



THE  
\*Biweekly Newspaper\*

# AMBOY GUARDIAN



• VOL. 12 NO. 17 • 732-896-4446 • P.O. BOX 127 • PERTH AMBOY • NJ • 08862 • WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022 •

## The Future of Sunshine Alley, Funding for City Employees Remain Prevalent *11/21/22 Caucus/Council Meetings*

By: Carolyn Maxwell

PERTH AMBOY – The caucus started off with a presentation by Renee Skelton who is the Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission. She stated that the grants available are few and far between. “There is a lot of competition for this money for items that are already on the State Register. Sunshine Alley does not qualify for those grants. I tried to push Sunshine Alley into a qualified category to recognize that it should be on the National Register. We were told that it should be a part of a larger range of historic streets. Cobblestone and Butcherblock are unique. You asked what is the restoration plan. It will cost between \$25,000 to \$30,000 to restore the alley. We got a \$7,500 grant for the whole year thanks to the OECD. There are certified local governments who do a good job at preserving their history and they are eligible to receive grants between \$25,000 to \$30,000 each year. We are trying to revive our ordinance to make the HPC work better. We’ve used the State Preservation Historical Society and lawyers familiar with preservation and other towns (with an active HPC) to consult with. We are an advisory board and not regulatory. We report to the Planning Board. Our objective was to list our historic landmarks. We’ve had demolitions and destructions happen because they were not listed as historic sites. A revision of the ordinance will give us more guidelines and we’ve used some of the information from other HPC’s cities. Business Administrator Greene was more concerned about protecting private property sites. We do not have eminent domain rights. We should have meetings to decide what we want to do. We can’t force ourselves on anyone. We need to put this revision on the agenda and time is running out. Council President Petrick has tried many times to put this on the agenda.”

Council President Petrick responded, “We can introduce this ordinance tonight when we go

into closed session.” He also responded, “Yes,” when Skelton asked him if this will be on the agenda for first reading tonight.

Skelton continued, “New Jersey has a \$3 billion tourism industry. I volunteer at the Proprietary House, and we get people coming to visit from all over the State of New Jersey. The Proprietary House is the number one tourist attraction (in the city) and we can work with the local businesses. Perth Amboy was chosen to participate in the 250th Anniversary of our Country in two years. We are economically disadvantaged and need every opportunity to showcase our town.”

Councilman Joel Pabon spoke up, “I was surprised that no one talked to you about Sunshine Alley until you saw it being discussed on a Zoom Meeting.”

Law Director William Opel then spoke up, “The council wanted to appropriate funds for bids to do the work.”

Skelton then explained, “If the council looks at the amendments to the ordinance, the red markings are additions, and nothing has changed from the original ordinance.”

Councilman B.J. Torres then spoke up, “What will be the maintenance on the alley? How much will it cost? And what are the plans for the alley?”

B.A. Greene responded, “When we have our walking tours, the alley could be included.”

Torres continued, “This can be an investment to boost our history and culture, but we need to have a return on our investment.”

Skelton then reminded the council, “The historic value of the town is part of the Master Plan.”

Petrick then spoke up and said, “That will come out of the Planning Board.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejada spoke up next, “What does that entail to make us eligible to get historic grants?”

Skelton stated, “The most im-

*\*Continued on Page 7*

## Runoff Election for Perth Amboy Council *Tuesday, December 13, 2022; Polls Open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.*



**A - Vote for a Better Tomorrow**  
Junior Iglesia, Jeanette Rios, Joel Pabon Sr.



**B - Moving Perth Amboy Forward**  
Milady Tejada, Hailey Cruz, Kenneth Puccio

## Congratulations South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry, Councilman Michael "Mickey" Gross & Councilman-Elect Anthony Conrad



**Anthony Conrad, Fred Henry, Michael "Mickey" Gross**



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## Abandoned and Vacant Properties, Sewer Bill Increases Topics for Discussion 11/21/22 Council Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust  
SOUTH AMBOY – There was a brief discussion about Ordinance No. 22-16 which affected abandoned and vacant properties. Councilwoman Zusette Dato asked what the penalty would be regarding the history of the ordinance is have the properties been neglected.

Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski stated that it came into question when there is a property that didn't comply.

Law Director Francis Womack stated that the ordinance would comply with new state laws and the fines and penalties were adjusted accordingly.

Dato asked, "If the city must take care of abandoned property, do we put a lien on it?"

B.A. Skarzynski answered, "It (the ordinance) puts in a lot of things. It is now much easier (to take care of the blighted properties)." Council Comments:

Councilman Tom Reilly thanked the food pantries and first responders. He reminded everyone of the Friends of South Amboy Basketball Event on Saturday, December 17th at South Amboy High School. "Come down to support our charity. The Friends of South Amby help people feeling hardship. 50/50's will be sold. It will also be on South Amboy TV. I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Consider volunteering for the First Aid Squad and Fire Department. They are always looking for volunteers. Support local businesses."

Reilly then asked about the raise in sewer rates.

B.A. Glenn Skarzynski answered, "Three years ago, we informed the public that we were not self-sustaining. It has been 11 years since there was an increase. The adjustment in rates will increase over a 3-year period. We were under drought conditions and water use is up, specifically water usage. We are taking a critical look in that. Our goal is to make sewer self-sustaining. Only different fees is the 65+ years or disabled. Everyone else is raised. It's on our radar."

Reilly asked about the infamous "Pigeon Palace."

B. A. Skarzynski answered, "An entity is looking to purchase it. I hope to have a date in a few weeks."

Reilly stated, "I ask to make that a priority. We've got to get that thing knocked down."

Councilman Brian McLaughlin wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He asked why the Ferry Terminal is up for re-bidding.

Skarzynski answered, "It should be \$2 million. We are rejecting all the bids and sending out for more. It is not a blank check – it is a reasonably priced commodity. One bid was for over \$6 million and another for \$9 million."

Councilwoman Zusette Dato reminded everyone of the food drive at the senior center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Happy Thanksgiving."

Council Vice President Christine Noble wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Council President Mickey Gross wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. "Thank you to all first responders, for all you do!"

Mayor Fred Henry thanked the food pantry for giving out 270 turkey dinners and the South Amboy kitchen for cooking the turkey meals. I want to thank everyone. There was an emergency at Hillcrest. There was a gas leak, and it took the Office of Emergency Management, Fire Department, and Police Department for a smooth evacuation."

Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski said that the city is working on the budget and opening bids on the Ferry Terminal will be on December 9th. Public Portion:

Resident Mary Szaro came up to speak. She gave a spotlight on the Green Team stating that the Team will have completed the requirements by 2023. She gave highlights on the Green Team's accomplishments and plans. She said they have installed an Environmental Commission and happy to get other ones. She stated there is a Wildlife Interaction Plan, Brownfield Interaction Plan. "We are holding a Green Fair on March 4, 2023." Szaro pointed out

Chris Smiga who was present at the council meeting who is leading a bright future for South Amboy. "Get the lead out," Community Forestry Management Plan, an Innovative Community Project which promotes the Green Team and a Community Educational and Outreach in the fall of 2022. Also included are Diversity and Equality Programs and Historic Preservation. She gave the council a chart explaining the details of the Green Team.

Chris Smiga came up to speak, "Under the direction of Jay Elliot (Director of Code Enforcement), we reached out to Edison. The households voluntarily participated in a drinking water program. Half the households want a ban on lead. Middlesex Water has a "Get the Lead Out," timeline."

Council President Mickey Gross said, "The new law on the books is if you rent an apartment, the landlord is responsible to have someone come out and test the property. Also have an inspection done. It is on the landlord to do this."

Smiga continued, "We would like the city to create an Environmental Commission."

The next person to speak was Resident Norman Gayle who was experiencing a high sewer bill despite being a senior. "There is no dispute on facts. The billing of seniors is also on water. Right or wrongly, I will gather feedback. Some people got a lower sewer bill – but its not for commercial water."

Council President Gross said, "I didn't realize we've ever done that. Middlesex Water is not our friend. We got a separate meter to specify for a sewer bill. They charge for a separate meter. Make sure. For multifamily property, they get that increase as well."

Councilwoman Dato said, "We've discussed this. We understand the need for an increase. It is uniform for homeowners with buildings that are that large."

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m. All Council Members were present.

## The Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey is Seeking Middle School Influencers for the Middle School PSA Challenge

Press Release 11/14/22  
MILLBURN, NJ, (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey (PDFNJ) is calling on New Jersey fifth through eighth-grade students to enter the PDFNJ Middle School PSA Scriptwriting and Video Challenge to have a chance to win \$1000 and have their video shared across PDFNJ social media as part of the peer-to-peer substance use messaging.

The PDFNJ Middle School PSA Challenge, supported by Bridges Network, kicks off on November 14 and is seeking middle schoolers to create a 30-second public service announcement with a substance use prevention message. The

premise of the Challenge is based on the understanding that peer-to-peer messages help children better cope with peer pressure when it comes to substance abuse or misuse

Last year's winners include Isabella Acevedo, Mariah Antoine, Emma Caraballo, Fiona Chin, Makay Dalberis, Guerlanda Guillaume, Amelia Maragh, Caleb Michel, Julie Mirville, Crystal Perez, Jaidelyn Pertuz, Chantal Recana, Jonael Sala, Mayfah Sertil and Crystal Viola from Leonard V. Moore Middle School in Roselle. Their 30-second spot entitled, "It is Hard", stars the students and encourages New Jersey's youth to live free of substance use.

"It is important for middle

school students to discuss and combat peer pressure that they may encounter when it comes to trying drugs or alcohol," said Angelo Valente, executive director of PDFNJ. "The Middle School PSA Challenge allows students to work together to combat this important issue."

Entries for the Middle School PSA Challenge will be accepted from November 14, 2022, through March 31, 2023. Judging will be based on the prevention message, peer-to-peer relatability, and the ability to produce a video. The winners will be announced in the spring of 2023. For more information and how to enter please visit <https://www.drugfreenj.org/mspsa/>



**Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency Works Toward a More Vibrant, Cultural Community**  
*PARA Focuses on Three Key Projects into 2023 \*Photo Submitted*

Press Release 11/29/22  
PERTH AMBOY – Fueled by Perth Amboy’s strategic location at the crossroads of New Jersey, the city has a unique opportunity to create more mixed-used communities and generate more tax revenue within its many redevelopment areas.

The Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency (PARA) has identified three key projects that it is now advancing for 2023. Some initiatives build upon older plans that have been discussed for years, while others have been brought forth by developers eager to take advantage of all that Perth Amboy offers as a waterfront urban core.

“A key reason for the enormous interest in Perth Amboy is our unparalleled transportation infrastructure,” said PARA Chairman Joel Rosa. “The city has a NJ Transit train stop at the heart of the downtown, a beautiful marina for boat travelers,

public transportation that can take you anywhere throughout the state and major highways that pass through the region.”

A major project on the drawing board is known as “Gateway,” sitting on 54 acres of developable property just south of Smith Street at the Route 35 Victory Bridge.

Redevelopers consider the Gateway site a prime parcel. It sits on the water near the Cornucopia Cruise Line. It’s just a 10-minute walk to the NJ Transit station, as well as the Smith Street retail corridor. Gateway is also just steps from the planned Borinqueneer Park and what will be an extended riverfront walkway and park.

In short, says renowned architect Dean Marchetto, the location is ideal for “place making,” and has “opportunities for affordable housing, jobs, and social empowerment.” Many proposals have been put forth,



taking advantage of the easy access of this property to the city’s downtown and waterfront.

Another opportunity is creating a transit village at the Perth Amboy Train Station. The blocks between Market Street and New Brunswick Avenue and between the NJ Transit

tracks and Maple Street represent a rare opportunity to redevelop many vacant and city-owned parcels downtown.

The timing is ideal. NJ Transit is earmarking nearly \$50 million to overhaul the Perth Amboy Train Station, built in 1927, listed on the National Register

of Historic Places in 1984 and now serving nearly 900 weekday commuters each day.

The goal is to build density on the four blocks between Market Street and New Brunswick Avenue, replacing low-rise buildings that are currently not taking advantage of the strategic proximity of the train station. PARA is also eager to introduce entertainment and culture into the downtown mix, creating a more vibrant outdoor environment into the evening hours.

Another key project will be at 599 Fayette St., a brownfield that is the former site of a municipal landfill that closed in 1974. The 20-acre parcel is ideal for office space, homes and commercial/retail opportunities.

This unique site of empty land in the middle of the city, with easy access to Smith Street and all the local highways, is ideal for redevelopment, with private investors required to cap the landfill as a “final remedy,” manage any soil gas and comply with all other state environmental regulations as conditions.

“It’s often been said that the future belongs to those who can visualize it,” said PARA Vice Chairman Daniel Gonzalez. “At PARA, we believe the redevelopment projects under consideration are our generation’s shining opportunity to create lasting amenities for Perth Amboy, further catalysts for redevelopment and investment throughout our city.”

***The Barron Arts Center's  
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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

A Nice Surprise!



Several times we will get e-mails from the mayor's office with a calendar of upcoming events. Sometimes the message will say "Click here for more details." The last one I clicked onto went to a YouTube video featuring several city employees with Thanksgiving messages. Be thankful for family and friends which if you are blessed can be one of your greatest gifts.

There was one employee at the end of the greeting was thankful for the New York Met's. (Hopefully they will give us the big gift next season!)

This past Thanksgiving, I took photos as I have done in the past of the meals that were served to the community and all were welcome. Kudos to the Lion's Club who were there to distribute blankets, Renovation House who supplied and cooked the food, and the Watts Family Service who supplied over 300 tur-



keys.

A total of 2000 meals were served which included 500 that were delivered. They also delivered meals to the police department.

So, I think from now on, whenever I get one of those e-mails from the city and it says: "Click here for more information," I will simply do so. *C.M.*

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Open Letter to Perth Amboy Residents on the Disinformation of Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center Services

Dear residents and community partners I write to you to stop the spread of disinformation about losing hospital services with its ongoing expansion at Raritan Bay Medical Center behavioral health services. In October 2022, Raritan Bay Medical Center shared two publications that included the following:

1. The announcement of the opening of its first Long Term Acute Care Hospital (LTACH)

2. Interview with the new President and Chief Hospital Executive, Patricia Carroll

The Medical Center's executive leaders stated that the ongoing expansion would not result in losing hospital services.

On November 23, 2022, Hackensack Meridian Raritan Bay Medical Center once again reaffirmed its commitment to the City of Perth Amboy and investment in health services in a letter to my office and state legislative officials. This correspondence was also shared with our city council members.

The disinformation of losing hospital services due to behavioral health expansion is false, deceptive, and obscures the truth. Therefore, decisive action is needed when this falsehood spreads because it undermines our ability to engage in fact-based public discourse.

I ask residents to challenge these falsehoods when heard, as

they only serve those individuals who wish to take advantage of our community. We all must ensure that our residents are properly informed.

As always, my Administration will continue to provide good governance, maintain the highest standards of quality of life, and ensure the public safety of all our residents.

Respectfully,  
Helmin J. Caba, Mayor

*Note: if you go to the City of Perth Amboy's website, at the end of the Mayor's letter, you will see a copy of an open letter with enclosures to letter here. This link will give you the Hackensack Meridian response to clear up any misconceptions: [https://www.perthamboy.nj.org/community/news/announcements/open\\_letter\\_to\\_residents\\_on\\_disinformation](https://www.perthamboy.nj.org/community/news/announcements/open_letter_to_residents_on_disinformation)*

Merry Christmas!

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and now here comes Christmas a time to be with family and friends enjoy-

ing the holiday. What's funny people go crazy before Christmas they "Shop until they drop," and overload their credit cards for a one-day event. It comes every year so why some people panic before the Christmas holiday? I see this all the

time. For me just a day to enjoy peace on earth. So, have a Merry Christmas.

Orlando "Wildman" Perez

The System

Now that I've gotten older, I've come to the realization how much our government penalizes those of us who are frugal. Had I wasted my money on alcohol or drugs or gambling I'd be eligible for so many more programs. This is part of what I call

the "Prodigal Son Syndrome" where one is rewarded for being reckless. If I was a murderer, child molester, or rapist, I could get so many medical procedures done for free and my victims and/or their families would be paying for them. Yes, I'd be in jail, but I'd eventually get out taking advantage of the "sys-

tem". Indeed, there seems to be little justice for those who are basically straight and narrow folks! Thank you!

The Honorable  
Michael Rusznak

Support Your Local Businesses

In these difficult economic times, as a result of inflation, it is especially important to patronize your neighborhood businesses. Do it not only on annual Small Business Saturday, November 26th but every day of the year.

Small independent businesses are at the mercy of suppliers, especially third-party brokers, who control the price they have to pay for merchandise.

I don't mind occasionally paying a little more to help our local stores survive. The employees go out of their way to help find what I need. Customer service is their motto. As an independent mom and pop store, they

don't have bulk buying purchasing power that Amazon or large national chain stores have. The owners can't negotiate lower prices from suppliers. This is why they sometimes charge a little more. It is worth the price to avoid the crowds and long lines at larger stores in exchange for the convenience and friendly service your neighborhood community store offers.

Remember these people are our neighbors. Our local entrepreneurs have continued the good fight to keep their existing staff and suppliers employed without layoffs and canceling product or supply orders. They continue to work long hours, pay taxes and keep as many employed as possible. Many maintain the tradition of offering job

opportunities to students during the holidays and summer.

Customers also patronize other commercial establishments on the block. Foot traffic is essential for the survival of any neighborhood commercial district. If we don't patronize our local community stores and restaurants to shop and eat, they don't eat either. This helps keep our neighbors employed and the local economy growing.

The owners of independent mom and pop stores are the backbone of our neighborhood commercial districts. Show your support by making a purchase.

Sincerely,  
Larry Penner

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## Important!

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

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

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### Attention!

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

## 2022 Amboy Guardian Publication Dates

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

## Community Calendar

### Perth Amboy

TUES. Dec. 6 PARA, 6 p.m.  
Zoom  
WED. Dec. 7 Planning Board, 7 p.m.  
Zoom  
WED. Dec. 14 City Council, Caucus, 5:30 p.m.  
City Hall, High St. & Zoom  
• City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.  
City Hall, High St. & Zoom

### South Amboy

WED. Dec. 14 City Council, Regular, 6 p.m.  
City Hall, N. Broadway

*\*All meetings are subject to change. Check the City Website or [www.amboyguardian.com](http://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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## Safety Announcement

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

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

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

Do not think that any call or report is too small

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

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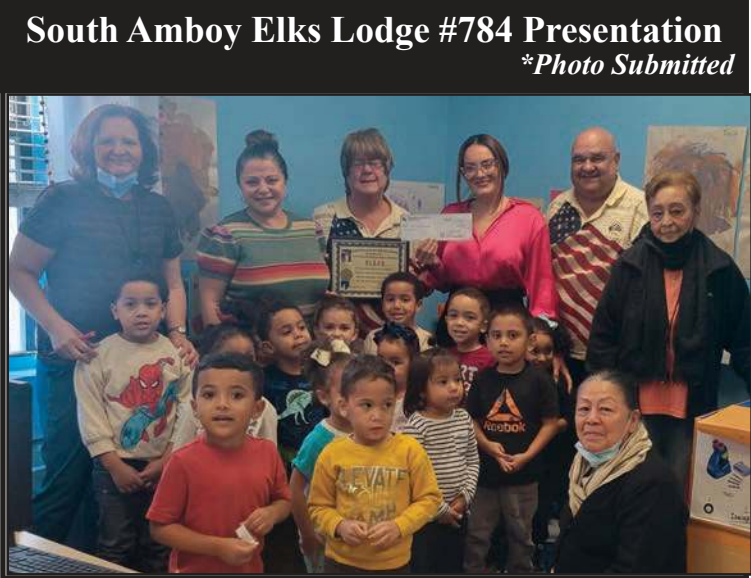
**Email: [ecabrera52@hotmail.com](mailto:ecabrera52@hotmail.com)**





**Food Drive Pickup**  
*\*Photo Submitted*

Press Release  
OLD BRIDGE - Gregory Scharpf, Amboy Bank President and CEO, helps Anahita Feltz, Old Bridge Food Bank Manager, second from left, gather the food collections from the Amboy Bank Administration and Operations Buildings and neighboring branches. Scharpf said, "Through the generosity of our staff and clients, we were able to help the Old Bridge Food Bank feed the members of our community who need it most. We'd like to thank everyone for making our annual food drive such a success." Amboy Bank's food drive included all 22 offices making donations to their local community food banks. Also pictured are Pete Delucia and Sean Muirhead, both of Parks and Recreation.



**South Amboy Elks Lodge #784 Presentation**  
*\*Photo Submitted*

Press Release  
SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy Elks Lodge # 784's National foundation Grant Committee has chosen to present "PRAHD" Puerto Rican Association for Human Development, a \$ 4,000.00 Grant and Certificate to the Camp By The Bay program. The Kid's program is a summer adventure at "Camp By The Bay." At Camp By The Bay the campers will explore different fundamental and educational activities. Campers will participate in exciting trips creating wonderful memories. Camp by The Bay will also offer arts & craft, STEM activities and free NJTL tennis lessons. In the photo are some of the children that attended the program, and from left to right are Liz Gutierrez - Mi Escuelita Paraprofessional, Kim V. Ruiz - Executive Director & CEO. Jeanne Sieber - Elks Esteemed Leading Knight. Stacey Peralta - Mi Escuelita Director & Director of Youth Programs. Valentine Tarr, Lodge Trustee, Lodge Chairman for National Foundation and Grant Coordinator. Haydee Batista - Mi Escuelita Volunteer Grandmother. Maria Palomino - Mi Escuelita Volunteer Grandmother.



**St. Vincent dePaul Coat Giveaway**  
*\*Photo Submitted*

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy St. Vincent dePaul volunteers gave out over 300 coats and 125 blankets to the needy families in Perth Amboy on Sunday. Donations were made by, St. Helena's Church Edison, St. John Vianney Church Colonia, Our Lady of Victories Church Sayreville, St. Bartholomew's Church East Brunswick, St. Ambrose Church Avenel, St. Thomas Aquinas High School Edison.

# PROPRIETARY HOUSE

## The Royal Governor's Mansion

### Christmas Through the Centuries

## SUNDAYS

### December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> ~ 1 to 4 PM

Please join us for **some holiday cheer** and **tour the historic Royal Governor's Mansion bedecked for the holidays** with décor evoking bygone days. Enjoy **seasonal music & refreshments** in the colonial wine cellar. Peruse an array of souvenirs, collectibles and other items for sale in our **Gift Shop**, located in the mansion's colonial kitchen.

**ADMISSION: \$10 / Members \$5 / 12 & Under Free**

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT ~ PROPRIETARY HOUSE ASSOCIATION**

Phone: (732) 826-5527

E-mail: [info@theproprietaryhouse.org](mailto:info@theproprietaryhouse.org)

Facebook: Proprietary House Museum

Address: 149 Kearny Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ, 08861

\*\*\* Donations are greatly appreciated. Museum is accessible for people with disabilities. \*\*\*

## Los Karaokeros de Amboy

PERTH AMBOY - 1st Annual Toy Drive. Toys gifted to the first 300 Children between the ages 3-12. Children must be present. December 17th Time: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. at the Portuguese Manor, 310 Elm Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. For more information, contact Sandy: 732-692-7404; Domingo: 848-250-8588; or Pedro: 732-881-8310.

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

# Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting Ceremony

**PARADE BEGINS  
AT 4:00 PM  
475 Smith Street**

**TREE LIGHTING BEGINS  
AT 5:00 PM  
260 High Street  
City Hall Circle**

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>

HAVE A GROUP THAT WOULD STILL LIKE TO JOIN THE PARADE?  
CONTACT SAMANTHA MIRANDA - 732.442.4000 [smiranda@perthamboynj.org](mailto:smiranda@perthamboynj.org)



# The Future of Sunshine Alley, Funding for City Employees Remain Prevalent

## 11/21/22 Caucus & Council Meetings

*\*Continued from Page 1*

portant thing is that you need to make appointments to the HPC. We are behind.”

City Clerk Kupsch spoke up, “We are behind in all municipal appointments.”

Petrick stated, “They need to be reappointed quickly and applicants interviewed. Board appointments were supposed to have staggered expiration dates.”

Opel responded, “We tried to have expired staggered dates on all boards.”

Kupsch ended the discussion and said, “There was an ordinance to make all terms expire in the calendar year.”

Next on the agenda was Towing Suspension appeals.

The first person to speak was a Police Captain. He stated, “There was a letter sent to A.T. Towing regarding charges because of fees that were issued. Overcharges included storage and cleanup fees.”

Councilman Pabon said, “Did Adele Tawfik (the owner of A.T. Towing) accuse his employee of theft by overcharging for fees? Action should have been taken immediately instead of after a year when the complaint was made.”

City Clerk Victoria Kupsch spoke up, “The towing contracts were signed in late September and contracts had not been issued in many years. “

Pabon then asked, “Why was a towing contract given to A.T. Towing while they were being investigated?”

Law Director Opel then explained, “There is a rotating list of towers. There is an investigation going on and it is not a suspension.”

A second police officer came up to speak, “When people complained about overcharging fees is when we investigated.”

Adele Tawfik from A.T. Towing came up to speak. He said, “It wasn’t until July 2022 that I was made aware of employee theft. Once I was made aware of it, the money that was overcharged was given back to the person whose car was towed. I’ve had to have an auditor come in. We should not be penalized for something we weren’t aware of. A forensic auditor is going through all the paperwork before any criminal charges can be filed against our employee. We were not on the city contract list when the money was stolen from us.”

Councilwoman Rose Morales asked, “Were there any prior incidents with this towing company?”

The Police Captain said, “I will look.”

Opel spoke up again, “We haven’t had towing contracts for a while.”

Councilman Torres then remarked, “We need to have our own towing lot. This affects our whole community (insurance). We need to have a cohesive plan going forward when it comes to towing vehicles.

B.A. Greene responded, “The previous administration had no

towing contracts.”

A representative from Scott’s Towing came up next. He stated, “We need to get a copy of the investigation. I was not aware of this, and we need to prepare for what we need to present.”

Council President Petrick responded, “I’m surprised that Scott Towing did not get any paperwork regarding a suspension since Tawfik got it.”

Tawfik responded, “I did not get it. I only got it through my lawyer.”

Opel ended the discussion, “If the council has no objection, we can reschedule the hearing and you have twenty days to render your decision.”

The council then discussed the ordinances. Pabon was concerned about Ordinance No. 5 – Using \$465,000 from ARPA Funds for the restoration and paving of Sunshine Alley. “We need to check with the engineers on how it will be renovated, and we need to see the detailed paperwork. Let’s not spend more money than we should have.”

There were questions regarding an item under bids. Maria Rivera from the Purchasing Department explained that the RFP’s for a Public Defender for \$350 per session and a Conflict Public Defender for \$350 per case, there should only have been one bid, even though it went out twice for bids.

B.A. Greene explained, “We are putting out a bid for another prosecutor since you rejected the one on the last agenda.”

Victoria Kupsch spoke up, “The HPC Ordinance Amendment will be added as an Ordinance No. 3 for the first reading tonight.”

Councilwoman Tejeda had a question regarding Ordinance No. 1 (first reading) – Administration of Government regarding residency of officers and employees. “Will this be only for people from Perth Amboy?”

Petrick explained, “This is removing some streets due to the fact there are no more residents living on those streets and that there are certain positions that do not require residencies.”

Discussions then moved on to the Resolutions. City Clerk Kupsch made a correction on R-545-11/22 – Public Hearing and adoption on the 2023 Perth Amboy Business Improvement District Budget. “You have to remove the word “adoption” because the BID did not adopt their budget, yet.”

Council President Petrick then spoke about R-547-11/22 – Insertion of revenue in the CY: 2022 Budget for the National Opioid Settlement in the amount of \$36,102.75.

“At the League of Municipal Conference Meeting, they offered municipalities free Narcan.”

For R-559-11/22 – Authorizing a contract to purchase food gift cards from Wakefern Food Corp. in the amount not to exceed \$400,000.

Council President Petrick asked to table, and Joel Pabon seconded that motion.

There was a discussion on

R-560-11/22 – Authorizing a contract with Hanan A. Bou-las, Esq. to represent the City of Perth Amboy as a Public Defender and a Conflict Public Defender for the period commencing January 1, 2023, and terminating December 31, 2023, in an amount not to exceed \$37,100.”

Petrick asked, “Do we have more than one public defender?”

Maria Rivera from the Purchasing Department came up, “It always has been advertised that way, and usually the Conflict Public Defender would be another person.”

Greene then talked about R-561-11/22 – A contract with Holiday Outdoor Décor for the purchase of Hometown Hero Light Pole Banners in an amount not to exceed \$43,068. “This would be for 200 banners.”

Rivera added, “The OECD and the BID will be funding this project and split the cost between the two of them.”

Fire Chief Ed Mullen came up to explain R-563-11/22 – A refund of a Fire Safety Permit of \$54 to El Caribe Multi-Services for a property located on 329 Maple Street.

“This is because they couldn’t use a hotplate.”

He went on to explain R-565-11/22 – A contract with Witmer Public Safety Group for the purchase of a Lion Bullseye Fire Extinguisher Training System in the amount of \$47,371.57.

“\$17,000 of this money will be for training. This system can be taken to different events to teach the public how to safely use fire extinguishers. Some of the features will include glowing flames and would be acting as if it were an actual fire. We can see if it has a warranty along with it.”

There was a brief discussion on R-568-11/22 – A change order to the contract with Z Brothers Concrete Contractors for Street Improvement to Sadowski Parkway on High Street for \$62,870.58.

Greene explained, “That had to do with the conditions of the field.”

Opel then added, “It will also help pay for additional traffic control officers.”

Petrick then said, “There is a lot of debris, rusting, and leaves on Sadowski Parkway.”

There was a discussion regarding R-569-11/22 – Authorizing payment to essential workers in an amount not to exceed \$485,000 which is being funded through the American Rescue Plan Act. (This resolution was put on the agenda by Council President Petrick)

Councilwoman Rose Morales spoke first, “At a previous meeting, they said that we can’t do this.

Law Director Opel responded, “The mayor and administration can only do this. The council can only do a resolution supporting payment.”

Petrick responded, “The mayor hasn’t acted, so we have the authority to do this.”

Opel disagreed, “The council

cannot authorize payments.”

Councilwoman Tejeda spoke next, “I have no problem with this resolution except for a small item in Section No. 3.”

Pabon then spoke up, “This should have been a resolution coming from the administration.”

Petrick responded, “I don’t care who takes responsibility for this as long as it is done.”

B.J. Torres then passionately pleaded to the city employees, “We are trying to get this money to you that you deserve. It is your money.”

Greene then spoke up, “There are some people (employees) who also applied for disaster relief.”

Pabon suggested, “Any people that we have any doubts about you need to put them aside.”

Morales was adamant and said, “We need a definite date when employees will get their money.”

Torres was adamant when he said, “We should table all ARPA funds until the funds for the employees are given.”

Petrick spoke up, “Now, it is splitting hairs. Who will give out money to authorize payment to the employees – the administration or us?”

B.A. Greene then responded, “We have to be good stewards for these federal funds.”

Public Portion (In-house first):

Resident Mel Ramos spoke first, “The 1683 Society has guidelines when it comes to preserving stones for Sunshine Alley. We have information from Nantucket. You have to appreciate our history and preserve the history of Sunshine Alley.”

The meeting was open to Zoom Participants. The only person to speak was Resident Maria Garcia, “We have been asking for 30 years to repair Sunshine Alley. In other countries, they preserved their historic cobblestone roads, and we should do the same.”

The council went into closed session at 7:35 p.m. and came back at 7:58 p.m. to resume the caucus meeting and at 7:59 p.m. they adjourned the caucus meeting. The council meeting began at 8:00 p.m.

The meeting was opened up to the public for agenda items only. No one spoke in-person. On Zoom the first person to speak was Resident Sharon Hubberman. She asked, “Why is there a moratorium from doing any road repairs from December 1, 2022, thru April 1, 2023?”

Business Administrator Greene explained that no work can be done due to bad weather conditions.

The next speaker on Zoom was Resident Jeremy Baratta who questioned the positions for Public Defender and Prosecutors. “Why couldn’t you find a local resident for those positions?”

Council President William Petrick stated, “There was only one bid.”

Baratta continued, “When I attended the League of Municipalities, I spoke to two local people who were interested in

both of those positions. Maybe you should advertise those positions again. I’ve looked at a lot of those bid packets and they were not filled out correctly. There were fatal errors in their bids which made them invalid.”

Law Director Opel addressed this, “Most were RFP’s and the questions were answered satisfactorily.”

Next was the public portion on ordinances that had their own public hearing. The one ordinance which drew a lot of attention was No. 5 – Appropriating \$465,000 from ARPA Funds for the restoration and paving of Sunshine Alley. All those who spoke about this were people on Zoom.

Resident Maria Garcia spoke first, “This is a lot of money, but it is due to the fact of a lack of maintenance for many years. Costs will continue to rise if it is not fixed. Preserve it like other towns do.”

Councilman B.J. Torres responded, “We should table this until we can allocate money to our city employees, and we need a comprehensive plan (for these repairs).”

Council President Petrick then spoke up, “I feel we talk a lot about our history, and we have lost historic properties already (Eagleswood, Copperworks Building).”

Torres spoke again, “We lost over 70% of our historic sites in 30 years. If we had a plan, we could preserve more. It is putting the cart before the horse.”

Sharon Hubberman spoke next via Zoom, “What technique will be used to preserve the alley? It has to be moved in mind with conservation. I am in favor of restoration, and we need a method to preserve the Alley. Will they reuse the cobblestone?”

Petrick answered, “They will remove the cobblestone, lift it up, a base would be required and recompress and stabilize the roadway. It will cost more as time goes by. They may use the original blueprints.”

Caroline Pozysky spoke next via Zoom, “We should look at the priorities of our community. An organization of tiny membership goes in front of our employees. This will not benefit the community. What about our arts, children, and families? I’m appalled. There was no public hearing on this cobblestone which is behind the mayor’s house.”

The next speaker on Zoom was Jeremy Baratta, “There has been 30 years of neglect. I showed Sunshine Alley to someone who is interested in our historic sites. These ARPA funds were to be used to create jobs. It is an economic depressed area. This will increase the ambiance. Those property owners also pay their taxes. Take care of the Alley. It is part of the infrastructure and neglected roadways. Why punish those residents because the mayor lives on that street? Pass the ordinance.”

The council voted on the or-

*\*Continued on Page 8*



# The Future of Sunshine Alley, Funding for City Employees Remain Prevalent

## 11/21/22 Caucus & Council Meetings

*\*Continued from Page 7*

dinances:

Ordinance No. 1 – Water/Wastewater Improvements issuing bonds in the amount of \$1,500,000 - was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. The only person to vote “No” was Torres.

Ordinance No. 2, 3,4 was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

Ordinance No. 5 - Sunshine Alley – was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. Councilman Joel Pabon abstained. B.J. Torres voted “No,” motion passes.

There was a correction made on the bids. The RFP for Public Defender and Conflict Public Defender. Conflict Public Defender was removed from the bids.

Ordinance No. 1 (First Reading) – Administration of Government regarding residency of officers and employees was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. When it came time to vote, Morales and Tejeda voted, “No.” motion passes.

Ordinance No. 2 (First Reading) – Streets and Sidewalks – was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

For the consent agenda, R-545 thru R-558; and R-560 thru R-568 was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda.

R-559 - Authorizing a contract to purchase food gift cards from Wakefern Food Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$400,000. was tabled.

R-569 – Authorizing payment to essential workers in an amount not to exceed \$485,000 which is being funded through the American Rescue Plan Act. It was moved by Pabon, seconded by Petrick.

Before they voted individually, one of the council members asked for clarification.

Councilwoman Tejeda wanted more details.

Torres said, “We made the move, and the employees deserve their money, and not just talk. This could have been done months ago, and the mayor didn’t do anything.”

Law Director Opel responded, “The council doesn’t have the authority to authorize payment. It can be challenged.”

Petrick responded. The Administration can cure this.

Opel then said, “I can’t sign the resolution as presented.”

When it came to vote for R-569, Tejeda and Morales voted “No”.

R-570 – 11/22 – Have free parking from 11/25/22 to 1/1/2023 - was voted on to be

put on as a late-starter. It was moved by Pabon to be put on the agenda, seconded by Tejeda. When it came time to vote on it, it was moved by Pabon, seconded by Tejeda. All voted, “Yes”.

There was a hearing on the BID Budget, but no one spoke. Public Portion: No one spoke in person. The only person to speak via Zoom was Resident Sharon Hubberman. “I want to thank the Perth Amboy and Woodbridge Police who caught the robbery suspects of those catalytic converters. I wish all a Happy Thanksgiving.”

Council Comments:

Councilwoman Rose Morales thanked all who participated tonight and mentioned that there was a Puerto Rican Flag Raising and they had a wonderful event afterwards. “We have the Holiday Parade coming up, and we hope everyone has a safe Thanksgiving.”

Councilman Joel Pabon mentioned a truck that was stuck at Dalton Park.

Business Administrator Greene responded, “There might be a lawsuit necessary.”

Pabon continued, “The holes should have been filled with sand. There have been two meetings in a row, and nothing has been said about the Patterson Street Alley. That is another promise broken. Have a beautiful and healthy Thanksgiving.”

Councilwoman Milady Tejeda said, “Have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. I want to thank everyone who participated tonight.”

Councilman B.J. Torres wished all a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. He then talked about attending the League of Municipalities and that he and Councilwoman Morales attended a program on the film industry. “I attended a program regarding the cannabis industry. Do we need money? And do we have a lot of empty storefronts and buildings? In the first quarter, the state took in \$4 million in the growing cannabis industry. We need a Cannabis Review Board for the community to see how it will help with our tax revenue and community partners. Hoboken has been very creative, and I will give you updates (on what they have done).”

Council President William Petrick said, “19 people participated tonight. Have a happy holiday and a safe and blessed Thanksgiving. Remember that Covid is still out there.”

The meeting was over at 9:02 p.m and all council members attended in person at both meetings.

# Assembly Speaker Announces \$3 Million Investment into the Proprietary House

## Funding Will Go Towards Revitalization in Anticipation of Nation’s Semiquincentennial Anniversary

By: JOHN MOONEY  
from TapInto 12/1/22

PERTH AMBOY – Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin (D-19th Dist.) announced a \$3 million investment in the Proprietary House in preparation for the nation’s Semiquincentennial anniversary. The anniversary, taking place in 2026, will mark the signing of the Declaration of Independence and our nation’s 250th year of independence.

Support of the Proprietary House was among a number of historic Revolutionary War sites to share in a \$25 million initiative advanced by legislators using federal American Rescue Plan dollars, as the state is preparing to greet visitors, both far and near, to mark the anniversary.

In the spring, Coughlin visited the Proprietary House with Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez (D-19th Dist.) and other dignitaries to discuss the upcoming anniversary and how best to prepare the home for thousands of history buffs from across the globe.

Local officials say the home at 149 Kearny Ave. is the last-standing mansion of a royal governor among the 13 colonies. The nation’s birthday should serve as an opportunity to educate a new generation about the historical significance of the state-owned structure.

“The historical significance of Perth Amboy during the Revolutionary War rivals any city in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania or Virginia,” Coughlin said. “As America prepares for celebrations in 2026, it is vital that Perth Amboy’s history play an integral role, as well as a top tourism site.”

Coughlin, along with fellow 19th district lawmakers Sen. Joe Vitale and Lopez, led the charge for state funding to support sorely needed renovations of Proprietary House. Prior to this latest grant, the legislators secured \$3 million in the state’s fiscal ’19 budget to support the building’s rehabilitation.

The site is now well maintained and showcases late 18th century living as the home of a loyalist royal governor, William Franklin through 1776.

“Perth Amboy played such a pivotal role during the Revolutionary War; our port was a major point of access,” explained Lopez, who lives just a few blocks from the Proprietary House. “In fact, our official city seal reads “aportus optimus,” which is Latin for ‘best port.’ We were a gateway to the New World, to rival New York.

“Many are unaware that more battles were fought in New Jersey during the war than any other state,” the assemblywoman added. “And key decisions were



PERTH AMBOY - Asm. Speaker Craig Coughlin (19<sup>th</sup> District) and Asw. Yvonne Lopez (19<sup>th</sup> District) meet with local and state officials to discuss renovations for the Proprietary House.  
*\*Photo Courtesy of the Office of 19<sup>th</sup> Legislative District*

made right here, in New Jersey, that led to the successful outcome of the war.”

“Revolution NJ,” through the non-profit Crossroads of the American Revolution, was established in 2018 as the state’s planning entity for the upcoming anniversary. The group is now conducting planning studies to establish New Jersey as a major Revolutionary War Heritage Tourism destination.

“Urban areas are typically overlooked for heritage tourism potential, but are precisely the types of places that stand to benefit enormously,” Lopez said. “We need more grants to make the Proprietary House ready to accommodate many more visitors, while further boosting its historical and heritage identity in Middlesex County.”

Vitale said about six percent of New Jersey’s tourism dollars are generated from heritage tourism, amounting to just under \$400 million in state and local tax revenues and \$3 billion in economic impact.

“That’s about half of the average activity generated by heritage tourism nationally and third of what New Jersey could do if we were putting weight behind advertising and branding the way our neighbors do it,” the senator said. “There’s a New Jersey story to be told and we’re working to tell it.”

During the Revolutionary War, Proprietary House was occupied by both Patriot and British troops and, for a time, served as headquarters for both American General Hugh Mercer and British General Sir William Howe.

After the war, Proprietary House was abandoned, vandalized, and nearly destroyed by fire. Exposed to the elements, the ruins stood as mute witness to the wrenching personal costs of the American Revolution. Yet, its fortunes would be revived along with those of the new nation.

After hosting a royal governor, it became a stylish hotel, a private residence, a run-down

boarding house and, now, a museum, operated by the non-profit Proprietary House Association. It is open for guided tours, lectures, concerts, storytelling, ghost tours, and teas, as well as for weddings, dinners, meetings, and luncheons.

The ground and first floors of the original mansion are now leased to the Association, charged with raising funds for programs, interpretation and restoration. Since the 1970s, countless volunteer hours and the financial support of history-loving donors have enabled the ongoing restoration of Proprietary House and its museum.

Funds will be allocated to the New Jersey Department of the Treasury and distributed to Revolution NJ, in partnership with the New Jersey Historical Commission and Crossroads of the American Revolution, to help in the restoration of the following state-owned Revolutionary War sites:

- Washington Crossing State Park
- Trenton’s Old Barracks
- Battle Monument in Trenton
- Princeton Battlefield State Park
- Monmouth Battlefield State Park
- Proprietary House in Perth Amboy
- The Indian King Tavern in Haddonfield
- Wallace House in Somerville
- Boxwood Hall in Elizabeth
- Rockingham in Kingston

“New Jersey’s role in the American Revolution is unquestionably significant,” Coughlin said. “The Battles of Trenton and Princeton singularly re-energized the fledging effort at perhaps the most crucial point of the war. Today’s sizable \$25 million investment in capital upgrades across ten critical, state-owned sites marks a big step in the leveraging the full civic and economic potential of our state’s consequential revolutionary war history, not just in preparation for 2026 but for the years that lie ahead.”





# LGBTQ Curriculum Main Topic for Discussion

## 11/17/22 Board of Education Meeting

By: Katherine Massopust  
PERTH AMBOY – The meeting began with the Student Representative report.

During the public portion, District Representative Lynn Audet for the Perth Amboy Federation gave a statement.

It was suggested by Board Member Junior Iglesia for the sake of convenience, that speakers be allowed to speak for 5 minutes instead of the usual 3 minutes.

A mother of a student came up to speak. She mentioned that on Monday, November 21, 2022, there was to be a meeting with Board Members and parents to discuss the LGBTQ Curriculum. “There is a subject understanding their body. The kids have to come up to the board and identify the clitoris, vagina, and penis. This is inappropriate. Let’s fight for the parents. Our parents are not in agreement. They are taking away boy/girl and putting in they/them. Now learn all this in the classroom. I don’t want none of it. It encourages you might feel like a boy or a girl. It over sexualizes our children and removes innocence. It promotes transgenderism and hormone blockers. There is a new push to skip natural growth to our children. It promotes sexual activity. One project is to discuss the Pride Flag. There is a time and place for everything. We are not allowed to say “God” in school, but we can say “penis.” Let’s emphasize how to respect one another indoctrinate our kids.”

Resident Sharon Hubberman spoke on Zoom, “I sent an email to the Board President, Vice President and Board Secretary regarding publication of the special meeting (on 11/21/22) and have not received a response.” Hubberman stated that she did not receive any details about this meeting and if it is for the public. “We received \$291 million dedicated part of the taxes, but most comes from the state. Changes should be emphasized in a way that parents can understand. Many changes are not age appropriate. The Board of Education should have that discussion publicly.”

Board Member Junior Iglesia stated, “One main goal in education is to accomplish this goal is to listen to public concerns. 80% of Latinos do not speak English. It is in the best interest of the Board of Education to make the meeting more inclusive. We need the Board of Education an English/Spanish Translator.

Board Vice President Tashi Vazquez stated, “I’ve been on the Board for six years now. I never had someone that doesn’t speak English at no time during my tenure have we stopped someone from speaking. By no means this service is not being provided. It is not a new concept.”

Iglesia said, “We need to advertise it more. Parents feel intimidates. We can make it better.”

Vazquez asked, “For a part or the entire meeting?”

Iglesia answered, “The public

portion is the concern. It will be a safe space.”

The Board agreed.

Iglesia said, “It is an issue of great concern.” He continued to mention different districts in New Jersey who modified the LGBTQ Curriculum to be more age appropriate. “We all have to work together as one community. There are different pathways to teach. We need to decide what is the best course of action.”

Board President Ken Puccio responded to Iglesia’s suggestions, “The state mandates what we teach. We are three months into the school year. They have to do what is mandated. Next time, we will have three new Board Members.”

Board Vice President Tashi Vazquez said, “The Special Meeting is not for the Board to vote upon the program. It is to communicate with the parents. It is a heavy conversation. It gives the parents an opportunity to put in their questions.”

Puccio added, “We are human beings. My personal opinion – I cannot let that cloud my judgement. Nobody is ignoring them. All of us care deeply. It is the parents’ job to come up and speak. Right now, I cannot interfere with my oath of office. People in Trenton don’t think about this. They want people’s votes.”

Board Member Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe said, “The districts (who modified the curriculum) are being sued. Four districts are involved in lawsuits.”

Puccio added, “To go into that loopholes are not an easy decision to make. The decision falls on your lap. This curriculum has been around since 2020. It is up to the people. Children have already been exposed to the curriculum.”

Stephanie Márquez-Villafañe said, “I agree with Mr. Puccio. Were having a meeting. That’s going to be heard. There is a line where the School Board can and can’t do.”

It was noted that there will be three new Board of Education Members in January.

Superintendent Dr. David Roman said, “We cannot go against the State Board of Education. The Conversation is at the legislative level. We must adhere to it. There are other areas that are alarming to parents. We feel your pain. That is why we have an opt out.”

There was a discussion as to whether the Board should have a special meeting on December 1st to vote upon this. The only Board Member to vote “yes” was Junior Iglesia.

It was noted that Board Members Tashi Vazquez, Junior Iglesia, and Dr. Danielle Brown (not present at the meeting) did not seek reelection and will be leaving the Board.

After the Public Portion was closed, Dr. David Roman stated there were reasons that executive sessions were so long. That is because not all the Board Members agree on things and there are heated discussions. “Board Vice President Tashi

came to the table with open mind. You are a professional. What we do here is difficult. It has been a pleasure. I am looking forward to working with the new Board Members.”

Board President Ken Puccio said, “The perception is out there that Mr. Iglesia and I are adversaries. In the six years I’ve seen Mr. Iglesia – he takes his office seriously. He is a father and schoolteacher in New York City. It’s been my pleasure to serve with him.” Puccio then spoke about Tashi Vazquez, “I can’t say enough about Ms. Tashi Vazquez. I’ve known Tashi since she was ten years old when I was doing the DARE Program. They picked Tashi for the newspaper article.

The newspaper quoted Tashi all over the place. This is the soul of Perth Amboy. She works 18 hours a day. It comes from the heart. She means well. We need a lot more Junior Iglesia, Tashi Vazquez and Dr. Danielle Browns. I am proud to say that Tashi is my friend. Thank you for what you do.”

Board Member Michael George said, “I’ve been on this Board during that time. Danielle is one of my students. Kudos to Ken Puccio and Tashi Vazquez and Mr. Iglesias. I have respect for you. We are losing four good people. (If Ken Puccio wins the Council election of which he is a candidate for, he will leave the BOE). Our hands are somewhat tied. We fight for you. I want to thank Tashi Vazquez, Junior Iglesia, Dr. Danielle Brown, and Ken Puccio for serving on the Board. You should be very proud.”

The Board went into closed session at 7:04 p.m. They returned at 8:40 p.m.

Board President Puccio gave the Board President’s report. He mentioned his condolences to Board Member Dr. Danielle Brown who lost her father, Harold Brown who was part of the Perth Amboy 1968 State Championship Basketball Team. “I was at that game.” Puccio also offered his sympathy to the family of Tyrone Fashaw, “Mr. Perth Amboy, - There wasn’t a football game he wasn’t involved in. He would take photos of games and ask for nothing. The last fourteen years has been a roller coaster – the happiest and the hardest.”

Superintendent Dr. David Roman said, “He is the premiere reason this district has moved forward. The district is welcoming everyone to the table. We don’t always have agreements in executive sessions. We work together for this district. He offered the opportunity to engage in us the quality of work being done. We’re building up a school to be opened up in September 2024. Have a Healthy, Happy, Peaceful Thanksgiving!”

Vazquez spoke about the DARE Program which she views as a wonderful addition to our students. “It builds a foundation.”

Puccio said, “Teaching DARE I get a better understanding what teaching is.”



PERTH AMBOY - Board Members Junior Iglesia and Tashi Vazquez at their final BOE Meeting

*\*Photo by Katherine Massopust*

There was a brief discussion on the donation of 450 winter coats from Mr. Eladio Ruiz and his project, “Cathy’s Kids,” under the direction of Mr. Michael LoBrace and Mr. Francisco Velez. It was noted that the principals will determine who is most in need.

There was also a brief discussion on a \$500 donation to the Ignacio Cruz Early Learning Center from the Colonial Pipeline Company and a donation of 75 book bags from Home Depot of Perth Amboy. The principals will see that the students receive the supplies.

There was a brief discussion about changes in Zoom.

Board Vice President Vazquez spoke about armed security guards, “We thought it is very important. We have to do whatever is best for the community. We have to think about our students. You can hire police officers, security guards. They are here to make us safe.”

Dr. Roman thanked Dr. Tibor, “He has his ands full as an educator. He is thoughtful and pragmatic to keep everyone safe. We have a very safe school district.”

Near the end of the meeting, out-going Board Members Junior Iglesia and Tashi Vazquez made a few brief statements.

Board Member Junior Iglesia said, “For me, six years have been an honor. We learn to disagree. The decisions and collaborative – we all want what is best for the district. We don’t get paid for this.”

Board Vice President Tashi Vazquez thanked Dr. Roman and Ken Puccio. “I want to ad-

vocate. I want to be the light for somebody else and make sure to do that for our students. Being a Board Member gave me a voice. I am going to continue to do this when I can.”

Board President Ken Puccio said, “My destiny has not been decided yet. After serving on the Board for 14 years, I’ve got to serve with Mr. George. Stephanie – who sat there through the hardest times. You were the voice. You guys are here all the time. You bring us through a lot of negativity. You can’t please everyone. A lot between the 14 years ago. Them, you, us – we’ve seen you grow up.”

Vazquez added, “Some accomplishments over the last 6 years.” She went on to describe the clap-out which was suggested by Randy Convery for a teacher with certain credentials that was retiring. “To do that – what you think is simple can be immense. We don’t talk about the things. This Board has done a lot. It takes all of us. The community to put us in the right direction and tell us what is going on. It is not getting a rubber stamp. We are more different than you think. Get involved in local politics. Don’t give up! I encourage you to come with an open mind.”

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m. Board Members Dr. Danielle Brown and Stacy Peralta were not present.

Junior Iglesia, Tashi Vazquez and Dr. Danielle Brown chose not to run for reelection to the Board

**Our Season's Greetings Issue**  
**is Coming Up**  
**On December 21, 2022**  
**Deadline:**  
**Friday, December 16, 2022**  
*Please take advantage of*  
*Our Special Advertising Rates!*



**That’s What Friends Are For**  
*The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library*  
*Promotes Literacy and More!*

By: Katherine Massopust  
PERTH AMBOY – After Wilda Diaz took office, she formed a committee to raise money to renovate the library. It was initially under the umbrella of Celebrate Perth Amboy which later became Save Our Carnegie Library. By 2009, the library’s conditions were terrible, including a leaky roof, mold coming off the ceiling, and a slew of other much needed repairs and attention. The Save Our Carnegie Library was chaired by Karen Kubulak and had multiple fundraisers to raise money for library renovations. One of those fundraisers was a gala at the Raritan Bay Yacht Club chaired by then trustee, Jim Woller.

However, then Library Board of Trustees President Barbara Sottilaro wanted to set up something more permanent to help the library, hence the restart of a Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library organization.

On February 24, 2010, the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library Steering Committee was formed. It consisted of Barbara Sottilaro (Liaison to the Library Board of Trustees), Katherine Massopust (Founding President), Arlene Fogarty (Founding Vice-President), Toni Gianfrancesco (Founding Secretary), Joyce Signorile (Founding Treasurer), and Gloria Spear and Pinkie Rodgers who were Founding Members-at-Large. The Friends Steering Committee was later joined by Linda Luden.

The organization soon ratified their by-laws, registered with the State of New Jersey as a Nonprofit Organization, opened a bank account, and a post office box and were well on their way to get their 501c-3 status. The Friends held a logo contest with art students at Perth Amboy High School under the direction of Art Teacher Mrs. Marcella Massopust and decided upon a logo.

Realizing the need for funding for renovations to the library, the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library held numerous fundraisers for the much-needed renovations.

To start with, the Friends had several book sales at the library. This was to fill a dual purpose. Library Director Pat Gandy had plenty of old books to sell, and at the same time, the Friends raised money for the library.

The Friends also undertook the massive responsibility to run two Taste of Perth Amboy’s at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church’s Hall. This was done upon the request of the late Carlos Martins who was also a member of the Save Our Carnegie Library Committee which by now became less active after their own numerous fundraisers. Barbara Sottilaro chaired the 2011 Taste of Perth Amboy with Carlos Martins, and the 2012 Taste of Perth Amboy with Rozalia Czaban.

On June 7, 2013, The Friends had a special open meeting at the Raritan Bay YMCA to highlight the work they did. It included a film made by the Friends in conjunction with the city that showed the poor conditions that the library was in. Councilmen Joel Pabon and



PERTH AMBOY - Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library (11/15/22) – (L to R) Secretary Toni Gianfrancesco, Vice President Alice George, Member Bea Boyce, Liaison to Library Board of Trustees Barbara Sottilaro, Treasurer Norine Gall, President Katherine Massopust. (Missing: Marianne Komek)

*\*Photo by Paul W. Wang*

Kenny Gonzalez were in the film (the video can be viewed on the Friends website, Media Gallery, Taste of Perth Amboy 2011).

A citywide jug collection was initiated to help with the renovation of the library. This began with the Save Our Carnegie Library Committee, and later continued by the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library. The Friends collected over \$1000 in change which was donated to the city for renovations.

Checks from the proceeds of these events were presented at Perth Amboy City Council Meetings. These proceeds totaled over \$15,000 for library renovations.

Beginning In 2011, the Friends in conjunction with the Kearny Cottage Historical Association created a 2012 Calendar with restored photographs and sold them as a fundraiser. Each month of the calendar was sponsored by a different business in Perth Amboy. The proceeds from sales of the calendars are split between the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library and the Kearny Cottage Historical Association. With a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic in from 2020-2022, these historic calendars are now being continued and are on sale now at the Barge and from Friends members.

The Friends have hosted many authors and different programs over the years and continue to support the library and promote literacy. One of the first programs the Friends had was Children’s Author Artie Bennet, author of The Butt Book and Poopendous! who came to read to local school children. His popularity is growing, and the reading of his books remain an ever-popular event with the children.

In 2015 the Friends began their Book Sales at the Brighton Avenue Community Center and are there for every second and fourth Saturday of the month from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. This was chaired by Linda Luden. Members Alice George and Norine Gall soon joined the organization, often coming to the Saturday Afternoon Book Sales.

In 2015 the Friends had their first Book Fair at Barnes and Noble in Menlo Park, NJ. A percentage of the net sales that take place on that date benefited the Perth Amboy Free Public Library. The Friends continued the Book Fair at Barnes and

Noble. The PAFOL reached out to all 5 public elementary schools, Assumption Catholic School and Perth Amboy Catholic School for a book donation valuing \$200 per school. The following year, the Friends reached out to the Middle Schools in Perth Amboy, for a book donation. For the 2017 Book Fair, the Friends reached out to Alternative School, Ignacio Cruz Education Center, and Perth Amboy Lower Catholic School. In 2018, the Friends donated to the Perth Amboy Children’s Library. Art Teacher Rachel Wittenberg helped with both years. The Friends would continue to have the Book Fairs at Barnes and Noble until the Barnes & Noble discontinued the program.

Because of the NJ law restricting the use of plastic bags, The Friends decided to sell reusable grocery bags which are available at the book sale and from members.

In 2016 the Friends launched the Museum Pass Program, which provides free passes to Grounds for Sculpture, the Intrepid Air and Space Museum, and the Museum of Natural History. This program continued until the hiatus during the pandemic, which has since been revived in 2022. The Thomas Edison Museum in Menlo Park, NJ has been added for January 2023.

During 2017 was the first time the Friends hosted The Lizard Guys at the library which dazzled children with different types of snakes, frogs, lizards, turtles, etc. The Lizard Guys would return in 2019 and 2022 with successful programs.

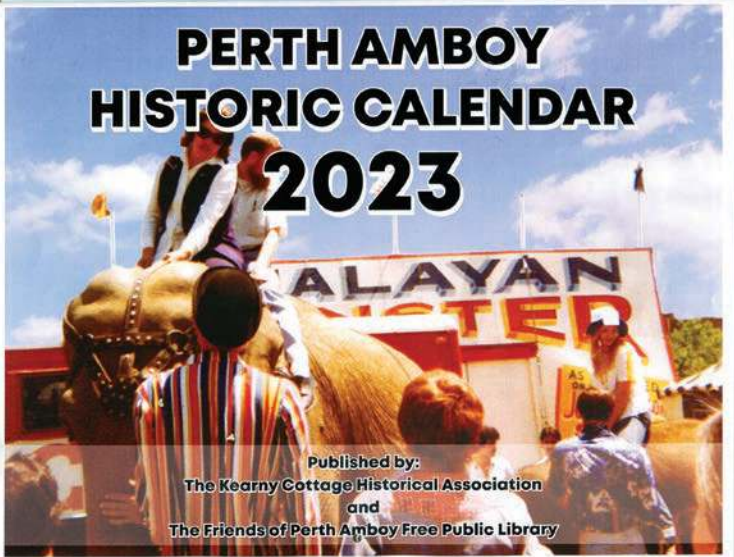
SAVE: S -Support A -Advocate V - Volunteer E – Educate

Friends of the Library groups are a worldwide effort to:

- Encourage the love of reading and independent learning.
- Raise funds for special projects, equipment, and materials in excess of the general library budget.
- Provide dedicated volunteer services.
- Support Public Library Advocacy.
- Sponsor special programs and public service projects for the entire Perth Amboy community.
- Play a significant role in community involvement.

If you would like to become a member, or are curious about promoting literacy, or to donate, contact Katherine at 731-261-2610 or email: FriendsOfPerthAmboyLibrary@gmail.com or go to FOLPerthAmboy.com

**2023 HISTORIC CALENDARS**



Back by popular demand! 2023 Historic Calendars. Available at the Barge Restaurant, 201 Front Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. 732-442-3000. Also available from Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library Members. For more information, call 732-261-2610. Donation \$10 per Calendar. Proceeds go to the Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library and the Kearny Cottage Historical Association.

**Christmas Tea**

PERTH AMBOY – The Kearny Cottage Historical Association will be having their Christmas Tea on Sunday, December 11, 2022, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Cottage, 63 Catalpa Ave., Perth Amboy. Come and enjoy a pleasant afternoon with refreshments and listen to keyboardist Dennis Nanton. Suggested Donation \$5.



**Brunch with Santa**

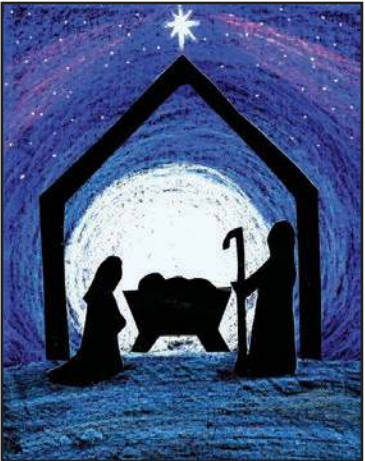
SAYREVILLE - There will be a Brunch with Santa at Sayreville United Methodist Church, 406 Main St., Sayreville, NJ on Saturday, December 10, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cost: \$12. Brunch includes: Pancakes, Sausages, Eggs, Macaroni & Cheese, Bread, Cereal, Coffee/Tea, Juice. We will have Crafts, Story Time & Gifts. Please contact Winsome at 732-432-9072 for reservation.

**Breakfast with Santa**

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Elks is hosting Breakfast with Santa at 601 Washington Ave, South Amboy, on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The Breakfast is buffet style featuring our made to order omelet station. On the buffet we serve Pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns and much more. The cost is \$12.00 per person and children 7yrs and under are \$6.00. There will be goody bags and games for the children with plenty of time for pictures sitting on Santa’s lap. So, save the date and get your cell phones ready to snap some memories.

**Holiday Cake Sale**

PERTH AMBOY - St. John’s Orthodox Church Holiday Cake sale. Orders for Nut, Poppyseed, Prune (Lekvar) and Apricot Cake at \$14.00 each may be called in on December 5, 6, & 7, 2022 to (732) 826-7067 between 9:00 a.m and 12:00 p.m. Please call early before our quota is reached. Pick up will be December 14 & 15, 2022 after 3:00 p.m. at 404 Division Street, Perth Amboy, NJ



**Drive Through the Christmas Story!**

SAYREVILLE - Come and see and hear the story of the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior! All from the comfort of your car. This is our 37th year! The dates for this year are December 3-4 and 10-11, Saturdays 6 p.m. – 10 p.m., Sundays 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. The church is located at 2290 US9, Old Bridge, NJ.

We are accepting donations of unexpired canned and dry goods for our Bread of Life food ministry. Cash donations are also accepted.

You are welcome to come inside and enjoy a cookie and hot chocolate. There are crafts and games for the kids. Or take a tour of our facility and get a “backstage” view of the costuming area!

Watch a recap of the 2021 drive through to see what you have to look forward to!



PRAHD Puerto Rico Discovery Day, City Hall Circle & Wilentz School, Perth Amboy, 11/19/22 \*Photos by Paul W. Wang

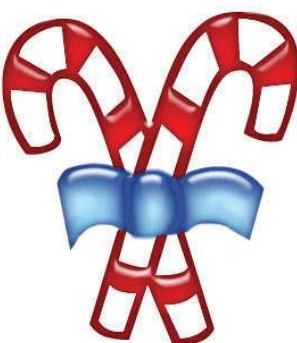


Army National Guard Grand Opening, Madison Avenue, Perth Amboy, 11/19/22 \*Photos by Carolyn Maxwell



2022 Holiday Giving

SOUTH AMBOY - The City of South Amboy, PBA Local #63, and the South Amboy School District will be collecting gift card donations for local families in need this holiday season. If you wish to donate, please drop off your gift cards to the Mayor's office by December 14th, 2022!



Tree Lighting & Emergency Vehicle Lights Parade

SOUTH AMBOY – Join us for a family fun event of musical performances, crafts with SA Arts, Emergency Vehicle Lights Parade, Santa and the lighting of our Christmas Tree! Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. on Broadway in front of City Hall/ Train Plaza (Rain Date: December 10<sup>th</sup>).

Kiwanis Club of Perth Amboy Meeting

PERTH AMBOY - Let's bring in the Christmas/Holiday Season at Mama Lena's, 22-28 RTE 184 Hopelawn 08861. We will gather at 5:30 for a 6 p.m. start. Let's show our Kiwanis spirit by bringing an unwrapped toy for our local U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. Select a new toy for a child's age you would like to give. In addition, you can donate a toy on line at [virtualtoybox@toysfortots.org](mailto:virtualtoybox@toysfortots.org).

Our Salvation Army Collection is this Saturday, December 10 at the Woodbridge Shop-Rite. Participating so far are Loris and the Key Club, Bob, Gary, Lisett, Damaris, and myself. Time slots available 2-4 and 4-6. We are out to capture the Service Club Title this year from our Woodbridge Rotary friends. Here's how it works: if you decide to make a personal donation of cash/check it MUST be placed in our kettle at the Woodbridge Shop-Rite during those hours' operation. So, please consider this worthwhile cause in your giving plan for 2022.

Dues for the 2022-2023 are due. Your check made payable to the Kiwanis Club of Perth Amboy for \$135 can be brought on Wednesday or mailed to Maryanne Lawrence, Treasurer at YMCA, 357 New Brunswick Ave, Perth Amboy. Invoices can be sent to [mlawrence@baymca.org](mailto:mlawrence@baymca.org).



**Getting Ahead in Business By Milton Paris**





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

Milton Paris

**BUILD YOUR BUSINESS THROUGH  
STRATEGIC NETWORKING**

As many people know my company slogan is “Nothing is Impossible” if you work on it and stay the course. You must have a positive attitude all the time. Being positive will give you positive results, being negative will give you negative results. Webster’s dictionary defines negativity as “implying a denial or refusal that says no, opposite to something regard as positive: lacking in positive characteristics or quality.” Positive as defined in Webster’s means having the mind set or settled, confident, showing resolution or agreement, tending in the direction regarded as that of increase, progress etc.

To this day it upsets me when more businesspeople are negative than positive. Instead of finding an answer to the obstacle they do nothing but complain. My company Getting Ahead in Business represents many companies, individual salespeople and entrepreneurs. Let’s discuss the salespeople.

Selling the old way does not work today and buyers are giving them many objections, and salespeople do not know how to overcome them and close the sale, for ex: The buyer will say “I am not interested, we have no budget, this is a bad time, I need more information, I want to shop around, and your price is to high”. If you are a negative salesperson you will not have the right answers for these objections. Where as a positive salesperson will have all the answers. He will uncover each of the buyers’ objections, challenges and expectations and act in a positive way with the buyer’s best interest in mind. That is by definition, selling value. Remember, buyer’s want to buy and it is up to you to close the sale.

One of my clients, a real estate broker/owner, hired me to conduct a two day seminar on positive thinking and sharing my personal business strategies on how to be successful. The first day I handed out to the 24 brokers a copy of Webster’s dictionary. I told each one to turn to the page with the definition of negative on it and to rip it out. There would be no mention of negativity during this seminar. I continued to discuss how having a positive attitude brings success in business and personal life:

CHANGE YOUR INPUT TO CHANGE YOUR ATTITUDE  
YOU WERE BORN TO WIN  
MAKE EVERY DAY AS PRODUCTIVE AS THE DAY BEFORE  
IGNORE PEOPLE WHO TELL YOU “YOU CAN’T”  
IF YOU HAVE NOTHING NICE TO SAY, SAY NOTHING  
CELEBRATE THE VICTORIES  
TURN PROBLEMS INTO OPPORTUNITIES  
SMILE  
STOP THE COMPLAINING  
FOCUS ON WHAT YOU ENJOY AND IMPROVE THE THINGS YOU DON’T ENJOY

As part of the seminar I asked each broker to keep in touch with me on how they were doing with their sales. I heard back from 78% of the brokers and the reaction was overwhelmingly positive. If you would like to be more successful in reaching your goals, it is very simple: KEEP A POSITIVE ATTITUDE.

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail: Milton@gettingaheadinbusiness.com

Milton J. Paris, President and Founder of Getting Ahead In Business has been helping businesses grow for over 40 years. As a sales training guru and motivational speaker Milton’s motto is, “Nothing is impossible working with Milton Paris.” In addition to helping owners increase their sales, Milton hosts a weekly business talk radio show at FOX SPORTS NEW JERSEY 93.5FM/1450AM every Sunday from 11 am- 12 noon.  
**Contact Milton: 732.306.0040**  
**email: milton@gettingaheadinbusiness.com**  
**www.gettingaheadinbusiness.com**

*Nothing is impossible when working with professional telemarketers! Nothing is impossible when working with Milton Paris!*

**Friends of Perth Amboy  
Free Public Library Meeting**

PERTH AMBOY – The Friends of Perth Amboy Free Public Library are having a meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library (Children’s Library), 196 Jefferson St. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more info, call 732-261-2610.

**Ads Sell! Call Carolyn! 732-896-4446**

**MOVIE REVIEW: BLACK PANTHER: WAKANDA FOREVER**  
**By: Anton Massopust III Email: DrZaius69@aol.com**





Anton Massopust III

“If the people of the world want Vibranium on the outside of the borders of Wakanda - good luck!” - Ramanda Queen of Wakanda

The Black Panther, the Protector of Wakanda, the hero the king is now dead. While the rest of the world searches for Vibranium, a rare powerful metal found only in Wakanda that can be made into anything and used for peace or as a weapon of war. The Queen tells the United Nations that she will not give it to them, and even though T’Challa (Black Panther) is dead, Wakanda is not vulnerable. But a new crisis comes from the bottom of the ocean – Sub-Mariner (Tenoch Huerta) and his Warriors of the Deep. Prince Namor (Sub-Mariner) is a South American Prince who is related to the ancient god Kubla Khan. Namor gives the Ramanda (Angela Bassett) Queen of Wakanda an ultimatum: either join with him and conquer the rest of the surface world or he will cover Wakanda with water and wipe it off the face of the earth. It is up to Princess Shuri (Lettia Wright) to take up the mantle of the black panther to try to negotiate peace between both sides. She discovers Sub-Mariner’s weakness – heat.

This new Marvel movie is connected right to the rest of the Marvel Universe and picks up after the events of Avengers: Endgame (Thanos’s attack). What do they do now after Black Panther is dead? It is time for a new Black Panther to arise. This female-centered movie is a fitting tribute to the late Chadwick Boseman who played the Black Panther and died from cancer. The movie is hard to watch due to the death of Boseman. It is a little bit too long and heavy on dialog - that’s my only problem with it. Sub-Mariner is an interesting and complicated character to add to the Marvel Universe. This is about the 3rd or 4th time that they’ve revamped his origin. I’m sure there’s more to come here and there’s plenty of course it’s not bad if you love the first Black Panther, you’ll love this one too, but if you’re just a Marvel fan and want to see what’s going on in the Marvel Universe it’s pretty good, too.

**WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM**

**Hungarian  
Homemade  
Nut Rolls**


WOODBRIDGE – Sponsored by the Lorantffy Women’s Guild of the Calvin Hungarian Reformed Church, Corner of School and N. James Streets, Woodbridge. Each individually hand rolled. Made from the best ingredients. Each weighing 1 lb. 8 oz. Available in: English Walnut, Poppysseed, Prune-Lekvar, Apricot, Raspberry-Seedless, and Pumpkin-Cheese. Price \$18 each. Deadline for orders is November 30th. Pick-up date: Saturday, December 17, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall of the Church. Please use the Ross Street Entrance. All orders must be paid in full upon ordering. Please call: Florette Pastor: 732-636-2868 or the church office at 732-634-1751.

**GIVE BLOOD  
SAVE LIFE  
Blood Drive**

SOUTH AMBOY - Ring in the new year on a positive note and donate blood. The South Amboy Elks is hosting a blood drive at 601 Washington Ave, South Amboy, for the American Red Cross on Thursday January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. All donations are by appointment and can be scheduled online. More information on scheduling will be advertised as the date gets closer. For information, please call 732-727-7170 and leave a message for Dawn or Lisa. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

**Prime Rib  
Dinner**

SOUTH AMBOY - The South Amboy Elks will be Having a Prime Rib Dinner Fundraiser on Friday January 27, 2023, from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. The dinner will include Salad, baked potato, vegetable, and dessert for only \$25 per person. For the non-beef eaters, we will offer a half of a roasted chicken for \$20. **Tickets for this dinner are IN ADVANCE ONLY.** Please call 732-727-7170 or stop Thursday or Friday nights between 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. for tickets. Thank you in advance for your support.



**Fresh  
Hungarian  
Kolbasz Sale**

WOODBRIDGE - Made by the members of the Calvin Hungarian Reformed Church, Corner of School and N. James Streets of Woodbridge. Price: \$8 per lb. Please call the Church Office at 732-634-1751 or Florette Pastor: 732-636-2868. Deadline for orders: December 5th. Orders may be picked up at the Fellowship Hall, Ross Street Entrance on Saturday, December 17, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. If you are ordering Nut Rolls, you can also place your order for Kolbasz at the same time. Please pay by separate checks.

**Friends of the Perth Amboy  
Free Public Library Book Sale**

PERTH AMBOY - The Friends of the Perth Amboy Free Public Library are once again having a book sale Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the Brighton Avenue Community Center at the corner of Brighton Avenue and Sadowski Parkway in Perth Amboy. We are delighted to be back after being sidelined by the pandemic for 7 months. I know many people have been starving for reading material for these long months we were at home. We will be wearing masks and providing hand sanitizer and bags if needed. We also insist that anyone coming to peruse our collection also wear a mask as mandated by the State of NJ. Paperbacks are \$.50, hardcovers are \$1, \$5 for a bag full, no limit to size of bag except no lawn or garbage bags. We have best sellers by popular authors that are like new. The money we raise goes to support the library with providing programs, promoting literacy or to provide funds to the library with their needs beyond their budget. We look forward to your visit.

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



Woodbridge Public Library Events

Listed below are the free events we have planned for October and November 2022. We will be hosting events both in-person and virtually throughout the month. Please make sure to check which format the presentation will be presented in.

December 1 | 6:30 PM | Fords Library  
Fords Adult Craft Night

Join us at the Fords Adult Craft Night - this month we'll be making a snowy mason jar luminary! All supplies provided except your own creativity. Registration Required - <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=13208&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/01>

December 6 | 1 PM | Main Library  
Thyroid Disease: What you Need to Know

Join Reema Patel M.D, FACE, Medical Director, Diabetes and Endocrinology Center Hackensack Meridian Health, Old Bridge Medical Center as she discusses the signs and symptoms of thyroid disease, as well as the latest treatment options. Registration Required - <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=13268&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/01>

December 8 | 6 PM | Virtual Program  
Virtual Craft - Mandala Art

Join local artist Komal Mehra via Zoom to learn the basics of making a mandala! Supplies will be provided by the library. Registration Required - <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=13545&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/08>

December 13 | 7 PM | Main Library  
History of Holiday Songs

Get in the holiday spirit! From Pagan Christmas Carols and Hebrew Zemirot to modern renditions of popular favorites, this program presented by the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts will explore the evolution of Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa music that embody the holiday season. Registration Recommended - <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=13254&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/08>

December 13 | 4PM | Main Library  
Mystery/Thriller Book Club

Join us for an in person discussion of Last Girl I Ghosted by Lisa Unger. No Registration Required - <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=12163&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/01>

December 14 | 1 PM | Main Library  
Eating Healthy on a Budget for Seniors

Tips on how to buy fruits and vegetables at a low cost, how to plan home meals and how to save money on food commonly consume at home. Registration Required -<https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=13603&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/09>

December 14 | 3:30PM | Main Library  
Teens & Adults DIY Gingerbread House Ornaments

Come join us in person to create your own DIY Gingerbread House Ornaments. All Supplies will be provided. Open to Adults and Teens (13+). Registration Required - <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=12882&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/09>

December 15 | 7 PM | Iselin Library  
Meet the Author: Lalit Nigam

Join us as we welcome author Lalit Nigam as he discusses his new book Voices From A Golden Era. Voices from a Golden Era is a biography like none other! Nigam highlights performers like Lataji, KL Saigal, Mohammed Rafi, and Mukesh to name a few. It features vibrant photos of Bollywood singers abound, which will gladden your heart. Registration Required - <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=12708&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/09>

December 16 | 7 PM | Main Library  
Holiday DIY-A-Thon

Adults and teens are invited to join us for an afternoon of DIY-ing! We'll have everything you need to make various creations. No Registration Required.

December 17 | 12 PM | Main Library  
Games in the Library

Love to play? Come out and join our new Tabletop Gaming Group! This month we will be meeting in the Woodbridge Main Library's 2nd Floor Periodicals Room, from 12 - 4 PM. No Registration Required - <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=13602&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/09>

December 20 | 7 PM | Virtual Program

The Tragic Wreck of the John K. Shaw: A Hit and Run at Sea  
Current president of the New Jersey Historical Divers Association Daniel Lieb will tell us the riveting story of the John K. Shaw, the first three-masted schooner ever built on City Island which tragically sunk off the Woodlands on the New Jersey coast with the loss of its entire crew. Registration Required - <https://woodbridgelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=13546&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2022/12/09>

Movies at Main | Fridays at 2PM

Join us every Friday at 2PM to catch a free movie!  
Saturday Movie Matinee | Iselin Branch Library  
Join us for a free movie at the Iselin Branch Library!

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](http://www.woodbridgelibrary.org)  
Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

Perth Amboy Free Public Library Events

Book Club:

Thursday, December 1, 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Beginners Pilates Class:

Saturday, December 3, 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

Meet Edison Jaquez, Book Signing Event:

Saturday, December 3, 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

Saving, Spending, and Sharing Children’s Financial Workshop (Children’s Library):

Tuesday, December 13, 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Meet Bethany Yeiser, Book Signing Event:

Thursday, December 15, 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Christmas Crafts with Kids (Children’s Library):

Tuesday, December 20, 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m.

Crochet Class:

Tuesday, December 20, 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Hanukkah Ceremony:

Thursday, December 22, 5:30 p.m.-6 p.m.

Jewelry Makerspace:

Thursday, December 22, 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.

Perth Amboy  
Free Public Library  
196 Jefferson St.,  
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861  
732-826-2600  
**LOOK OUT FOR  
THESE EXCITING  
EVENTS!**



Perth Amboy: 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](http://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](http://www.folperthamboy.com) For more information, please call the Perth Amboy Free Public Library: 732-826-2600.

South Amboy - The Holidays @ Dowdell Library

Press Release 11/10/22

SOUTH AMBOY — Celebrate the holiday season @ Dowdell Library with 3D Pens, Victorian Holiday Party, Food Explorers, Storytime, After School Fun Club, Teen Hangout, and more!

‘Tis the holiday season... for a celebration! Join us for the Victorian Holiday Party on Tuesday, December 13 from 6:30-8:30 pm. There will be music, refreshments and door prizes. Kids and teens! Have fun with some special activities. Spend the night with friends, neighbors and enjoy the festivities!

Make an impact while you shop this holiday season with Amazon Smile. Simply shop at [www.smile.amazon.com/ch/26-3176682](http://www.smile.amazon.com/ch/26-3176682) and AmazonSmile will donate to the Dowdell Library Foundation at no cost to you! The Dowdell Library Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

The Senior Book Club will meet on Monday, December 19 at 10:30 am. Stop by the Library to pick up this month's book. Want to join? Just contact the library at 732-721-6060

Adults! Create a 3D ornament using a 3D Pen on Thursday, December 8 from 6:30-7:30 pm. We’ll provide templates, or use your imagination to create a holiday masterpiece!

Dowdell Library, in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and RWJ Barnabas Health, offers online virtual health programs. Some courses include Stress Reduction through Imagery and Stretch It! Chair exercising, stretching, and flexibility workshop. Please register by emailing Kathleen Johnson [kathleen.johnson@rwjbh.org](mailto:kathleen.johnson@rwjbh.org). For a complete list of the classes, please visit Dowdell.org.

Kids, stop by every Wednesday from 3:30-4:30 pm for the After School Fun Club. Drop in for scavenger hunts, relay races, bingo and holidays crafts. Join us for another Food Explorer’s on Wednesday, December 28 from 1-2 pm for a hands on cooking program. Make an appetizer/snack from start to finish, learn how to read a recipe, and how to measure ingredients. Ages 5-14. Registration is required. Lastly, become part of the tales and adventures in the Dungeons & Dragons Gaming Club on Thursdays, December 15 and 29 from 6:30-7:30 pm.


Parents with toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for storytimes on Monday, December 5 and Saturday, December 10 from 1-2 pm for stories, games, activities, and crafts.

Teens! Stop by and have fun with 3D pens on Friday, December 9 from 3-4 and Friday, December 30 from 1-2 pm. Do you need community service hours? Join the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) on Friday, December 16 from 3-4 pm and help us plan 2023 teen programs!

The library will be closed for the Christmas holiday on Saturday, December 24 and Monday, December 26. The library will also be closed for the New Year holiday on Saturday, December 31 and Monday, January 1, 2023. Have a merry holiday season!

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





### Friends of South Amboy Annual Basketball Games

SOUTH AMBOY - The Friends of South Amboy are proud to announce their annual charity basketball games to be played on Saturday, December 17, 2022 at South Amboy Middle High School, 200 Governor Harold G. Hoffman Plaza, South Amboy, NJ 08879. For the benefit of Families In Need. Adults \$10 Students/Seniors \$5. Tickets sold at the door. 50/50, Raffles

The schedule is as follows:  
12:00 noon - South Amboy boys vs. Spotswood  
2:00 p.m. - South Amboy girls vs. East Brunswick Magnet School  
4:00 p.m. - Sayreville boys vs. Calvary Christian  
6:00 p.m. - St. Joe’s Metuchen vs. St. Joe’s by the Sea Staten Island  
8:00 p.m. - St. Thomas Aquinas boys vs. Oratory Prep

Thank you for your continued support. Friends of South Amboy

### “A Token on the Freedman's Coat” The Story Behind Thomas Mundy Peterson's 1884 Voting Medal

WOODBIDGE – The Historical Association of Woodbridge Township presents Gordon Bond on “A Token on the Freedman's Coat" - The story behind Thomas Mundy Peterson's 1884 Voting Medal on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 7 p.m. at Fellowship Hall, First Presbyterian Church, 600 Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge, New Jersey.

On May 30, 1884, citizens of Perth Amboy pinned a gold medal to Thomas Mundy Peterson's coat in recognition of his vote as the first African American to vote under the Fifteenth Amendment in 1870.

Gordon Bond not only relates the background of this extraordinary event but places it in a broader historical context. This presentation is based on Gordon's latest book, "To Cast a Freedman's Vote..." which will be available for purchase and signing afterwards.

For further information, contact Brenda Velasco, Township Historian. TEXT 732.428.2403

### Caesar's Casino Trip San Salvador Seniors

PERTH AMBOY - The San Salvador Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to Caesar's Casino, Atlantic City, on Thursday, March 2, 2023. 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; \$30 back in slot play. Please call Joe at 732-826-0819 for reservation.

### Trinity United Methodist Church

SOUTH AMBOY - December is a busy, blessed month for Trinity Methodist Church. We have an active Outreach plan for the month, our Annual Christmas Bazaar & Vendor Sale, engaging Advent services Sunday at 9:30 am, exciting children’s programs and a busy, thriving Thrift Shop.

The holidays bring out the best in people. It’s the time of year many folks are more open to helping others. Our congregation is no different. We encourage anyone in the community to participate if the spirit moves you.

- No More Cold Feet – Sock Collection
- Nursing Home and Rehab Facility Collections
- Blessing Bags for the Homeless
- Advent Food Collection

If you are interested in participating – see the Trinity United Methodist Church Facebook site for information or call us.

Advent services begin on Sunday, November 27, 2022. Come and join us as we prepare ourselves for the Christmas season. Christmas Eve service will be held on December 24 at 7 pm. All church services are Sundays at 9:30 am.

Sunday School is held during the church service. Children from 5 years old to 12 are welcome to join our children as we study scriptures through crafts, study, and song.

As always, are Thrift Shop will be open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9 am to 11 am and drop offs are always open in the one shed. The shop will be closed from December 21 and reopen on January 24. The shop will be closed if the weather is < 34 degrees at 8 am.

Trinity is excited and looking forward to a busy December and the celebration of Jesus’ birthday. We invite you to join us. We are located at 815 Bordentown Avenue in South Amboy or www.trinityumc.org or call 732 763 6232 if you have any questions.

## This Week in the Civil War 160 Years Ago December 7, 1862 – December 20, 1862 By Phil Kohn

**Phil Kohn can be reached at [USCW160@yahoo.com](mailto:USCW160@yahoo.com).**

Confederate Maj. Gen. Thomas Hindman, with 12,000 troops, on December 7, 1862, attacks 6,000 Union troops under Brig. Gen Francis Herron at Prairie Grove, Arkansas. Shortly after the battle is joined, U.S. Maj. Gen. James Blunt arrives with an additional 7,000 Federal soldiers. The fight lasts until dark, and Hindman’s force withdraws during the night. U.S. casualties: 1,251; Confederate: 1,317. On the same day, Col. John Hunt Morgan leads Confederate cavalry against a Federal garrison at Huntsville, Tennessee. The Union loses 2,096 soldiers, including 1,800 taken prisoner. At Vicksburg, Mississippi, Lt. Gen. John Pemberton receives a communication from Jefferson Davis expressing concern about Pemberton’s ability to defend against an attack by the Federal forces of Maj. Gen. Grant.

To address criticisms that he is ignoring the Western Theater, Confederate President Jefferson Davis on December 10 embarks on a month-long information-gathering trip, with stops in Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. Union troops of Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside continue their preparations for an assault on Fredericksburg, Virginia. In Washington, D.C., a bill to create the state of West Virginia passes in the House of Representatives. (The Senate had approved the action in July 1862.)

On December 11, intending to relieve pressure on Confederate Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn in Mississippi and to disrupt Union Maj. Gen. Grant’s communications, Confederate Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest leads 2,100 cavalymen and four guns out of Columbia, Tennessee, on a raid through western Tennessee. In the East, Brig. Gen. John Foster leads a massive Union raiding party of 10,000 infantry, 640 cavalry and 40 guns out of coastal New Bern, North Carolina, into the interior of the state. In Virginia, Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside’s Army of the Potomac makes a hotly contested crossing of the Rappahannock River via five pontoon bridges and enters Fredericksburg. Spending the day clearing out Confederate troops, the Federals occupy the town by nightfall.

Confederate President Jefferson Davis, on his swing through the Western Theater, meets with Gen. Braxton Bragg at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, on December 12. Convinced that Bragg is in a secure position, Davis — over the vehement objection of both Bragg and his senior commander, Gen. Joseph Johnston — orders the transfer of 7,500 soldiers to Lt. Gen. Pemberton for the defense of Vicksburg, Mississippi. The move leaves Bragg with 37,000 troops. At Fredericksburg, Virginia, both armies position themselves for the impending battle. Near Vicksburg, on the Yazoo River, the ironclad gunboat *USS Cairo* is sunk by an electrically detonated Confederate mine near Haines Bluff, Mississippi.

In Virginia, on December 13, Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside, launches his 106,000-strong Army of the Potomac against Gen. Robert E. Lee’s 72,000 Confederates positioned in and south of the city. On the Federal left, soldiers under Maj. Gen. George Meade penetrate Lt. Gen. Stonewall Jackson’s Confederate lines, but they get no support from reinforcements and must withdraw. On the Federal right, wave after wave of Union soldiers is sent to attack Lt. Gen. James Longstreet’s strongly entrenched troops on Marye’s Heights, above the town. Confederate infantrymen are behind a stone wall bordering a sunken road, with their artillery above and behind them. The Yankees, who must traverse a long, open slope with only shallow depressions for shelter, are slaughtered. U.S. casualties: 12,700 killed or wounded. Confederate casualties: 5,300. At the end of the day, the Federals remain in Fredericksburg and the Confederates remain on the ridges above them.

On December 14, Maj. Gen. Burnside wishes to continue the attacks on the Confederate positions but is dissuaded by his subordinates. The defeated Army of the Potomac in and around Fredericksburg, Virginia, prepares to move back across the Rappahannock River, whence it came. Although vulnerable, the Federals are not attacked by Lee’s Confederates — the Northern army still outnumbers the Southerners, and it is protected by massive artillery batteries across the river. In the Deep South, U.S. Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Banks arrives in New Orleans on December 14 to assume military command from Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler, who departs the next day. Many residents of the Crescent City are elated to see the widely reviled “Beast” Butler leave. In North Carolina, Confederates at Kinston are routed by the massive raiding force of Brig. Gen. John Foster, which sacks the city.

Maj. Gen. U.S. Grant, targeting Vicksburg, Mississippi, on December 15 begins experiencing communications problems with his various forces caused by the actions of the Confederate cavalry of Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest.

With his Army of the Potomac occupying Falmouth, Virginia, across from Fredericksburg, Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside on December 16 makes a statement accepting full responsibility for the debacle on December 13. Brig. Gen. John Foster’s Union troops push the Confederates out of Whitehall, North Carolina, and burn the CSS Neuse, under construction there, as they continue to move westward in the Tar Heel State.

In Washington, because of continuing bickering and conflicts with Treasury Secretary Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of State William Seward tenders his resignation to President Lincoln on December 17. Three days later, Secretary Chase submits his resignation, also. After numerous meetings with the two men and others, Lincoln refuses to accept either resignation, asking both to stay on. They agree, but tensions remain. Brig. Gen. John Foster’s troops attack Goldsboro, North Carolina, burning the railroad bridge across the Neuse River, the primary target of the raid. Afterward, they make their way back east to New Bern. In the West, Maj. Gen. Grant publishes his *General Order Number 11*. Although it deals with speculation and profiteering in his department (which includes parts of Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi), it specifically singles out Jews: “The Jews, as a class violating every regulation of trade established by the Treasury Department and also department orders, are hereby expelled from the department within twenty-four hours from receipt of this order.” Although Grant’s order is rescinded several weeks later, his reputation is tarnished by the adverse publicity that arises.

On December 18, Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn leads 3,500 Confederate cavalymen behind the army of U.S. Maj. Gen. Grant, which is heading south toward Vicksburg. Brig. Gen. Forrest’s cavalry defeats a Federal garrison at Lexington, Tennessee.

Forrest’s cavalry on December 19 strikes the Mobile & Ohio Railroad near Three Way, Tennessee, destroying tracks and rolling stock, as well as stations and bridges in the vicinity, further hampering Grant’s movements towards Vicksburg.

On December 20, Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman embarks on a water-borne operation that’s part of Grant’s plan for taking Vicksburg, Mississippi. Sherman leads 32,000 U.S. troops in 50 boats down the Mississippi River from Memphis. Confederate Maj. Gen. Van Dorn’s men capture the huge Federal depot at Holly Springs, Mississippi, destroying \$1.5 million in supplies and taking 1,500 prisoners. The Confederates also burn 4,000 cotton bales to prevent them from falling into Union hands. The Confederate cavalry of Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest captures Trenton, Tennessee. The losses force Grant to halt his overland advance on Vicksburg, thwarting his plan to join forces with Sherman’s men moving down the Mississippi River. Grant withdraws his force some 60 miles northward, from Oxford, Mississippi, to La Grange, Tennessee.



Thanksgiving, Alexander Jankowski Community Center, Perth Amboy, 11/24/22 \*Photos by Carolyn Maxwell



YMCA Homelessness Fundariser, Armory, Perth Amboy, 11/10/22 \*Photos by Katherine Massopust & Carolyn Maxwell





**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**

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

<i><b>For Sale</b></i>	<i><b>For Sale</b></i>	<i><b>For Sale</b></i>
Exercise Equipment - Ski Machine \$50; Rower \$50. Must pickup. 732-261-2610	Bicycle Tire Deluxe Foot Pump Color coded gauge \$10 - 732-442-5806	Lawn Mower - Sears - Self Propelled Mulcher - no bag 6.75 HP - \$45 732-727-5056
Bikes Huffly Ross Mon-goose - Good Condition - \$50 Each Bike - 732-261-4703	3/4 Size Acoustic Guitar. Good for young child - \$50. 732-541-5491	Mickey Mantle Lim. Ed. Gold Card, Authenticity Certificate, Case \$50 - 732-727-8417
Electric Husky Power Washer 1750psi - Good Condition \$75 - 732-277-4635	Brand New Electric Heater Radiator. Was \$65 Now \$20 New Never Used. 732-547-7406	Hess trucks in box \$13 each. Comic books \$2 each. 732-735-2179
Umbrella - Patio, needs cord and iron stand. \$30 - 732-283-0975	Electric Fireplace Light Oak Case, Heat Surge Heater \$45 - 732-570-5199	Dining Hutch - Wood - Good Condition \$50 - Self Pick-up 732-826-6324
Dyson Vacuum Cleaner Mint Condition \$45 - 732-290-1551	Solid Oak Coffee Table \$75; Oak End Table \$50 732-570-9732	5 Pcs. Coffee/Tea Service - Silver Plate \$50 Sewing Machine \$75 732-826-8024
Artificial Christmas Trees 6 feet \$10; Lounge Chair \$10 - 732-297-4457	Set of Three Roof Racks for cargo van - \$75 - 732-583-2305	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	Safe Combination 21" High 13 1/2" wide on wheels \$75 732-634-1851	Girl's Bicycle 24" Panasonic LX Sport Twelve Speed. Light Blue. \$75 or B.O. 908-501-3993
Good working Washer-Whirlpool - \$75; 2 power-washers \$75; 1 lawn mower with bag \$75 (both just tuned up) 732-335-8837	Large Garment Bag & 4 Hooks - \$5, Ladies Imitation Fur Coat- Small - \$50 732-634-3589	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.	Nice Bard & 2 Stools \$35; "Free" Washer - Works Great; Love Seat \$30 - 732-670-6649	Power Lift \$75. Wing Chairs, Sofa, End Tables, Lamps, Microwave \$10-\$50 - 908-803-9623
Indoor Rabbit Cage \$25 metal wood 21.5 x 35.5 - 732-401-0226	Three Window AC's 5000BTU, 5000BTU, 8000BTU; \$50; \$75; \$50 732-636-3345	Children's Sports Lamp w/shade. Really cute, BB, FB, Etc. Large \$20 - 917-670-4908
Ion USB Cassette Achiever Convert Tapes to MP3's \$30 732-442-0151	Gold Carnival Glass Collector Plate (5 <sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas) \$25 732-673-6305	
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	

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Call Carolyn  
732-896-4446**

THE AMBOY GUARDIAN

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

THE  
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## OTHER

**Ads Sell  
Call Carolyn  
732-896-4446**







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PABON

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RIOS

JUNIOR

IGLESIA


FOR PERTH AMBOY CITY COUNCIL

VOTE

DECEMBER

13TH

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@VoteBetterTmrw

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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!

Novena to St. Anthony

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

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 a.m. 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.

Bereavement Group

PERTH AMBOY - A support group to help you through loss, grief and mourning with Reverend Andras Szasz, Facilitator. Every Tuesday at 5 p.m.

Free Bingo Machine

For Info Call Church Office

Tricky Tray

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**  
PERTH AMBOY - St. Peter's Episcopal Church Mother's Guild Gift Auction/Tricky Tray will be on Sunday, December 11, 2022, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church Parish House upstairs, elevator available, 183 Rector Street, Perth Amboy, NJ. Doors Open: 2:00 p.m.; Start selling tickets: 3:00 p.m.; Drawing: 5:00 p.m. Entrance is \$5.00; extra tickets are \$1.00 each. Specials 8 for \$3.00, 50/50 2 for \$1.00 or 12 for \$5.00, extra prizes prices will be posted at auction. Kitchen opens around 4:00, soda, coffee, tea, hot dogs, sausage & peppers and chips, sometimes other foods too. Prices listed by kitchen window. Coffee, tea & cake served during the auction. No outside food permitted!!! If you bring a non-perishable item for our food pantry (Peter's Panty) you can get free ticket (must be used at entrance - one per customer). For more information, call 732-826-1594 or go to: www.StPetersEpiscopal.com Please only call the office for any questions - not the emergency number.



Sumo Wrestling

SOUTH AMBOY - Come grab a table with your friends to laugh and have a good time at our Sumo Wrestling fundraiser which comes to the South Amboy Elks on Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023. You can get suited up and wrestle your best friend or one of our members. Doors open at 6:30, wrestling starts at 7 p.m. The donation is \$25 per person and includes select beverages. Food will be available for purchase from 6:30 p.m. -10 p.m. For more information and tickets, please call 732-727-7170

Pets of the Week



ADOPT A KITTEN or CAT!!

PERTH AMBOY - These adorable little kittens have been fully vetted, fixed, vaccinated to age, tested for FIV/FELV, dewormed, deflead, microchipped, etc. If interested in any of our kitties, contact us! Email vmoralespps@yahoo.com for adoption application or text 1.732.486.6382 for pics. Adoption donation fee applies. We desperately need food donations too! Allforthepaws.org  
All for the Paws, P. O. Box 2281, Perth Amboy, NJ 08862

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.

Anton Knows: A Review of Pop Culture

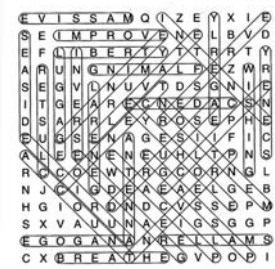


Anton Knows

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

WWW.AMBOYGUARDIAN.COM

Answers From Puzzle On Page 17



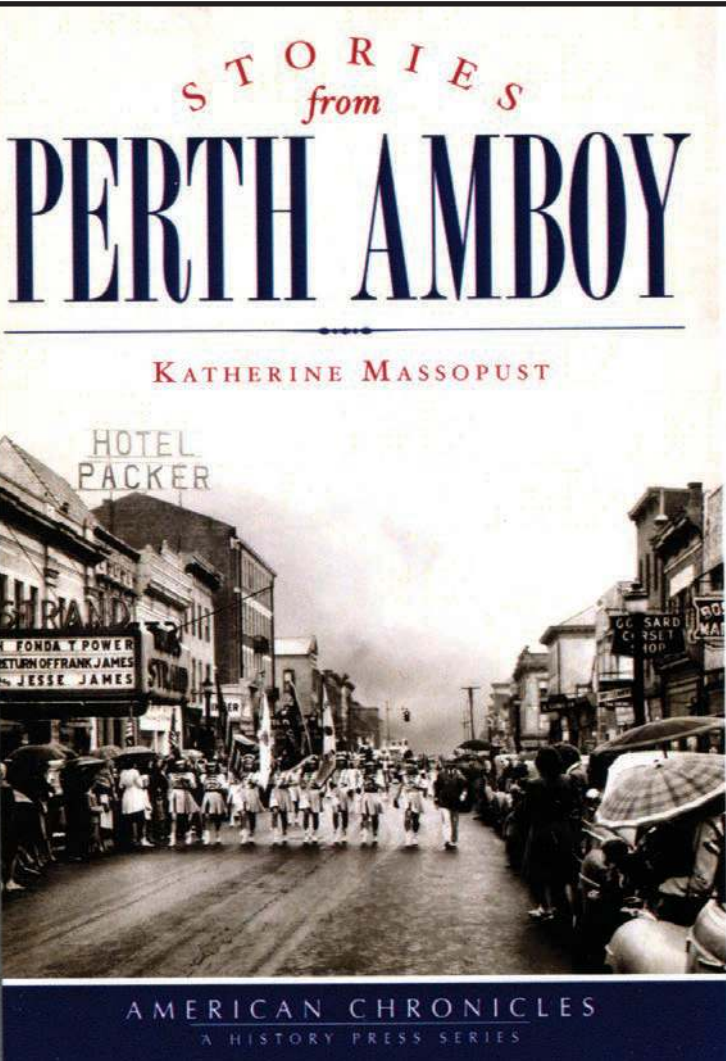
LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - St. Mary's High School Cheerleaders 1960's

\*Photo Courtesy of Rose Lavin-Pennyfeather

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!





**Mabner Terron**  
*Realtor/Agent*

***Congratulations to  
Mabner Terron  
for being the #1 Agent  
for the Month of November!***



**329 SMITH STREET • PERTH AMBOY**  
**(732) 442-1400 • (732) 442-1480 fax**



## ***The Real Estate Team With Dedication, Vision and Results!***

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WWW.PETRABESTREALTY.COM**

**PETRA BEST REALTY WILL GET YOUR HOUSE **SOLD** FAST!!!  
PLEASE CALL FOR FREE MARKET ANALYSIS!**



**FORDS** - This is the chance to own this charming property! This house features a new kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite countertops, new bathrooms, new hardwood floors, formal dining room, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, detached garage, full basement, and much more! Located just minutes from Route 1, Route 9, Route 287, Garden State Parkway, and NJ Turnpike. **\$499,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Nice 2-family house with two bedrooms in each apartment and two-car garage. House is being sold in its current condition as-is. Buyer is responsible for C of O and all repairs. **\$545,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Fantastic! Well maintained 3 family home in a great High Street location only few blocks from Waterfront, restaurants, shopping and Downtown Business district. 1st and 2nd apartments have gas heating units, 3rd unit is electric, all separated utilities, excellent investment opportunity. Hurry!!! **\$625,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - A 5-family property fully rented on block from the Waterfront. 2 units include 3 bedrooms, 1 unit has 2bds, and 2 units have 1bd each. A great location and all separated utilities. **\$900,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Great Investment Opportunity! A 2-Family House (Side-by-Side). It has two bedrooms and one bathroom per unit. It is close to the beautiful Perth Amboy Waterfront area, a train station, bus stop and major highways. The only thing this house is missing is your personal touch. **\$450,000**



**EDISON** - Updated 2-bedroom mobile home in the heart of Edison NJ. Unit was completely remodeled 1 year ago, has central air and heating system, new furnace, water heater and gas tank. monthly land lease of \$917 a month includes taxes, sewer, garbage removal and common area maintenance. Must get approved by Edgewood properties management. **\$65,000**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Don't miss this opportunity to expand your business or start fresh! Newly renovated 2nd floor unit features 5 spacious office spaces, common area, small kitchenette and 2 half bathrooms. Ready for immediate occupancy! You can also lease entire building for \$6,000/month. (1st floor has 1,820 sqft of warehouse/office space, 1 half bathroom and up to 10 vehicle private parking space available) **\$3,000 For Lease**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Large commercial space with endless possibilities. Landlord is willing to subdivide space to accommodate any and all needs. **\$8,500 For Lease**



**PERTH AMBOY** - Dream Office Space, Second Floor Unit. 3 Office Available with a Waiting Room, 1 Full Bathroom, 2 Closets Available For Your File Or Supplies. All Utilities Included!!!! Don't Wait Too Long. **\$1,800 For Lease**