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# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TIMES

Memorial Day Parades  
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May 19th 12pm  
Sayreville  
May 28th 10am

April 28, 2018

• The "Good News" Newspaper •

Vol. 27 Issue 7

## Father Ryan To Celebrate His 25th Ordination Anniversary

On May 22, 2018 Reverend Thomas F. Ryan, pastor of Our Lady of Victories Parish, will celebrate his 25th Ordination Anniversary.

Father Ryan was born in Staten Island on June 22, 1967 to Thomas and Ann Marie Ryan. He is one of five siblings: Debbie, Kelly, Robert and Ann Marie. Father attended St. James Grammar School in Basking Ridge and Oratory Prep in Summit. He graduated from Seton Hall University with a BS in Physics and a minor in Philosophy. Father also attended St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia.

Father Ryan was ordained on May 22, 1993 by Bishop Edward T. Hughes in the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen. While in the seminary, Bishop Hughes requested that Father Ryan study the Spanish language.



Rev. Thomas F. Ryan

Father attended the Malloy College Summer Institute at Centro Capichino, Rio Piedras, in Puerto Rico during the summer session in 1991. In 1992 he attended the Cuernavaca Language School, Cuernavaca, Mexico. Father Ryan has been active in the Spanish Ministry of the Diocese of Metuchen since 1994.

Father Ryan has had many parish assignments throughout the diocese of Metuchen. He began his ministry in 1993 at Our Lady of the Mount in Warren as an associate pastor. From 1994 to 1997 he was an associate pastor and administrator at La Asuncion Parish in Perth Amboy. He continued his ministry at St. John the Baptist in New Brunswick from 1997 to 2000 as both associate pastor and administrator. Father then returned to Perth Amboy to serve as pastor of Holy Trinity Parish from 2000 to 2009. Also during this period Father Ryan served as administrator to Our Lady of Hungary (2000-2006). He was also pastor of St. Mary from 2005 to 2009. Father Ryan became pastor of Our Lady of Victories in Sayreville in 2009 where he presently serves.

Father Ryan has served as the chaplain for both the Perth Amboy Fire Department and NJ State Exempt from 2005 to the present date. He serves as chaplain to the Sayreville Police Department since 2015. He recently received a certificate of training in the Police Chaplain Program.

Father is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is also a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem. He was elevated in November 2013 to Knight Commander.



Radio personality Howard Stern (l) inducts former Sayreville resident and founder of the Bon Jovi band, Jon Bon Jovi into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. See more photos on page 16.

## Bon Jovi Finally Inducted Into Hall Of Fame

By Tom Burkard

The mega band Bon Jovi, after over 30 years of super hit songs, and playing all over the world numerous times, was at long last inducted into the prestigious Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on April 14 at Public Hall in Cleveland, Ohio. In 2008, they became eligible for the Hall, but for some unknown, mysterious reason were denied entry. Led by founder/frontman Jon Bon Jovi formerly of Sayreville, the other group members inducted included David Bryan, Edison; Richie Sambora, Woodbridge; Tico Torres, Woodbridge; Alec John Such, Perth Amboy; and Hugh McDonald, Philadelphia.

Jon Bon Jovi selected radio personality "King of All Media," Howard Stern, to introduce/induct the band, and the flamboyant radio jock was superb as always, poking jabs and insults at Jann Wenner, who is the co-founder of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame for taking so long to admit Bon Jovi.

Following Stern, Bon Jovi's new Hall of Fame members each gave a speech, and Jon Bon Jovi by far, was the most interesting and poignant at times, as he went back to the very beginning when his mother bought him

a new guitar as a young boy, working at the legendary Power Station in New York City, taking a demo cassette he made to a radio station, and seeing his dream come true, as the radio DJ's liked his song "Runaway," played it, and the rest is history. He also traced every step of his amazing career, never failing to thank countless people who helped the group along the ladder of success, and acknowledged family and friends for their support.

The original group along with the current lineup of Bon Jovi entertained the crowd with huge hits including "You Give Love A Bad Name," "It's My Life," "When We Were Us," and closed with "Livin' On A Prayer."

It was a long road from Sherwood Forest in Sayreville to the top of the mountain in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, but Jon and the boys made it, bringing happiness to their millions of loyal fans.

Congratulations go out to Bon Jovi, especially homegrown Jon on such a tremendous career and accomplishment! Keep on rockin'!

## Former Councilman Leslie Dies

By Tom Burkard

Former South Amboy Councilman/Businessman Robert "Bob" F. Leslie, 80, of Brick died on March 30. Bob was the owner of Leslie & Son Roofing in South Amboy for many years, and served as Councilman-At-Large for the "Pleasant Little City" in 1970. He was also a U.S. Air Force veteran, an exempt member of the Mechanicsville Fire Dept., and a member of the South Amboy Lions Club, the South Amboy Elks, and a 4th Degree member of the South Amboy

Knights of Columbus Council #426. Bob was a 1955 St. Mary's HS graduate who played varsity basketball for Coach Woodrow "Woody" McCarthy. He also coached the Mechanicsville Fire Dept. team in the South Amboy Babe Ruth League in the late 1970's, assisting Russ Stillwagon and Pete Huryk.

Bob's bright smile and pleasant personality will be sadly missed, but never forgotten by those whose lives he touched in such a positive and uplifting manner.

## New Members Wanted

South Amboy Senior Citizens Club is seeking new members. Anyone 60 years old that lives in South Amboy or has an 08879 zip code is eligible to join. Meetings are every 2nd Wednesday at 12 noon at the

Members Wanted Senior Building on Stevens Ave. Come, have fun and join us for lunch, and see if you are interested and would like to join. Call Gretchen at 732-721-2501 or Sandy at 732-721-6576.

## Blacked Out And Drenched

By Steve Schmid

The early spring of 2018 will be remembered by local citizens as one of the wettest and coldest seasons ever. Sayreville and South Amboy were hit April 16 with up to four inches of rain and strong wind gusts of over 40 miles an hour. The storm caused widespread flooding which made it difficult to get to work Monday morning. The flooding rains contributed to several accidents. Many homes experienced water in their basements. Interstate 287 in Edison looked like a canal during the height of the storm. Traffic on Lower Main St. in Sayreville was slowed due to high water. The rain and wind storm came on the heels of several power outages that blacked out homes in Sayreville and South Amboy April 14 and 15. JCP&L said bad weather and equipment failures contributed to the outages. More than 2,100 homes were affected by the outage which also affected Old Bridge and Spotswood. We can only hope the month of May will finally bring consistently better weather.

## Former Sayreville Councilman Makransky Dies

By Tom Burkard

Frank Makransky, 81, a Sayreville Councilman for several terms, who served as Council President, died on April 17. He served the Borough of Sayreville for over 10 years, and was very active in the community he loved so much. A member of many local organizations, he was a past treasurer of the Morgan Lions Club, and also Past President of the local chapter of the Polish National Alliance. He was one of the end caps on the "Chain Gang" at Bomber home football games during the late 80's and early 90's, and was also involved in Cub Scouts, and coached Little League with his children. Frank was a great man, who was always dedicated to Sayreville, and will be missed but never forgotten for his contributions to the Borough.

## Makar Reaches Milestone!



South Amboy HS Senior Jenna Makar recorded her 100th career hit on April 20th against Piscataway Vo-Tech. Congratulations Jenna! See more photos on page 17. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

Next Issue May 26th - Deadlines May 14th

Memorial Day, Father's Day

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Brian Kelly (l), George Fuller (c), and Dennis Doll (r), were honored on March 26th at the New Jersey State House by Senator Joseph Vitale and Assembly House Speaker Craig Coughlin for being selected as Grand Marshals along with other Grand Marshals from around the state for their excellent performances in their respective communities at their St. Patrick's Day Parades. (Photo/Story by Jan Williams)

## Talk Of The Towns

By Tom Burkard

### O'Leary Ran In Boston Marathon

Former South Amboy resident, Tom O'Leary, battled poor weather conditions, and ran and finished the Boston Marathon. Always a great competitor in local sports in the South Amboy Youth Leagues, and St. Mary's HS, Tom showed his mettle and determination in this highly-prestigious race. Congratulations, Tom! South Amboy is proud of you!

### Local Wins Jersey Cash 5

South Amboy's George Lawrinczuk shared \$1,616,678 in the Jersey Cash 5 jackpot for Sept. 24. N.J. Lottery announced that his winnings amounted to \$808,339. His plans now include getting a new vehicle to replace his old minivan, moving to a different house, and giving back to people who helped him during tough times in the past. Congratulations, George!

### It's Tree Time Again

Spring is here, and it's time to get your trees in shape for the upcoming season! If you're looking for the best in the business,

look no further than Jerome Tree Service, located in the nearby South Amboy/Sayreville area. Owner Bob Jerome offers 30 years experience in tree & stump removal, pruning, topping, and tree feeding. He is fully insured, gives free estimates and provides excellent service for either residential or commercial. Give Bob a call today at 732-727-4929.

## College News

### Graduates

Boston University-Alicja Wisniowska, Sayreville.

### Dean's List-Fall Semester

Purchase College-Robert Reddington, Sayreville.

### Scholarship Awards For Fall

Berkeley College  
Debby Stacy Campos, Parlin, Sayreville War Memorial HS; Melissa Diaz, Parlin, Sayreville War Memorial HS; Tianna Jaelynn Spencer, Sayreville, Sayreville War Memorial HS; Vy Nguyen, Parlin, Sayreville War Memorial HS. Nicholas Justin Liberal, South Amboy, Old Bridge HS; Courtney McMahon, South Amboy, South Amboy Middle HS.

## OLV Senior Meeting

The OLV Senior Group will hold their May meeting on Friday, May 4, 2018 at 1 PM in Monsignor Dalton Hall. Prior to our regular business meeting, we will have our annual May Crowning to the Blessed Mother. After our business meeting, coffee/tea and cake will be served. Payments are due for the Virginia trip and the new Mt. Airy Lodge Casino trip. Deposits will be taken for all other trips. Food donations will be taken for the St. Vincent DePaul pantry. For further information contact Teri at 732-727-7639.

The Miraculous Prayer  
Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favors. This time I ask you this my special one (mention favor). Take it, Dear Jesus, and place it within your own broken heart, where your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes, it will become your favor, not mine. Amen. (Say this prayer for 3 days, promise publication and your favor will be granted. Never known to fail.) -M.S.

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**PLEASANT LITTLE TRIVIA**  
By Tom Burkard

- What year did Bob's Barber Shop in South Amboy relocate to 508 Washington Ave., South Amboy?  
a.1976 b.1982 c.1985
- Who was the first woman to hold the office of President in the Morgan First Aid back in '85?  
a.Mary Spinello b.Barbara Szabo c.Susan Perez
- In 1985, this bar was located on North Stevens Ave., South Amboy?  
a.Key Largo b.Brothers Inn c.The Dugout
- This expert on railroads had his own railroad museum in South Amboy?  
a.Frederick Deibert b.Laurence O. Edwards c.James Springer
- What year did the South Amboy Sabres Pop Warner Football League team cancel its season?  
A.1966 b.1968 c.1978
- In 2001, this Auto Body shop was located on Rt. 35 South in Morgan?  
a.Gomolka's b.Navarro's c.Top Deal
- In 2001, this dance center was located at 2909 Washington Rd., Parlin by Shop Rite?  
a.Steppin' Out b.A Step In Time c.Dance Away
- Owner of the popular Sayreville Bar & Restaurant for many years?  
a.Walter Mayer b.John Sinkiewicz c.Mary Raymond
- This Taxidermy business was located in Sayreville in 2001?  
a.Big Bucks b.Trophy c.Strickly Mounts
- In '01, this seafood/steakhouse/lounge was located on Rt. 9 North, Sayreville not far from Peter Pa  
a.The Lagoon b.The Pier On 9 c.Dock Of The Bay

Answers  
1c 2b 3a 4b 5c 6a 7b 8c 9c 10b



## Business Of The Month

### Mel's Pet Parlor



Owner/Pet Stylist Melanie Bellotto (r) and Pet Stylist Kristin Alfaro (l) are pictured after beautifully grooming a customer's pet dog. If your pet is ready for a special grooming, stop in Mel's Pet Parlor, 137 Main St., Sayreville, or call 732-307-2116 for an appointment. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Melanie Bellotto, owner and pet stylist at Mel's Pet Parlor is approaching her fourth year on Main Street in Sayreville. Mel's Pet Parlor is open Tuesday through Saturday and they offer a late night on Wednesday for your convenience. Mel and her assistant Kristin, continue to make your pets feel at home while being pampered.

They offer professional haircuts,

awesome shampoo selections, flea and tick treatment etc. Your pet will receive loads of TLC spending the day with the ladies. There are some great specials for Spring of 2018 going on right now. This includes money off of a deshedding bath and grooming raffles for cats and dogs. Please call ahead to secure an appointment, 732-307-2116.

They can't wait to meet you and your pets!

## South Amboy Honor Societies New Inductees



South Amboy Education Association provided refreshments and congratulations to the South Amboy Middle/High School Honor Societies new inductees during the tapping ceremony on April 23rd. (Photo/info submitted)

## South Amboy's New BA Glenn Skarzynski

By Tom Burkard

The new Business Administrator for the City of South Amboy is Glenn Skarzynski. He is a Sayreville resident, whose family has deep ties to South Amboy. Glenn's grandfather was born on Walnut Street, and there are more than a few cousins that still reside in the city.

He served as a Sayreville Police Officer for 30 years and retired at the rank of Captain in 2016. He holds a BS in Criminal Justice Administration and a Masters in Public Administration, and is a



Glenn Skarzynski

NJ certified Paramedic. Glenn shared with us that the only thing worse than his golf game is his bagpiping. He is the proud father of Adam and Hannah, and is looking forward to meeting with city residents to determine what skills he can bring to bear to enhance the level of service the City of South Amboy can offer its residents.

On behalf of myself and the entire SA Times staff, I would like to wish Glenn the best of luck and success!



Former South Amboy/Sayreville resident, Bill "Biff" McKeon (l), who is the Radio Analyst for the Evansville Otters minor league baseball team, is pictured during an interview with Otters TV personality Zane Clodfelter. You can see the interview on youtube.com by going to Evansvilleotters.com. (Photo/info submitted)

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Yearbook-St. Mary's 1968

By Tom Burkard

Wow! 50 years already! It seems like time really does fly. St. Mary's HS Class of '68 had some of the finest people you'd ever want to meet. Sister M. Madeline was principal, Msgr. Sullivan, pastor. Some popular teachers included: Sister Amadeo, Father Fulton, James Dowd, Sister Dominic, Richard Mager, Stephen Nestinger, Ronald Lucas, Sister Mary Richard, Walt Peto, Charles Nuziale, Pat Smith, Sister Monica Marie, Tom Otto. Even though the school was on split sessions since the devastating fire of May 4, 1966, there were plenty of "groovy" activities happening at SM. Sister Anicetus directed the Annual Sing-Out in October. Seniors who turned in outstanding singing performances were Mary Fogarty, Rich Beyer, Antoinette Lagoda and Nancy Stochel. Rock bands in the show were the legendary group "The Profits," and "The End." Tom Kelly was Student Council President, who later went on to become the most famous '68 grad by managing the Minnesota Twins Major League Baseball Club to the World Series Championship in 1987 and 1991. Jim Coan was vice-president, and Donna Vigilante secretary-treasurer.

Joe Jaskowiak shared his memories of the Class of '68. "I remember the great basketball team and the games against Hoffman... Being a boy cheerleader (remember how I dropped the megaphone)?... Playing baseball and the fun rides to the away games... The Christmas Ball in the cafeteria... The assassinations of Dr. Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy... The weekly dances in the cafeteria... Getting accepted to college... Getting screwed out of a class trip because of the problems of the senior class the year before. Instead, our class went to Keyport (I believe) to see "Gone With The Wind." I didn't go and went to school instead, because I thought that if Sacred Heart Grammar School 8th grade could take a trip to Washington, D.C., why couldn't a high school do something similar?"

Members of the Class of '68 selected randomly: John Andolfi, Nancy Banfield, Constance Banilis, Maryanne Bergin, Rich Beyer, Deborah Biesiada, Ann Bilotta, John Camire, Marguerite Buckley, Gerald Caracappa, Francis Cata, Tony Carrino, Gene Chodkiewicz, Jim Coakley, Bob Coakley, Carol Connors, Kathy Coman, John Cooney, Barbara Coulter, Kevin Crowley, Toni DeGruccio, Elizabeth Dempsey, Karen Detlefsen, Jack Diem, John Dorvin, Tom Downs, Vaughn Duffy, Marguerite Doyle, Francis Fee, Kathy Fitzmorris, Marilyn Franconero, Lynn Freeman, Linda Gallagher, Jim Gallagher, Kathleen Griffith, John Gulick, Alan Hahn, Linda Hanko, Ellen Hall, Pat Harland, Carol Healy, Kathy Hendricks, Joe Hogan, Tom Holovacko, Ellenann Jacoutot, Bob Jones, Louise Keenan, Karen Kennedy, Sharon Kelly, Kathy Kennedy, Craig Kierst, Maureen Kirk, Esther Klemens, Sharon Kokoszka, Jane Kuczynski, Tim Lasko, Joan Laurie, Judy Leslie, Joanne Lewandowski, Eileen Loftus, Eileen McCabe, Kathy McBain, Mary Rita McCarthy, Bill McConnell, Larry McGinn, Sheila Neilan, Vicky Przygocki, Nancy Stochel, Alice McQuade, Bill O'Hare, Maureen O'Keefe, Barbara Olszewski, Carol Paulukiewicz,

Dorothy Pavlonnis, Ed Percheski, Patricia Pizzillo, Gail Powell, Vicky Przygocki, Diane Ridgeway, Barbara Russell, Ellen Rosenbohm, Veronica Ruzsala, Ron Seaman, Linda Sedlak, Steve Skarzynski, Monica Seaman, Henry Skarzynski, Joan Smolinski, Celeste Smith, Bill Sorrentino, Maryann Stader, Marylou Soden, Kathy Stankiewicz, Ray Stanley, Greg Stockinger, Maryann Stanton, Kevin Stover, Ron Stramback, Susan Sullivan, Henry Sutter, Charlotte Trpisovsky, Maureen Thornton, Keith Tedesco, Karen Walczak, Tom Wronski, Helen Wyluda, Victor Zakrzewski. Please take a moment to remember the following deceased class members and any others who passed away that we are not aware of: Sue Erickson, George Gilbert, Victoria Gilbert, Barbara Hahn, Mike Krotosek, Billy McKain, Elizabeth Nebus, Claire Meehan, Jim Coan.

A change was in the air, not only nationally with anti-war and civil rights demonstrations, but also in South Amboy at St. Mary's. The Sisters of Mercy underwent a major change in their wardrobe, as they literally "changed their habits." Their new look featured shorter skirts and habits that actually showed their hair! December 1967 was a busy month for Maryites. The Christmas Ball was held on Dec. 9th in the cafeteria, and the theme was "Winter Wonderland." Bids were only \$4 and limited to upperclassmen. Music was by Mother's Little Helpers. Were you there? On Dec. 14th, the Annual Festival of Carols was a huge success. Carolyn Dahl's rendition of "I Wonder As I Wander" was a big hit, and the grand finale "O Come All Ye Faithful" brought the house down, and heightened the Christmas Spirit. The Annual Retreat took place during the week of Jan. 29, 1968, and the theme was "Love." The Annual Talent Show featured 3 bands, The Banana Dump Truck, The Executives, and The Mixed Breed. The school play, "Brigadoon" ran from May 3-5 and was a smash hit. Juniors Kathy Roehrich and Bob Blakeslee played the lead roles. Henry Sutter was Editor-In-Chief of the yearbook. Other Editor-In-Chiefs were Judy Chevalier-"The Crown," and Kevin Stover-"Blue" the literary magazine. Remember the magazine drive? Did you sell any? Mary Fogarty was president of the Glee Club. Frank Kapica was president of the C.Y.O. Bowling League. One of the most talented rock 'n' roll bands in the area, The Profits, consisted of Bob Toye, Jim Coan, Mike Henry, Joe DeLucia, and Tim Tice. This band was a true pleasure to see and listen to, as they played at probably more than half of the weekly St. Mary's dances, as well as at other locations for 4 years. Talented senior athletes included Tom "Red" Kelly, Rick Ragula, Joe Jaskowiak, Tom Dowd, Bob "Zak" Sekerak, Alex "Lee" Chylko, Joe Donnelly, Bill Farrell, Jim Gordon, Fred Henry, Mike Krotosek, Ed Lee, Jack Phillips, Tom MacKay, Jack O'Connor, Joe Noble. At graduation time 1968, Simon & Garfunkel's "Mrs. Robinson" was the top song in the nation. St. Mary's Class of '68 was truly an outstanding group of individuals, who went on to make a very positive impact on society.

Lip Sync 33 Winners!



Continuing the tradition South Amboy Schools held its 33rd annual Lip Sync Contest on April 19th; Pictured (l-r) are the winners: 2nd place grades 1-2 Brooke Moehl and Gianna Romano, 1st place grades 3-5 Alexander DeGrazia, 1st place grades 1-2 Daria Dobrin, 2nd place grades 6-11 Teddy Lenahan and Jada Pagan, 1st place grades 6-11 Enna Glasser, Isaiah Mercado, Ben Hernandez, 1st place grades 1-2 Mia McCall (Photo by Brianna Merriman)








































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Celebrity judges were treated to a wonderful culinary experience as they sampled work from Middlesex County College Professor Andrew Rubin's Quantity Food Production and Menu Design class. From left, Dorothy K. Power, chairman of the Board of Trustees; Mark McCormick, vice president for academic and student affairs; College President Joann La Perla-Morales; Joseph Egan, owner of the Jersey Mike's franchise in New Brunswick; Mary-Pat Maciolek, chair of the Hospitality, Culinary Arts and Dietetics Department at MCC; and Professor Rubin. The group toured the food lab and spoke with students. Mr. Egan was on campus to talk with college officials about developing food management internship opportunities with Jersey Mike's. (Photo/Info Submitted)

## Connections Program Seeks Volunteers

The Connections Program of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, a voluntary child to adult match program is seeking adult volunteers to provide a positive friend relationship to children and youth that has suffered a loss or has special needs. These children reside in Middlesex County and Franklin Township and are in desperate need of a positive role model. Adult Volunteers are being sought to make a difference in the lives of children and youth through one-to-one activities.

Any individual 18 years old or older, of any ethnic, religious or economic background, who is interested in making a positive impact on a child's life is eligible to become an adult volunteer mentor.

All adult volunteers will be screened, receive training, staff support and other services as needed. If you are interested in learning more about the Connections Mentoring Program, please contact Jeanette Cullen at (732) 738-1323.

## Speaker Coughlin Statement on 50th Anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Death

New Jersey General Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin (D-Middlesex) released the following statement commemorating the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s death:

"On this day in 1968 we lost one of our greatest civil rights leaders.

"It's easy to forget that he was only 39 at the time of his death because he was so extraordinary.

"I see his example in the young people who have been galvanized into action and have led rallies and marches for the greater good. I hope they will continue to honor his legacy with their activism.

"This is a difficult time in our country. Division, mistrust and hatred are being propagated by the very institutions and people who should be bringing us together. Now more than ever, we need to hold on to the ideals professed by Dr. King, and like

him, we need to be brave and steadfast in our convictions.

"We are better today than where we 50 years ago, but there is still a lot of work to do before we become the nation that Dr. King dreamed about. Structural racism, poverty and income inequality still plague our country. We all have a responsibility to see his vision of an equal and just America come to fruition.

"Dr. King said, 'if you can't fly, run. If you can't run, walk. If you can't walk, crawl, but by all means, keep moving.'

"These words are especially poignant right now. I encourage everyone to take heed of these words and make them their personal mantras. The only way we're going to right the wrongs that persist in this country is by speaking up and taking action. Let's all be more like the fearless Dr. King."

## Children Learn Water Safety

As part of the Y's commitment to reduce drowning rates and keep kids safe in and around the water, the YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy will provide scholarships for swim instruction and water safety to children from underserved communities in their service areas.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, fatal drowning is the second-leading cause of death for children ages one to 14. A study conducted in 2011 by USA Swimming found that in ethnically diverse communities, the youth drowning rate is two to three times higher than the national average. Additionally, nearly six out of 10 African American and Hispanic/Latino children are unable to swim, nearly twice as many as their Caucasian counterparts.

"Educating children about how to be safe around water is just as important as teaching them to look both ways before they cross the street," said Susan Chanese, Aquatics Director/Water Safety Specialist at the South Amboy YMCA. "The Y teaches children of all ages and backgrounds that water should be fun, not feared, and this practice not only saves lives, it builds confidence."

The Y has been a leader in providing swim lessons and water safety for more than 95 years. The YMCA of MEWSA continues to help youth experience the joy and benefits

of swimming so they can be healthy, confident and secure in the water. Students are taught personal water safety and basic swimming skills including practicing safe water habits, engaging in underwater exploration and learning how to swim to safety and exit in the event of falling into water.

In addition to learning lifesaving water safety skills, children can increase their physical activity by swimming. Swimming also motivates children to strive for self-improvement, teaches goal orientation and cultivates a positive mental attitude and high self-esteem. It teaches the life lessons of sport and sportsmanship, so that children can learn how to work well with teammates and coaches and how to deal with winning and losing—skills that last a lifetime.

To learn how to qualify for financial assistance, please contact Susan Chanese at 732-553-9622 or at [susan.chanese@ymcaofmews.org](mailto:susan.chanese@ymcaofmews.org).

PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY  
Oholy 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 request here). Dearest St. Anthony, reach down from heave 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. M.S.



## Local Business Owners Retire and Introduce New Owners



Jean Marie Pelkowki and Phyllis Greywolfe owners of Poochie Doo All Breed Grooming have retired after 30 years of grooming. On March 31st they hosted an open house at the shop for their many friends and loyal customers. During the open house they introduced the new owners, South Amboy residents Stacie and Brenda Sabol. Pictured (l-r) Jean Maire, Stacie, Brenda and Phyllis. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

## MCC and Rider University Sign Guaranteed Transfer Agreement

Rider University and Middlesex County College recently signed a guaranteed transfer agreement to reaffirm their original 1999 agreement and expand students' abilities to earn Bachelor's Degrees.

Additionally, 32 program-to-program agreements, ranging from education to science to business, were also signed. Symbolically, the transfer agreement for Rider's new Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a major in Business Analytics was signed during the ceremony held at the Corral in the College Center.

"We are always pleased to provide prospective students with alternative means to achieve their educational goals," said Rider President Gregory G. Dell'Omo. "These transfer agreements represent clear pathways for MCC students who wish to pursue their

Bachelor's Degrees at Rider."

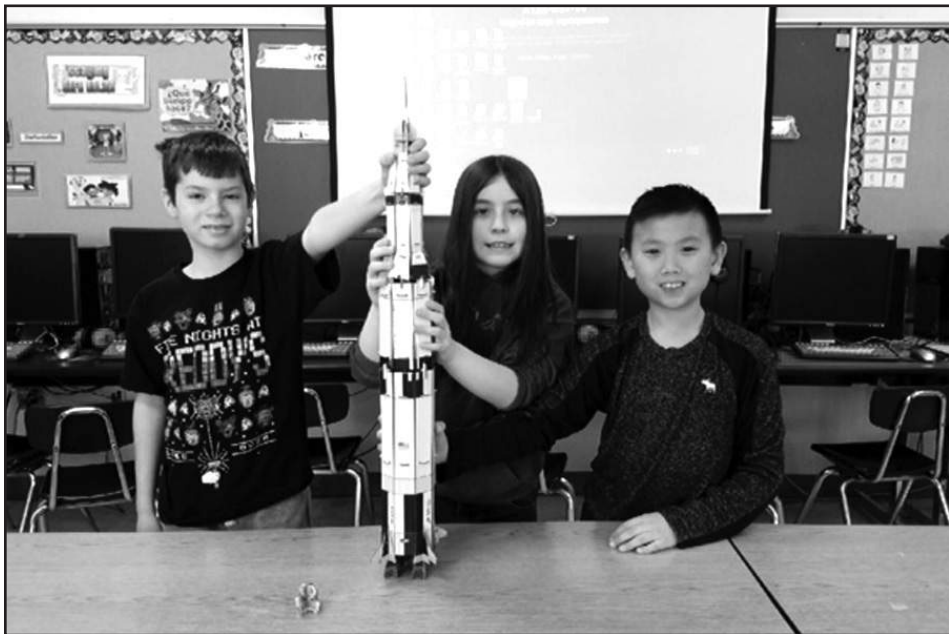
Dr. Dell'Omo was joined by Rider's Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Donna Jean A. Fredeen; MCC President Joann La Perla-Morales; and MCC Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Mark McCormick.

"We are pleased to be signing this agreement with Rider University," said Dr. La Perla-Morales. "This collaboration will provide Middlesex County College graduates with the opportunity to transfer seamlessly to more than 30 programs at Rider University. We thank Rider University for its vision to provide opportunity for our graduates."

For more information about transferring credits to Rider, visit [www.rider.edu/admissions/transfer/transfer-your-credits](http://www.rider.edu/admissions/transfer/transfer-your-credits).

## STEM Rocketry & Engineering Project

(Photo/story submitted)



Jack Flood, Nico Grasso & Noah Cruz became Rocket Scientists. To begin they watched a YouTube video about the main components of a rocket and stage separation. They had to research rocket vocabulary including the uses of rockets, fuel and power structure. Using the set of directions, each one constructed a paper rocket including nose cone and fins. These rockets were tested for flight and distance was recorded and compared. For assessment, they had to assemble a three foot model Saturn Five rocket using 88 parts. Each student took a

stage to assemble then joined them together to form the rocket. They dove into this project with great enthusiasm and collaboration. This project required precise assembly, and inspired them to reach for the stars.

For closure, The Cool Math website offers the activity "Into Space" where students launch a rocket into the sky and fly to the moon. There are many obstacles in the way so you must make the right decisions when traveling like fuel, directions and making money to upgrade your ship

### PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

(To be said when problems arise or when one seems to be deprived of all visible help, on far cases almost despaired of). Most holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the church honors and invokes you universally as the patron of hopeless cases, of things almost despaired of, pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Make use I implore you of that particular privilege given to you, to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, and that I may praise God with you and all the elect forever. I promise O Blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor, to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen. Thank You St. Jude. -E.P.

### PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

(To be said when problems arise or when one seems to be deprived of all visible help, on far cases almost despaired of). Most holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the church honors and invokes you universally as the patron of hopeless cases, of things almost despaired of, pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Make use I implore you of that particular privilege given to you, to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, and that I may praise God with you and all the elect forever. I promise O Blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor, to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen. Thank You St. Jude. -M.A.S.

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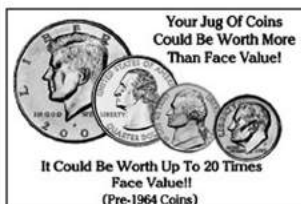
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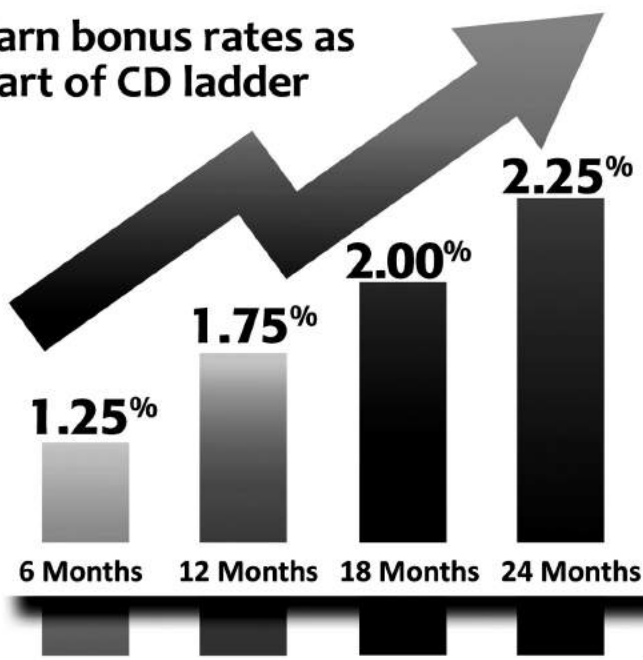
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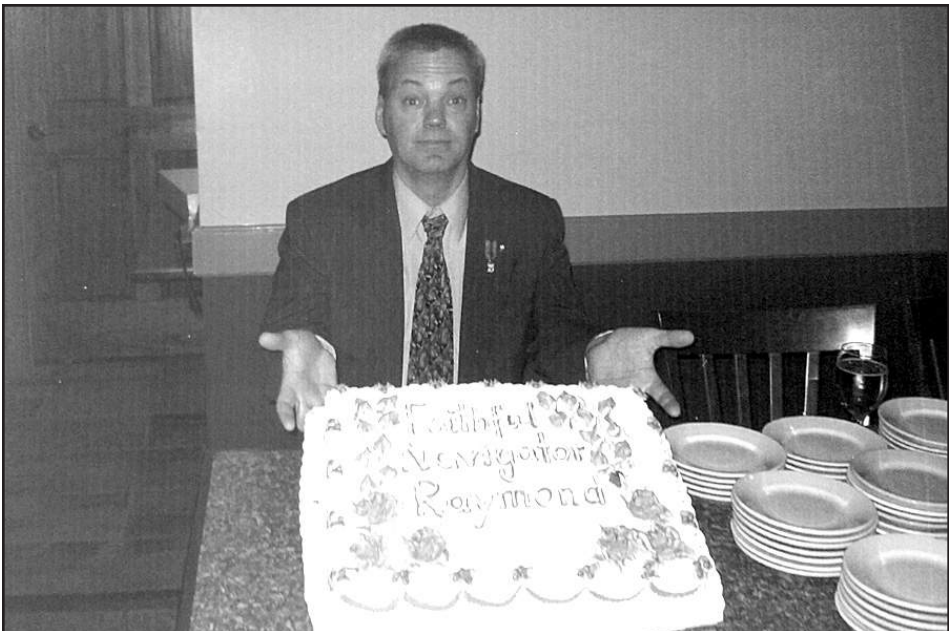


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On April 15th, the Msgr. John F. Brady Assembly (4th Degree) hosted a dinner for Past Faithful Navigator Ray Suchcicki. Ray worked tirelessly, not only for the council, but has served the 4th Degree as Color Corps Commander, various officer positions, and much more. In addition, he is a Past Grand Knight of Council #426. Let us not forget Ray's wife, Toni, for her dedicated years of service also to the Knights of Columbus. (Photo/story by Jan Williams)

## SOUTH AMBOY ELEMENTARY ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT FOR MP 3 - 2017/18

**FOURTH GRADE-HONOR ROLL WITH DISTINCTION:** Joseph Foreman, Ashley Moreira Burgos, Sophia Pham, Taylor Sofilkanich and Saahir Vazirani.  
**HONOR ROLL:** Isabel Barlowski, Gia Calisi, Lucas Cerria, Jaylin Diaz, Joseph Dominguez, Lily Falkena, Anthony Kucharczyk, Hali McNulty, Joseph Mercado, Rocco Navarria, Nadia Nieves, Izabella Pardo, Luca Regan, Xavier Rivera, Francisco Rodriguez, Caleb Sambucci and Katelynn

Wolff.  
**FIFTH GRADE-HONOR ROLL WITH DISTINCTION:** Amanda Moreira Burgos.  
**HONOR ROLL:** Aasher Aamir, Dina Bashir, Rose Bednarski, Bryan Bruno-Rodriguez, Alexander De Grazia, Caylin Gulick, Eryk Gurdak, Emily Herrera, Josef Hoenle, Nigel Johnson, Samuel Kaplan, Anya Pathak, Genevieve Pierre, Aaliya Piperto, Jayleen Quintana, Ola Slomiany, Christian Stair and Mary Thomas.

## Events at the Dowdell Library

(Story submitted)

Stop by the Dowdell Library this May for fun storytimes, a workshop on starting a business and the monthly knitting and crocheting club.

Celebrate Mexican culture and heritage at the Cinco de Mayo Party on Wednesday, May 2 from 3:30-4:30 pm. Hear a story in English/Spanish, enjoy a Mexican snack, and learn about the Mexican culture! Ages 3+

Stop by for May the 4th (Star Wars Day) on Friday, May 4 from 3:30-4:30. We'll hear out of this galaxy stories, and make a fun, space themed craft. Ages 3+

Join us for a "Starting a Business in NJ," presented by the State Department of Treasury on Monday, May 14 from 4:30-6:15. Find out about different business structures, as well as registering a business in New Jersey. Limited to 25 participants. To register, please contact the Dowdell Library at 732-721-6060 or email comments@dowdell.org

Party like a princess or a pirate on Wednesday, May 16 from 3:30-4:30 pm. Whether you are royalty or a scallywag,

enjoy a quest for treasure, receive a crown or a gold coin printed from the 3D Printer, use the 3D pens and enjoy food for the good and the rotten! Costume contest! Ages 3+

Do you have knitting or crocheting questions? Stop by and enjoy working on your knitting projects while chatting with friends. Meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. 6 - 8 pm.

Coming in June! Adult Tea Party, Essential Oil Basics and Help with Alzheimer's Problems. Inquire about the daylong event on Monday, June 18 starting at 4 pm.

To learn more about upcoming library programs, sign up for the monthly eNewsletter at <http://dowdell.org/newslettersignup.html>

The Dowdell Library's hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10 am to 8 pm, Wednesday and Friday from 10 am to 5 pm, and Saturday from 12 to 4 pm. The library is closed on Saturdays starting Memorial Day Weekend, May 26 through Labor Day Weekend Saturday,

## Congratulations!



South Amboy Police Officer Jim Charmello (c) built this cooler, and raffled it off for the benefit of the Unity Tour. Kelly Flannery (l) won the drawing, and is now the proud owner of this fine item. Police Officer Al Kester is pictured on the right. Main Liquors and Wines, on Main St., and also Krauszer's on Bordentown Ave. helped to promote the benefit drawing. (Photo courtesy of Hershey Patel, owner of Main Liquors & Wines)

A PRAYER FOR HEALING  
Lord, you invited all who are burdened to come to You. Allow your healing hand to heal me. Touch my soul with Your compassion for others. Touch my heart with Your courage and infinite love for all. Touch my mind with Your wisdom, that my mouth may always proclaim Your praise. Teach me to reach out to You in my need. Help me to lead others to You by my example. Most loving heart of Jesus, bring me health in my body and spirit so that I may serve You with all my strength. Touch gently with this life that you have created. Amen -T.B..

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Preschool Initiative

(Article submitted)

The South Amboy Public Schools recently received additional funding from the New Jersey Department of Education to continue the preschool initiative at the elementary school. If you have a child who will be four by October 31st, please consider registering him/her in our program. We will be using the “Tools of the Mind” curriculum which mirrors the Acelero Learning initiative.

Our program is proposed to be full-time and provide breakfast and lunch as part of the

initiative as well as a parent component. Field trips for students will also be included in the program for the next school year in order to expose our children to the resources within our local community as well as our county.

If you have any questions or are in need of additional information, please do call Dr. Robbins at 732-525-2100 extension 1229. You may also email her at [crobbins@sapublicschools.com](mailto:crobbins@sapublicschools.com).

Cancer Rehabilitation

By Irina Fookson

More than 350,000 cancer survivors live in New Jersey. Most have undergone surgery, chemotherapy, radiation and/or other treatment as a result of this devastating disease.

They may also be dealing with a wide range of complications, including damage to the nervous system, radiation fibrosis, lymphedema, fatigue, memory loss and a variety of other often painful and activity-limiting conditions.

Now, Kessler offers its ReVital Program for Cancer Rehabilitation, a highly specialized approach to help cancer survivors improve function – mobility, speech, swallowing, and

the ability to participate in daily activities – and decrease fatigue, relieve pain and build strength.

“This highly coordinated program provides the therapies, education and support to optimize each patient’s health, well-being and overall quality of life,” said Irina Fookson, PT, DPT, center manager, Kessler Rehabilitation Center, South Amboy. “Our goal is to help these survivors to live well beyond cancer.”

For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact us 732.525.0123 or [ifookson@kessler-rehab.com](mailto:ifookson@kessler-rehab.com)



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Historic Virginia Trip

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Historic Virginia from June 5 to June 8, 2018. The cost of the trip is \$735.00 which includes accommodations, bus transportation, daily breakfast,

Daily dinner with a dinner at a Williamsburg tavern with evening entertainment, wine tasting , and lunch at the historic Michie Tavern in Monticello .For further information or to reserve a sea please contact Teri at 732-727-7639.

The Joker

By Dennis O'Leary

On the other side of Midnight  
On the deepest edge of the Moon  
I lie here in half slumber  
While the Joker plays His Tune  
Letting go, forgiving  
Laughing down inside  
My Time to Resurrect now  
The broken seed has died  
It had to die down in the soil  
It had nowhere to hide  
The Joker sings the sweetest Tune  
The Joker is now free  
No more need of Hiding  
The Joker , he is me

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May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored and glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude gave me hope. P.S.



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Work is underway to demolish the pedestrian bridge located between Broadway and Mason Ave., South Amboy. The bridge was built in the mid 1920's, and early 30's, and is no longer serviceable, and will not be replaced at this time. Work will be performed during night hours by the New Jersey Transit Railroad, and completed by the end of 2018. (Photo/story by Joe Lotkowitz)

## Easter Vigil



Father Dennis Wezorak Pastor of St. Mary Church lights a candle to begin the Easter Vigil outside the church in the new prayer garden. (Photo by Phyllis Stratton)



## What is Memorial Day

Memorial Day, which was originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance in honor of America's war dead. Decoration Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1866 by General John Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. It was first observed on May 30, 1868. May 30th was chosen specifically because it was not on the anniversary of a major battle. Federal law recognized the holiday as "Memorial Day" in 1967. In 1971, a law was passed moving the date from May 30 to the last Monday in May.

## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - SATURDAY MAY 19TH

**KICKOFF AT 12PM BY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, PARADE ROUTE - STEVENS TO JOHN, ACROSS BROADWAY TO CITY HALL WHERE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES WILL BE HELD.**

**ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND MAY 27TH - CEMETERY SERVICES START AT 9AM AT THE GAZEBO ON BORDENTOWN AVE.**

Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post 62  
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Sons of the American Legion Squadron 62



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The Morphing of South Amboy

By Elaine Holton Scott

The town where I, and generations of my family before me called home, had looked very different than the way it looks now. There were no upscale condos and super pricey homes overlooking the waterfront; no restaurants offering the “in food” of the day; no boardwalk near the water for exercising nor any benches to sit and socialize with friends; no fancy boats sailing in the distance; and surely no signs like “Gateway to the Shore” welcoming strangers to visit. The South Amboy of my youth had been very “insular,” meaning it was off limits to the rest of the world...as in “don’t let the door hit you in your “you-know-what” on your way out.”

When I was growing up, our local shore was the Minnie Ditch, filled with horseshoe crabs, jellyfish, garbage, and every kind of pollutant imaginable. There were no sailboats or speed boats passing by...just tug boats making their fog horn sound. Taking a walk along the water’s edge or a swim in the suspiciously looking brown water had required wearing an old pair of sneakers to protect feet from all the sharp debris. As for swimming, it was done at your own risk since the town didn’t waste any money hiring lifeguards. Paradoxically, because it was our home, the town was just the way we liked it and wanted it to be.

Looking back, I think the best way to describe South Amboy in the 1950’s and 1960’s would be the word, tired. The whole town had a tired kind of look about it, exceptions being the stately, clustered homes on Main Street, and the new developments beginning to “crop up.” Mostly, “the peaceful little city” had basically remained unchanged since the beginning of the 1900s.

Over a century ago, many of the stores along Broadway had been built with facades hiding their roofs just like the saloons recreated for the old cowboy shows of the ‘50s and early ‘60s, which all of us, young and old, had watched. I remember asphalt siding, too, the kind with those tiny pebbly stones pressed into what looked like black tar paper. Seemed like half the town’s buildings were still covered in it when I was a kid. Even the metal mile marker on the corner of Main Street and Stevens Avenue was an antique in the ‘50’s with its black image of a convertible “roadster” with a tire on the back of it, and letters stating, “A.C. 99 miles.”

South Amboy is tired looking no more. New businesses, new ideas, and new faces have changed the town into a desired, upscale little city. Yet, despite all the beautification, upgrades, and new grandeur of our old railroad town, the water once called the Minnie Ditch is still the same water, just far less polluted; many of the old buildings, now “cosmetically improved” still line Broadway; the hole-in-the-wall through which both my great grannies had walked on their trek downtown, as I had done 60 years later, looks unchanged; the old homes throughout the town, beautified so much they’re almost unrecognizable, are still the same houses underneath their fresh coats of paint and expensive siding; and the diminutive Sadie Dowdell, who single-handedly made sure we had books to read in the library located above the bank on Augusta Street and Broadway, may be gone but her memory will endure forever with the Sadie Dowdell Library. South Amboy surely has “morphed,” but somehow, it’s still the same.

ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP TO TROPICANA

New Beginnings Animal Rescue of East Brunswick will sponsor a bus trip to the Tropicana Casino on Sunday May 6, departing from the East Brunswick Community Arts Center, 715 Cranbury Road (across the street from New Beginnings).

Bus leaves at 9:45 AM and returns at 7:30 PM. \$30 per ticket with \$25 casino credit, includes snacks and beverages on the bus. For more info or to purchase tickets please call Karen at 732-816-7381.



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The Smoke Column

By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski, MS

A term that has been widely used in the fire service over the past few years is "Situational Awareness". This term is really a procedure and is taught to firefighters to make them fully aware of their surroundings. This procedure is also used by other agencies including the police and EMS. But what does it really mean and how are we, as firefighters, affected by its use or non-use?

Situational Awareness is an act or procedure, where first responders keep a constant watch on their surroundings. It is very easy to lose focus on the activities that are taking place all around you while you are concentrating on the job in front of you. While attacking a bedroom fire on the second floor of a residential structure, how can you monitor the roof above you or notice that it is beginning to sag in anticipation of a total collapse? How are we able to monitor the progress that we ourselves are making when fighting the fire? If we are placed in a life-threatening situation, when do we start to realize that we ourselves are in trouble? If that occurs, when do we make plans to evacuate before it is too late?

This is where a firefighters training and experience will kick-in and take control. Once a firefighter can understand the concept of Situation Awareness, it then becomes time to advance to the next level. Before conditions start to deteriorate around you, you should be thinking and planning any of the necessary actions to remove yourself safely or more importantly not to get in a life-threatening predicament. Instead of Situational Awareness we should now relate to this step as "Situation Planning". This process needs to be constantly thought about and revised as the situation changes. You must be planning a variety of actions that you will have to take in the event of a catastrophic event occurring. While working

in that ultra-hazardous environment, your senses should be constantly surveying the entire area and considering alternative actions. While working under these pressures, we can't take for granted that someone else will be watching out for our best interests. Yes, we have safety officers that monitor the scene for unsafe conditions, but they may not be able to see everything that is happening at the incident. That is why WE must watch and plan our next move and sometimes the move after that one.

One of the more dangerous environments that first responders find themselves in is at the scene of a motor vehicle accident. In these types of incidents, we have the police working together with fire department and EMS personnel at locations that can turn deadly in an instant. Situational Awareness is paramount out on the roadways because there are so many variables that can cause fatalities to the first responders due to the actions of other motorists. Sure, we take steps to protect ourselves while working under extreme conditions but there is always some unexpected event that can occur. This is where the training, experience, observation, and planning all come together to make the outcome successful both for the victims and all first responders. The next time you plan on doing any training, try using a variety of scenarios that can be modified to fit the level of experience of those in attendance. Present a scenario that can have a variety of outcomes and ask the trainees how the outcome they choose can be achieved in a safe manner.

The next time you as a firefighter, police officer, or EMS provider arrive at any type of incident, don't do so with blinders on. Be aware of your surroundings and plan for the worst-case scenario, it just may be the correct plan of action that will save your life.

Spaghetti Dinner / Tricky Tray

(Article submitted)

Frog Hollow Swim Club will be holding their 3rd annual fund raising spaghetti dinner/tricky tray on Friday, May 4th at the Knights of Columbus, 775 Washington Rd. Parlin from 5-9 pm with the first number for the tricky tray being called at 7:30.

Advance tickets can be purchased online by logging onto "Frog Hollow Swim", click EVENTS and then click on GET TICKETS where prices are listed.

You can also purchase tickets at the door (cash or credit card accepted) for following

prices:

- Adults - 13 & up - \$15.00
- Children - 6 to 12 - \$10.00
- Children under 6 - Free.

Please note: Tickets for tricky tray will be sold separately the night of the dinner. The K of C hall is also handicap accessible. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact: Cathy Keays @ 732-947-0403 or e-mail ckeays0806@gmail.com

GOLF CLASSIC TO BENEFIT HOMELESS PETS

New Beginnings Animal Rescue, 706-R Cranbury Road in East Brunswick, will host their 7th Annual Golf Classic on Monday June 11 at Glenwood Country Club, Route 9 South in Old Bridge. Registration begins at 11:00 AM with a 12 Noon shotgun start and scramble format. Prize categories include Low Gross Men, Women and Co-ed team awards, Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin. A \$10,000 Hole In One prize will

also be offered. The fee of \$145 per golfer includes greens fees, electric cart, locker room facilities, lunch, beverages (beer, wine and soda), dinner and awards. Many sponsorship opportunities are also available.

To register an individual or foursome or for more information on sponsorship please contact event coordinator Karen at 732-816-7381, or visit facebook.com/NBARNJ.



On March 29th members of South Amboy Fire Dept boat rescue team were activated to the SA boat ramp for a vehicle in the water. The driver was rescued by Asst. Fire Chief Brian Tierney and SAPD Ptl. Walt Fuentes by entering the water and pulling the driver from the quickly sinking vehicle. Estimated water temperature was 40°F. The driver was transported by SAFA to hospital for observation. Rescue team members assisted with the vehicle removal. The incident is being investigated by South Amboy Police. (Photo/Info Submitted)

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Middlesex County College is a public community college in Edison, New Jersey offering 90 degree and certificate programs. Together, dedicated teaching faculty, small classes and state-of-the-art learning technologies prepare students for transfer to complete advanced degrees and for 21st century careers. Also available are contract training and numerous non-credit courses.

At Middlesex, students receive the best value available for a quality education with low tuition and fees, scholarships and financial aid programs. Day, evening, weekend and on-line courses are offered for full-time or part-time students. In addition to the main campus, there are centers in New Brunswick and Perth Amboy.

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## High School, College Students Sought For County Youth Conservation Corps

Middlesex County is looking for high school and college students who want to improve and protect our environment and don't mind lifting, bending, and getting dirt under their fingernails.

Applications are now being accepted for the Middlesex County Youth Conservation Corps, whose mission is to protect and preserve the more than 8,000 acres of Open Space owned and maintained by Middlesex County.

The County recognizes that these natural areas must always be guarded from misuse, polluters and the forces of nature, and needs help in keeping these areas green and safe.

Conservation Corps crew members earn \$10.00 per hour and will work Monday - Friday from June 25 through Aug. 17. Work will primarily take place at County Open Spaces in Old Bridge, Monroe and South Brunswick. Students age 16 and over are encouraged to apply.

Activities include trail building, litter clean-up, invasive species removal and wildlife habitat improvements. Applicants should be enthusiastic, motivated and willing to work and learn as a part of a team. Also, applicants must have the capacity to walk several miles and stand for extended periods of time, the willingness to get dirty and work outdoors in various weather conditions and the ability to use various hand tools.

Space is limited. Interested applicants should send a letter of interest and resume for employment to:

Griffith Boyd, Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation, PO Box 661, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

A full job description can be found at [www.middlesexcountynj.gov](http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov). Search "Work With Us." Letters of interest and resumes must be received in the office by May 4, 2018.

For more information, call Griffith Boyd at 732-745-3064.

## NYC Circle Line Trip June 14

Sacred Heart Seniors are sponsoring a trip to the New York City Circle Line Thursday June 14. The Circle Line cruise will take passengers on a leisurely two and a half hour journey around the entire island of Manhattan. You'll see the New York City skyline, Manhattan, Staten Island, Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx. You'll pass under 21 bridges and get a close up view of the Statue of Liberty. You can have a light lunch aboard and then at 2:30 p.m. enjoy early dinner at the South St. Seaport before heading home. Cost of \$73 includes round trip motor coach transportation and Circle Line tickets. Motor

coach leaves the Sacred Heart parking lot at 9 a.m. The Sacred Heart Seniors are also sponsoring a trip Tuesday July 24 to the Hunterdon Playhouse to see the show "Nunsense." Cost is \$90. The Seniors are running a trip to the Crystal Point Yacht Club Tuesday August 7 to see Vincent Talerico and the Jersey Chix. Cost is \$70. The Senior also have a fall outing Wednesday September 26 at Lakeside Manor Route 36 Hazlet for the show "Remembering Patti Page." Cost is \$51. Transportation is on your own. For more information on these trips, please call Judy at 732-727-0154.

## Longwood Gardens Christmas Trip

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Brandywine Valley on November 28 - 29, 2018. The price of the trip is \$275.00 which includes hotel accommodations, breakfast and dinner, admission to Longwood both day and evening for their lighted Christmas display and evening at Harrah's

Casino. In addition bus transportation and bus driver gratuity are also included. We will also have a tour of QVC Studios and a shopping stop at Peddler's Village. For further information or to reserve a seat please contact Teri at 732-727-7639.



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## The South Amboy St. Patrick's Parade Committee

wish to thank all of the following businesses, organizations, and individuals for their generous donations which cover the cost of bands and other expenses for our parade.

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### A Big Thank You to:

Chief Darren LaVigne for coordinating the day's event with the South Amboy Police Department and other local police departments  
South Amboy's Mayor Fred Henry and Council.  
The Office of Emergency Management Middlesex County.  
South Amboy Department of Public Works,  
South Amboy Arts,  
D.B. Kelly Pipes and Drums  
and all the volunteers who supported us!



## Parade Committee

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Jeremiah O'Grady, Website Coordinator  
Committee Members  
Jay Elliott, Karen Chen, Linda Klink,  
Judi Gillingham, Marge Gorczyca



**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARADE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FOR NEXT YEAR:**  
**[WWW.SOUTHAMBOYPARADE.COM](http://WWW.SOUTHAMBOYPARADE.COM)**  
**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:**  
**SOUTH AMBOY ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE COMMITTEE**

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# 2018 Sayreville Little League Opening Day



Photos/captions by Joe Lotkowitz



American Legion Lenape Post #211 of Sayreville presented the colors and unveiled a new 50th Anniversary Vietnam flag.



Pictured are players and coaches from the three, 2017 District 10 championship teams. The champs included Girls 8-10; Boys Little League; Boys Junior League.



Danielle Mara did a wonderful job singing the National Anthem for the Opening Day ceremony.



Sayreville Mayor Kennedy O'Brien is pictured in his traditional position for kicking off the official Little League baseball season. The day was festive and warm after a long winter, so the Mayor kept his speech short with "Play Ball," and the season got underway.



The Sayreville Little League was founded in 1952. Players in the front row (l-r) Ryann Schlaline, Tommy Schlaline, Ben Stoeher, Kenny Laffey. Coaches in back row (l-r) Coach Joe Schlaline (VP Softball functions), and Coach Kenny Laffey (Board Member of Sayreville Little League).

## Vintage Auto



This beautiful 1975 Plymouth Valiant was owned by Jerry Smith of South Amboy. Have any shots of your first car/vehicle? Send it over for our next issue to: satimes@aol.com. (Photo courtesy of Jerry Smith)

## 1987 Hoffman Girls Basketball Championship Team -30-0-The Perfect Storm

By Al Ust

After the 30-0 1986 Season, and 3 Championships, Division, GMC, and State Group 1 Title, the 1987 Hoffman Girls Basketball Team and Coach Reggie Carney were looking to improve. But how?

Mike Flynn, the USA Today sports consultant, approached Reggie Carney and offered the Hoffman Girls an invitation to participate in a National Christmas Tournament being held at Christ The King High School in New York City. He also told Carney he would be going against schools with 2,000 enrollments and did not want Hoffman to be embarrassed. That just got Carney and Hoffman motivated. And since the 1987 Team was loaded, this began what became the Perfect Storm for Girls Basketball. In the Tournament Hoffman opened against Archbishop Carroll of Philadelphia, Pa. and walloped them 67-45. Then defeated Brea Olinda of Calif. 74-72 in OT. This was the closet game of the season for Hoffman. In the Championship Game Hoffman

defeated Hanover Park of NJ. 66-47. Lynn Ust was selected MVP of the Tournament. Then, the regular season began. Hoffman breezed through the Division, and went on to defeat Bishop Ahr in the GMC title game 73-46. Prior to the GMCT, Ernie Vajda head coach of St Peter's (20-5) team, gave the best quote when asked for his thoughts on the County Tournament, "You mean the Hoffman Invitational?"

During the tourney, Trish Popowski scored her 1,000 point, and Lynn Ust broke the county-career record of 2,059 points. In the Group 1 final, Hoffman blasted Waldwick 73-29. Popowski scored 20 in her final game, Ust scored 28 and finished with 2,191 for her career. Lynn was selected MVP for the Tournament. The starters were Chris and Jenny Kuziemski, Lisa Smith/Mary Ann Lewis shared the point, Trish Popowski, and Lynn Ust. Sophomores Chris Kuziemski averaged 12.7 pts. and sister Jennie 11.2, were outstanding all season. Junior Lisa Smith, 8.0 ppg., broke the school record for steals with 133. She was another star of this group.

Other big contributors were soph Chris Noble, freshman Rene Bialoblocki, Mary Ann Stephanick, and Theresa Zulin. Several of the underclassmen would eventually form the nucleus of the 1989 team that went (30-5), and would win the initial NJ Tournament Of Champions, and later be selected to the NJ Hall of Fame.

Senior Mary Ann Lewis, who was a 1986 Home News All-County was like a coach on

the floor, taking after her dad Danny Lewis. Mary Ann sat along her dad's side during his coaching career, and applied the learning with the team. Trish Popowski was selected 1st team All-County by the Home News and TNT. An outstanding player and ball hawk, Trish went on to be An NJ All-State Softball player, and at South Carolina became an alternate for the US Olympic Softball team. She had a great career and was a fantastic player. Lynn Ust was also a NJ All-State Softball player. In '87 in basketball, she was selected Home News and TNT All County 1st Team, Star Leger First team All-State, Home News and TNT Basketball Player of the Year, also Athlete of the Year, Daily News All-Area, Fidelity, NJ Nets Athlete of the Month, USA Today All-USA Team, and finally Converse All- America Team. An outstanding career and great player. She went on to be a two-time Co-MVP basketball player at Rutgers University.

The 1986-87 team finished with 67 consecutive wins, was ranked number 5 by USA Today in their final poll, and the senior players were part of a career 114 victories and 5 losses, plus 4 championships for 1987.

This Hoffman basketball team wound up being one of the best teams to play in the county, state, and country. Over 4 years, the team won 4 Central Jersey Group 1 Titles , 2 GMCT Championships, 3 Group 1 State Titles, and 1 National Christmas Tournament Championship. And, by the way, for 1987, coach Reggie Carney was Home News Coach of the Year, and selected National Coach of the Year by USA Today and Street and Smith. Let's not forget the assistant coaches, Fred Henry, Steve Makwinski, and George Townes. George also was the bus driver for away games. His grandson, Marques Townes also played a key role in getting his team, Loyola, Chicago into the NCAA Final Four in 2018. 1986-87 was a season to remember!

**Note:** North Hunterdon was ranked ahead of Hoffman in the Star Ledger because they had an 81-game win streak . Hoffman's streak was at 67. So, their coach put them on schedule to play at Hoffman, but they did not want to play at the Hoffman "Band Box" (As the small George St. gym was called), so Reggie said we will go to your place, but North Hunterdon declined.

\*A special thank you goes out to Al Ust for contributing his great memories of possibly the best high school girls basketball team in N.J. history.

## Mt. Airy Lodge Casino Trip

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Mt. Airy Lodge Casino on Wednesday, June 13, 2018. The price of the trip includes: Sweet Caroline Neil Diamond Show, a full buffet, \$15 in slot play, bus transportation, bus gratuity, and snacks on the bus. For further information or to reserve a seat please call Finita at 732-721-5081.

## OLV Indoor Flea Market/Vendor Sale

OLV will hold an Indoor Flea Market/ Vendor Sale on Saturday, May 19, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Setup is at 7 a.m.). Cost is \$25 per table at Our Lady of Victories Msgr. Dalton Hall at 42 Main St., Sayreville. Reserve your table by May 12 at olvbballncheer@gmail.com.





**CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY  
MEMORIAL DAY  
PARADE AND SERVICES  
SATURDAY, MAY 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 - 12PM**

***OUR PARADE IS BEING HELD ON THE SATURDAY PRIOR TO MEMORIAL DAY  
WEEKEND TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION BY OUR CITIZENS.  
PLEASE JOIN US AS WE SALUTE OUR SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN!  
\*\*THIS EVENT IS RAIN OR SHINE\*\****

**ALL VETERANS ARE INVITED TO MARCH WITH US!**

***PARADE ROUTE:***

**LINE UP AT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ON 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET AT 11AM**

**PROCEED DOWN STEVENS AVE TO JOHN STREET  
AND UP BROADWAY TO CITY HALL**

**Memorial services will be held at City Hall following the parade.**

**AMERICAN LEGION LUKE A. LOVELY POST 62 WILL BE HOLDING MEMORIAL  
VISITS AT THE FOLLOWING SITES ON SUNDAY , MAY 27<sup>TH</sup> 2018**

- 1) Gazebo on Bordentown Ave. 9:00 am sharp**
- 2) Christ Church Cemetery**
- 3) Morgan Cemetery**
- 4) Morgan Explosion Cemetery**
- 5) Sacred Heart Cemetery**
- 6) St. Mary's Cemetery**
- 7) Benjamin Sebban Monument (at the Waterfront Park)**
- 8) SA Boat ramp**
- 9) American Legion Post 62**

**“GOD BLESS AMERICA!”**

**For additional information, please contact:  
[events@southamboynj.gov](mailto:events@southamboynj.gov) or call Jaclyn Kelly at (732) 525-5965**





Gladys Wehr (2nd from right) and her Frontera Del Norte Mariachi Band entertained the Thursday Sayreville Senior Citizens Club on April 12th. The group performed all types of Mexican music, and those in attendance enjoyed it very much. The group will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo at the Brick House Bar & Grill, 267 Washington Rd. Sayreville, on May 5th, playing authentic Mexican music from 6-8 p.m. (Photo/story by Joe Lotkowitz)

#1 Pop Hits-April 28

- 2003-In Da Club-50 Cent
- 1995-This Is How We Do It-Montell Jordan
- 1982-I Love Rock ‘N Roll-Joan Jett & The Blackhearts
- 1977-Don’t Leave Me This Way-Thelma Houston
- 1968-Honey-Bobby Goldsboro

#1 Country Hits April 28

- 2003-Have You Forgotten?-Darryl Worley
- 1993-She Don’t Know She’s Beautiful Sammy Kershaw
- 1988-I’ll Always Come Back-K.T. Oslin
- 1973-Behind Closed Doors-Charlie Rich
- 1965-King Of The Road-Roger Miller

Music At St. Mary

MASM is pleased to present the 10th Annual Mozart Festival as our final concert of the season. The Saint Mary Chamber Orchestra, under the baton of Maestro Christopher M. C. Deibert will feature teenage piano sensation Matthew Tricarico in a stunning performance of Mozart’s Piano Concerto # 12 in A Major. Additionally, the concert will feature the winds of the orchestra as they perform Mozart’s Serenade

No. 11 for Winds in Eb Major. The program will conclude with Symphony No. 40 in g minor. Come and help us toast the middle of springtime with this unparalleled music. Sunday, May 20, 2018, 4:00pm, at Saint Mary Church, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy NJ, 08879. Free admission (\$15 donation suggested). A celebratory wine and cheese reception will follow the concert.

One Hit Wonders 50 Years Ago...1968

Judy In Disguise (With Glasses)-John Fred & His Playboy Band; Nobody But Me-Human Beinz; Green Tambourine-The Lemon Pipers; Love Is Blue-Paul Mauriat; Playboy-Gene & Debbie; Summertime Blues-Blue Cheer; The Good, The Bad And The Ugly-Hugo Montenegro; Reach Out Of The Darkness-Friend & Lover; MacArthur Park-Richard Harris; The Horse-Cliff Nobles & Co.; Angel Of The Morning-Merilee Rush & The Turnabouts; Tip Toe Thru The Tulips

With Me-Tiny Tim; Here Comes The Judge-Shorty Long; Grazing In The Grass-Hugh Masekela; Here; Pictures Of Matchstick Men-Status Quo; Classical Gas-Mason Williams; Journey To The Center Of The Mind-The Amboy Dukes; Harper Valley P.T.A.-Jeannie C. Riley; Indian Reservation-Don Fardon; Girl Watcher-The O’Kaysions; Fire-The Crazy World Of Arthur Brown; All Along The Watchtower-Jimi Hendrix.

Sayreville HS Marching Band Mattress Fundraiser

Please help support the Sayreville HS Marching Band by coming out and purchasing a new mattress! Save up to 50% off retail prices. All Sizes Available, Firm, Pillow-top, Orthopedic, Latex & Gel Memory Foam Sets, All Mattresses are BRAND NEW with FULL FACTORY WARRANTIES. Adjustable Beds, Luxury Pillows & Mattress Protectors/

Name Brands like Simmons Beautyrest. Layaway & Delivery Available. Cash / Check / Credit Card/ Twin from \$259 / Full from \$289 / Queen from \$299 / King & CA-King from \$499/ When: Saturday, April 28, Time: 10 AM-5 PM, Where: High School Gym. Event Link: for more info: text Bombers to 484-276-4900.

Classic Car Cruise Night May 4

For all of you auto enthusiasts, the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 are holding their annual spring Classic Car Cruise Night Friday May 4 from 6 to 9 pm. The event will be held in the K of C parking

lot at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. Trophies will be awarded to the best entries. Hot dogs, hamburgers, snacks, and refreshments will be available. For more information call Jan at 732-553-9060.



## Music Trivia

### Planes, Jets, Boats, Taxis, Trains

By Tom Burkard

1. \_\_ Bus Stop

2. \_\_ Peace Train

3. \_\_ Leaving On A Jet Plane

4. \_\_ Taxi

5. \_\_ Come On Down To My Boat

6. \_\_ Next Plane To London

7. \_\_ Love Train

8. \_\_ Last Train To Clarksville

9. \_\_ Big Yellow Taxi

10. \_\_ Banana Boat Song

a. Cat Stevens

b. Peter Paul & Mary

c. The Monkees

d. The Hollies

e. Joni Mitchell

f. Harry Chapin

g. Every Mothers’ Son

h. Harry Belafonte

i. The O’Jays

j. Rose Garden



Answers 401 8c 9e 10h. 1d 2a 3b 4f 5g 6j 7i 8c 9e 10h.

Congratulations Bon Jovi On Being Inducted Into The Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



Jon Bon Jovi (c) was rockin’ the house at the Count Basie in Red Bank, and is accompanied by Bobby Bandiera (l) and Hugh McDonald (r).



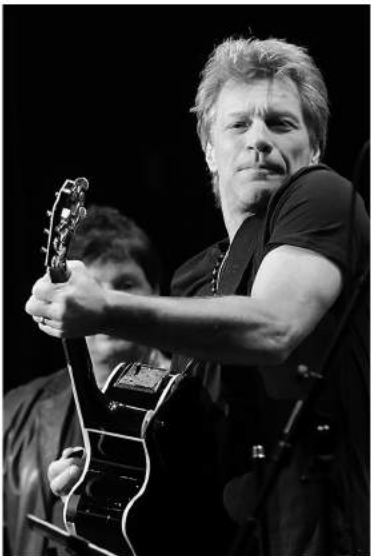
Jon Bon Jovi rocks the crowd wherever he goes, and he’s pictured here with backup singers.



Bon Jovi’s longtime superb keyboard player David Bryan (l) is pictured with his wife Lexi Quaas.



Not only is Jon a Hall-of-Fame rocker, but also a well-renowned, generous philanthropist. This memorable photo was taken on July 8, 2013, when Jon returned to his hometown of Sayreville, and donated a check for \$1 million to New Jersey’s first lady at the time, Mary Pat Christie for the Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund. The check was on the behalf of Jon, his wife Dorothea, and the Bon Jovi band.



Jon performing at a Hope Concert at the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank. (Photos by Brian Stratton)



School Sports

By Tom Burkard (As of April 16)

Baseball

Team Leaders

Sayreville (4-3)

Batting Avg.-Kyle Richards .579 Drew Zimmerman .412 Bryan Fernandez .333 James Ryan .312.  
Runs-Richards 7 Fernandez 5.  
Hits-Richards 11 Zimmerman 7 Fernandez 6.  
Doubles-Richards 3.  
RBI-Fernandez 8 Richards 5.  
Home Runs-Fernandez 3 Richards 1.  
Innings Pitched-Christian Aich 12 Cameron Carey 9.2.  
Strikeouts-Aich 19 Carey 15.  
ERA-Aich 0.58.  
Won-Lost-Aich 2-0 Zimmerman 1-0 Kyle Lewis 1-2.  
**South Amboy (4-2)**  
Batting Avg.-Stephen McLaughlin .571 Nick Charmello .438 Kyle Gasiewski .333.  
Runs-McLaughlin 7 Gasiewski 7.  
Hits-McLaughlin 8 Charmello 7.  
Doubles-Charmello 3.  
RBI-Charmello 5.  
Innings Pitched-Gasiewski 16 Charmello 9.  
Strikeouts-Gasiewski 21 Charmello 11.

Won-Lost-Charmello 1-0 Gasiewski 2-1 Zach Honimar 1-1.  
**Softball**  
**Sayreville (2-3)**  
Batting Avg.-Kayla Stvan .471 Emma Herrick .400 Jaclyn Dzamba .357 Morgan Wehrle .333.  
Runs-Stvan 6 Wehrle 6.  
Hits-Stvan 8 Herrick 6.  
Doubles-Stvan 3 Herrick 2.  
RBI-Stvan 4 Herrick 4.  
Home Runs-Stvan 1.  
Innings Pitched-Ashley Cannon 16.1.  
Strikeouts-Cannon 6.  
Won-Lost-Stvan 1-0 Cannon 1-2 Sam Emolo 0-1.  
**South Amboy (1-2)**  
Batting Avg.-Taylor Russo .500 Jenna Makar .333 Allyah James 3.  
Runs-Makar 4.  
Hits-Makar 4 Russo 4 James 3.  
Doubles-Makar 1.  
RBI-Makar 3.  
Innings Pitched-Kaleigh Keegan 17.  
Strikeouts-Keegan 15.  
Won-Lost-Keegan 1-2.

Eicher Off To Super Start

Standout pitcher/hitter, Katie Eicher is off to a flying start for the Bishop Ahr softball team. The talented senior is (3-0) with 29 strikeouts in 21 innings. She has allowed only 1 run and 10 hits. Katie is also belting the ball, going 8-for-15, with 2 homers, 3 doubles, and leads the team with 7 RBI. In addition, she recently notched her 100th hit

for her high school career. Katie, has signed a letter to attend Rollins College in Florida this fall, where she will continue her studies, and play softball. She is the daughter of former Sayreville Councilwoman Lisa Buchanan-Eicher. Congratulations Katie and best of luck!

Pro Baseball Watch

Brandon Bielak of Sayreville, who starred for St. Joseph’s HS and then Notre Dame University is currently pitching for the Houston Astros’ Buies Creek Astros Class A (Advanced) professional baseball team in the Carolina League. He is currently in his second season of pro ball, and doing quite well with a (1-1) record, 2.16 ERA, and in 8.1 innings pitched, has struck out 14 and issued only 2 walks, while limiting opponents to a .250 batting avg.

Gasiewski Stars For Guvs

Kyle Gasiewski fired a brilliant 3-hitter and struck out 11 to lead South Amboy to a 1-0 victory over East Brunswick Tech who were unbeaten. The talented junior right-hander also scored the only run of the game, as Coach Dan Poulsen’s Purple & Gold are looking good thus far. Gasiewski’s fine outing ran his shutout streak to 14 innings, and he has fanned 21. He also twirled a complete game shutout over South River earlier this year.

Basketball

Marques Townes (Cardinal McCarrick/ St. Joseph’s) had a most memorable season with Loyola-Chicago University. Marques drew plenty of attention on the national spotlight by helping his talented team to the Final Four of the NCAA Tournament.  
Mansfield Warren Jr. (South Amboy/ St. Mary-Elizabeth) had a fine season with Felician University (12-16) averaging 7.3 ppg., 3.4 rebounds, and he topped the team with 4.4 assists per game.

**Softball**  
Jackie Riley (Cardinal McCarrick) is having another fine season at Kean University (20-6), both at bat and on the pitcher’s mound. She is belting the ball for a .345 avg., with 30 hits including 8 doubles, and is #2 on the team with 19 RBI. Her numbers are also impressive while hurling, with a (7-3), 2.58 ERA, and in 59.2 innings pitched, has registered 35 strikeouts....Erin Fitzsimmons (Sayreville) is a huge help to Ramapo College (13-9). The flame-throwing pitcher is (2-3) with a 3.94 ERA, 37.1 innings pitched, and 21 strikeouts, while holding opponents to a

College Notebook

.231 batting avg...Kelly Duffy (Sayreville) has fared well at Rowan University (19-6-1). She is (2-1), 2.44 ERA, and in 14.1 innings pitched, has 5 K’s, and limited the opposition to a meager .196 batting avg. She is also 5-for-17, .294...Christine Misiur (Sayreville) is one of the top players for Caldwell University (17-13). She is batting a scorching .339 with 20 hits, 15 RBI, and is #2 on the team with 4 homers, and a .627 slugging pct...Ryane Bush (Sayreville) tops the College of St. Rose (NY) in batting avg., .321, and on-base pct. .379, and is 2nd with 25 hits, and 14 RBI.

Baseball

Tim Kales (South Amboy), and Danny Iannaccone (St. Joseph’s) of Parlin are members of the Rutgers-Newark team (9-19). Kales, a hard-throwing relief pitcher has pitched in 10 games, 21 innings, with 10 strikeouts, and is (0-1). Iannaccone has a hit in limited action this season...Kevin Mulvey, a former MLB pitcher, and resident of Sayreville, (Bishop Ahr) is in his second season as Head Coach of Villanova University (6-22).



Mansfield Warren Jr.  
(Photo courtesy of Felician University)



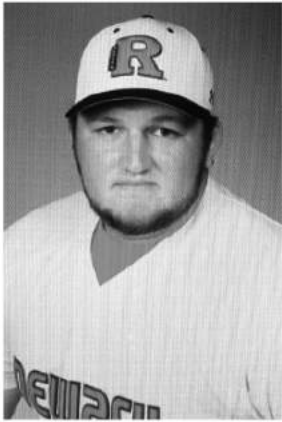
Christina Misiur, Caldwell University



Jackie Riley, Kean University  
(Photo credit Larry Levanti)



Kelly Duffy, Rowan University



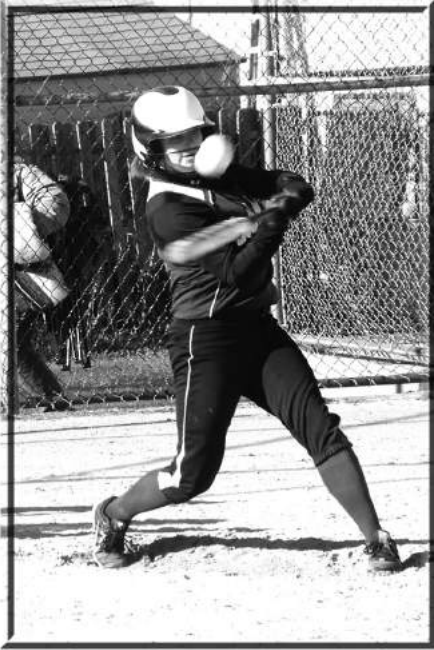
Tim Kales, Rutgers Newark



Ryane Brush, College of St. Rose, NY

Jenna Makar Records 100th Hit

Photos by Brian Stratton



Jenna (l) with coach Colleen Partenope (r).

Jenna connects with the ball  
← for hit #100!



Jenna Makar (kneeling) celebrates her 100th career hit with her South Amboy High School team mates and coaches after reaching the milestone against Piscataway Vo-Tech.

Clutch Sports Basketball Camp

Clutch Sports Basketball Camp, directed by Sayreville Head Coach John Wojcik, will be held at Sayreville War Memorial High School. The schedule is: Week 1 - July 9-13; Week 2 - July 16-20; Week 3 - July 23-27. The camp times are Times Monday - Thursday 9am-2pm, and Fridays - 9am-12pm.

The Camp features: Skill development: shooting, ball-handling, passing, defense; Team Offensive and defensive strategies; Games; Contests; Awards. The Camp is for boys and girls entering grades 3rd-9th. Register today at: clutchsportsnj.com.

Locals Played In GMC All-Star Game

The GMC Basketball Coaches Association held its 25th Annual Senior All-Star Game last month. South Amboy’s

Thomas Carter was selected to play on the Home Team squad, and Zac Kaczmarek of Sayreville played for the Visiting team.

Trip to Nashville

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Nashville, Tennessee from September 20 – 25, 2018. The cost of the trip is \$990.00 which includes accommodations, the Gaylord in Nashville, bus transportation, bus gratuity, daily breakfast, a luncheon cruise, and much

more. For further information or to reserve a seat please contact Carmen at 732-254-9425.





# The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

## Industrial League Champions



1925-Way, way back in local baseball history, that’s 93 years, wow, the Du Pont team captured the highly-competitive Industrial League championship with an outstanding (33-7) record. Pictured top row (l-r) player-manager Joe Magee, “Hocky” Hocheiser, Bob Monakee (not sure of last name), Mike Dustal, Burk Lambertson, Phil Kurtz, Andy Kane, Jake DeFort. Bottom row (l-r) Joe French, Andy “Molly” Maliszewski, “Butch” Stratton, Joe Stanton, manager Ed Parker, Ray Pierson, Jimmy Bloodgood, Rube Mesiser (not sure of last name). (Photo courtesy of Al Gomolka Jr., who is the great nephew of Andy Maliszewski)

## Men’s Basketball Flashback: First Street Wins Championship

1980-First Street captured the South Amboy Men’s Senior Basketball crown, by upsetting the mighty Lions Den. There is no record of the final score or pertinent details, but a few of the players shared their memories.

Tom Reilly of the First Street team recalled that “The score was something like 65-60, and Gary Lange, their star player must have scored about 40 or 45 points. We probably beat Dooling Electric to get to the finals.”

His teammate Mike Klimchak said, “Mike Grimley had a real big game for us. We had about 4 or 5 losses, finishing either (15-5) or (16-4) during the year, but we beat Dooling Electric to get to the title game.

We had their number, and beat them every time during the regular season, and in the playoffs.” Lange recalled that his teammate Nick Charmello, another standout was out with a serious knee injury, so he had to try and take up the scoring slack that they were missing. Also playing for the Lions Den was Don Szatkowski and Jack Hulsart.

The First Street champions roster, courtesy of Klimchak consisted of Mike Grimley, Tom Reilly, Dennis Larsen, Al Sorrentino, Mike Klimchak, Ross Booker, and Jack McDonnell.

First Street had a dream season in ‘80, but unfortunately split up the following year.

## Undefeated !



South Amboy 3-6th grade girls travel basketball team celebrating with a pizza party after an undefeated season playing teams from South River, Metuchen and Highland Park! (Photo/Info Submitted)

## Congratulations



Congratulations goes out to the U13 Sayreville Scorepions for placing second in the Monroe Township Spring Kick-Off soccer tournament on April 14, 2018. Way to go boys! (Photo/info submitted)

## Glory Days In Local Sports

1960-Winning pitcher Jack Seaman fired a 3-hit shutout to lead St. Mary’s to a 3-0 victory over St. Rose of Belmar. Charlie Schachel had the Eagles only hit, an RBI single. 1972-St. Patrick’s of Elizabeth nipped St. Mary’s 4-3 in baseball, despite a single and triple from Joe Belmonte. 1985-Scott Gumprecht spun a 2-hitter and struck out 14 to lead Hoffman to a 7-2 triumph over St. Pius. Billy Moskal ripped 2 hits, and Tom

Hessner added an RBI. 1999-South Amboy girls softball plastered Piscataway Tech, 17-1, as Kim Peterson drilled a single and double to drive in 3 runs, and Jessica Bartlinski stroked 3 hits to support winning pitcher Lily Munoz. 2001-Sayreville mauled Metuchen, 9-1 in a first round GMCT softball contest. Kristen Karbowski fired a 2-hitter and fanned 8, while Justine Robe blasted a solo home run.

## South Amboy Little League Flashback: 1956

The South Amboy Little League moved its home field from Stevens Ave. by St. Mary’s High School to Sacred Heart Field. Tony Nicorvo hit the first home run at the new field, and received a \$5 prize from the Mayor.

## Back In Those College Days

Mike Klimchak (St. Mary’s) was a fine golfer at Rutgers University. Do you know any other locals who went on to play varsity sports in college? Please let us know.

## Locals Played At Other High Schools

Jessica Besner (South Amboy) was a standout swimmer for Mt. St. Mary’s... Connor Forrest (Sayreville) played soccer at Bishop Ahr HS...Greg Marshall (South Amboy) was a talented athlete for Bishop Ahr.

## 60 Years Ago

1958-Sayreville smashed St. Mary’s, 10-2 behind winning pitcher Ed Paprota. Freshman Lenny Popowski ripped 2 doubles and a single, Charlie Skwira tripled with the bases loaded, and Jack Jankowski ripped a single and double. Joe Phillips laced 3 of St. Mary’s 6 hits.



## Just A Little Boy

(Author unknown)  
He stands at the plate  
With his heart pounding fast  
The bases are loaded  
The die has been cast  
Mom and Dad cannot help him  
He stands all alone  
A hit at this moment  
Would send his team home  
The ball nears the plate  
He swings and misses  
There’s a groan from the crowd  
With some boos and some hisses  
A thoughtless voice cries  
“Strike out the bum.”  
Tears fill his eyes  
The game’s no longer fun.  
Remember he’s just a little boy  
Who stands all alone  
So open your heart  
And give him a break  
For it’s moments like this  
A man you could make  
Keep this in mind when you  
Hear someone forget  
He’s just a Little Boy  
And not a man yet.

## The Duke of The Diamond

By Al Gomolka Jr.  
Times Poet Laureate  
c.1998  
As a child, I had my idols  
Jesus, my father, and the “Duke”  
And many a times  
I would look to confide In their powers  
I couldn’t rebuke.  
Throughout my life they established  
That being good is the real thing In  
Jesus, my savior In dad, my behavior In  
Duke, my baseball being.  
My dad once gave me a baseball card  
Of royalty swinging a bat  
I followed this star Brooklyn to afar  
Edwin Snider to me tipped his hat.  
Not just homers, but character yielded  
To this young lad made his mark  
Hall of Fame bid its call  
On how he played his ball  
With his psyche in and out of the park  
He was pushed with pressure and talent  
To be the best he could be  
Excellence and no less  
And to be nice in the process  
Now, admired and respected is he.  
There was Willie, there was Mickey  
But I liked Duke the best  
‘Til this day he stays one of my heroes  
Along with Jesus, and dad in life’s quest.

## Partnering to Help Those Who Served our Country

Military veterans struggling to transition back to life after active duty are getting help from experts across the state. Middlesex County Freeholder Director Ronald G. Rios joined a roundtable discussion hosted by the New Jersey Veteran Economic Development Program. The discussion, held at Sansone Auto Mall in Woodbridge, brought together representatives from non-profit and government agencies, corrections and re-entry programs, and employers. Colonel (RET) Jeff Cantor of the State’s Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

led the discussion, which was designed to improve collaboration of services. “Middlesex County’s veterans’ programs have become a model recognized nationwide,” Rios said. “Our staff in the Veterans Services Office have established working relationships with a network of service providers and advocates. We look forward to continued cooperation as part of this state initiative.”







Gov. Phil Murphy (r) along with Middlesex County Freeholder Director Ronald G. Rios and State Sen. Patrick J. Diegnan (see photo below) visited Menlo Park Veterans Hospital on March 29 to honor veterans on Vietnam Veterans Day. They thanked the veterans for dedicating their lives to serving our country during the Vietnam War. During the visit, the Governor promoted New Jersey National Guard Col. Jemal J. Beale to the Adjutant General of the State of New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. (Photo/Info Submitted)



Senator Diegnan (left) and Freeholder Director Rios (right) congratulate New Jersey National Guard Col. Jemal J. Beale on his appointment. (Photo Submitted)

## Middlesex County College Presents Dance Ensemble April 28 & 29

The Middlesex County College Dance Ensemble will present its 17th annual spring dance concert, “Props to Dance,” on Saturday, April 28 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 29 at 2 p.m. Both performances will be held in the Performing Arts Center on the College’s Edison campus and are free with a suggested donation of \$5 per person.

Dance Professor Aimee Mitacchione and professional choreographer Alicia Giglio join several MCC student and alumni choreographers including Laura Buongiovanni, Michael Corl, Tabitha Edwards, Madison Faustini, Kayelyn Gonzalez, Renee Henderson, Tyron Howard, Kelli Kranick, Manuel Odar, Nikola Palivoda, Alexander Perez, Andrew Santiago, Taylor Skwara, Sarah Wells and Catherine Yorke.

“The performers range from advanced dancers to absolute beginners,” said Professor Mitacchione, the artistic director of the Ensemble. “The MCC Dance Program prides itself on offering students a chance to dance who may not have otherwise been given the opportunity. We strive to provide a professional concert that will be thought-provoking and inspirational. This semester the dance pieces are inspired by all things outer space!”

To follow the MCC Dance Ensemble via social media, go to the Facebook page, “Middlesex County College Dance,” and click ‘Like’ or follow on Instagram: dancemccnj. For more information email Professor Mitacchione at Amitacchione@middlesexcc.edu.

## Beach Sweep 2018 South Amboy Waterfront



The South Amboy Green Team participated in the 2018 Beach Sweep and were accompanied by Assemblyman Craig Coughlin and his aide Dan Harris. Pictured L-R are: Jay Elliot, Dan Harris, Craig Coughlin, Janice Skokowski and Beth Helsby, missing from the picture is Councilwoman Suzette Dato. (Photo/caption submitted)

## Where in New Jersey?



This month’s Where In NJ may be a little obscure but we are sure some of you will soar. Send your answer by May 14th to satimes@aol.com.

### March Information Where in New Jersey? By Brian & Phyllis Stratton

The Where in NJ for March was Becker Hardware located on Route 34 in Colts Neck, NJ. A True Value Hardware Store, Becker has been around since 1903. They are a full service hardware store and a very popular destination for do it yourselves.

**Where in NJ Winners.**

Winners for March are Dennis Quinlan, Jennifer Larsen, MLIS, Pete McIntyre, Pat & Bill Scully, Eleanore Westerholm, Tracy Weber, Jim Malkiewicz, Ed English, Bob Martenak



### March Where in New Jersey? Becker Hardware



## Catholic War Veterans Schedule

The Catholic War Veterans, Sacred Heart Memorial Post 578, South Amboy have scheduled the following event:

Saturday, May 26, 2018 9:00 AM, American Flag and Veterans’ Marker replacement Sacred Heart Cemetery. All Catholic Veterans and public invited to help.

Monday, May 28, 2018, 8:00 AM Mass,

Sacred Heart Church, Washington Avenue, South Amboy, NJ. All Catholic Veterans invited to attend.

Monday, May 28, 2018, 9:00 AM, Memorial Day Service, Sacred Heart Cemetery, Johnson Lane, Parlin, NJ. Public invited to attend.

## WWW.?



Does this look familiar to you? It should. The structure was located in either South Amboy or Sayreville. Do you remember what it was called? Send your answers to: satimes@aol.com by May 14. Good luck! (Photo by Tom Burkard)

### February WWW.? Winners

The correct answer for the March “Mystery Photo” is the Amboy Cinemas or the former site of the Amboys Drive-In. The following correctly identified it and are the winners. Congratulations!

Judy Guilfoyle, Estelle Pluskota, Dennis Quinlan, Jennifer Larsen, MLIS, Adele O’Hara, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Bob “Chernball” Cherney, Ray M. Tyska, Ken Sumski, Peggy and Steve Yuhas, W. Tom Kross, Chuck Pickard, Pat & Bill Scully, Sheila Knudsen, Pete McIntyre, Stan Zakrzewski Jr, Ed Bender Jr, Dennis & Kathy O’Leary, Lisa Grankowski, Joan Gorczyca, Ben Moskowitz, Eleanore Westerholm, Edna Mazur Pilch, Dave



**March-WWW.?  
Amboy Cinemas**

Krempecki, Maryanne Matarangolo, Jim Malkiewicz, MaryAgnes Morris,Joan Fulham, Gary Feret, Ed English, Elizabeth Leveille, Bob Martenak, Lynn Loy, Mark Moniello, SteveLaskiewicz, Dane Colburn, Jack & Keith Piskorski & Lorraine Krause, Nancy Berry, Walter Starzec Jr., Jeannine Lund, Anita Quigley, Leon Credico.



2018 South Amboy Youth Athletic Association (SAYAA) Opening Day

Photos/captions by Tom Burkard



Opening Day Parade arrives near the fields.



South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry speaks to the crowd in attendance.



South Amboy Police Sgt. Daniel Holovacko throws out the traditional first pitch.



Players throw their “first” pitches of the season.



Pictured at Opening Day festivities (l-r) SAYAA President Brian Noble, Councilwoman Christine Noble, Mayor Fred Henry, Sgt. Daniel Holovacko, D.A.R.E. Officer, Councilman Tom Reilly, and Councilman Brian McLaughlin.



The South Amboy P.B.A. team players and coaches are pictured prior to the opener.

Support The Troops Dinner Dance

(Photos/story by Joe Lotkowitz)



Carmen Delikat President of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post #4699 did another fine job putting together the “Support the Troops” annual benefit Dinner Dance featuring music provided by Clem & Friends.



Clem & Friends once again rocked the house with classic rock and oldies at the “Support the Troops” Dinner Dance which was held at Sayreville VFW Post #4699 on April 21. Pictured (l-r) are band members Rich Standowski, Rich Jackson, Clem Skarzynski, Tim Fee. Back row Fran Fee, Jerry Mocar, Graig Hoak.

South Amboy Rabies Clinic

(Photos/story by Joe Lotkowitz)



Kelly Wolff and Kristal Manion prep a cute dog before it gets a rabies vaccination, as proud owner looks on.



Dr. Joe Spinazzola (c) is pictured with his assistants for the Clinic, Kelly Wolff and Kristal Manion.



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**100% of proceeds will go to the Hugh Riley Rone Scholarship fund.**

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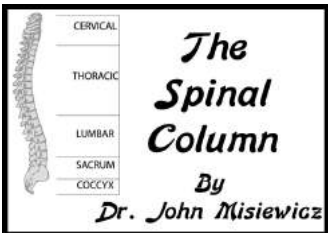

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## Spring into a Healthy Exercise Program

With the arrival of warm weather, it is time to change your sedentary habits. Most spinal problems are related to the muscles and joints which supports the back.

Tense, chronically contracted muscles can start a chain of physiological events which can lead to many different kinds of back, hip and neck pain. Excessive tension in muscles create rigidity which diminishes blood and oxygen circulation causing the muscles to become inflexible and more susceptible to sprains, strains and tears. This stress causes imbalances to these muscles and joints. Muscle imbalances can put unnatural demands on tissues and ligaments of your spine causing damage to discs, ligaments and nerves of the spine. Musculoligamentous health and balance depends upon a delicate balance between muscular strength and ligaments suppleness. Exercise such as yoga, and Tai Chi promote muscle relaxation and flexibility through slow breathing and stretching. They can also promote spinal stabilization and balance coordination.

Essential elements of a successful exercise program

1. Wear comfortable clothing.
2. Keep movements long and slow, and gentle.
3. Move with your breath. Inhale when you stretch. Exhale when you curl or fold your body.
4. Concentrate on your movements.
5. When it signals pain ease up and don't force the movement.
6. Exercise regularly in a pleasant and quiet environment.

As always, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

## Trip to Indian Head Resort- New Hampshire

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Indian Head Resort in New Hampshire from July 16 – 19, 2018. The cost of the trip is \$592.00 which includes accommodations at the lodge, Welcome Reception, breakfast and dinner at the lodge, train ride, boat ride and lunch, use of all the amenities at the lodge. For further information or to reserve a seat please contact Carmen at 732-254-9425

## Fishing Flashes

By Teo "Weebles" Weber



### Salt Water

Bay fishing for Stripers got off to a slow start. The cold weather we had played a big part. A few keepers were caught by beach fisherman and charter boats but it still is not great. I checked Cliffwood Beach a few times but didn't see any fish at all. It's the same story with the Flounder in Shark River and upper Barnegat Bay. Only a few more fish are being caught in both areas. It should get better by the end of the month. In the surf at Island Beach, a few short Stripers have been caught, in the wee early hours of the morning. Party boat fishing offshore is still a pick of Cod and Ling. There are some Stripers being caught at the warm water discharge area in Forked River. Toms River has some big White Perch. There was a keeper, a 30 inch Striper at Cliffwood beach that I saw just before I closed this report

### Fresh Water

The intense cold we had slowed up Trout fishing on opening day weekend. My wife and I passed it up but tried the Pequest in midweek for a few hours. We managed to bring home five Rainbows, lost a few and had some bites despite the cold water. I found out that most people did not do so well or only had a few fish. There were some good catches anyway in some spots. Spring Lake was particularly good. Shad has just got started in the Delaware River.



Gone Fishin’



Elaine Gaber (r) Director of the Dowdell Library in South Amboy proudly holds 60 lb. Sailfish she caught in Islamorada, Florida in March. She landed the trophy fish on a spinner rod with 30 lb. line, and used Ballyhoo as bait. (Photo/info submitted)



Elaine Gaber (l) holds Black Grouper fish she caught while on a fishing trip in Florida. (Photo/info submitted)

THE YMCA OF METUCHEN, EDISON, WOODBRIDGE & SOUTH AMBOY

KEEPS KIDS HEALTHY, ACTIVE AND ENGAGED THIS SUMMER

Summer is a time when children can let their imaginations run wild! From creating their own to plays to building forts in the backyard, there’s no limit to what kids can dream up—provided their properly supported. The YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy wants to ensure all kids in our communities awaken their summer imaginations through healthy eating habits and physical activity. Because when a child is happy, healthy, motivated and excited something amazing is inevitably going to result. As children grow and reach their true potential, they can accomplish great things.

That’s why, on April 21 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm we are hosting Healthy Kids Day® at our three branches located in Metuchen, Edison and South Amboy. Healthy Kids Day is a chance to help ensure families have the tools they need to help kids stay active and engaged all summer long. The annual event is a nationwide initiative to improve the health and well-being of kids and families. When a child is healthy, happy, motivated and excited, amazing things are bound to happen! Healthy Kids Day is a powerful reminder not to let children idle away their summer days but instead, focus on physical and mental play. Here at the YMCA of MEWSA, families and children will partake in games, healthy cooking demonstrations, getting fit activities and more to motivate and teach families how to develop a healthy routine at home. The YMCA’s Camp Open House will also be held on this day so parents can see all that our camps have to offer.

“As we head into the summer, the Y wants to help awaken their imaginations and help them achieve amazing things. There are no days off for a child’s developing mind and body,” said Rose Cushing, President & CEO of the YMCA of MEWSA, “and Healthy Kids Day is a great opportunity to educate families and engage kids to stay physically and intellectually active over the summer.”

In celebration of YMCA’s Healthy Kids

Day, the Y offers the following tips to help families develop healthy habits:

\*High Five the Fruits and Veggies – Make sure kids get at least five servings a day, the minimum number nutritionists recommend to maintain healthy childhood development. And to keep kids’ taste buds evolving, have everyone in the family try at least one bite of a new fruit or vegetable at least once a month.

\*Read Together – The summer is a great time to enjoy books with summer program participants—and 30 minutes a day goes a long way! Take trips to the local library or create a family reading challenge to see who can log the most minutes of reading. Encourage youth to create their own stories as well.

\*Get Moving! – Activities that require movement also help kids flex their mental muscle. Use materials in unique ways: ask youth to build models, manipulate tools or develop their own theatrical scenes.

\*Play Together – Play may be the best way to prevent childhood obesity. By putting more play into your family’s day, you will soon find yourself getting the activity that will have your family feeling energized and strong.

\*Make sleep a priority – Doctors recommend 10-12 hours of sleep a day for children ages 5-12 and 7-8 hours per night for adults. Sleep plays a critical role in maintaining our healthy immune system, metabolism, mood, memory, learning and other vital functions.

\*Healthy Kids Day encourages youth and families to awaken summer imagination and this cannot be done without proper nutrition. Walmart Foundation is proud to sponsor Healthy Kids Day to raise awareness about the importance of food security and nutrition for youth and families. Delta wants to ensure that kids have their best summer ever and is a proud sponsor of Healthy Kids Day

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# Slow Pitch Softball Takes South Amboy/Sayreville By Storm-Part 4

(By Tom Burkard)

## 1974 South Amboy Men's Senior Slow Pitch Regular Season Standings

East-South Amboy A.C. 18-0 Big Swede 13-5 Phillips Association 9-9 Bob's 2 x 4 (4-14) Brothers III 2-16; West-Lions Den 14-4 Mechanicsville A.C. 11-7 Bottle Stop 10-8 Vince's Confectionery 3-14 Bowery 4-13; Central-Frank's Cafe 16-2 Main Liquors 9-8 Budweiser A.C. 10-7 Mystic Knights 7-9 S.A. Tigers 3-14.

### 1974 Champions-Frank's Cafe

Frank's Cafe found the right recipe for a superb championship team, loaded with talent, and went on to defeat the Bottle Stop in the finals. Providing explosive offensive pop, game after game, was Joe Noble, Bob Carew, Jack Phillips, Gary Lange, Ray Leonard, Larry La Brocq, Jim Gordon, Jack O'Connor, and Tom Grabert, while slugger/pitcher John Clark racked up a perfect (10-0) regular season record. Also contributing was Jack Diem, Ed Lee, Joe Belmonte. Lange recalled joining the team that season as a younger player, "I felt like an outcast with the older guys, but it turned out to be a lot of fun for the next 3 years. We took pride in it and wanted to be respected. There were a lot of good teams, and we took it serious. That was the Golden Age for softball and basketball in South Amboy Men's Senior Leagues."

### 1974 Teams/Players

South Amboy A.C.-Rich Klein, Jim Tingle, Larry Kurzawa, Ed O'Leary, Ron Croddick, Ken Wahler, Bernie Mackiel Jr., Chet Meinzer, Bill Connors, Jerry Prusakowski, Kevin Nemeth, Nick Charnello, Ray Downs, Joe Crowe Jr., Tom Downs, Gary Read, Tom Gorman; Big Swede-Pat Marotta, Jack Gallagher, Al Ust, Brian Flanagan, Gene Lopez, Jerry Drill, Henry Conroy, Steve Flanagan, Frank Trpisovsky, Greg Havlusch, Jim Kennedy, Steve Malkiewicz, Ted Wallace, Frank Murray; Phillips Association-Jim Phillips, Dan MacKay, Dave St. Amour, Tom Boychuk, Neil O'Connor, Ed Windas, Dan Ballance, Jeff St. Amour, Dan Ballance, Dave Keenan, Jim Shannon, Gary Costanzo, John Ammon, Kevin Bergin, Dave Wisniewski, Bob Short, John Kibbler, Mike Grabko, Duffy, Cannon; Bob 2 x 4-Tom Scully, Pete Check, Bob Skarzynski, Ralph Tarallo, Bob Faucher, Tom Pearson, Fran Fee, Ken Leathers, Jerry Edelman, Bernie Partington, Rich Fee, Ed Skarzynski, Ryan, Murphy, Ploskonka, Poland, Yaniak; Brothers III-John Babarchek, Nick Cegerenko, Coyle, Goodman, F. DeToro, Pahara, Parparcz, Stankowski, Bravaus, Kouski, E. Feaster, Rybicki, Saunders, Hiller, DeBore, Wallentine, A. Meszaros, L. DeToro, B. Feaster, Hammond; Lions Den-Joe Castellano, Mark Felice, Ken Szatkowski, Tom Szatkowski, Don Szatkowski, Ed. Szatkowski, John Szatkowski, Mark Bratus, Jim Lyons, Dan Paone, Jerry Disbrow, Pete Inman, Ed Conroy, George Krzyzanowski, Leo Dohan; Mechanicsville A.C.-Bill Bulman, Mark Abbatiello, Dennis Yanoski, Tom Burkard, Al Gomolka Jr., Bill Masterson, Andy Pytel, Joe Jaskowiak, Dan Kosmoski, Dave Aprill, Paul Muller, Walt Bowerman, Jim Lonseth; Bottle Stop-Mike DeLucia, Joe Murtha, Alfie Clark, Joe Vigilante, Bill O'Leary, Bill Cheeseman, Ed Conlon, Jerry Magee, Pete Kenny, Joe Graber, Bob Carroll, J. Connors, MacDonald, Fred Chodkiewicz, R. Kukulski, Paul Zulin, Jim Kopystecky, Tom Magielnecki, Grovy, Capisste; Vince's Confectionery-John "Mickey" Kutz, Ed Diem, Kabarec, Jay Derent, Len Fierro, Gary Rossman, Gene Dennen, Jim Ziola, Christy, Bruce Ramer, Balland, Tim Dill, Ron Poulsen, Vince Pouslen, Bernie Poulson Sr., Bernie Poulson Jr., Dennis Poulson, Ray Poulson; Bowery-Bob "Richardson" Healy, Al Braun, Tom Wortley, Gary Rojek, Paul Esposito, Wally Binkowski, Al Sorrentino, Gary Novak, Phil Rainone, Frank Norek, Al Braun, Alan Haag, Fuller, Steve Conlon, Dan Prasnal, Zylinski, G. Buckalew, Pat Rock, Kosmoski, Steve Boychuk, Henry Wortley, Hank Sager, D. Holton, Murray, P. Arnold; Main Liquors-Jim Passafiume, Joe Donnelly, Fred Henry, Bob Howarth, Tom MacKay, Mike Krotosek, Jon "Poncho"

O'Connor, John Kaboski, Gene Cross, Gil Pritchard, Paul Borgan, Greg Lyon, Fran Fitzmorris, Bob Paulukiewicz: Budweiser A.C.-Joe Zailski, Don Walczak, Val Nadin, Andy Liyana, Tim Farrell, Dave Gering, Ed Campbell, D. Schultz, Boehm, Bonis, B. Macknowski, Bergamini, Newberry, DeBlasio, Ebbinger, M. Kosmoski, Turner, Spiecker, McConville, Kryzdowski, Marvin Wood Jr.; Mystic Knights-Tom "Tee" O'Connell, Dave Stolte, Joe Wallis, Tony Mancini, Gary Kosovich, Bruce Marcinczyk, Bob "Smokey" Ryan, Jim Wallis, Jerry Pizzillo, Joe "Jody" Kelly, Mike "Woody" McCarthy, Henry Moe, Dan Weinman, Dave Powers, R. Moran, Bill O'Leary, S. Kelly, Bob "Ozzie" Levins, Maliszewski, Dennis Bratus, O'Tallen, J. DeLucia; S.A. Tigers-Tom Cross, Ed Paczkowski, George Ogborn, Bill "Biff" McKeon, Ron Kuran, Warren Eberle, Ned Moran, Jim Reick, Jim Higgins, Rudy Neumann Jr., W. Tom Kross, Frank Wahler Sr., Bob DeJoy, Tom Kuc, Joe Hoffman, Ray "Butch" Tomaszewski, Bob Kuran, Noble, Haley.

### Softball Fundraiser-

#### First In South Amboy History

1974-Mechanicsville A.C. held the first Slow Pitch softball tournament fundraiser in South Amboy history, for Lisa Valvano, a young girl who was paralyzed in a sledding accident at Thompson Park in Jamesburg. Many teams came from all over to compete and help defray Lisa's hospital expenses. The Staten Island Hardware squad, a real powerhouse, breezed past excellent New Jersey teams, and copped the title. I was honored to be the tournament Organizer/Director, and recall that it was a huge success. The money raised really helped Lisa's family, and they were most grateful for all who participated. The Mechanicsville A.C. Tournament was also held again as a fundraiser in 1975, and did equally well, and once again, the Staten Island Hardware team walked away with the championship.

#### 1975 Champions-Frank's Cafe

Frank's Cafe captured its second straight South Amboy championship, defeating none other than Main Liquors, who was a team composed of all their very good friends. Player/manager Joe Noble shared his thoughts on the '75 season: "One of my good memories of that season is that we actually got to play many of our true friends, who were on Main Liquors in the championship series. Some members of their team were "Gino" Cross, John Kaboski, Mike Krotosek, Jim Passafiume and "Poncho" O'Connor to name a few. Another memory of the 1975 championship is I proposed to my wife of 41 years, Mary Kay, in the middle of the street outside of the Monaghan House. I had the ring in the trunk of my car. Great memories. Certainly winning 3 years in a row when softball was "King" on those midsummer evenings in the mid-70's was quite a feat."

New additions to the team for '75 were slugger Larry LaBrocq, and speedy outfielder Joe Belmonte.

Jack Diem said that, "Besides winning the South Amboy championship, we were also the Middlesex County One-Pitch champions. We traveled around the state that year to participate in various tournaments and finished the year with a record of 77-12. Lions Den ran a tournament, and we lost the championship to Staten Island Hardware, 2-1. Rich Klein played for a team from Phillipsburg called Jersey Hose, and after seeing us play, invited us to play in their Labor Day Tournament."

Noble praised Diem, saying "Jack Diem was our Super Sub, and always hit when he did play. He was also my bench coach."

#### 1976 Champions-Regency

After winning the title in 1974 and 1975, Frank's Cafe changed its name to Regency in '76 because of a "falling out with the owner," according to player/manager Joe Noble. The defending champions sought another sponsor for 1976, but "None surfaced, so we had a team meeting at Jack Diem's house. After several hours of cocktails and camaraderie, Jim Gordon pulls out a telephone book, opens it up, and points to REGENCY. The name of our team was born. I know, crazy,"



1976-Regency became the only team in South Amboy Slow Pitch Softball history to capture 3 consecutive championships. In '74 and '75, this team was sponsored by Frank's Cafe, but became independent and changed their name to Regency in '76. Pictured back row (l-r) Jack Diem, Jack Phillips, Ray Leonard, Gary Lange, Jim Gordon, Tom Grabert. Front row (l-r) Jack O'Connor, Ed Lee, Joe Noble, Bob Carew, Joe Belmonte. Missing from photo was John Clark, John Belmonte, Jim Shannon. Jim Gordon was awarded the MVP Trophy.



1976-The Lions Den bowed to Regency in the championship series. Pictured back row (l-r) Leo Dohan, Joe Castellano, Bill Connors, Rich Klein, Gary Read, Ken Wahler, Pete Inman, Don Szatkowski. Front row (l-r) Bob Castellano, Eddie O'Leary, John Szatkowski, Ed Conroy, Tom Downs, Mark Felice. Missing from photo was Reggie Carney, Pat Marotta, Rudy Neumann.



1973-Pictured is a talented team of South Amboy softball players that was a combination of English Chevron and Mystical Knights of the Sea, (better know as the Mystic Knights). This photo was taken at the prestigious Phillipsburg Tournament in Phillipsburg, NJ. Standing (l-r) "Mystical Mickey Michaels, Joe Kaberac, Joe Wallis, Mark Bratus, "Smokey" Ryan, Dave Stolte, Tom "Tee" O'Connell. Kneeling (l-r) Jerry Drill, Dennis Bratus, Mike "Woody" McCarthy, Jim Wallis, Jerry Pizzillo. (Photo/info courtesy of Jerry Pizzillo)

recalled Noble.

It was a unique way to pick a team name, but the players were still phenomenal!

Regardless of the name, most of the Regency roster was the same as it was for the 1974-75 championship teams, and proved how talented they were by defeating the powerful Lions Den club that featured one of the most awesome lineups in SA Slow Pitch history.

Regency was outstanding offensively and defensively, and featured the following players: Player/manager Joe Noble, Jack Phillips, Gary Lange, Ray Leonard, Jack Diem, Jack O'Connor, Jim Gordon, Bob Carew, Ed Lee, John Clark, Tom Grabert, Joe Belmonte, John Belmonte, Jim Shannon.

Noble said that, "Jack O'Connor was our shortfielder. We were one of only a few teams that actually played a fifth infielder. With three fast outfielders in Carew, Lange and Belmonte, they could cover it."

Lions Den was a team loaded with Slow Pitch superstars, and consisted of Rich Klein, Bill Connors, Ken Wahler, Pete Inman, Don Szatkowski, Joe Castellano, Ed Conroy, Leo Dohan, Gary Read, Mark Felice, Reggie Carney, Pat Marotta, John Szatkowski, Rudy Neumann Jr., Ed O'Leary, Bob Castellano.

Ace pitcher John Clark said that "The championship series that we had with Lions Den were always hard fought, tough games to win. Also traveling to tournaments away from town were always a lot of good times whether we won or lost!"

Regency's Jim Gordon was awarded the M.V.P. trophy for the championship series.

Three titles was the charm for the talented Frank's Cafe/Regency teams, and the team disbanded after the season. Diem said, "In '77, South Amboy changed the rules so only city residents could play in the league. As a result, we disbanded." Noble recalled that "Guys like Tom Grabert, Ray Leonard, John

Clark and myself went to Main Liquors for the '77 season."

### 1977 Teams

South Amboy Slow Pitch Senior Men's Softball League teams included: Lions Den, S.A. Stride, K of C, Roddy's, Mystic Knights, Silver Bullets, Kavaman Construction, Protection, Floyd's Barber Shop, Ninety's, Main Liquors.

### 1978-No Information available

### 1979 Teams

There were only 10 teams in the league, including: East Division-Blue Grass Landscaping, L & M Lounge, Mystic Knights, Al's Auto Body, Sunday Soldiers. West Division- K of C #426, Protection Engine, Broadway Social Club, Pine Liquors, My Wife's Place.

### Three Home Runs In One Game!

1971-Ed Szatkowski, slugging outfielder for Brothers Inn, became the first and probably the only player in South Amboy Slow Pitch history to ever blast 3 home runs in one game. He accomplished this amazing feat in leading his team to an easy 26-1 romp over First Aid.

### End Part 4

### Coming in the May 26th issue-Part 5

\*Sayreville Men's Slow Pitch Softball from the late 70's \*Sayreville A.A. Men's Softball League \*Sayreville-South Amboy Fall League \*South Amboy Women's Slow Pitch League \*South Amboy Men's Slow Pitch 1980-?

**Note:** We are looking for old photos, team or individual, league schedules, scrapbook clippings, team stats, to include, and help to make our research more complete. All items will be returned in the same condition as received. Please check your attics, garages, basements, storage files, and photo albums, and please help us in our quest to build the best South Amboy/Sayreville Slow Pitch Softball history as possible. Thank you!



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In Memory Of

**Diane Cole Donnelly**

August 22, 1964 - April 15, 1998

Twenty years has passed since you went to heaven with the Lord. We miss our angel everyday. We love you so much. You will always be in our hearts.

Love,

Your Family

## Letters

Happy Easter,

I love the photo Al Gomolka took of the Old Spye Inn. Might be the first view of it from the water I've ever seen..... unless I was swimming in the creek.

Around 1967 or '68 I was swimming with my old friend Kenny Hand, in the creek under the Morgan Bridge and the Marine Police came full speed with lights and sirens down the creek. It was close to high tide and we saw the train bridge was down and knew it would stay down because of the late afternoon commuter trains. So we swam with the current under the train bridge and the Marine Police could not catch us. We came out by the Old Spye Inn, walked back to the Robert E. Lee and waited for the Marine Police to leave. Then we swam across the creek and got our stuff and went home.

In those days the creek was full of kids and adults swimming out to the pilings and diving off them; and also diving and jumping off the Morgan Bridge. That was so much fun.

"Pistol" Pete McIntyre  
(Formerly of Morgan)  
St. Mary's HS Class of '69

◇◇◇◇◇◇

Dear Brian,

On page 18 the first athlete on the left is my brother Dick Sullivan. I recognize many of the other names from my childhood but not by their pictures.

I always look forward to the newspaper.

Susan Sullivan Mills

◇◇◇◇◇◇

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## The Historical Society of South Amboy

### 6th Annual Open House

- Step back in time to see what it was like to live in 1918
  - WWI, the Morgan Explosion, and Influenza
- Local history, old photos, genealogy, artifacts and more...

## OPEN HOUSE

April 28, 2018 12pm-3pm

Free hot dogs and other refreshments

Senior Center, 108 S. Stevens, South Amboy

This event is being held in conjunction with the City of South Amboy

Visit us on Facebook for more details

**\$5 Donation - All proceeds will go to the American Legion**

Website: [hsosouthamboy.wix.com/hssa](http://hsosouthamboy.wix.com/hssa)

[historicalsocietyofsouthamboy@gmail.com](mailto:historicalsocietyofsouthamboy@gmail.com)

## Spaghetti Dinner Tricky Tray Fundraiser

Frog Hollow Swim Club will be holding its 3rd annual fundraising spaghetti dinner/tricky tray on Friday, May 4 at the Knights of Columbus, 775 Washington Rd., Parlin, from 5-9 p.m. with the first numbers being called at 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets can be purchased online by logging onto "Frog Hollow Swim." click EVENTS and then click on GET TICKETS where prices are listed. You can also purchase tickets at the door (cash or credit card accepted) for following prices: Adults-13 & up- \$15; Children- 6-12- \$10, and Children under 6- FREE.

Please note: Tickets for the Tricky Tray will be sold separately the night of the dinner. The K of C Hall is also handicap accessible. For more info contact Cathy Keays at 732-947-0403 or e-mail: [ckeays0806@gmail.com](mailto:ckeays0806@gmail.com).

## OLV Mets Trip

The OLV School Alumni Association is sponsoring a trip to see the New York Mets vs. Colorado Rockies on Saturday, May 5 at 7:10 pm. The cost is \$70 which includes ticket, bus, sandwich, soda/water, and snack. The bus will leave the lower OLV Church parking lot at 3:15pm. For tickets or information, please call Joe at 732-484-9565.



Obituaries

Applegate, Harry C. III, 79, formerly of Morgan died April 6.

Bialkowski, Joseph W. "Joe," 74, of Parlin died on April 12.

Clearwater, Kory, 40, of Parlin died on April 9.

Graham, Ralph, 64, of Sayreville died on April 8.

Kosakowski, Krzysztof, 71, of Old Bridge died on April 13.

Leslie, Robert F. "Bob," 80, formerly of South Amboy died on March 30.

Noble, John J. "Jack," 88, formerly of South Amboy died on March 29.

Holliday, Kathryn, 90, of Sayreville died on March 17.

Jedrusiak, Sandra, 76, of Sayreville died on March 22.

Johnson, Stan, 77, formerly of Parlin died on March 16.

Makransky, Frank, 81, formerly of Parlin died on April 17.

Meyer, William, 94, of Parlin died on April 8.

Micula, Maria, of Sayreville died on April 15.

Pedro, Rose Marie, 73, of Sayreville died on April 8.

Pucciarello, James, 71, formerly of Sayreville died on March 21.

Seaman, Thomas D., 81, formerly of South Amboy died on March 8.

Treihart, Charles D. III, 22, of Sayreville died on April 11.

Wortley, Henry "Hank" M., 62, of Sayreville died on April 5.

To St. Jude

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored and glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude gave me hope. S.S.

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

Lord, you invited all who are burdened to come to You. Allow your healing hand to heal me. Touch my soul with Your compassion for others. Touch my heart with Your courage and infinite love for all. Touch my mind with Your wisdom, that my mouth may always proclaim Your praise. Teach me to reach out to You in my need. Help me to lead others to You by my example. Most loving heart of Jesus, bring me health in my body and spirit so that I may serve You with all my strength. Touch gently with this life that you have created. Amen -S.R.



In Memoriam

Thomas Seaman, 81, formerly of South Amboy died on March 8. He proudly served our country in the U.S. Army as a member of the Honor Guard in Washington, DC. Kathryn Holliday, 90, of Sayreville died on March 17. She was past president of the OLV Seniors; OLV Altar Rosary Society; Morgan/Parlin Panthers Ladies Auxiliary. In addition, she was District Democratic Committee Person, and a member of many other organizations. Kathryn worked at Sunnyside Up Diner and was a crossing guard for many years. John "Jack" Noble, 88, formerly of South Amboy died on March 29. Before retiring, he was employed as an educator with the Old Bridge Twp. Board of Education. Jack had a great personality and always told a funny joke to bring a smile to the faces of all who knew him. Henry "Hank" Wortley, 62, of Sayreville died on April 5. He proudly served in the United States Marine Corps, and later went on to an outstanding 25-year career with the Borough of Sayreville Police Dept., retiring in 2011. He was also a member of Sayreville PBA Local 98. In his high school days, back in the '70's, he was a fine all-around athlete at Hoffman HS, and a really good guy who will be missed.

They will always be remembered.

MIRACULOUS INVOCATION TO ST. THERESA

O Glorious St. Theresa, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind, I invite your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you in obtaining every need of body and soul, our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a "prodigy of miracles, the greatest Saint of modern times." Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and carry out your promise of doing good upon earth of letting fall from heaven a shower of roses, henceforth, Dear Little Flower, I will fulfill your plea to be made known everywhere and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.

Say prayer every day for 9 days. By the 4th day ask for a sign, if prayer is to be answered between 4th and 9th day you will see a rose in a magazine, tv, picture or receive roses. Must promise publication. B.S.

In Memoriam

1st Anniversary In Heaven

May 4th

Anna Harris Friberg



She was an amazing lady

God's gift to us all

She never lost faith

Always stood tall

She was there when needed

Time and time again

So helpful and caring

To family and friends

And now she's an angel

In heaven looking down

Keeping watch over

Her loved ones all around.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

ANNE C. LOTKOWITZ



APR 23, 1936

OCT 21, 2011



IN OUR HEARTS A MEMORY OF HER

WILL ALWAYS BE KEPT

OF ONE WE LOVED

AND WILL NEVER FORGET

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*Mothers Day Blessings*

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St. Stan's School

(Photos/captions submitted)



St. Stan's kindergarten students are excited about coloring eggs for Easter.



Students from St. Stan's had an opportunity during their Easter break to go to Italy and visit the Vatican City.



Rev. Kenneth Murphy washes the feet of Agata Wnek during the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper.



St. Stan's altar server, Alex Lewinski, walks in procession as the Blessed Sacrament is carried by Rev. Kenneth Murphy to the altar of repose on Holy Thursday.



# PRIDE

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