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AMBOY GUARDIAN

• VOL. 9 NO. 19 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019 •

Merry Christmas - Season's Greetings - Happy Chanukah



*Photos by Ray Kawka Jr., James Erwin (for the BID), Paul W. Wang, Angel Robledo

Perth Amboy City Council Meeting 1/6/20 - Caucus - 4:30 p.m.; 1/8/20 - Council - 7 p.m.; South Amboy City Council Meeting 1/2/20 - 6 p.m.



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Perth Amboy Chosen Out of Hundreds to Receive NJDOT Municipal Aid Funding

Press Release 12/5/19
PERTH AMBOY – The City of Perth Amboy has been chosen out of a field of 661 applicants to receive \$508,467 by the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Program for the Lawrie Street, Sayre Avenue, and Krochmally Street Roadway Improvements Project.

“We are so pleased and grateful to the NJDOT for this much needed funding,” said Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz. “The fact that we received this award out of a crowd of hundreds of applicants is a testament to the hard work and diligence of our staff. As a result, we will soon have modernized, safe streets that benefits everyone, resident and visitor alike.”

NJDOT provides statewide assistance to local governments for improvement and preservation of the local transportation network, which accounts for 90 percent of the state’s roadways. The highly competitive NJDOT Municipal Aid Program is funded by the Transportation Trust Fund, which, in turn, is supported by the state gas tax. The TTF provides the total \$161.25 million funding for the program.

In announcing the award, NJDOT Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti said, “The successful completion of your project will help keep our network flowing and provide your constituents and everyone that uses local roads a transportation system supporting all of our mobility needs.”

Perth Amboy, Elizabeth Subpoenaed

**From Politico*
By Matt Friedman
PERTH AMBOY/ELIZABETH - Elizabeth Board of Education, Perth Amboy government hit with state subpoenas, by POLITICO's Matt Friedman: Two municipal entities in New Jersey have been served subpoenas from the state that request information on government contracts, POLITICO has learned. The subpoenas went out last month to the Elizabeth School District and to the city government of Perth Amboy. "The Elizabeth School District received a request for information from the state and is of course working to fulfill that request," said Elizabeth schools spokesperson Pat Politano, who confirmed the information was requested through a subpoena. Elizabeth received the subpoena Nov. 15. A subpoena went out to Perth Amboy's city government on Nov. 19. Perth Amboy Business Administrator Frederick Carr said in a phone interview the subpoena is from a state grand jury and seeks documents on requests for proposals, bid awards and contract payments and other information for about a dozen companies and organization.

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Director
NJ LIC No. 3353

CITY OF PERTH AMBOY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
2019 HOLIDAY RECYCLING GUIDELINES
599 Fayette Street | 732-826-2010 | www.ci.perthamboy.nj.us



NO Recycling COLLECTION ON THE FOLLOWING (Wednesdays) 2019/2020 HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAY EXCLUSIONS	HOLIDAY
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2019 (NO RECYCLING) CHRISTMAS DAY 2019	If your garbage collection day is Monday & Thursday put your recyclables (blue can) out Monday night, for Tuesday, December 24 th Pickup
Recycling Change for this week	If your garbage collection day is Tuesday & Friday Put your recyclables (blue can) out Wednesday night, for Thursday, December 26 th Pickup
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2020 (NO RECYCLING) NEW YEARS DAY 2020	If your garbage collection day is Monday & Thursday put your recyclables (blue can) out Monday night, for Tuesday, December 31 th Pickup.
Recycling Change for this week	If your Garbage collection day is Tuesday & Friday put your recyclables (blue can) out Wednesday night, for Thursday, January 2 nd 2020 Pickup.

REMINDER TO PROPERTY OWNERS (It is the responsibility of all property owners to notify their tenants!)

Do not use plastic bags with your recycling. They are banned. No bags on the ground. Do not mix recyclables in the Garbage. The cans are inspected regularly. For more Information please call 732-826-2010.

Para información en español, favor de comunicarse con el Departamento de Obras Públicas al: 732-826-2010.

Happy Holidays from the Perth Amboy Department of Public Works!



Thank you for all your Support throughout the years.

Wishing You a Blessed Holiday Season and a Joyous New Year!

**JOEL
PABON**

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

2020 Census & the Bill of Rights



Besides the elections coming up in 2020, is the importance of the census. There was a presentation at one of the caucus meetings and I also recently heard on the radio that the federal government will be disbursing \$675 billion for the census nationwide to communities. This money will help support the states, counties, and communities vital programs which will impact housing, education, transportation, employment, healthcare, etc. That is why EVERY SINGLE PERSON must be counted. Recruitments are being taken for census workers. Once you become a census worker, you are considered a government employee. Not under any circumstances the personal data you collect from any individual can be shared by any other agency – local, county, or federal. The census can be done online or by a phone call. There is a deadline for the information to be collected. A census worker will only come to your house if the information was not filled out. The census workers will make 2 attempts to come to your residence. If they are unsuccessful, they will ask your neighbors if they have any knowledge if any people live in your house.

All Census Bureau Staff take a lifetime oath to protect your personal information, and any violation comes with a penalty of up to \$250,000 and/or up to 5 years in prison. There are no exceptions. The law requires the Census Bureau to keep everyone's information confidential. (Source Census.gov)

So, make sure you are counted. Just as a safety net, the question about your citizenship was removed from the form.

If you are interested in becoming a Census 2020 worker, contact Deputy Municipal Department Head, Recreation Department Dianne Roman at Olive Street. (732) 826-1690 ext. 4320

If you have any questions regarding the census, go to 2020Census.gov

The Bill of Rights was first ratified right here in Perth Amboy on November 20, 1789. It's the 230th Anniversary. The Bill of Rights is such an important part of our nation's history. It was suggested to us to be taught as part of the requirements of the curriculum. As an afterthought all municipalities should have their history taught in school, but Perth Amboy's history is especially important. C.M. & K.M.

Celebrate
Perth Amboy

What do you think? *Send us a response!*

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The Amboy Guardian will not be liable for advertising errors beyond the cost of the space of the copy. Notification must be made of errors in ads within one week of publication. Pictures may be claimed up to 3 weeks after publication, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope with submission.

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THE COMMUNITY VOICE

*"Let Go!
Let God! Give
Patience and
Peace a Try!"*

T'is the season to "Let Go! Let God! Give patience and peace a try. The years have brought about many conflicts in our

lives which never seem to fade away. The old grudges, family feuds and misunderstandings stay with us because we don't take the time or are afraid to talk about the unresolved hurts from the past. Now is the time to set about righting the old hard feelings. I assure you all parties will become away stronger, happier and with a better understanding

of what really matters in life. Reach out. You will be amazed to learn that the other party has wanted to forgive and forget but was afraid to make the first move. Let Go! Let God. He will show you the way.

Respectfully,
Robert A. Brown

*My First
Christmas: by
the Late Thomas
Francis Clark*

Note: Thomas Francis Clark was one of our frequent letter-writers. He would always send this traditional letter for the Christmas Season.

That was over eight decades ago. Has Christmas Day changed? My answer to that is "No" because the birthday of Jesus Christ is on December 25. Has the Christmas Season changed? My answer to that is "Yes." The big rush is on. Let's stand in those long lines and get it over early. The retailers are having a ball.

Three things that I have always loved were Christmas, little kids and journalism. Around this time of the year, I always think of the Editor and Veteran Newsman. He wrote for a newspaper in New York called

the Sun. His name was Francis Pharcellus Church. In 1897 he received a letter from eight year old Virginia O'Hanlon. She said, "Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus." Church answered that letter. He said, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus." His response to that question has become history's most reprinted newspaper article appearing in dozens of languages, in books, movies and other editorials all over the world.

I was talking to a kid the other day. He said, "My name is Thomas and I'm ten years old." I asked him do you believe in Santa Claus? He answered, "Yes, but not the Fakes in the Department Stores."

I can still remember counting the days and waiting for Santa. I knew that he came because he ate the cookies and milk that I left for him.

During my life, I have spent many of my years with younger kids. Most of them are believ-

ers, but sometimes older kids or adults try to alter their way of thinking. These people are the non-believers and have no faith in anything. They have to see and want proof. In 1973, The New York Mets pulled off a miracle and won the National League Title. A pitcher on that team was Tug McGraw.

He coined a phrase which has carried over in Sports ever since that year. He said, "You Got to Believe."

How can you be a winner if you don't believe? The answer is, "You are a loser before you start."

Things could be better for many of us out there. This year there is also a good feeling at this time of the year. Yes, my Friends and I'll tell you why, "Santa Claus is coming to town and you better believe it."

Merry Christmas!
Thomas Francis Clark

A Christmas Gift

During this season of giving
Each one of us can give a Christmas Gift to our fellow man
With giving respect and kindness you may be giving a person that is down on his
luck a reason to keep on living
You may lift up someone's spirit by giving him a helping hand
By giving the gift of reverence of every human being
You will be receiving a Christmas Gift
A gift that was given to us over two thousand years ago
The gift of being selfless
The gift of love
By being tolerant and giving love to everyone you meet during this Christmas
Season
You will be giving and receiving "A Christmas Gift"

By "The Poet" the late Dioris Luis Arlequin

Keep those Letters Coming! We Love to Hear From You! E-mail letters to the editor to amboyguardian@gmail.com or write to the paper at Letters to the Editor, The Amboy Guardian, P.O. Box 0127, Perth Amboy, NJ 08862-0127. Letters must include your full name, address and daytime telephone number or cell phone number for verification. First time letter-writers must be called for verification or your letter will not be published. If you are a public official, please include your title. All letters are subject to editing or rejection. All submissions may be published or distributed by us in print, electronic or other forms. Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the writers and do not represent or reflect the views of the Amboy Guardian.



Where to Find Us . . .

IN FORDS:	
COLONIAL RESTAURANT.....	366 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
LIBERTY BAGEL CAFE.....	326 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY.....	211 FORD AVE.
ROOSEVELT'S DELI	684 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 LIQUORS	467 S. PINE AVE.
IN PARLIN:	
DAD'S ROYAL BAKERY.....	3290 WASHINGTON RD.
IN PERTH AMBOY:	
1 ST CONSTITUTION BANK	145 FAYETTE ST.
ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTER	178 BARRACKS ST.
ALAMEDA CENTER	303 ELM ST.
AMBOY CHECK X-CHANGE	321 MAPLE ST.
ANDERL & OAKLEY PC	309 MAPLE ST.
THE BARGE	201 FRONT ST.
BAY CITY LAUNDRYMAT.....	738 STATE ST.
C-TOWN	272 MAPLE ST.
CEDENO'S PHARMACY	400 STATE ST.
CITY HALL	260 HIGH ST.
COPA DE ORO	306 SMITH ST.
DULCE'S SWEETS.....	222 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
DUNKIN DONUTS	587 FAYETTE ST.
EASTSIDE DRY CLEANERS	87 SMITH ST.
ELIZABETH CORNER	175 HALL AVE.
FAMILY FOOT CARE	252 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.
LUCKY'S	664 BRACE AVE.
LUDWIG'S PHARMACY	75 BRACE AVE.
MITRUSKA CHIROPRACTIC	788 CONVERY BLVD.
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 LIBRARY	196 JEFFERSON ST.
PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION	100 FIRST ST.
QUICK CHEK	853 CONVERY BLVD.
QUICK STOP DELI	814 AMBOY AVE.
QUISQUEYA MARKET	249 MADISON AVE.
QUISQUEYA LUNCHEONETTE	259 MADISON AVE.
RARITAN BAY AREA Y.M.C.A.	365 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
RARITAN BAY MEDICAL CENTER	530 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SANTANDER BANK	365 CONVERY BLVD.
SANTIBANA TRAVEL	362 STATE ST.
SCIORTINO'S RESTAURANT	473 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE.
SHOP-RITE	365 CONVERY BLVD.
SIPOS BAKERY	365 SMITH ST.
SUPERIOR DINER.....	464 SMITH ST.
SUPREMO SUPERMARKET	270 KING ST.
TORRES MINI MARKET	403 BRUCK AVE.
TOWN DRUGS & SURGICAL	238 SMITH ST.
WELLS FARGO	214 SMITH ST.
ZPA	281 GRACE ST.
IN SAYREVILLE:	
BOROUGH HALL	167 MAIN ST.
SENIOR CENTER	423 MAIN ST.
SUNNYSIDE RESTAURANT	111 MAIN ST.
IN SEWAREN:	
PUBLIC LIBRARY	546 WEST AVE.
SEWAREN CORNER DELI	514 WEST AVE.
IN SOUTH AMBOY:	
AMBOY NATIONAL BANK	100 N. BROADWAY
BROADWAY BAGELS	105 S. BROADWAY
BROADWAY DINER	126 N. BROADWAY
CITY HALL	140 N. BROADWAY
COMMUNITY CENTER	200 O'LEARY BLVD.
KRAUSZER'S	200 N. BROADWAY
KRAUSZER'S	717 BORDENTOWN AVE.
PUBLIC LIBRARY	100 HOFFMAN PLAZA
SCIORTINO'S HARBOR LIGHTS	132 S. BROADWAY
SOUTH AMBOY MEDICAL CENTER.....	540 BORDENTOWN AVE.
WELLS FARGO BANK.....	116 N. BROADWAY
IN WOODBRIDGE:	
CITY HALL	1 MAIN ST.
MAIN ST. FARM	107 MAIN ST.
NEWS & TREATS	99 MAIN ST.
ST. JOSEPH'S SENIORS RESIDENCE	1 ST. JOSEPH'S TERR.

Volunteer
Firefighters
Needed

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Fire Department: Volunteer Division needs members. Accepting men and women ages 18 years or older. Volunteers must be a Perth Amboy resident. For more information please contact 732-442-3430.

Proprietary
House Open

PERTH AMBOY - The Proprietary House, the last official Royal Governor's residence still standing in the original 13 colonies, is open every Wednesday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., for tea and tours. Tea is served in our atmospheric candle-lit wine cellar, and includes our delicious homemade desserts and assorted teas. A \$10 donation, \$5 for children under 12, covers both the tea and a mansion.

Although the house is still in the process of being restored, some rooms have been newly decorated. Go back in time and learn about William Franklin and other residents of the house. It's a perfect way to spend a pleasant afternoon. The gift shop is also open.

Groups are welcome, although reservations are required for groups over six people. The Proprietary House is located at 149 Kearny Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ. Tel. 732-826-5527 E-mail: info@proprietaryhouse.org. Follow us on our website, www.theproprietaryhouse.org and/or Facebook.

Kearny
Cottage Open

PERTH AMBOY - Come visit the historic home of Commodore Lawrence Kearny. The Cottage is located at 63 Catalpa Ave, Perth Amboy, and is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. and the last Sunday of the month from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. by appointment. The Kearny Cottage needs your help. Anyone interested in joining the Kearny Cottage Historical Association please contact 732-293-1090. We are on the web! www.KearnyCottage.org

Historic Surveyor
General's Office

PERTH AMBOY - The Historic Surveyor General's Office, which is adjacent to Perth Amboy City Hall, is now open for tours. At one time, this structure was the meeting place of the East Jersey Board of Proprietors & housed their records. Presently the Surveyor General's Office is displaying artifacts from the John Watson (1685-1768) archaeological site along with other items from Perth Amboy's rich history. Perth Amboy history DVDs are also available.

Free tours are available Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Clubs, classrooms & groups are welcome. Come & view this newly restored building!

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

TUES. Dec. 17	Historic Preservation Commission, 5 p.m. City Hall, High St.
MON. Jan. 6	City Council, Caucus, 4:30 p.m. City Hall, High St.
	• Board of Education, 5:30 p.m. PAHS, Eagle Ave.
WED. Jan 8	City Council, Regular, 7 p.m. City Hall, High St.

South Amboy

THURS. Jan. 2	City Council, Business, 6 p.m. City Hall, N. Broadway
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*Check our website www.amboyguardian.com for updates on meeting times and places

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Do you or someone you know have
Old Photographs or Documents?

The Kearny Cottage Historical Society is
Looking for Old Photos and Documents of
Perth Amboy, South Amboy,

Woodbridge, Fords, etc. (Local Area)

For an Archiving Project - Your Photos & Documents
will be scanned into digital format & returned to you.

For more info please call 732-293-1090

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

Safety Announcement From Mayor Wilda Diaz
Regarding the Recent Incidents in NYC and NJ

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

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

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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.

Court Personnel Give Overview of Current Operations

Residents Reiterate Concerns

12/9/19 Caucus & Council Meetings

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – Court Administrator Soleny Pena, Judge Kenneth Gonzalez, and Assistant Prosecutor Billy Delgado were present to answer any questions the council may have regarding operations of the court.

Judge Kenneth Gonzalez spoke about some of the statistics that were requested by Councilman Joel Pabon, “Some of the statistics are not done in-house. We can only give out general information. Everything is coded. When it comes to doing the budget, the Deputy Court Administrator, the Court Administrator are the ones that normally would handle that. What we have now are general clerks who don’t have the needed credentials. When we advertise for a Deputy Court Administrator, it has to be advertised to the general public first.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up next. He thanked Pena for providing the reports of some of the court activity he requested, “The police department can give us more specifics as far as to what is on the tickets they issue since they do the actual work. They are the ground soldiers. The report Ms. Pena gave us is great, but she doesn’t deal with the day to day operations as the police department do. I just want to know what the biggest offenses are. Is it double parking or texting while driving? I don’t see the police chief here.”

Council President William Petrick spoke up, “Why didn’t the Deputy Prosecutor come back to the city, since we (the council) provided funding for that position?”

Prosecutor Billy Delgado came up to respond, “The Deputy Prosecutor decided to take another offer in another city because of the unbearable conditions here. I talked to the Business Administrator Frederick Carr about another candidate for that position. She’s bilingual, comes from Plainfield and is highly qualified. The court is in a unique position because the courts and the police department are separated. The prosecutor’s position is between the court and the police. There are a number of things that are happening in city departments, especially in Code Enforcement because of their lack of personnel. The prosecutor doesn’t do budgets. Sometimes we can reach out to the Middlesex County Prosecutors Office instead of going to court to settle cases. Right now, so far, we’ve had 29,000 cases. This is a public/private enterprise with the prosecutor’s office. We have dual court sessions. I don’t have a job description.”

Law Director King responded to Delgado’s last statement about having no job description, “Delgado’s title will fall under the County Prosecutor’s office. They have more control over the municipal prosecutors. We need funds so we can wire our court room. We can get other towns to use our courts, and this will enable us to get more revenue to the city. We are unique by having 2 court rooms and it’s a shame that one is closed.”

Petrick responded, “In the courtroom that’s closed, the electronics and seating are not appropriate for a courtroom.”

King continued, “You have a great resource that is not being used.”

Petrick then stated, “We need to get a cost to see how much it would be to get that courtroom up to par.”

Pabon agreed, “We definitely need to look into this.”

Councilman Fernando Irizarry said, “I heard that people from other towns don’t want to come here to go to court.”

Gonzalez then responded, “I don’t agree with that assessment. If Perth Amboy entered into a partnership with other cities (for them to use our courtroom), then the litigates have no choice but to come here. When I first was appointed as a judge, we had talked about wiring the courts so maybe South Amboy can use them, but then nothing happened after that. When it comes to the DWI’s, the administrative courts keep very good records. Sometimes we have special sessions just for the DWI cases. You can do Code Enforcement trials.”

Councilman Irizarry then questioned, “Why are we third in the county when it comes to DWI’s?”

Gonzalez responded, “You want a high count because that means the DWI’s are being resolved. Not having a high count means there is a backlog of those cases which you don’t want to have.”

Delgado then spoke up, “We don’t have that much information about violations and what type of infractions were issued. When you receive the statistics from Code Enforcement when they were here, it really doesn’t tell you how it affects the budget.”

Irizarry then asked, “Is the court running as officially as it can?”

Delgado responded, “Yes. At one time, the court assignment judge thought about moving us, but changed his mind after seeing how we were functioning.”

After the court discussion was concluded, there were several discussions on resolutions which authorize contracts to different law firms where the council, especially Bill Petrick and Joel Pabon felt that the amount to be rewarded for their services were excessively high.

For R-536-12/19 - The contract to Peter J. King, Esq. and the Law Firm of King, Moench, Hirniak, and Mehta, LLP was reduced from the amount not to exceed \$100,000 to \$30,000 as suggested by Bill Petrick. (Legal services beyond regular duties of the Director of Law)

For R-540-12/19 – A contract with Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy was suggested to be reduced in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 to \$30,000 as suggested by Joel Pabon. (Represent the City of Perth Amboy in Labor and Employment Matters)

For R-543-12/19 – A contract to Hoagland, Longo, Moran, Dunst & Dukas was reduced in an amount not to exceed \$85,000 to be reduced to \$30,000 as requested by Joel

Pabon. (Provide Defense of the City in Tax Appeals before the Middlesex County Board of Taxation)

There was also a discussion regarding R-548-12/19 – A service contract with Automated Logic - New York/New Jersey for Maintenance of the HVAC at the Municipal Court and Recreation Areas of the Public Safety Complex for a period of one year in the amount of \$20,500.

Deputy Police Chief Larry Cattano said, “This would be for 2 separate buildings.”

Director of Public Works Frank Hoffman also commented about this resolution, “This contract would be to maintain all the controls in the complete Public Safety Complex.”

There was also a discussion regarding R-560-12/19 – Awarding a contract to IPS Group Inc. for an MSI Extended Warranty for 30 multi-space pay-stations solar power units in the amount of \$8,850.

Councilman Joel Pabon questioned, “Are we getting free parking or not for the holiday season?”

Councilman Helmin Caba had the same concerns, “Because people are getting tickets.”

Council President William Petrick suggested that those computers need to be pre-programmed to show free parking. “It should say so on the LED screens. Someone dropped the ball.”

Councilman Caba continued, “There’s confusion on which streets the free parking is on. It’s not fair to the community. There’s supposed to have it on Smith Street and those side streets off of Smith Street.”

Petrick spoke up again, “We need to educate the Parking Utility Employees. The BID should put bags on the parking meters (and on the pay-stations) that indicates there is free parking.”

The next resolution which got a lot of attention was R-572-12/19 – Authorizing an agreement with the Raritan Bay YMCA to organize and operate Housing Services in connection with the Code Blue Warming Center Services commencing December 1, 2019 thru March 31, 2020.

Councilman Fernando Irizarry questioned, “What are housing services?”

Director of Human Services and Recreation Ken Ortiz came up to explain, “The YMCA will coordinate the Code Blue Centers at 1 Olive Street.”

Council President Petrick then commented, “This can allow the YMCA personnel and off-duty officers to be at Olive Street.”

Ortiz then continued, “Sometimes in the past, employees from Olive Street or a police officer had to be taken off of their regular duties to go help out at Olive Street during a Code Blue. Now, we can have the Y Staff employees as a backup.”

Councilman Irizarry asked, “How many people can the warming center hold during Code Blue?”

Law Director King answered, “It’s limited to 30 people, which is the amount of beds that were available.”



PERTH AMBOY - Emerging Leaders Program, part of the New Jersey Health Initiatives. Their focus is beautification of the city, water safety and security. (L to R) Steven Bacoilima, Janice Sonsiadek, Charlize Leon, Cecilia Gonzalez (Program Coordinator) gave a presentation about initiatives they did around the city to help improve the city of Perth Amboy *Photo by Carolyn Maxwell

Irizarry then asked, “Is there a law where we can take a person back to the city where they were dropped off in Perth Amboy?”

King responded, “You can take your complaint to the county.”

Ortiz also said, “On occasion, they have had about 35 people at the warming center. Sometimes it’s hard to turn people away.”

There were several resolutions dealing with maintenance services in city buildings and the Public Safety Complex.

Petrick wanted to know, “Why are we having so many different companies doing HVAC maintenance?”

Frank Hoffman came forward, “If you use one company, their prices would be very high because they may have to hire subcontractors. We found that by hiring companies that are specific to each building are much cheaper.”

Public Portion:

The first person to speak was Resident Ken Balut. He told the council, “We had a deputy court clerk who left under suspicious activity. We also had an assignment judge who said on social media that suggestive photos of a city employee be sent to an adult magazine. Why are these scandals being swept under the rug? We have a judge who did 18 first-time home-buyer’s contracts. And how are our police able to do out-of-town accident reports? Kushner is now building the wall in Mexico. PARA is giving a contract to Kushner for new buildings. Investigate PARA. You did it with the Water Department. You should question PARA Members Jacobs and Executive Director Hindenlang. You have subpoena power. If you allow Kushner to build more garbage, then we are going downhill. Poor people have to suffer. Some Kushner units originally sold as high as \$400,000 are now selling for only \$100,000. When people who are higher up get involved in accidents, nothing happens and people that are bottom of the barrel employees get penalized.”

Councilman Joel Pabon agreed with Balut’s comments about PARA. “We should question some of the members. Things are too fishy.”

Petrick added comments regarding PARA, “I asked the courts for an injunction against PARA.”

Businessman Reinaldo Aviles came up to question some of the things that were said by the court personnel, “I can’t believe that courts don’t make a record of what is being said in the courtroom. There may be some things such as texting while driving that is probably downgraded to a lesser charge, but you can’t play with something when it comes to DWI’s and drug cases. Some funds collected by our courts have to be shared with the state. Courts are not here for revenue, but they should be compassionate. Money comes into the court, but not to be as a revenue source. Everything is recorded in court.”

Councilman Irizarry spoke up and said, “The representatives from the courts stated that they don’t have enough personnel available.”

Aviles continued, “When there is a ticket presented, it has to say what the offense is. When a ticket is paid at the window, it should be recorded in the computer. It’s inefficient if it’s not done.”

King responded and spoke about Title No. 39, “What’s on the ticket is typed into the computer and goes into the state’s database. It’s electronically put into the court system. Sometimes people will come in with 4 tickets and they are all tracked and put in the computer and coded. The state keeps all the information. The court gets audited by the state. The state courts are looking at all of the offenses.”

After the close of the public portion, the council went into closed session at 6:36 p.m. The Council Meeting started at 7:17 p.m.

During the first public portion, Resident Ken Balut came up and asked the council members if there would be any late-starter resolutions added tonight.

Council President William Petrick stated, “No.”

Balut continued, “There’s no PBA (Police Benevolent Association) late-starter tonight. It should be put on the agenda so

**Continued on Page 8*

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AND
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAMS
FUNDING APPLICATIONS FOR FY 2020**

The City of Perth Amboy is initiating planning for the 2020 Annual Action Plan as part of its application for funding to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City expects to receive approximately \$574,000.00 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and \$360,000.00 in HOME funding. Funds may be used to assist persons with low to moderate-incomes, remove slums and blight, or address urgent needs.

Starting Monday, December 9, 2019, applications and guidelines for FY 2020 CDBG and HOME funds will be available on the City’s website www.ci.perthamboy.nj.us or through the Office of Economic and Community Development, at City Hall, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ. Be advised, all proposals will be due by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, February 3, 2020.

A public hearing is set to be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 5:30 P.M. at the Council Chambers of Perth Amboy City Hall, 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ. 08861. Citizens are invited to provide written or verbal comments at or prior to the hearing. Information will be made available to citizens regarding application procedures, timing, eligible activities, and other regulations related to the CDBG and HOME Programs. The housing and community development priorities of the City, as contained in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, will be reviewed and the public is encouraged to comment.

The draft 2020 Annual Action Plan will be prepared following the close of the application period and committee review. This document will be available for public review in the Office of Economic and Community Development for 30 days starting Wednesday, March 4, 2020 in order to receive comments on the proposed plan prior to finalizing the document and to meet the timing submission requirements established by HUD.

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

Thank you.

Wilda Diaz,
Mayor

***Santa to Fly into Princeton
Airport Christmas Eve Day***



MONTGOMERY – Forty-four years ago, the idea of having Santa fly into the Princeton Airport for the local children to experience was brought to life by the Nierenberg family, owners of the Princeton Airport. Throughout the years, this has evolved into a wonderful annual event for the families in our community.

The tradition continues this year on Tuesday, December 24th at 11:00 a.m. when the airport hangar doors open to children awaiting Santa's arrival. Parents are advised to bring their children to the airport at 10:00 a.m., as the Princeton Airport Flying Tigers will be serving cocoa and cookies, and local folk singer Pat McKinley, starting at 10:30 a.m., will be leading the audience in holiday songs as everyone anticipates Santa's arrival.

If parents would like to have a gift waiting for their child, they should bring a wrapped gift with the child's name on it in large print to the Princeton Airport lobby. Gifts should be no larger than 12” to accommodate Santa. If parents have more than one child participating, the gifts should be wrapped in the same paper and tied together to speed up the distribution. Also, to have their child participate, parents need to bring a gift for donation, as well.

This is very important:

The gifts to be donated to charity must be new, unwrapped and will be collected by the

Mercer County Board of Social Services. Personal checks made out to the “FoodBank Network of Somerset County”, as well as canned or boxed food are suitable alternatives accepted at the airport. Donations from non-participants are kindly accepted as well.

Gift collection begins the day after Thanksgiving at 8:00 A.M. and ends on Tuesday, December 17th enabling county workers to arrange the best matches for the needy. The gifts can be deposited in the “chimneys” in the lobby of the airport between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Once Santa's plane lands, he will head into the hangar along with all the participants to distribute each gift individually. In fairness to all, Santa will distribute the gifts in the order in which they are received at the airport. Children will also have the opportunity to take a picture on Santa's lap. Usually, distribution is completed by 1:00 p.m. and Santa continues his journey. There is no charge for this event. The Princeton Airport is located in Montgomery Township, 3.5 miles north of Princeton on Route 206. The full address is 41 Airpark Road, Princeton, N.J., 08540.

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Traffic Safety Discussed, Senior Fees Ordinance Pulled in South Amboy

12/11/19 Business & Regular Council Meetings

By: Joseph L. Kuchie
SOUTH AMBOY - Different items regarding traffic safety were discussed briefly at South Amboy's last council meeting of 2019.

Councilman Tom Reilly added alley ways to the meeting's discussion portion of the agenda, proposing that all alley ways have a speed limit of 5 mph and signs be posted. The council also discussed the addition of stop signs at the end of alley ways to prevent accidents in the future.

City Attorney Francis Womack said that the council would have to introduce an ordinance.

Councilman Reilly also discussed the launch of the "Slow Down in Our Town" program on Raritan Avenue in South Amboy. South Amboy and Milltown launched the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety's pedestrian safety campaign this year, which provides residents

with warning messages on lawn signs and recycling bins to urge drivers to slow down in their neighborhood.

The city council pulled Ordinance #26-2019 from the agenda prior to second reading. Ordinance 26 would introduce a \$50 - \$60 fee for non-residential senior citizens to use the South Amboy Senior Citizen.

The city unanimously approved Ordinance #29-2019, which approves the appropriation of \$200,000 from the capital improvement fund to knock down the structure at 131 South Broadway. The city has already engaged in pre-demolition meetings with New Jersey Transit, and the contract bid for demolition has been posted.

A moment of silence was held at the start of the meeting for those affected in the recent Jersey City tragedy. All council members were in attendance for the meeting.



New Jersey Transit Approves Upgrades for Historic Perth Amboy Train Station

Press Release 12/12/19
PERTH AMBOY – The New Jersey Transit Board of Directors unanimously approved nearly \$7 million in funding to provide supplemental final engineering design services and construction assistance for the Perth Amboy Station Accessibility Improvements project, which has been a mission of Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz since her election in 2008.

The NJ Transit board awarded the contact in an amount not to exceed \$2,700,000, plus five percent for contingencies, subject to the availability of funds, to Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., of Rochelle Park, New Jersey, for continuation of supplemental final engineering, design services, and construction assistance. Stantec, which is already under contract with NJ Transit, has a total contract amount of \$5,950,703.40.

"Although we are proud of its designation on the National Register of Historic Places and the New Jersey Registry of Historic Sites, our 91-year-old train station is overdue for a renovation," said Mayor Diaz. "This is welcome news to the residents of Perth Amboy and a project that I have been advocating for more than 10 years. During that time, I have watched other municipalities reap the benefits that updated, commuter-friendly transit centers provide."

Built in 1928 by the Central Railroad of New Jersey, the Spanish-style train station is



Perth Amboy Train Station *Photo Submitted

badly in need of a major renovation. The approximate 1,000 daily commuters who travel on the North Jersey Coast Line must climb 20 steep stairs to access the train platforms. In addition, the station is not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Besides those with disabilities, the planned renovations will benefit the elderly, parents with strollers, and young children, as well.

Renovation plans call for the installation of four elevators, new stair landing, upgraded east and west bound station entries, and an up-to-date commuter communication system. Two high-level island platforms, canopy and ramps with enclosures will connect to the existing pedestrian bridge.

"These much needed renovations will make the train station safe, secure and convenient for

riders," said the mayor. "Making the train station easier to navigate will encourage more passengers to shop in our city, making it a destination with extraordinary potential for tourism, commerce and urban development."

Perth Amboy's population, which has been increasing at a consistent rate for the last two decades, is another motivation for a modern train station. Ease of transportation encourages new residents to move in, thus spurring housing development and bringing additional customers to the city's shops and restaurants.

"The train station is centrally located in the business district, so it can act as an economic driver," observed the mayor. "This is an extra stimulus for the city of Perth Amboy that is already enjoying a revitalization."

Court Personnel Give Overview of Current Operations

Residents Reiterate Concerns

12/9/19 Caucus & Council Meetings

**Continued from Page 6*

the police can get their money by Christmas." Balut then continued the conversation from the caucus meeting where he repeated his concerns about a deputy court clerk who left under suspicious circumstances. "She even got a raise. We are still paying all the bills for the pool at the public safety complex. How can you negotiate the contract if you don't send in bills? We are still maintaining the building without a contract. Someone has to settle this thing. You are right to cut all those attorney fees on those resolutions to only \$30,000. You should get all of the cases (that they worked on) and how much was spent. No one is looking at the legal bills and what they are for. When Blunda (Former Law Director) was here, he used to send all the information pertaining to all the cases (that he or his law firm was working on) for the city."

The next person to come up was Brian Ferry who is representing Local #13 of the PBA. "There was a signed agreement and why is not that on the agenda?"

Petrick responded, "We can't discuss anything that was on the closed session resolution (1.) regarding R-531-12/198 – Closed session after the caucus meeting. ((No. 2.) Contract negotiations – PBA))."

Ferry continued, "You guys are disgraceful."

After Ferry spoke, a number of off-duty police that were in attendance all got up and left in disgust.

Resident Jeremy Baratta came up next and asked a question regarding R-572-12/19 – Regarding the Raritan Bay Area YMCA organizing the Code Blue warming station at Olive Street. "Is it necessary to have a police officer at Olive Street during that time?"

Council President Petrick and B.A. Carr both said, "Definitely."

Baratta then suggested, "Maybe you should have an armed guard instead of the police there. There are restrictions on what you can bring to the shelter. Some homeless say they would rather be on the street. They resent being searched and can't bring in any liquor, even in closed containers. It's not right to be invasive in searching people."

Petrick responded, "We have never had a discussion about searching people. Under a former administration, alcohol was not permitted in any city building and this has nothing to do with the homeless. In this day and age, you have to be careful."

Carr then spoke up, "Belongings that the people bring in with them stays with them, and they are given a bed to sleep on with linens. We're looking for a compromise between the YMCA and the city. The Y will be helping with providing

meals and cleanup. It cost about \$1,500 per night."

The Council voted as follows: for R-532 thru R-572 and R-574 thru R-583 was moved by Irizarry and seconded by Pabon. All voted yes on the consent agenda. R-573 was removed.

Second public portion:

Balut came up to speak again, this time regarding the closed session. "I hope the minutes have what was said about the PBA. They think you (the council) stop them from getting their money." Balut had an article which included Kushner's mission statement regarding any new buildings or any buildings he has already been involved with. Before reading his statement, Balut handed copies of the article to the council. After he read this article where Kushner gave glowing reviews of all of his buildings, Balut then stated, "Kushner threw out rent control tenants in some of the buildings he acquired so he could raise rents. We need to investigate PARA, especially when it has anything to do with Kushner. You (the council) are going to take the heat. I saw the mold and other violations in Kushner buildings. The tenants are living in garbage. PARA is completely incompetent. You (the council) will also get blamed for the police not getting their money. Recently, I found a letter with files that I wrote in 2012 about the Y. I am resubmitting the information to the proper authorities. The Code Enforcement Director

can't testify in court (because of lack of credentials)."

Resident Jeremy Baratta came up next and spoke about a special meeting that PARA had on December 5, 2019. "They violated their own by-laws because they did not send out the notices in the proper time-frame and we never got the budget to look through. I continue to get emails about Mayor Diaz. You need to look at what's going on. The UEZ has \$1 million. The BID Meetings are not broadcast. They also came in late with their 2019 budget. You (the council) approved the BID Introduction Budget."

Petrick spoke up, "There may have to be a special meeting to approve the new BID budget." Petrick also questioned how Noelia Colon, who used to be the public relations director in the Mayor's office got the BID job that was not publicly advertised. "It's not a city agency. The BID hires whoever they want to."

Baratta then suggested they call Noelia Colon and see if the BID is in compliance with their by-laws."

Council Comments:

Councilman Helmin Caba wanted to get a clarification on what exactly is the BID District. "What parts of the city are BID?"

Petrick spoke up. He wanted to make sure that people know there was a difference between the BID and UEZ. "They are different agencies and their

monies come in differently."

B.A. Carr responded to Caba, "I will have to look to see what the BID map to see what streets the District includes."

Petrick then asked, "What exactly did the Resolution say regarding what would be the free parking area during the holiday season?"

Caba then requested that there should be a designation to which meters have free parking.

Petrick continued, "People are still putting money in the meters. If you get a ticket, and it's supposed to be free parking, then the ticket should be thrown out of court."

Caba then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilman Fernando Irizarry also wished the same for everyone.

Councilman Joel Pabon wished everyone Season's Greetings, Happy New Year, and May you have many blessings.

Councilwoman Milady Tejada said she missed a lot of activities because she had to be out of town. "There are a lot of nice things happening." She wished everyone Happy Holidays and everyone a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Council President William Petrick wished everyone a Happy Holiday, but cautioned everyone they may hear these greetings again because there may be a special meeting coming up.



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I want to thank every resident in the City of Perth Amboy for making this another wonderful year. The greatest gift we could exchange this season is to serve one another and as a community, I am so proud to see that in action, time and time again. I wish everyone a holiday season full of love, laughter and giving, with your family, friends and neighbors. I look forward to what we will achieve together in 2020 for our great, historic city. On behalf of the City of Perth Amboy, have a joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Hon. Wilda Diaz, Mayor

Council President William Petrick

Council Members
Helmin Caba
Fernando Irizarry
Joel Pabon
Milady Tejeda

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“Christmas On Madison Avenue” A Christmas Concert at Cathedral International

Press Release
 PERTH AMBOY – Cathedral International’s Christmas Concert will feature Cathedral Choirs, Dancers and friends. The Relentless Dance Ministry from The Perth Amboy Christian Center (PAC), Perth Amboy, will minister in dance along with Cathedral International’s Dance Ministry.

There is no cost to attend this glorious Christmas Concert taking place at The Cathedral Sanctuary, 277 Madison Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ.

Listed below are the many Christmas activities that Bishop Donald and Pastor Phyllis Hilliard are inviting everyone to attend.

- Sunday School’s Christmas Pageant, December 15th, 8:30 a.m.
 - Soup Kitchen’s Christmas Dinner – December 18th 4:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.
 - Christmas Sunday – December 22nd - Children’s Procession at the beginning of the services - 6:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., Toy-Giveaway at 1:00 p.m.
 - Iglesia Catedral Christmas Celebration – December 22nd, 11:00 a.m.
 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24th, 7p.m., - Children’s Procession at the beginning of the service
- For more information, please visit www.cathedralinternational.org.

Season’s Greetings

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Merry Christmas

29th Annual Model Train Show

WOODBIDGE - Barron Arts Center Holiday Model Train Show Exhibit Featuring the set-up and design of Mike Geslesky, Nov. 30—Dec. 30, 2019 (CLOSED DEC 25) Exhibit Hours: Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat. & Sun 2 p.m. - 4p.m. at the Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. For more information, call 732-634-0413. Free with suggested donation.



Table of Plenty

PERTH AMBOY – St. John Paul Parish will be serving meals on December 21st from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Perth Amboy Catholic School, 500 State St., Mechanic Street Entrance. Open to anyone who needs a hot meal. If you would like to donate food for these meals, please contact Rosemary: 732-826-5385 or Geri: 732-637-7593. Please use collection box in vestibule for monetary donations.

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SEASON'S GREETINGS!!!!

Pet of the Week



Laya from San Sebastián, Puerto Rico with Virginia

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AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

SENATOR JOSEPH F. VITALE
SPEAKER CRAIG J. COUGHLIN
ASSEMBLYWOMAN YVONNE LOPEZ

Merry Christmas from the Amboy Guardian!!!!

Basketball Fundraiser

SOUTH AMBOY - This year's Friends of South Amboy fundraising event will be held on Saturday, December 21st at South Amboy Middle High School. The proceeds from this year's event will benefit the Leonard Family, long time city residents dealing with the recent loss of their husband and father, Pat. As in years past the event will feature local high school basketball games, as follows:
2:00 p.m. South Amboy Varsity Girls vs Piscataway Vo-Tech
4:00 p.m. South Amboy Varsity Boys vs Piscataway Vo-Tech
6:00 p.m. South River Varsity Boys vs Sayreville
8:00 p.m. Saint Thomas Aquinas Varsity Boys vs Mater Dei
Tickets can be purchased at the door.



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Robert Durso, GRI
Broker Realtor

Matawan \$345,000
IF YOU WOULD RATHER BE FISHING for Bluegill, Sunfish, Bass, Pickerel and Catfish, you're going to love this 2 story colonial by Lake Lefferts. (water view) It's on a 78 x 164 irr. approx. lot and features a sunny kitchen, living room w/ fpl, dining room, Florida room, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths (jetted tub) and a full basement. Great location for commuters.



Woodbridge \$429,900
BRIGHTER ROOMIER WARMER beautiful maintained colonial on a park-like 75 x 150 lot in the High School Section. Features include a cabinet and appliance filled eat-in country kitchen, living room, dining room, family room w/ fpl den, 3 privacy located bedrooms, 2 full baths, a full basement w/ additional rooms, paver driveway and an attached 2 car garage.



Aberdeen \$410,000
THREE LEVELS OF COMFORTABLE LIVING SPACE are yours to enjoy in this beautifully kept Aspen Woods townhouse. Cabinet and appliance filled kitchen w/ granite countertops, living room w/ fpl, dining room, 2 closet filled bedrooms, 4 baths (two full) finished bsmt, deck and garage.



Perth Amboy \$224,900
ECHOES OF OLD WORLD CHARM here's a picture pretty colonial with a beautifully landscaped front yard and a rocking chair porch. Features include a cabinet filled eat-in country kitchen, spacious living room and dining room, 2 privacy located bedrooms and bath a flex room, basement and attic. Hospital Section.



Season's Greetings From JJ Elele

Academy for Urban Leadership (AUL) Charter School



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Unity and
Leadership

**AUL is Currently Accepting
Lottery Applications for
the 2020-2021 School Year
for Grades 7th - 11th**



The Next Lottery will be

Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Main Campus

**AUL Main Campus is Located
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**AUL está aceptando actualmente
Aplicaciones de Lotería para
el año escolar 2020-2021**



para los grados 7 - 11

La próxima lotería será

Jueves 23 de enero de 2020 a las 5:00 p.m. en el campus principal

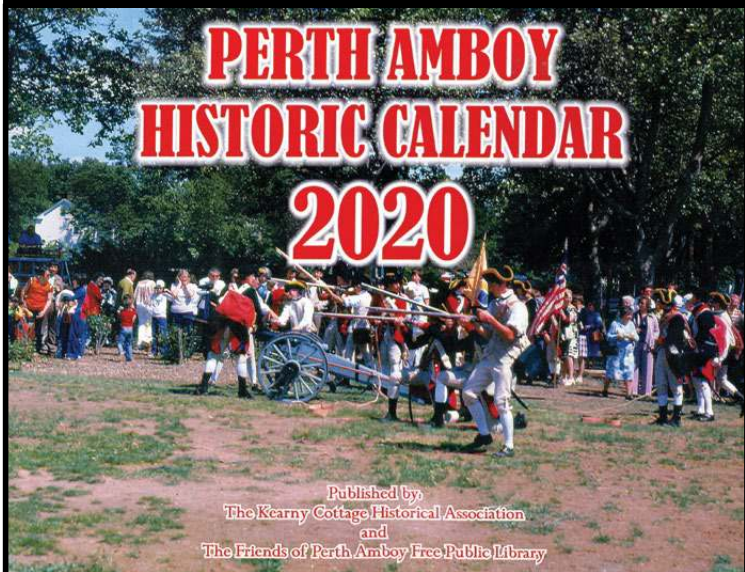
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2020 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars



2020 Historic Perth Amboy Calendars are now available at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy 732-442-3000 or at Fertigs Uniform Store, 195 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy 732-442-1079, and Perth Amboy City Hall. For more information: call Paul or Katherine at 732-293-1090. Back by popular demand the Calendars feature old photographs from Perth Amboy. Sponsored by the Kearny Cottage Historical Association and the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library. Calendars are \$10 Each.



Tom's Tax Tips

Courtesy of Tom Ploskanka C.P.A. 1-800-801-1099

Save More This Shopping Season

This winter, the NPD Group's 2019 Holiday Purchase Intentions Survey is reporting that Americans plan to spend an average of \$740 on holiday shopping - a 7% increase since last year. The survey also found that more people started their shopping earlier than last year (even before Black Friday!).

So are you like your fellow Americans? What can you do to ensure your spending does not spiral out of control? Here are some ideas:

- **Set a limit.** Decide what you can afford to spend and stick to it. Perhaps you can provide an incentive for yourself with the amount you save under your spending limit. Better yet? Reward yourself with the after-holidays sales!

- **Make a list.** Perhaps Santa got it right when he "makes a list and checks it twice." Your list can be your working tool to try to stay on budget. Try sorting your list by groups of people (family, extended family, colleagues, friends, etc.) or by dates you plan on giving gifts. There are plenty of phone apps that can make this easier.

- **Avoid the impulse.** Yes, the sparkly lip balm packs and shaving sets intentionally placed near the checkout aisles seem like good ideas. But you don't need those impulse buys! A side benefit of making a list is to tie your budget to the items on your list. This matching of budget and list will ensure your spending goal is attainable.

- **Compare, compare, compare.** See something you like but you're not convinced by the price tag? Go online and see where you can find it for less. Even if you don't plan to buy the item online, you can shop different retail locations without making the drive. If you do make an online purchase, don't forget to factor in shipping costs.

- **Consider something other than "things."** If you find yourself buying just to buy because you don't know what to get - STOP. Consider other gift options that may be more meaningful. Many people would appreciate the gift of time. Perhaps it's babysitting or doing yard work for a friend. Consider making a handmade craft or edible goodie. The gift of love is too often replaced by merchandise from a store.

- **Save to spend.** While it may be too late for this year, consider setting next year's budget based on this year's experience. Then set up a special savings account for next year and start funding it. This can readily reduce your spending stress next year.

- **Cherish giving.** One of the nicest gifts one can give is to reintroduce the giving nature of the season. Consider purchasing a gift for a charity and then have your child/grandchild deliver it. This idea can plant the seed for future generations that consumption should not be the central theme of the holidays. Plus your little one has the joy of making the holiday season that much more special!

Perth Amboy Volunteer Fire Department Parade Committee will be holding their 10th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, January 25, 2020 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

St. Stephen's Church

490 State St., Perth Amboy

(Use Mechanic Street Entrance)

Adults \$12 Children under 5 - Free

Come out and support your local heroes!

2019 Election Results

Perth Amboy Board of Education 3 Year Term			
N Brown	1,382	20%	
N Iglesia	1,434	21%	
N Lieberman	873	13%	
N Ross	930	14%	
N Sierakowski	924	13%	
N Vazquez	1,324	19%	
Perth Amboy Board of Education 1 Year Unexpired Term			
N Rodriguez	1,003	100%	
General Assembly 19 th District			
D Coughlin	18,412	34%	
D Lopez	17,577	32%	
R Genova	9,215	17%	
R Onuoha	8,870	16%	
N Cruz	688	1%	

South Amboy Board of Education 3 Year Term			
N Albarran	506	30%	
N Conway	548	33%	
N McLaughlin	873	37%	
Sayreville Mayor 4 Year Term *Contested			
D Kilpatrick	3,629	50%	
R Rittenhouse Jr.	3,626	50%	
State Constitutional Question			
No	25,058	28%	
Yes	63,953	72%	
Perth Amboy Public Question			
No	836	33%	
Yes	1,660	67%	

World War II - 75 Years Ago

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

On December 15, 1944, German troops attempt a breakthrough in the Ardennes region of Belgium and Luxembourg across an 84-mile front from Malmedy, Belgium, to Echternach, Luxembourg. The protruding salient, or bulge, in the front causes the fighting to be called the Battle of the Bulge. The Germans’ goal is the recapture of Antwerp, Belgium, now functioning as a major supply port for the Allies. In Asia, Chinese forces capture Bhamo, in northern Burma, about 116 miles south of Myitkyina and 40 miles from the Chinese border. Over the English Channel, a small, single-engine airplane flying from England to France disappears. The aircraft is carrying Maj. Glenn Miller, leader of the U.S. Army Air Forces Band (and leader of his own very popular orchestra prior to his joining the service). No trace of the aircrew, passengers or plane is ever found. Miller’s disappearance is not made public until Christmas Eve, the day before he is scheduled to conduct the band for a special BBC holiday broadcast.

American and Filipino troops land at Mindoro, the Philippines, about 75 miles from Manila, on December 16. The Allies make head-way against relatively light Japanese resistance. In the air, however, the Japanese respond aggressively, sending planes, including waves of kamikazes, against Allied shipping. In Italy, Benito Mussolini gives a speech in Milan, maintaining that new German weapons will turn the tide of the war. A V-2 rocket hits a movie theater in Antwerp, Belgium, killing 567 people.

In Belgium, the Malmedy massacre takes place on December 17. German SS troops in the Belgian town suddenly begin machine-gunning a group of about 130 unarmed American prisoners of war taken during the German Ardennes offensive. Some of the POWs try to survive by playing dead, but the Germans walk among the bodies and shoot any that appear alive. When the Nazis move on, 84 POWs are dead. Eventually, 43 survivors make their way to U.S. lines to report the atrocity. In the Pacific, Typhoon Cobra hits Adm. William “Bull” Halsey’s Third Fleet east of Luzon in the Philippine Sea. Winds of over 120 miles per hour, extremely heavy seas and torrential rains cause three destroyers (*USS Hull, USS Spence and USS Monaghan*) to capsize and sink with the loss of 790 lives. Eleven other warships — a heavy cruiser, a light cruiser, two escort carriers, five destroyers and two destroyer escorts — are damaged so severely that they must be sent for major repairs. On the fleet’s aircraft carriers, 146 planes are damaged or washed overboard. A Court of Inquiry held shortly afterward and attended by Adm. Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific, despite finding that Halsey made “an error in judgement” in ordering the Third Fleet to sail into the heart of the typhoon instead of seeking shelter, chooses not to sanction Halsey. The experience inspires a naval officer who was aboard a ship caught in the typhoon, Herman Wouk, to use the storm as a crucial story element in his 1951 Pulitzer-Prize-winning novel, “The Caine Mutiny.”

Bastogne, an important roadway hub in Belgium’s Ardennes region, is surrounded by the Germans on December 18, trapping American troops positioned there. In Asia, the Japanese begin to retreat from Burma. In Washington, D.C., the Supreme Court of the United States hands down two decisions affecting the internment of Japanese-American citizens: it declares by a vote of 6-3 that the internment process was constitutional, but also decides unanimously that loyal citizens of the U.S., regardless of descent, cannot be detained without cause. The U.S. Western Defense Command announces that persons of Japanese descent found to be “either loyal or harmless” will be allowed to return to the coastal areas of California, Oregon and Washington, effective January 2, 1945.

On December 19, 84 U.S. Army Air Forces B-29s bomb Hankow, China, which remains ablaze three days later. In the East China Sea, the submarine *USS Redfish* torpedoes and sinks the brand-new Japanese aircraft carrier *Unryū* on her maiden voyage. Transporting *kamikaze* planes for use in the Philippines, Unryū goes down in under 10 minutes, taking 1,258 men with her. In Moscow, a state commission reports that over 300,000 civilians and 165,000 prisoners of war were killed by the Germans in Lithuania. The Germans capture 9,000 surrounded American troops in the Schnee Eifel region of the Belgian-German border, pushing the Allies back off German soil.

In Greece, British Lt. Gen. Ronald Scobie on December 20 warns Greek civilians to stay out of areas occupied by ELAS anti-loyalist forces or they may be subjected to bombing air raids. The Germans surround two vital Belgian road junctions: at St. Vith, south of Malmedy, and at Bastogne, near the Luxembourg border.

In the Philippines, elements of the U.S. XXIV Corps and the U.S. X Corps link up in the Ormoc Valley on Luzon on December 21. RAF bombers attack Bonn and Cologne, Germany. U.S. B-29 bombers attack Japanese-held Mukden, Manchuria. In Greece, the British use tanks and airplanes against communists north of Athens.

In Belgium, the battle for Bastogne is at its height on December 22, 1944, with the Americans running low on ammunition. The Germans send a mission under a white flag to the American force surrounded there, seeking a surrender. U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe, acting commander of the 101st Airborne Division and its attached troops at Bastogne, sends his famous one-word reply: “NUTS!” (When the German major who receives McAuliffe’s reply, on his way back to the front lines, finally looks at what McAuliffe has written, he asks his American escort, Col. Joseph Harper, in befuddlement: “Nuts???” Harper tells him, “It means ‘Go to hell!’”)

In Belgium on December 23, in the Ardennes, the skies — typically heavily overcast at this time of year — clear, allowing Allied aircraft that had been grounded due to the weather to attack the Germans. This is a development that Hitler feared in his planning of the offensive. The U.S. First Army withdraws from St. Vith after holding a German assault off for a few days, while III Corps of the U.S. Third Army moves up to relieve the besieged troops at Bastogne. The Soviet breakthrough southwest of Budapest, Hungary, is now a battle-front 60 miles wide. In Antwerp, Belgium, 26 German V-2 rockets explode.

On December 24, in Belgium’s Ardennes, an American counterattack at “The Bulge” begins and the German offensive grinds to a halt. In the English Channel five miles off Cherbourg, France, the overloaded Belgian troop transport *SS Léopoldville* — carrying 2,233 U.S. Army reinforcements from England to France for the Battle of the Bulge — is torpedoed by German sub *U-486* and slowly sinks, going under almost 2-1/2 hours later. Most of the soldiers do not realize the vessel is sinking, and do not understand the order to abandon ship, which is given in Flemish (Belgian Dutch). Three of the ship’s escort vessels — two British and one French — have sped off to hunt down the submarine. The one British destroyer left behind begins to take soldiers off *Léopoldville*, but it reaches its maximum capacity of 500 rescuees and heads for shore. Unfortunately, shore-based communications and command posts are minimally staffed because of holiday celebrations. It takes over an hour for anyone in authority ashore to learn about the troopship that is sinking with over 1,200 troops still aboard and to begin coordinating rescue efforts. Ultimately, more than 800 lives are lost, 763 of them members of the 66th Infantry Division. All news and information on the incident are suppressed by orders of SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force). Soldiers of the 66th Division are ordered not to tell anyone of the sinking, and their letters home are censored by the Army. Upon discharge, they are reminded not to mention the sinking of *Léopoldville* to the press, or their GI benefits as civilians will be rescinded. Documentation about the incident remains classified until 1996. In the U.S., all beef products are once again being rationed, and new quotas are introduced for most other products as well.

The last Japanese port on Leyte, Palompon, is captured on December 25; Gen. Douglas MacArthur declares that Leyte is secured, except for “the mopping up.” In Europe, intense fighting between Soviet troops and German and Hungarian forces occurs northwest of Budapest. The Red Army is now less than 100 miles from Vienna, Austria.

The siege at Bastogne is broken with the arrival of U.S. troops from the south on December 26. With that turn of events, the German Ardennes offensive proves a failure. The Allies claim to have captured 13,273 German prisoners, while the Germans claim to have taken over 30,000 Allied POWs and to have destroyed 700 Allied tanks.

The Red Army on December 27 captures Esztergom, Hungary, about 29 miles northwest of Budapest on the right bank of the Danube River at the Hungarian-Slovakian border. With the encirclement of Budapest now complete, the Soviets cut off all communications with the Hungarian capital and trap five German and Hungarian divisions.

Over Germany on December 28, 1,200 Allied B-17 Flying Fortress heavy bombers, accompanied by over 700 escort fighters, bomb Coblenz and Cologne. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden are in Athens trying to reconcile the warring factions there. In Hungary, an anti-German Provisional National Assembly, encouraged by the Soviet Union and headed by Béla Miklós, is established in opposition to the pro-German government of Ferenc Szálasi. Both Szálasi and Miklós claim to be the legitimate head of government; their supporters battle throughout the country. The Miklós government renounces all treaties with Germany. In Belgium, the Americans gain ground in their counteroffensive in the Battle of the Bulge. Hitler, ignoring the advice of his generals, orders further offensives in Alsace and in the Ardennes.

Book Signing

PERTH AMBOY – There will be a book signing of Perth Amboy Author Armand Canamela’s book, “Poem’s from the Heart,” at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library, 196 Jefferson St., on Thursday, December 19th at 3:30 p.m.

Old Bridge Library Offers Holiday Films, Crafts and Stem Activities for Kids

Press Release 12/5/19
OLD BRIDGE – To celebrate the season, the Old Bridge Public Library Youth Services Department will host a full array of holiday crafts, STEM activities and special films this month. Highlights follow:

The Nutcracker and the Four Realms: Tues. Dec. 17th @6pm. The Library will offer a special screening of this animated 2018 Disney film. When Clara’s mother leaves her a key, she embarks on a journey to four secret realms – where she discovers her greatest strength could change the world. Rated: PG.

Light the Origami: Fri. Dec. 20th @6pm. Kids will be able to create their own glowing paper ornaments using origami techniques, paper cutting, and paper circuitry. They will learn how to create a paper ornament to take home and also how to create a paper circuit to light it up. Registration required; open to grades 4-12.

Marshmallow Crafts: Sun. Dec. 22nd @2pm. Come make a creative and edible holiday treat! Make your own marshmallow menorah, dreidel, or snowman. Registration required.
Quote Along-Elf: Mon. Dec. 23rd @6:30pm. Young and old alike are invited to join in reciting favorite lines and sing along to holiday tunes as we screen the holiday classic Elf, starring Will Ferrell as Buddy, a human raised by elves. When Buddy goes to New York to find his birth father (who is on the naughty list), he experiences the delights of the city (and human culture) as only an elf can. Rated: PG.

Miss Jen’s Snow Lab: Mon. Dec. 30th @4pm. Kids in grades K-5 are invited to enter Miss Jen’s Lab to tinker, create, and experiment with hands-on activity stations. This session will explore STEAM concepts with a winter twist.

For a complete schedule of events, and registration for select programs, visit: www.oldbridgelibrary.org. Registration can also be done by calling 732-721-5600 x5028.

The Old Bridge Public Library has consistently been voted one of the three Best Public Libraries in Middlesex County by the readers of the Home News Tribune. The Library is open seven-days-a-week and is located at 1 Old Bridge Plaza at the corner of Rt. 516 and Cottrell Road in the Municipal Center. More information about these and other Library programs is available at www.oldbridgelibrary.org or by calling 732-721-5600 x5033. The satellite Laurence Harbor branch is located at 277 Shoreland Circle; phone: 732-566-2227.

Ads Sell! Call Carolyn! 732-896-4446

Novena to St. Rita

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

Saint Rita, advocate of the impossible, pray for us.
Saint Rita, advocate of the helpless, pray for us.
Recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be three times each. K.M. & C.M.

Remember to
Say Your
Novenas!

Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 23

Prayer to
The Blessed Virgin

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

Wind Creek
Bethlehem
Casino
Bus Trip

Holy Rosary Seniors
HOPELAWN – The Holy Rosary Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Wind Creek Casino (formerly known as Sands Casino) in Pennsylvania, Thursday, January 9, 2020. Cost is \$30 with \$25 back in play. Bus leaves Church parking lot at 10 a.m. Any questions please call Ronnie at 732-442-5252.

Perth Amboy
NAACP Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Unit of the NAACP meets Monday Jan. 20, 2019 at the Jankowski Senior Center, 1 Olive Street Perth Amboy NJ at 7 p.m. sharp. All are welcome. Reverend Donna Stewart President.



A.C. Bus Trip
San Salvador Seniors

PERTH AMBOY - The San Salvador Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Caesar's Casino in AC on Thursday, Jan. 5, 2020. Bus leaves 12 Noon. Bus will depart from behind St. Stephens Church parking lot on Mechanic Street, Perth Amboy. **(New Location)** Cost 30 pp. Receive \$30 back in slot dollars. For more info call Joe at 732-826-0819.

Prime Rib or
Half Roasted
Chicken Dinner

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Elks invite Members and Guests to a Prime Rib or Half Roasted Chicken Dinner on Thursday, January 9, 2020 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. All tickets are in advance only. Cut-off date for tickets is Monday, January 6th. Dinner includes House Salad, Choice of Meat, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Dessert, and Coffee or Tea. For Tickets, call 732-727-7170 or stop in at 601 Washington Ave from Tuesday thru Saturday between 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Prime Rib: \$20 pp; Half a Chicken \$15pp. All proceeds go to the General Fund.

Senior Scene
Happenings

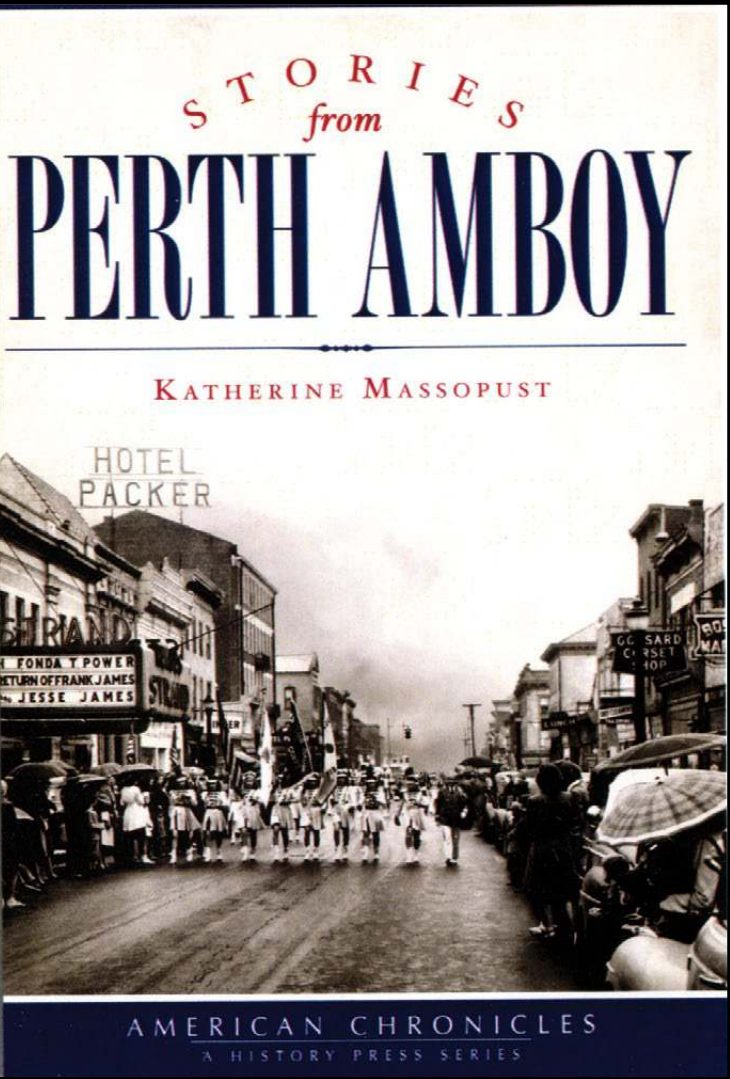
Perth Amboy

TUES. Jan. 13 Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
• Good Shepherd Tuesday Seniors (HS) 12:30 p.m. Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.
WED. Jan. 14 Good Shepherd Wednesday Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.
• St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
• Holy Trinity Seniors, 1 p.m., Church Hall, Lawrie & Johnstone St.
THURS. Jan. 18 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
MON. Jan. 20 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
TUES. Jan. 21 Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
• Good Shepherd Tuesday Seniors (HS) 12:30 p.m. Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.
WED. Jan. 22 Good Shepherd Wednesday Seniors, 12:30 p.m. Msgr. Gambino Hall, Florida Grove Rd.
• St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
THURS. Jan. 23 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m. Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

MON. Jan. 6 South Amboy Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
WED. Jan. 8 St. Mary's Seniors, 12 Noon, Senior Center, S. Stevens Ave.
MON. Jan. 27 Sacred Heart Seniors, 12 Noon Memorial Hall, Wash Ave.

Attn: If Your Club changes its
Schedule due to the Holidays or if you have
Community Events to Submit
Please give us two weeks advanced notice!
732-896-4446 or 732-261-2610
AmboyGuardian@gmail.com



Stories From Perth Amboy

PERTH AMBOY - Stories From Perth Amboy by Katherine Massopust is available at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front St., Perth Amboy or in Fertig's Uniform Store, 195 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy For more info call Katherine at 732-261-2610 or call the Barge at 732-442-3000 - or Fertig's at 732-442-1079 - A Great Gift! Get it now along with Then & Now: Perth Amboy!

LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – Robert Hall on Smith Street was a popular store for clothing

**Photo Courtesy of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library*

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

SERVICE DIRECTORY
Call Carolyn @ 732-896-4446

New Plans for the Service Directory Effective 1/1/16 Are Now in Effect. If You Offer a Service, the Place to Advertise is Here! Catering, Auto Repair, Heating, Plumbing, Home Health Aides, Landscaping, Snow Removal, Dry Cleaning, Chauffeuring, Exterminators, Hall Rentals, Insurance, Delivering Services, Hair Stylists, Photography, Counseling, WebSite Design, Computer Repair etc.
Call For the Plan Which Will Best Suit Your Needs.
732-896-4446

Classified Ads

Please Notify Us Immediately After Your Item is Sold!
Email: AmboyGuardian@gmail.com

Please Note: Only One Classified Ad per Phone# will be published per week. If you already have a classified ad in the paper and another is sent, the new one will replace the one that's already published

Please Include Prices of Items on Classified's or They will not be Published

Ads Sell!
Call Carolyn!
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For Sale

Solar Pool Cover Roller - Easy to use 16 x 32 - \$75 - 732-236-4479

Lighted Three Piece Wall Unit Plenty Storage - Excellent \$75 - 732-238-8439

Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975

Dinette Set with 4 Chairs Dark Wood- Mint - \$70 - 732-290-1551

GPS Tom Tom - 3 pcs Stereo System - Dog Bed \$65 ea. 732-293-0151

1 Large Christmas Tree \$25; 1 Small \$15; Lounge Chair \$15 - 732-297-4457

Older New Toy Trucks Sunoco, Exxon, Mobil Hess \$20 Each or B.O. - 732-316-5092

For Sale	For Sale
6x8 Railroad Tie \$20 - 732-396-9537 - leave a message	New never used Mirror 27"/41" Brown Frame was \$120 - Now \$75 - 732-721-7186
Advertising Fence Enclosure - Heavy Duty 10 ft. \$25 - 732-442-1093	Collector Plates - too many - to list \$5-\$10 each. Interested - Call: 732-727-1306
Car Battery 75 Series under 1 year old. \$50 - 732-442-6057	Tires - Firestone M&S LT275170R 18 Two \$10 Each 732-727-1772
Sayreville Bombers 14 KT Charm - \$75 in Box; can add Specialty Sport Charm, etc. - 732-525-2405	Baseball Card Collection, Old Mint Superstars in Binder \$60 - 732-727-8417
3/4 Size Acoustic Guitar. Good for young child - \$50. 732-541-5491	Chairs - Dining- 6; 4 side; 2 arms; good condition, oak - \$75 - 732-738-4283
Brand New Electric Heater Radiator. Was \$65 Now \$20 New Never Used. 732-547-7406	40 lbs. of Weights for \$15. All 10 lb. weights. 732-771-1961
Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Dining Hutch - Wood - Good Condition \$50 - Self Pick-up 732-826-6324
Safe Combination 21" High 13 1/2" wide on wheels \$75 732-634-1851	LP's Cassettes, CD's DVD's \$1.00 each; Radio, CD \$20 - 732-887-2235
Patio cushions - Perfect Condition- 6 - \$30 -732-634-3589	Moving - tables, lamps, dresses, dishes, tools grandfather clock \$5-\$75 - 732-925-6542
Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5 th Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-6305	Girl's Bicycle 24" Panasonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or B.O. 908-501-3993
Portable Singer Sewing Machine \$35; Shower Doors \$20 - 4'4"x 29 1/4" 732-679-0086	Sissy Bar and Pad for Harley Sportster - Great Condition \$65 - 908-590-8885
Custom Jewelry \$5-\$10; Sled \$25; Sports Memorabilia \$10; Dream Catcher Cane \$15 - 732-713-0536	Power Lift \$75. Wing Chairs, Sofa, End Tables, Lamps, Microwave \$10-\$50 - 908-803-9623

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How to Publish a Novena

If you wish to publish a Novena in The Amboy Guardian, you may use this coupon.

A Petition to
St. Joseph

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.*

Prayer To St. Clare

Prayer To Blessed Mother

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

St. Jude Novena

Cost \$10.
Pre-payment required.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone_(____)

Initials at end of prayer_____

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

The Amboy Guardian
P.O. Box 127
Perth Amboy, NJ 08862

For Employment

Prayer To Holy Spirit

Thanksgiving Novena

Pray The Rosary

A Petition to
St. Jude

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

Prayer To St. Jude

Novena To St. Anthony

Novena To St. Joseph

OTHER _____

Small Business Saturday, Perth Amboy 11/30/19

**Photos by Paul W. Wang & James Erwin (for the BID)*



100th Anniversary of Fertigs, 195 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy 12/14/19

**Photos by Paul W. Wang - Vintage Photo courtesy of Rick Fertig*



PERTH AMBOY - Congratulations to Fertigs celebrating their 100th Anniversary of being in business.

Taste of Perth Amboy, Cornucopia Cruise Line: Riverboat St. Charles - 12/3/19

**Photos by Bob Rinklin for the BID*



The owners of La Hacienda Restaurant at 178 New Brunswick Avenue received the second place trophy in the “best presentation” category.



Taste of Perth Amboy multiple trophy winners. Iris Diaz, owner of C-Town Supermarket and Caterers, earned third place trophies in the best “presentation” and “taste” categories. International Chef Jose Marte (right) of Paila & Leña swept the competition by receiving first place honors in the best “presentation” and “taste” categories. Chef Marte and the restaurant’s enthusiastic team were awarded the coveted “People’s Choice” recognition.



Students from the Youth Alliance helped served the guests who attended the Taste



Mia Tierra Restaurant



Congratulations



Students from the Youth Alliance helped served the guests who attended the Taste



Made by Raquel, which is custom bakery located at 69 Smith Street, earned the first place trophy in the “best dessert” category



2019 Taste of Perth Amboy judges are members of the Business Improvement District (BID) Board of Directors. The samples cuisine and desserts from 18 participating eateries. Shown in the photo are (left to right) Antonio Abreu, BID Secretary; Elizabeth Sanchez and Jeff Steuber.



Enjoying the Taste

Festive Holiday Spirit, Great Food and Joyous Guests Make the 2019 Taste of Perth Amboy a Huge Success

Guests Sample Delicious Cuisine While Raising Funds for the Community’s Homeless Prevention Initiative

Press Release 12/16/19

PERTH AMBOY – A festive holiday spirit brought a boatload of guests together during the 2019 Taste of Perth Amboy. The annual event celebrates the international and American cuisine that chefs, dessert makers and food purveyors create in the community’s restaurants, eateries and bakeries. Marking the start of the “Season of Giving,” the Taste event raises funds for the community’s Homeless Prevention initiative.

More than 20 chefs, bakers and food artisans served the many guests who attended the Taste event, held aboard the Cornucopia Cruise Line’s St. Charles vessel. More than 170 enthusiastic attendees sampled delicious appetizers, entrees and desserts and sipped healthy beverages. Many restaurants decorated their serving areas with poinsettias, evergreen branches, red ribbons, colorful lights and more.

The Taste is co-sponsored by the City of Perth Amboy and the Business Improvement District (BID). High school students from Perth Amboy’s Youth Alliance volunteered to help set up serving areas, serve food and clean up after the event.

Proceeds from the Taste will be donated to the not-for-profit Homeless Prevention initiative. The program is a joint effort of the Raritan Bay Area YMCA and God’s Army Ministries of New Jersey. Together, the organizations provide a range of supportive programs to homeless individuals and families throughout the year and especially during the winter months.

The Mayor said, “We grateful that many chefs, restaurants, food purveyors and small business owners joined with us to present the Taste. Many people made an exceptional and enthusiastic effort to stage the Taste, which salutes our restaurants, eateries and food retailers. These businesses are a core part of our economy and we want to support them by shopping and dining in Perth Amboy.”

Members of the BID’s board of directors were the judges for this year’s Taste. BID Board Members Antonio Abreu, Elizabeth Sanchez and Jeff Steuber visited the eateries’ serving stations and sampled their creations. Then, the judges cast votes in three categories: presentation, taste and desserts. Also, guests at the Taste had the opportunity to vote for the restaurant, chef, eatery or bakery that would receive the coveted “People’s Choice” Award.

Here are the winning selections:

- **Best Presentation:** 1st Place: Paila & Leña Restaurant; 2nd Place: La Hacienda Restaurant; and 3rd Place: C-Town Food & Restaurant.
- **Best Taste:** 1st Place: Paila & Leña Restaurant; 2nd Place: Riva’s BBQ; and 3rd Place: C-Town Food & Restaurant.
- **Best Dessert:** 1st Place: Made by Raquel; 2nd Place: Sipos’ Bakery; and 3rd Place: Tropical Cheese.
- **People’s Choice Award:** 1st Place: Paila & Leña Restaurant.

The Business Improvement District thanked all the dining and food businesses that participated. Here is the list of participating locations: Alameda Center, C-Town Food & Restaurant, Made by Raquel, Cornucopia Cruise Lines, Domino’s Pizza, El Gran Valle, La Hacienda Restaurant, Latin Grill Peruvian Restaurant, Mis Angelito’s Bakery & Grill, Mi Tierra Restaurant, Riva’s BBQ, Sipos Bakery, Tropical Cheese, Vita Centro Healthy Beverages, Pikalonga, and Troy Restaurant.

Ads Sell! Call Carolyn! 732-896-4446





Enrique Hernandez
Broker/Owner CRB, SFR, CRS



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***Congratulations to the
Top Agents for 2019***

- #1 Agent - Indira Marine**
- #2 Agent - Carmen Schlesinger**
- #3 Agent - Julio Baez**



**(L to R) Julio Baez, Carmen Schlesinger,
Enrique Hernandez, Indira Marine**



**Petra Best Realty Wishes Everyone a Happy Holiday Season
and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year!**

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