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The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

**This issue is
dedicated to**
*James Beshada
*Oliver "Ollie" Blanco
*Leonard Chrzaszcz
*Cecelia Gosford
*Susan E. Crane Hess
*Richard "Rick" Ragula
*John Vona

April 29, 2023

• **The "Good News" Newspaper** •

Vol. 32 Issue 7

Sayreville Candidates For General Election

The following persons submitted petitions for the General Election in November.

Republican

Mayor – Kennedy O'Brien

Council 3 year seat – John Zebrowski & Michael Colaci

Council 1 year seat – Stanley Synarski

Democratic

Mayor – William Henry

Council 3 year seat – Mary Novak & Vincent Conti

Council 1 year seat – Kenneth Scott

St. Patrick's Day Parade: Big Success Again!

By Tom Burkard

This year, the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade once again went off without a hitch, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 19th, and was a resounding success, making countless thousands of spectators very happy, and satisfied on the biggest day of the year in South Amboy. The parade, which is one of the largest in the state, featured more than 23 bands and over 2,000 marchers, consisting of EMT squads, firefighters, First Aid squads, and many, many more organizations and groups of all ages from all over.

It was a sunny, but cold day in SA, with temperatures around 38 degrees, and with the wind chill, it felt like it was 28. This didn't stop the parade-goers, who were decked out in all kinds of green clothing, hats, tee shirts, or just about anything you could think of, and, we can't forget the many pets, who were also part of the big day, and wore green sweaters, scarves, hats, and other cute outfits.

Mary Porcello was the Grand Marshal, and Msgr. John Gordon served as Deputy Grand Marshal. The huge and very successful parade was the culmination of a year of hard work, organizing, fundraising, etc. by the Parade Committee, which is co-chaired by South Amboy City Council President, Michael "Mickey" Gross, and his co-chairman Jay Elliot. Also on the Executive Committee are Marilyn Grillo Springer-Treasurer; Judy Gillingham-Secretary; Jeremiah O'Grady-Webmaster. The roster of hard-working committee members includes: Karen Bailey Bebert, Joe Britton, Karen Chen, Jordan Drevelus, Yolanda Flores, Sue Gross, Richard Moran, Karen Robson, Barry Rosengarten, Jay Seyglinski, Jan & Donna Williams. Committee volunteers are Tom Dempsey, Billy Gerrish, Marge Gorczyca.

The South Amboy-Sayreville Times wishes to congratulate everyone who participated in anyway with the parade, and also a big shout out/thank you to the Parade Executive Committee, Members, and Volunteers, who through your dedication have once again provided such a highly-successful event for "The Pleasant Little City" of South Amboy.



Pictured at the Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62 of South Amboy announcement of their partnership with Project Freedom Villages is (l-r) Commander Joe Szaro, Brian Gates (Project Freedom Villages), John Carey (Commander of Post 107 Hoboken, and Mayor Fred Henry. (Photo/info by Mary Szaro)

American Legion Announces Partnership

Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62 in South Amboy, New Jersey announces a partnership with Project Freedom Villages and their partners; Ocean State Job Lots, GrowSpan Greenhouses, Bookwell Travel, Associated Energy Developers, and EBA Payments. The goal is to build a new American Legion Post with 8 apartments. The apartments are to house At Risk veterans. The official announcement and commencement of the project was April 15th at Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62 (111 David Street, South Amboy, New Jersey).

Project Freedom Villages Information

Project Freedom Villages is an independent nonprofit that gives back 100% of donated funds. Established at the beginning of the pandemic in Mystic, CT, their goal is to provide jobs, housing and food to at-risk United States Veterans. To

accomplish this, they acquire large tracts of land to develop into sustainable farms. On this land, at risk veterans are employed and housed in communities known as 'tiny villages'. In addition, they have delivered over 1.5 million servings of food/PPE and 100,000 winter coats to veterans, active military on food stamps, local charities and churches and food banks.

By partnering with community leaders and patriotic organizations such as Ocean State Job Lot and the American Legion, Project Freedom Villages is developing land for projects in Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, with more to follow. For more information or to assist, please visit www.projectfreedomvillages.com or contact Brian Gates directly at brian@projectfreedomvillages.com.

Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62, South Amboy

Established in July of 1919 as one of the earliest chartered American Legion posts in Middlesex County, New Jersey, Post #62 has called its lower David Street headquarters home since Armistice Day, November 11, 1921. This location, close to Raritan Bay, would serve the organization for over ninety years until late October of 2012 when Superstorm Sandy hit New Jersey with a record-breaking storm surge and massive coastal flooding that left the building damaged beyond repair. Despite efforts to rebuild over the past ten years, the building was torn down in October of 2022.

The building campaign continues in 2023 with renewed enthusiasm and an expanded initiative in the establishment of the Stars & Stripes Veterans Center of South Amboy, a 501(c)(3) New Jersey nonprofit organization, serving as the charitable arm of American Legion Post #62. When completed, this new center will provide eight units for veterans with housing instabilities, veteran resources, and a new meeting hall for the American Legion.

Mother's Day Rose Sale

Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1 of South Amboy will be holding a Mother's Day Rose Sale on May 13 & 14 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Independence Firehouse, 127-129 North Broadway. 1-dozen Roses-\$20; 2-dozen Roses-\$35. All transactions are Cash only. Please come out and support your local firefighters.



LaVigne Makes Network Debut

Photos/story submitted by Darren & Joy LaVigne

Former South Amboy resident Anthony LaVigne made a guest star appearance on the television show "911 Los Angeles." He played the role of "Jax Bixby" a young bodybuilder coached by his father. Mike



Angela Bassett (l) and former South Amboy resident Anthony LaVigne (r) on the television show "911 Los Angeles."

O'Hern (Mr. Natural Universe) plays the role of the father, who is overbearing in his coaching style. The show aired on Monday night, April 17 at 8pm on channel 5 (FOX) in New Jersey. This marked Anthony's first

prime time network television appearance. He has previously appeared in commercials and promotional videos.



Poppy Sale

The Catholic War Veterans, Sacred Heart Memorial Post 578, South Amboy will hold a Poppy Sale on Saturday, May 6th 3:00 PM till 7:00 PM and on Sunday May 7th 6:00 AM till 2:00 PM in front of Church of the Sacred Heart, Washington Ave., South Amboy, NJ.

Next Issue May 27th -- Deadlines May 15th

Memorial Day, Graduation, Primary Election, Father's Day

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Opening Day Baseball/Partnership Announcement



American Legion Post #62 Honor Guard kicked off opening day ceremonies for the South Amboy Youth Athletic Association followed by a stop at the site of the new Stars & Stripes Veterans Center of South Amboy on David St. to announce their partnership with Project Freedom Villages.

ANNUAL SPRING FISH DINNER

The Camp Dill Foundation and the Old Timers of Troop 91 will be having their annual Spring Fish Dinner on May 9, 2023 in the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy. The event will be a totally "drive-by" take-out only dinner. The time of the event will be 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and the cost is \$17.00 per dinner.

All tickets must be purchased in advance. For ticket information, call 732-899-6074 or e-mail djsibol@aol.com. Ticket mail orders with payment can be sent to Dan Sibol, 90 Meridian Drive, Brick, NJ 08724.

We thank you for your support as we continue to benefit the youth of the South Amboy / Sayreville area. For more information on the Camp Dill Foundation and its current activities, go to their web-site at <https://www.campdill.org>.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

(Never known to fail) Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. You must publish it and it will be granted to you. Thank you. -M.M.

One Day Only Church Yard Sale

The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville will be having a One Day Only Church Yard Sale on Saturday, May 13th from 9 to noon. The rain date is May 20th. All items will be priced to go and feel free to make an offer. You never know what treasures you may find! We have everything from accent pieces to furniture to yard tools. The Church is located at 172 Main Street, Sayreville, directly across from the Borough Hall.

Sayreville Seafood & Main St. Sub Station/Deli

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Thurs. & Fri. 5:30am - 7pm
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Mother's Day Brunch

South Amboy Elks will be hosting Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday May 14th from 11am until 2:30. The brunch will include all homemade upscale menu items including our famous omelet station, carving station, and freshly baked desserts. One complimentary select beverage item and a gift for Mom is also included. The price is \$28 per person and is by reservation only, by May 10th. For more information, call 732-727-7170 or find us on Facebook. South Amboy Elks is located at 601 Washington Ave.

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.

THE TIMES

The South Amboy/ Sayreville Serving The Bayshore Area

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Pleasant Little TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

1.St. Mary's H.S. class of '96 valedictorian?
a.Amy Reina b.Joseph Jones c.Heather Budsock

2.Grand Marshal of Sayreville Memorial Day Parade in '17?
a.Edward Strek b.Richard Kosmoski c.Joseph Myers

3.The winner of the South Amboy Lions award for Valor in 1996?
a.Brian Gay b.Brian Noble c.James Charmello

4.In 2017, this auto repair business was located at Kath St. in the Morgan section of Sayreville?
a.J.Jays Auto b.C & H Auto Repair, LLC c.Superb Auto, Inc.

5.This auto air conditioning/radiator repair service was located on Rt. 35 in the Melrose section of Sayreville?
a.Mike's Hot & Cool b.All Seasons Cooling/Heating c.Alfie's Auto & Air

6.What section of Sayreville was Covello's Restaurant/Pizza located in Sayreville?
a.Morgan b.Melrose c.President Park

7.What year was the new South Amboy Middle/High School dedicated?
A.1991 b.1996 c.2001

8.What year did Rupp's Ace Hardware in Sayreville change its name?
A.2004 b.2015 c.2021

9.Installed as South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 Grand Knight in 2013?
a.Ray Suchicki b.Jack Mieczkowski c.Les Wilson

10.The Grand Marshal of the 2009 Sayreville Memorial Day Parade?
a.Edward Rappleyea b.John Janoski c.Robert O'Hallohan

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



Sayreville Seafood & Main Street Sub Station/Deli



John Przybylko, owner of Sayreville Seafood & Main Street Sub Station/Deli. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

40 Years And Going Strong!

It all started out as a hobby for John Przybylko owner of Sayreville Seafood and Deli, John, a.k.a. “Little John” built a home made fish smoker out of an old refrigerator. After a while he built another smoker, this time he used a fire hose dryer which made a huge smoke house and this was really the start of his seafood business. John sold his smoked fish to area taverns for about four years. One day while in the Tumble Inn he was talking to the owner of the bar about seafood and how he would someday like to open a fish market. Turns out that the owner’s nephew Gary Knoblock, was also interested in opening a fish market. The Tumble Inn owner got John and Gary together and within four months they opened Sayreville Seafood in its original location on Main Street in Sayreville. The official opening was May 11, 1983, and at that point all they offered was fresh fish. From there, within four months they were frying fish, making sandwiches and platters, and stayed at that original location for 11

years. They then moved the entire operation to the 400 Washington Road. In addition to Seafood they also took on the Deli portion of the business in the new location. With their new and larger space John and Gary were able to now offer all types of hot and cold food, from breakfast to dinner. John pointed out that the kitchen in that location was actually larger than the entire old store on Main Street. About two years after the move Gary moved on. In 2013 John moved back to the original location where he remains today as Sayreville Seafood and Main Street Sub Station/Deli serving up the best fresh seafood and fish fries in the area as well as the best subs and sandwiches of all types. John can’t believe how fast time has gone by, it seems like he was just celebrating 25 years and now this is his 40th Anniversary!

Stop in on the weekend of May 11th to check out the anniversary specials. John wants to thank everyone for their support and friendship over the years.

OLV Seniors Hunterdon Hills Trip

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Hunterdon Hills to see the Dr. K’s Motown Revue on Sunday, June 11, 2023. The cost of the trip is \$125.00 which

includes show, meal, tax and gratuity, bus transportation and bus driver gratuity. For further information or to reserve a seat, please contact Carmen at 732-254-9425.

FROM THE DESK OF TOM REILLY

Every municipality depends on volunteers. Whether helping at the local food pantry, joining the volunteer fire or first aid departments, or coaching youth programs, volunteers foster a sense of community and civic pride. I am proud to say that our City has a long history of dedicated volunteers who have bettered our community through selfless public service.

That is not to say our volunteers are not rewarded for their service. Volunteering can boost self confidence, improve a resume, and foster new friendships. In addition, volunteers develop skills in communication, leadership, problem solving, and time management.

At a recent city council meeting I was proud to recognize two residents who have served as shining examples of dedicated public servants. Jamie Norek is a member of both the Fire Department and First Aid. He served as Fire Chief from July 2011 to December 2012, and currently serves as a first aid/cpr instructor for the Department. Jamie also donates time to our local food pantry and has coached our youth in recreation programs for both basketball and soccer.



Francis “Butch” Mulvey recently celebrated 50 years as a volunteer fireman. Butch served as department chief in 1984 and recently joined the Middlesex County Fire Police. Butch has been a member of our Planning Board and is a proud veteran and member of American Legion Post 62.

Please join me in congratulating Jamie and Butch for their many years of dedication to our City. I trust they will continue to inspire many others for years to come to serve our community with pride and distinction.

Respectfully
Tom Reilly
2nd Ward Councilman
City of South Amboy

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Yearbook-South Amboy 2003

By Tom Burkard


Christine McAlister was principal and some of her very talented faculty members consisted of John Bernosky, Dennis Bourgeau, Cathy Charmello, Megan Dunlap, Mary Fiedorowicz, Kristin Gallagher, George Gundrum, Sheila Inman, Rich Klein, Phyllis Stratton. The yearbook was dedicated to Lyn Davis. The Student Council consisted of President-Neil Abadie; Vice President-Christopher DeLuca; Treasurer-Meaghan Maliniak; Secretary-Tracie Szatkowski... Some of the amazing Class of '03 selected randomly: David and Neil Abadie, Andrew Bielak, Jon Bouchard, Patrick Buczynski, Erin Campbell, Christopher DeLuca, Jared Gonsalves, Kelly Hathcock, Amy Haug, Shuang He, Debbie Hessner, Robert Hoehman, Brian Idyk, Stephanie Kasics, George Kern IV, Mandie Kotula, Neil Kurtiak, Kristen Lake, Andrea Manion, Georgio Mantoudakis, Lauren McCallister, Kiersten McCarthy, Jamie Murawski, Theresa Niestemski, Kristi Ruskuski, Ashlee Scarfi, William Seres, Nicholas Shaw, Lisa Smith, Jennifer Sturgis, Brandon Tarr, Jessica Vinsko, Stephanie Woods... Activities were plentiful at South Amboy HS. Spirit Week was very cool for the students and teacher as well. Purple & Gold Day; Funny Hat Day; Sports Day; Olympics were all highlights during this most memorable time..."Grease" was a smashing success and packed the auditorium. Other popular activities included Operation Shoebox; Diversity Day; Food Drive; Band & Chorus Winter Concert; Head Start Christmas Party; Community Art Show. In addition there were numerous clubs for the students to join. Purple & Gold athletic highlights for the year included: Nick Shaw scoring a record breaking 73 points in a basketball game, and later joining the elite 1,000 point career scoring club...Pablo Penagos scored 35 goals and was All-Conference and All-State in soccer...Kiersten McCarthy fired in her 1,000th career point for the girls' basketball team...In boys' bowling, Bill Oppenheimer rolled a perfect 300 game...The 2nd doubles team of Lauren McCallister and Debbie Hessner finished with a sparkling (11-5) record...The girls' soccer team finished (7-7), and were led by captains Kiersten McCarthy & Amy Haug...Boys' soccer turned in an (8-8-2) record, as captains Jared Gonsalves, Jon Bouchard and Arvid Agosto had a fine season...Girls' basketball captains were Kiersten McCarthy, Kristi Ruskuski, and Amy Haug. The Lady Guvs were (12-10). The varsity cheerleading captains were Danielle Morales, Stephanie Bellanich, and Amanda Lagriola... South Amboy HS Class of 2003 was an outstanding group of teenagers who certainly made their families proud as well as the City of South Amboy...

Celebrating 101 Years!



Victoria DeBaro, formerly of Parlin, is pictured with her South Amboy nephew John Erbetta. They celebrated her 101st birthday with one candle since she was 100 last year and is starting over. (Photo by Anne Erbetta)

Buddies Tavern



This vintage photo from the 1940's will be donated to the Sayreville Historical Museum by Karen Bailey-Bebert. The only person that she can identify is her grandfather, Edward Bailey, who was behind the bar. She also thinks that the man on the left is Frank Petner. Back in the 40's, the bar was located in Spezzi's on the corner of Washington Rd. and Johnson Lane. If anyone of our readers can help out with the identities, it would be greatly appreciated. Karen said, "This picture will be in the collection at the Sayreville Historical Museum. We are in the process of setting a date to do the unveiling of the Buddies Tavern Collection. I will be giving away the champagne glasses to those who attend that are from the 50s."

Sip and Dip Coming to the SA Arts Gallery

Friday, May 12th

May is the month for Mothers, blossoming trees and flowers. With the longer days it's time to enjoy the outdoors. Let us celebrate this beautiful time of year and feel its beauty through color and brush strokes. If you are interested in joining a guided painting experience that will allow you to destress and bring a smile to your face, join us on Friday, May 12th from 7 to 9 pm.

Email SAarts141@gmail.com or Call 732-727-4600 x5971 for more information. All painting supplies are included along with coffee and cake. You are welcome to BYOB if you wish. The cost is \$25 per person. Checks can be mailed to SA Arts Alliance, 141 N Broadway, South Amboy, NJ 08879.

Local Resident Designer and Entrepreneur



Nyria Sin showcased her original designs and talented craftsmanship at the SAarts Gallery. Nyria Sin is a local South Amboy resident that works to achieve beauty, craftsmanship and design in her work. 'Beauty is in the eye of the beholder' and Nyria Sin dedicates time, dedication and a passion for the best quality needed for beauty. (Photos/info submitted)

Dowdell Library News

The Dowdell Library is in full bloom with programs, activities and fun. Join us for a Safety Tips Sports Program, celebrate Children’s Book Week and Preservation Week, attain clarity and health with meditation, game on with video games for teens, and much more!

Join us for **Safety Tips for Sports** on Thursday, May 11 at 6:30 pm and learn how to prevent head injuries, just in time for summer fun presented by the Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey! Have a chance to win kids bike helmets provided by the South Amboy PBA and other giveaways! Families are welcome!

Adults, **The Senior Book Club** will meet on Monday, May 22 from 10:30 am – 11:30 am Stop by the Library to pick up this month's book. Want to join? Just contact the library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.com

Adults and Teens! Join us for the **Crocheting and Knitting Circle** on Mondays from 3:30-5 pm and 6:30-8 pm. Play **BINGO** on Monday, May 8 from 10:30 am-11:30 am. Small, non-monetary prizes will be awarded.

Preservation Week from May 1- 6 inspires action to preserve your collections by saving memories and treasures that should last a lifetime and beyond. Stop by for a free handout on how to get started preserving your collections.

Attain clarity and health with a simple 12-18 minute meditation practice called **Isha Kriya** on Saturday, May 6 from 2-3 pm. This program is sponsored by the Isha Foundation,

an international non-profit aimed to bring well-being to everyone through yoga and meditation. Free!

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

Children’s Book Week from May 1-6 is a literacy initiative that celebrates books and the connection it fosters with the love of reading. This year’s theme is “Read Books, Spark Change.”

Parents with toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for **Reading Rascals** featuring stories, games, activities, and crafts on Monday, May 8 and Saturday, May 20 from 1-2 pm.

Kids drop in on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30 pm for the **After School Fun Club** with fun activities, crafts, Lego building and more! New to **Dungeons & Dragons**? Drop in on Tuesdays, May 2 and May 16 from 3:30-4:30 pm for ages 6 and up. Existing players will continue to meet on Thursdays, May 4 and May 18 from 6-7:30 pm.

Teens! Stop by the **Teen Hangout** on Fridays from 2:30-4:30 pm for video gaming fun! Join us for the Crocheting and Knitting Circle on Mondays from 3:30-5 pm.

Mets Trip July 29

South Amboy Knights of Columbus are sponsoring their annual trip to beautiful Citi Field to see the National League contending Mets host NL East rival Washington Nationals.

Game time is 7:10 PM Saturday July 29.

Cost of \$160 includes game ticket, round trip motor coach transportation, refreshments, and \$24 in Mets Money which can be spent anywhere in the ballpark. To reserve your seat, call Steve at 732-727-1707 or 732-721-2025 and leave a message.



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Close Call With Alligator

By Jane Newcomb-Prusakowski

This past Good Friday around 6pm, I was gardening outside my front door. Lost in thought, I paid no attention to my surroundings, why would I? Growing up in South Amboy, I certainly never had to worry about what might be lurking so close behind me. Here in North Carolina, however...

My husband, Joe, came to the door after noticing out the window what he thought was a big pool raft, that is until it opened its mouth! Through the screen door, he said softly "don't move fast, just turn around slowly & come inside." I did, and not 15 feet away, so close he could have had me in 3 steps, was an alligator eye-balling me. He had every opportunity to grab or bite me, but for the grace of God he did neither.

While grabbing my camera inside, he began to wander around to the back of my house and into the common area near my patio. Eventually, a neighbor called the police and while resting, non-aggressively, they threw a towel over his body, and managed to tape his mouth shut. Without harm, they carried him down to a nearby pond in my development. Talk about divine intervention; while I wasn't very nervous, I now realize it could have gone very differently. Needless to say, I felt very blessed this Easter.





Former South Amboy resident Jane Newcomb-Prusakowski was gardening, and was unaware of this 5-foot long alligator getting very close to where she was. It sure was a close call, and too close for comfort! (Photos by Joe Prusakowski)

Belated Congratulations!



The South Amboy FD participated in the 100th Anniversary Parade in Iselin, NJ on June 11th last year. The SAFD was the best Appearing Department in the line of March and won the Ellsworth Post trophy which is given by the NJSEFA. Unfortunately, at the time of the parade the base and other parts for the post trophy was back ordered as a result of Covid. On Saturday, April 15 the NJSEFA was finally able to present the trophy to Chief John Dragotta at the state Executive Committee meeting in Cheesapeake Fire Station. Pictured here are Robert Sweeten 1stVP, Garrick Miller State President, South Amboy Fire Chief John Dragotta and James Domville 2nd VP. (Photo/info submitted)

South Amboy Gallery News



From the Gallery Opening of Rose Sgarlato, a previous South Amboy resident. Her artist style is abstract but the colors, shapes and textures expressed in each work interrupt the mood and emotion of each piece's message. Art will be on display until the end of May. (Photos/info submitted)

Dunkin' Comes To Parlin

(Story/Photos By Steve Schmid)

Dunkin' Donuts recently celebrated its grand opening at ShopRite Plaza in Parlin. Free gifts were given and people signed up for a chance to win free coffee. Store Manager Christopher Duran said he's glad to serve people from ShopRite, Sayreville High School and the community. Luf Frankton Network is operating this store and dozens more in New Jersey. Luf Frankton announced

it's donating \$2,500 to Sayreville Domestic Violence Response Team and \$5,000 to Fighting Children's Cancer Foundation to show their support to the community. Sayreville Mayor Vicki Kilpatrick said she 's excited to see new businesses come into town. because it offers goods and services, and creates employment opportunities in Sayreville.



Sayreville Mayor Vicki Kilpatrick cut the ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of Dunkin Donuts at their new location at ShopRite Plaza in Parlin.



Store Manager Christopher Duran hugged "Cuppi" the Dunkin mascot, at the recent grand opening.

The Smoke Column

BY Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski, BA., MS.

In 1964 Bob Dylan released a song called "The Times, They Are a Changin'." It was true then and even truer today. In the fire service it is no different as changes are constantly being made. Throughout the years, the fire service has adapted to using new and better tools, technologies, tactics, and kept up with the changes in building construction. Most people tend to resist change in any way, shape, or form. Those who resist change will be lost to the future. Recently at a fire scene a young firefighter was sent to the apparatus by the Captain to retrieve a Phillips screwdriver that was needed inside the structure. After 10 minutes the firefighter returned empty handed. When questioned by the Captain why he didn't have the Phillips screwdriver, he stated, "Cap, there are no Phillips screwdrivers in the toolbox, only Stanley's." WOW! When I told this story to a group of 20 recruit firefighters, I was expecting them all to laugh. Boy, was I surprised when more than half the class stared at me with that "deer-in-the-headlights look" because they didn't understand. One recruit even asked me "what is a Phillips screwdriver?" Growing up in a family where tools were in abundance, as kids we were always fixin' or building stuff. In the process, we got cuts, knicks, scrapes and maybe even broken bones when using those tools and Mom had a hard time keeping that J&J band aid box stocked. We can no longer assume that the future generation of firefighter recruits understand basic hand tools, or for that matter, many other types of tools. We must ask ourselves WHY? In a future lecture to this same recruit class, I was explaining to them that at some point in their career they will have to cut open a roof on a burning structure to allow the excessive

heat, smoke, and poison gasses to escape. This function is usually performed using a gasoline powered rotary or chainsaw (battery powered saws are on the horizon). When attempting to teach the recruits how to start these saws, I said it was like starting a lawn mower. You may have to prime the motor and then pull the starter cord. I once again got the stare into space look. Most of the class said that they NEVER started a lawnmower or cut the grass because they call the landscapers to do that work. Most of them didn't play with or use basic hand tools as kids because there were none in the home. When anything broke and needed to be repaired, mom/dad called someone to service the broken item so there was no need to own tools.

In the fire service, firefighters are called upon to fix and repair "stuff." We perform this in many ways, shapes, and forms when we arrive on scene with that big red "toolbox." But before we get to that point, we must be thoroughly trained in the proper and safe use of all the tools we can be expected to use. Years ago, I read an article on how our country was going to turn into a predominant service-oriented country where technicians were called to fix everything. That change has been gradually occurring throughout the years. We no longer work on our cars or repair minor items around the home, we call somebody or we replace them. Even cooking meals at home has declined with the ease of calling GrubHub, DoorDash, and Uber Eats to bring our meals. So, when new recruits join your fire company, don't expect too much from them. Instead, see where you could be their mentor and help them understand the fire service because it is those recruits who will follow in our footsteps. Society has changed!

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**South Amboy Youth Athletic Association
Opening Day 2023**
(Photos by Brian Stratton)



Players and coaches march down Bordentown Ave. to the Allie Clark Sports Complex for opening day ceremonies.



South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry (l) and Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62 Commander Joe Szaro (r) address the crowd prior to the first pitches being thrown out.



Eric Beneducci Jr. (with microphone) did an outstanding job singing the "Star Spangled Banner".



Opening pitches:
Baseball- Jovet Kercado (2nd from left) threw to his daughter D'liah (far left)
Softball-Kraig Kuziemski (2nd from right) in memory of his father Frank threw to Emma Kelly. (far right)



The PBA TBall Team got to pose with some of the City's officers. (Photo by Samantha Pagan)

OLV Friendship Meal Returns
By Steve Schmid

After a two year absence due to COVID-19, the annual Our Lady of Victories Friendship Meal returned to a sit-down event. The meal was held at Msgr. Dalton Hall for the first time since 2020. Last year's meal was canceled and the 2021 meal was a take-out event at the OLV Knights of Columbus Council 2061. Committee chairwoman Mary Majkowski said she's thrilled to see the meal return for in person dining. She said the goal is to spread good will and fellowship during the Easter season. Majkowski said 700 meals were prepared and is grateful to the local businesses and organizations which donated the food. She added that meals were delivered to Gillette Manor and South Amboy affordable housing. She said the committee worked hard to plan, prepare and serve the food to the public. She said she was happy so many people turned out to enjoy this meal.



Mary Majkowski, chairperson of the 16th Annual OLV Friendship Meal, visits with the Easter Bunny. Carole Leppig is the co-chairperson. (Photo submitted)



Volunteers showed plenty of Easter spirit serving delicious meals to many people at the annual OLV Friendship dinner at Msgr. Dalton Hall. The food was donated by local businesses and organizations. (Photo by Steve Schmid)

SA Elks Installs New Officers



South Amboy Elks would like to congratulate all the new Officers for the 2023-24 Fraternal Year. Pictured front row from the left Celina Maydish-Tiler, Phyllis Letteriello-Lecturing Knight, Joyce Medvar-Loyal Knight, Jeanine Sieber - Exalted Ruler, John Leo -Leading Knight, Melissa Bobbins -Esquire, Patricia Kall - Secretary . Back row From the left, Ginger Olszewski -Treasurer, David Bryson - 3 year Trustee, James Abbatiello -Inner Guard, and Sharon Pelszynski - Chaplain. Missing are Frank Glennon -2 yr. Trustee and Val Tarr 1 yr. Trustee. Have a great year! (Photo/Info Submitted)

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**Sayreville's 1st
Mother/Son Dance**

The Sayreville Bomber Baseball Booster Club has been supporting the baseball programs of the Sayreville Middle School and High School since 1988. Our fundraising supports all off the field events such as: Senior Day, Future Bomber Day, Senior Scholarships, end of the year gifts, and the purchase of equipment as well. This year, we are excited to announce a new fundraiser. For the first time, we are hosting a Mother/Son Dance on Friday, May 12th from 6:00pm-9:00pm at the Sayreville High School Cafeteria. The night will include a DJ, Photo Booth, food, drinks, and games. We invite all boys, ages 5 and up to take your mom out for what will be a fun night. Grandmas, Aunts, Sisters, etc., all are welcome. We would like to thank Vintage Title Services, LLC for sponsoring this event. Tickets are going fast, to RSVP, please email Mike Romanello@sayrevillebombersbaseball@gmail.com. Tickets can be purchased through May 10.th.

Thank You Mom

By John Flip Phillips

My mother had her heart set on me becoming an Accordion player. So, when I was about 9 years old (1948) my mom and I took the bus from South Amboy to Perth Amboy to register me in the New Jersey School of Music. So, up the stairs of the old Woolworth 5 & 10 we went to begin my music journey. In the room were four other “talented” kids. I could see they were just as “thrilled” to be there as I was. The instructor placed a big old fashioned accordion on my lap and said: “put your hands on the keys.” Keys, what keys? I did not see any keys...so I asked him where they were. He then “firmly” placed my hands on the keys and then slapped me in the face, wow that hurt! When my mom came to get me after the lesson and saw my face (it was still very red) she went ballistic and had a heated argument with the instructor. I smiled to myself, well at least that ends something I really did not want to do. Boy was I wrong!

The very next week she hired a teacher to come to the house to give me private lessons at \$8 a lesson. Surprise.... I liked it! So, she bought me a new accordion. It was a white Mother of Pearl accordion made in Italy, one of the best you could buy. I wanted a red one, go figure. I then hooked up with



some older guys in a band that was playing at weddings and high school dances. However, I got really interested in other teenage things: sports, hanging out with the guys and girls. And I began to miss band practices. So, they got another accordion player. My mom was so mad and depressed that she returned my accordion. At least she did not have to make monthly payments.... but she was mad! End of story? No!

About twenty years later when I was transferred by DuPont to Wilmington, Delaware she came for a visit. She walked carrying a case. She gave it to me and said: “Here play it”, and I did. I never lost touch and was soon playing music she liked. She was happy but I was sad. I realized then how much I hurt her....she really wanted me to be her accordion player. I guess she saw wasted talent, and now I did too. I played for her every chance I got from then on. And, in her final days I would take my accordion with me whenever I went to visit and play her favorite Polish tunes. Now I play the keyboard, and I finally have my red Accordion. Every time I sit down to play, I think of her. So, mom, thank you from the bottom of my heart for not giving up on me. I guess mothers are like that.

FIRE ON RIDGEWAY AVENUE



On March 12th South Amboy Police, Fire and First Aid units responded to a house fire located on Ridgeway Avenue and Conover St. South Amboy Police officers pulled a victim from the doorway to safety as they arrived to flames blowing out the front of the house. Fire crews quickly went in and knocked the fire down and worked on hot spots. The victim was treated by Woodbridge EMS and HM Paramedics then flown to St. Barnabas burn unit. South Amboy First Aid provided firefighter rehab. Mutual aid fire units from Morgan, Melrose, Hopelawn and Matawan assisted at the scene. Keyport and Laurence Harbor fire departments covered the city. Perth Amboy Fire set up the landing zone for the medivac helicopter. Cause of the fire is under investigation by SAPD and the Middlesex County Fire Marshal office. (Photo/story by Jamie Norek)

OLV Senior May Meeting

The OLV Seniors will hold their May meeting on Friday, May 5th at 12 noon in Monsignor Dalton Hall. Prior to the business portion of the meeting, we will have our traditional May Crowning. After the business portion of the meeting light refreshments will be served.

New trips for 2023 will be announced at this meeting. A \$20.00 non-refundable deposit is required at time of sign-up. There

will be a schedule of payment dates for the multi-day trips. Payment for both West Point and Pigeon Forge are due in May.

Food donations for St. Vincent de Paul will continue for the 2022-2023 year. Please bring your canned goods donation to the meeting.

For further questions please contact Teri Yetsko, OLV Senior Group President at 732-727-7639.



What Exit?

This month's GSP exit will take you to the Where In NJ. Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by May 15th.



What Exit?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

March What Exit:

GSP Exit 131a would take you directly to the March where in NJ. The following got it right: Dermot Scales, John & JoAnn French, Pam and Mark DePazza, Betty Leveille, Ed English, Gary Feret, Walter Starzec Jr, Pat Scully, Dane Colburn, Mark Moniello.

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 -B.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 -Rs, As, LP, HS, LS, EP.

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Sayreville Library News
Job Interview Prep

Thursday, May 4 @6PM (In-Person)
Monday, May 22 @6PM (Virtual)
Learn how to ace that job interview in this interactive seminar. We will be going over strategies to focus on your strengths and be fully prepared for the big interview.

Tuesday Movie Matinee
Tuesday, May 16 @1PM
Come join us for our monthly movie matinee. This month: Ticket to Paradise: A romantic comedy starring Julia Roberts and George Clooney. Rated PG-13/1 hr 44 mins. Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Trivia Night with Dan
Monday, May 22 @6:30PM
Think you are good at trivia?
Want to try and win some prizes?
Dan Vetrano, Sayreville Library's own Adult Librarian and long time trivia enthusiast will be cooking up questions for this fun and exciting game. Play solo or join up with a team. Prizes offered to the winners. Open to teens and adults. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112. No more than 4 per team please. All team members must register. May 22 is a virtual session. Registration required to get the zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

South Amboy Officials
30 Years Ago

1993-Mayor-John T. O'Leary; Council President-James C. Reick; Councilwoman-At-Large-Claire S. Reilly; Councilman-At-Large-Fred A. Henry; Councilman-Russell Stillwagon; Councilman-Donald Thomas; City Clerk-Christine Caputo; Chief of Police-Leo McCabe; Tax Collector-Joanne Brennan; Finance Director-Ronald E. Burgess; Fire Official-Edward Szatkowski; City Business Administrator-John F. Mason; City Engineer-James E. Cleary; Fire Chief-Gary Colfer; Law Director-John R. Lanza; Municipal Judge-Joseph C. Hoffman; Fire Marshal-Chester Meinzer; Assistant Superintendent of Public Works-Gerald Garnett; Superintendent of Recreation-Mary Lou DeBlis.

South Amboy Elementary 4th Grade Living Museum



Vice Principal Michelle Buchanan (l) listens to Michelle Obama - Brielle Moreau



Paul Revere - Kyle Radich



Dr. Seuss - Kyleigh Perez

Novena Prayer to St. Anthony of Padua
O Holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and charity for His creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Miracles waited on your word, which you were ever ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety. Encouraged by this thought, I import you to obtain for me (request). The answer to my prayer may require a miracle. Even so, you are the Saint of Miracles. O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of Sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. Amen. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be. -M.S., S.S., N.P., S.S

Eagle Scout Project Fundraiser

Elijah Jung, a Life Scout with Troop 96, is building a new playground for Wilson Elementary School as his Eagle Scout project. Elijah is currently a sophomore at Sayreville High School and has been in scouting since the first grade when he himself was a student at Wilson School.
To raise money for his project, a pasta dinner fundraiser is being held on May 3rd from 5-8 pm at the Knights of Columbus

on Washington Rd in Sayreville with the assistance of the Sayreville Education Association. Tickets are \$15 for adults or \$10 for kids 12 and under if purchased in advance. Kids 5 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased at <https://eagle-scout-project-pasta-dinner-fundraiser.cheddarup.com/>
Please contact the troop at SayrevilleTroop96@gmail.com with any questions.



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Who is it?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

Last month's mystery person was Eddie "The King" Feigner. Feigner (pronounced FAY-ner) was the star of the King and His Court, the greatest fast-pitch softball pitcher to ever roam the earth. During his barnstorming career as the King, a road trip that began in 1946, Feigner, according to his meticulous records won 9,743 games, struck out 141,517 batters, fired 930 no-hitters and pitched 238 perfect games.

The following knew the King! Edna Pilch, Dennis Quinlan, Bill Farrell, Billy Wozniak, Thomas Harrigan, Mike Niestemski, Tom Rouze, Tom Carne, John "Flip" Phillips, Ed Strek, Steve Brandon, Dennis Mann, John & JoAnn French,, Jim Malkiewicz, Pam and Mark DePazza, Kenneth Oleskin, Richard Walsh, Ed English, Gary Feret, Walter Starzec Jr, Pat Scully, Pete McIntyre, Dane Colburn, Mark Moniello.



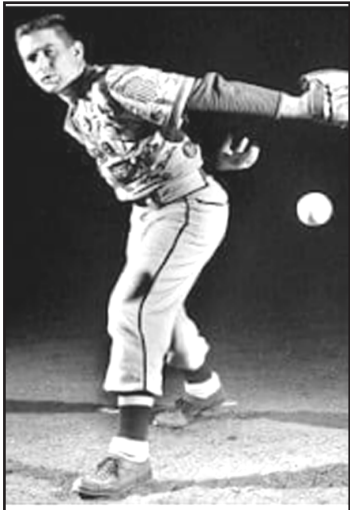
Do you recognize these two gentlemen? Send you answer to satimes@aol.com by May 15th.

Here are some comments from our readers:

In response to the question - Who is the King in the picture? Former Sayreville resident/ St. Mary's baseball great, Bill Farrell said, "It is Eddie "The King" Feigner. He only had three players behind him - catcher, shortstop and a first baseman. The King of Softball! Very impressive, and I had the opportunity to see him perform in person when I was younger." Ed Strek, one of Sayreville's greatest softball players in history said, "My team played against him at Memorial Park in New Brunswick, many years ago." Steve Brandon of Parlin said, "I was from Brooklyn, and I had the opportunity to see him play there."



March Who is it?



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Easter Bunny Visits South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426

(Photos/Info by Steve Schmid)



The Easter Bunny visited parents and children at the Easter egg hunt held at the annual Brunch with the Easter Bunny sponsored by South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426.



The Easter Bunny visits with Sophia Poumeyrol of South Amboy at the annual Brunch with the Easter Bunny held at the South Amboy Knights of Columbus.

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Catering For All Occasions



People were up and dancing to the music of the Cellar Dwellers & Friends at the 50s Sock Hop held at the South Amboy Knights of Columbus (Photo by Steve Schmid)

One Hit Wonders



Dexy's Midnight Runners had their only Top 40 hit, "Come On Eileen," which hit #1 in 1983.

40 Years Ago

1983-Come On Eileen-Dexy's Midnight Runners; After The Fire-Der Kommissar; She Blinded Me With Science-Thomas Dolby; Too Shy-Kajagoogoo; Putin' On The Ritz-Taco; Far From Over-Frank Stallone; In A Big Country-Big Country; Major Tom (Coming Home)-Peter Schilling.



Rocker Ted Nugent nicknamed "The Motor City Madman" is pictured in action at a New Jersey concert many years ago. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Top 20 Song Shootout

The following songs had the most views/ listens on our Facebook page for April:
1-Different Drum-Stone Poneys/Linda Ronstadt; 2-Tenth Avenue Freeze Out-Bruce Springsteen/The E-Street Band; 3-Mrs. Brown You've Got A Lovely Daughter-Herman's Hermits; 4-I'm Your Captain-Grand Funk Railroad; 5-Old Fashioned Love Song-Three Dog Night; 6-Islands In The Stream-Kenny Rogers/Dolly Parton; 7-Reflections Of My Life-Marmalade; 8-Make It With You-Bread; 9-It Never Rains In Southern California-Albert Hammond; 10-Build Me Up Buttercup-The Foundations; 11-Get Together-The Youngbloods; 12-Born In The U.S.A.-Bruce Springsteen; 13-Wild Horses-The Rolling Stones; 14-Oh Very Young-Cat Stevens; 15-I'll Have To Say I Love You In A Song-Jim Croce; 16-Friends In Low Places-Garth Brooks; 17-Yesterday (When I Was Young)-Roy Clark; 18-Stop Draggin' My Heart Around-Stevie Nicks with Tom Petty/The Heartbreakers; 19-Take This Job And Shove It-Johnny Paycheck; 20-Don't Come Around Here No More-Tom Petty/The Heartbreakers.

#1 Country Hits On April 29

2002-My List-Toby Keith
1998-Bye-Bye-Jo Dee Messina
1986-Now And Forever-Anne Murray
1975-Blanket On The Ground-Billie Jo Spears
1967-Need You-Sonny James

#1 Top 40 Hits On April 29

2003-In Da Club-50 Cent
1992-Jump-Kris Kross
1983-Come On Eileen-Dexy's Midnight Runners
1970-ABC-The Jackson 5
1965-Game Of Love-Wayne Fontana/Mindbenders

Holy Week Services
(Photos/story by Steve Schmid)



Saint Mary Church Pastor Father Dennis Wezorak washed the feet of 12 parishioners on Holy Tuesday just like Jesus did to his 12 disciples at the Last Supper.



Father Dennis blesses Easter food on Holy Saturday. Father Dennis will be retiring as Pastor this August.



St. Stan's Pastor Father Ken Murphy blessed Easter food Holy Saturday at Saint Stanislaus Kostka Church in Sayreville. Parishioners brought many baskets to be blessed.

MUSIC TRIVIA
By Tom Burkard

California Cities



- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1.Mendocino | a.Eric Burdon/The Animals |
| 2.San Francisco | b.Dionne Warwick |
| 3.Monterey | c.Jan & Dean |
| 4.LA Woman | d.Sir Douglas Quintet |
| 5.Ventura Highway | e.Tony Bennett |
| 6.Do You Know The Way To San Jose | f.Creedence Clearwater Revival |
| 7.Little Old Lady From Pasadena | g.America |
| 8.I Left My Heart In San Francisco | h.The Doors |
| 9.Lodi | i.Bob Seger/The Silver Bullet Band |
| 10.Hollywood Nights | j.Scott McKenzie |

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

St. Stan's School
(Photos/Info Submitted)



The 4th Graders were hopping with joy at the opportunity to hang out with the Easter Bunny!



St. Stan's Religion Club was recently invited to the Make-A-Wish Castle in Monroe as a thank you to the school and parish for their fundraising efforts in December.



The 8th Grade Cooking Club served up their last dish as they made and prepared cookies for the school.



The First Graders carefully prepared and hosted the school's last mass during Lent.



WWW.?



Look Familiar? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by May 15th. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Last month's WWW.? was Christ Church located on Main St. in South Amboy. The following got it right: Edna Pilch, Diana Malkiewicz, Ingrid H Hammond, Dennis Quinlan, Thomas Harrigan, Joanne Niestemski, Joan Fulham, Dermot Scales, John & JoAnn French, Christine Jordan, Suzy Kiefer, Marybeth Chodkiewicz, Jim Malkiewicz, Mary Agnes Morris, Don Zrebiec, Patti Tengelic, Barb Bockus, Betty Leveille, Ed English, Steve Laskiewicz, Lisa Grankowski, John Gelsinon, Gary Feret, Walter Starzec Jr, Pat Scully, Lynn Loy, Pete McIntyre, Dane Colburn, Jordan R. Drevelus, Laurie & Gary Loftus.



March WWW.? Christ Church

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 -M.L..

The Vintage Car Contest
By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



This is an old car but apparently it was way ahead of it's time. Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by May 15th.

Last month's car was a 1951 Hudson Hornet. The following got it right: Ray Andrejewski, Edna Pilch, Art Powis, Thomas Harrigan, Dermot Scales, Bruce Grankowski, John & JoAnn French, Betty Leveille, Ed English, Steve Laskiewicz, John Gelsinon, Gary Feret, Walter Starzec Jr, Pat Scully, Pete McIntyre, Dane Colburn, Mark Moniello.

March Vintage Car
1951 Hudson Hornet



50th Reunion



St. Mary's HS - Class Of 73 - 50th Class Reunion

St Mary's HS Class of 1973 held their 50th Class Reunion at the Shore Club in Spring Lake, NJ 3/31/23. There were 53 Classmates who attended and had a great time. (Class Photo/info by Tom Durski)






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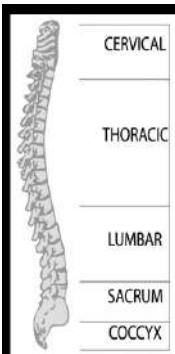
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The
Spinal
Column

By
Dr. John Misiewicz

Aging and Exercising

At some point, human beings lose the ability to respond effectively to the aging process. This myth has lived with us for generations, but it's just that – a myth.

There are numerous factors that enter into a person's attitude about growing older. Sarcopenia, the age-related loss of muscle is a key factor of the central problem. But it's never too late to start exercising. There are strategies anyone can design no matter what the age or physical condition. Study after study has demonstrated that the single most important activity a person can do to slow down and even reverse the aging process is to exercise.

Being more active on a daily basis could be the most critical thing anyone can do. For some people this might be as simple as taking a 30 minute walk once a day. If this seems too challenging, then three 10 minute walks might be less demanding. For others, it might be getting up from the couch to change the channel on the TV instead of using the remote control. Parking your car far away from the entrance to a store instead of finding the closest parking space can add a few more steps to your day and maybe a few more years to your live. Each physical activity a person disciplines himself to do will further his overall development.

Now that you have started to include more physical activities into your daily routine you are ready to begin an exercise program. Many older people limit their activities because of a reduction in strength, not because of lack of cardiovascular endurance. As people age they frequently find that they walk more slowly. There are many elements that can cause this slower pace. But the single most important factor in the rate is muscle strength.

Progressive resistance training is the resistance to the force of gravity by using weight, machines, or elastic bands. A person just starting can even use common objects such as soup cans as weights. Resisting the force of gravity by lifting a weight for a number of repetitions will begin to increase muscle mass and strength. Progressively increasing resistance will produce a further increase in muscular strength, lean muscle tissue, and muscular endurance, all necessary for functioning effectively in everyday life.

A Prayer For Mom And Dad

By Robert W. Eginton

Bless them please
Oh Lord I pray
And may they always know
You'll let the sunshine
down today
To make their garden grow.
May they always find in me
The things I found in you.
And with them may
you always be
In everything they do.
May their faith be never broken
And may sorrow pass them by.
Let their dreams all be awoken
And their memories never die.
Please take them in and
guide their way
When they knock upon your door.
And love them each
and every day
And then.....A little more.

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School Sports
(As of April 15)
By Tom Burkard

Baseball

Sayreville-Coach Mike Novak (5-2)

Batting Leaders

Avg.-Jake Romanello .500, Aayush Mehta .440, Michael Novak .364, Thomas Schlaline .333; Runs-Romanello 11, Mehta 9; Hits-Mehta 11, Romanello 10, Novak 8; Doubles-Novak 3, Romanello 2; Stolen Bases-Romanello 11, Mehta 3, Novak 2.

Pitching Leaders

Innings Pitched-Schlaline 13, James Kehoe 9, Mehta 8.2; Strikeouts-Schlaline 14, Kehoe 11; ERA-Mehta 0.81, Schlaline 2.69.

South Amboy-Coach Dan Poulsen (2-2)

Batting Leaders

Avg.-Diego Colon .750, Weslyn Sanchez .600, Benjamin Hernandez .500; Hits-Colon 6, Hernandez 5; Doubles-Hernandez 2, Sanchez 2; Triples-Christian Smith 1; RBI-Colon 5, Hernandez 3; Home Runs-Steven Evanski 1; Stolen Bases-Gabriel Albarran 3, Giro Castaldo 3, Colon 3.

Pitching Leaders

Innings Pitched-Matthew Stempinski 9.1, Steven Evanski 6; Strikeouts-S. Evanski 11, M. Stempinski 9; ERA-M. Stempinski 1.50.

Softball

South Amboy-Coach Lindsay Durant (5-1)

Batting Leaders

Avg.-Kayla Buchanan .667, Emma Kalantis .556, Brianna Sweatt .400, Sarah McLaughlin .350; Runs-Jada Berry 10, Kalantis 10, Iyanni Twiggs 10; Hits-Kalantis 10, Sweatt 8, Sarah McLaughlin 7; Doubles-McLaughlin 3, Kalantis 2, Evalise Perez 2; Triples-Sweatt 1; Home Runs-Jada Berry 1; Stolen Bases-Berry 7, Twiggs 5, McLaughlin 4.

Pitching Leaders

Innings Pitched-Evalise Perez 31; Strikeouts-Perez 49; ERA-Perez 2.94.

Sayreville-Coach Amanda Moken (4-1)

Batting Leaders

Avg.-Dylan Arena .429, Josephine Vanore .429, Jillian Bourbeau .421, Rose Joseph .357, Caydence Barton .350; Runs-Megan McKay 6; Hits-Bourbeau 8, Barton 7, Arena 6, Mya Infante 6; Doubles-Joseph 2; Triples-Arena 1, Infante 1; RBI-Barton 3, Bourbeau 3.

Pitching Leaders

Innings Pitched-Barton 16.1, Vanore 14.2; Strikeouts-Vanore 19, Barton 17; ERA-Barton 0.86, Vanore 5.73.

Guvs Trounce New Brunswick

The South Amboy Governors boys baseball team hammered New Brunswick, 14-4 in a 5-inning game. Matt Stempinski tossed a 4-hitter and was the winning pitcher. He had tons of offensive support from Benjamin Hernandez who drilled 2 singles and a double, Daniel Evanski, 2 singles, 2 RBI, and 2 stolen bases, Diego Colon, 2 hits, 2 RBI, 3 stolen bases, Weslyn Sanchez, a single, double, 2 stolen bases, Gabriel Albarran, a single, RBI, and 3 stolen bases, and Giro Castaldo added 3 stolen bases for the Purple & Gold.

Bombers Belt North Plainfield

The Sayreville Bombers girls softball squad hammered North Plainfield, 12-2 in a mercy-killing, 5-inning contest. Winning pitcher Josephine Vanore fanned 11 batters in 5 innings, and also drilled 2 hits to help the Bomber cause. Jillian Bourbeau stroked 3 singles to drive in 3 runs, Caydence Barton had 2 hits and 3 RBI, while Hailey Kilpatrick chipped in with 2 singles and an RBI.

Sayreville Stops Edison

The Bombers of Sayreville boys baseball team downed Edison, 7-4. Aayush Mehta laced 3 singles to drive in 3 runs, and also stole a base. Michael Robinson drilled a single and knocked in 2. Pitcher James Kehoe notched his first victory, striking out 6 in 5 innings.

Sayreville Stops Colonia

The Sayreville girls softball contingent clobbered Colonia, 8-1, as Caydence Barton fired a 5-hitter and fanned 5. Jillian Bourbeau went 3-for-4 with 2 RBI, and stole a base. Dylan Arena blasted a single and triple for the Bombers.

Lady Guvs Rip South River

South Amboy pounded South River, 12-3 in girls softball. Winning pitcher Evalise Perez spun a 4-hitter and struck out 11, and helped her own cause by belting a single, and double, good for 2 RBI. Brianna Sweatt smashed a single, triple, and drove in 4 runs. Kayla Buchanan had 2 hits and 3 RBI, and Sarah McLaughlin went 3-for-4 including a double to knock in 2 runs for the winners.

Pro Baseball Report

Sayreville's Brandon Bielak is currently pitching for the Sugarland Pacific Coast League (PCL) AAA team, the Houston Astros top farm club. In 3 games, 2 as a starter, he has worked 10.2 innings, struck out 10, while holding opposing hitters to a .238 avg. His record is (0-1) and ERA stands at 5.06.

Patriots BBQ August 26

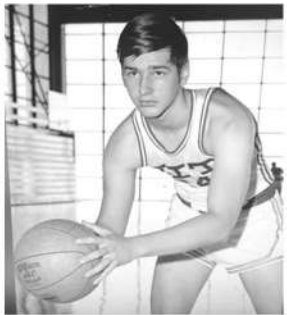
South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 will sponsor an outing Saturday night August 26 at 7 PM to see the Somerset Patriots host the Hartford Yard Goats. Cost of \$45 includes a ninety minute all you can eat barbecue with hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, French fries, cookies and more. Fountain soda is available for seven innings. After the game, stay for a great fireworks show. To reserve your seat, call Steve at 732-727-1707 or 732-721-2025 and leave a message.

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Remembering Rick Ragula



Rick Ragula, St. Mary's HS class of '68, passed away on March 23rd at age 72. Rick was a great guy, and basketball star, who topped the Eagles in scoring during his junior year (1966-67) with 326 points, and senior season (1967-68) with 353 points. He finished with a career total of 807 points, and was also a standout rebounder. Following high school, he was a basketball starter for Illinois Tech, and went on to have a very successful life as a biochemist. Rick also held a patent in the development of medical delivery systems.



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Where in NJ?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Does this business look familiar? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by May 15th.

The location of last month's Where In NJ? was the Iselin section of Woodbridge. The building was originally built by Hilton in the 1980's and known as the Woodbridge Hilton and later became known as APA Hotel. The following got it right: Edna

Pilch, Christine Jourdan, Thomas Harrigan, Dermot Scales, John & JoAnn French, Pam and Mark DePazza, Betty Leveille, Ed English, Gary Feret, Walter Starzec Jr, Pat Scully, Dane Colburn, Mark Moniello, Laurie & Gary Loftus.

March Where in NJ?

Woodbridge Hilton /
APA Hotel - Iselin



WHAT IS IT?????

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Last month's (what is it) proved to be a bit challenging. It was an EBow which is an electronic device used by guitarists to get a violin bow effect. I remember first seeing Jimmy Page of Led Zeppelin use it during the band's 1977 tour at Madison Square Garden (13th row!!). The following got it right: Thomas Harrigan, Edna Pilch, Tom Carne, Jim Malkiewicz, Gary Feret, Walter Starzec Jr, Dane Colburn, Mark Moniello.

March What Is It?

EBow



Another game from our childhood! Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by May 15th.



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Fishing Flashes

By Teo "Weebles" Weber



Salt Water

Raritan Bay shore fishing has picked up. I saw 2 men each had a nice 32 inch Striped Bass apiece. I also saw other people miss bites at Ideal Beach. Cliffwood is also producing Stripers at times. The area in Perth Amboy between the Parkway and Victory bridges has been good for boaters. Shore fishing here from what I can see has been slow. Stripers are also in the surf at Island Beach and LBI along with some Blowfish and Black Drum. The back areas in Barnegat Bay are good for Stripers at night. Some early out of season Fluke were caught. More Winter Flounder were in this area as well as in the Shark River. Party boat fishing is still Ling and a few Cod. Blackfish are showing up and a good spot for them is the Point Pleasant Canal. Most are shorts, but there have been keepers.

Fresh Water

I was not able to make it out for Opening Day. It was chilly with normal to low water conditions. There was a big turnout of people which means they caught most of the stocked Trout. A friend told me he caught his limit of small and average size Trout at the Hockhockson Brook by Tinton Falls where there were lots of anglers. Trout Stocking continues until Memorial Day. The Lewis Brothers Fishery dropped their nets in the Delaware River but did not come up with Shad so far.

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 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 baseball
With his psychol 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's still one of my heroes
Along with Jesus, and Dad in life's quest.

OLV Senior Group Trip to Wheeling, West Virginia

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a Christmas holiday trip to Wheeling, West Virginia Festival of Lights from November 28 to November 30 2023. The cost of the trip is \$460.00. The price includes: 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, and 1 holiday dinner. Also included: Lights tour at Oglebay Park, Colonel Oglebay's Mansion tour, Glass Museum, tour of Independence Hall, Toy and train Museum, a d Wheeling Island casino. Lastly, bus transportation and driver's gratuity are also included. For information or to reserve a seat, please contact Finita Shicoff at 732-721-5081.

The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

From The Youth League Archives



1963-The talented Lions Club team of the South Amboy Little Fellas League is pictured at the James Harrigan Memorial Field prior to a big game. In the photo Top row (l-r) Coach Ray “Butch” Tomaszewski, Norm Kilcomons Jr., ?, Curt Wood, Mike Tedesco, ?, Jack Mason, Jim Vail. Bottom row (l-r) John “Skippy” Costanzo, Dick Muchanic, Mike Roman, Bill Henry, Glenn White, Jack Bloodgood, Roger White. Missing from photo- Manager Franklin English. (Photo/names courtesy of Dick Muchanic) *If anyone knows the identities of the question marks, please let us know at: satimes@aol.com.

T.H.E. Game

Sport-Baseball
Year-2012

Teams-South Amboy vs. Cardinal McCarrick/
St. Mary’s in City Series Game #1
Recap-South Amboy won its first game under
rookie Coach Dan Poulsen, 10-0 in 5 innings.
Freshman Tim Kales notched his first varsity
victory with a fine 1-hitter, and struck out 7.
Alex Olivares blasted 2 doubles, a single and
drove in 4 runs. Charles Pannell pounded a
single and triple, while Matt Lavan added a
2-run double for the Governors.
Co-Players-of-the-Game-Tim Kales and
Alex Olivares.

Back In Those College Days

1960’s-Pete Inman (Hoffman) played
baseball for Monmouth College...Dennis
Wood (Hoffman) was a basketball player
for Glassboro State College...Bob Poetsch
(Hoffman) starred in basketball for Trenton
State College...1993-Danielle Leitner
(Sayreville), a sophomore centerfielder for
William Paterson College belted the ball
for a .360 avg., and was an NJAC 1st Team
All-Star selection.

25 Years Ago



1998- St. Mary’s baseball team jumped off to a superb (7-1) start. Eagle sluggers and their coach are: (L-R) Gary Kaylor, Danny Arocho, Coach Jim Kazanjian and Nick Sas. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

1986 Champions



Proudly displaying their championship hardware are four of the “big guns” on the 1986 Protection team that captured the South Amboy Little Fellas title. In photo (l-r) Dave O’Connor, Kevin Zebro, Robert Zaleski, and Patrick Kennedy. All of these fine youngsters went on to play baseball and basketball at St. Mary’s High School. (Photo/info courtesy of Rick and Judy O’Connor)

Glory Days In Local Sports

1962-After four rainouts, the St. Mary’s
Eagles baseball team finally opened the
season by clobbering CBA, 20-5. Ray Riddell
was the winning pitcher. Providing plenty
of offense was Lou Nanna who blasted a
single, double and homer to drive in 6 runs,
Al Ust with a 2-for-2, 3 RBI game, and Joe
Jankowski who went 4-for-6 with 2 singles,
a double and home run to knock in 2...1978-
Jim Bright fired a brilliant shutout and struck
out 7, as Hoffman topped Perth Amboy
St. Mary’s, 4-0...1989-The Sayreville
girls tennis team under Coach Nicolaison
finished (13-6). Capt. Joanne Vasile won the

Middlesex County championship...1990-St.
Mary’s baseball team pounded Piscataway
Tech, 15-5. Tony Guido blasted a single and
triple to drive in 3 runs, while Pat Kennedy
chipped in with an RBI double. Freshman
Vinnie Costanza notched the pitching
victory...2000-Winning pitcher Dan Poulsen
fired a 6-inning 1-hitter and struck out 9, as
South Amboy beat East Brunswick Tech, 6-1
in baseball action. Rich Klein belted a 2-run
double...2011-Eric Goitia topped Sayreville
for the season with a .415 batting avg., and
hit 3 home runs. Ace pitcher Scott Griffin
led the team with 5 victories (5-1).

35 Years Ago

Downzie’s II Wins Softball Title

1988-Downzie’s II captured the
South Amboy Men’s Slow Pitch Softball
championship by sweeping two games
from Olde Towne Deli, 11-5, and 7-3. The
champs, after finishing the regular season
with a mediocre (10-11) record caught fire
and reeled off 5 consecutive playoff game
victories en route to the title.

Pitcher John Kaboski of Downzie’s was
selected M.V.P. of the playoff championship
series, and played some of the greatest softball
in his star-studded career. In addition to his
excellent pitching, he turned in numerous
fielding gems, preventing potential Olde
Towne rallies. He also went a sparkling
4-for-5 at the plate.

In the final game, Bob Howarth blasted
a towering homer to deep center to put
Downzie’s in the driver’s seat for good. The

champs also received plenty of offense from
Wally Nebus, who went 5-for-7, and player-
manager Fred Henry, who really ripped the
ball, turning in a fine 4-for-7 championship
series.

Olde Towne Deli (OTD) turned in an
outstanding (17-4) record during the regular
season, which tied McCormack Aggregates
for the best in the league, but it also marked
their second successive year of going to the
finals and falling.

Members of the 1988 Downzie’s II
champions were: Player/Manager Fred
Henry, John Kaboski, Joe Noble, Jack
Conlon, Ed O’Connor, Jon “Poncho”
O’Connor, Wally Nebus, Al Sorrentino, Jack
O’Connor, Gary Shereyka, Bob Howarth,
John Metz, and Paul Higgins.

Opening Day-25 Years Ago

1998-St.Mary ruined South Amboy's
opening game by downing them 5-2, before
a sizable crowd at Veterans Field. Nick Sas,
St. Mary's “All-Everything” hurled a nifty
4- hitter and whiffed 7. He also blasted
a triple. Star third baseman Gary Kaylor
crunched a Danny Poulsen fastball over the
left-center field fence for a big 2-run dinger.
Guvs’ slugger, Vinnie Sendziak, ripped an
RBI double. The loss put a damper on Coach
Rich Klein's first game at the helm in boys
baseball, and also halted the Purple & Gold's
ace pitcher Dan Poulsen's undefeated high
school streak. Poulsen, a sophomore, was a
perfect 5-0 as a frosh phenom.

Looking Back To...

1990-St. Mary’s boys baseball team
leaders for the season were: Batting Avg.-
Pat Kennedy .483; Leo Cannon .355; Kevin
Zebro .344; Bill Comitini .343. RBI-Kennedy
14; Comitini 9; Zebro 7; L. Cannon 5.

25 Years Ago

1998-Sayreville boys baseball team
nipped St. Joseph’s, 8-7 in 10 innings, when
Jesse Slavicek scored the game-winner on a
passed ball. Matt Rubio had tied the game
with a clutch 2-run homer in the bottom of
the 7th, and finished with a 3-for-5, 3 RBI
game. Charlie Bowden added 2 RBI, as Nick
Spiewak was the winning pitcher.

40 Years Ago

Opening Day 1983
By Tom Burkard

40 years ago, the high school baseball
season opened with local rivals, St. Mary’s
and Hoffman hooking up in a memorable
game at Veterans Field. Home runs were
flying out of the park more than usual, and Joe
Przybylski got the Governors off to a quick
start with a solo blast in the first inning. Scott
Gumprecht lit up the scoreboard by unloading
a 2-run dinger in the second stanza. Losing
pitcher, Victor Mangome crashed a 2-run
homer in the bottom of the 7th, but to no avail,
as Hoffman hammered rookie Coach John
Morvay’s Eagles, 10-5. Mangome finished
with three rbi’s. Left-hander John “Skeets”
Skarzynski was the winning pitcher, striking
out six. He also blasted a triple with the bases
loaded. Peter Smith drilled three hits for the
Purple & Gold.

20 Years Ago

2003-Sayreville Girls Win At
GMC Invitational

The Sayreville girls track & field team
captured first place in three events at the GMC
Invitational. Laura Fiorentino, Jen Kosty,
and Megan Miller won the 3 x 400 hurdles
in 3:51.1; Nicole Vassallo and Amy Bodak
took the javelin with a 197-10; and the duo
of Jessica Tirpak and Tracy Clark won the
shot put with a 64-7. Congratulations!

25 Years Ago

1998-St.Mary's fireballing softball
pitcher, Margaret Lewis struck out 5
consecutive South Amboy batters in the 7th
inning, and 4 reached first base on dropped
third strikes. Coach Fred Henry's Lady Guvs
were given 7 outs in the inning. After the
5th strikeout of the frame, Lewis beamed the
next batter. South Amboy then exploded for
9 runs in that wild 7th inning, and trounced
the Saints. 12-2.

20 Years Ago

2003-McCarrick Nips South Amboy

Caitlin Solli drilled a clutch, line-drive
single with two outs in the bottom of the
seventh inning, for the game winner, as
Cardinal McCarrick squeaked by South
Amboy, 5-4 in the season softball opener
for both clubs. The Lady Eagles overcame a
4-3 Purple & Gold lead to notch the victory.
Jessica Wojcik, Carissa Nadonley and Jessica
Fiore laced two hits apiece for McCarrick,
while Keryn Rosenberger orbited a two-run
homer for South Amboy.



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A Day's Passing
By Al Gomolka Jr.
Times Poet Laureate
c.2006

My, how my days are passing, passing, passing
Slyly and wily, unnoticeable to an extent
Does this time of life slip by:
I did that last week, Y
ou mean two months ago
At the end of the day
I can't believe that happened
Three years ago now!
My how you've grown
I haven't seen you since
It's been that long?
I just don't have the time
Society sure has changed
I feel so many aches and pains
Boy, he died so young
Generations have passed
Are there any I know still alive?
Until a lifetime comes around
My, how my days are passing, passing, passing
Where have the years gone?
I can't remember when
One doesn't realize as days come and go
Until it creeps up on you
And you don't have much time left to consider.

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Rita, children, grandchildren, &
great grandchildren**

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 -A.G.

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. -G.V..



Olivier "Ollie" Andrey Blanco
February 28, 1989 - April 17, 2023



Each morning when we awake
We know that you are gone.
And no one knows the heartache
As we try to carry on.
Our hearts still ache with sadness
and many tears still flow.
What it meant to lose you,
no one will ever know.
Our thoughts are always with you,
Your place no one can fill.
In life we loved you dearly,
in death we love you still.
There will always be a heartache,
And often a silent tear,
But always a precious memory
Of the days when you were here
If tears could make a staircase,
And heartaches make a lane,
We'd walk the path to heaven
To bring you home again.
We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you will remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives
Until we meet again
Our family chain is broken now,
And nothing will be the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The chain will link again.
Love always, Rachel Alvarez
and your children
Andria Blanco & Leonel Blanco



James Beshada

James Beshada, of Holmdel, formerly of South Amboy, passed away on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at Bayshore Community Hospital, he was 82. Born August 25, 1940 in South Amboy, he was one of four children. Jim was always involved in South Amboy Babe Ruth coaching and his children's sports. He was employed by the South Amboy Trust Company and First Fidelity Bank until his retirement. A member of St. Mary's R.C. Church, South Amboy, he was also an Exempt Member of Independence Engine and Hose Company, where he was Fire Chief in 1987. One time he even made the cover of the NY Post as a "best-dressed fireman" because he would head to fires with his suit on. An avid hunter and fisherman, he was a sports fanatic, rooting for Rutgers, the NY Yankees, and NY Giants.
Son of the late Theodore and Mildred Bright Beshada, he is predeceased by

his siblings Patricia Moran, Dennis Beshada, and Suzanne Farmer. James is survived by his wife of over 60 years, Frances Banfield Beshada; his daughter Bridget Engle and her husband Mike; his son James Beshada, Jr. and his wife Valarie; his grandchildren Lauren Rametta and her husband John, Ian O'Connor, Evie Engle, Michael Engle, Jr., James W. Beshada, Rebecca Beshada and Erik Beshada, along with his grand-niece Emily Engle. The light of his life was his great-granddaughters Vera and Mylah Rametta, his girls.

Funeral services were held on Friday April 21, 2023 at 8:45am at The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy, followed by a 9:30am Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church. Interment was held at New Calvary Cemetery, Parlin. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Obituaries

Baranowski, George A., 78, of South Amboy died on April 11.

Beshada, James, 82, formerly of South Amboy died on April 15.

Beyer, Allan, 89, formerly of Sayreville died on March 21.

Blanco, Oliver, “Ollie”, 34 of South Amboy died on April 17.

Chrzaszcz, Leonard, “Lenny,” 86, of South Amboy died on April 14.

Contini, Michael A. Jr., 35, formerly of Parlin died on April 6.

Cook, Gordon L. Jr., 76, of Parlin died on April 5.

Gosford, Cecelia T. Hanaway, 96, of South Amboy died on March 29.

Hess, Susan E. Crane, 75, formerly of South Amboy died on March 29.

Keller, Steven, 64, of Parlin died on April 8.

Kohlhepp, Jeanette, 97, of Sayreville died on April 4.

Kryzkowski, Edward J., 88, of Sayreville died on April 15.

Porpora, Michael, 61, of Parlin died on April 1.

Ragula, Richard J., 72, formerly of South Amboy died on March 23.

Rayner, Ronald F., 67, formerly of Parlin died on March 30.

Skarzynski, Josephine Wlodarczyk, 99, of South Amboy died on April 11.

Tamborra, Joseph D., 79, of South Amboy died on March 27.

Vona, John P., 96, of South Amboy died on March 28.

In Memoriam

Gordon Cook Jr., 76, of Parlin died on April 5. He was an Air Force veteran and longtime member of American Legion #211, and had the honor of working on Air Force 1. Leonard “Lenny” Chrzaszcz, 86, of South Amboy died on April 14. Prior to retiring,

he worked for the South Amboy Board of Education for many years, and was a hard-working, and respected employee at the high school. Lenny, a great guy, was a top-notch outdoorsman, and one of the most successful in hunting and fishing.

Cecelia Theresa Hanaway Gosford

Cecelia Theresa Hanaway Gosford, 96, of South Amboy died on Wednesday March 29, 2023 at the Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center, South Amboy surrounded by her loving family. Born in South Amboy she lived there all her life. A member of St. Mary’s R.C. Church, South Amboy she was also a member of the St. Mary’s and South Amboy Senior Citizens. She enjoyed reading and walking and loved her family.

Daughter of the late John and Mary Donlin Hanaway, she is also predeceased by her husband Vincent Joseph Gosford, Sr. in 1999; 7 brothers and sisters and her son-in-law John Conroy. She is survived by her son Vincent Gosford and his wife Maureen Carroll of Little Egg Harbor; her daughters Judith O’Connor and her husband Richard of Long Beach Island, Catherine

Conroy of Whiting and Mary Sue Felice and her husband Michael of Manchester; her grandchildren Mary Shannon Given, David and Patrick O’Connor, John Conroy, Alicia and Vincent Gosford, Michael Felice, Amy Rivera, and Karen and Timothy Felice; her great-grandchildren Freddie, Emma, Molly, Brendan, Kiernan, Keira, Alexis, Aubrey, Kristian, Vincent, Shaun, Lincoln and Alex.

Funeral services were held on Monday April 3, 2023, from The Gundrum Service “Home For Funerals” 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by an 11:30 am Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary’s Church. Interment was in Christ Church Cemetery, South Amboy. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Mary’s Church, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879.

John Peter Vona

John Peter Vona, 96, of South Amboy, NJ died peacefully on Tuesday March 28, 2023 in the home he built himself in 1954. John was a lifelong South Amboy resident. He left high school in the summer of his junior year to join the Navy where he served in the Pacific Theater of World War II. After returning home from the war, he became a master carpenter and cabinetmaker. He ultimately joined Bell Laboratories in Holmdel where he advanced to managing their wastewater treatment plant where he worked for 40 years.

John’s creative talents were expressed through his cabinetmaking where every room of his home is adorned with one of his many pieces including hutches, dressers, grandfather clocks and bed frames. When his father at the age of 96 finally retired from gardening, John took over his father’s garden where he produced many bushels of fruits and vegetables over the years. John however found his true passion and expressive talent in teaching himself to paint oils-on-canvas where he created numerous paintings starting in the 1970s through the early 2000s. During that period, John painted seascapes of Raritan Bay, Holmdel farm, landscapes, and many lighthouses. We recall him studiously following Bob Ross’ “Joy of Painting” program in the

1980s taking meticulous notes on color, shadow and composition. Today John’s artwork hangs prominently in both the South Amboy courtroom and the Public Library. He was honored and decorated at the South Amboy Library in 2008 for the donation of his artwork and his contribution to South Amboy’s historical preservation.

Son of Eirmino and Francesca Sciallo Vona in South Amboy, John was one of fourteen brothers and sisters whose parents emigrated from Italy at the turn of the last century. John was predeceased by his loving and devoted wife, Marie Carolyn Gordon who died in 2016, and also his daughter Karen Vona Menken who died in 2014. He is survived his daughter Mary Theresa Vona of Mystic, CT; his son John David Vona and his wife Sandra Lynn Vona, of Mount Shasta, CA; his brothers and sister, Father Michael Vona, Frances Kosmoski both of NJ and Joseph Vona of FL as well as grandchildren nieces and nephews.

Interment in Christ Church Cemetery, South Amboy was private under the direction of The Gundrum Service “Home For Funerals” 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the South Amboy Historical Society, 141 North Broadway, South Amboy, NJ 08879.

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 -C.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 -K.S..

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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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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These are difficult times, our world has changed and innocent lives have been lost. The world as we know it, will never be the same. The one thing that will never go unchanged is the unending love of our mothers. We must pray that we all get through this. Please cherish those in your life and never forget.

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