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# The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

This issue is  
dedicated to  
\*George Baetz  
\*Eunice Dwumfour  
\*Clarice "Sis" McCabe  
\*Renata Nebus  
\*William "Bill" Reilly  
\*Kathy Fitzmorris Vitale

**February 25, 2023 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 32 Issue 5**



**Sayreville Councilwoman  
Eunice Dwumfour**

## Borough Mourns Councilwoman

The Borough of Sayreville and local communities were shocked when they heard the news that Sayreville Councilwoman Eunice Dwumfour, 30, was found shot to death in an SUV near her home at La Mer in Sayreville on February 1st, around 7:20 p.m. She had been shot multiple times, and the vehicle rolled down the street and crashed into a parked Mercedes Benz.

Eunice was elected to the Borough Council in November 2021 for a 3-year term, and was also a member of the Sayreville Human Relations Commission. The American flag was flying half-staff, and buntens were draped over the entrance to the building, out of respect and memory to the Councilwoman.

Dwumfour, who was considered by many, a rising star in the Republican Party, served as Assistant Pastor in Champions Royal Assembly USA Campus Ministry, and also a Youth Leader at the Church of Pentecost USA Inc. Newark Assembly. She was also an EMT with the Sayreville Emergency Squad, and a proud graduate of William Paterson University.

GOP Chairwoman Karen Bailey Bebert, remembered her as "sweet, soft-spoken and a very religious and beautiful person. She always had that beautiful smile on her face. She wanted to make our community a better place for all of our children." Sayreville Mayor Victoria Kilpatrick said in a release that "She was a woman of deep faith, and worked hard to integrate her strong Christian beliefs into her daily life as a person and a community leader."

The FBI has joined the murder investigation with local law enforcement agencies.

## "Friends Of Rose" Cornhole Tourney

The 7th Annual "Friends of Rose" Co-Ed Cornhole Tournament will be held on Sat. April 15 at Sayreville VFW Post 4699, 575 Jernee Mill Rd., Sayreville. Registration begins at 4 p.m. Cost is \$70 per team, male/female. There will be a cash bar and music. To sign-up, e-mail: Erichausfire28@gmail.com.

\*100% of donations go to "Fight Colorectal Cancer" an organization dedicated to fighting Colorectal Cancer. [www.fightcolorectal.org](http://www.fightcolorectal.org).



## South Amboy Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee Hosts Grand Marshal's Dinner for the 2023 Parade Honorees.

The South Amboy Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee recently held its annual Grand Marshal's Dinner and Fundraiser at the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, South Amboy honoring this year's parade marshals.

Over 100 individuals attended the event where Mary Porcello, a resident of South Amboy and volunteer coordinator of the First Presbyterian Church Food Bank, South Amboy, received her 2023 Parade Grand Marshal sash and was recognized for her volunteerism and dedication to the city of South Amboy was presented with her parade sash.

Monsignor John Gordon, former chaplain of the now-closed St. Mary's High School, South Amboy who will serve as the Deputy Grand Marshal of the 2023 parade, was also on hand to receive his parade sash as well and offered blessing to the parade committee, citizens of South Amboy and all in attendance.

The members of the parade committee would like to express their appreciation to the membership of the Ancient Order of Hibernians who provided the dinner service, and to the D. B. Kelly Pipes and Drums for their special performance.

For more information on upcoming events sponsored by the South Amboy Parade

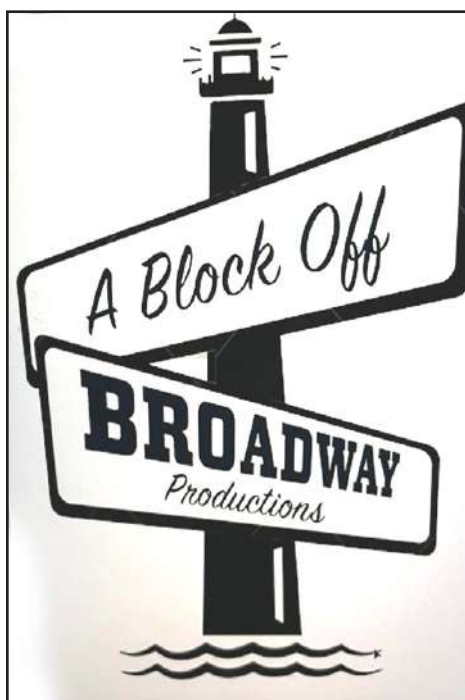
Committee, 2023 Parade Information and our 2023 Irish Festival, please visit our website at [www.southamboyparade.com](http://www.southamboyparade.com).



South Amboy Saint Patrick's Day Parade Deputy Grand Marshal Monsignor John Gordon (l) and Grand Marshal Mary Porcello (r). (Photo Submitted)

## SOUTH AMBOY ARTS WELCOMES COMMUNITY THEATER

**By Camille Tooker, President, South Amboy Arts**



In addition to Gallery Shows, Arts Classes, Acoustic Performances, and its Annual Community events, South Amboy Arts has announced the creation of "Block Off Broadway Productions," a theater group that will bring Community Theater to South Amboy and the surrounding area. Plans are in the works for their first production debuting in Summer 2023. Under the direction of Lyn Davis, a South Amboy resident and retired teacher who has directed many plays during her tenure at South Amboy High School, our goal of bringing a new path of cultural and artistic opportunities will be achieved.

Interested Parties are encouraged to participate in this new program as well as our existing programming. Under the leadership of our Director Joan Conway and successful projects such as "Faces of South Amboy", ARTSFEST, and numerous others, South Amboy Arts has brought the beauty of Art to our City in many ways.

To learn more about South Amboy Arts "Block off Broadway Productions" or any other Arts Program or to volunteer with us to help bring Art opportunities to all, please contact 732.727.4600 x5971 or [saarts141@gmail.com](mailto:saarts141@gmail.com).

## Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner March 19

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 hold their annual corned beef & cabbage dinner at the K of C, Sunday March 19 following the St. Patrick's Day parade. Cost is \$17 for dine in or take out.



Mayor Fred Henry (r) greets new South Amboy Business Administrator Dave Kales on his first day at City Hall. The Borough of Sayreville also has a new Business Administrator, Glenn Skarzynski. Congratulations and best of luck to Dave and Glenn! (Photo by Tom Burkard)



## American Legion Fundraiser

The members of Luke A. Lovely Post #62, South Amboy are conducting a fundraising event honoring fallen veterans, our members, families, friends and supporters. The funds raised by this program will be used to help with the building of a new post. We will be selling through a custom order a 4" x 8" or 8" x 8" brick that will allow 4 lines of engraving. Supporters can have their families names (first and last), or a comment American Legion Fundraiser (in memory of) etc. On behalf of the entire membership of Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62, we thank you for your support. You can order a 4" x 8" brick with up to 4 lines of engraving and up to 18 characters per line for only \$50 or an 8" x 8" for \$100. For more information contact Robert W. Moglia, 732-236-1596 or Gary Poland 732-470-7527.



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**St. Patrick's Day Parade, Easter**

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SAHS students who attended the Elks Leadership Conference this month. Starting bottom row l-r Ben Smith, Eryk Gurdak. 2nd row. Faisal Khan, Chris Lopez, Dominick Paawlis, Luke Nemeth. 3rd row. Isaiah Mercado, Ben Hernandez and Wimmer Villeda. At top Jeannine Sieber State official for The Elks Leadership Conference. (Photo/Info Submitted)

**Bingo At St. Stan's**

Get out of the house and off the couch - come enjoy an evening or afternoon playing Bingo. St. Stan's Parish, 221 MacArthur Ave., Sayreville - has Bingo each Thursday evening, with doors opening at 6:15 PM and games beginning at 7:30 PM. We also have Sunday afternoon Bingo each week, with doors opening at 12 Noon and games beginning at 1:30 PM. Please call our Parish Office at (732) 254-0212 for more information. See you there!

**Fish And Chicken Fry**

The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville will be having a Fish and Chicken Fry on Friday, March 24, 2023 from 5pm-6:30PM. Tickets are \$17.00 in advance and there are limited tickets available at the door. Chicken is available by advance order only. We will once again be offering take-out only. Each meal comes with a 6oz. piece of cod or chicken, French fries, green beans, coleslaw, roll and slice of fruit pie. For tickets please call 732-257-6353 or email us at [churchoffice172@optimum.net](mailto:churchoffice172@optimum.net)

**Spaghetti Dinner**

St. Bernadette's Knights of Columbus Council 8478 will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 11th from 5-8 p.m. at St. Bernadette Church, 20 Villanova Rd., Parlin. Questions? Email: [KOFCCOUNCIL8478@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KOFCCOUNCIL8478@GMAIL.COM).

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Community Vacation Bible School (CVBS) sponsored by the combined churches of Sayreville South Amboy and Parlin is scheduled for the week of July 17-21 at St. Bernadette Church Lourdes Center in Parlin. ALL are invited to participate! A Closing Problem will be held on Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the gym. This year's theme is Rainforest Explorers. Adult and teen volunteers as well as participants (those entering kindergarten in September 2023) through entering grade 7 will be in the program. Teens will receive community service. Assistance is needed prior to the program transporting supplies and preparing craft kits. This year we have a June 17th deadline for registration to ensure sufficient staffing and participants. Contact Lois Ann Smith 732-266-9195 for further information.

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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.

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. LE

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**Publisher**  
Tom Burkard

**Associate Publisher**  
Brian Stratton

**Feature Writers**  
Dr. John Misiewicz  
Teo Weber  
Clem Skarzynski

**Layout Design**  
Phyllis Stratton

**Photographer**  
Jamie Norek

**Poet Laureate**  
Albert Gomolka Jr.

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**Pleasant Little TRIVIA** By Tom Burkard

1.In 1993, was elected President of South Amboy Renaissance Inc.?  
a.Rosanne Cross-Savoi b.May Shaugnessey c.Francis Boguski

2.The Magic Wand, a South Amboy business in '93, provided what services?  
a.transmission repair b.window replacement c.carpet/upholstery cleaning

3.What year did South Amboy hold its Bicentennial celebration at the Grand Marquis in Old Bridge?  
A.1956 b.1998 c.2001

4.In '98, where was Scarpa's Auto & Truck Center located in Sayreville?  
a.Boehmurst Ave. b.Raritan St. c.Deerfield Rd.

5.St. Mary's Elementary School Principal in 1998?  
a.Gil Pritchard b.Sister Peggy Russell c.Sister M. Vanuzzi

6.Cub Master of Cub Scouts Pack 395 in '98?  
a.John Fedorka b.Michael Antwine c.Jamaal Wilkes

7.In 2003, where was Millennium Beauty Studio located in Sayreville?  
a.South Pine Ave. b.Rt. 35 South c.Bordentown Ave.

8.In '03, this collectible store was located on Rt. 35 North in Morgan?  
a.Jo Jo's Racing Collectibles b.Albie's Collector's Museum c.Sports Cards & More

9.This outstanding sports announcer grew up in Sayreville?  
a.Bob Costas b.Red Barber c.Matt Loughlin

10.Sayreville Council President in 2008?  
a.Art Rittenhouse b.Dennis Grobelny c.Mary Novak

11.Sayreville Fire Chief in 2009?  
a.Tony Jackowski b.Kevin Krushinski c.John Dunne

**Answers**  
1a 2c 3b 4b 5b 6a 7c 8a 9c 10b 11a.



## Business Spotlight

### Java Dave's Coffee



Java Dave's owner Efrén Castro (l) is pictured with his assistant Erin Taylor at the popular local business located at 110 North Broadway in South Amboy. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Java Dave's Coffee is delighted to provide and serve on their premises.

The popular local business just celebrated their 4th anniversary in February 2023, and their goal is to maintain the fresh, high-quality coffee beans, to make sure that they provide the perfect special lattes and cappuccinos for their customers.

Owner Efrén Castro said that, "We are committed to please and provide our customers needs and cravings to a 100% satisfaction. We are trained to bring the best friendly service, as well as helping you, our valued customers, in decision making, by suggesting the right drink, food or dessert

to choose from."

Java Dave's provides delicious espresso drinks, hot flavored coffee, Iced specialty coffee, Smoothies, Breakfast & Lunch sandwiches, tuna or grilled chicken wraps, and much more.

Stop by and give Java Dave's a try. Efrén said, "It is a promise that will come out with a smile to ease everyday life. We give thanks for the great support that has helped to make us the "Business of the Month." Take an opportunity to experience the feeling of being special at Java Dave's Coffee."

## South Amboy Middle/High School 2022-23 Honor Roll-Marking Period 2

### Sixth Grade

John Bixby, Vivian Calderon, Michael Chambers, Adam Koziej, Malani Lombardi, Calvin Manion, Valentina Moura, Wesley Rucker, Caleb Sipsis, Brooke Sofilkianich, Holden Vecchione,

### Seventh Grade

Jayleen Almazo-Delgado, Adam Chihab, Kariana Conde, Mackenzie Conroy, Jaylah DeJesus, Brody Galioto, Gary Gragg, Rea Jean, Darion Joubert, Brady Kenna-Maresca, Gabriel Kisiel, Alexis Lee, Lia McNulty, Nicolette Moran, Marcos Morel-Sanchez, Julia Pawlowski, Aidan Pieklo, Kayla Radich, Jayden Raymond, Reagan Restiano, Mila Rodriguez, Alfredo Sanchez-Campos, Kendra Sepulveda, Darmin Toribio-Tavarez, Kylee Vazquez, Victoria Williams, Madchen Wyzykowski, Oluwasemilore Mauton Zannou

### Eighth Grade

Megan Chan, Adrianna Cosme, Noah Cruz, Macy Daniell, Sophia Hernandez, Noel Cruz, Macy Daniell, Sophia Hernandez, Noel Horigan, Isaiah Lee, Vincent-James LoBianco, Joel Lombardi, Devante Mount, Shawn O'Neill, Jaiden Patrizzo, Katarina Roessle, Sebastian Roessle, Abigail Sorensen Ninth Grade: Gia Calisi, Jurnee Carroll, Nathaniel Castillo, Pearl Cintron, Jaylin Diaz, Anjalee-Mae Dominguez, Lorelei Elson, Jordan Fairman, Lily Falkena, Joseph Foreman, Daniel Fullwood-Carrillo, Lorent Jean, Gurleen Kaur, Khaled Khalil, Jennifer Lee, Astrid Maldonado-Paz, Caitlyn Martinez, Hali McNulty, Mariam Mohamed, Rocco Navarra, Julian-Miles Panerio, Olivia Soler, Adam Vazquez, Janna Villanueva, Oluwapamilerin Mausi Zannou

### Tenth Grade

Leticia Barreto, Dina Bashir, Christopher Chan, Christian Collado-Soto, Daniel Evanski, Anyssa Fairman, Eryk Gurdak, Emma Kalantsis, Samuel Kaplan, Urooj

Khan, Sienna Lee, Adam Lombardi, Miriam Marcinekova, catalina Muniz, Clarissa Muniz, Gavin Oshman, Dominik Pawlus, Genevieve Pierre, Matthew Rawvis, Hannah Sanford, Ola Slomiany, Benjamin Smith, Christian Stair, Mary Thomas, Layla Torino, Angelina Vella, Wimmer Villeda, Oliwia Wierzbicki

### Eleventh Grade

Amara Argueta, Vera Bacsoka, Sara Bashir, Paulina Borkowski, Sienna Cabral, Angela Calderon, Faith Cannon, Davey Cheng, Julian Claudio, Madelyn Cruz, Maaz Farooq, Jamie Finnegan, Mariela Flores, Matthew Gallant, Carolyn Grace, Olivia Gulick, Sara Ivan, James Jamolawicz, Gabriel Jimenez-Nunez, Faisal Khan, Alexandra Kross, Joshua Marte, Isaiah Mercado, Jonathan Moakler, Wesleyan Morel-Sanchez, Juan Moreno-Valencia, Charles Murray, Mia Navarra, Vincent Pham, Maria Reyes-Esiquio, Leilani Rodriguez, Isabel Roth, Michael Sanchez-Caba, Neikella Sandy, Palak Sharma, Priyanka Sharma, Ryan Skokowski, Lauren Tominus, Carlos Torrez, Danna Trejo-Garcia, Justin Venosa

### Twelfth Grade

Gabriel Albarran, Jazmine Antonucci, Brandon Arlia, Daphne Bautista, Jada Berry, Beth Brown, Kayla Buchanan, Jianny Caraballo, Allison Cardenas-Guevara, Keely Carroll, Natalia Colon, Mikayla Coman, Nicholas DiForti, Steven Evanski, Jade-Maryann Fabiyi, Josiah Floyd, Brianna Frazier, Zuheilee Genao, Qasim Gohar, Kenneth Herman, Monica Irizarry, Sawvera Khan, Jenasis Kolbinskie, Dylan Lozano, Sara Lukie, Alisa Mannan, Skylar Matteo, Matthew McGee, Kyleigh Millette, Morgan Moskal, Valeria Moura, Nicole Mroczkowska, Giovanni Pepe, Evalise Perez, Abygayle Peterson, Benjamin Rzygalinski, Daira Santana-Marmolejos, Christian Smith, Nicholas Szatkowski, Dakota Templeton, Iyanni Twiggs, Isabella Vargas, Karlee Weber.

## Lenten Take Out Fish Fry

OLV Knights of Columbus and the OLV Columbiettes Lenten Take Out Fish Fry located at the Sayreville Knights of Columbus, 775 Washington Road, Parlin (across from the Post Office). Our menu includes Fried Flounder Platters, Fried Shrimp Platters and Combo Platters all which include Salad, Vegetable, French Fries &

Dessert. Also available are Fish Sandwiches which include French Fries. This year's Fish Fry Dates are 2/22 (Ash Wednesday), 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, & 4/7/2023. Time: 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Reminder: this is a Take Out Only dinner. We are unable to take call ahead/phone orders. We hope to see you soon!

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## Yearbook-Sayreville 1973

By Tom Burkard

When the Class of '73 returned for its final year in September 1972, Brandy (You're A Fine Girl) by The Looking Glass topped the national radio stations, while at Sayreville War Memorial HS, Dr. Marie Parnell was principal, and several popular teachers included Irene Todd, Joel Cheskin, Darlene Schwenk, Richard Brown...Bernie Bailey was President of the Student Council, and Bill D'Amico, Vice-President. Senior Class officers were: Deborah Check, President, Rose Daganya, V.P., Carol Lee McCormack, Sec., Diane Stab, Treas... Michelle Wovna was chosen Homecoming Queen in the Fall of '72, and the Fall Play, "David & Lisa" was a happening event...The Bombers sports program had a banner year, as the boys basketball team under Coach Pat Dineen finished with a sparkling 21-8 record. Steve Makwinski led Sayreville with 527 points and an 18.2 avg. Matt Walsh grabbed 360 rebounds to pace the club. Capt. Drucilla Buoniauto scored 17 goals to lead the girls to a fine 9-3 finish. Senior Ed Fraas was All-County in Cross Country. Dan Salerno was the best wrestler with a 20-2-1 showing. Bill D'Amico was a 1st Team All-County selection in soccer. Coach Jack Hefelfinger's boys' gymnastics team finished #2 in the state with a 15-1 record. Ray Duwald and Buddy Haines were the co-captains. Wally Rondesko was All-County in football. Other activities included the Spring Concert, "1973-A Musical Odyssey," and the Spring Play, "Fiddler On The Roof, both huge successes. Some of the many clubs and presidents were: International Thespian Society-Holly Wisniewski; Library Council-Claudia Dohn; Future Teachers Of America-Carol Lee McCormack; Business Leaders Of America-Denise Borysewicz; Biology-Sue Kosmoski; Ecology-Pat Meyer; German-Steve Jakob; French-JoAnn Wojcik; Girls Choir-Joan McCormack; Concert Band-Pam Zach. Barbara Perry was Editor-In-Chief of the yearbook, and editors of the school newspaper were Clare Burbank, Jim Robinson, Sue Goldsmith, Tom DeCaro...Donna Sabb was Drum Majorette. Dayle Domenico and Jackie York were co-captains of Twirling. Anna Zur and Kathy Price were co-captains of the Drill Team. Doreen Donnelly and Linda Cuomo captained the Color Guard. On their special graduation day, Paul McCartney & Wings had the top hit in the nation, "My Love." Drucilla Buoniauto was Valedictorian, and gave a most memorable speech, while Joseph Zawistowski was Salutatorian. The Class of '73 was a great group of young Americans, and turned in a most memorable senior year at Sayreville War Memorial HS.

### Tricky Tray

Sacred Heart Church will be holding their annual tricky tray on Friday, March 31, 2023. Location is Sacred Heart Memorial Hall, 531 Washington Avenue, South Amboy, NJ (across the street from the church). Doors open at 6pm and the first ticket is drawn at 7:30pm. No walk-ins, reservations required! Cost is \$20pp, which includes coffee, tea, dessert and 1 sheet of small prize tickets. OR, PRE-purchase a bundle package at \$55 which includes admission, 1 sheet each of small, medium and large prize tickets, and 1 grand prize ticket...a pre-event only special savings of \$25! 50-50, calendar raffle and other prize tickets sold at event, CASH ONLY! Bring your own food and refreshments to enjoy as well. Any questions or to reserve seating and bundle packages, please call the parish office at 732-721-0040 or email sheart224@aol.com. Order forms are also available at church, parish office or the church web page, www.sacredheartsa.org.

### Dowdell Library News

Happy 109th Birthday Dowdell Library! Stop by for Makers Day, Read Across America Storytime, March Madness and Library Birthday fun!

Join in with hands-on STEM activities, and prizes at **Makers Day** on Thursday, March 2 from 4-7:30 pm. Learn how to use a 3D printer, design with the 3D pens, snap and build with shapes of all sizes and much more fun for all ages! Kids, Tweens, Teens, Adults

Celebrate **Read Across America** and Dr. Seuss's Birthday on Saturday, March 18 from 1-2 pm with Storytime and crafts. Throughout the month of March, kids can enter to win a Dr. Seuss lunch tote every time they check out a library book.

Kids! **March Madness Basketball Toss** returns! Drop in during library hours and test your aim for a chance to win a new basketball!

Celebrate **Dowdell Library's 109th Birthday** and enter the library birthday raffle for a special birthday basket!

Adults, would you like FREE help preparing your taxes? VITA Tax United Way can prepare your taxes for individuals earning less than \$70,000.

The **Senior Book Club** will meet on Monday, March 27 from 10:30 am - 11:30 am (snow date is Wednesday, March 29 at the same time.) Stop by the Library to pick up this month's book. Want to join? Just contact the library at 732-721-6060.

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, March 13 from 10:30 am-11:30 am. Small, non-monetary prizes will be awarded.

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.

Parents with toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for **storytime** on Monday, March 6 and Saturday, March 18 from 1-2 pm for stories, games, activities, and crafts.

Kids- stop by every Wednesday from 3:30-4:30 pm for the **After School Fun Club**. Drop in for .... Become part of the story and adventure in the **Dungeons & Dragons Gaming Club** on Thursdays, March 9 and 30 from 6-7:30 pm for ages 6 and up.

Can you guess how many jellybeans are in the guessing jar? Enter the contest between Monday, March 20 and Thursday, April 6 to win the jelly bean jar.

Teens! Are you looking to start your weekend early? Stop by the **Teen Hangout** on Fridays March 3 and March 31 from 2:30-3:30 pm. Do you need community service hours? Join the **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** on Friday, March 17 from 3-4 pm and bring your ideas for connecting with teens, programming, book selections, and more. Join us for the Crocheting and Knitting Circle on Mondays from 3:30-5 pm

We would love to hear from you!

 **EMAIL** or  **MAIL** or  **Guestbook**

### ATTENTION NJ RESIDENTS

Turning 65? Retiring?

Receive FREE invite to educational monthly webinars. Current popular topics are medicare supplement and social security claiming strategies.

Call 800-357-0992 to receive an email invite.



Local Wildlife



Pair of swans on the Cheesequake (Morgan) Creek (Photo by Ed English)

Lyrics For Lucas Benefit Concert To Support SUDC Research

On Thursday, April 27, 2023, the Lyrics for Lucas Foundation, in conjunction with the SUDC Coalition, will be presenting and hosting their yearly Lyrics for Lucas Benefit Concert at the Starland Ballroom in Sayreville, New Jersey. The event will be hosted by entertainment journalist Lauren Conlin (as seen on Pop Style TV, Nicki Swift Celeb & Fox News Channel), of the "Lauren Interviews" ' Podcast. The event will feature live music from Tupelo Honey "The Van Morrison Experience" along with highly popular "The Jess Novak Band" from Syracuse, NY as well as special guest Sayreville, NJ's own Still Small Voices. Doors open at 6:30 pm and tickets for the event are \$30 and can be purchased on the Starland Ballroom website. Lyrics for Lucas Foundation was created in loving memory of Lucas DiGuilio, who tragically passed away at the age of 23 months; his cause of death was ruled "Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood" (SUDC). SUDC is the sudden and unexplained death of a child over the age of 12 months. To this day, there is still little known about the underlying cause of SUDC. Upon learning of the diagnosis, Al and Maria DiGuilio founded the SUDC Supporting Foundation. The Lyrics For Lucas Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization based

in Easton, PA. Their mission is to provide support to families and professionals affected by SUDC, while also advocating awareness of SUDC research in communities worldwide. Recognizing the importance of providing additional support for this cause, Al and Maria created the Lyrics for Lucas Foundation in order to, "raise more awareness of SUDC, support further research and to hopefully help develop a future in which SUDC no longer exists." For this reason, the Lyrics for Lucas Foundation has teamed up with the SUDC Coalition in order to create this event which not only draws attention to SUDC, but whose proceeds will also provide monetary support to SUDC research, SUDC Families and to help support the building of a National Playground in memory of all SUDC Angels and their Families. For more information on Lyrics for Lucas, visit [www.lyricsforlucas.org](http://www.lyricsforlucas.org). To purchase tickets, please visit <http://www.starlandballroom.com/events/>.

**Lyrics For Lucas Foundation 807 American General Drive www.lyricsforlucas.org 732.609.7365 Easton, PA 18040**  
Contact: Albert DiGuilio, Executive Director Lyrics For Lucas Foundation Tel: 732.609.7365 Email: [lyricsforlucas@gmail.com](mailto:lyricsforlucas@gmail.com) Date: 02/10/2023

Gabrielle Cruz Wins Award

By Steve Schmid

Metuchen Bishop James Checchio has given the prestigious St. Teresa of Calcutta Award to Saint Mary parishioner Gabrielle Cruz. The yearly award is given to four students of the diocese who show Christian leadership with prayer, good works, and moral integrity. Her religious teacher Claudia Kobiernicki, taught her through

grades six and eight at St. Mary. "Gabby was an excellent student and always loved her faith," Kobiernicki said. "She was very involved in pro life activities. I watched her grow and she has blossomed," Kobiernicki added. Gabby is a 17 year old senior at St. Thomas Aquinas in Edison.

Trinity Methodist Church Pork Roast Dinner

We are pleased to announce that we are bringing our Pork Roast Dinner back on April 15, 2023 at 5 – 7 pm. Dinner will include Pork, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables,

Applesauce and a homemade dessert. Take Out dinners only. Tickets are \$18.00. Pick up and delivery are available. Please call Lori to reserve your tickets at 732 763 6232.

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MAY 8, 2023



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Trinity United Methodist Church  
815 Bordentown Ave South Amboy

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SATURDAY, March 11, 2023  
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

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Easter Egg Hunt at 12 pm

Any Questions: Call Lori 732 763 6232



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**Congratulations!**



Dr. Ed Marion of Parlin (l), who has been a long-time wrestling official, was awarded with a watch for his 30-plus years of service, by the New Jersey Wrestling Officials Association (NJWOA) at the GMC final in late January. Central Chapter Secretary/North Brunswick Councilman Carlo Socio (r) presented Dr. Marion with the award! Congratulations Dr. Marion on your excellent work, and well-deserved honor! (Photos/info submitted)

**A History Of St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshals**

**Frank Connolly Association**  
1976-William "Doc" O'Leary 1977- Tom O'Brien 1978-Robert Hackett.

**The South Amboy Irish-American Association**  
1979-Frank Connolly 1980-James & Mary Lenahan 1981-Robert J. Hourahan 1982-Allie Clark 1983-David P. Kelly 1984-Alfie O'Connor 1985-Mary Powderly 1986-William Coman 1987-Joe Crowe 1988-John Potthoff 1989-Edward Wallace 1990-John P. Kenny 1991-Jim Harvey 1992-George Shuler 1993-Neil Hourahan 1994-Jim "Red" O'Connell 1995-Ginny Tierney-Inman 1996- Jack A McCarthy 1997-William J. McDonnell 1998-Edward Semoneit

1999-William J. Tierney 2000- Jack O'Leary Sr. 2001-Peter John Kenny 2002- Mayor John T. O'Leary 2003-Dick Cronin, Joe Noble, Russ Stillwagon 2004-Geneva Kelly 2005-Jim "Doc" Ryan 2006-Leo McCabe 2007-Walter "Pete" Casey 2008-Elizabeth "Betty" Leveille 2009 John Donnelly Sr. 2010-Thomas J. Noble 2011-Francis "Butch" Mulvey 2012- Rob McQuade 2013-James Downey 2014- Msgr. John Gordon 2015-Hugh Rone, 2016 Rich Moran, 2017-Mayor Fred A. Henry 2018-Brian J. Kelly 2019-Christine Noble 2020-Karen and Tim Walczak 2021-No Parade 2022-Tom Dempsey 2023-Mary Porcello.

**The Smoke Column**  
By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski, B.A., M.S.

February 20th marked the twentieth anniversary of "The Station" fire in West Warwick, Rhode Island. Some of you may remember that deadly and tragic incident that took the lives of one hundred patrons. "The Station" was a popular nightclub in the area and was known to host rock bands on the weekends. The building itself was a single-story wood frame, type V construction measuring seventy-five feet across the front and sixty-eight feet deep. It consisted of two bars, a lounge, bathrooms, offices, seating area, dance floor, and four exits. On this night, the band "Great White" was preparing to start their performance at 11:00pm. During the band's opening song Desert Moon, pyrotechnics were set off by the tour manager. This pyrotechnic display was meant to arouse the audience and enhance the effects of the band's first song of the evening. As the pyrotechnics were ignited, they in turn ignited flammable acoustic foam on both sides and top of the drummer's alcove and the back of the stage. These pyrotechnics were called gerbs, cylindrical devices that are meant to produce a controlled spray of sparks. They can spray sparks up to fifteen feet for 15 seconds. The acoustic insulation was made of highly flammable urethane foam on top of polyethylene foam. Burning urethane foam instantly develops opaque, aggressive, dark smoke along with deadly carbon monoxide and hydrogen cyanide gas when burning. Inhaling this smoke only 2-3 times would cause rapid loss of consciousness and eventually death by internal suffocation. The flames from the pyrotechnics were initially thought to be part of the act by the patrons. It was only when the fire reached the ceiling and the heavy black smoke began to bank down did the patrons realize it was uncontrolled.

In less than one minute, the entire stage was engulfed in flames as the band members fled toward the west exit by the stage. The building's fire alarm had been activated by this time. Although there were four exits to use, most people headed for the front doors through which they entered. People are creatures of habit and most all attempt to exit through the same door they entered. The ensuing stampede led to a crush in the narrow hallway leading to the exit, quickly blocking the exit completely and resulting in numerous deaths and injuries. What we want to take away from this tragic event is to always maintain our situational awareness. As you enter any venue where a large crowd is expected, look around for exit signs/doors and how you approach them if needed. Remember that when an emergency occurs, people will tend to panic and there will be a surge at any exit door. People exiting from a congested area will be pushed from those behind them. People will trip and fall causing the exit to become block. This will have a domino effect on those in the rear attempting to escape. You can tell people to stay calm during an emergency but that seldom is the case. This type of situational awareness should be practiced wherever you go including the big box stores, theaters, arenas, or anywhere large groups of people congregate. Exits are designed to accommodate the amount of people expected to evacuate in an emergency. It is very important for our fire inspectors to inspect these venues making sure no exits are blocked or locked at any time the building is occupied. Next time you go out to eat in a restaurant, look where the exits are located. Think how YOU would escape if a kitchen fire would occur. Always be aware of your surroundings!







The Historical Society of South Amboy President Mary Szaro (l) is pictured with South Amboy resident John Erbetta in front of a jail door from the old South Amboy jail. Erbetta arranged for the society to pick up the door from his next door neighbor. (Photo/info by Steve Schmid)

SA Jail Door Has New Home

By Steve Schmid

South Amboy resident John Erbetta was recently contacted by his next door neighbor, Carol Atkins, who told him she was in possession of a jail door from the old South Amboy city jail. The old jail was a red brick building with steps and was located at the corner of South Stevens Ave. and John St. It was located where the current school playground is. The facility could hold up to three prisoners when it was torn down in the summer of 1970. It was relocated to the new municipal building on Broadway. Erbetta said he was helping Atkins clean out her basement when he saw the jail door. She told him the original owner of the house, Joe Smith, acquired the door in 1970 after the jail was torn down. She offered him the door but he

didn't know what to do with it. He contacted Jan Williams of the Historical Society of South Amboy, who said he would get back to him. The Historical Society arranged with Erbetta to pick up the jail door from the basement. Former South Amboy Police Chief Jerry Pizzillo, Jan Williams, Bruce Grzankowski, and Mike Springer, went down to the Atkins cellar and carefully carried the approximately 500 pound door to the back of Pizzillo's pickup truck. John Erbetta is glad to see the jail door has a new home. "I'm glad they got it. You don't come across that stuff very often. If Joe Smith hadn't wanted the door, it probably would've gone to the scrap yard," he said.

Join The Youth Conservation Corps

Apply By Friday, March 3

**WHAT:** Applications are now being accepted for the Middlesex County Youth Conservation Corps for Spring 2023. Their mission is to protect and preserve the more than 13,000 acres of open space owned and maintained by Middlesex County. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age by the start date, and must be in good physical shape to walk, stand, lift heavy objects, and use a variety of hand tools. Work will take place at several Middlesex County Open Space parcels in Old Bridge, East Brunswick, South Brunswick, and Monroe Townships, as well as other County open space as needed, and workers will earn \$14.50 per hour. The hours scheduled will be Saturdays, from April 15 to June 3, 2023, 9 am to 4 pm

**WHEN:** Saturdays, from April 15 to June 3, 2023, 9 am to 4 pm  
**WHERE:** Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation  
1030 River Rd | Piscataway, NJ 08854  
**WHO:** The Youth Conservation Corps is a seasonal job for high school or college aged students who maintain the County's 30+ miles of hiking trails, work on habitat restoration projects, and litter patrol.  
**APPLY:** To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to: Julia DeRosso, Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation, 1030 River Rd. Piscataway, NJ 08854.  
For more information contact Julia DeRosso at 732-398-5270 or Julia.Derosso@co.middlesex.nj.us.

Do You Remember This?



Bas-Ket was a popular game from the Cadaco Company that came out in the 1960's. Many sports fans of all ages spent hours of fun playing this simple game. Did you ever see it before or have one?



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Happy Birthday  
in Heaven  
Frank Kennedy

02/06/44-12/29/22

Written by B.J. Kern

A special Man Died Today  
We will hear his jokes no longer  
His smile has gone away  
And our family is a lot poorer  
For a special man has died today  
He will be mourned by many  
His family, friends and wife  
For he lived an extraordinary  
Exciting kind of life  
Born the youngest of 11 siblings  
With an adult size head  
Which later came in handy to house  
The dapper hats that gave him "Cred"  
Although Frank was the name he was  
given. He had some nicknames too  
Shinty was a family moniker  
Where it came from I haven't a clue  
But the name that he wore proudly  
Came from the loss of his leg  
"Uncle Frankie One Foot" 10 year old  
Casey on him did peg  
Frank loved a good party  
Especially when he was the host  
From Father's Day at Monmouth Park  
To the Kentucky Derby post  
He was a finicky eater  
Which made meal time a trip  
If ever a smidge of cheese appeared  
Frank was sure to flip  
Frank had 5 loves in his life  
And family is at the top of the list  
Kathy was the one who held his heart  
And shared their life of  
wedded bliss (wink)  
Scott and Caitlin are his children  
His crowning pride and joy  
They gave him 4 granddaughters  
And Jack the only grand-boy  
His family extended far and wide  
Six sisters and four brothers  
Nieces and nephews to many to count  
He loved them all like no other  
His second love was friendships  
He had many that lasted his whole life  
They took him from  
childhood to present.  
And shared both happiness and strife  
Accidents & war, marriages & births  
Retirement & vacations,  
sickness & good health  
Were survived and shared along the way  
All proved to carry great wealth  
The third was his was love of country  
Of being a vet he was most proud  
And his hope for America  
being great again  
He proclaimed in a voice very loud  
His fourth great love was golfing  
Which after losing his leg  
helped him survive  
He golfed as often as possible  
And his two holes-in-one were his pride  
The last of his loves was love of God  
And encompassed all the rest  
His faith guided and protected him  
So he could always do his best  
From his youth in St Mary's basketball  
To his army years as a vet  
Through his many years at Hercules  
To his last Kentucky Derby Bet  
His heart always led the way  
His dedication true  
He always helped his fellow vets  
But could be a ball buster too  
His comic way touched many  
As did his cantankerousness  
His laugh was the most infectious  
And is what I liked best  
It would not be him to accept honor  
If he was here to hear our praise  
But we will pay him homage anyway  
At the ending of his days  
Perhaps in a simple heading  
In our paper that might say  
Our family is in mourning  
For my husband, father, grandfather,  
brother, brother-in-law, uncle, friend,  
neighbor, comrade,  
a special man has passed away  
Welcome home Frank

St. Patrick's  
Day Parade

It's that time of the year  
It's finally here  
It's that time of the year  
For Irish happiness  
And lots of cheer  
It's partying time  
For drinking green beer  
The St. Patrick's Day  
Parade is finally here  
Bringing lots of joy and fun  
And corned beef and cabbage  
for everyone  
The color of green  
is everywhere  
And bagpipers Irish  
music fills the air  
It's that time of the year  
The St. Patrick's Parade  
is finally here



Seniors Valentine's Party



Pictured from L to R are Nicole Silva, Venetian Director of Social Services, Linda Sirico, Comfort Keepers Care Coordinator, Rashida Mehta, Hospice Development of Embracing Hospice Care, and Melissa Weimann, Venetian Marketing Director. They organized the Seniors Valentine's Party held recently at the Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center. (Photo/info by Steve Schmid)

We would love  
to hear from  
you!



or



or



South Amboy  
Irish-American Association, Inc.  
1978 - 2023



A STRONG 45 YEARS

February 6, 2023

We are the longest standing Irish American Association in South Amboy. The founder of the South Amboy Saint Patrick's Day Parade. We transformed into a charitable organization in 2006 following the formation of the South Amboy Parade Committee.

SAIAA then concentrated all efforts to donating to many local organizations including food banks, Sayreville BIC, South Amboy residents needing assistance, and many other local organizations.

We are very proud in our creation of High School Scholarships that would be awarded to local students based on how Irish heritage impacts their lives.

South Amboy Irish American Association is sad to announce that we are disbanding effective immediately. The ongoing struggle of recruiting members has been tough.

At this time, we would like to thank all the support from businesses we have received over the years. Without you we couldn't have existed as long as we have.

A special thanks to Rich & Sharon McCutcheon. Your generosity over the years will always be remembered.

Thank you to all the Past Grand Marshals and Irish persons of the year in honoring us by keeping our Irish heritage alive and strong.

Lastly, thank you to all members, past and present and all the friends of SAIAA who have supported us over the years.

It's been a great ride.

Dia leat,  
Officers of SAIAA

Irish Blessing

Speak to people. There is nothing so nice as a cheerful word of greeting.  
Smile at people. It takes 72 muscles to frown, only 14 to smile.  
Call people by name. The sweetest music to anyone's ears is the sound of their own name.



Sayreville Library News

Networking for Job Placement  
Thursday, March 2 @6PM

Join us for this interactive workshop on how to develop your networking skills. Learn how to develop better relationships with management and gain stronger abilities to develop in the workplace. Registration Required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

The Rolling Stones:  
A Journey Through History  
Saturday, March 4 @2PM

Join Vinnie Bruno, rock music historian, as he takes you through the incredible journey of The Rolling Stones. See how they have grown and evolved through the years. Complete with

audio clips and behind the scenes photos, this trip through musical history is sure to rock. Registration required. Register Online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Spring Cleaning with Jamie Novak  
(Virtual)

Thursday, March 16 @6PM

Tired of losing stuff?  
Always misplacing things?  
Then join best selling author and humorist, Jamie Novak for this fun workshop. Learn her new 3 minute makeover along with other tips to get organized in a flash. This is a virtual event. Registration required to get the zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Wills and Powers of Attorney  
Monday, March 20 @6PM

Join Kenneth Vercammen, local attorney, for this seminar on estate planning. Learn the basics of preparing a will, powers of attorney, probate, and much more. Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Tuesday Movie Matinee  
Tuesday, March 21 @1PM

Join us for our monthly movie matinee. This month: Redeeming Love: Based off of the novel by Francine Rivers. Starring Tom Lewis and Abigail Cowen. Rated PG-13/14 mins. Registration required. Register Online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Lighter comfort foods with Vanessa  
(Virtual)

Thursday, March 30 @6PM

Join Vanessa Young, chef and founder of Thirsty Radish, for another fun cooking demonstration.

This month: Learn how to use vegetables as substitutes for pastas, tortillas and much more. These recipes will add some flavor to your favorite dishes.

This is a virtual session. Registration required to get the zoom link.

Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Balance

By Al Gomolka Jr.  
Times Poet Laureate  
c.1997

Body, mind, spirit-  
A prescription?  
Fruits and veggies, not  
burgers or cakes.  
Work, movement,  
especially the walk.  
Water, water, water.  
Naps, retreats, rests.  
Think rose, not gloom.  
Smile aggressions away,  
Reading invigorates  
and teaches,  
Laugh a little,  
cry a little.  
Awake with God.  
Go to sleep with God,  
Give of yourself to all,  
Forgive, be kind, pray.  
Work these each day  
A prescription  
for balance.  
Balance equals harmony,  
stability, and well-being.

lyricsforlucas.org



April 27, 2023  
Starland Ballroom  
570 Jernee Mill Rd  
Sayreville, NJ  
TICKETS AVAILABLE  
STARLAND BALLROOM BOX OFFICE  
and WEBSITE

BENEFIT CONCERT  
Featuring

Tupelo Honey the VAN Morrison  
Experience  
The Jess Novak Band  
Still Small Voices

Hosted BY  
LAUREN CONLIN

Presented By  
Lyrics For Lucas Foundation

Doors Open at 6:30PM  
Tickets \$30.00\*

In support of SUDC and  
our Playground Build

100% of all proceeds to benefit the Lyrics for Lucas Foundation and the SUDC

South Amboy's 46th Annual  
St. Patrick's Day Parade

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Enjoy an afternoon of marching bands,  
floats, pipes and drums, fire  
apparatus, civic organizations,  
and more with our

Grand Marshal - Mary Porcello

Deputy Grand Marshal Monsignor John Gordon

Join us at St. Mary's Church, 256 Augusta St, South  
Amboy on Saturday, March 18th at 7 pm for a concert  
of traditional Celtic and Irish Folk Music featuring  
harpist Michele Mountain.

Save the Date for our 3rd Annual Irish  
Festival on Saturday, September 9,  
2023 Interested vendors please  
contact : ElliotJ@southamboyNJ.gov

For updated event information log  
onto [www.southamboyparade.com](http://www.southamboyparade.com)



**On St. Patrick's Day**  
The town is rockin' In old SA  
The crowd is huge  
For the parade  
On St. Patrick's Day  
Firemen, First Aid,  
Bands and more  
Proudly march through town  
And people cheer  
As they pass by their front door  
From Pine Avenue to Bordentown  
And across Stevens Avenue too  
It's a proud day for the Irish  
So much fun, and parties  
Lots of things to do  
The town is rockin' In old SA  
It's time to party  
Time to play  
And wear the green  
On St. Patrick's Day



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Of Every Month at 8:00 PM

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For More Information



On January 23rd at 03:00 this morning SAFD responded to a reported multiple cars on fire on lower Main St. All city fire companies were involved in fighting the fire. Several hose lines and foam lines were deployed and power saws had to be used to gain access to the fire. 10 vehicles were burnt or damaged. The damaged vehicles were owned by Galaxy Ambulance Service. No injuries reported. The Middlesex County Hazmat Unit was requested. Fire is under investigation by SAPD and Middlesex County Fire Marshal. All Fire units were cleared of the scene at 05:00. (Photo/Info by Jamie Norek)



**What Exit?**  
This month we are looking for the NJ Turnpike exit that will take you to the Where in NJ. Send your answer to [satiimes@aol.com](mailto:satiimes@aol.com) by March 18th.

**What Exit?**  
By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



**January What Exit:**  
Last month's answer was GSP exit 74 Forked River, one we visited quite often. The following got it right: Gary Feret, Edna Mazur Pilch, Laurie & Gary Loftus, JoAnn & John French, Jim Malkiewicz, Jean Parente, Betty Leveille, Pat Scully, Thomas Harrigan, Mark Moniello.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO**

**The 2023 South Amboy St. Partick's Day Parade Honorees**



**Grand Marshal**  
**Mary Porcello**

**Deputy Grand Marshal**  
**Monsignor John Gordon**

---

**2023 AOH Honorees**

**Edward O'Connor - Hibernian of the Year**  
**Kevin Michael Burns - Irishman of the Year**  
**Michelle Tully - Irishwoman of the Year**  
**Michael J. O'Hara - Flag Raiser**

---

**Great Job Mickey & Parade Committee!**

---

**Best Regards, Bob Heiser**





The Vintage Car Contest

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Ever see one of these? We are looking for the make and model. Be careful on the make! Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by March 18th.

Last month's vintage car was a Ferrari F40 the following got it right: Bill Farrell, Bruce Grankowski, Gary Feret, Edna Mazur Pilch, Walter Starzec Jr., Laurie & Gary Loftus, Stephen Laskiewicz, JoAnn and John French, Jim Malkiewicz, Anita

Quigley, Ginny Severino, Betty Leveille, Pat Scully, Dane Colburn, Pete McIntyre, Anthony Carlo, Thomas Harrigan, Mark Moniello, Steve & Karen Kieselowsky, Ed English.



January Vintage Car  
Ferrari F40



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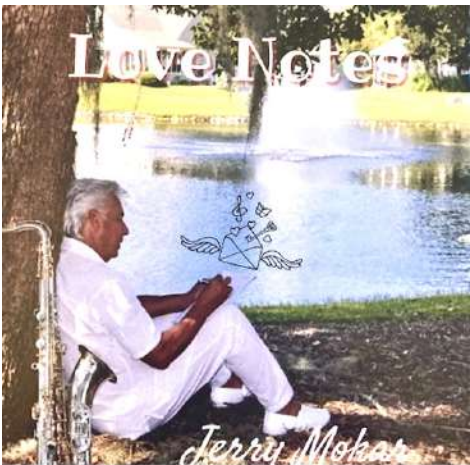
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**Jerry Mokar  
Releases New CD**

**By Tom Burkard**  
Former Morgan resident Jerry Mokar has just released a fantastic new CD titled “Love Notes.” Jerry, who is one of the best saxophone players in the state of New Jersey if not the entire country, proves that he is also a top-notch lead vocalist, and covers all 15 classic hits on the album, with his incredible voice. If you never heard him sing, you will be totally impressed, and wonder as I have, why he was never discovered or recorded as the next superstar in the world of music.

Some of the songs covered on the CD include: “The Way You Look Tonight,” “Love Me With All Of Your Heart,” “At This Moment,” “Love Is In The Air,” “Misty,” “I Who Have Nothing,” “Lost In The 50’s,” “I’ll Never Fall In Love Again,” “Fly Me To The Moon,” “The Longest Time,” and “Handy Man.”  
The beautiful cover photos are by Angela Lisa, and cover design by Tommy Smooth. The engineer for this outstanding music masterpiece was Bob Ligotino. Mokar also was the producer of “Love Notes.”

The CD is \$14 which includes shipping/handling. To order, contact Jerry at: rakom179@gmail.com.

**Bon Jovi Gets Award**

Former Sayreville resident and superstar rocker, Jon Bon Jovi recently received the prestigious Spotify Award in recognition of 1 billion streams for the band’s great hit song, “Livin’ On A Prayer.” Congratulations Jon on your outstanding accomplishment and career!

**#1 Pop Hits  
February 25**

- 2003-All I Have-Jennifer Lopez w/LL Cool J
- 1997-Wanna Be-The Spice Girls
- 1984-Jump-Van Halen
- 1972-Without You-Nilsson
- 1965-This Diamond Ring  
-Gary Lewis & The Playboys
- 1959-Stagger Lee-Lloyd Price

**#1 Country  
February 25**

- 2000-Cowboy Take Me Away  
-The Dixie Chicks
- 1991-Walk On Faith-Mike Reid
- 1986-There’s No Stopping Your Heart  
-Marie Osmond
- 1977-Moody Blue-Elvis Presley
- 1969-Until My Dreams Come True  
-Jack Greene
- 1953-Kaw-Liga-Hank Williams  
With His Drifting Cowboys

**One Hit Wonders  
50 Years Ago**

1973-Oh Babe, What Would You Say?-Hurricane Smith; Dancin’ In The Moonlight-King Harvest; The Night The Lights Went Out In Georgia-Vicki Lawrence; Walk On The Wild Side-Lou Reed; Daisy A Day-Jud Strunk; Wildflower-Skylark; Hocus Pocus-Focus; Pillow Talk-Sylvia; Playground In My Mind-Clint Holmes; I’m Doin’ Fine Now-New York City; Right Place, Wrong Time-Dr. John; Brother Louie-The Stories; My Maria-B.W. Stevenson.



Kenny Kurczeski (l), of Sayreville, who is the leader of the band Kenny K & The Way is pictured visiting Java Dave’s Coffee Shop in South Amboy. Owner Efren Castro (r), has been selected as The SA Times Featured Business of the Month for February. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

**Kenny K. & The Way  
New Video Release**

Kenny K & The Way, released a new video on Valentine’s Day titled “Country Roads,” featuring retired Sayreville Police Officer Rich Kurczeski, who appeared on the band’s previous video “Shantytown” which was filmed in Sayreville. You can catch this very cool video by going to youtube.com and typing in Country Roads- Kenny K +The Way @kennyktheway 963.

Also coming up in the near future will be the release of a new album, and appearances by Kenny K & The Way at Cafe Improv in Princeton on Feb. 25th, and also at Albert Music Hall in Waretown on March 25. Kenny Kurczeski, better known as the leader/singer/songwriter for the band Kenny K & The Way, is a Sayreville War Memorial HS graduate and lifelong resident of the Borough of Sayreville.

**Top 25 Song  
Shootout**

The Top 25, most-viewed songs/videos for January on our Facebook page were as follows: 1-Brandy (You’re A Fine Girl)-Looking Glass; 2-Leader Of The Pack-The Shangri-Las; 3-I Can Hear Music-The Beach Boys; 4-Only The Lonely-Roy Orbison; 5-Woodstock-Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young; 6-Ain’t No Sunshine-Bill Withers; 7-Cara Mia-Jay & The Americans; 8-Cherish-The Association; 9-Incense & Peppermints-The Strawberry Alarm Clock; 10-Livin’ On A Prayer-Bon Jovi; 11-Still The One-Orleans; 12-Diamond Girl-Seals & Crofts; 13-Baker Street-Gerry Rafferty; 14-I Think We’re Alone Now-Tommy James & The Shondells; 15-Cara Mia-Jay Black; 16-That’ll Be The Day-Buddy Holly; 17-This Magic Moment-Jay & The Americans; 18-Going Up The Country-Canned Heat; 19-25 or 6 to 4-Chicago; 20-Those Were The Days-Mary Hopkins; 21-Tie A Yellow Ribbon-Tony Orlando & Dawn; 22-Kathy’s Song-Simon & Garfunkel; 23-You’ve Got To Hide Your Love Away-The Beatles; 24-Needles & Pins-The Searchers; 25-On The Road Again-Canned Heat.

**Lenten Fish Fry  
February 24**


South Amboy Knights of Columbus hold their annual fish fry the first Friday in Lent from 5-7 pm at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. Cost of \$15 includes fried cod, french fries, homemade coleslaw, and dessert. Dine-in and take-out dinners are available. Cash bar is offered. Proceeds benefit local charities. For more information, call 732-721-2025.

The OLV Seniors will hold their March meeting on March 3rd at 12 noon in Monsignor Dalton Hall. Wearing of the green for St. Patrick’s Day. After the business portion of the meeting, we will have corned beef or flounder sandwiches. Call Carmen to place and pay \$8.00 for your order. Her number is 732-254-9425.


### Who is it?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

Last month’s mystery person was none other than Mr. Showmanship himself Liberace know to his close friends as “Lee” the following knew who he was: Sonia Iglesias, Barbara Anderson, Kathleen Kultys, Eleanore Westerholm, Leon Credico, Dennis & Kathy O’Leary, Ed Puchalski, Mary Agnes Morris, Bruce Grankowski, Gary Feret, Edna Mazur Pilch, Anne and John Erbetta, Lynn Loy, Marlene Letwenski, Walter Starzec Jr., Laurie & Gary Loftus, Stephen Laskiewicz, JoAnn & John French, Ed and Katie Elichko, Nanci Deverin, Vincent Farina, Prudence Zalewski, Kenneth Olsekin, Jim Malkiewicz, Linda Vona, Justine Dineen, John Gelsinon, Anita Quigley, Alice Walsh, Maureen Bender, Betty Leveille, Pat Scully. Dane Colburn, Pete Mc Intyre, Anthony Carlo, Steve & Karen Kieselowsky, Steve Villig., Ed English.



January Who is it?  
Liberace



Can you identify this duo? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by March 18th.

### MUSIC TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

### Colors

1.A Whiter Shade of Pale

2.Green Grass

3.Purple Rain

4.Pink Cadillac

5.Suite Judy Blue Eyes

6.Brown Sugar

7.Goodbye Yellow Brick Road

8.Black Horse & The Cherry Tree

9.Touch of Grey

10.White Wedding

11.Roses Are Red (My Love)

12.Brown-Eyed Girl

a.Billy Idol

b.Procol Harum

c.Grateful Dead

d.The Rolling Stones

e.Van Morrison

f.Prince/The Revolution

g.Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young

h.Bruce Springsteen

i.Bobby Vinton

j.Gary Lewis/The Playboys

k.Elton John

l.K.T. Tunstall

Answers  
1b 2j 3f 4h 5g 6d 7k 8i 9c 10a 11i 12e.

**Return Engagements Highlight Acoustic  
Friday on March 24**

South Amboy Arts Alliance welcomes Dan Toyne and Kevin McGowan to its Acoustic Friday program on March 24, 2023. Both singer/songwriters have appeared in the gallery previously, and both are Artsfest veterans as well. Each performer has a repertoire that includes Irish songs, and with the event being just a week after St. Patrick’s Day, it shouldn’t be too hard to coax some Irish music from one or both of them.

SA Arts is located at 141 N. Broadway,

**South Amboy Arts Invites You**

South Amboy Arts is looking forward to bringing you a diverse group of gallery shows and activities in the next few months. The first will be our SA Student Art Exhibition. March is Youth Art Month so we will be exhibiting the artwork of the student artists from our SA Elementary School and the SAMHS. The exhibition’s opening reception will be Friday, March 3rd at 6 pm. We hope to see you there and support our student artists.

Our next event will be at the beginning of April. You will be given the opportunity to view a collection of designer dresses including prom, evening and wedding attire. These dresses are original and created by Maria Kulach. Come meet the designer, see her creations or find out how you can have

**OLV Senior March Meeting**

We will be celebrating Easter on April 14, 2023 with an Easter Luncheon. The price is \$15.00. Call Carmen to place and pay for your luncheon at 732-254-9425.

New trips for 2023 will be announced at this meeting. A \$20.00 deposit is required at time of sign-up. There will be a schedule of payment dates for the multi-day trips.

South Amboy, NJ. Doors open at 6:30 pm, and the show runs from 7 to 9 pm. Admission is \$5.00, and light refreshments will be offered.

The Alliance seeks interested acoustic-oriented performers of any genre for future shows. For additional information, contact SA Arts at 732-727-4600, extension 5971 or by email at SAarts141@gmail.com. Watch for updates on the South Amboy Arts Alliance Facebook page.

your dream dress created.

In writing about creating our next show will be ‘Color My Mood.’ This exhibition displays the transformation of an individual becoming an artist. Her everyday experience focused her quest to learn and subconsciously interpret her thoughts. You will have the opportunity to meet the artist, Rose Sgarlato and learn how she grew with her experience. We will also offer a painting workshop on how to allow your creative side take over the brush.

To see further dates and times for these events go to our Facebook Page @ southamboyartsalliance, SAarts 141@gmail. com or call 732-727-4600 x5971.

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.



School Sports

(As of Feb. 10)

By Tom Burkard

Boys Basketball

**South Amboy (11-10)** Coach Matt Wiater  
Team Leaders  
Points-Jake Eberle 372, Gavin Pelkey 311, Josiah Floyd 210.  
Rebounds-Floyd 163, Eberle 147, Pelkey 103.

Assists-Pelkey 69, Floyd 46, Eberle 39.

**Sayreville (5-19)** Coach John Wojcik

Team Leaders

Points-Sam Jones 334, Chidi Chukwurah 240, Sam Omokeji 224.

Rebounds-Keithan Shuler 124, Jones 87, Devon Mitchell 81, Omokeji 80.

Assists-Jones 43.

Girls Basketball

**South Amboy (1-19)** Coach Kathleen Salardino

Team Leaders

Points-Emma Kalantis 102, Evalise Perez 93.

Rebounds-Kalantis 142, Beth Brown 76.

Assists-Jada Berry 35, Kalantis 23.

**Sayreville (0-25)** Coach Janet Cook

Points-Janai Negroni 163, Ashley Ament 140, Faith Smith 82.

Rebounds-Ament 140, Negroni 79.

Assists-Negroni 40.

Blocks-Ament 13.

Steals-Negroni 34, Ament 29.

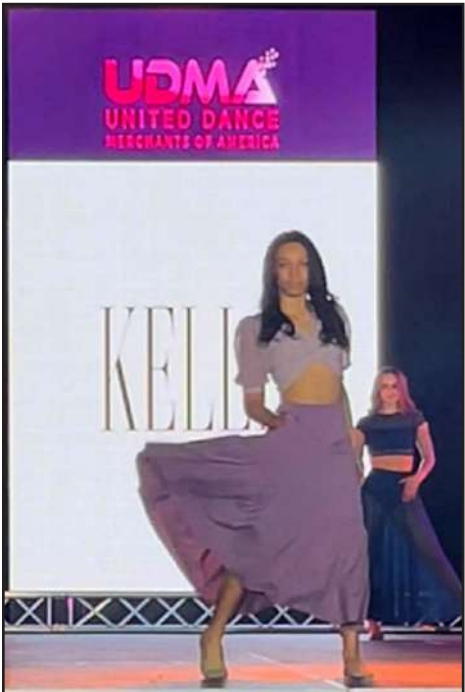
Boys GMCT

Play-In Round

**Metuchen 47 South Amboy 45**-Jake Eberle fired in 18 points, and had 6 rebounds, while Gavin Pelkey scored 11 points.

**East Brunswick Magnet 73 Sayreville 50**-Chidi Chukwurah tossed in 22 points, grabbed 13 rebounds, and dished off 5 assists. Sam Jones added 18 points and Keithan Shuler 11.

Congratulations!



Amiya Chambers who attends South Amboy High School recently modeled for Kelli Fashions in the annual UDMA dancewear collection at the Meadowlands Convention Center in Secaucus. Congratulations! (Photo/Info Submitted)



South Amboy Boys/Girls At Prudential Center

(Photos by Caitlin Norek)

On January 20th the South Amboy boys, and girls basketball teams traveled to the Prudential Center in Newark to face East Brunswick Magnet, and the boys were victorious, 46-42, while the girls bowed 27-

16. The boys were paced by leading scorer, Jake Eberle, who poured in 18 points and ripped 11 rebounds, while teammate Gavin Pelkey threw in 11 points. Emma Kalantis topped the girls scoring with 12 points.



The South Amboy Boys Varsity Basketball Team.



South Amboy Girls Varsity Basketball Team. (Photo by Rob Erickson)



South Amboy Varsity Cheerleading Squad.

Girls GMCT

Play-In Round

**Carteret 46 Sayreville 33**-Janai Negroni notched 15 points, 5 rebounds, 3 assists, and 6 steals. Ashley Ament had 8 points and 15 rebounds.

**Metuchen 50 South Amboy 19**-Evalise Perez scored 9 points, Emma Kalantis 4 points and 6 rebounds, and Sarah McLaughlin pulled down 5 rebounds.

OLV Senior Group Trip to Peddlers' Village

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a delightful Spring trip to Peddler's Village on Tuesday, May 9th. The cost of the trip is \$140.00 which includes a tour of Pearl S. Buck's home, lunch at the Cock and Bull,

free time to shop, bus transportation and bus driver gratuity, and snacks. For further information or to book this trip, please contact Teri Yetsko at 732-727-7639.

WWW.?



Does this structure look familiar to you? It was once a very successful business in either South Amboy or Sayreville. Send your answer to: satimes@aol.com. by March 18.

Last month's local business was the former Buddies Tavern. Our readers had many fond memories of the business as well as the Bailey family. The following got it right: Chuck Pickard, Ed Puchalski, Ron Twardos, Carolann Scaletti, Jay Seyglinski, Don Zrebiec, Diana Malkiewicz, Leon Credico, Dennis Quinlan, Dennis & Kathy O'Leary, Joan Fulham, Mary Agnes Morris, Mike Deitche, Chelle Martin, Bruce Grankowski, Gary Feret, Edna Mazur Pilch, Lynn Loy, Walter Starzec Jr., Laurie

& Gary Loftus, Stephen Laskiewicz, JoAnn & John French, Chelle Martin, Jim Freeman, Ed and Katie Elichko, Dan Buchanan, Kenneth Oleskin, Vincent Farina, Joan Gorczyca, Jim Malkiewicz, Justine Dineen, Donna Roberts, Eileen Coman, Ginny Severino, Maureen Bender, Betty Leveille, Sharon Rappleyea, Lisa Grankowski, Pat Scully, Dane Colburn, Anthony Carlo, Mark Moniello, Steve & Karen Kieselowsky, Barb Bockus, Adele O'Hara, Ed English.

January WWW.?



Buddies Tavern

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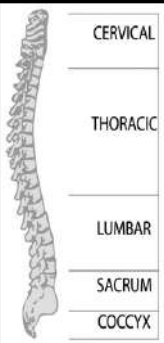
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*The Spinal Column*

By  
**Dr. John Misiewicz**

**Valentine's Day Is For Chocolate Lovers**

Dark chocolate seems to lower blood pressure, but it requires an amount less than 2 Hershey Kisses to do it. A small study from Germany adds to mounting evidence linking dark chocolate with certain health benefits such as lowering blood pressure and having an anti-inflammatory effect.

A study appeared in the Journal of the American Medical Association by Dr. Dick Taubert of the University of Cologne. It demonstrated that blood pressure reductions with dark chocolate were small but still substantial enough to potentially reduce cardiovascular disease risks.

Volunteers for the study ate just over 6 grams of dark chocolate daily for almost 5 months. It equaled about 1½ Hershey Kisses. People who ate that amount ended up with lower blood pressure reading that those who ate a similar amount of white chocolate. Tests suggested that a steady exposure to dark chocolate prompted a chemical change that helped dilate blood vessels and regulate blood pressure. Cocoa contains flavanols, plant based compounds that are also credited with giving red wine its heart healthy benefits.

Dr. Laura Sevetkey director of Duke University Hypertension center stresses that the study results should not be viewed as a license to gorge on chocolate. The weight gain from eating large amounts of dark chocolate would counteract any benefits.

As always an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. The combination of losing weight, eating less salt, exercising, and eating dark chocolate provides strategies to lower your blood pressure.

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**Silly Questions?**  
By Robert W. Eginton

Does a tulip really have two lips?  
Is a green house really green?  
Does a cat really have nine lives?  
Why does a baker's dozen Always have thirteen?  
Is a pup tent only for puppies?  
Can the cow really jump over the moon?  
If you step on a crack Will you break your mother's back?  
Did the dish run away with the spoon?  
Have you ever once seen a politician Literally run for office?  
Is New Jersey really new?  
And if you can tell me, that you've heard Ice cream, actually scream, I may have a few questions about you!

**Wind Creek Trip April 30**

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 are running a trip to Wind Creek Casino Sunday April 30. Save the date. More details to follow.





## Brick House: 70 Plus Years Of Excellence

By Tom Burkard

On January 29th, the popular Brick House Bar & Grill closed its doors for the final time after 70 years of magnificence in dining, entertainment and so much more. The Brick House, owned by Mary Ann Spisso of Sayreville, Walter “Wally” Rondesko of South River, and Donna Amato of Sayreville, was family owned and operated since 1952, when the building was purchased by their parents. Originally known as Ted’s Bar, it also served as the family home, and the name of the business was changed to Kelly’s after their father’s nickname. In ‘72, their dad died, and their mother took over with the help of her children. In ‘83 Wally took over the establishment and named it Wally’s. It was later named Stadium Bar & Grill for a brief period of time, and then changed to the Brick House Bar & Grill. Spisso, who started full time in ‘83, took over the daily operations after their mom passed away in 2017. Through the years, she was a cook in the kitchen, bartender, and manager. She said that back in the 1950’s the bar had a Country & Western theme, and in the late 60’s and 70’s, it was a Go-Go bar. In recent years, they have featured musical entertainment, open mics, bingo, and more.

Mary Ann Spisso is the current President of the Sayreville Seniors Thursday Club, and has held that position for 9 years. In addition,

she is also a member of the Sayreville Commission on Aging, and in 2017 was selected Sayreville Senior Citizen of the Year. Walter “Wally” Rondesko was an outstanding athlete at Sayreville War Memorial HS in the early 1970’s, starring in baseball and football. He was a house painter and retired 2 years ago. Donna Amato is a Special Education Math teacher, and has worked at Sayreville War Memorial HS for 30 years, and will be retiring in June.

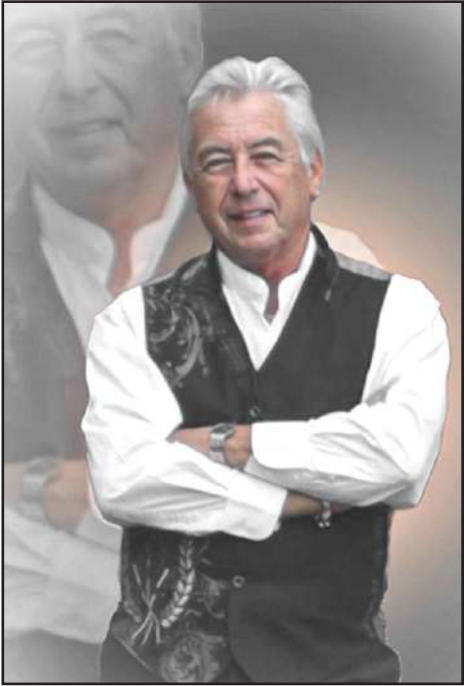
The family is highly-respected and loved throughout the local community, and will be missed.

\*A very special thank you is extended to Mary Ann, Wally, and Donna for all you’ve done for the community, and your many years as dedicated and loyal advertisers in The SA Times. May God Bless you always!

NOTE: “Owners of the Brick House, Mary Ann Spisso, Walter “Wally” Rodesko and Donna Amato would like to give a very special heartfelt thanks to Wally’s wife Diane, who was a big part of our team. She helped in our kitchen and was willing to lend a hand whenever we needed, and who could forget her special homemade rice pudding and delicious carrot cake, which were staple items during the 1980’s and 90’s. And, of course, enjoyed by all! We love you Diane!”

## Mokar’s Music Brings Happiness

By Tom Burkard



Jerry Mokar

Former Morgan resident Jerry Mokar started taking clarinet lessons at 9 years old, and at 12 took saxophone from Andy Kutyak of Perth Amboy, and this was the beginning of an incredible career in the music field, where he has entertained and brought happiness to countless people through the years. His first band was the Mellotones, and at 12 years old, he and his brother Ron played their first live gig on New Year’s Eve at Kaiser’s Bar (Where Covello’s Liquor Store is currently located). Jerry, who was a truck driver for 35 years, has performed with many local bands including The Mellotones, The Rondells, Just 4 Kicks, Collage, JoBonanno and The Godsons of Soul, Sounds of the Street, The Johnny Maestro Tribute Band, The Brooklyn Keys, and Clem and Friends.

In addition, he has played on stage with many world-renowned acts and recording artists such as Joey Dee and The Starlighters, The Del Vikings, The Brooklyn Bridge, Crazy Elephant, Gary Lewis and The Playboys, The Shirelles, Bobby Rydell, The Beach Boys, Chris Montez, Lou Christie, The Happenings, Bobby Wilson (Son of Jackie Wilson), Smokey Robinson, The Lettermen, The Crystals, Gary U.S. Bonds, Lenny Welch, Mel Carter, Eddie Holman, Ronnie Spector.

When asked what his most memorable show was, he said, “Probably the Felt Forum at Madison Square Garden. Usually if you play the Garden, you kind of feel like you made it to the big time.” The largest crowd he ever played before was about 5,000 people, when was with JoBonanno & The Godsons of Soul at Sandy Hook. At that huge event, a 50/50 winner took home \$10,000 according



to Mokar.

Jerry recently moved to South Carolina and does most of his performing in local clubs, and he says, “My favorites...Independent assisted living, and nursing homes. God put a calling on me to entertain the elderly, who are probably the most forgotten in our society. I have a real heart to perform and entertain our seniors.”

He doesn’t have one favorite song, and said “There are so many great songs, and one that I really enjoy singing is “My Way” by Frank Sinatra.” Jerry, one of the top saxophone players in the country, also plays guitar and keyboards, and was always a backup singer, until later in life, when he decided to try singing lead. “I wasn’t great at it, but worked really hard to perfect the voice I have today.”

What inspired this very talented and highly-gifted musician/singer to record his new and outstanding album “Love Notes?” Jerry said that, “With the music today, there is so much hate and violence. I just wanted to get back to where life was so much more peaceful and fun. What we need in this world is more love, so I decided to record an album of love songs, “Love Notes.”

Jerry’s future is bright, and he is definitely fulfilled, playing his music, and bringing much happiness to those who are fortunate to hear him perform. He is also using God’s gift to bring cheer to the elderly, and those in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Jerry Mokar said that, “I will continue to perform and entertain people for as long as I have breath in me. I didn’t choose music...Music chose me!



The sign says it all! Goodbye Brick House, and thank you! (Photo by Tom Burkard)



The Brick House staff gathers for a farewell photo on the last night. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



Brick House staff at their Christmas Party in 2022. (Photo submitted)



The outstanding chefs are pictured in the kitchen.

(Photo by Tom Burkard)



“The Sayreville War Memorial Class of 1969 says goodbye to our “Clubhouse,” the Brick House. We thank our classmate and owner Mary Ann Rondesko Spisso for many good memories there, and wish her luck on her well deserved retirement, and whatever the next chapter of her life brings her.” (Photo/caption submitted)





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## Fishing Flashes

By Teo "Weebles" Weber



### Salt Water

Striped Bass season opens March 1st in rivers and bays. Due to the recent cold snap, open fishing for Strippers is just about nonexistent. Party boats are still catching Blackfish. There are less of them, but most are bigger fish. A 12 pound Blackfish was caught on one party boat and a huge 21 pounder was caught from a private charter. Some Ling are mixed in and Spiny Dogfish are still around causing problems. White Perch are present in coastal bays and lagoons. The Toms River area might be a good area to try for them. Winter Flounder season also opens up on March 1st. The fishing for Strippers and Flounder might be alright due to a mostly mild winter. There is talk of a 10% cut for Sea Bass, which are plentiful from the NMFS.

### Fresh Water

Overall conditions are still not good due to rain and recent cold snaps. They were catching Crappies, Panfish and some Pickerel in lakes in the southern sections of the state. Ice fishing is just about nonexistent due to the fluctuating weather patterns. Some Walleyes were caught in the Delaware River. There was no particular good spot to find them-It's a big River. One spot that produced Walleye at this time of the year is the Wing Dam below Lambertville. Care must be taken here as it is a very rocky area.

## Green Everywhere

Green, green  
everywhere  
People celebrating  
As Irish songs  
fill the air  
It's a day to be proud  
Say you're Irish  
and say it out loud  
Green, green  
everywhere  
Today's the day  
Everyone is Irish  
Isn't it wonderful that way  
Bagpipers pipin'  
at the St. Pat's Parade  
It's a special day  
That the Lord has made  
Green, green  
everywhere  
On the proudest  
and happiest Irish  
day of the year.

## Just Once A Year

The AOH runs the show In  
"The Pleasant Little City"  
The big day comes  
Just once a year  
St. Patrick's Day Parade  
And everyone is here  
People come from near and far  
By bus, by train,  
By plane and car  
To enjoy the marching bands play  
On this very special  
St. Patrick's Day  
That comes just once a year  
After the parade  
everyone parties hearty  
It's corned beef and cabbage  
And of course green beer  
St. Patrick's Day comes  
just once a year  
Sing an Irish song and raise a glass  
To toast St. Patrick  
who brought us here  
On his very special day  
just once a year



# The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

## From The Sports Archives



**70 Years Ago-1953-**The St. Mary's Eagles boys basketball team finished (9-11). Pictured Top row (l-r) Marty Metzger, Frank "Butch" O'Brien, Jerry Gorczyca, Leo Scully, George Daly, Tom Malik, Coach Don "Mickey" Czok. Bottom row (l-r) Adam Lovely, Bob "Deadeye" Trinley, Rich Hanson, Stan Marcinczyk, Jack Tabasko. (Photo/information courtesy of Coach Don "Mickey" Czok.

### 25 Years Ago

**1998-**Sayreville's Rusty Thomsen, a superstar bowler without a high school team, captured the GMC Boys Bowling championship, by defeating Robert Ferry of Old Bridge, 220-181. Rusty rolled 5 strikes on his last 5 balls!

*\*Sayreville War Memorial HS had no official bowling team at the time.*

### T.H.E. Game

**Sport-Boys Basketball  
Year-1986**

**Teams-St. Mary's (3-3) vs. Hoffman (3-3)** in City Series action.

**Recap-**Hoffman led 66-64 late in the 4th quarter, but Scott Gumprecht hit 2 free throws to ice the 68-65 Governors victory. Mike Dietrich of the Eagles copped game scoring laurels with 27 points, including 17 in the second half. Roger Kuhn topped the Purple & Gold with 14 points and 10 rebounds. Tom "Tippy" Hessner tossed in 12 points, and Andy Moran added 11. Bill Reilly chipped in with 11 for the Saints.

**Player-of-the-Game-**Roger Kuhn.

#### Scoring

**Hoffman 68**

Kuhn 14 Hessner 12 Moran 11 Moskal 9 Leonard 8 Noble 8 S. Gumprecht 6.

**St. Mary's 65**

Dietrich 27 Wykpisz 8 Byrne 4 Ferraro 4 Kennedy 3 Paczkowski 2.

### 70 Years Ago

#### Rudy Set Scoring Record

**1953-**Sayreville's all-around standout athlete Joe Rudy poured in 41 points against New Brunswick to set a new one game basketball record for Sayreville HS. The previous mark was held jointly by Frank Mytnick (1949), and Ben Zaleski (1950). Rudy later in the season went on to top his new record, by burning the nets for 43 points against St. Peter's.

### Remember When?

The Sayreville Bombers football powerhouse captured three consecutive Central Jersey Group IV Sectional championships in 2010-11-12. What a great run!

### Locals Who Played Or Coached At Other Schools

Matt Wiater (Cardinal McCarrick) varsity basketball coach at South Amboy HS...Reggie Carney (Sayreville) coached varsity sports at Hoffman HS, and also East Brunswick HS. His 25-years career coaching mark was an incredible (597-97)!

### #32 Lisa Mauro

Last month our "From The Sports Archives" photo featured the 1976-77 St. Mary's girls basketball team. Lisa Mauro,

who was not identified, wore #32 in the team picture.

## Submit your design in Middlesex County's First-Ever Mural Design Contest for Raritan Bay Waterfront Park

**Submissions will be accepted from February 15 to March 29**

Middlesex County, in partnership with the Middlesex County Arts Institute, is excited to announce a mural contest that will bring color and life to the Raritan Bay Waterfront Park in South Amboy. Submissions for the contest will be accepted from artists of all ages and skill levels living in Middlesex County, between February 15 and March 29. The winning mural design will be announced on April 14 and will be painted on the comfort building at Raritan Bay Waterfront Park.

"I'm so excited to be showcasing the community and artistic talent that Middlesex County offers through this one-of-a-kind contest," said Director of the Board of County Commissioners Ronald G. Rios. "This new mural will bring new vibrance to the historic South Amboy waterfront, a staple of Middlesex County. With spring right around the corner, this contest could not come at a better time, as residents return to enjoying the park's scenery and amenities."

"The Middlesex County Arts Institute is committed to promoting the arts and supporting local artists, and this mural contest is just one of the ways we are fulfilling that mission," said Middlesex County Commissioners Channele Scott McCullum.

"We believe that public art has the power to bring people together and create a sense of community, and we are confident that this mural will be a source of pride for the residents of South Amboy and Middlesex County for years to come."

The theme for the mural should be inspired by the land, sea, history or community of the location, and the goal is to create a piece of public art that brings together the residents of South Amboy and Middlesex County. The winning mural design will be painted by a local muralist. The muralist and designer will both be recognized at the site of the mural.

Artists are encouraged to submit their entries between February 15 and March 29. Designs must be submitted using the submission template found on <https://discovermiddlesex.com/muralcontest/>. A judging committee from the County will choose three designs to go to a public vote from April 7th – April 13th, and the winning design will be announced on April 14.

For more information and rules about the contest, please visit <https://discovermiddlesex.com/muralcontest/>

## Glory Days In Local Sports

1962-St. Mary's boys basketball team eased by St. Peter's, 58-53. Jack Kreiger led the scoring with 20 points, Jay Derent had 12, and Bob Suminski added 10...1973-JFK boys hoops team hammered Hoffman, 70-48, despite 12 points from Henry Wortley and Bob Besner's 11...1981-Sayreville boys pounded Edison, 67-53. Dan Ogborne tossed in 27 points, Fred Krumbine 15, and George Lazo 10...1998-St. Mary's boys basketball team upset Blue Division powerhouse Carteret, 66-60. Ed McCabe

and Tom Rizzo paved the way with 14 points apiece. Nick Sas scored 10 and hauled in 14 rebounds...2008-In the first round of the girls GMCT, Sayreville topped Old Bridge, 49-41. Jessica Kitrys poured in 18 points and ripped 12 rebounds, while Cheyenne Grant scored 10 points, and Heather Roy added 9...2016-Sayreville Bombers wrestling phenom, Anthony Porcaro won his 3rd consecutive GMCT (285 lbs) championship, by taking a hard-fought, 3-2 decision over Alex Grippo of Woodbridge.



Bill "Biff" McKeon (right side, middle), and his wife Betty are pictured at the Lantern Light Restaurant & Bar in Smithville during a visit to New Jersey several years ago. Also in the photo are John "Flip" Phillips and his wife Iris, Sister Joan Gavron, and an unidentified Sister of Mercy. (Photo/info courtesy of John Phillips)

### Remembering Bill "Biff" McKeon

By John "Flip" Phillips

"He was our 8th grade basketball coach for St. Mary's Grammar School, and led us to the 1954 Tri-County Catholic School championship. I was not in touch with him after that great season until a few years ago. I had written a story for The SA Times about the '54 team, and somehow, he got my email address from someone, (guess who)? He then contacted me, and we then started to connect via the internet, and I began writing stories (5) about his outstanding baseball life. Bill and I talked a lot, as I got background information for the stories. He was living in Indiana, but

when he traveled East to South Amboy with his wife Betty on several occasions to visit his family, we got together for lunch, down here at our Sea Oaks Country Club at Little Egg Harbor, and shared memories and laughs of growing up in South Amboy. He would sometimes invite retired Sisters of Mercy, who were his friends from way back in his high school days at St. Mary's, out to dine with my wife and me. His daughter Cindy and her husband Jason would also be there. Bill had a very strong feeling of thank you for the nuns of St. Mary's. I will miss him."

2023

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Hail and blessed by the hour and the moment in which the son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of his Blessed Mother. Amen. --J.M.

**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..

**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. -J.M..

**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.

**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..




## Renata Daniela (Was) Nebus

Renata Daniela (Was) Nebus, 57, of South Amboy, passed away peacefully with her loved ones at her side on January 23, 2023 at RWJ hospital. Born in Poland, she moved to South Amboy with her family in 1981 to begin her new life in America. She attended Hoffman High School and was a member of Sacred Heart R C Church. Renata worked for many years at the Head Hunter Hair Salon. Later she worked at the Polish Market on Feltus Street.

In 1984 met her future husband, Bob, and married in 1993. Her pride and joy was her son Bobby, watching him grow and fulfill his goal of graduating college and beginning his career as a nurse.


Renata was a loving and outgoing person who welcomed everyone with open arms. She always left a lasting impression with her bubbly personality. Renata was loved by all who knew her. Always the fun



aunt and second mom to all the kids on Elm Street. Renata loved cruises with her family and summers on the beach at Seaside Heights.

Renata was predeceased by her mother, Maria Was and her sister Margaret. She is survived by her husband Bob Nebus of South Amboy, Son Bobby Nebus of Tampa, Florida, father Jan Was of South Amboy, sisters Agnes and Bob Krimin, Aneta and Sean Downs, brothers Artur and Kathy Was, and Rafael Was all of South Amboy, sister Klaudia and Kenny Swanson of Old Bridge, and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Saturday January 28, 2023 at The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy. Cremation was private. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.




## Amy E. Allen Wolfe

Amy E. Allen Wolfe, 64, of South Amboy died on Tuesday December 20, 2022 at home surrounded by her family. Born in South Amboy she lived there all her life. She was employed as a secretary for the South Amboy Board of Education for 18 years and also as a real estate agent with Century 21. She was a member of Christ Episcopal Church, South Amboy.

Daughter of the late Richard and Hilda J. Rehfuss Allen she is survived by her daughter Kristen Wolfe; her daughter-

in-law Carly Swope; her granddaughter Leilyanna Lemmon; and her brother Richard Allen.

Cremation was private. Memorial visitation was held on Wednesday December 28, 2022 at The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by an 11 am Burial Rite at Christ Episcopal Church. Interment was at Christ Church Cemetery, South Amboy. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Christ Episcopal Church.



## George Allen Baetz

George Allen Baetz, 82, of South Amboy died on Friday December 30, 2022 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick. Born in Staten Island he was employed by Sheet Metal Workers Local 25, Carlstadt. A U.S. Navy veteran, he was a member of American Legion Post 62, South Amboy and an Exempt Member of Independence Fire Company. He enjoyed fishing and was an avid fan of the New York Giants and Yankees.

Son of the late George and Elizabeth Meyer Baetz he is also predeceased by his


son Michael Baetz. He is survived by his wife Gail Hospador Baetz; his daughter and son-in-law Karen and Richard Laverty; his son Albert Baetz; his sister Dorothy Riechel and her husband David; his brothers Frederick Baetz and his wife Kathy and Raymond Baetz and his wife Patricia; his grandchildren Sean and Kyle Laverty and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were under the direction of The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy, followed by interment in Christ Church Cemetery, South Amboy.

## Elsie Marie Lauritsen Samuelson


Elsie Marie Lauritsen Samuelson, 94, of South Amboy died on Monday January 9, 2023 at home. Born in South Amboy she lived there all her life. She was previously employed as a supervisor at Komar & Sons, South Amboy. A member of Christ Episcopal Church she also loved going to the South Amboy Senior Center where she made many friends and enjoyed the activities and trips. Elsie loved to knit and made many beautiful wool blankets. She had a wonderful sense of humor and was a friend to all that knew her. She loved to travel to the Caribbean and stay at her favorite place in St. Maarten. She especially love her favorite dogs Corona, Oscar and Shilo and her cats Katzen and Baxter.

Daughter of the late Emil and Madeline Ellwinger Lauritsen she is also predeceased by her husband John William



Samuelson in 2012; her brothers Robert, Raymond, Herbert, William and Norman Lauritsen and her sisters Dorothy Sullivan, Betty Miller, Emily Grunde and her twin Madeline DeLucia. She is survived by her children Beverly Samuelson, John Samuelson and his wife Jean and Janet Samuelson and her husband Henry W o n d o w s k y ; her grandchildren Aaron Beers and Matthew Beers and his wife Galina and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Friday January 13, 2023 at 10:30am from The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by an 11am Requiem Eucharist at Christ Episcopal Church. Cremation and burial in Christ Church Cemetery was private. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Whiskers Rescue, PO Box 1206, Sayreville, NJ 08871.



## Marilyn Mazer Orszewski

Marilyn Mazer Orszewski, 82, of South Amboy died on Monday February 13, 2023 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy. Born in Wyoming, Pennsylvania she was an avid fan of the New York Mets. She enjoyed playing the lottery and scratch-offs and loved her "angels", her grandchildren, from the bottom of her heart.

Daughter of the late Joseph and Elizabeth Botyrius Mazer she is also predeceased by her brother Joseph Mazer, Jr.; her sister Betty Karosa and her son-in-

law Steve Hanlin. She is survived by her husband Bernie Orszewski; her son and daughter-in-law Bernie and Lisa Orszewski; her daughter and son-in-law Dawne Hanlin and John Alfaro; her sister Phyllis Turner and her grandchildren Matthew and Taylor Orszewski and Ava Hanlin.

Cremation was private under the direction of The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy.

**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.G.D and Family

**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 -G.V.

**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.) -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 -P.S. &B.S.

**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..





Obituaries

Andrejick, Margaret D. Adams, 78, of South Amboy died on Jan. 26.

Bebert, William F., formerly of Sayreville, 56, died away on Jan. 23.

Brennan, Steve M., 67, formerly of Sayreville died on Jan. 14.

Corvino, Edwin A. "Bud," 84, formerly of South Amboy died on Jan. 30.

Creamer, Kaitlin, 33, of Sayreville died on Jan. 26.

Dombrowski, Barbara, 87, of Parlin died on Jan. 28.

Farley, Catherine, 89, formerly of South Amboy died on Jan. 12.

Gaughan, Marie, 96, of Parlin died on Feb. 5.

Hayden, Eleanor, 93, of South Amboy died on Feb. 5.

Lambert, Jason E., 47, of South Amboy died on Jan. 30.

Lemley, Dorothy, 89, of South Amboy died on Jan. 26.

McCabe, Clarice "Sis," 88, of South Amboy died on Jan. 25.

Mosakowski, Alexander, 100, formerly of Sayreville died on Dec. 25.

Nebus, Renata D. Was, 57, of South Amboy died on Jan. 23.

Nelson, Ambrose J., 77, of Sayreville died on Jan. 18.

Orszewski, Marilyn Mazer, 82, of South Amboy died on Feb. 13.

Reilly, William F. "Bill," 91, of South Amboy died on Jan. 23.

Richards, Ronald, 58, of South Amboy died on Jan. 25.

Rosinski, Adam J. Sr., 91, of Parlin died on Jan. 29.

Samuelson, Elsie M. Lauritsen, 94, of South Amboy died on Jan. 9.

Sanzone, Maria 86, of Sayreville died on Feb. 14.

Seaman, Rita D., 95, of Sayreville died on Feb. 5.

Tammacco, Rita, 91, of Sayreville died on Feb. 8.

Vitale, Kathryn A. Fitzmorris, 72, formerly of South Amboy died on Jan. 24.

Wozniak, Edward "Chipper," 65, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 9.

In Memoriam

William "Billy" Bebert, 56, formerly of Sayreville died on Jan. 23. He was the former owner of Superior Fences in Sayreville. Barbara Dombrowski, 87, of Parlin died on Jan. 28. She was formerly a March of Dimes Mother of the Year. Adam Rosinski Sr., 91, of Parlin died on Jan. 29. He was Past Commander of Sayreville VFW Post 4699; Past District Commander; Captain of the Honor Guard; U.S. Army veteran seeing combat during the Korean War. He was also a member of Sayreville American Legion Post 211, and Knights of Columbus Council 8478. Edwin "Bud" Corvino, 84, formerly of South Amboy died on Jan. 30. He was the owner of Corvino Hairstyling in South Amboy until retiring. Jason Lambert, 47, of South Amboy died on Jan. 30. He was a member of the Melrose Blackhawks Drum & Bugle Corps.

Kathryn A. Fitzmorris Vitale

Kathryn A. Fitzmorris Vitale, 72, of Aberdeen died on Tuesday January 24, 2023 at Care One at The Highlands, Edison. Born in South Amboy she was employed as a Registered Nurse at JFK Medical Center, Edison. She was a member of the Church of St. Catharine, Holmdel.

Daughter of the late James J. and Lillian Steinmetz Fitzmorris she is survived by her son and daughter-in-law Jon and Melanie Vitale; her sisters and brothers-in-law Christina and Joseph Bulman, Eileen and Dan Smith and Patricia and Denis Kearney; her brother and sister-in-law James and Barbara Fitzmorris; nieces and nephews Jennifer and Doug Haley, Danny and Monica Smith, Patrick and Brooke Smith, and Aoife Kearney. Kathryn was also awaiting the birth of her first grandchild.

A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Friday February 3, 2023 at 9:15am at the Church of St. Catharine, 108 Middletown Road, Holmdel, NJ. Cremation 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 Breast Cancer Research Foundation <https://www.bcrf.org/> or Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation (OI) <http://oif.org/>.

Happy 14th Anniversary in Heaven



Kenneth G. Kubinak  
February 12, 2009 - February 12, 2023



*Sadly missed along life's way,  
Quietly remembered every day,  
No longer in our lives to share,  
but in our hearts you are always there.*

*We Love You!*  
*Shirley, Brandon, John*  
*Family and Friends*

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.

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

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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*There is truly only one thing that  
can be done once.....your loved one  
deserves the best!*



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*May your troubles be less  
and your blessings be more  
And nothing but happiness  
come through your door*

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### Where in NJ?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton






We snapped last month's photo on a recent trip to Forked River to visit my parents previous home and also to stop into the German Butcher shop for items we haven't had in years! (worth the trip). The Where in NJ was the Forked River Diner and we were surprised by how many correct answers we received from the following: Gary Feret, Edna Mazur Pilch, Walter Starzec Jr., Laurie & Gary Loftus, JoAnn & John French, Jim Malkiewicz, Jean Parente, Betty Leveille, Pat Scully, Thomas Harrigan, Mark Moniello.

?

Can you identify this place? Send you answers to [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com) by March 18th.

January Where in NJ?



Forked River Diner, Forked River, NJ

### WHAT IS IT?????

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Can you identify this item? Send your answer to [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com) by March 18th.

January What Is It?



Last month's mystery item was Green Ghost, a board game played in the dark because the board and pieces glowed in the dark. To get the game to glow you needed to expose it to bright light for a few hours. It is a game that I played many times as a kid and I still have the game somewhere in my attic. The following must have also played this game: Susan Frondelli, Gary Feret, Edna Mazur Pilch, Walter Starzec Jr., Laurie & Gary Loftus, JoAnn & John French, Ed and Katie Elichko, Jim Malkiewicz, Mark Moniello.



Green Ghost Game



717 Bordentown Ave.  
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DAY

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