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AMBOY GUARDIAN

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Celebrating Independence Day - Perth Amboy - South Amboy



*Photos by Carolyn Maxwell, Katherine Massopust, Paul W. Wang & Eric Salvary
- More Photos to follow in the 7/20/22 Issue -

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First Responders, Boys Baseball Team Honored 6/15/22 Council Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust
SOUTH AMBOY – There were three presentations at the meeting.

Executive Director of the 200 Club Dennis M. Kelly spoke first, “Our organization honors first responders, firefighters, and law enforcement. Today, we honor 3 people from South Amboy.”

Police Chief Darren Lavigne stated, “Sergeant Michael Kelly was unable to attend the 5/18/22 Ceremony (when everyone was honored). Sgt. Kelly had to attend Arson School which is mandatory training.

Chief Lavigne explained how Sgt. Kelly convinced an armed man who wanted to commit suicide not to go through with it. Sgt. Kelly did this at great risk to himself and was able to save the man's life. Chief Lavigne stated, "There are situations extremely difficult to deal with."

The next presentation was to James “Doc” Ryan. It was noted that for 63 years on the South Amboy First Aid Squad, James “Doc” Ryan answered 15,000 calls, delivered 5 babies, served in the United States Air Force in Vietnam as a nurse in the 26th Calvary Air Group. He has 6 sons in South Amboy. “Doc Ryan is always a caring, compassionate individual who puts patients first.”

Sayreville Chief John Zebrowski spoke next about the third person honored, Brian Tierney. “A police officer’s work as a dispatcher from Sayreville for South Amboy. Every call begins with a dispatcher. On July 22, 2019, tragedy almost struck on Bordentown Avenue. A man was there to change his tire and got pinned under his car. Zebrowski made sure there was an officer sent in time.

There was one more presentation made to the 2022 South Amboy Baseball Team who had a 13-6 season with 11-1 record in their division which they won the GMC Gold Division Championship. The coach was named coach of the year. Also, the kids on the team raised over \$30,000 for charity.

The council commended the team for and their coach for teaching them the right thing.

During the regular section of the meeting, the consent agenda passed with little discussion.

Council Comments:

Councilman Tom Reilly thanked the award recipients for their service, “A job well done. Congratulations.” He thanked the first responders and the volunteers and donors at the food pantry. He reminded everyone of the American Legion’s Buy a Brick fundraiser which is on their Facebook page. He wished everyone a Happy Fourth of July and noted that there are only two council meetings in the summer: July 13th and August 17th. Reilly also stated that milling will be done on Broadway. Reilly then praised the Department of Public Works, especially the garbage men who work in the rain, snow, and sleet. “They never get paid a lot.”

Reilly then mentioned that he wants to have a Business Breakfast with local businesses in town.

Councilman Tom Reilly then



Sgt. Michael Kelly honored. (L to R) Police Chief Darren Lavigne, Mayor Fred Henry, Sgt. Michael Kelly, Executive Director 200 Club Dennis M. Kelly *Photos by Katherine Massopust



James "Doc" Ryan honored. (L to R) Police Chief Darren Lavigne, Mayor Fred Henry, James "Doc" Ryan, Executive Director 200 Club Dennis M. Kelly



Brian Tierney honored. (L to R) Sayreville Chief John Zebrowski, Mayor Fred Henry, Dispatcher Brian Tierney, Dennis Kelly Executive Director Middlesex County 200 Club, Chief Darren Lavigne



The South Amboy Boys Baseball Team was honored.

said, “We wish to generate interest in the Volunteer Fire Department, create a legacy – so something on our Facebook page. We will have better productivity collectively working on a project the Szatkowski family is the ideal family to create a legacy.”

Councilman Brian McLaughlin congratulated the recipients of the awards tonight. He asked the question if someone is on disability could they participate in volunteer services.

Law Director Francis Womack answered that it is a case-by-case situation and it depends on the extent of the disability.

McLaughlin congratulated Council President Mickey Gross and his two running mates on their election (in the primary).

Council Vice President Christine Noble congratulated the honorees and the 2020 Boys Baseball Champs.

Council President Mickey

**Continued on Page 12*



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**Congratulations to PAHS graduating Senior,
Gabriella Roman**
**Photos Courtesy of Dianne Roman*

PERTH AMBOY - Congratulations to PAHS graduating Senior, Gabriella Roman headed to TCNJ this fall. Cap compliments of Samner Customs! Photo (Right) - (LtoR) Destiny Newton, Mia Pearson, Gabriella Roman, Emily Nunez, Mya Romero

**Check Presentation to the South Amboy YMCA's "Safety
Around Water" Program, South Amboy YMCA, 6/15/22**
**Photo by PauW. Wang*

Press Release
SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy YMCA's Kids "Safety Around Water" Program, Received a donation of \$3,000 from the South Amboy Elks Lodge #784, National Foundation Grant committee. The South Amboy YMCA was selected for its commitment to our community's children. The SAW program teaches swimming techniques, incorporates activities and educates parents about the importance of water safety. This is the Elks cause to strengthen our community. "Elks Care / Elks Share".
Pictured (l-r) Branch Board Member Mary Taylor, South Amboy YMCA Director of Operations - Gerry Gessie, South Amboy Elks National Foundation Chairman - Valentine Tarr, YMCA President & CEO – Rose Cushing, YMCA Board Member, & South Amboy Branch Board Chair, Anthony Conrad.

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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Show Me the Money!

In the last New York Mayoral election, I was hoping Guardian Angel Founder Curtis Sliwa would win that race due to the fact that he is street smart and would be able to handle the out-of-control crime in New York. Effectively working with past mayors, police commissioners, and other agencies, he would know how to separate the wheat from the chaff (to judge which people or things in a group are bad and which ones are good). He would also work to make sure that the Bail Reform Law was not abused and used properly. But, what one glaring point that he made is that he would have an immediate investigation of Mayor DeBlasio's and his wife Chirlane McCray and the over \$1 billion that was spent on the "Thrive New York City Program". It was supposed to be used to help people with mental illness. I'm still waiting for someone in New York to investigate what happened to those funds because they were not used for the purpose intended and seemed to vanish into thin air. Why aren't DeBlasio and his wife being investigated? Sliwa, if he had won the election had plans to do this.

The Guardian Angels are not only a national organization, but they also have chapters overseas.

Other organizations have

been around for a long time because of their reputation of putting their money where their mouth is. I want to talk about organizations that put their money where their mouths are, and they are very easy to Google their works:

The Prison Fellowship: I first heard of this on the Mike Gallagher Show who is on 970 AM The Answer. James Ackermen is the president. They teach prisoners life skills to help them gain so they can be able to get gainful employment. An offshoot of this is also the Angel Tree Project where 10,000 children of incarcerated prisoners received a Christmas present with that parent's name on it. Mike Gallagher also has started an organization where he helps the families of fallen police officers to help pay for the mortgages or the education for fallen officer's children.

Also, there are these organizations. Feel free to look up the information to decide if this is where you want to contribute money to or be a volunteer to be a part of.

- Tunnel to Towers
- St. Jude
- Elks
- Kiwanis Club
- American Legion
- Rotary Club
- Knights of Colulmbus

C.M.

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

The Spin on the Voters

What's more important - watching the "January 6th Hearing in Capital Hill," or worrying about the highest inflation that will destroy

America? In fact, no one really cares about this January 6th Hearing. It's just a political circus to spin what's really going on in America. As we know, it's a midterm election year, and those politicians are more worried now than before

because of this out-of-control inflation. This inflation has hit the voter's wallets from food to fuel. Maybe now the voters got a wakeup call and realize who is the fool.

Orlando "Wildman" Perez

One Way to Add NJ Transit Penn Station Capacity

There is still time for NJ Governor Phil Murphy to use his influence with NY Governor Kathy Hochul. He needs to insist that the New York State Empire State Development Corporation issue an addendum to the RFP to also include Penn Station South (four new platforms and eight tracks at Penn Station, New York to serve NJ Transit) as an option to any future contact for the basic \$7 billion Penn Station redevelopment proposal recently announced by both Governors.

NJ Transit can work with the Federal Transit Administration and request that Penn South gain official admission into FTA's national competitive discretionary Capital Investment Grant New Starts Core Capacity program for

future funding. This federal funding source previously helped finance several major New Starts projects New Jersey. These include New Jersey Transit's Hudson Bergen Light Rail Minimum Operating Segment One (\$992 million), Segment Two (\$1.2 billion), Newark Elizabeth Light Rail (\$694 million) and Secaucus Transfer (\$450 million.)

Murphy can also negotiate an agreement with Hochul to obtain future funding for NJ Transit's Penn South under the MTA's planned Congestion Pricing. The latest schedule calls for implementation of tolling to start in December 2023 or sometime in 2024. The MTA estimates it will generate \$1 billion annually. This is supposed to raise \$15 billion that which will help pay for the MTA \$51 billion 2020 - 2025 Five Year Capital Plan. Both NJ Transit and the Port Authority have similar multiyear Capital Plans. New Jersey residents should consider asking for a fair share of revenues generated by

these new tolls that they will also be paying. Many Metro North Port Jervis and Pascack Valley line riders change at Secaucus for NJ Transit trains bound for Penn Station via the Hudson River Tunnels. Thousands of New Yorkers are reverse commuters, traveling to jobs, colleges, entertainment, sporting events or shopping in New Jersey. They also benefit by any capital or operating improvements to NJ Transit.

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 review, approval and oversight for billions of dollars in grants to the NY MTA, NJ Transit along with 30 other transit agencies in NY & NJ.)



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New Local History Book
Perth Amboy's Historic Neighborhoods

By Gregory Bender, Albert Jekelis, Marilyn Dudash Anastasio, and Mona Shangold. Available: Monday, May 9, 2022

PERTH AMBOY
About the Book
Perth Amboy, New Jersey, has always been a wonderful and unique place in which to live. Centrally located in New Jersey on Raritan Bay, the city has a deepwater seaport, a marina, white sand beaches, many historical landmarks, and proximity to New York City. The residences, businesses, and industries intertwined in each neighborhood gave the areas their own identities. Industrialization and immigration changed the land and lifestyle of its residents. As immigrants moved into areas with those of similar ancestry and culture, their descendants studied, worked, and played with people from other cultural backgrounds. The resulting assimilation created a strong, unified community in which all Perth Amboy residents accepted, respected, and celebrated their diversity without racial, religious, or ethnic disharmony.

About the Author
Born and raised in Perth Amboy, Gregory Bender, Albert Jekelis, Marilyn Dudash Anastasio, and Mona Shangold are proud members of the Perth Amboy High School class of 1964. Although they have retired from their primary careers (in engineering, science, education, and medicine, respectively), their interest in and passion for Perth Amboy have not diminished. They prepared this book to share their images, knowledge, and appreciation of Perth Amboy's history, landmarks, and unique features.

Correction
SOUTH AMBOY - In the 6/15/22 issue of the Amboy Guardian, Fred Henry was quoted as saying the city of South Amboy wanted the parking lot by Scioritno's. It should read the train station lot across the street. The Amboy Guardian regret this error.

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.



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January 5	January 19
February 2	February 16
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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
MON. Jul. 11 City Council, Caucus, 5:30 p.m.
City Hall, High St. & Zoom
TUES. Jul. 12 Library Board of Trustees, 5 p.m.
Library, Jefferson St.
WED. Jul. 13 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St. & Zoom
THURS. Jul. 28 Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.

South Amboy
WED. Jul. 13 City Council, Regular, 6 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway

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

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Water Quality, Quality of Life, and Uses for American Recovery Act Funds

Amongst Topics Discussed

6/20/22 Caucus

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – Luis Perez Jimenez - Director of Operations at the USA-PA (Utility Service Associates Perth Amboy) Middlesex Water Company) came up to answer questions from Council President Bill Petrick regarding the Supplemental Debt Statement. Water/Wastewater Distribution Shop Construction for \$89,534,501.52. Perez explained, “Originally the supplemental money was only supposed to be \$4.5 million. \$2.4 million extra was added because none of the bids received were under \$6 million. A building had to be knocked down for the new WaWa location. The numbers were too high to renovate the old building. The walls were falling apart as well as the electrical system.”

He then answered Petrick’s questions regarding the Runyan Wells. “Sometimes we have to use blended water. Some of our wells are having iron deposits accumulating. We closed out those wells to use divers to clean out the pumps using water with high pressure. We may have to buy a little more water from Middlesex Water Company. Middlesex Water uses ozone and chlorine to sanitize their water. We can look into using ozone as well but it will cost more money. The DEP sent us instructions on stopping the use of fluoride, but we have to get final approval from them.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up and remembered, “In the past, Middlesex Water Company would come to the meetings and give us a report and we need to have them come here to answer our questions as well as questions from the public. You (Perez-Jimenez) are the only person that comes here to speak about the water.”

Perez-Jimenez then explained, “They used to come here when we did an annual report which we no longer do, because now I give a monthly water report.”

Pabon continued, “Middlesex Water needs to come here in person since they are the experts and the professionals. I believe in October of 2021 residents were sent letters about water concerns, but no updates were sent afterwards.”

Jimenez responded, “I sent out 36 letters regarding lead problems affecting only those residents in specific areas. Every time I test a specific water site, I have to send letters out to the EPA.”

Business Administrator Michael Greene answered Council President Petrick when he questioned the lead in our water service lines. Greene explained, “In Newark, that city had to take out a loan to address that problem.”

Jimenez said, “The city can do an assessment or take out a loan also to address the lead bins issue.”

Council President Bill Petrick asked if there can be grants that can be taken out to address the lead bins.

Councilman Pabon spoke up again. He again asked that Mid-

dlesex Water come here in person to let them know why they are the best company to service the city of Perth Amboy.

Petrick then asked, “What would be the cause of the black water in my water filters?”

Perez-Jimenez explained, “It might be iron or magnesium deposits.”

Greene spoke up next, “We applied for additional grants which would include money for water treatment facilities. It is a part of the infrastructure money from the Build Back Better Funds.”

Luis Perez Jimenez then stated, “There are \$179 million needed for capital improvement projects.”

Councilman B.J. Torres spoke up and suggested, “Instead of bonding for a new building, let’s use the Build Back Better Funds.”

Luis Perez Jimenez then explained, “There is a timeframe to get this land for this building. The land owners spent money already and the city has spent \$400,000 for initial findings.”

Law Director William Opel said, “A certain portion of land is being sectioned off: Block 95 Lot1 for the city. The sale of the property is above market value.”

Councilman Torres suggested, “We should wait on this project because the prices are too inflated.”

Petrick had concerns, “That new building will be smaller than the existing building.”

Jimenez responded, “It is the same size as the old building and will have room for a pistol range.”

Councilwoman Rose Morales asked if they could table Ordinance No. 1 (First Reading) – Entitled, “Public Entertainment,” “Because I don’t agree with it. There was no one to second the motion, so it stayed on the agenda.” Morales also asked to table Ordinance No. 2 (First Reading) – To dissolve the Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency and designating the city council as the redevelopment entity for the City of Perth Amboy. “Three people voted “No” to table so it stayed on the agenda.”

Petrick explained, “There is not much land left to develop, so the council should decide on land use. We would be more transparent.”

City Engineer Jeff Rauch spoke via Zoom on Ordinance No. 3 (First Reading) entitled, “Flood Damage Prevention.” “This is new FEMA Guidelines requiring flood insurance requirements.” He stated, This is for those property owners who make substantial improvements to the properties or to those who suffered damage to their property in flood zones which give them more detailed guidelines on construction and requirements. Market values would be considered. Areas affected would be the Waterfront including Sadowski, Front Street, Harbortown all the way to Buckeye.”

Councilman Pabon asked,

“Would the residents affected get notifications (regarding the new requirements)?”

Rauch explained, “The damage had to be more than 50% of the value of the property and those property owners would have to meet the new FEMA Elevation Standards when applying for a new variance. We used the 2010 FEMA Flood Map and the city has to adopt this ordinance for the affected residents to get this flood insurance.”

Another City Engineer Ernest Feist spoke up via Zoom, “Homeowners get a yearly notification from their insurance companies regarding flood insurance for their property.”

Council President Bill Petrick then spoke about Ordinance No. 5 (First Reading) – A Bond Ordinance appropriating \$2,400,000 for the construction of the Smith Street Shop Distribution Building for the Water Utility for the City of Perth Amboy. “We; need to use the American Rescue fund for this cost.” Greene explained, “We haven’t received notification of when the additional funds will be coming in. There are no codified plans for the second \$8.5 million coming in.”

CFO Jill Goldy spoke via Zoom, “This money we are appropriating will not be issued until next February. We don’t know what the market conditions will be at that time. Every time we go out to bid, prices are going up.”

There was a brief discussion on Ordinance No. 6 – An Ordinance to establish the Honorary Naming of Linden Street as Peru Boulevard.

Council President Bill Petrick wanted to know if they met their requirements.

Opel reassured him that they have.

Greene gave a quick overview on some of the amendments regarding R-310 – for the CY:2022 budget. “There is 29,000 for additional salary for another person in the Clerk’s Office and \$8,000 for the fireworks, compensation, and other grants.”

Goldy made one more comment regarding Ordinance No. 5 regarding the Smith Street Building. “Fuel costs have gone up as well as vendor cost and interest rates.”

B.J. Torres spoke up, “I’m sure the fuel prices will be going down.”

They continued talking about R-310.

Pabon spoke up next, “There seems to be more people working on the second floor of city hall. It went from 3 people working in the Mayor’s Office to 7.”

Greene responded, “We are trying to correct things that were done incorrectly in the past, especially when it comes to shared services with the schools.”

Petrick responded, “The additional cost in the mayor’s office should be looked at.”

Greene responded, “Home Depot money is included in the amendments.”

Petrick continued, “CFO Goldy requested another person for her department who will make more money than a tax assessor.”

Torres had a question regarding R-313-6/22 – Consenting to the 2022-2023 Renewal of certain plenary retail consumption, distribution, and club licenses effective July 1, 2022. There is no separation between business/residential calls.

Police Chief Larry Cattano responded in person, “I can get all that information to you at Wednesday’s meeting.”

The next person to come up was Dan Henry from the Royal Lion’s Group to talk about R-315 – A 1-year contract to Berkshire Hathaway for Stop Loss Insurance. “This insurance is self-funding and it will cover \$155,000 per member. We are matching the current contract. We sent a bid out to 36 vendors and 9 responded.”

Jeff Rauch talked about improvements for certain streets which included Market Street from Madison Avenue to Goodwin Street and Madison to Second Street. This will include a signage, crosswalk, and curve improvements along with signal improvements and improvements to the crosswalks on Market by Elm Street.”

Greene then explained R-324 – An agreement with the Perth Amboy Soccer Club for the Organization and Operation in the amount not to exceed \$6,000.

“This will help defray their cost. They have about 250 participants.”

Dianne Roman spoke via Zoom regarding R-327-6/22 – An agreement between the Jewish Renaissance Foundation and the City for the administration of 2022 Emerging Leaders Summer Institute.

She explained, “This is an employment services that has a food and security program. The city and JRF will each pay the participant for 3 weeks. Participants are obligated to be a part of this program for 1 year. School Counselors will identify the students who can benefit from this program. Those students will have to have the dedication to participate and commit. Right now, they have 11 scholars scheduled to participate and they will meet in one of the high school classrooms.”

Councilman B.J. Torres was concerned the JRF had moved one of their main facilities out of the city.

Roman explained, “The JRF still has facilities within our city such as the Family Success Center (located in the Otowski complex on Convery Boulevard).”

City Engineer Jeffery Rauch explained, “The JRF Medical Facility opened up in Carteret and has nothing to do with R-327.”

Tashi Vazquez from the OECD (Office of Economic and Community Development) spoke via Zoom and added, “The JRF has many services for our community.”

Greene made a comment about

R-328-6/22 – In support of Robust Investment for Affordable Homes in the Build Back Better Act to House New Jersey.

“The League of Municipalities is requesting for us to back them up in support of this resolution.” Greene also told the council that Matthew Nieves passed the exam, so he can be appointed the Director of Public Works (R-330). Greene also explained for R-331-6/22 – A change order to a contract with National Fuel Oil to cover the unanticipated increase in diesel fuel through June 30, 2022, in the amount not to exceed \$74,000.

He explained, “New garbage trucks are being held up because of supply chain problems.”

Councilman B.J. Torres wanted to make a statement about naming honorary streets. “I know in the past, they had to be named for people who have been deceased for at least 15 years and they had to be of significance to the city.”

Councilwoman Rose Morales requested, “E-Port Phase 2 PILOT should be added to the agenda.”

Council President Bill Petrick had another question regarding amendments to the budget, “I see that there are requests to add a nurse practitioner. We can recommend that people can go to the Jewish Renaissance Medical Center.” Petrick continued, “Some of these new warehouses bring in their own people or hire temporary employees and are very strict. Duke Realty has not performed well for the city. They want us to give them a PILOT before they can deliver on their promises. It is the same people who keep dropping the ball.”

Former Law Director William Northgrave, who was present at the meeting came up to speak, “I can’t speak to a contract that we did not negotiate in the past. Duke Realty, from what I saw has lived up to the contract. They are bringing development and jobs into the city. I’ve only had good dealings with Duke presently.”

Petrick stated, “I think a 20-year contract is too long, and it should be 15 years tops for a PILOT.”

Northgrave disagreed, “A lot of communities do 30-year PILOTS such as Woodbridge, Carteret, and Edison.”

Petrick continued, “We are underrating our city because of our location (major roads, highways, and transportation).”

Councilman B.J. Torres spoke up, “We need our own health department, and I am against having any more warehouses. We need an independent entity to look out for the health of our children and residents (and the impact of having warehouses). On May 14th I took my 15-year-old to a medical facility on Route 35 to get a shot. They at first refused to do that until other calls were made. I spent 20 years helping the working poor, and I see how their health

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Water Quality, Quality of Life, and Uses for American Recovery Act Funds Amongst Topics Discussed

6/20/22 Caucus

**Continued from Page 7*

has been affected.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejada commented, “At the League of Municipalities, I talk to other people from other cities who have their own health department and the high cost, but it is worth the cost for our residents.”

B.J. Torres spoke again, “We need factual information on cannabis, and not just about Covid. The financing of health issues also comes into place. We need the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy (from Rutgers University) to come to speak to us (about these issues).

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke next, “We need to look at shared services. I don’t know how much the county can give us, but we need to test the waters. Rudyk Park has received a lot of money from Harbortown.”

Torres suggested, “We need to look at our businesses to supply information to the neighborhood (about health services, etc.)”

Pabon followed up, “We need to look at other municipalities that have their own health de-

partment.”

Petrick then added, “We need separate entities to check our health, water, and environmental issues.”

Torres said, “We need to hire someone qualified whose license will be on the line.”

Tejada added, “We need something that will help and grow with the city.”

Torres then explained, “The warehouse will be built with or without a PILOT.”

Petrick said, “I agree with you.”

Public Portion (in person first):

The first person to speak was Vince Mackiel. He referenced R-326 – A contract for the cleaning and redevelopment of the Radial Collector Well Laterals Project to Reynolds Construction of New Jersey LLC in the amount not to exceed \$627,400.

“Does the city have backup generators? We need more water for the community. I want to thank the city for applying for safe street grants. The county, New Jersey, and city should repair the bridge on Market Street, or the city should have PARA condemn the bridge. PARA said that the train station

is a private entity, Regarding the Buckeye Project, will the city ask the state about the biofuels? Buckeye and Chevron have caused a lot of pollution. How much water will be used for this Biofuel Project?”

The meeting was opened up to Zoom Participants.

Resident Sharon Hubberman spoke first about the bonding funds needed for the new Water Department Building. “That money should go to water quality infrastructure. She then read a letter from July 21, 2021, from the Water Company which talked about lead pipes. They were supposed to have a follow up letter in March 2022. The administration is not following up on the council’s inquiries regarding our water quality. This is unacceptable. The American Rescue Funds was to help our community to address water and other health issues.”

Petrick responded, “We need an assessment on those lead pipes.”

Luis Perez-Jimenez responded, “We don’t own the service line, but we have information on the service line that we replaced. We have standby generators, but not for Runyon. I

have applied for loans, and the city can only apply for so much money. We get 25 gallons of water from rainy wells and we have to take preventive measures.”

The next person to speak was Mr. Agha Abbas, who owns the property at 515 Smith Street. “I bought that property in 2005, and I heard that my building will be demolished. I have not raised my tenants’ rents for a long time. I have a contract plan with Viridian and I’ve had my taxes doubled. I’m having trouble collecting rent from the tenants. I blame PARA for this. I don’t have Section 8 Tenants. Have PARA move this project forward.”

Pabon responded, “I feel for this man. The owner of the gas station/car wash was also told there were plans for their property. It looks like those plans have also fallen through. We have to give these people some kind of relief.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejada spoke up, “We need to know more about how fire inspections are conducted and if property owners will be charged for these inspections. The owner of a 3-family house called and asked

what kinds of preparations will be needed for the inspection of his house.”

Fire Chief Ed Mullen came up, “With 3-family units and up, there has to be annual inspections and they have to be registered by the state. It’s on the website and YouTube. The cost of the inspection will be based on the square footage and depending on the size of the property, it may take half a day to do an inspection. We have to go with the updated state criteria.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke next, “We need to put a cap on certain kinds of businesses. So far, we have 22 barbershops, 38 beauty salons, and 15 nail salons for a total of 75. Plus, we have several Five and Ten, and Dollar Stores. We need a cap on these businesses, and just grandfather the existing ones.”

Law Director William Opel said, “I’ll see if we can do an ordinance.”

The council went into closed session at 8:48 p.m. with no further action to be taken. All council members were present.

Student Safety Concerns, Wrapping Up the School Year

6/16/22 BOE Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust

PERTHAMBOY – The meeting began by Board President Ken Puccio stating that Board Vice-President Tashi Vazquez, and Board Members Stacy Peralta, and Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe would be attending the meeting remotely.

Student Representative Charlize Leon gave her final report, stating there were 71 awards given to seniors and the senior prom was this past Saturday. She also stated 277 students received the New Jersey Seal of Biliteracy. Leon concluded her report, “Although I am moving to the next chapter of my life, I will always be a panther.”

Public Portion (in-person first):

Parent Maria Peralta spoke first. She spoke in Spanish. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Vivian Rodriguez translated for her. “My daughter was hit on Friday in her school.” Dr. Rodriguez continued translating, “There were 5 other students who jumped on her daughter.”

There was a brief discussion with Board Attorney Isabel Machado who recommended that Ms. Peralta speak about this in private. Peralta stated she wanted to speak about this publicly at the Board Meeting. Board Attorney Machado stated that Peralta had a right to do so by waiving her daughter’s right to privacy, but she could not state anyone’s name publicly.”

Peralta continued, “The school had my daughter sent to the hospital. They put spray in her eyes. They did electric shock.

I am here to ask the Board of Education and Administration that it is time to protect students in school with all the violence that is happening. My daughter could have been dead today. I am asking you and all Administrators and the Board of Education that our children need metal detectors in schools. The administration should have more communication with police so children will be better protected when walking home (from school). The school district has a lot of money that can be utilized to protect our children. We need to put the safety and security for the children of Perth Amboy. I think the Board of Education uses money to pay for ethics charges – the security of children is more important than the security of adults. What happened in Texas would happen here. What happened to my child should not happen to any child. Work with the Board of Education and the Administration to have metal detectors. To the Superintendent – you make more than \$200,000. Do a better job. We need during the summer break to prepare for fall and get metal detectors. When that happened to my daughter, no one called and told me how my daughter was doing. The case of my daughter is in the hands of my attorneys. Are we going to work together or separated to solve this matter?”

Another parent spoke in person next. She spoke about a program that her son was participating in, but every year there is some sort of problem. Superintendent Dr. David Roman stated that

the program was on the bill list and the Business Administrator Michael LoBrace would see if her name was on that list.

Resident Sharon Hubberman spoke next on Zoom, “I am very concerned regarding safety and security of schools and what is the transparency of school fights and bullying? Despite a \$280 million budget, we can do a lot more for the safety of our children: 1.) Resolve for the administration: What actually is the process when a child is bullied or in a fight? 2.) Some sort of administrator to show the location of everyone in a fight. 3.) Mental support of security of our schools – the time is now to have an open discussion on school shooting security.”

District Representative for the Perth Amboy Federation Lynn Audet spoke next. She stated that discipline referral should be seen and ordered upon by an administrator. She also stated that there was a large number of staff members either resigning or retiring. “There are major changes with administrators. The number of resignations is staggering. There is concern for staff members each year. There is a vicious cycle with more staff. How will we retain staff?” She wished everyone to have a safe and relaxing summer.

Board Member Junior Iglesia asked the Board to have another public portion because of the number of issues raised. The Board voted to add a public portion at the end of this evening’s meeting.

There were 4 presentations. The first presentation was on the HIB Self-Assessment as

required by the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights and School Safety Data System for the 2020-2021 School Year. The presentation was given by Dr. Vivian Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction and Dr. Damian Medina, Director of Curriculum and Instruction. It was noted that the district total score was a 70 out of 78 which met or exceeded expectations.

Board Member Junior Iglesia said, “Any type of school violence has no place in our school. This is not acceptable. My heart goes out to Uvalde’s Parents. No parent should put a 9-year-old in school and not come out. It was reported that the shooter was bullied. Make it a point to have bullying, harassment and intimidation the responsibility in all of us – students, parents, and staff. Everyone plays a role. We can make a safe environment for anyone. When there is an active shooter in school, we have to be prepared.”

The next presentation was on Picture Exchange Communication System and Special Education Data which was given by Dr. Jessica Neu. “Ordinary students with general education setting along with their peers do better. Perth Amboy Public Schools increased our inclusive role. The first time we exceeded the state average going back to 2014. Thank you for your support.”

The next presentation was on Security Updates which was given by Mr. Tibor Kacso and Mr. Heidelberg, Director of

Curriculum and Instruction. “This altercation occurred off school grounds after school. There are adults there. The Vice-Principal accompanied the child to the hospital. That child has been attending school remotely since then. Parents got involved.”

Superintendent Dr. David Roman stated, “Anyone touching a student - we will press charges. We are looking at alternatives. Look at schools at what happens. We have put into place a lot of things.”

Mr. Kacso said, “Right now there are 2 lockdown drills, 2 active shooter drills, 2 fire and evacuations drills. These drills are required by state statute. Our active shooter drills are coordinated with the Police Department.”

Dr. Roman said, “Assistant Superintendent Delvis Rodriguez goes through every incident. It takes everybody to get involved. Parents can’t show up and assault students. We have zero tolerance. If you attend to come through the district to cause harm, you will be dealt with.”

Board Member Michael George asked if security moves around the building during the school day.

Dr. Roman assured him that security is required to move around the building all day long.

Board Member Junior Iglesia asked if the Perth Amboy Police Department is a part of the active shooter drills.

Mr. Kacso stated that the

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Funding, Budget, and Quality of Life Amongst Topics Discussed

6/22/22 Council Meeting

By: Carolyn Maxwell
PERTH AMBOY – The first person to make a public comment was Resident Ken Balut. He still questioned the \$16 million from the American Recovery Act that had not been spent, yet. “It is supposed to be for the citizens of Perth Amboy. We just had a big fire, and we should use some of that money to fix substandard housing. You put in for a \$500,000 grant that could be used in the Police Department or for mental health services. We are giving away money and there is no need to give PILOTS. Everyone hates Trump but loves Kushner. Did anyone follow up on the Marina Boat accident that Nieves (Acting DPW Director) was involved in? He did his own report. People who own the property on Oak Street that had the fire should sue the city. When the utility costs go up, there will be more fires. The mayor hires Department Heads – not us (the council or the people). When I was on the council, we had negative money.”

The next person to speak was a resident who lives at 188 Smith Street. “We have \$16 million, yet we are asking for more money. The prior mayor’s office was defunded, and now we have another mayor who has more people, yet he doesn’t show up to meetings. Bill Fitzpatrick (in the Tax Assessors Department) is bringing in all this money. Now, he is looking to leave. There was a disconnect between the mayor’s office and the city council. Homicides, burglaries, rapes, stabbings, and shootings are going on. Where is the mayor?”

Ms. Dalila Silva (Vice President of Solidaridad Peru Committee) came up next, “I am a 30-year resident. The Peruvian community has been here for 50 years. We are looking to name one of our city streets as an honorary Peruvian Street. We have businesses here, community events, and provide health services. We have many Peruvian doctors and teachers who help the Hispanic community. We also have many Peruvian restaurants. The new generation needs to know our Peruvian heritage, our contributions, and the long history that we have here.”

Resident and Photographer Alejandro Roman spoke next, “I want to thank the council for the opportunity to recognize the Peruvian and Latino community. We need to work together. You listen to all, even your critics. I came her 32 years ago. I always send positive messages which is my passion. I’ve been to Newark and Trenton, and we look good compared to them.”

The next person to speak via Zoom was Sharon Hubberman, “I want to first congratulate all those who were promoted. I want to also thank those who helped clean the graffiti and the police officers who took care of a problem on my street. Regarding the ordinance, “Naming of honorary streets,”

I want to make sure that the guidelines and procedures are being followed. I need detailed information how it came to that point. The Rent Leveling Board recommendations haven’t been addressed. I know we have another petition being circulated (regarding the naming of another honorary street).”

Council President Petrick responded, “The petition for the naming of the honorary Peruvian street was given to us in January of this year.”

Law Director William Opel spoke up next, “The council can waive some of the requirements.”

Resident Maria Garcia spoke next via Zoom about the incompetence of the mayor. “I called the Department of Public Works to see what hours they would be open for Memorial Day. They told me they will be there until 1:30 p.m. I got there at 12 noon, and they would not open the gate for me because they said that city hall told them to close early. Another woman from DPW let me in. There is constant chaos at city hall and the city workers are getting the brunt of it (criticism). As far as the Public Entertainment Ordinance, 10 hours is too long. Music decibels need to be addressed. This ordinance needs to be reworked.”

The next person to speak on Zoom was Matthew Hersch, who is the Housing Director of the State of New Jersey. He thanked the council for considering adopting R-328 – (Affordable Homes in the Build Back Better Act to House New Jersey). “No state or local expenditures are needed, and other towns have already approved some of the funding.”

Resident Maria Vera spoke via Zoom, “The Puerto Rican Festival took place in a parking lot. Let others do the same thing. One day and 6 hours is long enough for any festival.”

The council voted on the Ordinances. Ordinance No. 1 – Re: Additions to Handicapped Parking Spaces was moved by Pabon, seconded by Morales. Ordinance No. 1 (First Reading) – “Public Entertainment” was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. When it came to voting individually, Tejeda is the only one to vote “No.” Ordinance No. 2 (First Reading) – Dissolving the Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency (PARA) and designating the city council as a redevelopment entity was moved by Pabon, seconded by Torres. When it came to voting, Morales and Tejeda voted, “No.” Ordinance No. 3. (First Reading) – “Flood Damage Prevention.” Was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. Ordinance No. 4. (First Reading) – “Restricted Parking Spaces to be used by Handicapped Persons regarding additions,” was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. Ordinance No. 5 (First Reading) – A Bond Ordinance providing for the construction of the Smith Street Shop Distribution Building for the Water Utility was moved by Pabon, seconded

by Tejeda. Petrick and Torres voted, “No.” Ordinance No. 6. (First Reading) – To establish the honorary renaming of Linden Street as “Peru Boulevard” was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 7 (First Reading) – Approving the application for a long-term tax exemption and authorizing the execution of a financial agreement with E-Port Phase II Urban Renewal LLC for property located at Block 430 Lot 1.02.

Petrick asked for this ordinance to be tabled because he needed a copy of the agreement.

Business Administrator Michael Greene stated that agreement was emailed to the council.

Law Director Opel stated, “The agreement was in a packet with all the stipulations that the council requested.”

Council President Petrick motioned to table, Pabon seconded it. When it came time to vote to table, Morales, Tejeda, and Torres voted, “No.” When it came time to vote on the Ordinance (First Reading), Tejeda and Morales voted “Yes”. Before Torres voted, he wanted to make a statement. “I will vote “Yes,” in spite of hardly any union labor being used.” Petrick, Pabon voted, “No.”

Petrick also said, “For Ordinance No. 7, this will not be beneficial to the city.”

For the consent agenda, R-312 thru R-328 and R-331 thru R-332 was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

For R-310 – A public hearing and adoption of the amendments to the CY: 2022 budget (R-307-6/22).

Council President Bill Petrick spoke first. “Monies from the budget were presented to us in March. There was an error. They want to add a Chief Accountant with a salary of \$130,000. They also want to add 2 new hires and the word on the street is that there will be a 10% increase in water rates. The proposed budget by the council was ignored by the administration. The administration ordered more money to hire people who worked on their campaign. There is a K-9 Unit for dogs to detect marijuana. He then talked about The Office of Economic Development, "The Assistant Director will be getting \$78,813. Now, they are looking for a Director to hire for \$98,000. In addition to that, they want to hire another person for \$42,000. And they want a General Administrator for the Business Administrator. The part-timers will add an additional \$30,000 in the Mayor’s Office. These are just some of the few highlights. There’re hundreds of thousands of more dollars of additional spending for the administration. We are here to protect taxpayers. All this extra money is for special interest groups.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda spoke up next. She specifically addressed Council

President Petrick, “This is your amendment – not the council’s amendment.”

Petrick responded, “I gave each of you my suggestions. It is up to you whether to comment or not. We were supposed to control the newspaper boxes on the streets. Now, we were told it is a freedom of speech. One of the owners of those newspaper boxes were told by the mayor not to worry. He (Mayor Caba) will take care of it. If the mayor overrules us so he can promote himself, why ask us to approve these items? We are being manipulated.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke next, “I know when there is a smokescreen. The last administration wanted to do a 5% tax increase. There were too many people in the last mayor’s office, and we eliminated some of those positions. Now, it is happening again with too many people in the mayor’s office. We spent \$1.5 million on water meters. For every position that we eliminate, we can save money and it can go towards next year’s budget. We were always told not to touch the surplus. We have huge issues with the water and bad infrastructure.”

Petrick spoke up again, “Surplus money is good for our ratings. Sometimes money is spent on things that were not needed.”

The budget hearing was then opened up for the public to speak.

Resident Ken Balut spoke first in-person, “No money was spent from the \$16 million. The Caba Administration is not transparent. He is hiring relatives and giving money to those who are not qualified. There is too much spending on salaries, furniture, and lawyer fees on lawsuits. When I was on the council, I investigated lawsuits to save money. You are voting on PILOTS you just received. You need to think about the poor who need mental services. Money is going to be spent on reelections. I get calls from the public all the time. There are zero dollars for the schools. We are going to get sued for giving money to people who don’t need it.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda asked, “What money has been spent so far?”

B.A. Greene responded, “The money was appropriated, but not spent. We are waiting for some bids to come in and we’ve only received \$8 million. On the city website, we have what money is received and how it is to be spent. Water rates are not predicted to go up. We have a flat tax rate. There is a surplus of \$10 million now. Sometimes unanticipated revenue will come in which will defray some of our costs. E-Port II will bring in additional revenue of \$57 million on the proposed PILOT. Some of the money we received will go towards our water infrastructure, essential workers, public safety, and the use of technology to monitor criminal activity. Community grants can be used to help (for

rental assistance). The budget is on the website for the public to view.”

Attorney Daniel Gonzalez spoke next in-person, “The whole budget is on the website, and it looks like the taxes are not going up. Inflation and gas are going up. We will not be burdened with that. I hope the council accepts the budget and keep moving forward. The city is doing a good job for the residents.”

The next person to come up to speak is A.D. Pauro, “This budget calls for adding over \$230,000 and \$130,000 in new positions. Are all the council members okay with all the money for the new positions? Northgrave left the meeting after the PILOT was approved. The mayor’s aide just walks around with a camera. We have a firm who takes care of grants in the OECD Department. George Bonilla (Who is a long time Audio Visual Supervisor) who knows his job very well is leaving. Former DPW Director Frank Hoffman left. I hope the city clerk doesn’t leave. The current mayor hired two people who worked on his campaign. You were presented a PILOT without a contract.”

The meeting was opened up to Zoom participants.

Sharon Hubberman spoke first via Zoom, “I’m against any increases in the budget. There is now an 8.2 inflation rate. Now, you want to issue more debt and the base rate went up. We are in a turbulent economic time. If our debt service goes up, the water rates will have to be raised. Our CFO needs to make appropriations that are correct. We can’t bank on future PILOTS. They may not be able to complete all their projects, and you need to know all the details of PILOTS. See through their smokescreens. You were elected by the people. We can’t afford all these increases in these economic times.”

Resident Maria Garcia spoke next via Zoom, “Hiring more people with huge salaries and inflation rates are ruining our pockets. Why are we hiring all these assistants for assistants? Former Mayor Vas had only one secretary and one advisor. If you have to have all of these people in your office, you should not be mayor. If you (the council) are sitting there to represent the mayor, you should not be sitting there. You are here to represent the people. Gas prices are affecting all, even the different departments need gas for their city vehicles. City workers on a lower pay scale are paying for the people with big salaries.”

The next person to speak via Zoom was Marilyn Pujon, “I disagree with your approval of the budget. Where are these funds coming from for these additional salaries? There is no transparency when you get things at the last minute. You are here for the residents and not for the mayor. I need to know the reason why the council would approve this budget.”

Funding, Budget, and Quality of Life Amongst Topics Discussed

6/22/22 Council Meeting

**Continued from Page 8*

Council President Petrick answered, “The council members are not required to answer that question.”

Resident Maria Vera spoke next, “Gas has gone up. Maybe you need to have more people on bikes than on cars. Stop spending money that you don’t have and stop having the mayor’s family members working for him.”

When it came to R-310 – Public Hearing and adoption of the amendments to the budget. It was moved by Tejeda, seconded by Morales. Pabon and Petrick voted, “No.”

For R-311 – Adopting the amended CY: 2022 budget. It was moved by Tejeda, seconded by Morales. Pabon and Petrick voted, “No.”

R-329 was voided.

R-330 – Consenting to the Appointment of Matthew Nieves as Director of Department of Public Works. It was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. All voted “Yes.”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch said the council needed to add as a late-starter R-333 – A resolution to have the PARA Dissolved be presented to the local Finance Board. It was voted that to be added to the agenda of the next regular meeting.

Public Portion (in-person first):

Police Captain Miguel Pellot had a question to see if a federal or state law was violated if the mayor asked the Police Chief to contact the psychologist to see if a city employee might be a danger to society, even if an employee went on their own to see a psychologist. “Lots of things were said about mental health. City employees can be affected, especially if they are going through a traumatic experience.”

Law Director Opel responded, “The Attorney General issues guidelines and directives. I will look at the specifics.”

The officer responded, “This happened to me.”

B.A. Greene spoke up, “You brought up your name and I wish you hadn’t. If a person has a gun, and is seeing a psychiatrist, I made the decision because of that employee having a gun.”

Officer Pellot continued, “I never told my psychiatrist that I had thoughts of harming myself or others. This has happened in the past and may happen in the future. Mayor Caba told me this.”

Greene continued, “When it comes to a regular employee, we would not call their psychiatrist. It would only pertain to employees (that carry weapons) as part of their duties.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up, “How do you get medical information?”

Greene again repeated, “The difference is if an employee is carrying a weapon, it is employee policy if a person is absent for three days, those carrying a weapon for them to be questioned.”

Police Chief Larry Cattano came up to the mike, “It is the city policy in the police department that any employee under care, and if there are any questions for clarification, the city calls the doctor’s office. When it comes to psychiatric care, and there is a need to be on medical leave, there are no treatment notes. We will respond to what the doctor requests of us. The employee will have to get a note from their doctor for clearance if they need a leave from their job. Internal affairs made the phone call. HIPPA violations were done by the doctor.”

Pellot just wanted an answer about the confidentiality issue.

Attorney Daniel Gonzalez spoke next in-person, “It is sad to hear this officer being stressed, but I think it was too much for this forum. I attended an Art Gallery Opening which was the same night as the Ferry Slip Concert. There is a lot of activity going on. I attended a championship baseball game and I want to congratulate the new Chief of Police and the promotions of police officers, a lot who grew up in the community and excel at their jobs. Congratulations to Matthew Nieves, the new Director of Public Works who also excelled at this job. I had Covid and could not attend the last festival, but the small festival did well. Positive things are happening in Perth Amboy.”

A.D. Pauro spoke next. He asked if the budget passed.

Petrick answered, “Yes.”

He then asked, “What is going on with the Water Company investigation?”

Petrick responded, “There is one more individual left to interview.”

Pauro continued, “The Puerto Rican Festival was done on private property and people had to sign petitions. Jackie Quiles threatened the city council and said people had to sign petitions. I am Dominican, but people need to respect the American Flag. I am starting a petition to recall the mayor.”

Sharon Hubberman spoke via Zoom, “I see a lot of people walking their dogs in the parks and a lot of dog droppings. There is supposed to be an ordinance about smoking in the parks, but there is no enforcement and there are a lot of dogs with no leashes.”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch responded, “There is an ordinance that dogs must be on a leash and people have to pick up after their dogs.”

Councilman B.J. Torres made a comment, “They should look for areas in the park for smoking.”

Council President William Petrick disagreed, “There should not be smoking in parks where children are present.”

Councilman Joel Pabon commented, “There used to be no smoking signs in parks. That worked.”

Torres continued, “I saw police officers who were smoking in parks. People carry hookahs in parks at 2 a.m. and there are about twelve of them

who do this.”

Pabon also stated, “A lot of people don’t pick up after their dogs.”

Resident Lisa Nanton spoke via Zoom, “It will be a good idea to have details on spreadsheets when it comes to PILOTS. I’ve had three of my cars hit on my street. Market and Fayette Streets should be one way in and one way out.”

Maria Vera spoke next, “I agree with Nanton. Our traffic is out of control and there are too many illegal buses on the streets. Every school bus driver has a car, and every school bus driver should go back to their own towns.” She then asked, “What is the curfew at the Waterfront?” When no one responded, she said, “9 p.m. but people have parties up until 1 a.m.”

Petrick responded, “There are no curfews on private residences.”

Vera also said, “We don’t need port o’ potties. We need a police substation or foot patrol at the Waterfront.”

Maria Garcia spoke next, “I was hoping there would already be repairs for Sunshine Alley. We spend all this money on hiring people instead of fixing crumbling streets.”

Pabon responded, “Sunshine Alley is slated to be fixed next year. In July, Patterson and Brighton Avenue are scheduled to be worked on.”

Garcia then questioned, “What

happened to the Sunshine Alley repair money? When it rains, water accumulates, and this is a health hazard.”

Pabon responded, “Sunshine Alley is supposed to have the same kind of pavement like we have at city hall.”

Garcia finished her comments by saying, “We need to preserve the history of our city and that taxi drivers need to stop blowing their horns.”

Council President Petrick said, “Maybe they (cab drivers) need to be reeducated.”

Council Comments:

Councilwoman Rose Morales said, “I appreciate all the comments and those who participated at tonight’s meeting. I want to congratulate the new Police Chief Cattano, the new DPW Director Nieves and all those who were promoted recently. I enjoyed the Juneteenth Celebration and the Concert Series. I wish all a Happy July Fourth!”

Councilman Joel Pabon said, “I congratulate all those promoted officers. We got late notification to a lot of events. There was a walk on the bridge Saturday.” He then mentioned the Ferry Slip Music Series. He thanked Caroline Pozycski Torres and B.J. Torres for presenting those events. “There are a lot of things happening at the Art Gallery, the Pepino Club, our little league programs, and the girls’ softball programs. We need to have

a plan for parking at the new school. There is a line item for speed bumps. We need those on Chamberlain Avenue and Water Street. I want to commend the officers who helped out on the incident on Cornell Street. I need more information on the proposed PILOT. I did not get any information in a packet or through email. I want to know if Code Enforcement did their due diligence regarding the fire on Oak Street. Have a nice July Fourth!”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda thanked all those who participated at the Juneteenth Celebration. She also mentioned the musical series at the Ferry Slip. She looked forward to the Pride Flag Raising and congratulated the Graduating Class of 2022. “Have a Happy Fourth!”

Councilman B.J. Torres said, “I thank all who attended the Ferry Slip Music Series. He also mentioned the Pride Flag Raising.”

Council President William Petrick congratulated all those who were promoted in the police department, Police Chief Cattano, and the DPW Director Nieves. “Stay safe. Enjoy the Fourth of July and enjoy the upcoming weather. Thanks to all who participated tonight.”

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m. All council members were present in person.

Senate Passes Comprehensive Legislation to Expand Access to Mental Health Services

Press Release 6/16/22

TRENTON – The Senate today passed legislation that would require the Department of Human Services to establish a comprehensive Statewide behavioral health crisis system of care, including implementation of a new 9-8-8 behavioral health crisis hotline and the establishment of mobile crisis response teams available to individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

The bill, S-311, sponsored by Senator Joe Vitale and Senator Vin Gopal, comes in response to several actions taken at the federal level to establish a new 9-8-8 national suicide prevention hotline, and falls in line with other preventative measures being taken in other states. The new three-digit helpline will replace the longer National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL) hotline currently in use.

“Too often, our neighbors, family and friends who may be in crisis are forced to bear their anguish silently, and alone. By joining the nationwide effort to prevent suicide and other negative behavioral health outcomes, our state will be able to offer those suffering most a literal life line, and immediate help by dialing the 9-8-8 crisis center,” said Senator Vitale (D-Middlesex).

The legislation provides that, no later than six months after the effective date of the bill, the Commissioner of Human Services will be required to set up designated hotline centers that would have the authority to deploy mobile crisis response teams and refer callers to crisis stabilization services, as needed, according to guidelines and best practices established by the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

The system must assure that crisis counselors are in place to respond to calls for help 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

A hotline center would also meet the requirements set forth by NSPL for serving high risk and specialized populations as identified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

“Many New Jerseyans who struggle with mental illness feel they have nowhere to turn. These include our military veterans, and more and more, our young people. Establishment of this 9-8-8 crisis service can be a life-saver not only for people considering taking their own life, but for those who might otherwise find themselves in a public crisis or difficulty that could turn into a tragic encounter with police,” said Senator Gopal (D-Monmouth). “This law is a positive step forward in seeing that those in behavioral health crisis can get the help they need quickly and safely.”

In October, 2020, President Trump signed the bipartisan National Suicide Designation Act of 2020 into law. That law established 9-8-8 as a universal number for mental health crises and suicide prevention.

The need for 9-8-8 and a continuum of crisis services is greater than ever. According to data the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released in 2020, more than one in ten adults in the U.S. had seriously considered suicide in the 30 days prior to the survey and four in ten adults experienced a behavioral health condition, like anxiety or depression.

“Just as the 9-1-1 emergency line has emerged as an effective first response, and been ingrained in our societal memory, so too the 9-8-8 system will offer a similar immediate response in times of behavioral health crisis,” noted Senator Vitale.

The Senate released the bill by a vote of 38-0.



Student Safety Concerns, Wrapping Up the School Year

6/16/22 BOE Meeting

**Continued from Page 7*

district is required to have the police as a part of the drill.

Board President Ken Puccio stated that the training to do active shooter drills are in the building. “The Police Department is always training. Response time is on the money. They patrol the area.”

Board Vice-President Tashi Vazquez spoke via Zoom, “There was some mention of the Superintendent getting bonuses for not reporting incidents. That is not true. Merit Pay was removed from his contract and that was never a part of it. They had several meetings in school. It takes every single person – teachers out in the hall – everyone plays a part in keeping kids safe. What works in one district may not work in another. There are no cookie cutter answers. This is an urban area. Keep that in mind when you make blanket statements.”

Board Member Junior Iglesia said, “I agree. The Perth Amboy Police Department plays an important role.”

Dr. Courtney Pepe gave the fourth presentation on Visual & Performing Arts Department. She thanked Brian Wilson for his hard work. She stated that students won several contests including to be on the cover of a coloring book. She spoke about a new theatrical tradition: The Spanish Dramatic Play. Students also won prizes at the Middlesex County Teen Arts Festival. The Gospel Choir and Show Choir won awards. The Flynn School put on a production of “The Wizard of Oz.” There was a short video presentation on how the students enjoyed putting on the play. It was noted that former Board Member Anthony Bermudez sponsored the play.

Assistant Superintendent Mr. Delvis Rodriguez stated that the students did well in the Game 24 Tournament which is a type of math tournament.

Dr. Roman added, “124 Seniors were awarded 71 scholarships which totaled \$100,000. During graduation, students will get scholarships totaling \$120,000. I want to thank Mr. Heidelberg and teachers and donors.” He noted that Senior Prom photos were on NJ.com.

There was a video presentation thanking Dr. Vivian Rodriguez for her work. After 20 years of service, she is retiring. She has worked in the district from 2003-2006 and 2008-2022.

Dr. Roman said, “Dr. Rodriguez has dedicated her life to this district.”

Dr. Vivian Rodriguez said, “Under Dr. Roman, this district continues to flourish. Teachings of my parents, as I reflect on the last days of Perth Amboy, my parents said work hard and do your best did not go unnoticed. I wish all my love to Dr. Medina who will be the new Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction as of July 1st and all personnel and professional endeavors. Thank you very

much.”

Board Members Junior Iglesia, R.L. Anderson, Michael George, Doctor Danielle Brown, and Tashi Vazquez all congratulated Dr. Vivian Rodriguez on her retirement.

There was nothing on the agenda to be discussed in closed session so there was no closed session.

Ken Puccio gave the President’s Report. There was a moment of silence for the people of Texas and Buffalo in light of recent events. Puccio then spoke about Dr. Vivian Rodriguez, “You came back when we needed you. You put us in the right place moving us forward. Thank you.”

Dr. Roman gave the Superintendent’s Report, “Mr. George took a look at busses in the district.”

Board Secretary Michael LoBrace said, “Working with the Transportation Department and getting a grant of \$375,000 per bus. There are six electric busses that fit the criteria and we get \$12,000-\$15,000 per bus which brings the cost down to \$10,000. Installation charging stations for the busses – we have federal grants.” LoBrace then spoke about health benefits, “Health Coverage with Aetna and partnered with CVS is equal or better with our members. We have an updated website. Everyone gets new cards for Aetna which medical benefits and RX Benefits together. There are questions and answers on the website, three phone numbers and emails. Anyone who does not have a card can download the App on the spot.”

Board Vice President Tashi Vazquez said, “Regular grants are collaborative effort between the BOE and the city. The Department of Transportation forms a fund grant for the Emergency Traffic Lights, and warning signals at the Rose Lopez School.” She thanked the city for collaborating with them. “Thank you to the teachers who filled out surveys. It is a truly collaborative effort between the school and city.”

Board Member Junior Iglesia had some remarks, “The biggest project is our new high school which is getting closer and closer to completion. We have a responsibility to name the new high school. I understand in past procedures the school committee makes a recommendation to the Board”

Board President Puccio said, “We will have a bigger discussion when we reach that point and we will bring it to the Board for further discussion.” Junior Igesia stated, “I have one recommendation: Anton J. Massopust.”

Board Vice President Vazquez spoke via Zoom, “Our policy on Perth Amboy High School is to keep the name of the High School. It is the one school that does not take someone’s name. We need to take some look at it first.”

Board Member Michael George said, “I sat at the committee to name the Rose

Lopez School. Perth Amboy High School – all the other schools can be renamed. I respect Mr. Massopust. I think he would agree it should stay Perth Amboy High School.”

Iglesia then said, “If it is the wish of the Board, we can always change the policy.”

Board Attorney Isabel Machado stated, “Policy 7250 – Perth Amboy High School must be named Perht Amboy High School. It would require a policy change.”

Board President Puccio stated, “We will have a further discussion on this.”

Iglesia changed the subject and began speaking about Covid. “I am looking at data on the school district. There is a 1.02% positive rate. We are responsible to continue to social distance. Covid relief from the federal government – how many test kits have we used?”

Dr. David Roman said, “The district totals have decreased.” He asked Assistant Superintendent Delvis Rodriguez to send him a report.

There was a discussion on whether the Machado Law Group should still be considered the firm for the Board. Vice President Vazquez stated that RFQ’s were put out for different firms. She noted that there will be new Board Members in January and it may be different.”

Dr. Roman said, “It is difficult to press the new Board Members. We should also have a conversation regarding this.”

Iglesia said, “I agree with Tashi Vazquez.”

Dr. Roman said, “My recommendation gives new board members more time. I am confident in our attorneys that saved us millions of dollars.”

There was a discussion addressing the turnover in the district.

Dr. Roman stated the reasons staff gave for leaving the district: “People we are hiring, no one reason, closer to home, out of state, more money. Other districts pay \$10,000 more than we pay. We need to keep all variables in place.”

Board Member Junior Iglesia said, “We have 158 vacancies.”

Board Member R.L. Anderson said, “Over the last years, 43 administrators left the district. Most of them didn’t want to burn any bridges.”

Board Member Marisol Gonzalez said, “The natural turnover of things really is a question of why the people are leaving are because they hate the place. Personnel does not need to be brought up at every Board Meeting. We have by school district a lot of staff. We do our best to have our people. It just doesn’t matter.”

Iglesia said, “We have a responsibility to know as elected officials. The lower the turnover rate – this should not be the norm.”

Dr. Roman stated, “I will not let those words define the district.”

R.L. Anderson insisted “158 total positions open?”



PERTH AMBOY - Dr. Vivan Rodriguez Retires
**Photo by Katherine Massopust*

Board Member Dr. Danielle Brown said, “There is a statewide average to make certain. It is not unique to our district.”

Dr. Roman said, “Teachers do learn a lot here.”

Board Member Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe arrived in person. She was stuck at work.

Board Vice President Tashi Vazquez spoke of the 21 appointees to Supervisory positions. “How many were from the hiring committee to ask to gain experience to leadership roles?”

Dr. Roman answered, “8 from this district.”

Mr. Delvis Rodriguez said, “The job fairs were very successful and we will continue doing them. Not only do you learn how to interview, but how to be interviewed.”

Tashi Vazquez said, “Congratulations. You chose to stay here and work here. Thank you to those from Perth Amboy and those not from Perth Amboy.”

Junior Iglesia stated, “This is the way to go.”

Dr. Danielle Brown added, “Welcome all administrators.” Brown then began commenting on the importance of hiring Black Teachers, “Black students who have at least one black teacher are more likely to go to college. I hope the district

reflects more Black teachers.”

R.L. Anderson said, “Days of Author Leadership given in 1990’s - Lead the way you want people who will not work for you but with you. Think about that response. Mr. Massopust you were together. Your life taught we were always together. Never forget where you came from.”

At the end of the meeting, there was a second public portion. Resident Sharon Hubberman was the only speaker. She spoke on Zoom, “The presentation of the administration – the school safety and school security - They are looking at our school children in a stereotypical way. Children are children regardless of their background. They are human beings. Work with armed officers with our police to detect any object that can be used as a weapon. Maybe it works in another town but not here? Today I witnessed antisemitic writings on the sidewalks. This type of thing I would never expect to happen in the city we love. This is not a good situation. I see graffiti with such writing - it speaks loudly, we need not to give into the evils in this world. I’m speaking about civil unrest in this town. Congratulations to the new staff.”

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.



MCSCS S.T.E.M Fair, Perth Amboy, 6/9/22 *Photos by Paul W. Wang



MCSCS S.T.E.M Fair Award Winners

PERTH AMBOY - **Grade 4A** - 1st Prize - We have a tie. Truss Bridge (Engineering Design Process)- Jaslynn Villa and Christian Musa; Ferris Wheel (Engineering Design Process) - Valentina Iglesias and James Rivera; 2nd Prize - We have a tie. Homemade Water Filter (Engineering Design Process) - Evangelis Ruperto and Maximiliano Caceres; Comparing Frog Jumps (Scientific Method) Julissia Bello and Janzel Rodriguez; 3rd Prize - We have a tie. Tornado in a Jar (Scientific Method) - Justin Nunez and Chiara Brentan Rapalo; Model of a Fan (Engineering Design Process) - Yousef Zeidan and Darian Pearson; **Grade 4B** 1st Prize - Cotton Ball Launcher (Scientific Method) - Arianna Acosta and Jonathan Smith; 2nd Prize - We have a tie. Simple Pendulum Experiment - Ashley Nyambi, Rhyann Bowles-Sooknanan, and Ranxiel Graciano; Paper Roller Coaster - Chelsea Caceres, Sade Scafe, and Gift Aniegbuna; 3rd Prize - Anemometer - (Scientific Method) - Emma Corraliza and Eveyalisse Tomassini Lopez; **Grade 5** 1st Prize - Robotic Hand Project (Engineering Design Process) - Khaled Zeiden and Alexander Corona; 2nd Prize - Marble Run (Engineering Design Process) - Kiara Almanzar, Daania Watson - Willis; 3rd Prize - We have a tie. Drums Project - The Cardboard Challenge - (Engineering Design Process)-Adrianna Howard and Kailynn Olmedo; Guitar Project. - The Cardboard Challenge (Engineering Design Process) - Alyson Banos and Amy Wiczorek



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First
Responders,
Boy's Baseball
Team Honored
6/15/22 Council
Meeting

**Continued from Page 2*

Gross congratulated the 2020 Boys Baseball Team. "Fireworks are on July 2nd. They will be paid for with no taxpayer money. They will air on Fox Radio. On October 1st will be the Irish Festival; there will be fireworks there, also. The City Clerk will have new video equipment since our equipment is outdated. I want to thank the first responders, our OEM Chief for what you guys do."

Mayor Fred Henry stated, "Congratulations to all of our honorees. We have a super group in our baseball team. My condolences to Andrew Pipala, and Former Captain James Tedesco of the Police Department who took photos around South Amboy. He was a referee in soccer and basketball." Henry then said, "We had another Lunch and Learn with our Police Chief Darren Lavigne. It was well attended." Mayor Henry mentioned some events that were going to take place in South Amboy and wished everyone a Happy Father's Day.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski recognized all the Department Heads who have a lot of responsibilities. "Especially Kathy at the Mayor's Office. We rely on them very heavily." Law Director Francis Womack and City Engineer Mark Rasimowicz had no comments.

Councilman Tom Reilly was excited to mention that the South Amboy Fire Department participated in Iselin's 100th Anniversary Parade and received 1st Place and won many other trophies.

No one spoke during the public portion. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m. Councilwoman Zusette Dato was not present at the meeting.

PERTH AMBOY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SOLO PARA RESIDENTES DE PERTH AMBOY:

INSCRIPCIÓN
PREESCOLAR

AÑO ESCOLAR 2022-2023

EVENTO DE CASA ABIERTA 26 Y 27 DE JULIO

IGNACIO CRUZ: 601 CORTLANDT STREET
EDMUND HMIELESKI, JR: 925 AMBOY AVENUE



Para obtener más información sobre la inscripción preescolar, llame al:
(732)-376-6200 EXT 30-160
o visítenos en línea en www.paps.net

SOLO PARA NIÑOS QUE CUMPLIRÁN
TRES (3) O CUATRO (4) AÑOS
EN O ANTES DEL 15 DE OCTUBRE DE 2022



ESCANEE PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN Y ACCESO A
DECLARACIONES JURADAS Y OTROS FORMULARIOS:

DOCUMENTOS NECESARIOS PARA LA MATRICULA PREESCOLAR:

1. DOCUMENTACIÓN DE RESIDENCIA

CATEGORÍA A: Uno (1) de los siguientes documentos debe estar actualizado:

- Escritura (**deed**)
- Contrato de Arrendamiento (**lease**)
- Una declaración jurada ante notario (**afidavit azul**) del propietario de la casa.
- Si reside con otra familia que alquila una casa, se debe proporcionar una declaración jurada notariada (**afidavit amarillo**) de la familia anfitriona y su contrato de arrendamiento.
- Si reside con otra familia que es propietaria de una casa, debe presentar una declaración jurada notariada (**afidavit amarillo**) de la familia anfitriona y su escritura.
- Si el (los) niño(s) reside(n) con alguien que no sea el padre/tutor temporalmente, se debe proporcionar una declaración jurada (**afidavit rosado**) con el contrato o la escritura de la persona.

◦ NOTA: LAS DECLARACIONES JURADAS (AFIDAVITS) SOLO SON VÁLIDAS POR UN (1) AÑO.

CATEGORÍA B: Dos (2) de los siguientes documentos que muestran su dirección actual con fecha dentro de los últimos 30 días:

- Factura de Gas, Electricidad, Cable, Teléfono, o Agua
- Cheque de Nómina o Talón
- Correo o Carta de Primera Clase de una Agencia Estatal o Federal
- Estado de Cuenta Bancario
- Factura de Impuestos

2. EL CERTIFICADO DE NACIMIENTO **ORIGINAL** DEL NIÑO/A- copias no serán aceptadas.

3. EXÁMEN FÍSICO DEL NIÑO/A

- La Ley del Estado de Nueva Jersey requiere que niños que entren al programa preescolar tengan un **examen físico ACTUAL/VIGENTE** - con fecha de octubre 1 de 2021 o después.
- Puede descargar formularios para el **examen físico** en www.paps.net.

4. REGISTROS DE INMUNIZACIONES DEL NIÑO/A.

Prueba que el niño/a ha sido inmunizado con las siguientes vacunas: **DPT** (4 dosis), **POLIO** (3 dosis), **HIB** (1 dosis en o después de un año de edad), **MMR** (1 dosis- en o después de un año de edad), **VARICELLA** (en o después de un año de edad o prueba de que tiene inmunización contra la enfermedad), **PNUEMOCOCCAL (PCV)** (1 dosis- en o después de un año).

5. IDENTIFICACIÓN CON FOTO

Padre/Guardián tiene que proveer prueba de identidad.

PADRES DIVORCIADOS O SEPARADOS, Y GUARDIANES, TIENEN QUE PROVEER DOCUMENTOS DE LA CORTE DEMOSTRANDO CUSTODIA DEL NIÑO/A.

CHILD FIND / IDENTIFICACIÓN DE ESTUDIANTES:

Las familias que estén preocupadas por el desarrollo de su hijo/a de tres a cinco años de edad, pueden acceder al sitio de Child Find/Identificación de Estudiantes que se encuentra abajo. El enlace le proveerá información de servicios comunitarios disponibles y le permitirá al Distrito Escolar de Perth Amboy identificar estudiantes de tres a veintiún años que necesiten beneficios de servicios de educación especial. También puede contactar al Departamento de Servicios de Educación Especial de Distrito al (732)-376-6200 ext 30-224 para preguntas relacionadas al proceso de evaluación.

www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/childfind/

American Legion Post #45 Flag Retirement Ceremony, Perth Amboy, 6/14/22

*Photos by Paul W. Wang



PERTH AMBOY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FOR PERTH AMBOY RESIDENTS ONLY:

PRESCHOOL
REGISTRATION

2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

OPEN HOUSE EVENT: JULY 26TH AND 27TH

IGNACIO CRUZ: 601 CORTLANDT STREET
EDMUND HMIELESKI, JR: 925 AMBOY AVENUE



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preschool registration, please call:
(732)-376-6200 EXT 30-160
or visit us online at www.paps.net

ONLY FOR CHILDREN WHO WILL BE
THREE (3) OR FOUR (4) YEARS OLD
ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 15TH, 2022



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION & ACCESS
TO AFFIDAVITS AND OTHER FORMS:

DOCUMENTS NEEDED FOR PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION:

1. PROOF OF DOMICILE

CATEGORY A: One (1) of the following documents (must be current):

- Deed
- Lease
- A notarized affidavit (**blue**) from the owner of the home
- If residing with another family who **rents** a home, a notarized affidavit (**yellow**) from the host family and their **lease** needs to be provided.
- If residing with another family who are **homeowners**, a notarized affidavit (**yellow**) from the host family and the **deed** needs to be provided.
- If child(ren) is/are residing with someone other than the parent/guardian **temporarily**, a notarized affidavit (**pink**) needs to be provided with the person's lease or deed.
 - NOTE: AFFIDAVITS ARE ONLY VALID FOR ONE (1) YEAR.

CATEGORY B: Two (2) of the following documents that show your current address dated within the past 30 days:

- Gas, Electric, Cable, Phone, or Water Bill
- Payroll Check or Stub
- First Class Mail or Letter from a State or Federal Agency
- Bank Statement
- Tax Bill

2. CHILD'S **ORIGINAL** BIRTH CERTIFICATE: COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

3. CHILD'S PHYSICAL EXAM

- NJ State Law requires children entering preschool to have **CURRENT physical exams**- must be dated on or after October 1st, 2021.
- You may download **physical forms** from www.paps.net.

4. CHILD'S CURRENT IMMUNIZATION RECORD

- Demonstrating that the child has been immunized for **DPT** (4 doses), **POLIO** (3 doses), **HIB** (1 dose- on or after 1st birthday), **MMR** (1 dose- on or after 1st birthday), **VARICELLA** (on or after 1st birthday or proof of disease immunity), **PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINE (PCV)** (1 dose- on or after 1st birthday)

5. PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

- Parent or guardian **MUST** provide proof of identity.

DIVORCED OR SEPARATED PARENTS AND GUARDIANS MUST PROVIDE A COPY OF A FORMAL COURT DOCUMENT DEMONSTRATING CHILD'S CUSTODY.

CHILD FIND:

Families who are concerned about their child's development, aged three to five, may access the Child Find website located below. The link will also provide information on community services available, and it will assist the Perth Amboy School District to identify unserved children who need special education and related services from age three to twenty-one. You may also contact the District's Department of Special Education Services at (732)-376-6200 ext. 30-224 to answer any questions regarding the evaluation process.

www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/childfind/

You're Invited to
Sunday Worship

PERTH AMBOY - Please join us on Sunday mornings: 9:00 AM for English Worship and Sunday School; 10:30 AM for Hungarian Worship and Sunday School

Rev. András Szász – Pastor;
Organ Prelude - Richard Russell, Organist. We Extend an Open Invitation to All!

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

Parking behind the church on the Wilson Street side.

Vendors Wanted

SAYREVILLE - The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville is looking for vendors for its annual Flea Market. This year it will be held on Saturday September 10, 2022, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The rain date is September 17, 2022. The cost of a space is \$20.00 for one space and \$30.00 for two. There is a limited number of tables available for another \$8.00. For more information, please contact the church at 732-257-6353 or churchoffice172@optimum.net. We have been continually growing this flea market over a number of years and would love to add you to our event.

PAHS 35th
Class of 1987
Reunion

PERTH AMBOY – PAHS Classmates, please join us at the beautiful Raritan Yacht Club for food, drinks, and dancing! Saturday, August 6, 2022, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Raritan Bay Yacht Club, 160 Water St. #4703, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. Tickets are \$85 each. No tickets at the door. Checks & Zelle Accepted. Questions? Message on Facebook @Class of 1987 Reunion or Email at: Classof1987.PAHS@gmail.com



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

CITY OF PERTH AMBOY LATEST UPDATES



Use your camera phone to scan the code or
go to www.perthamboynj.org

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A Close-Knit Community of Care in the Heart of Perth Amboy

Our center is ideally
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HIRING** **CNAs and Cook
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- Cutting-Edge Equipment
- Nurturing Memory Care

Mi Hogar
en Spring Creek

DEDICATED HISPANIC PROGRAM
under the leadership of Dr. Jorge Gonzalez-Gomez, MPSP



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A proud member of
Allaire Health Services



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.

All of our programs this month will be in-person!

Annual Summer Reading Club!
Our annual summer reading club begins June 20 and runs until August 12! Participants are welcomed to read any book they like, then submit just the title and author of the book, and be entered to win a weekly prize! All participants of the club will also be entered into a grand prize drawing! You are welcomed to sign up in-person, at one of our locations, or online. Grand prizes include a generous pass to the Jenkinson's Boardwalk including free admission the Aquarium, Amusement Park, Beach, Mini Golf, Fun House, and more! Register here— tinyurl.com/WPLAdults2022.

July 6 | 7PM | Main Library (In-person)
Woodbridge River Watch
Get an introduction to the Woodbridge River Watch! Member of the River Watch, Roberta Martin, will guide give us a short history of the organization while highlighting major projects such as the Ernie Oros Wildlife Preserve. Registration Recommended — <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=12982&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/07/01>

July 12 | 3PM | Main Library (In-person)
Mystery/Thriller Book Club
Join us for an in person discussion of Such a Quiet Place by Megan Miranda. No Registration Required— <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=12158&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/07/01>

July 14 | 7PM | Main Library (In-person)
Beach Nesting Birds: The Birds of Summer
Todd Pover, a Senior Wildlife Biologist for the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey, will explore the unique biology and behavior of New Jersey's beach nesting shorebirds, including piping plover, least tern, black skimmers, and American oystercatchers Registration Recommended—<https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=12438&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/07/01>

July 20 | 3:30PM | Main Library (In-person)
DIY Beach Bag
Join us in-person to create your own DIY Beach Bag. All Supplies will be provided. Open to Adults and Teens (13+). Registration Required—

July 26 | 7PM | Virtual Program
Meditation: The Path to a Sustainable Life
Learn how meditation tunes us to the greater harmonies of Nature. Please join Jim Rose for this enlightening workshop on meditation. All participants will have a firsthand experience of the bliss and joy available within each of us. Registration Required—<https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=13006&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/07/01>

July 28 | 6:30PM | Fords Library (In-person)
Adult Craft Night
Come to the Fords Library and receive supplies to make your on craft! Find out more details when you register. Registration Required—<https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=12615&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/07/01>

Movies at Main | Fridays at 2PM
Join us every Friday at 2PM to catch a free movie! This 6-week series is themed a Sea of Movies!

Iselin Saturday Movie Matinee!
Looking for something to do on a Saturday afternoon? Catch a movie once a month throughout the summer at 1PM.

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!

Oceans of Possibilities

Press Release

SOUTH AMBOY — Readers of all ages will dive into the ocean depths this summer as The Dowdell Library presents "Oceans of Possibilities. There are activities for everyone!

Adult programs will be held weekly on Wednesdays at 10:30 am and Thursdays at 6:30 pm. Programs include scrapbooking, making glass stem charms, and 3D pens. Tween and teen programs are every Tuesday at 1:00 pm and involve making a reading journal and sea serpent eyes. Children's programs are on Mondays & Wednesdays; times vary. Activities include Storytime, mermaid magnets, starfish crafts, and more! Visit Dowdell.org for information about all of these and other fun summer programs or stop in and pick up your summer calendar!

Registration is now open for the free Introduction to Watercolor Painting class. Local artist and illustrator Cella Mahoney will teach a hands-on class where patrons will learn the basics of watercolor painting. The July class will be held on the 11th, 18th, & 25th from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. The August class will be held on Monday the 15th, 22nd, and 29th from 6:15 – 8:15 pm. Preference will be given to South Amboy residents. To register, you must be able to attend all three sessions. Call the Library at 732-721-6060 for more information and to register.

If you want to learn more about watercolor painting or our guest artist Cella Mahoney, visit the Library on August 16 from 12:30 – 2:30 pm for the Artist-at-Work program! Cella will be set up inside the front of the library painting. You will have the opportunity to visit and ask her questions while watching her work come to life in real-time! To view Cella's work or learn more about her passion, visit <https://cellabellaillustration.com> or follow her on Instagram at @cellabella_illustration.

The Senior Book Club will meet on Tuesday, July 26, at 10:30 am. July's book is The Great Gatsby by Scott Fitzgerald. Looking ahead August's book is Malibu Rising by Taylor Jenkins Reid. Contact the Library for more information.

The Food Explorers Club is a new summer program for ages 5-14. Children will explore the art of cooking while making fun & easy recipes. Join us Friday, July 15 at 1:00 pm and make an English Muffin Pizza. Patrons must register in advance by calling 732-721-6060.

Test your knowledge about all things ocean at Trivia Night (ages 18+) on Thursday, July 28 at 6:00 pm. You can also guess the name of the fish swimming on the Circulation Desk starting July 1 through August 24. Win prizes for both!

Dowdell Library is excited to share online virtual health programs in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and RWJ Barnabas Health. Some courses offered in July include Stress Reduction through Imagery and Stretch It! Chair exercising, stretching, and flexibility workshop. If you are interested in these online events, please register by emailing Kathleen Johnson kathleen.johnson@rwjbh.org.

The Library will be closed Monday, July 4. We hope everyone has a safe and fun Holiday!

Looking ahead: Join us for What's It Worth? Antique Roadshow with Mike Ivankovich August 4 at 6:30. Then, don't miss the Outdoor Music concert featuring New Jersey's Premier Rock Band, The Paul Nagy Project. Tuesday, August 9, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Rain date on August 23. Bring your beach chairs and enjoy the summer air and good music!

Curious what else is going on at your local library? (We can never fit everything here!) Stop by in-person or visit our website dowdell.org to sign up for our newsletter and view adult and children's activity calendars, which are updated on a monthly basis.

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



Used Clothing Drop-Off Shed

Sponsored By:
First Presbyterian Church with the Help of Turnkey Enterprises, LLC

SAYREVILLE - Location: 172 Main St., Sayreville, NJ 08872 (Parking Lot). Items Accepted: All clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, linens, and stuffed toys. (Your donation will not be cut up or shredded). (Please no rags, fabric scraps, pillows, rugs, toys, or household goods, please understand that the above-mentioned items are a hardship and expense to dispose of.)

Turkey Enterprises LLC is a for-profit company that partners with non-profit organizations in communities to help support their fundraising needs by recycling unwanted clothing. The clothing collected is used as clothing – not cut into rags. Turnkey services each location and pays the sponsoring organization by the pound for the unwanted items. www.turnkey-enterprises.com

Help us keep your donation clean and dry Please put your donation in plastic bags. Thank you.



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 every other Saturday from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the Brighton Avenue Community Center/Teen 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. Paperbacks are \$.50, hardcovers are \$1, \$5 for a bag full, oversize bags or boxes are \$10, 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 are now accepting donations. 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. We are also welcoming new members.

Comprehensive Family Reading Club

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library and Learning w/ Leigh are teaming up to provide a comprehensive family reading club that not only exposes families to various works of literature but provides resources to work on language arts skills for six weeks during the summer. The purpose of the club is for the whole family to sit down together and listen to, then discuss, the book of the week. Afterwards, families can choose to participate in the accompanying literary activity.

Enrolling in the family reading club provides access to the weekly story readings via zoom as well as a google classroom full of resources and guides to assist parents and students alike in maintaining and building language arts skills. The cost to enroll is \$35 for all six weeks for all members of the household. The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library has generously arranged a 5% discount for all Perth Amboy community members that utilize the coupon code FOLPerthAmboy. Coupon code will be valid on all summer zoom classes offered through Learning w/ Leigh, however the Friends group highly encourages Perth Amboy residents to enroll in the Family Reading Club.

<https://learningleigh.com/products/family-reading-club-summer-2022>

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!

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.

Resorts
Casino Trip
Good Shepherd
Seniors

HOPELAWN - Good Shepherd Seniors is sponsoring a bus trip to Resorts Casino, Atlantic City Tuesday, August 2, 2022. Cost is \$35 with \$15 back in play. Bus leaves our parking lot at 10:00 a.m. For more information, please call Connie at 732-442-4978.

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 R.W.E.

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 D.B.

Resorts
Casino Trip

San Salvador Seniors
PERTH AMBOY - The San Salvador Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Resorts Casino, Atlantic City, on Thursday, July 7, 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; \$25 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 before you board the bus.

Pets of the Week



PERTH AMBOY - Adopt a kitty today! They're fixed, vaccinated to age, dewormed, defleaded, tested for FIV and leukemia, microchipped, had their nails trimmed, ears cleaned and are fully vetted. Email vmoralespps@yahoo.com for adoption application. Donation fee applies. Text 1.732.486.6382 for pictures of our adoptable kitties or if you would like to donate kitty food or litter. Allforthepaws.org

Have a Special Pet?

E-mail us your Pet Photos to AmboyGuardian@gmail.com with Pet of the Week in the Subject line and explain why your pet is special. Please include Name and Phone# for verification.

South Amboy Seniors

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Senior Citizens club is looking for new members. Anyone 60+ years old that lives in South Amboy or has a 08879 zip code is eligible to join. The meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 12:00 Noon at the Senior Building on Stevens Avenue. Come have fun and join the members for lunch and see if you're interested in joining the club. Social activities include trips to local shopping centers and restaurants, lunch and learn seminars, bingo, chair yoga, senior clubs, book club, Medical transportation within a 10 mile radius of town is also available. If interested or seeking more information, please call or additional information please call the center at 732-525-5960. Visit www.southamboynj.gov/page/senior-citizen for calendar of monthly activities.

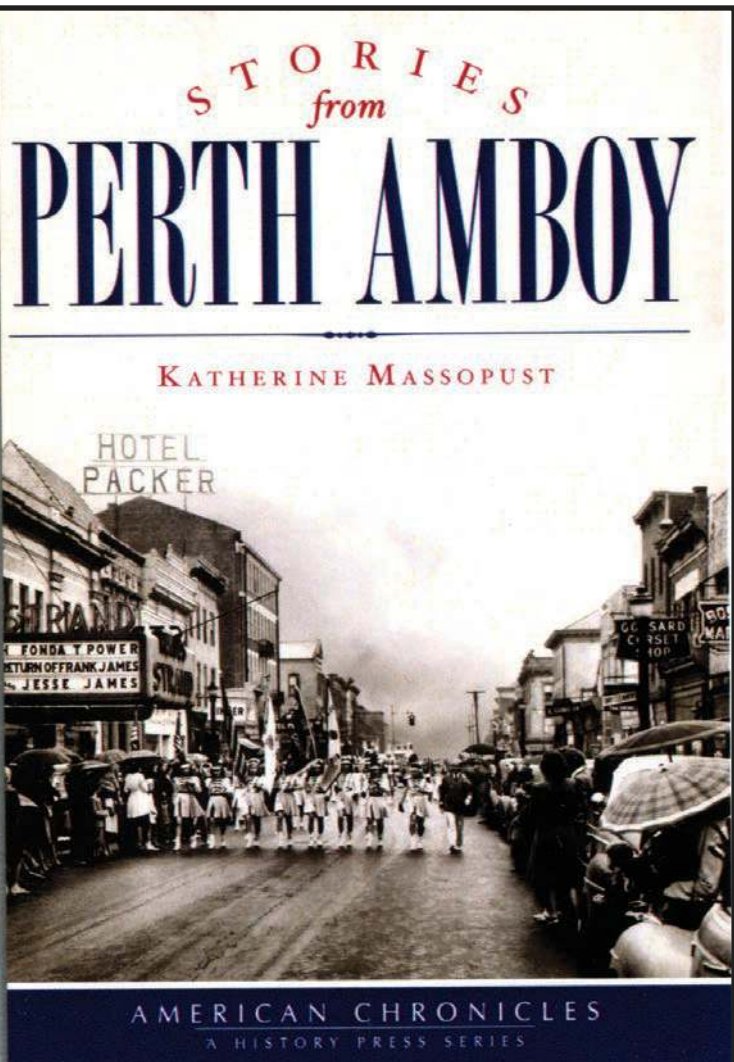
Answers
From Puzzle
On Page 21

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LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY – A battle between the Loyalists from Staten Island (Skinner's Greens) and the Continental Battery was reenacted for the bicentennial by an artillery group at the waterfront in Perth Amboy. **Photo Courtesy of the Massopust Family*
This photo was restored under a grant from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission to the Kearny Cottage Historical Association.



Stories From Perth Amboy

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

Getting Ahead in Business By Milton Paris



Milton Paris



**25 Crenshaw Ct.,
Monroe, NJ 08831
Phone: 732-306-0040
Email: miltonjparis@yahoo.com
www.gettingaheadinbusiness.com**

**IN LIEU OF MY BUSINESS COLUMN
THIS MONTH I WILL BE DISCUSSING
ANIMAL KILL SHELTERS.**

My Father used to say “It’s only the beginning” so let’s start from the beginning.

I love all animals and 45 years ago I became a vegetarian. I was staying in Aruba and on the beach there were many stray dogs. It was a sad site to see. I was very moved by this and in the evenings, when my wife was in the casino with our friends, I would bring some of the dogs into my Cabana and bring in food for them. I was very depressed by this. When my wife realized what I was doing she told me I was having a breakdown. As a result..no more meat, fish or chicken.

A few months later we left on another vacation to California. Walking in Beverly Hills I noticed someone riding a bike with a license plate "Doris". I ran after and sure enough it was Doris Day.

She spoke to us about her involvement in animal rights and the North Shore Animal League on Long Island. We took pictures with her, which is hanging in my office today.

When we returned home to Long Island I volunteered for three years at North Shore trying to get the dogs and cats adopted.

I would like to do something for animals that are in kill shelters. Their policy is to euthanize any animal that is not adopted after 7 days. My dream is not to have any kill shelters and keep animals until they are adopted.

If any of my readers have any suggestions or know of any person I can contact, please let me know. No healthy animal should be “put down”. Remember a dog is your best friend.

On my radio program Getting Ahead in Business on airing Sunday's on FoxSportsJ I have the following guests: Peta, Somerset Rescue, Funny Farm, Standardbred Retirement. In the coming weeks there will be representatives from other animal shelters.

Together let's find a way to extend the life of animals at these No Kill Shelters.

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE!

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE:
If you have any business questions or would like to meet with me in person: e-mail: milton@gettingaheadinbusiness.com
732.306.0040

CASA of Middlesex County Holding Baby Formula Drive

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - Due to the national formula shortage, parents are struggling to find enough baby formula for their children. CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates of Middlesex County is holding a baby formula drive to help the youngest and most vulnerable in our communities.

The formula shortage has caused significant stress and hardship for the foster parents and guardians CASA works with, especially related to infants with specialized dietary needs. CASA of Middlesex County is asking for support from the community to help those that need it the most.

CASA is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving abused and neglected children who are living in out-of-home placements. CASA recruits and trains volunteers to advise the courts and advocate for the children's best interests.

Those wishing to donate can drop off baby formula during office hours Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:30-12:30 pm or contact Lauren Sikora at laurens@casaofmiddlesexcounty.org to make alternate arrangements. The office is located at 77 Church Street in New Brunswick.

Those wishing to donate funds can donate at anytime by going to casaofmiddlesexcounty.org/donate.

If you would like to contribute to the CASA baby formula drive, or are interested in learning more about becoming a volunteer at CASA of Middlesex County, please visit casaofmiddlesexcounty.org, email info@casaofmiddlesexcounty.org, or call (732) 246-4449.

CASA of Middlesex County is non-profit dedicated to standing up for the needs of children living in foster care, advocating for these children through the hard work of trained volunteers who are assigned to a child or sibling group.

This Week in the Civil War

160 Years Ago

July 6, 1862 – July 19, 1862

By Phil Kohn

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

In the Trans-Mississippi West, Col. William Steele, knowing that he will soon be facing over 4,000 Federal troops, on July 8, 1862, leads his 350 Confederate troopers — Sibley's rear guard, with orders to "hold the territory" — toward Ft. Bliss, in Texas. Capt. Sherod Hunter's Arizona Rangers company is the last unit to exit Confederate Arizona. In the Indian Territory, the commandant of the department in which the territory is located, Maj. Gen. Thomas Hindman, is concerned by the Federal victory at Locust Grove earlier in the month. He orders Brig. Gen. Albert Pike, the Commandant of Indian Territory, to bring his Indian troops forward from Fort McCullough, in the Choctaw Nation, near the Red River border with Texas. Pike complies, but to Hindman's annoyance, without urgency.

President Lincoln on July 9 visits with Maj. Gen. George McClellan at Harrison's Landing, Virginia, southeast of Richmond. McClellan, convinced that the recent difficulties faced by his Army of the Potomac have been caused by Lincoln's refusal to send him more troops, hands the president a letter.

In the missive, McClellan points out what he sees as weaknesses in Lincoln's military and political strategies and states that military operations should not interfere with slavery. After his meeting with Maj. Gen. McClellan, President Lincoln recalls Maj. Gen. Henry Halleck to the capital city from

his posting as commander of all Federal armies in the West. In Kentucky, Confederate raider Col. John Hunt Morgan and his cavalry seize Tompkinsville, just north of the Tennessee border. In the Far West, a second detachment (comprising around 140 troops) of the Federal California Column departs Tucson for the Rio Grande. (Because of the scarcity of water *en route*, troops can only be sent detachment-by-detachment several days apart to allow water holes to replenish.) Col. William Steele and his Confederate force reach Ft. Bliss, in Franklin, Texas. He begins selling military stores and equipment in return for specie (gold and silver) with which to buy food.

With troops pulled from the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. John Pope establishes his Union Army of Virginia on July 10 at Culpeper, about 70 miles southwest of Washington, D.C. Pope makes clear that any active resistance by civilians within his jurisdiction will be met with a harsh response, including being shot without legal process. In Kentucky, Confederate Col. John Hunt Morgan's raiders aggressively press Federals as they are met.

On July 11, President Lincoln appoints Maj. Gen. Henry Halleck as general-in-chief of the U.S. Army. His first task: to determine why Maj. Gen. McClellan has yet to launch an effective offensive, and fire him if necessary. In Missouri, William Quantrill's Confederate partisans fight a skirmish of several hours at Pleasant Hill, south of Independence.

Construction of the ironclad *CSS Arkansas* is completed on July 12 at Yazoo City, Mississippi, on the Mississippi River north of Vicksburg. In Indian Territory, Federal troops under Col. William

on the Mississippi River north of Vicksburg. In Indian Territory, Federal troops under Col. William Weer capture Tahlequah, the capital of the Cherokee Nation. Cherokee chief John Ross is arrested for having signed a treaty with the Confederacy. Albert Pike, Confederate commandant of Indian Territory, who has spent the months since the Battle of Red River in Arkansas (March 7-8, 1862)

territory, who has spent the months since the Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas (March 7-8, 1862), feuding with other Confederate commanders over the role of his Indian troops, resigns his position

and commission, to return to private life. Pike's departure leaves Col. Stand Watie, of the Cherokee Mounted Rifles, and Col. Douglas Cooper, of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Mounted Rifles, as the senior commanders in the Indian Territory.

To support John Hunt Morgan's raiding in Kentucky, and to provide added distraction from Gen. Braxton Bragg's shifting of troops of his Army of Tennessee from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Chattanooga, Tennessee, Confederate Col. Nathan Bedford Forrest on July 13, 1862, leads 1,400 cavalymen out of

Chattanooga on their first raid under his command. After heavy fighting, they capture Murfreesboro, Tennessee, disrupting Federal military traffic on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad that runs through the town. The Southerners also seize a large amount of military equipment and supplies.

The U.S. Congress, on July 14, passes an enabling act that creates the State of West Virginia, comprising counties that had seceded from the State of Virginia. (The new state gains admission to the Union on June 20, 1863.) In Texas, leaving 26 sick and wounded men behind at a hospital in



Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center Announces Class of 2022 Medical Residents



All eight internal medicine residency graduates with three JFK University Medical Center neurology preliminary residents. Pictured L-R back row, Zamir Singh, Mahfuz Rahman, M. Shahan Sulehri, Bharat Gautam, Shakeel Yousaf, Michael Gates. Front row, Umair Mubashar, Iryna Lobanova, Layal Nissan, Tasneem Yousif, Shankar Chhetri.) *Photo Submitted

Press Release 6/20/22
PERTH AMBOY, NJ - Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center is proud to announce the graduates of its 2022 internal medicine residency program. The graduating residents include: Shankar Chhetri, MD; Bharat Gautam, MD; Umair Mubashar, MD; Layal Nissan, MD; Mahfuz Rahman, MD; Muhammad Shahan Sulehri, MD; Shakeel Yousaf, MD; and Tasneem Yousif, MD.

“I am pleased to honor this year's graduates,” says William DiStanislao, interim president, chief hospital executive; Raritan Bay Medical Center. “Their work and dedication has been extraordinary. As they each embrace their bright futures, we wish this talented group the very best.”

The internal medicine residency program has eight graduates per year. The intimate experience allows for

easy communication between program administration, hospital leadership and each other. Residents train at Raritan Bay Medical Center, which is a state-designated primary stroke center, a regional primary PCI center with two fully equipped cardiac catheterization labs and a 20-bed ICU/CCU unit. A medical staff of more than 600 provides residents exposure to a wide variety of disciplines as they work on a number of interdisciplinary care teams.

“With a continuum of care within the network, our program is ahead of the curve in providing the best educational and patient experience possible,” says Mayer Ezer, MD, FACP, Internal Medicine Program Director, Raritan Bay Medical Center.

The eight graduates now join more than 300 cumulative graduates since the internal medicine residency program's inception in 1980.

Pallone Secures \$2.25 Million for South Amboy Waterfront Park Rehabilitation Project

Press Release 6/27/22
WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) today announced that he secured \$2.25 million for the South Amboy Waterfront Park Rehabilitation project in the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development spending bill for Fiscal Year 2023. The House is expected to vote on the underlying legislation in the coming months. The funding will be used to create a waterfront park by reclaiming and rehabilitating the waterfront area to create an open park concept and conservation area. In May, Pallone joined local elected leaders in South Amboy for a groundbreaking to mark the beginning of construction of South Amboy's ferry terminal that will eventually be connected to the park.

“I'm proud that South Amboy will receive \$2.25 million to

build a waterfront park. Once completed, the park will be a central focus of the city's efforts to create a public space that residents and visitors can enjoy,” Pallone said. “By purposing the land around the waterfront area, we are also creating new economic opportunities for businesses in our region. This is exactly the kind of investment our communities deserve, and I look forward to seeing this project move through the legislative process.”

“Our city is grateful for Congressman Pallone's tireless advocacy for municipalities in his district as well as his stewardship of the Jersey Shore,” said South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry. “His vision and hard work on behalf of his constituents has and will continue to provide public access to waterways, flood resiliency, and environmental restoration to New Jersey coastal communities.

Pallone Announces Job-Saving Federal Support for Local Clothing Manufacturer in Perth Amboy, Tours Factory

Press Release 6/27/22
PERTH AMBOY, NJ – Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) held a press conference today with local elected officials, business leaders, and union representatives to announce job-saving federal support for Individualized Shirts. Pallone advocated for increased funding for a program at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that supports apparel manufacturers adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The company is the largest maker of custom clothing made in the United States and employs more than 200 employees in the Perth Amboy factory. Pallone also toured the factory and met with workers who are organized under Workers United.

“I'm proud to stand here today to announce that Individualized Shirts will be able to receive funding from a federal program that supports clothing manufacturers hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. I advocated for this funding at the federal level so that businesses in New Jersey have the resources they need to continue our ongoing recovery from the economic crisis caused by the pandemic,” said Pallone. “It was also great to meet directly with union workers, who are the backbone of what makes our economy thrive right here in New Jersey. I'll continue to support local businesses and good-paying union jobs.”

“On behalf of our workers,



their union, and our company we thank Congressman Pallone for not only standing up for us, but for recognizing the many challenges that American manufacturing faces every day,” said Jim Brubaker, Chief Operating Officer of Individualized Shirts and Head of the Shirt Division, Tom James Company. “Congressman Pallone's support for American manufacturers like us

has helped Individualized Shirts to provide over 200 union jobs to the Perth Amboy community. His support of the USDA Pandemic Assistance Program for Producers is very meaningful to the continuation of those jobs here. We are grateful for his leadership, and we are fortunate that he represents our greater Perth Amboy community.”

Museum Pass Program

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library have generously provided FREE passes to two of the area's most popular museums! Museum passes offer a great way for family and friends to experience educational and cultural fun. **Picking Up and Returning Passes:** Passes can be picked up at the Circulation Desk. Patrons must present the library card under whose name the pass was reserved. Only Adult patrons whose cards are in good standing will be able to check out Museum Passes. Passes are good for a total of three days and are **NOT** renewable. Passes can be returned at the Circulation Desk or at the Book Drop after hours. **Late, Lost or Unreturned Passes:** There will be a \$5 amount late fee each day the pass is past due. Passes not returned within 14 days after the due date will be presumed lost and borrowers charged the full replacement cost. Replacement costs for items are as follows: **Lost museum pass: Full cost of the pass.** Replacement costs vary according to the museum and listed on the catalog record for each museum. **Pass Case: \$1**

Museum Passes available: •American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY | free admission and 1 free exhibit or show •Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, New York, NY | pass admits 4 people (2 adults; 2 children).

For the American Museum of Natural History: Until further notice, the Museum will be open five days a week (Wednesday through Sunday). Patrons making use of these vouchers **need to book reservations online in advance**. For more helpful information on visiting the Museum during this unique time, and to book advance tickets, visit amnh.org/plan-your-visit. Through the Library Voucher program, multiple patrons from your library can visit the Museum **on the same day!** Each library voucher can be redeemed for a **free admission** to the Museum's permanent collection, as well as **one special exhibition or show** of the patron's choice.

For the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum: Patrons are able to bring the library's membership pass along with their library card for complimentary admission on the day of their visit. There is no need to reserve tickets in advance, we always have complimentary tickets readily available for our members. Please note, The Intrepid Museum is no longer checking the vaccination status of visitors. However, for the safety of all, we continue to require masks being worn in all indoor Museum spaces for visitors ages 3 and up.

Sponsored by the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library. www.folperthamboy.com For more information, please call the Perth Amboy Free Public Library: 732-826-2600.

Thanksgiving In July Dinner Fundraiser

SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy Elks is hosting a Thanksgiving in July Dinner. The date is Thursday July 28th, 2022. 5:30 P.M. - 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18.00 in advance and \$20.00 at the door. Children under 8yrs. are \$6.00. Dinner includes fresh roasted turkey breast, from scratch sausage stuffing, freshly mashed potatoes, homemade gravy, vegetables, cranberry sauce, and desert. This one sells out fast! For ticket information please call 732-727-7170. Leave your name and phone number, and state that you would like information or tickets for the turkey dinner. South Amboy Elks is located at 601 Washington Ave. South Amboy.

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

<i>For Sale</i>	<i>For Sale</i>	<i>For Sale</i>
LP's Cassettes, CD's DVD's \$1.00 each; Radio, CD \$20 - 732-261-4703	Movano Watch SS Museum Style Mint Condition \$75 Firm. 732-540-5351	Lawn Mower - Sears - Self Propelled Mulcher - no bag 6.75 HP - \$45 732-727-5056
Electric Husky Power Washer 1750psi - Good Condition \$75 - 732-277-4635	3/4 Size Acoustic Guitar. Good for young child - \$50. 732-541-5491	Miller Beer Electric Pendulum Clock \$10 - Budweiser Mugs \$10 - 732-727-8417
Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975	Brand New Electric Heater Radiator. Was \$65 Now \$20 New Never Used. 732-547-7406	White wicker settee with cushion \$60 732-735-2179
Dyson Vacuum Cleaner Mint Condition \$45 - 732-290-1551	Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	Dining Hutch - Wood - Good Condition \$50 - Self Pick-up 732-826-6324
4 Counter High Chairs, Antique Phone. Each Item \$20 732-293-0151	Set of Three Roof Racks for cargo van - \$75 - 732-583-2305	5 Pcs. Coffee/Tea Service - Silver Plate \$50 Sewing Machine \$75 732-826-8024
Electricians 250ft 12/2 Wire - \$75; 250 ft 14/2 Wire - \$65 or Best Offers 732-297-4457	Safe Combination 21" High 13 1/2" wide on wheels \$75 732-634-1851	100% Pure Nice Zealand Wool Rug 122x170 Burgundy Pattern \$60 848-242-2152
Older New Toy Trucks Sunoco, Exxon, Mobil Hess \$20 Each or B.O. - 732-316-5092	Large Garment Bag & 4 Hooks - \$5, Ladies Imitation Fur Coat- Small - \$50 732-634-3589	Girl's Bicycle 24" Pano-sonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or B.O. 908-501-3993
Good working Washer - Whirlpool - \$75; 2 power-washers \$75; 1 lawn mower with bag \$75 (both just tuned up) 732-335-8837	Nice Bard & 2 Stools \$35; "Free" Washer - Works Great; Love Seat \$30 - 732-670-6649	Sissy Bar and Pad for Harley Sportster - Great Condition \$65 - 908-590-8885
Pancake Air Compressor 3 Gal 100 PSI \$30 - 732-395-1551 - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Three Window AC's 5000BTU, 5000BTU, 8000BTU; \$50; \$75; \$50 732-636-3345	Power Lift \$75. Wing Chairs, Sofa, End Tables, Lamps, Microwave \$10- \$50 - 908-803-9623
Ion USB Cassette Achiever Convert Tapes to MP3's \$30 732-442-0151	Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5 th Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-6305	Children's Sports Lamp w/shade. Really cute, BB, FB, Etc. Large \$20 - 917-670-4908
Advertising Fence Enclosure - Heavy Duty 10 ft. \$25 - 732-442-1093	Custom Jewelry \$5-\$10; Sled \$25; Sports Memorabilia \$10; Dream Catcher Cane \$15 - 732-713-0536	
Bicycle Tire Deluxe Foot Pump Color coded gauge \$10 - 732-442-5806		

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ACROSS

- 1 18th-century card game
4 Fa follower
7 Reference
11 French islands
13 Memorable years
14 ____ about (approximately, 2 wds.)
15 Less than one
16 Walking like a duck
18 Vase
20 Written reminder
21 Neighbor of Phoenix
24 Dueler's memento
26 Wish undone
27 Eager beaver
29 Sound repetition
33 Mine products
35 "____ Loser" (2 wds.)
36 College post
37 "Oz" dog
38 Bird beaks
40 Adam's madam
41 Hardwood trees
43 Desert stops
45 Animal lairs
47 Opposite of SSE
48 Tedious
51 "Pequod" captain
55 Bald man's lack
56 Letters on some tow

trucks

- 57 Workout spot (abbr.)
58 Caribous' kin
59 Highest point
60 Baseball great Mel

DOWN

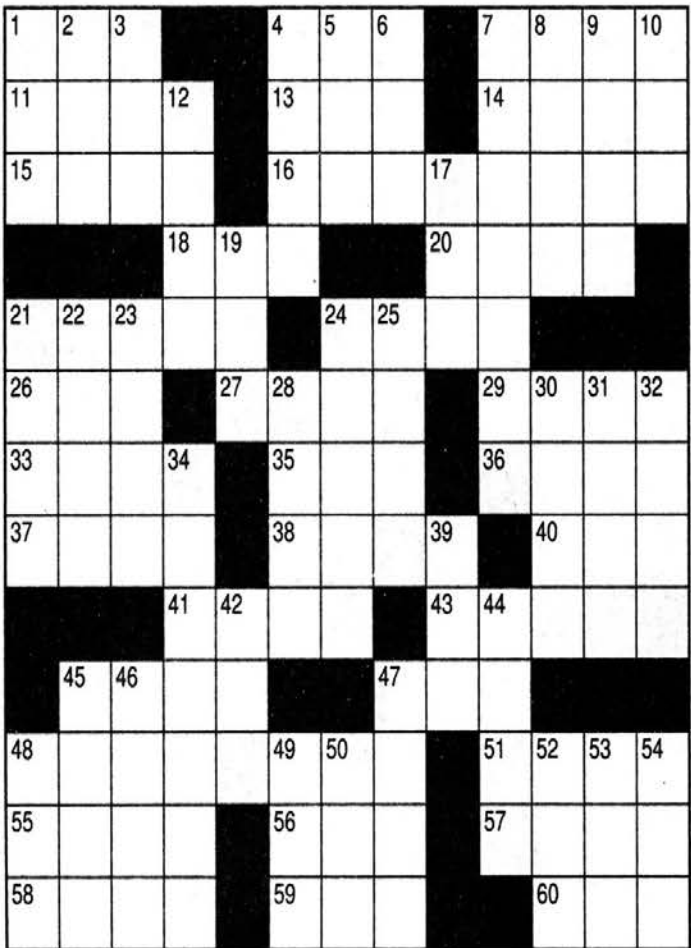
- 1 Actress Taylor's nickname
2 Barcelona "rah"
3 "____ the ramparts..."
4 Stitched
5 "...man ____ mouse?" (2 wds.)

6 Scottish boy

- 7 Used crayons
8 Name's first letter (abbr.)
9 Color quality
10 Unit of energy
12 "Duck ____"
17 Heredity inits.
19 Primary color
21 Turkey ____
22 Currency unit in Italy
23 Get together
24 Big rigs
25 Grouchy person
28 Sty sound
30 Fair grades
31 "____ fun!"
32 Smallest bills

34 Oklahoma natives

- 39 Junior
42 Brayer on the farm
44 Gone
45 Clock face
46 Estrada of "CHiPs"
47 Lowest tide
48 Common title start
49 Granola grain
50 ____ Tse-tung
52 "Managed care" inits.
53 Perform onstage
54 Flutter



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FREE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

JULY 1ST - AUGUST 30TH



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MEAL SERVING TIME: 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

**FRANCIS ST. PARK
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**PATTEN CENTER PARK
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**CALEDONIA PARK
12 SADOWSKI PARKWAY**

**WASHINGTON PARK
660 NEW BRUNSWICK AVE**

**HARBORTOWN CLUB HOUSE
600 HARBORTOWN BLVD.**

**For more information, contact
(732) 826-1690 x4306 or recleader@perthamboynj.org**

The Summer Food Service Program is a federal program of the Food and Nutrition Services, United States Department of Agriculture. This program provides all children 18 years of age and under with free lunch meal during the summer months in accordance with a menu approved by the state agency regardless of race, color, national origin, sex disability or age.

MIKELL'S PLOT

2022 SUMMER SCHEDULE

5-28-2022 CLUB XXXV SAYREVILLE N.J

6-18-2022 THE CAVERN JACKSON N.J

7-23-2022 92.9 PARTY MATAWAN N.J

8-6-2022 FUNDRAISER ELKS JAMESBURG N.J

8-6-2022 CROSSROADS GARWOOD N.J

8-20-2022 BOURRE ATLANTIC CITY N.J

8-27-2002 EJ'S TAPHOUSE SEASIDE N.J

9-18-2022 POPCORN ZOO FORKED RIVER N.J

Mikell's Plot Selected for Opening Act!

SAYREVILLE — Mikell's Plot was selected for Opening Act! Please vote and show your support for Mikell's Plot! Go to: <https://openingact.radio.com/2022/mikell-s-plot> Voting starts on July 11th. For more information go to: <https://openingact.radio.com/2022/mikell-s-plot>



Perth Amboy Community Theater, YMCA, Perth Amboy, 5/2/22 *Photo by Katherine Massopust

Movie Review: Elvis

By: Anton Massopust III

“Tell me Mr. Presley, are you ready to fly?” - Colonel Tom Parker

Austin Butler (Elvis Presley) and Tom Hanks (Colonel Tom Parker) star in the new rock biopic of Elvis Presley. This movie is about to two men and their destiny. Elvis Presley went on to be the King of Rock and Roll and a legend. Young Tennessee boy Elvis, who was influenced by gospel rhythm and blues and of course rock and roll, brought rock ‘n roll to the mainstream. He began his career by doing small concerts with country western acts and eventually becoming a superstar doing shows in Las Vegas, movies - a Superstar. And then there is his fall where he was manipulated by Colonel Tom Parker and addicted to prescription drugs. Carnie Colonel Tom Parker, “The Snowman,” managed Elvis’s career demanding he work himself to the ground and took 50% of his earnings. Colonel Tom Parker had a secret that nobody knew, creating his own identity and the fact he was not allowed to leave the country. His financial abuse of Elvis is evident throughout the movie.

This film is cleverly edited and presented as a carnival ride whirlwind, starting with Elvis’s early humble beginnings and his rise to stardom. This film had two wonderful performances: Austin Butler as Elvis and Tom Hanks as Colonel Tom Parker. Butler gave a phenomenal performance. He is truly on his way to stardom. He’s incredible at acting plus he can sing dance and move like Elvis Presley. Tom Hanks gave a wonderful performance as the conniving Colonel Tom Parker. You hardly know it is him under all that makeup. Hanks is probably to receive another Academy Award nomination for his role.

If you're an Elvis fan and you know all the great stories about him, this is the movie for you. The movie is sure to introduce the King of Rock and Roll to a new generation whose legend will never die.

Cruise Nights on Broadway

SOUTH AMBOY – Join us for fun, music, prizes, 50/50’s. Great people and their cars. 2022 Cruise Nights on Broadway will be the second Wednesday of every month on May 11th, June 8th, July 13th, August 10th, September 14th, and October 12th from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. All parking on Broadway. Sponsored by the City of South Amboy. For more information, call 908-930-3497.

Anton Knows: A Review of Pop Culture

Anton Knows
PERTH AMBOY - Check out Anton's podcast "Anton Knows" on Buzzsprout and IHeart Radio.

The City of
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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Office of the Mayor
(732) 826-1690 x4005
mayorsoffice@perthamboynj.org

THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY LAUNCHES ANNUAL SINGING COMPETITION

“The Voice” with a special performance by the Perth Amboy High School Class of 1981 cast of “Godspell.”

PERTH AMBOY NJ – The City of Perth Amboy’s Community Theatre kicks off summer with an exciting showcase scheduled for Friday, July 29, 2022, at the William Warren Park Amphitheater, Florida Grove Road, Woodbridge, NJ.

“The Voice,” an annual singing competition based on the American televised franchise, sets to feature aspiring vocalists drawn from Perth Amboy and the surrounding communities to be judged on their performance with the chance of being the next “Voice winner.

Following “the Voice,” the original cast from Perth Amboy High School Class of 1981’s “Godspell” will perform songs from the play.

“Better than a high school reunion! After 40 years, original cast members of the Class of 1981. Perth Amboy High School’s Godspell musical reunites in a showcase benefit performance. Entrance free. Donations welcome.” –Anita Dowd, Perth Amboy Community Theatre Director

ADMISSION IS FREE.
BRING YOUR CHAIRS AND BLANKETS.

Contact (732) 826-1690 ext. 4305 or by email at pact.org.group@gmail.com for more information about the show.

Photo: Perth Amboy Community Theatre Meet & Greet held on May 2, 2022, at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Avenue, Perth Amboy

###

The City of
PERTH AMBOY
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THE PERTH AMBOY COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS:

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7.29.22
6 PM

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PERTH AMBOY - Large two family in the high school section, featuring 3 bedrooms in each apartment, double lot with lots of parking, oversized garage with lots of storage within close distance from Shull School and Perth Amboy High school. Hurry!! **\$450,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Immaculate spacious colonial a truly move-in condition all redone, close to hospital, shopping and most public transportation. a must see. Hurry!!!!!!!!!!!! **\$299,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Nice two-family house, 2 bedrooms each apartment, two car garage. House is being sold in As Is Condition. Buyer responsible for C of O and all repairs. **\$549,000**



PERTH AMBOY - 5 family property fully rented on block from Waterfront, 2 units are 3 bedrooms, 1 unit is 2br and 2 units are 1 bedroom each. great location all separated utilities. **\$900,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great downtown location near of center business district of Perth Amboy (Five Corners). For many years Pancho Sneaker has been one of the biggest supplier of Shoes in the Perth Amboy area. Well established business with huge customer base. Pancho Sneaker has been profitable for many years. Hurry! **\$250,000**



WOODBIDGE PROPER - Just Renovated!!!! Beautiful colonial with 3 beds 1.5 baths with formal dining and living. A charming foyer to welcome your guests. New kitchen with Quartz counters and all new bathrooms, designed by professional designer. New floors, HVAC, plumbing and electrical, new roof. Plenty of natural light streaming thru large windows throughout the day. A nice deck on a deep backyard to enjoy the outdoors. Minutes to downtown Woodbridge and train station. Quiet neighborhoods, Woodbridge Middle School 6 - 8 Public 0.6 mi, Woodbridge High School 9 - 12 Public 0.9 mi, Port Reading Elementary School 1.6 M. GO GREEN and save money property comes with Solar Panels. **\$425,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Lots of potential large two family located in the Washington park section of Perth Amboy, has 10 rooms lots of space, 2 car detached garage, above oil tank, buyer is responsible for C of O and all repairs. Super location conveniently to all major highways and public transportation. **\$465,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great Investment Opportunity! Two Family House (Side-by-Site). Two Bedroom, one bath per unit. Close to the beautiful Perth Amboy Waterfront area and Bus stop, Train Station and Major highways. The only thing this house is missing is your personal touch. **\$450,000**



WOODBIDGE PROPER - All Brick Ranch, they don't build them like this anymore, located in Woodbridge proper only few blocks from train station and most public transportation, 3-bedroom w/spacious closets in each, maintenance free exterior, attached car garage, all redone kitchen w/tiled floor and granite countertops, hardwood floors throughout, 2 full baths all redone, Brand New A/C unit, finished basement and much more, a must see to appreciate. **\$524,900**