If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service.

Movie Review: Cry Macho



By: Anton Massopust
"You have to make choices in life. Kid, you have to make yours."

In the new Clint Eastwood film "Cry Macho," Mike Milo (Clint Eastwood), an old cowboy and horse breeder during the 1970s who used to ride the rodeo circuit and now is too old, but he still has a lot of experience to give. When his old boss sends him down to Mexico to get a young boy named Rafael (Eduardo Minetti) to bring him back to Texas away from his alcoholic mom, Leta (Fernanda Urrejola). Mike teaches Rafael how to be a good man.

Reluctantly Mike decides to do this. On the way there, he runs into Rafael's mother who is not a very good person. She said that the boy has run away, and he might find him at the

rooster fights. A friendship forms between Mike and Rafael. His rooster's name is macho because he is tough, but the federales (police) are after them because the mom wants the boy back. Unbeknownst to Rafael, his father has documents that state he owns property, but he put it in Leta's name. If Rafael comes back to the United States, his father has a stake in the property. Mike eventually finds this all out, but he feels that it is better Rafael goes back to Texas where he can at least have a new start.

After Mike's car breaks down, Mike and Rafael end up stranded in a small town in Mexico. Mike helps the villagers heal their animals and sell wild mustangs by his experience as a Cowhand. Both old man and young boy need each

other and learn a lot about each other. There is still a little bit of things that they both can teach each other.

Clint Eastwood is a fine director, and this is a simple, quiet, little modern western that you can watch if you love those kinds of movies. There's a little bit of action and adventure, but I think young people can learn a lot from this movie. It's quiet and simple, but moves very slowly, but you're interested all the way through this journey and coming of age movie. An old man eventually finds a place in this world, while a young man finds out who to trust and how to be a better person. There are interesting characters and it's worth just a nice sit-down to watch give it a try. It's really good.

Pallone Announces Schools and Libraries in New Jersey Will Receive \$20.9 Million from Second Round of Funding from FCC's Emergency Connectivity Fund Program

Press Release 10/13/21
WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) announced today that schools and libraries in New Jersey will receive \$20.9 million from the second round of funding from the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Emergency Connectivity Fund Program (ECF). Schools and libraries in New Jersey's 6th Congressional District will receive a total of \$184,337.85. This marks the second round of approved funding from the program's first application period that Pallone announced in June. Last month, Pallone announced that New Jersey received \$33.4 million in the first round of funding, which included over \$5.3 million for Pallone's district.

The ECF provides funding to help students, teachers, and library patrons get the tools they need to connect to the Internet

from home – crucial resources as families continue to rely on virtual classrooms and high-speed Internet to learn. Funding can be used to purchase modems, devices like laptops and tablets, broadband service, and more. The \$7.17 billion ECF program was spearheaded by Pallone's Energy and Commerce Committee and authorized as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law in March.

"I'm pleased that schools and libraries in New Jersey are continuing to receive critical funding from the American Rescue Plan that will help build on our progress toward ensuring every student and teacher can stay connected to their classroom. I authored the Emergency Connectivity Fund because this program will help get broadband service and devices into the hands of the students, teachers,

and library patrons who need them," Pallone said. "This funding, like the awards approved last month, will help students with virtual learning, which will remain a crucial tool long after the COVID-19 pandemic is over. This funding is a critical investment in the future of young people in our state, and I will continue to work to ensure that access to broadband and technology is not a barrier to learning for any student."

Schools and libraries in New Jersey's 6th Congressional District will receive \$184,337.85, including:

- St. Francis Cathedral School: \$40,000
- Metuchen School District: \$115,217.33
- Long Branch Public Library System: \$16,920.72
- Asbury Park Public Library: \$12,199.80





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NEWARK - Don't let this one get away - Large home with lots of potential to customize it to your liking. Property needs some TLC and can be a great investment opportunity. showing begins, Saturday 10/8/21. **\$269,000**



PERTH AMBOY - This is a great 1/2 duplex in the heart of Perth Amboy, many upgrades great price and location close to most public transportations and shopping district. Gas furnace and Hot Water Tank were installed in 2019. great condition. Hurry. **\$239,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great brick two family separated utilities, off street parking mutual driveway, very good condition easy to show. Very close to all public transportation. **\$460,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Beautiful House update in the heart of Perth Amboy two Car Garage and plenty of parking. It won't last showings star Friday 10/8/21. **\$399,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great opportunity to own a huge two family with all separated utilities including water. a must see. This property has many possibilities. showing begins 9/04/2021. **\$480,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Immaculate split-level house many upgrades located near Washington Park, most public transportations, Major Highways and shopping malls, featuring one car garage, lots of parking space, 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, hardwood floors full basement. this Gem is a truly move-in condition. **\$399,000**



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 CO and all repairs and termite cert. Short sale. Subject to third party approval. 50% commission split subject to lender approval. **\$199,900**



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. **\$249,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Large warehouse with many possibilities, close to most public transportation. currently is being used as garage for school buses. **\$599,000**