



THE

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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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Cross-Country Team Recognized, Ferry on Its Way 12/15/21 Business/Council Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust

SOUTH AMBOY – At the beginning of the meeting, the Council recognized the achievements of the South Amboy Cross Country Team. Councilman Tom Reilly read the accomplishments individually of each cross-country student athlete and then he again read the team's accomplishments as a group.

RESOLUTION

RECOGNITION – SOUTH AMBOY CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of South Amboy would like to acknowledge the South Amboy Cross Country team for its 2021 achievements; and

WHEREAS, this year the Cross Country team had an undefeated Dual Meet Season, were Blue Division Champions, took 13th place at GMC Championships and 6th place at NJSIAA Sectionals; and

WHEREAS, Joe Jamolowicz, Captain, joined the team in 7th grade and has been a varsity runner since freshman year and has gone undefeated for the last two seasons in division races and has a PR time of 17:09 which makes him the third fastest runner in school history; and

WHEREAS, Rafael Albarran, Captain, joined the team in 7th grade and has been a varsity runner since freshman year and has a PR time of 17:38 making him the 5th fastest runner in school history; and

WHEREAS, Jack Smith joined the team in his junior year and was the teams 5th runner this year; and

WHEREAS, Steven Evanski joined the team in his junior year and quickly became the teams number three runner; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Evanski joined the team in his freshman year and placed 12th at the GMC freshman championship in a PR time of 19:53; and

WHEREAS, Gabriel Albarran joined the team in 7th grade and has been a varsity runner ever since with a PR time of 21:07; and

WHEREAS, James Jamolowicz joined the team in 7th grade and made his varsity debut in his sophomore year and has a PR time of 24:15; and

WHEREAS, Guinevere Kennedy, Women's Captain, joined the team in 7th grade and has been a varsity runner since her freshman year and has been undefeated in division races for the last two seasons and placed 14th in the county at the GMC Championship meet. She qualified for the NJSIAA State Group 1 meet for the last three years and this season became only the second runner in school history, and first girl, to qualify for the Meet of Champions and has a PR time of 20:31 making her the fastest girl in school history. NOW, THEREFORE, WE, The Governing Body of the City of South Amboy, would like to recognize the above for all their numerous achievements and excellent representation of the City of South Amboy.

Mayor Fred Henry stated, "I want to congratulate the Cross-Country Team. Teammates press you to do better, but many times participants from other teams cause you to improve."

For the regular portion of the meeting, Council President Mickey Gross explained that South Amboy has its own Board of Health. Tom Sikorski came up to speak. He stated that he has been with the county from 25 – 30 years and has a total of 47 years of experience in the Health Department. "We have one inspector full time in South Amboy. We have one inspector assigned in case for any municipality. Recently, we had parents and students at a flu clinic at the former Cardinal McCarrick site." There were no questions for Mr. Sikorski.

There were some clarifications on the consent agenda. CFO Dan Balka explained 21-237 – A Resolution Cancelling Grant Balances. "All grants received and never spent - we never received funds. This happened before my time."

For 21-239 – A Resolution authorizing the purchase of electronic signs. It was noted by Business Administer Glenn Skarzynski that the signs have to be within a half mile of the train station and that transit information will be on the signs.

For 21-241 – Resolution awarding the contract for Ferry Terminal Operator to Port Imperial Ferry Corporation DBA/

NY Waterway. B.A. Skarzynski explained, "There is a term of service for 10 years, 10 years renewal with mutual 10-year term. A 2-story building (when it is built). The first floor will have fast food (grab and go). The second floor will be management and hopefully a destination restaurant. The city gets 30¢ per passenger. The figure goes up after a year to 33¢, 37¢, etc. We get 2¢ per 1lb of cargo. There will be UPS packages, FedEx, mail, parcel... we are obligated to do capital improvements which must be done within the facility. We agreed to these terms." It was noted there is a minimum of \$50,000 revenue per year guaranteed. "South Amboy gets 10% of concessions which will consist of grab and go food (ready prepared sandwiches and snacks). There will be no alcohol for sale." B.A. Skarzynski explained that grant money will pay for construction of the facility. There will be 750 parking spots going in. We want a restaurant coming in and no charge for parking. We want the ferry to be a self-liquidating facility. There will be no overnight parking. The DPW is responsible for snow removal of the sidewalks. Maintenance will be paid for by grant money. We can look at future grants for ongoing maintenance."

Mayor Fred Henry stated they will be audited every 25th day of every month and the city will be given a ridership report.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski stated that for this July, there will be a floating platform to start service as soon as possible. "We will buy our barge as early as possible."

The council passed the consent agenda. Councilman Brian McLaughlin abstained for 21-241 due to a conflict of interest.

Ordinance 2021-18 – An Ordinance amending Article XI of the South Amboy City Code to establish levels of staffing and create administrative divisions within the South Amboy Police Department. No one spoke during the public portion of the ordinance. Police Chief Darren Lavigne stated that his concerns have been satisfied and he was comfortable with the resolution. The vote was Tom Reilly, Zusette Dato, Mickey Gross



SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Cross Country Team Captains (Joe Jamolowicz, Rafael Albarran, Guinevere Kennedy) hold a copy of the Resolution honoring the team at the 12/15/21 Council Meeting. Councilman Tom Reilly (R).

*Photos by Katherine Massopust



SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Cross Country Team were honored at the 12/15/21 Council Meeting

"Yes", and Brian McLaughlin, Christine Noble "No". Motion passes 3-2.

Council Comments:

Councilwoman Zusette Dato stated, "Congratulations to the Cross-Country Team. They make us all proud." She then

spoke about the recent devastation in the Midwest from tornadoes. "Keep them in mind and in your hearts. Kindly send donations to organizations such as Habitat for Humanity or World

*Continued on Page 3

Gustav J. Novak

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Pallone: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Is Improving New Jersey’s Water Infrastructure and Access to Safe Drinking Water

Press Release 12/17/21
PERTH AMBOY, NJ – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) held a press conference today with local elected officials and advocates to discuss recent progress on improving New Jersey’s water infrastructure and access to safe drinking water. As Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Pallone spearheaded passage of key provisions in the bipartisan infrastructure law for drinking water infrastructure, including \$15 billion for the replacement of lead water lines and \$10 billion to address per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination. Last month, Pallone and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that New Jersey would receive \$168,949,000 from the law to clean up drinking water contamination and improve the state’s water infrastructure.

Pallone also ensured that the Build Back Better Act, which the House passed last month, included \$10 billion in additional funding to remove lead contamination in drinking water and \$225 million to provide assistance for low-income families.

“Help is on the way for the millions of American families who cannot trust the water coming out of their taps. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is already delivering significant funding to remove toxic lead service lines and address PFAS contamination,” said Pallone. “New Jersey has some of the highest levels of PFAS contamination in the country. The state is working to address this public health threat by adopting protective state drinking water standards and pursuing natural resource damage cases. I’m working at the federal level as Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee to address these toxic chemicals and ensure that everyone has access to safe drinking water. It’s now critical that we pass the Build Back Better Act to build on this program and provide the funding communities need to remove dangerous lead pipes.”

“The health and well-being of our residents and children depends on the ability to maintain and upgrade our infrastructure,” said New Jersey Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin. “Together with the resources committed toward capital investment projects in New Jersey’s state budget this year, these federal dollars are going to go great lengths in ensuring access to clean and safe drinking water across our communities. Thanks to the hard work of our Congressional delegation, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is bringing \$12 billion in value for critical development in our state.”

“NY/NJ Baykeeper thanks Congressman Pallone, the bipartisan representatives who support these federal investments, and the advocates and community groups working so hard on



these issues. Funding will help ensure all communities, especially those that are underserved with aging infrastructure, have safe drinking water and clean water to recreate in,” said Meredith Comi, Restoration Program Director, NY/NJ Baykeeper.

“We welcome Congress’ action to Build Back Better and fund infrastructure improvements as well as the Biden Administration’s Lead Pipe and Paint Action Plan to put lead paint and lead pipes behind us. In doing so, they are acknowledging the longstanding disproportionately harmful burdens of lead exposure and contaminated drinking water in low-income communities and communities of colors,” said Amy Goldsmith, NJ State Director, Clean Water Action. “We look forward to working with the Administration to ensure that these ambitious investments and programs reach the communities it is intended to improve and protect from lead exposure. We will also work to make sure any revisions and implementation of Safe Drinking Water Act Lead and Copper Rule provisions result in the full replacement of all lead service lines in drinking water distribution systems and in modernizing other regulatory requirements to reduce lead at the tap regardless of the color of your skin or zip code you live in.”

“The New Jersey Congressional delegation, under Rep. Pallone’s outstanding leadership on this important issue, continues to push for safe clean water,” said Yvette Jordan of Lead-Free NJ. “Lead-Free NJ supports these efforts and recognizes that our work is not done. By actively supporting the Build Back Better Act, we can help to insure its passage through the Senate. We press on.”

“Heartfelt thanks to Congressman Pallone and all of the members of the New Jersey Congressional delegation who voted for the infrastructure bill. This will be a real game changer for New Jersey communities to help provide safe drinking water and clean waterways at an affordable rate,” said Andy Kricun, Co-Chair of Jersey Water Works and Member of NJ Environmental Justice Advisory Council.

“Lead drinking water pipes are a serious threat to the growth and development of thousands of New Jersey children, particu-

larly those living in urban areas like Perth Amboy and among communities of color,” said Ed Potosnak, Executive Director of the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters. “The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill recently signed by President Biden invests \$15 billion to replace lead pipes – an important first step. At the same time, the Build Back Better Act, which recently passed the House thanks to Rep. Pallone’s stalwart leadership, would spend an additional \$10 billion on the problem. It is essential that the Senate follow the House’s lead and send this transformative investment to the president for his signature. We look forward to working with Rep. Pallone to support his continued advocacy on this issue even as we turn to working with our leaders at the state level to implement a plan to effectively allocate these resources to the areas most in need.”

“We thank Congressman Pallone for his consistent leadership when it comes to protecting our environment, especially our water. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will provide funds to help clean up our drinking water from lead and PFAS. New Jersey has had a prevalent PFAS and lead problem. Lead has been a long-term problem for the state, and now we’re starting to understand the magnitude and the history of PFAS contamination in New Jersey,” said Anjuli Ramos, Director of Sierra Club - NJ Chapter. “It is encouraging to receive federal funds in order to deal with this harmful contamination that directly affects the public. Game changer.”

Pallone has been a longtime advocate for improving water infrastructure and removing PFAS contamination. Pallone spearheaded House passage of the PFAS Action Act last summer which - among other things - would establish a drinking water standard for PFAS, a grant program to support community water systems, and cleanup of contaminated sites.



South Amboy Chooses Ferry Operator-Project Gets Green Light

Press Release 12/16/21

SOUTH AMBOY - For more than 20 years the City of South Amboy has been working to establish regular commuter ferry service from the city to Manhattan. On September 13th the North Jersey Transportation Authority gave the City funding authorization to move forward with their long-anticipated project. This critical step will allow the City to advertise for and award a construction contract in the weeks ahead.

“Since the summer months we have been able to reach the end of the planning process and are moving forward with construction”, said Mayor Fred Henry. “Our goal is to work with our operator to establish a temporary service in the upcoming months while our new permanent facility is built”.

The City recently finalized the process for selecting a Ferry Operator and is proud to announce that New York Waterway has been selected to provide passenger ferry service in the City. Established in 1986, NY Waterway is the preeminent ferry provider in the New York metropolitan area with a reputation for reliable premium service.

"We are delighted South Amboy has chosen NY Waterway to provide ferry service. With congestion on our roads increasing and commuters looking for safe ways to travel, this is just the right time to increase transportation options. We look forward to working with the Mayor and his administration to give riders a safe, fast and convenient commute to Manhattan," said Armand Pohan, Chairman, President

and CEO of NY Waterway.

“Both residents and commuters from the area have been waiting for the project to move from planning to reality. With the invaluable help of Congressman Frank Pallone and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin we were able to fully fund this important transportation infrastructure improvement” said Glenn Skarzynski City Business Administrator.

The new facility will be anchored by a two-story ferry terminal and will provide 750 parking spaces in support of new ferry riders. In addition, a waterfront promenade is planned to allow residents and visitors another access to the city’s bayfront.

Mayor Henry added “It is my intent, as adjacent properties develop further, to bring additional public waterside amenities to the residents of the City. While we welcome new residents who want to enjoy the luxury of waterfront living in South Amboy, we want to make sure that the Raritan Bay is fully accessible to everyone.”

The city is currently in the process of selecting the engineering firm that will provide oversight during the construction process. As this process proceeds South Amboy will be soliciting bids to identify who will be awarded the contract to build the new facility. “We fully expect to be able to break ground on this project in early 2022”, said Mayor Henry “and we will work with NY Waterway to establish temporary accommodations to begin service from South Amboy while the complex is being built”.

Pallone Secures More than \$6.3 Million for Constituents in 2021

Press Release 12/31/21

LONG BRANCH, NJ – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) today announced that his office helped secure \$6,345,600 for constituents who sought assistance from his offices in New Jersey in 2021. The money returned to constituents includes Veterans Affairs (VA) claims, tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service, FEMA grants and claims related to Superstorm Sandy, Small Business Administration loans, and Social Security payments. In 2021, Pallone’s office successfully closed 3,284 constituent cases.

“I’m very proud we were able to help so many constituents receive the money that was owed to them. I want everyone to know that we’re here to assist them,” said Pallone. “My offices are available to support constituents who need assistance navigating issues related to federal agencies. As we enter 2022, I hope New Jerseyans in the Sixth Congressional District

continue to use my office as a resource.”

Congressman Pallone’s office can assist constituents who have questions about a federal agency or need help with Social Security benefits, federal pensions, Medicare eligibility, and passport and immigration issues. Veterans can also receive help with a range of programs and benefits, including military records and awards, GI Bill benefits, and VA disability claims. Staff may be able to locate low-income housing options and provide guidance on utility payment assistance for eligible families.

Constituents should not hesitate to contact Congressman Pallone’s district offices if they have questions:

New Brunswick Office - 67/69 Church Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, Phone: (732) 249-8892

Long Branch Office - 504 Broadway, Long Branch, NJ 07740, Phone: (732) 571-1140

Cross-Country Team Recognized, Ferry on Its Way

12/15/21 Business/Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 1*

Central Kitchen. World Central Kitchen sends a team of chefs that prepare meals for victims and first responders. Merry Christmas! We wish you the best.”

Council Vice President Christine Noble said, “Congratulations to the Cross-Country Team. We wish everyone a safe New Year. Merry Christmas!”

Councilman Tom Reilly said, “Congratulations to the Cross-Country Team! I want to thank the first responders and thank Mark Herdman who took over our food pantry. It is vital to our town. The Friends of South Amboy Basketball games are this Saturday. Everyone attending must wear a mask. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!”

Councilman Brian McLaughlin said, “Thank you to Emergency Service. The food pantry – we appreciate your efforts. Congratulations on the ferry terminal. It is nice to see the Rotary Club helped out. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Some will not be home for the holidays but working (first responders, doctors, nurses).”

Councilman Mickey Gross said, “I want to thank the First Responders. South Amboy is nothing without you. Please go out and support the Friends of

South Amboy (the basketball tournament on December 18) . Have a safe holiday. Remember to support our food pantry.”

Mayor Fred Henry said, “A lot of work goes into these negotiations.”

Police Chief Darren Lavigne stated, “The South Amboy Police Department passed (accreditation) with flying colors. It was done virtually. We will receive accreditation probably in March.”

Mayor Fred Henry said, “I want to thank the support of the boy scouts for dinner. Thank you, Lynn Graber and all the people involved with the tree lights. It was a great night. Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

Councilman Brian McLaughlin said, “Merry Christmas! Happy New Year . . . and Happy Boxing Day!”

Public Portion:

Resident Tom Kross came up to speak. “Thank you for all the improvements,” he said sarcastically. “It is impossible to navigate in the morning to drop off children to two different schools. It is unbearable to get through town. Something has to be done. The lights that illuminate the street – I don’t think it is my responsibility to call in when one is out. Last time I called a light out at 321 Ridgeway. The Closure of streets doesn’t make sense. I see trucks and tractor trailers driv-

ing through town.”

A Board of Education member came up to speak. “I want to thank the council for recognizing our Cross-Country Team. I want to thank everyone for what you do – the council, the tree lighting, Chief Lavigne. Thank you for the ferry, and for everything. Merry Christmas!”

Resident Greg Babolack spoke next, “I wish everyone a Happy Holiday!” He made a comment that the audio of the recording of the last meeting was awful.

City Clerk Deborah Brooks answered, “We’ve been having issues. Hopefully in 2022 there will be no more issues.” She stated that a technician will be addressing these issues.

Babolack asked how many PILOTS the city is presently getting money from.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski answered “Three, including Shoregate and Woodmont.”

Babolack asked if every project gets a PILOT.

Council President Mickey Gross answered that Ryan Homes asked for a PILOT and was denied.

Mayor Fred Henry added that in that case, it was discussed, but they were turned down, so the answer is, “No.”

The council went into closed session at 7 p.m. All council members were present.

Pallone Announces Schools and Libraries in New Jersey Will Receive Nearly \$24 Million from the Fifth and Sixth Rounds of Funding from FCC’s Emergency Connectivity Fund Program

New Jersey Has Received Over \$96 Million From the Program

Pallone Included in the American Rescue Plan

Press Release 12/21/21

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) announced today that schools and libraries in New Jersey will receive \$23,893,831 from the fifth and sixth rounds of funding from the Federal Communication Commission’s (FCC) Emergency Connectivity Fund Program (ECF). Schools and libraries in New Jersey’s 6th Congressional District have received over \$11.1 million, and New Jersey has received over \$96 million from the Fund in total. In November, Pallone announced that New Jersey received over \$17.8 million from the third and fourth rounds of funding from the program.

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.

“Schools and libraries in New Jersey continue to receive critical funding from the American Rescue Plan that will help ensure every student and teacher can stay connected to their classroom. In drafting the Emergency Connectivity Fund with my colleagues, we focused the program on helping to 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 in the last three months, will help students do their homework, research, and complete at-home projects 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.”

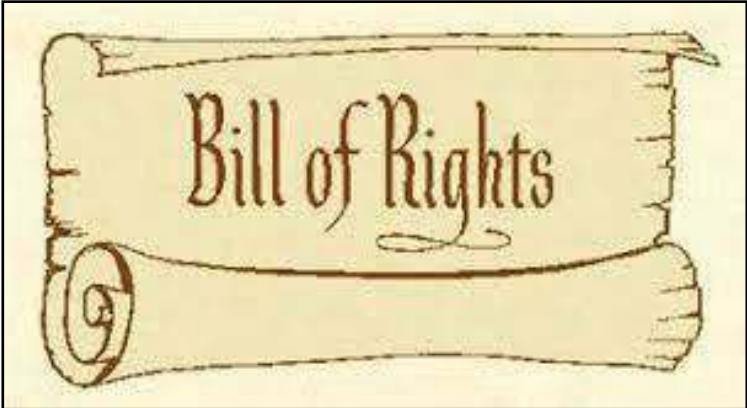
The schools in Pallone’s 6th Congressional District receiving funding in the fifth and sixth funding waves include:

Woodbridge School District	\$3,140,755
Edison Township School District	\$2,060,221
Marlboro Township School District	\$173,600
Middlesex County STEM Charter School	\$87,536
Saint James School	\$24,870
Saint Joseph School	\$17,133

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

In My Opinion . . .



In my opinion, it is becoming more and more difficult to state your opinion. This is when it comes to politics, movies, sports, television, books, etc. Social Media has become a platform for gossip. In a recent interview on CBS with Actress Penelope Cruz was asked about an individual. She blatantly responded, “In 20 seconds, you can ruin someone’s life.” That statement hit the nail on the head. Social Media is full of posts that virtually crucify anyone who states something slightly off color or if their opinion does not agree with the masses. How many people are ostracized with a virtual scarlet letter? Many individuals are fired from their jobs or find it difficult to get work because of their profiles on social media? Sometimes these posts are taken out of context and do not tell the

whole truth, and some are blatant lies – but it doesn’t matter. The damage is done, and these individual’s lives are ruined. How many books, movies, television programs, etc. are deemed “offensive” by the masses? When will this stop? What ever happened to the Bill of Rights, especially the First Amendment? When will we be able to state an opinion, even if it is in the minority? Everyone has said or did something stupid (sometimes in public). Now, if you do something, it is plastered over the internet within twenty seconds. Have we gone back to public shaming or shunning like it was in the 1600's? Is privacy a thing of the past? Has it become wrong to have an opinion? What is your take on this? As always, letters welcome. **K.M.**



THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Wake Up, America!

In the year 2022, if man is still alive and a woman can survive from COVID, or if Judgement Day comes from a war to determine civilization - I ask myself when will mankind realize what's best for our civilization.

National Wealth Tax

I have a suggestion for the national Democrats in terms of how they can be fiscally responsible and pay for the "Build Back Better" proposal without adding one cent to the national

We still haven't learned from all those wars - the bodies in the grave, and many wounded soldiers. What will it take to realize how we were fooled, brainwashed, and lied to by political propaganda with the help from the puppet controlled mainstream media? And those politicians that got elected caused the

problem and then seek re-election to solve the problem. Sooner or later, it will catch up to us how we were taking advantage of by those elites in power. Time to wake up in 2022.

Orlando “Wildman” Perez

debt and the federal budget deficit. Have the Congress pass Donald Trump's 1999 proposal to institute a new "National Wealth Tax" of 14.25% on all individuals with a net-wealth and net-worth of \$10 million and higher. That would generate more than enough new revenue

to pay for it. Yes, he really did make that proposal.

Just look it up. The opinion editor of "USA Today" loved it. So do I. I think it is the best idea that he ever had.

Sincerely,
Stewart B. Epstein

Build America Bureau and The Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act

There is more to the recent news that the United States Department of Transportation’s Build America Bureau approved refinancing. This has resulted in increasing the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan to the Empire State Development. It helped pay for the \$1.6 billion Amtrak Penn Station Moynihan Train Hall. The project failed to add any new track or platform capacity for Amtrak, NJ Transit, LIRR or future Metro North Railroad service to this facility.

The new loan provides an additional \$80 million. This increases value of the loan from the original \$526 million to \$606 million. The additional funding is supposed to assist

in paying for completion of security and passenger safety at this new facility. You have to wonder why this work was not completed prior to opening of the Moynihan Train Hall on January 1, 2021. Does this loan imply that the real final project cost has increased by \$80 million to \$1.680 billion?

Pre-COVID-19, there were 260,000 daily Long Island Railroad and 90,000 New Jersey Transit commuters utilizing Penn Station. Amtrak riders account for only represent 5% of those who use Penn Station. Few LIRR or NJ Transit riders utilize Moynihan Train Hall.

In 1992, the estimated project cost was \$315 million. Several years later, the cost grew to \$500 million, and the completion date slipped to the late 1990s. That generation of Amtrak, LIRR, NJ Transit officials, along with project sponsors such as Senator Moynihan and other public officials were not happy with both cost increases and project delays. Final cost grew to \$1.6 billion upon opening.

The loan still has to be paid back by revenues generated from private sector investments with shortfalls covered by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. The Empire State Development Corporation is counting on the sale of air rights over the Farley Building as the source for its \$570 million contribution.

In our COVID-19 world, many commuters continue working from home part and full time.

Sincerely,
Larry Penner

(Larry Penner is a transportation advocate, historian and writer who previously worked for the Federal Transit Administration Region 2 NY Office. This included the development, review, approval and oversight for billions of dollars in grants which provided funding for capital projects and programs to New Jersey Transit, New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority and over 30 transit agencies in NY & NJ).

We Value Your Opinion!
Please Send Us A Response!

Speaker Coughlin Reflects on Nancy Drumm’s Legacy, Mourns Passing of Woodbridge Councilwoman

Press Release 1/3/22
TRENTON– Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin (D-Middlesex) issued the following statement in response to two-term Woodbridge Councilwoman Nancy Drumm’s passing Sunday after a battle with cancer: “Nancy led a life of impact. She was a strong, kind, and compassionate woman who cared deeply for her neighbors

and took great pride in serving the people of Woodbridge Township.” “From the promotion of local businesses to environmental sustainability, community arts and animal welfare, Nancy’s work on the council was central in turning the community-centric, quality of life vision for Woodbridge into a reality. “A truly positive force in our

local community, I will forever be grateful to have called Nancy my friend. We will miss her greatly, and while our hearts are heavy with the news of her passing, I know her legacy will live on through all those whose lives she impacted. “Today our thoughts and prayers are with her family, her friends, and everyone who had the privilege of knowing her.”

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ROOSEVELT'S DELI684 KING GEORGE'S RD.
SUPER DUPER DELI III 650 KING GEORGE'S RD.

IN HOPELAWN:

KRAUSZER'S.....683 FLORIDA GROVE RD.

IN LAURENCE HARBOR:

HOFFMAN'S DELI 5 LAURENCE PKWY.

IN MORGAN:

SOUTHPINE LIQUORS467 S. PINE AVE.

IN PARLIN:

DAD'S ROYAL BAKERY.....3290 WASHINGTON RD.

IN PERTH AMBOY:

1ST CONSTITUTION BANK 145 FAYETTE ST.
ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTER 178 BARRACKS ST.
ALAMEDA CENTER 303 ELM ST.
AMBOY CHECK X-CHANGE321 MAPLE ST.
ANDERL & OAKLEY PC 309 MAPLE ST.
THE BARGE201 FRONT ST.
BAY CITY LAUNDRYMAT.....738 STATE ST.
C-TOWN272 MAPLE ST.
CEDENO'S PHARMACY 400 STATE ST.
CITY HALL260 HIGH ST.
EASTSIDE DRY CLEANERS 87 SMITH ST.
FAMILY FOOT CARE252 SMITH ST.
FU LIN 79 SMITH ST.
HY TAVERN 386 HIGH ST.
INVESTOR'S BANK 598 STATE ST.
JANKOWSKI COMMUNITY CENTER 1 OLIVE ST.
JEWISH RENAISSANCE MEDICAL CENTER 272A HOBART ST.
KIM'S DRY CLEANERS 73 SMITH ST.
LAW OFFICES 708 CARSON AVE.
LEE'S MARKET 77 SMITH ST.
LUDWIG'S PHARMACY75 BRACE AVE.
NEW ELIZABETH CORNER RESTAURANT175 HALL AVE.
PETRA BEST REALTY..... 329 SMITH ST.
PETRICK'S FLOWERS 710 PFEIFFER BLVD.
POLICE HEADQUARTERS 365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
PORTUGUESE MANOR 310 ELM ST.
PROVIDENT BANK 339 STATE ST.
PUBLIC LIBRARY196 JEFFERSON ST.
PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION100 FIRST ST.
QUICK CHEK853 CONVERY BLVD.
QUICK STOP DELI814 AMBOY AVE.
QUISQUEYA MARKET249 MADISON AVE.
QUISQUEYA LUNCHEONETTE 259 MADISON AVE.
RARITAN BAY AREA Y.M.C.A.365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
RARITAN BAY MEDICAL CENTER530 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SANTANDER BANK 365 CONVERY BLVD.
SANTIBANA TRAVEL 362 STATE ST.
SCIORTINO'S RESTAURANT473 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SHOP-RITE365 CONVERY BLVD.
SIPOS BAKERY 365 SMITH ST.
SUPERIOR DINER.....464 SMITH ST.
SUPREMO SUPERMARKET270 KING ST.
TORRES MINI MARKET403 BRUCK AVE.
TOWN DRUGS & SURGICAL 164 SMITH ST.
WELLS FARGO 214 SMITH ST.

IN SAYREVILLE:

BOROUGH HALL 167 MAIN ST.
SENIOR CENTER 423 MAIN ST.

IN SEWAREN:

PUBLIC LIBRARY546 WEST AVE.
SEWAREN CORNER DELI514 WEST AVE.

IN SOUTH AMBOY:

AMBOY BANK100 N. BROADWAY
BROADWAY BAGELS105 S. BROADWAY
BROADWAY DINER126 N. BROADWAY
CITY HALL140 N. BROADWAY
COMMUNITY CENTER 200 O'LEARY BLVD.
KRAUSZER'S200 N. BROADWAY
KRAUSZER'S717 BORDENTOWN AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY100 HOFFMAN PLAZA
SCIORTINO'S HARBOR LIGHTS 132 S. BROADWAY
SOUTH AMBOY MEDICAL CENTER.....540 BORDENTOWN AVE.
WELLS FARGO BANK.....116 N. BROADWAY

IN WOODBRIDGE:

CITY HALL1 MAIN ST.
MAIN ST. FARM107 MAIN ST.
NEWS & TREATS 99 MAIN ST.
ST. JOSEPH'S SENIORS RESIDENCE1 ST. JOSEPH'S TERR.

Important!

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

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

Attention Businesses Open During Pandemic Crisis:

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

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

Attention!

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

2022

Amboy Guardian Publication Dates

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

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

TUES. Jan. 11 BID, 4 p.m.
City Hall, High St.
• Library Board of Trustees, 5 p.m.
Library, Jefferson St.
THURS. Jan. 6 Board of Education, 5:30 p.m.
PAHS, Eagle Ave.
MON. Jan. 10 City Council, Caucus, 5:30 p.m.
City Hall, High St. & Zoom
WED. Jan. 12 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St. & Zoom

South Amboy

WED. Jan. 5 City Council, Reorganization/Business, 6 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway
WED. Jan. 19 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



Deadline for Print Ads:
7 p.m. Thursday

Office Hours:
Mon. - Wed. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Thurs. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Fri. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Safety Announcement

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

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!!

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

Do not think that any call or report is too small

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

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES, DIAL: 9-1-1

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

Law Office of

ERALIDES E. CABRERA



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We are bilingual and have offices at:

708 Carson Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

Phone: 732 - 826-5020; Fax: 732-826-4653

1201 E. Grand St., Unit 3A, Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Phone: 908-351-0957; Fax: 908-351-0959

Email: ecabrera52@hotmail.com

FEMA Registration Deadline Approaching Jan. 5 for New Jersey Ida Disaster Assistance

Press Release 1/3/22
TRENTON, N.J. – New Jersey homeowners, renters and businesses who had property damage or loss caused by remnants of Hurricane Ida from Sept. 1-3, 2021, have until Wednesday to apply for federal disaster assistance. The deadline to apply for assistance from FEMA and for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is Jan. 5, 2022.

Federal disaster assistance for individuals and families can include money for rental assistance, essential home repairs, personal property losses, and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance.

If you live in Bergen, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Union or Warren counties, you can register for disaster assistance, update your contact information, ask questions about a letter from FEMA, get information about FEMA home inspections, or learn how to appeal a FEMA decision by:

- Going online at DisasterAssistance.gov;
- Downloading the FEMA app; or
- Calling 800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585). The toll-free telephone lines are currently operating 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. ET daily. If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service. Multilingual operators are available. You should have the following

information available when you are ready to register:

- Address of the damaged primary dwelling
- Current mailing address, telephone number and Social Security number
- Your insurance information
- Total household annual income
- Routing and account numbers for checking or savings accounts for direct deposit; and
- A description of disaster damage and losses.

The primary source of federal funding for long-term disaster recovery not covered by insurance is the Small Business Administration. SBA offers disaster assistance in the form of low interest loans to businesses, nonprofit organizations, homeowners, and renters. SBA also provides eligible small businesses and nonprofit organizations with working capital to help overcome an economic injury.

Homeowners, renters and businesses that were affected by Hurricane Ida may apply for disaster loans using SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/>, and should apply under SBA declaration #17143. For more information, applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing), or email DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov.

For the latest information visit fema.gov/disaster/4614. Follow the FEMA Region 2 Twitter account at twitter.com/FEMAREGION2.

Submitted by Ray J. Kawka, Jr. PERTH AMBOY - The queen of my family passed away at home on 1/2/22, a lifelong resident of Perth Amboy, class of 1939 of St. Mary's High School, a true Irish woman. She was the oldest member of the Ladies Auxiliary of Perth Amboy (Hibernians). She worked at city hall and the American Smelting and Refining Company (AS&R) in the office on outer State Street. Her husband, Charles was a WWII Veteran who had passed away in 1999 and worked as a security guard for AS&R. There are so many stories throughout the years. When only grandson, Ray Kawka, Jr., known as R.J. cleaned out her house about 4-6 years ago, he found many pictures, so he put them all together in albums. These were photos that she had not seen in years. When she saw the photos, her face lit up saying, "Wow, boy! Oh boy! Look at this," telling her grandson more and more stories. R.J. did a lot for his grandma. When he was old enough, R.J. helped out Grandma & his late

Uncle Mav (Mary's son, Charlie) who passed away last May. R.J. helped around the house as a handyman. Mary's father, Patrick Burke came from Ireland. He founded the Ancient Order of Hibernians in 1896 and was in the Fire Department. He trained the horses that pulled the steam engines and ladder trucks. His brothers were also firemen. Patrick drove the first motorized apparatus around town. Mary is the last surviving member of the Burke family. She had four brothers: Patrick Burke, Jr., Edward Burke, Needsy Burke, and James Burke; three sisters: Rose Burke, Margaret Burke, and Patricia Burke, who passed away at one-year-old. Mary had four children: son Patrick Logan, his wife Ann Harth Logan, son Brain Logan, his wife Bonnie McIntyre Logan, son Charles Logan (deceased) and daughter Nancy Logan Kawka, (Mary's son-in-law and Nancy's husband) Ray Kawka, Sr. and son (Mary's grandson) R.J. Mary and the late Rose Weikel from the Salvation Army reminded the family of actress



Mary A. Logan
Jan. 30, 1922- Jan. 2, 2022

Betty White. A huge loss to the family. The arrangements will be this week. (go to www.amboyguardian.com) Keeping the Hibernian family and everyone else in our prayers.



Assemblywoman Quijano Celebrates 12th Annual Three Kings Day; Seeks Donations of Gifts for Children at Trinitas Medical Center

Press Release 12/16/21

TRENTON – Assemblywoman Annette Quijano (D-Union) is asking for donations of gifts to help make the holidays a little brighter for children in the Inpatient and Outpatient Pediatric Behavioral Health Programs, and the Adolescent Residential Program, at Trinitas Regional Medical Center for her 12th Annual Three Kings Day Celebration on Wednesday, January 5th, 2022.

Three Kings Day marks the end of the Christmas holiday season and is celebrated throughout Latin America and Spain with festivities, music, dancing and gift-giving. All donations will be provided to the programs at Trinitas Regional Medical Center, which serve over 3,000 children annually, and over a dozen adolescents that live on site year-round.

"Each year, this heartwarming event enriches the lives of these kids. Many of these children live at the hospital and don't have the opportunity to celebrate the holidays at home. Along similar lines, hundreds of children come from at-risk neighborhoods, and whose families have suffered economic struggles due to COVID-19 or other factors, and a gift allows them to enjoy the holidays with cheer. Living in uncertain times there has minimized opportunities to connect with loved ones, so this year's Three Kings Day is very important to these families" said Quijano.

Toys for all ages will be accepted, sample wish list items are listed below:

- Bedroom Items – bean bag chairs, overstuffed pillows, twin XL sheets and comforters, bed pillows and linens, towels
 - School Supplies – backpacks and school supplies (ie, notebooks and binders)
 - Recreational Items – board games, cards, puzzles, journal, sketchbooks, coloring books and materials
 - Entertainment/Music – musical instruments
 - Personal Items – socks, hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, jackets
 - Gift Cards & Monetary donations are welcome
- o Online: donors should log onto, <https://www.trinitasasmc.org/give>. Write "Three Kings Day Celebration" under "Company Name"

o Mail: make check payable to "Trinitas Health Foundation" and write in Memo: "Three Kings Day". Checks must be mailed to Laura Ciraco, Trinitas Health Foundation, PO Box 259, Elizabeth, NJ 07207.

All gifts could be dropped off on the event date, January 5th, 2022, between 1pm and 3pm at Trinitas Regional Medical Center - New Point Campus, located at 655 E. Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07207. For all those who wish to drop off their gifts before the event date, you must send an email to AswAnnetteQuijano@gmail.com, or call/message (908) 409-1596.



Stanley & Carter Bill to Extend Period for Filing Special Education Due Process Petitions Related to COVID-19 Pandemic Clears Assembly Committee

Press Release 1/3/22
TRENTON – To allow New Jersey's parents of students with disabilities to protect their children's educational rights, Assembly Democrats Sterley Stanley and Linda Carter sponsor a bill to extend the period for filing special education due process petitions regarding the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or provisions of a free and appropriate public education of a child with a disability during the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill was released by the Assembly Education Committee on Monday.

Currently, a special education due process petition must be filed within two years of the date that the filing party knew, or should have known, about the reason for the due process petition. The bill (A-6226) would extend that period of time by specifying that a request for a due process hearing related to a COVID-19 school closure

or period of remote, virtual, hybrid, or in-person instruction between March 18, 2020 and September 1, 2021 may be filed at any time prior to September 1, 2023.

The bill would also require a local educational agency to hold an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team meeting no later than December 31, 2022 to discuss the need for compensatory education and services for every student with a disability who had an IEP at any time between March 18, 2020 and September 1, 2021.

Upon committee approval for the bill, Assembly members Stanley (D-Middlesex) and Carter (D-Middlesex, Somerset, Union) issued the following joint statement:

"The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the education of countless students throughout New Jersey who have had to adapt to drastic changes while being exposed to unprecedented

stress and isolation. This is particularly true for the over 230,000 students eligible for special education in our state. It is critical to extend the period for filing a due process petition to ensure that these students will continue to receive an education that meets their unique needs during the pandemic.

"Extending the period for filing a request for a due process hearing gives school districts and Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams time to hold meetings to determine whether a student is owed compensatory education, while still allowing a student's parents or guardians time to file a due process petition if an agreement is not met. This is a simple and responsible step to take to ensure that all of New Jersey's students receive the high-quality education that they deserve."

The bill now heads to the Speaker for further consideration.

Christmas Banquet

Philotimo Housing Urban Corporation and the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey hosted a Christmas Banquet to re-initialize the St. Demetrios Housing for Active Adults



PERTH AMBOY- Christmas Benefit with His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros as St. Demetrios Church's honored speaker



PERTH AMBOY - This architectural rendering reveals what the soon to be built Waterfront Complex, St. Demetrios Housing for Active Adults which will feature a 300-person multipurpose community center will look like once the major construction project is completed. *Photos submitted

Press Release 12/19/21

PERTH AMBOY, New Jersey – Philotimo Housing Urban Corporation and the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey hosted a Christmas banquet at the Grand Marquis – Old Bridge, New Jersey to restart the building efforts for the Saint Demetrios Housing for Active Adults on Sunday, December 19, 2021.

This event was attended by 175 people including His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, who remarked this event was to “re-initialize this wonderful and vital project” and his full speech can be viewed at <https://www.goarch.org/-/st-demetrios-housing-2021>

In attendance was His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia, the Very Reverend Archimandrite Nektarios Cottros, Judge Marina Corodemus, Presi-

dent of the Philotimo Housing Urban Corporation, honored priests from Greek, Russian, Coptic and Ukrainian Orthodox churches, business leaders and faithful parishioners throughout the Metropolis of New Jersey. The banquet marks the restarting of the building of a community to offer an Orthodox way of life including:

- Community participation by Orthodox and non-Orthodox Residents in the St. Demetrios Church
- Opportunity to keep the 6 prayer hours in the 24-hour chapel open to residents day and night
- Provide an optional Orthodox meal plan in an Orthodox sanctioned kitchen for observation of fasting days throughout the year
- Access to on site counselling by an Orthodox Chaplain

•A fully integrated Orthodox Community with the fully restored St. Demetrios Church across the street. Our goal is to be good stewards to the land and good neighbors to the community. The complex will:

- Incorporate green spaces allowing residents to enjoy the environment without artificial intrusion.
- Invest in Modular Construction technology features in each residence which will be constructed to meet Energy Star certification and designed to be safer for decades.
- Contain a kitchen, meeting rooms, a chapel dedicated to Panagia Gorgoepikoos, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors will have water views of the Raritan River, 1 and 2 bedroom residences located upon the picturesque and historic Raritan River.

These are luxury residences for adults 55+ designed by Kurt Ludwig, Architect.

Saint Demetrios Housing for Active Adults is located in the vibrant urban community of Perth Amboy, NJ. The waterfront complex overlooks the Raritan River and includes a 300-person multi-purpose community center. The area includes diverse options for shopping, dining, historic attractions and other points of interest in Perth Amboy. The city hosts various community, seasonal and cultural events throughout the year. This Central New Jersey location is accessible to major roadways including the Garden State Parkway (4.5 miles), NJ Turnpike (4.6 miles) US Highway 9 (6.0 miles), and NJ 35 (2.1 miles), and public transportation including NJ Transit (1.0 mile).

For anyone who wishes to support this project through giving opportunities please visit <https://support.stdemetrios-housing.com/>

All contributions to St. Demetrios Housing for Active Adults are tax-exempt pursuant to section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. St. Demetrios Housing for Active Adults complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The St. Demetrios Housing for Active Adults does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex or gender orientation. Housing is available for both Orthodox and non-Orthodox residents in compliance with the Fair Housing Act

Conaway & Stanley Bill Extending Temporary Licensure of Certain Health Care Professionals During Public Health Emergency Passes Committee

Legislation Aims to Counteract Staffing Shortages in the Health Care Industry Exacerbated by COVID-19 Pandemic

Press Release 1/3/22

TRENTON – From professional burnout to illnesses, staffing shortages exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic continue to pose a challenge for the health care industry. With coronavirus cases on the rise, a bill sponsored by Assembly Democrats Herb Conaway and Sterley Stanley seeks to bolster the state’s workforce by extending the existing emergency licensure of certain health care workers.

Early in the pandemic, the Division of Consumer Affairs issued waivers to permit certain health care workers licensed in other states to temporarily practice in New Jersey. Shortly after, additional waivers were issued authorizing certain graduates of accredited health care programs who had not yet met the requirements for full licensure to temporarily treat New Jersey residents during the public health emergency.

Health care workers who qualified for these waivers include nurses, respiratory care therapists, alcohol and drug counselors, and pharmacists – among others. The waivers are set to expire on January 11, 2022.

Recognizing the ongoing need for their assistance during the pandemic, the bill (A-6155) would allow health care workers who already received this waiver to continue practicing until June 30, 2022. Out-of-state health care professionals and recent health care graduates who fit the existing criteria but have not yet applied for this waiver would be permitted to apply for an emergency temporary license as well.

Upon the legislation being advanced by the Assembly Health Committee, Assemblymen Conaway (D-Burlington) and Stanley (D-Middlesex) issued the following joint statement:

“Recent graduates of health care programs and health care professionals from other states have played a critical role in our efforts to treat New Jersey residents throughout this pandemic. With COVID-19 cases rapidly rising once again, we will continue to need their assistance in dealing with this latest wave of infections.

“Our state must do everything we can to ensure adequate staffing in our hospitals and other health care facilities. Extending these waivers and permitting new applicants will help bolster our health care workforce and provide patients with the care they need during the ongoing public health emergency.

“We will make it through this difficult time together, with the help of the health care workers who continue to rise to the challenge every day.”

The measure now heads to the Assembly Speaker for further consideration.

Pallone Applauds Planned Cleanup of Seven Superfund Sites in New Jersey

Press Release 12/17/21

LONG BRANCH, NJ – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) today applauded the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) announcement that the agency will provide funds from the recently enacted Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to clean up backlogged Superfund sites in New Jersey. This is a first wave of funding that comes from the \$3.5 billion in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law designated for Superfund cleanups that Congress passed and President Biden signed into law last month. The law included a major component of Pallone’s proposal to re-instate Superfund taxes on corporate polluters.

“With today’s announcement, help is on the way to communities across the country plagued by the risks of living near a Superfund site. Nowhere is that more true than in my home state of New Jersey, which has the greatest number of Superfund sites in the country,” Pallone said. “I’m thrilled the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is being put to immediate use to clean up backlogged sites and give our communities the peace of mind they deserve. Thanks to its reinstatement of Superfund Polluter Pays taxes, cleanup sites will have more dedicated funding moving forward, and with the Build Back Better Act’s full reinstatement, unfunded sites could become a thing of the past.”

The Superfund sites in New Jersey include:

- Diamond Head Oil Refinery Division in Kearney

- Former Kil-Tone Company in Vineland
- Garfield Ground Water Contamination in Garfield
- Kauffman & Minter, Inc. in Springfield Township
- New Jersey Roebling Steel Co. in Florence Township
- Unimatic Manufacturing Corporation in Fairfield
- White Chemical Corporation in Newark

Pallone has been a longtime advocate for cleanup of Superfund polluting sites in New Jersey and around the nation. An estimated 50 percent of the state’s population lives within three miles of a Superfund site. In August, Pallone hosted EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan in Old Bridge to announce that EPA would advance cleanup of the Raritan Bay Slag Superfund site in Old Bridge Township and Sayreville. As a result of Pallone’s advocacy, the Raritan Bay Slag site was placed on EPA’s Superfund National Priorities List in 2009.

In October 2016, Pallone announced \$7 million in funding from EPA to begin the cleanup at Margaret’s Creek, part of the Raritan Bay Slag Superfund site. The area had elevated levels of lead contamination, as well as areas of slag, a byproduct of metal smelting, and battery casings. In April, Pallone re-introduced his Superfund Polluter Pays Act, which would ensure polluters pay for the cleanup of Superfund sites. The bill would accomplish this by reinstating the full extent of the Superfund taxes on corporate polluters that expired in 1995.



“Solar Santa” Comes Bearing Gifts for Perth Amboy Housing Authority Residents

City and Perth Amboy Housing Authority Team Up with Solar Landscape to Bring Holiday Cheer



Press Release
PERTH AMBOY – With the city’s community solar panels on nearby warehouses, the roof-tops on Perth Amboy homes will be clear for Santa Claus and his reindeer this holiday season.

As part of its community solar partnership with the City of Perth Amboy, the Perth Amboy Housing Authority and the Perth Amboy Redevelopment Team for Neighborhood Enterprise and Revitalization (P.A.R.T.N.E.R.), Solar Landscape hosted “Selfies with Santa” on Sunday and provided gift cards to more than 200 Housing Authority residents.

“Community solar continues to pay dividends for Perth Amboy residents,” said Perth Amboy Mayor Helmin J. Caba. “They advance our fight against climate change, promote workforce development and make energy more affordable. And, this year, it brought Santa. We’re grateful for the partnership with Solar Landscape and our other organizations to bring this transformational program to Perth Amboy.”

“Community solar engages our most vulnerable residents into the goal toward 100 percent clean energy,” said Housing Authority of the City of Perth Amboy Executive Director Douglas G. Dzema. “We’re proud to bring community solar to Perth Amboy and the Housing Authority to provide access to solar energy for all our residents. Today’s event is a great exam-

ple of how strong partnerships can come through for those in need.”

“We are grateful for the award-winning partnership we’ve formed with Perth Amboy and proud to be able to give back to the community,” said Solar Landscape CEO Shaun Keegan. “The vision and leadership of the Perth Amboy team have truly put the city on the map when it comes to clean energy equity, cost savings and a healthier environment.”

Earlier this year, the groups came together to bring affordable, clean renewable solar energy to Perth Amboy through the state’s Community Solar Energy Pilot program. In January, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy joined Perth Amboy leadership and Solar Landscape at the activation of the state’s first community solar project, hosted on Duke Realty warehouses in Perth Amboy. Those warehouses were part of a portfolio that was later named “Community Solar Project of the Year” by Solar Builder magazine.

2021: A Landmark Year for Community Solar in New Jersey

In October 2021, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities approved Solar Landscape to begin 46 new community solar projects as part of the New Jersey Office of Clean Energy’s Community Solar Pilot Program Year Two. The projects are expected to generate nearly

51 megawatts of solar energy that will be accessible to New Jersey residents -- particularly low- to moderate-income families.

As part of the program, Solar Landscape has partnered with nonprofits and community partners to train dozens of New Jersey residents to install solar panels on rooftops at week-long training sessions across the state. That work earned Solar Landscape’s director of community engagement Kate Gold the “Top Solar Changemaker” designation from Solar Power World. Recently, Gold shared her experiences in creating the company’s workforce development program with Nico Johnson on a recent episode of his podcast, SunCast.

Solar Landscape has also partnered with New Jersey community colleges, technical schools and nonprofits to introduce schoolchildren and college students to the potential of working in the solar energy industry as part of its Green Ambassador Program. Recently, Solar Landscape and nonprofit Sustainable Jersey City awarded \$20,000 in scholarships to high school seniors through its Community Sustainability Challenge scholarships.

To learn more about Solar Landscape’s community solar projects and its commitment to New Jersey’s clean energy economy, visit www.SolarLandscape.com.



Hibernians Gift of Warmth
**Photos Submitted*

PERTH AMBOY - The Ancient Order of Hibernians, John Barry Division 3, Perth Amboy, recently held a Gift of Warmth coat drive. The Club collected over 100 coats that were donated to the St. Vincent DePaul Society and distributed to the local community.



Living Nativity, Cathedral International, Perth Amboy, 12/17/21
**Photos by Paul W. Wang*



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



A NEW YEAR AND 2021 REFLECTIONS

A New Year's Message from Mayor Helmin J. Caba

January brings the beginning of a new year and it is important to recognize all of the City's accomplishments from last year. Despite the global pandemic, we were able to service our residents without a reduction of services. All the city services we provide, and our progress towards our goals, would not be possible without a cohesive City Council and dedicated staff. I can't say enough how proud I am of our entire team.

SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO COVID-19, BELOW ARE JUST A FEW OF THE STEPS THE CITY TOOK:

- created a COVID-19 Recovery Task Force
- hosted 'Return to the New Normal' business meetings with business owners and Houses of Worship meetings consisting of faith leaders and city staff
- provided multiple rounds of small business assistance grants as well as offering rent and mortgage relief
- dedicated COVID-19 hotline and expanded access for testing, vaccinations, and boosters
- city designated as a supersite for hot meal distribution through the NJ FEED Initiative

WHILE RESPONDING TO COVID-19, THE CITY STILL FOCUSED ON MOVING KEY QUALITY OF LIFE INITIATIVES FORWARD. THE WORK CONTINUED ON:

- PUBLIC SAFETY with passing of the Citizens Public Safety Advisory Board by City Council, launch of safety initiatives including increased community policing engagement activities, hiring and promotions, and technology
- FIRE PREVENTION and EDUCATION with our residents and businesses
- Perth Amboy's Long-Term Control Plan on WATER infrastructure
- BEAUTIFICATION, clean-ups, and education efforts regarding graffiti, bench installations, and installation of the mural, *Morning Glory*
- PARK PROJECTS, including Washington Park, Borinqueneer Park, Middlesex County's Thomas Mundy Peterson Park, and the Fitlot Senior Physical Fitness Station in Dalton Park
- Adoption of the HOUSING Element and Fair Share Plan
- LED lighting in the Business Improvement District
- expansion of city routes for trash collection with automated vehicles and the NJ award of ELECTRIC-POWERED trucks to the city
- parking improvements with the PARK MOBILE app and RESTORATION of Parking Utility Deck
- appointments of the Perth Amboy Free Public LIBRARY Board of Trustees
- some COMMUNITY highlights include the Middle Passage Port Marker, Basketball Court Name Dedication to Brian Taylor, UI5 Wildcats as the 2021 US Youth Soccer Regional Presidents Cup Champions and National Presidents Cup Finalist, groundbreaking of the future Perth Amboy High School, and the 2021 NJ Historic Preservation Award for the Proprietary House
- reactivation of the GREEN TEAM for a more sustainable city
- bridging the gap between residents and city government through TECHNOLOGY with a self-service app, Spatial Data Logic (SDL) Citizen
- evaluating conditions of the city's overall HEALTH that include economic stability, environment, employment, and social networks
- design and plan for the city's future REDEVELOPMENT
- manage growth in a thoughtful and STRATEGIC manner with key performance measures
- preserve and restore our city's HISTORY

In addition to these key projects, the City staff continues to provide high quality customer service while processing a record number of requests from residents in the community. This team is hard at work throughout the year and often working after hours. They are dedicated to listening to residents and finding ways to meet the needs of our community. This team is passionate about what they do and enjoys helping those they serve.

I am committed to working with the City Council to continue our efforts in the new year. Together, we are excited to keep the momentum going when it comes to projects and events in the works. I am also very committed to working with residents. I believe residents provide a wealth of ideas and perspectives. Working in collaboration with the community is a major priority for me and the Council as this year moves forward.

The City of Perth Amboy is a wonderful community because of the contributions of everyone who live and work here, and I am proud to represent this city we call home.

As I look ahead to this exciting year, it's my hope for all residents that 2022 is ultimately filled with opportunity and joy, and that we can celebrate another year together in this beautiful city.

Thank you and Happy New Year!

Helmin J. Caba
Honorable Mayor
City of Perth Amboy

This Week in the Civil War — 160 Years Ago

December 31, 1861 – January 18, 1862

By Phil Kohn Phil Kohn can be reached at USCW160@yahoo.com.

The causes of the Civil War in the United States are many and complex. At the root of all of them, agree most historians today, was slavery.

At the founding of the nation, in the 1770s, the institution of slavery was firmly established throughout the American colonies. Suffice it to say that over the next 80 to 85 years, the U.S. had become a nation of two distinct regions as regards to slavery: the “free” states of New England, the Northeast and the Midwest, which had large and rapidly growing urban populations, and the “slave” states of the South, which were more rural, with a small population, relatively little immigration, and plantations and farms that relied on slave labor.

By the 1840s, abolitionists (mostly based in the North and who argued for the immediate and unconditional extinction of slavery) were preaching that not only was slavery a social evil, but a moral wrong as well. Their rhetoric became stronger as time went on.

In 1856, the Republican Party came into being, the first major political party almost completely based in the North, in part because of Northern outrage at political compromises made to appease the South regarding the extension of slavery into new territories.

By 1860, Southerners were concerned that if the Republican Party's nominee for president won the election in that year, the institution of slavery would be in great danger, even though legal under the U.S. Constitution.

These considerations resulted in increasing talk of secession throughout the South — departure from the Union and freedom from Northerners who talked of slave ownership as a grave sin and Northern politicians who insisted on stopping the extension of slavery into new territories and even threatened the very existence of “the peculiar institution” itself.

In November 1860, Abraham Lincoln, a Republican, was elected President of the United States in a fragmented and sectionally divided race. The following month, South Carolina seceded from the Union, followed by ten other Southern states in early 1861.

War began on April 12, 1861, when Southern troops fired on the Federal garrison of Fort Sumter in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina. Both sides began mobilizing. The Southern states formed their own nation, the Confederate States of America, with its capital at Richmond, Virginia, and Jefferson Davis as its president. U.S. President Lincoln called for 75,000 troops to put down the rebellion and Northerners thought the uprising would be quickly quelled. Three early Confederate victories in 1861 — at Ball's Bluff and Manassas Junction, Virginia, and Wilson's Creek, Missouri — quickly shattered that illusion.

Imposition of a U.S. naval blockade of Southern East Coast and Gulf Coast ports, and some strategic Union moves in the Western Theatre (Kentucky and Tennessee), however, began to restore some balance.

We join the war in progress, a year after the secession of South Carolina.

On December 31, 1861, President Lincoln and others are highly concerned that the Union Army lacks focus and direction. As Maj. Gen. George McClellan — in charge of the Federal Army of the Potomac — is ill, the president reaches out to Maj. Gen. Henry Halleck in Missouri. His hope is that perhaps the Western Departments, at least, will be moved into some sort of action.

New Year's Day of 1862 sees Confederate Commissioners Mason and Slidell — released two days earlier from a federal prison in Boston — board the British sloop-of-war HMS Rinaldo off Provincetown, Massachusetts, to resume their journey to Europe that had been interrupted by the U.S. Navy. (On November 8, 1861, the U.S. Navy vessel USS San Jacinto illegally and without authorization had stopped the British packet RMS Trent on the high seas and forcibly removed the two men.) Thus ended the Trent Affair that almost caused a war between the U.S. and the United Kingdom. Sharp skirmishing takes place in the vicinity of Port Royal, South Carolina, as the Federals try to expand their beachhead between the Port Royal area and Hilton Head. Federal ships and batteries at Fort Pickens in Florida fire at Confederate positions in Pensacola. At Fort Bliss, in Texas, Brig. Gen. Henry Sibley's three regiments — having arrived from San Antonio — gather and regroup for their invasion of the Federal New Mexico Territory.

On January 2, Maj. Gen. Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson, despite bitter-cold weather, leads his Confederate forces out of Winchester, Virginia, on the Romney Expedition, the object of which is the destruction of sections of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and dams along the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal.

Brig. Gen. Sibley's 2,600-strong Confederate Army of New Mexico on January 3 moves about 50 miles north of Fort Bliss to Fort Thorn, abandoned since 1859. Sibley leaves a battalion of five companies of the 7th Texas Cavalry at Mesilla as his rear guard.

Stonewall Jackson's Confederates take Bath, in northwestern Virginia, on January 4.

On January 5, Jackson's Confederates capture Hancock, Maryland, north of the Potomac River.

In Washington, D.C., support for Maj. Gen. George McClellan begins to wane due to his reluctance to commit troops to any concerted action. A group of Senators approaches President Lincoln on January 6 suggesting McClellan be replaced, but the president rebuffs the idea. The president sends a communication to Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell, in Kentucky, urging him to advance his forces to show support “for our friends in East Tennessee.”

Federal troops positioned near Hancock, Maryland, on January 7 move away from the Potomac River, heading southwestward toward Romney, in northwestern Virginia. They are followed by Stonewall Jackson's Confederates.

In Washington, D.C., U.S. Navy Capt. David Farragut on January 9 is appointed commander of the West Gulf Blockading Squadron, whose patrol area stretches from western Florida to Mexico. At the White House, President Lincoln expresses vexation that neither Maj. Gen. Halleck nor Brig. Gen. Buell have responded to his urging that western troops advance.

Brig. Gen. Ulysses Grant, at Cairo, Illinois, on January 10 prepares his troops for an expedition into Kentucky. At Prestonburg, Kentucky, 3,000 Federal troops under Col. James A. Garfield attack 2,000 Confederates led by Brig. Gen. Humphrey Marshall. The result of the clash is not decisive — both sides withdraw believing they have won. Federal troops abandon Romney, Virginia, and Stonewall Jackson's forces occupy the town and begin settling in for the winter.

Some 100 ships of the U.S. Navy land 15,000 troops under Brig. Gen. Ambrose Burnside near Hatteras Inlet, North Carolina, on January 11. This force will augment Union soldiers that already are holding the vicinity of Port Royal, South Carolina. In Washington, D.C., President Lincoln accepts the resignation of Secretary of War Simon Cameron and names prominent Washington attorney Edwin Stanton as his successor.

On January 13, 1862, President Lincoln once again writes to generals Halleck and Buell expressing his desire that they press the Confederates.

On January 15, 1862, Edwin M. Stanton is confirmed as Lincoln's Secretary of War, replacing Simon Cameron, widely considered as ineffective.

Working in tandem, a land force of some 20,000 Federal troops under Brig. Gen. U.S. Grant and naval forces on the Tennessee River on January 16 begin working their way towards Fort Henry, garrisoned by about 3,000 Confederates under Brig. Gen. Lloyd Tilghman. Farther east in Tennessee, near Mill Springs, Confederate Brig. Gen. Felix Zollicoffer positions his soldiers north of the Cumberland River against orders to the contrary from Maj. Gen. George Crittenden, whose main body of troops are south of the river. Union troops have been sighted moving toward this area.

On January 17, Union ground forces begin moving into the area around Fort Henry, in Tennessee.

In Kentucky, Federal troops on January 18 begin closing in on Confederate forces around Mill Springs.

***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 January 8th & 22nd 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.



***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 Rus-
sell, Organist. We Extend an
Open Invitation to All!

Magyar Reformed Church,
331 Kirkland Place, Perth Am-
boy, NJ - 732-442-7799; www.
mrchurchnj.org

Parking behind the church on the Wilson Street side.

Bingo is Back

PERTHAMBOY – \$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

Prime Rib Dinner

SOUTH AMBOY – Slow Roasted Prime Rib, Caesar Salad, baked potato, vegetables, dessert, coffee or tea: \$20. Also Offering 1/2 Roasted Chicken, Caesar Salad, baked potato, vegetables, dessert, coffee or tea: \$18. Thursday, January 12, 2022, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Dinner must be preordered by 1/9/2022, Sponsored by the South Amboy Elks #784, 601 Washington Ave., South Amboy. For more information, call 732-727-7170.

*Friends of the
Library Meeting*

PERTH AMBOY – The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library are having a meeting at the Children's Library, 196 Jefferson Street, Perth Amboy Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2022 at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

***Join the
Cub Scouts!***

FORDS – Pack 53 wants you to join the cub scouts! For boys K thru 5. Our 70th year. Sign up now! Be ready to start up in September! Our 2021-2 Plans are done and ready for the Scouts to have lots of fun! These pictures are our scouts and some of the numerous activities they participated in last year. Fishing, hiking, BB guns, archery, service time (planting, Scouting for Food, Cleanups, and toy collections), parades, Pinewood Derby, Raingutter Regatta and much, much more.

We are Pack 53 Fords Clara Barton, but scouts are from all over. We are Sponsored by Fords Fire Department, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and Fords Middle School. See our website: pack53fordsnj.shutterfly.com for more information! Send me your email to pack53cs@gmail.com for more information.

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 St. Jude

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

A.C. Bus Trip for January Cancelled Cost Change for February!

San Salvador Seniors
PERTH AMBOY - The San Salvador Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Thursday, Feb. 3, 2022. 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: \$35 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.

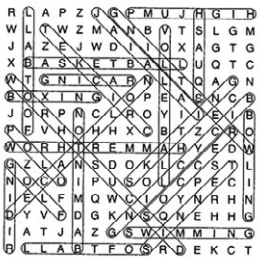
You Must Reserve Your Seat!

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

Remember to Say Your Novenas!



Answers From Puzzle On Page 13



LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – Keasbey Fire Department at the Artistic Doors Fire, 1980's.

**Photo by Paul Wang*

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

Pet of the Week

Have a Special Pet?
E-mail us your Pet Photos to Amboy-Guardian@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.



PERTH AMBOY - Will you be the one to grant me my 3rd Christmas miracle? Lixie finally had a home after waiting for so long and sadly her owner went to hospice. She was spayed as part of a TNR program and saved when she showed up at her foster mommy's house. She was just too sweet to be put back out. Please ADOPT Lixie or one of her friends. She's spayed, vaccinated, negative for fiv and leukemia, was dewormed, and is healthy and fully vetted. She loves to be pet and look put the window. She is calm and sweet but prefers humans to animals. ADOPT. SPAY. NEUTER. LOVE. Adoption application & donation fee apply. All for the Paws, P. O. Box 2281, Perth Amboy, NJ 08862 Allforthepaws.org; Paypal Allforthepaws@gmail.com Text name and email address to 1.732.486.6382 to adopt or for more info.

A.C. Bus Trip Good Shepherd Seniors

HOPELAWN - Seniors of Good Shepherd Parish is sponsoring a bus trip to Resorts Casino, Atlantic City, Tuesday, 2/8/2022. Cost is \$35 with \$20 back in play. Bus leaves our parking lot at 10:00 AM. For more information, please call Connie at 732-442-4978.

Tricky Tray

SOUTH AMBOY – The South Amboy Elks, 601 Washington Ave., South Amboy are sponsoring a Tricky Tray on January 30, 2022, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 3 Tiers of Wrapped Prizes. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. Lunch Menu available from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Drawings start promptly at 2 p.m. \$10 admission. All Proceeds benefit the General Fund. RL#21-16. For more information, call 732-727-7170.

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***Please Include Prices of Items on Classified's or
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LP's Cassettes, CD's DVD's \$1.00 each; Radio, CD \$20 - 732-261-4703	3/4 Size Acoustic Guitar. Good for young child - \$50. 732-541-5491	Baseball & Basketball Complete Sets Mint Condition \$10-\$30 Each Set - 732-727-8417
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Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975	Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Powerlift for motorcycle \$75 - must pick up. Please call 732-738-7074
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A Petition to St. Jude

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

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Initials at end of prayer_____

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

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

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

Prayer To St. Clare

For Employment

Prayer To St. Jude

Prayer To Blessed Mother

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Novena To St. Anthony

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

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New Year's Baby 2022



Photo Release
RAHWAY - Michelle Mendez Cruz from Rahway, NJ gave birth to RBMC's first baby of 2022! Meet Ethan Angel Luis Rodriguez! Born on January 2 at 9:06 AM at 5lbs, 15oz.



Middlesex County Celebrates the New Year and More This January with a Spectrum of Arts and Culture Events
Residents can enjoy a range of free exhibitions and events promoted by the Middlesex County Arts Institute

WHAT: The Arts Institute of Middlesex County is presenting, promoting, and supporting a multitude of arts and culture events, exhibitions, and shows throughout the month of January. The month is packed with exciting programming primarily centered around celebrating A Mindful New Year. While some COVID-19 restrictions have lifted, artists all over the County and the Middlesex County Arts Institute continue to come together to connect residents through public art, virtual experiences, and performances. The County’s Arts Institute has helped partners navigate this new environment with engaging and thought-provoking experiences. These events are free to enjoy for all County residents and beyond.

January’s event highlights include:

- Every Wednesday @ 4:30 pm** – This month we are celebrating A Mindful New Year! Join the Civic League of Greater New Brunswick for our Art and Story Time series every Wednesday at 4:30 pm with a new reading and a DIY craft activity. All ages welcome!
- o **January 5 @ 4:30 pm** – Join the Civic League of Greater New Brunswick for a reading of A New Year’s Reunion: A Chinese Story written by Li Qiong Yu and illustrated by Zhu Chen Liang. This week we will be painting our favorite celebratory foods!
- o **January 12 @ 4:30 pm** – Join the Civic League of Greater New Brunswick for a reading of Last Stop on Market Street written by Matt de la Peña and illustrated by Christian Robinson. This week we will be creating collages of our favorite local neighborhood spots!
- o **January 19 @ 4:30 pm** – Join the Civic League of Greater New Brunswick for a reading of Outside In written by Deborah Underwood and illustrated by Cindy Derby. This week we will be creating watercolor paintings of nature!
- o **January 26 @ 4:30 pm** – Join the Civic League of Greater New Brunswick for a reading of The Tea Party in the Woods written and illustrated by Akiko Miyakoshi. This week we will be imagining and illustrating our own fantasy stories using pencils and whatever supplies you might have on hand!
- January 17 @ 12 pm** – In celebration of this year’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 17, 2022, Rutgers Collaborative Center for Community-Engaged Learning and Research is partnering with the Windows of Understanding Public Art Social Justice Initiative to present a one-hour virtual program entitled “Envisioning Peace in our Community.” This program will feature performances and an intergenerational panel composed of influential community leaders around the recent uptick in gun violence in the city and what steps can be taken by all participants within the community — from students to seniors.
- The Spring 2022 New Jersey Film Festival** – You are invited to the 40th Anniversary Festival, taking place on select Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays between January 28 and February 20, 2022. This year’s festival will be run as a hybrid series with programming presented online and select live screenings at Rutgers University.

WHEN: January 2022
WHERE: Virtually throughout Middlesex County, visit <http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/artsandculture> for full details on all the events listed above and many more! Registration details and links to live stream events are available.

Movie Review: Spider-Man: No Way Home



By: Anton Massopust III

“I always wanted Brothers.” Andrew Garfield’s Spider- Man.

Remember when we went to the movies and all had fun and we would bring everybody with us, our friends and family. It would unite us and make us all happy. Spider-Man No Way Home is that kind of movie. It's a fun Adventure and all three Spider-Man’s (played by Tobey McGuire, Andrew Garfield and Tom Holland) unite against a common foe as they work together to save not just New York, the multiverse before it collapses into itself. At the end of Spider-Man - Far From Home, Mysterio reveals Spider-Man's secret identity to the world. Spider-Man's world collapses and everyone he knows it's in trouble. Everyone he cares about, even Daredevil comes to aid him. He makes a cameo a Spider-Man’s lawyer, Matt Murdock. Spider-Man seeks the help of Doctor Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch) after they help save the universe together again Thanos. He asked Doctor Strange to erase everyone's memory so that no one knows he's Spider-Man. Doctor Strange does so, but mis-casts the spell because Peter interrupts it and Doctor Strange contains. Unfortunately, before Doctor Strange can contain it a group of super-villains who all died fighting Spider-Man are seeking revenge on Spider-Man. This includes The Lizard (Rhys Lfans), Electro (Jamie Foxx) Doctor Octopus (Alfred Molina) Sandman (Thomas Hayden Church) and the Green Goblin (William Defoe). Doctor Strange wants to return them to their own universe, even though they will die but Spider-Man. Spider-Man and Doctor Strange have a fight because Peter wants to cure them and turn them back to normal. Eventually the Green Goblin shows his true colors and unites the villains to attack Spider-Man. Peter’s friend, Ned Leeds (Jacob Batalon) uses Doctor Strange’s ring to find Peter Parker and brings two other Spider-Mans into the dimension that the present Peter Parker is in. All the Spider-Man’s unite against the super-villains in order to “cure” them and send them home. Spider-Man has to make the ultimate sacrifice by having everyone not know that he and Peter Parker are the same with Doctor Strange’s help.

Is this the best Spider-Man movie ever? Pretty close! It is just as good as Enter the Spider-Verse and just as good as Spider-Man 2. I think that bringing back all the original actors who played Spider-Man and the villains years ago is terrific idea. This is too big for your TV to contain. It has everything! It’s a fun seasonal uplifting adventure that we need right now. Spider-Man No Way Home has plenty of Spider-Man references which are any Spider-Man fan would probably know. I can't give it a bigger recommendation because it's so much fun for everyone and the cast is wonderful. Go to see it and we'll be part of your Christmas celebrations, just like we used to do before all this pandemic.

Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Helps Safeguard School Districts from Cyberattacks
New Service Protects Digital Information; Meets Tougher Cyber Liability Insurance Requirements

Press Release 12/27/21
PISCATAWAY – Cybersecurity attacks have reached alarming proportions, with 160 percent more data breaches recorded from 2020 to 2021.

New Jersey’s school districts are not immune. Many have become targets of ransomware, a type of malicious software that locks up critical computer files until the victim pays a hefty ransom.

In response, the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) is helping school districts improve their defenses against cyberattacks. It is part of the specialized school district’s professional consulting services to school districts and local governments from its main campus in Piscataway.

“Our new program, the ESCNJ Cybersecurity Framework, combines written policies with security awareness training and technology tools to help school administrators enhance their cybersecurity strategies,” explained ESCNJ Schools Superintendent Mark Finkelstein. “We created this framework in consultation with insurance companies, state officials and industry experts to provide a cost-effective response to the growing cybersecurity threat.”

Kevin Dellicker, a consultant with Dellicker Strategies, has been working with ESCNJ to develop the framework. He pointed out that cyberattacks are happening more frequently and with more expensive consequences to public entities.

“Protecting digital information requires a culture change in the K-12 community,” Dellicker said. “Effective cybersecurity requires a district-wide response. Technical fixes, alone, are no longer enough.”

ESCNJ provides a host of services and solutions related to cybersecurity through its co-operative purchasing program. School districts and other government entities can hire consultants to run vulnerability scans and penetration tests, establish incident response plans and implement data defense solutions.

There is no one-size-fits all solution, but most school districts often need to implement the same strategies to protect data.

“Every school district should have a written plan for information security,” Finkelstein said. “The ESCNJ Cybersecurity Framework guides school districts and ensures they are using proven and tested methodologies to keep information secure.”

Insurance companies are also fighting back against cyberattacks with more directives to policy holders. For example, they are requiring school districts to have multi factor authentication, endpoint detection and response, documented staff training and a system backup, Dellicker noted.

The ESCNJ Cybersecurity Framework helps school districts meet these upgraded cybersecurity protections that must be in place by June 30, 2022 for most cyber liability insurance renewals. Timing is of the essence; just meeting the minimum requirements typically takes 3-6 months to complete.

“This framework is our latest service offering through the co-op, as we continue to adjust and respond to the pressing needs of school districts,” Finkelstein said. “Cyberattacks are only going to grow in frequency and, together, we must be protected.”

To learn more, visit escnj.us

Getting Ahead in Business By Milton Paris



Milton Paris



Having a Positive Attitude All the Time in Business

Today I am going to write about my favorite subject “having a positive attitude all the time in business”. This will bring you success and happiness. When you come to think of it “Did you ever accomplish anything being negative on any business deals”? Negative thoughts bring more negative thoughts. Keep in mind that we control 90% of what we want to accomplish in life, the other 10% we cannot control.

Let’s talk about how to become a positive person in business. According to Webster’s Dictionary the definition of positive is: confident; assured positive person, over confident or dogmatic. Showing resolution or agreement; affirmative; certain (a positive answer) Tending in the direction regarded as that of increase, progress, etc. making a definite contribution; constructive (positive criticism) based, or asserted as based, on reality or facts (positive proof) etc.

When reading both definitions of negative and positive, why would anyone be in the negative realm? It is going in the wrong direction in business, when we all know positive takes you to your goals the right way. It is a no brainer. To have a positive attitude, you must believe in yourself and what you want to accomplish in your business. Surround yourself with positive people who believe in you, your vision and the long term growth of your business.

Jeffrey Gitomer, author Little Gold Book of Yes Attitude discusses a self-evaluation test.

Rate yourself from 1-being never, 2-rarely, 3-sometimes, 4-frequently, 5- all the time.

a.I wake up happy, I think YES! first b.I smile c. I am kind to others, d.I have deep self-belief, e.I am self-confident, f.I take responsibility for my actions, g.I motivate and inspire myself, h.I have great spirit, i.I think positive at work and at home, j.I laugh a lot, k.I find humor in all things, l.I read positive things, m.I’m in a consistent “good mood”, n.I desire to be the BEST, o.I love what I do, p.I am happy on the inside, q.I encourage and compliment others, r.I look for the good in every situation, s.people like me, t.people are attracted to me.

If your total score is **90-110** – Your attitude attributes will put you on the path to achievement, **75-89** – Your attitude attributes need work, but you’re on the right path. Stay on that path, the self-improvement path. **60-74** – Your attitude attributes are good, not great. You’re headed toward the right path. Dedicate more time to your personal excellence. Below **60-** Somewhere along the line, you’ve taken the wrong fork in the road.

To my other readers, e-mail my column to any negative relatives, friends, business associates or acquaintances. I urge all my readers to take this self-evaluation test; it will help you to understand where improvement is needed.

Milton J. Paris, is President of the Monroe based consulting firm Getting Ahead in Business whose motto is “nothing is impossible.” www.gettingaheadinbusiness.com

Nothing is impossible when working with professional telemarketers!
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Milton J. Paris, President Getting Ahead in Business, Sales and Marketing Consultant, Management Coach, Motivational Speaker and Radio Host brings a wealth of experience to the table as a result of building businesses for the past 50 years. He has coached/consulted CEO's, Presidents, entrepreneurs, salespeople and start-ups.

Milton's insights and philosophy have also helped people and their business results. Milton travels with salespeople to visit potential clients. This is all to be accomplished within an environment that puts a premium on taking personal responsibility for results.

No company is too small or too large for him to achieve rapid results in their business development. Milton for the past 15 years has been the host of Getting Ahead in Business on Fox Sports New Jersey 93.5/1450am every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. The only business radio talk show in New Jersey.

Listen to Milton, but most important make an appointment with him to make 2022 a banner year!

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH MILTON ON BOARD!

Any business questions? Go to: www.gettingaheadinbusiness.com
Getting Ahead in Business is looking for part-time telemarketers...work from your home!
e-mail Milton: milton@gettingaheadinbusiness.com or call: 732-306-0040

Woodbridge Public Library Events

Some of our programs this month will be in-person although most will be virtual. Please make sure to check which format the presentation will be presented in.

Library Gingerbread House Competition 2021!!
Woodbridge Library Staff departments are competing for your vote for the best Library Gingerbread House 2021! Enter by e-mail for a chance to win Downtown Dollars, which are gift certificates that can be used in a variety of Woodbridge Main Street stores. The contest begins Monday, December 13, at 1 pm--the link will be active to vote virtually by Monday evening, December 13. Downtown Dollars will be awarded to lucky voters by e-mail on December 21st! Click [HERE](#) (after 5 pm on December 13th) to vote for your favorite Gingerbread House to enter.

January 4 | 3PM | Main Library (In-Person)
Mystery/Thriller Book Club
Our Mystery/Thriller Book Club is back!! Join us for an in-person discussion of The Sanatorium by Sarah Pearse. No Registration Required.

January 5 | 2PM | Virtual Program
Consumer Fraud: How to Avoid Getting Scammed!!
A representative from the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs tells us how to AVOID GETTING SCAMMED. Registration Required.

January 12 | 3:30PM | (In-Person)
Winter Village Candle Craft
Come join us in person to create your own winter candle. All supplies will be provided . Open to adults and teens (13+). Registration Required.

January 12 | 7PM | Virtual Program
Start the New Year With Meditation
Join Umesh Bhatia longtime meditator for this powerful workshop. There will even be a little meditation sitting at the end. Bring joy, peace, positivity and relaxation into your daily life and begin the New Year with a fresh start. Registration Required.

January 20 | 7PM | Virtual Program
Just take another bite! - How to get your child to become a more adventurous eater!
Join Christina, a Speech-Language Pathologist, as she speaks to why children may be selective eaters, when to seek professional assistance, and what your role as a parent is during the stressful mealtime routine. Registration Required.

January 25 | 7PM | Main Library (In-Person)
FamilySearch.org: Getting the Most of a Free Genealogy Resource
One of the largest free genealogy websites, FamilySearch.org contains a massive global collection of records and resources. This program will tour the site as well as provide search tips and techniques for navigation of the main components (searching and browsing records, digital library, research wiki, and family trees). Registration Required.

January 27 | 7PM | Virtual Program
My College Planning Team: Paying For College Without Going Broke
For Teens & Parents: Join us on Zoom to explore the complex world of need-based and merit based financial aid. Parents and students will learn strategies for lowering their EFC (Expected Family Contribution), the new FAFSA rules, and tips for optimizing college admissions and scholarships. Registration Required.

Movies at Main | Fridays at 2PM
Join us every Friday at 2PM to catch a free movie! This 8 week series is theme is Friday Favorites!

Thank you for your support!
Woodbridge Library Programming Department, Woodbridge Public Library. 1 George Frederick Plaza, Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095. Try our new app, WPL on the Go!
www.woodbridgelibrary.org
Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

Clothing Bin Now Open

SAYREVILLE - The Clothing Recycling Bin located at First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville, 172 Main Street, across from Borough Hall has been reopened for donations. With ART, the recycling company, one may donate in 3 ways:

- 1.) Usable clothing is donated directly to the needy.
- 2.) High-quality clothing is given to organizations that sell to those who cannot afford new clothing.
- 3.) Unusable clothing is washed and sold for industrial use and leftovers are used in the auto industry as seat stuffing for large trucks. They also help charities, schools, police departments, fire departments and non-profit organizations.

If you have clothes, shoes or other fabrics please consider using our recycling bin. Thank You.

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.





Enrique Hernandez
Broker/Owner CRB, SFR, CRS



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PERTH AMBOY - A great opportunity to own this cozy house. Single family home with three bedrooms. \$289,000



EDISON - Welcome to Edison. New!!! From Top to Bottom. On The First Floor You Have Living Room 18 X 12, Kitchen, Dining 14.8 X 12 Combination. Entertaining Is Always Easy With The Open Concept And Big Kitchen Island With Granite Countertop, Plenty Cabinets. Second Floor 3 Bedroom And Office Room 6 X 10. The Master Is 21.10 X 12.4 With A Full Bath. Finished Basement With Laundry Room, 1/2 Bath. Save Water and Gas with The Modern Water Heater Tankless. You Will Be In Love With This New Property. Don't Wait. \$639,000



WOODBIDGE PROPER - This freshly painted Colonial offers generous space for the extended family, including 5 good-sized bedrooms, large living room, formal dining room, and a galley-style kitchen with additional recreational space in the partially-finished basement. This home has a full stand-up attic which offers plenty of additional storage space. Attention commuters, this property is very close to train station, buses, and major highways as well as close to shops and restaurants. Home is being sold as-is. Come, see, and make an offer! Showings start 11/27/21. \$489,000



PERTH AMBOY - Welcome Home!!! Nothing To Do But Unpack And Enjoy! The Great Area Of Spa Springs, Perth Amboy. Renovate From Top To Bottom, Features Hardwood Floor Throughout, Central Ac, New Windows, New Doors, New Kitchen And 3 New Bathrooms. Full Finished Basement With Plenty Of Extra Entertaining Space, Office, 2 Storage Rooms And Full Bathroom. Public Transportation To Ny Available. \$480,000