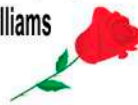




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# The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

**This issue is  
dedicated to**  
\*Robert "Bobby C" Ciszewski  
\*Anna Marie Faccone  
\*Robert "Bear" Kominkiewicz  
\*Robert "Bobby" Letts  
\*Alan Pasztornyicky  
\*Robert Williams



**March 30, 2024 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 33 Issue 6**



South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal "Mickey" Gross is pictured in the center surrounded by his proud and loving family at the parade on March 17th. (Photo by Donna Williams)



South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry (l) congratulates South Amboy's new Police Chief Joseph Matarangolo after swearing in the new chief. See more photos on page 14. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

## Pallone Secures \$800,000 for South Amboy Ferry Terminal

Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06) recently announced that he secured \$800,000 for South Amboy's ferry terminal in the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development spending bill. President Biden signed the underlying legislation into law last week.

The funding will help complete the ferry terminal, which serves as an important transportation hub for Central New Jersey residents who travel to and from New

York City. The funding will be used for environmental remediation, the construction of waterfront bulkheads, a seawall, access roadways, curbing, sidewalks, parking, a pavilion, site lighting as well as water, sewer, gas, and electric infrastructure.

"I'm proud to announce today that I've secured federal funding for South Amboy to support its ferry terminal," said Pallone. "The ferry is already providing New Jersey residents commute to New York, reducing traffic congestion and travel times. This

funding will support important infrastructure projects at the terminal, so it is easily accessible and safe for passengers. I'm glad we were able to get this funding across the finish line."

"We in South Amboy are extremely fortunate to have a spokesperson like Congressman Pallone to support our intermodal center. The Congressman has been a leader in such projects, which benefit all in our surrounding community, and we are thankful for the additional funds which

will be helpful in completing this important undertaking," said Mayor Fred A. Henry.

Pallone has previously advocated for federal funding for the ferry terminal, including \$5.3 million that was awarded from the Federal Transit Administration in support of the city's Passenger Ferry Grant Program application. Last October, Pallone joined state and local leaders for the ferry's official launch.

## Former Chief Honored



On March 1st, friends, family, fellow firefighters as well as several state and local officials gathered at the Grand Marquis to honor firefighter John Dragotta 2023 South Amboy Fire Chief. Proclamations and tokens of appreciation were presented to Chief Dragotta. The banquet was organized by Dragotta's home fire company the Independence Eng. and Hose Co. #1. Mayor Fred Henry presented Dragotta with a customary Ex-Chief badge in recognition of a job well done. (Photo/ Info by Jamie Norek)

## Funding Bill To Aid Sayreville, South Amboy

A federal funding bill passed by the House of Representatives is earmarked for infrastructure projects in Central Jersey for eight towns. Sayreville will receive 959,752

to replace the sanitary sewer pumping station. South Amboy will get \$800,000 to complete its multimodal transit hub for commuters.

## Celebrating Government week

The City of South Amboy will be celebrating Government Week Wednesday, April 17. The following is a list of events.

- **4-7 pm** Open house at Independence Fire house on Broadway. Police, Fire, First aid, OEM, Library and the YMCA representatives will be on hand to answer questions and perform demonstrations.

- **6 pm** Mock council meeting by our 4th & 5th grade students from South Amboy Elementary school.
- **7 pm** Recognizing city residents for their contributions to our town.
- **7 pm** Recognizing the winners of the high school essay contest.

## Congratulations!



On Feb. 16th, Jeff Ust (c) formerly of South Amboy, was sworn in as Attorney for the state of New Jersey. This was performed by Judge Richard English at the Monmouth County Courthouse. Jeff now holds attorneys licenses for New Jersey and Massachusetts. The proud Ust family was on hand for the momentous occasion. Congratulations Jeff! (Photo/info submitted)

**Next Issue April 27th -- Deadlines April 15th**

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Mayor Fred Henry (c) is pictured with South Amboy's newest Police Officers Marcus Nunez (l) and Kyle Gasiewski (r) following their swearing in ceremony at City Hall. (Photo Submitted)

## Two Sacred Heart Women Honored For Pro-Life Work

**By Steve Schmid**

Longtime Sacred Heart Church parishioners Karen Bebert and Anne Szatkowski, have been honored by the Diocese of Metuchen for their pro-life activities. Karen and Anne were among 44 people who received an award for their hard work in pro-life causes. Every year on or close to the anniversary of the legalization of abortion, the Diocese of Metuchen honored individuals who impacted the pro-life movement. After the Dobbs decision last

year that overturned Roe v Wade, Bishop James Checchio requested diocesan pastors to nominate their parishioners who were very involved with pro-life. Sacred Heart Pastor Father Stanley Gromadzki nominated Karen and Anne for their leadership and hard work for the Sacred Heart Love Life Group which participates in many pro-life events. The South Amboy Sayreville Times also recognizes Karen Bebert and Anne Szatkowski for their pro-life work.

### Polish Food Fest

The South Amboy Columbiettes are sponsoring a Polish Food Fest, Friday, April 19, 2024 starting at 6:00 PM. Knights of Columbus Hall, 308 4th St, South Amboy, NJ. \$25 for Dinner and dessert, enjoy the home made Polish favorites! Cash bar. Please reserve for dining in or take out. RSVP by April 12th to Donna 732-423-7190. All proceeds to benefit local charities.

### SWMHS HOF

The 2024 Sayreville High School Hall of Fame Induction Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th at the VFW Hall on Jernee Mill Road.

The 2024 inductees are:

- Larry Bishop, Class of 1966
- Kene Eze, Class of 2010
- Gina Pachkowski, Class of 1990
- Jessica Painchaud, Class of 1998
- Elisam Santana, Class of 2022 (posthumous award)

Anyone interested in attending should send an email to [artede4@msn.com](mailto:artede4@msn.com) for additional information and reservations.. Ticket deadline is April 10, 2024.

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Saturday June 29  
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### AOH Fundraiser for South Amboy First Aid

The AOH will be holding a fundraiser on April 13th at 6:00 PM at the AOH Hall located at 271 2nd Street. There will be a \$20 donation requested at the front door. It will be a cash bar and pizza will be available for purchase. There will be a band for entertainment and all funds raised will go to the South Amboy First Aid. You can contact Jim Keegan at 732-470-5790 or Ed O'Connor at 732-570-9691 for further information.

ST. JUDE  
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray us. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank You St. Jude. -RS, AS, LP, HS, LS, EP

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**Pleasant Little TRIVIA**

By Tom Burkard

1. Grand Marshal of the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade in 1994?  
a. Elizabeth "Betty" Leveille b. Peter Kenny c. Jim "Red" O'Connell

2. In 2014, where was J. O'Neill's Place located in Sayreville?  
a. Thomas St. b. Rt. 9 South c. Main St.

3. Some of this movie was shot in South Amboy in '84?  
a. Coyote Ugly b. The Purple Rose of Cairo c. The Color Purple

4. In '94, this hair salon had its grand opening on Erntson Rd. in Parlin?  
a. Hair Now b. Quick Cuts & More c. Spotlights

5. Back in 1994, The SA Pub was located at?  
a. North Broadway b. Rt. 35 North c. North Feltus St.

6. In 2014, where was Gentle Dentistry located in Parlin?  
a. MacArthur Ave. b. Bordentown Ave. c. Minnisink Ave.

7. In '14, this South Amboy business owner was appointed to Raritan Bay Medical Center Board of Directors?  
a. Jorge Gonzalez-Gomez b. Rich McCutcheon c. Mark Abbatiello

8. Appointed Sayreville Chief of Police in 2007?  
a. John Zebrowski b. Fred Biletnik c. Edward Szkodny

9. In '94, this insurance brokerage was located on South Broadway in South Amboy?  
a. Gee Wiz b. Top Shelf c. The Rock

10. In 2002, this seafood, steakhouse and Lagoon Lounge was located in Sayreville at?  
a. Jernee Mill Rd. b. Deerfield Rd. c. Route 9 North

11. In '75 this new business, located at 124 North Broadway, South Amboy held their grand opening?  
a. Colonial Lunch & Ice Cream Parlor b. Broadway Sweets c. Phil's Fish & Tackle Shop

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



FROM THE DESK OF  
TOM REILLY

Spring finally is upon us. I hope all of you are enjoying the year's first days of pleasant weather and take comfort in knowing there is much more to come. Whether you are enjoying baseball season, the St. Patrick's Day Parade, or just a pleasant walk along the waterfront, there are few parallels to experiencing some fresh air and sunshine after a long winter. The early days of spring also are a holy time of year for people of many different faiths. To all who celebrate, whatever your faith, I wish you a happy and blessed season.

What you may not know is that spring also is a great time of year for civic engagement. Each April the City celebrates Government Week to foster public participation and education regarding municipal operations and affairs. On April 17 the City will conduct several Government Week events for local residents. The festivities begin at 4:00 at Independence Fire House, where the fire department, first aid, OEM and police departments will be on hand until 7:00 to perform emergency demonstrations and answer questions. At 6:00, South Amboy Elementary School's Government Club fourth and fifth grade students will conduct their mock council meeting – a must see for parents and curious citizens alike. At 7:00, the (adult) City Council will acknowledge a few outstanding citizens who have dedicated their time and labor to our City. We hope you will join us to celebrate these exceptional denizens. The night will conclude with the announcement of the winners of our high school essay contest, followed by our regular council meeting. I am sure I speak for everyone in our local government in expressing my hope that we will see you there.



For all the anticipation of warm spring weather, I'm sure some of us are less enthused that spring also brings tax season. That said, I hope you will find some comfort in knowing that our City remains on the path of fiscal responsibility, while also providing a full slate of public services for our residents. Indeed, perhaps the City Council's single most important function is to approve a municipal budget. Responsible budgets address public safety, recreation, and capital improvements, while simultaneously ensuring the municipality does not overspend. I am happy to say that all of these factors were addressed in our latest budget. The South Amboy First Aid will receive funds to purchase new and much-needed equipment and to fund upgrades to its facility. The City also will expend funds to improve parking on Broadway and in our downtown area. Our recreation program now will include a five-week arts and crafts program that will allow our local children to participate for roughly half of their summer vacation. We have accomplished all of this while still enjoying a favorable bond rating – meaning that the City's credit and fiscal solvency remains in strong shape.

Respectfully  
Tom Reilly  
2nd Ward Councilman  
City of South Amboy

Yearbook-St. Mary's 1999

By Tom Burkard

Twenty-five years ago, John Gloss was the principal at St. Mary's HS. Some of his amazing faculty members were: Sister Kateri, Sister Esther, Charlotte Kierst, Athletic Director Gil Pritchard, Kathy Redling, Don Szatkowski, Rich Malik, Mary Beth Woolf, Gary Kuhn, Bill Ryan, Tom Tice, Carol Moskwa, Michelle Canella.

Members of the senior class selected randomly included: Marissa Beninato, Cheryl Bringman, Stephanie Cicera, John Dalton, Atree Desai, Diana Desmond, Erin Dunn, Kristy Durski, Courtney Eddington, Kathleen Haughey, Carrie Heim, Christine Homan, Katie Housman, Kevin Kelly, Jennifer Kradenpoth, Jessica Kuchta, Stephanie Kurilla, Allan Liu, Michael Lyle Jr., Malia Lyons, Tara Mansmann, Paul Matousek, Timothy McCurdy, Kevin McGowan, Chelsea Naddonley, Joseph Orsini, Brett Owsik, Debbie Pawchucki, Rebecca Pahir, Priti Patel, Jacqueline Peck, Mark Picnic, Mary Pitonak, Alisa Raymond, Janet-Lee Ropas, Frank Rubino, Zena Ruskai, Christine Sause, Caroline Seminuk, Italo Solano, Jessica Szaro, Barbara Torres, Gregory Vanek, Elizabeth Wallace, Aliana Washington, John Weisbecker, Bryant Wong, John Zappia.

Back in '99, Bill Clinton was President of the U.S... The Sopranos just got off the ground and quickly became one of the hottest TV shows in history... Teen movies like

Varsity Blues were popular at multiplexes... Shakespeare In Love upset Private Ryan for the Best Picture at the Academy Awards... Napster launched for the first time...

While at St. Mary's HS, students had many clubs, activities, and sports events to keep them busy.

Retreat '99; National Honor Society; Key Club; Foreign Language Club; Campus Ministry; Literary Magazine; three Pep Rallies one for each sport; Yearbook-Sceptre, which was edited by Richard Tyska; the Christmas Ball, which was held on Dec. 7, 1998 at St. Clement's Banquet Hall in Matawan; Ski Trip to Shawnee...

There were many talented senior athletes at St. Mary's, and the following were randomly selected;

Danny Arocho, Jacqueline DuBois, Melissa Furey, Amy Hetzel, Robert Keene, Danny Holovacko, Kenneth Kokoszka, Ann Marie Maslowski, Jennifer Mast, Marilou Masters, Mary McBride, Carol Neuvirth, Manuel Palomo, William Parsons, Edwin Perez, Chris Rall, Joe Russo, Michael Seaman, Tara Sikorski, Richard Tyska, Laurie Ust, John Kobiernicki, Robert Valdivieso, Matthew Wnek, John Wooley.

St. Mary's HS Class of '99 was a very well-rounded, diversified group of talented individuals who were ready to embark on their careers, with hopes of making the world a better place for everyone.

ANNUAL SPRING FISH DINNER

The Camp Dill Foundation and the Old Timers of Troop 91 will be having their annual Spring Fish Dinner on May 7, 2024 in the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy. The event will be a totally "drive-by" take-out only dinner. The time of the event will be 5 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. and the cost is \$17.00 per dinner.

ALL TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE. For ticket information, call

732-899-6074 or e-mail djsibol@aol.com. Ticket mail orders with payment can be sent to Dan Sibol, 90 Meridian Drive, Brick, NJ 08724.

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

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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

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## D.B.Kelly Pipes & Drums Continues Long-Standing Traditions

(Story submitted)

The Pipes and Drums have long played an important role in the cultural and historical history of many nations. The bagpipe has become synonymous with Scottish & Irish culture where they were often used as a means of communication during battles, to intimidate the enemy and motivate soldiers. In addition to their cultural significance, pipes and drums have a unique sound that sets them apart from other musical instruments.

Today, pipes and drums are often featured in parades, funerals, festivals, weddings and special occasions, adding an element of tradition and pride.

Dedicated to preserving this tradition of music celebration and remembrance, the Col. D. B. Kelly Pipes & Drums of South Amboy, NJ. was founded in 2005 as a 501c3 Non-profit organization. Named in honor of Col. David B. Kelly, (1918 - 1979) a career New Jersey State Trooper and resident of South Amboy, who served as the head of the New Jersey State Police from 1965 to 1974, the band currently has 16 dedicated members.

Membership is open to individuals 10 years of age and older who are willing to make a large commitment of time & effort and in return receive the great rewards of travel and camaraderie. The band travels to New York and many other towns and cities throughout the East coast to participate in events, parades, and performances. Past performances include the South Amboy Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, the annual New York City NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade, the Savannah, Georgia St Patrick's Day parade and the Woodbridge Township, NJ St. Patrick's Day parade. Often, the band will volunteer their time post parades to visit local locations and play for their patrons.

The Col. D. B. Kelly Pipes & Drums consists of pipers playing the Great Highland bagpipe, snare drummers (often referred to as 'side drummers'), hopefully a tenor drummer and usually one, though occasionally two, bass drummers. The marching band is usually led by a large man or woman carrying what is traditionally called a "mace". The mace is used for transferring signals to the band as he reacts to situations that occur such as starting a set, stopping for slowdowns and whatever may effect playing conditions.

Weekly practices are held at the Ancient Order of Hibernians, 271 Second Street, South Amboy each Tuesday at 6 p.m. where the numerous trophies won by the band are on display. Interested individuals who would like to learn more about membership, cost and obligations are invited to stop in at practice sessions.

Band mates wear a Traditional Celtic Military uniform while wearing kilts of a tartan known as American Irish; a universal tartan designed for anyone to wear to celebrate Irish American heritage. Emerging during

the 16th century the origin of the kilt lies in Scotland. "Kilt" is a Scots word which means to tuck up clothes around one's body. Originally, many kilts were a full-length piece of clothing, which could be worn as a cloak wrapped over the shoulder.

Members are asked to purchase their own kilt, but financial assistance is happily provided. The band provides most of the remainder of the uniform, including jacket, vest and sporran. The sporran is a small pouch made of leather or fur worn around the waist replacing pockets while hanging in the front part of the kilt. In response to the age-old question, "What do band mates wear under their kilts?", band manager Anne Marie Knittle replied, "Shoes and socks, otherwise they are called skirts!"


Performances by The Col. D. B. Kelly Pipes and Drums generally include traditional Irish and Scottish tunes played in sets usually composed of three tunes, a compilation of official fight songs of the U. S. Armed Forces and patriotic songs. The band follows the direction of the Pipe Major for the music and Drum Major for the march. The Drum Major's uniform is unique and may be more ornate than the other members of the band and are often a Military type of uniform. Since the D. B. Kelly Pipes and Drums is a civilian group their uniforms follow a less ornate dress code.

Pipe Major John McCarthy has been with the band since its inception and has been an integral part of its growth and high level of skill. Standing at 6'5" and a biscuit over 320 lbs, South Amboy resident George Fuller has been with the band since 2005 serving as Drum Major (DM) since 2008. His impressive height and dignified nature set him apart from other bands DM's, while his pride in his heritage, the band and our country are evident at each and every performance.

Band Manager Anne Marie Knittle has been with the band since 2007 and has witnessed firsthand the comradery, sense of family and commitment of the members. She explained, "The goal of The Col. D. B. Kelly Pipes & Drums has been to honor Irish tradition, keep the songs of Ireland and Scotland alive and proudly represent Col. D. B. Kelly, his family, his legacy, and the City of South Amboy. Nothing compares to our sense of pride when we see smiles from young and old or hear how our music has brought back memories and joy to individuals. This is what making our commitment to keeping this tradition alive is all about."




Individuals who are interested in hiring the band or members to play at funerals, weddings, parades, or other occasions may contact their manager, Anne Marie Knittle at 732-921-1122 or [aknittle@optonline.net](mailto:aknittle@optonline.net).

## AOH Fundraiser Daniella's Gift



The AOH recently held a fundraiser for Daniella's Gift, a group that helps families with special needs children. Pictured (l-r) Jeff Seidel and Shane Hughes, AOH members and Almost Average band members who provided the entertainment, Dori Bruno and Anthony Biancianiello Jr of Daniella's Gift, and Joe Britton, president of the AOH. Nearly \$2,000 was raised. (Photo/info by Ed O'Connor)

We would love to hear from you!

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





Mayor Fred Henry and wife Linda, are both dressed in green as they deliver desserts to local seniors. The event was the Mayor's St. Patrick's Day Lunch and Bingo held at the South Amboy Senior Center. (PhotoInfo by Steve Schmid)

Auditions for Middlesex County Plays-in-the-Park 2024 Season

Friday, April 5 to Sunday, April 7

**WHAT:** Middlesex County Plays-in-the-Park is looking for talent for the upcoming plays: Beauty and the Beast, In the Heights, and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum beginning this April. Those auditioning must be prepared to sing 16 bars of music; bring sheet music in the proper key, marked with any cuts; photo/resume; and bring rehearsal conflicts for May–August. An accompanist will be provided.

Beauty and the Beast Creative Team consists of: Director Moggie Davis, Musical Director Mark Baron, and Choreographer Lorinda Haver.

In the Heights Creative Team consists of: Director Edgar Hidalgo, Musical Director Charles Santoro, and Choreographer Lorinda Haver.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum Creative Team consists of: Director Susan Speidel, Musical Director

John Brzozowski, and Choreographer Shannon Garahan.

Audition Dates:

Friday, April 5, 7 pm  
Saturday, April 6, noon  
Sunday, April 7, noon

**WHERE:** Stephen J. Capestro Theatre | Roosevelt Park, 1 Pine Drive | Edison, NJ 08837

**MORE:** Open call for ages 16 and up and children ages 9-12 for the role of Chip in Beauty and the Beast. Other additional categories may be added as needed. Plays-in-the-Park encourages actors of all ethnicities, gender identities, age, as well as those with disabilities, to audition. For additional information on the show dates, please visit [www.middlesexcountynj.gov/pip](http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/pip).

If you have any questions, please call 732-548-2884, or email [amanda.sorrento@co.middlesex.nj.us](mailto:amanda.sorrento@co.middlesex.nj.us).

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The drawing will be held 4pm at the picnic.

You do not need to be present to win.

The winner will receive 50% of ticket sales with the remainder of the proceeds going to the American Legion Building Fund for the construction of the Stars & Stripes Veterans Center of South Amboy to provide housing for homeless or at-risk veterans and new headquarters for American Legion Post #62.

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The Sayreville/South Amboy Girl Scouts celebrated World Thinking Day by hosting an International Festival at St. Bernadette's on February 24th. Each troop chose a country which they researched and created an interactive display. There was food sampling, music, arts and crafts and entertainment by the girls. Girl Scouts, their families and friends enjoyed an afternoon of sharing different cultures. (Photo/Info Submitted)

**SA K of C 125th Anniversary May 19**  
South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426, plan to celebrate their 125th anniversary with a dinner dance. The date is Sunday May 19 and will be held at Sacred Heart Memorial Hall at 1 PM following the 12 Noon Mass at Sacred Heart Church. Music will be provided by the Cellar Dwellers & Friends. For more information, call Jan at 732-553-9060, or Gary at 732-512-8923.

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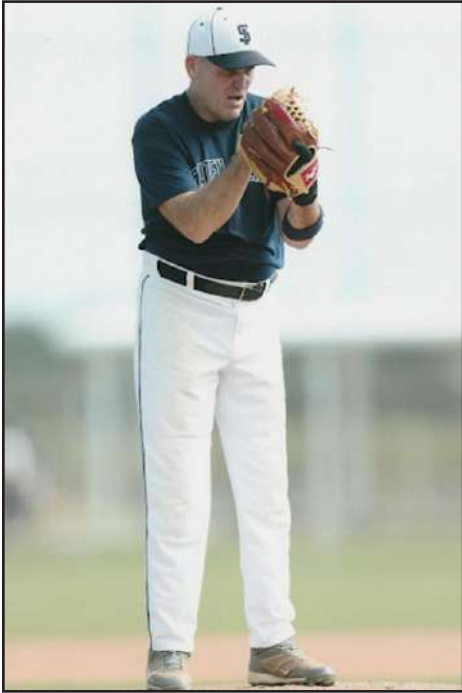
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51 Seasons and Counting!



Long Time South Amboy resident, Joe Wells, started his 51st consecutive baseball season with a 3 hit gem in an 8-2 victory over Chicago Fire in the season opening Sunshine Classic Tournament held in Florida's Gulf Coast. The Staten Island Bomber's hurler struck out 5 and walked none in a complete game performance. The surprise start was needed when the original starting pitcher was injured during warm-ups. The Staten Island nine continued on to win the opening season tournament for the third consecutive year. When asked about the stellar performance, Wells responded "I just tried to stay focused on keeping the pitches down in the zone and make them hit their way on. The Staten Island defense deserves most of the credit. Thirteen of the twenty-one outs were ground balls." The New Jersey City University Hall of Famer and three time Amateur World Series Champion competes in the over 35 division while checking in at 64 years young. I guess Joe means it when he says "When they pry the bat from my cold dead hands...." (Submitted and Approved by Jay Parisi, Staten Island Bombers owner/manager). (Photo right) Wells is pictured with teammate, ex-St. Louis Cardinal Mark Whiten. (Photos/info submitted)

St. Stan's School 2nd Annual Golf Outing

St. Stan's School in Sayreville is hosting their 2nd annual golf outing on Tuesday, May 7th at Pebble Creek Golf Club in Colts Neck. Registration begins at 7:30 am with a 9 am shotgun start. Continental breakfast, lunch, beverages, raffle door prize ticket, registrant gift bag, green fees, and cart are included in the \$140.00 price per golfer. The proceeds from this event will go towards building improvements.

For more information and to register

to golf and/or sponsor a hole: sskgolf2024.cheddarup.com

To request a brochure: sskgolf@sskschool.org.

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...



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Sayreville  
Library News

**Mindful Yoga**  
Tuesdays in April @6:30PM  
Come join us for a relaxing evening of yoga. This basic yoga class is open to all levels of experience. This class is designed for stress relief. Participants should be able to get down to the floor easily. Either a Yoga Mat or a towel is required. Masks are optional. Please wear comfortable clothing. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112

**Movie Matinee**  
Tuesday, April 16@1PM  
Join us for our monthly movie matinee. This month: The Miracle Club: Starring Kathy Bates and Laura Linney Rated PG-13-1 hr 31 mins.

**Greek Flavors with Vanessa (Virtual)**  
Tuesday, April 16 @6PM  
Join Vanessa Young, chef and founder of Thirsty Radish, for another fun cooking demonstration. This time: Learn how to incorporate Greek flavors into your dishes. Give your appetizers, dinners, and desserts a real Mediterranean feel. This is a virtual session. Registration required to get the zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

**Patriots Buffet & Fireworks June 22**

You're invited to join the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 for a night of food, baseball, and fireworks. The Somerset Patriots host the Erie Tigers Saturday June 22 at 7 PM. Cost of \$60 includes Party Deck admission with a good view, all you can eat, 90 minute buffet starting 30 minutes before first pitch, and 60 minutes after the start of the game. Menu includes Grilled Bourbon Chicken, Sausage & Peppers, Penne Vodka, Rice and Vegetable Medley, and Garden Salad. Cookies, Brownies, Coffee, and Tea are included. Unlimited fountain soda is included through the 7th inning. Cash bar is available. After the last out, fireworks will dazzle the night sky. To reserve your seat, call Steve at 732-727-1707 or 732-721-2025 and leave a message.

**Church Yard Sale**

The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville will be having a One Day Only Church Yard Sale on Saturday, April 27th from 9 to noon. The rain date is May 4th. All items will be priced to go and feel free to make an offer. You never know what treasures you may find! We have everything from accent pieces to furniture to yard tools. The Church is located at 172 Main Street, Sayreville, directly across from the Borough Hall.

**SA Arts Alliance April's Happenings - March Wind & April Showers**

Submitted by Joan Conway

There has been lots of wind and rain so we will be looking to enjoy seeing those spring flowers. Join us on April 2nd for **Paint & Sip** and enjoy the friendly small class environment as we focus on the art of painting flowers. If you have a favorite type of flower, bring a photo for your reference. Friday, April 12 from 7 to 9 pm. \$25 Cost: includes all supplies and refreshments

**John Vona Exhibition**  
In collaboration with the SA Historical Society, the South Amboy's Art Gallery will be exhibiting the artist's paintings which include familiar buildings in the City of South Amboy and neighboring areas. He created numerous paintings from the 1970s through the early 2000s. During that period, John painted seascapes of Raritan Bay, Holmdel farm, landscapes, and many lighthouses. Jon

had a keen eye for observation and use of the arts elements of design. Jon's paintings tell us a story through his keen observation of his subject. The exhibition will open on Sunday, April 21st.

**Acoustic Friday**

Join us at the April 19th Acoustic Friday. Doors open at 6:30 and the show begins at 7 to 9 pm.

**One Block Off Broadway Auditions**

Auditions for the 'Wedding Singer' will take place 4/23-24 and Call Back 4/25. <http://www.abobproductions.org>

SA Arts Alliance is always looking for artists and performers of various genres to showcase our local talent and interested individuals that would like to join and help with our programming. Contact us at SAarts141@gmail.com or Call 732-727-4600 x5971.

**Celebrating South Amboy K-12 Student Artists**



The South Amboy Arts Alliance, City of South Amoy and South Amboy Public School displayed students' works in the Arts Alliance Gallery in March. (Photos Submitted)





Pictured (l-r) Police Officer Pradeep Dogra of the NYPD, Jeremy Pastirik of the South Amboy PD, Alex Melinda of the South Amboy PD, Paul Sharma, Surjit Singh, Owner of John Auto Center, Former South Amboy Police Chief Darren LaVigne, Lieutenant Amit Dua of the NYPD, Major Mark Finnegan of the NJ State Police, and former South Amboy police officer, NJ State Police Detective Sergeant Tanislan Raskoshin, and Police Officer Mike Tapia of the Woodbridge PD. (Photo/info submitted)

Darren LaVigne Honored by IOS

By Steve Schmid

Former South Amboy Police Chief Darren LaVigne was recently honored by members of the NYPD Indian Officers Society. The dinner was held at the Five Star Banquet Hall in the Long Island City section of Queens NY. The dinner was attended by Jeremy Pastorik, and Alex Melinda of the South Amboy Police Department. New Jersey State Police Major Mark Finnegan. who served in the South Amboy Police Department, also attended. South Amboy

businessman Surjit Singh, owner of John Auto Center, also showed to honor the longtime police chief. LaVigne retired February 1 as South Amboy Police Chief after 15 years. He was in public service for 41 years and was a police officer for 37 years. The NYPD Indian Officers Society was founded in 2015 and is the first fraternal organization representing Indian American law enforcement officers and civilians.

Sock Hop April 12

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 host a Sock Hop Dance Friday April 12. Doors open at 6:30 PM Live music by Cellar Dwellers & Friends from 7 to 10 PM Menu includes Hot Dogs, Pulled Pork, Sausage & Peppers, French Fries, Hot Pretzels, Mac & Cheese, Desserts, and Ice Cream. Cash Bar available. Prizes for best costumes. Door prizes will be given out.

Reservations required. Please RSVP by 4/5/24. Call or Text Bruce or leave a message at 732-586-9779.

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

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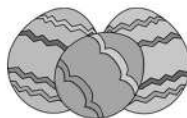


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South Amboy Schools News



South Amboy Elementary School Principal Sean Dunphy with his Heroes of the Week. They were presented their certificates at the March Board of Education meeting. (Photo Submitted)



Congratulations to Julio Tapia, Anyssa Fairman, and Makayla Brower, who received their Student of the Month certificates at the March Board of Education Meeting from (r) Principal Brown and (l) Vice Principal Lamberson. (Photo Submitted)



Mrs. Diane Smocovich (c) with certificate is the February Go Gobs Teacher of the Month. Also pictured are Diane's family and South Amboy Middle/High School Administration. (Photo Submitted)



South Amboy Athletic Director Ja'Mon Dunn with SAAC Athlete's of the Season, Eryk Gurdak and Gabby Evanski, honored at March's Board of Education Meeting.



Eryk Gurdak, South Amboy Swimmer with his coach, Georgann Tice. (Photo Submitted)



Nuns with Local Ties Celebrate Anniversaries

By Steve Schmid

Sister Dorothy Lazarick is celebrating 70 years of service as a Sister of Mercy nun. St. Mary High School students, parents, and teachers in the South Amboy community remember her as the school's guidance director. Sister Dorothy entered the religious community of St. Thomas of Tours Parish in 1974, Philadelphia in what was called Plainfield NJ, along with 16 other women. She also worked in guidance at St. Mary's High School, Perth Amboy, Mount St. Mary Academy, Watching, and Phillipsburg Catholic High School, Phillipsburg. Sister Dorothy retired in 2015 and returned to her roots in Plainfield (now Watchung) Sister Joan McKeon is also celebrating 70 years of service as a member of the Sisters of Mercy. When she completed her novitiate in 1974, she began her teaching career at St. Mary High School in South Amboy. She also taught at St. Joseph School in Bound Brook, St. John School, Paulsboro, and Notre Dame High School in Lawrenceville.

Today, Sister Joan is retired and living at McAuley Hall in Watchung at Mount St. Mary. South Amboy native Sister Christine Triggs, says her 50 years of service as a Sister of Mercy has been filled with many blessings. She was born in South Amboy and attended St. Mary Elementary School where she was taught by the Sisters of Mercy. She continued her education at Georgian Court College(now University) in Lakewood where she continued to learn from the Sisters of Mercy. She earned a degree in biology. Sister Christine hoped to study nursing and was set to teach, but fell in love with that ministry. She entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1974 and spent most of the following years in Atlantic City where she taught for 38 years at Our Lady Star of the Sea School. Five years ago, Sister Christine moved to Mount St. Mary, Watchung, where she has been serving as Sister Life Minister for the 40 sisters who live in Mount St. Mary at Gabriel Hall.

Barbershop Literacy Program



Our Barbershop Literacy Program is back at Broadway's Image with a great supply of kids' books. When you bring the kids in, they can choose to read a book rather than play on electronics. With special thanks to Rico Vasquez (c) of Broadway's Image, Elaine Gaber (l) Director of the Dowdell Library, and the READ Foundation, who donated the books, We encourage kids to read.. Above: South Amboy Councilwoman Zusette Dato is pictured on the right. Leftt: This young student enjoys a good book while getting his haircut. (Photos/Info Submitted)

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**Pet Of The Month**

This well-behaved parrot was spotted recently at a nearby location. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

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



The Smoke Column

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

Has the participation in the volunteer fire service reached a point of no return? The current membership of the volunteer fire service can no longer be sustained due to the lack of new recruits. The average age of a volunteer firefighter in the state is in the mid-50's, with many of them in their 60's and 70's. By the age of 55, most career firefighters have or are considering retiring. Volunteering for any organization has been on the decline for many years, not just in the fire service. The sociological fabric of our country has changed dramatically over the years. We see declining volunteers applying for membership in fraternal organizations, veteran's organizations, religious groups, EMS squads and many others in the area. This is what our society has become. The volunteer fire service in particular has declined in membership throughout the country by 25% since the 1990's. The concern I have is "what is being done to correct the situation?" We need to rebuild our ranks and infuse them with new volunteers willing to help their community. We also need to retain those members who are highly trained/skilled and are a valuable asset to the fire service. The burden of recruiting new members and retaining those we already have should not be placed on our current members. The resources and support must come from the top down. What has our governor done to initiate an incentive for volunteers? What have our state legislators done to increase funding and other programs to entice new members to join? And locally, what have the mayors, council members, county commissioners done to promote volunteerism? Do we have to wait for a disaster to strike before action is taken? Why is everyone reactive instead of being proactive? Throwing money at the problem of supplying equipment and supplies does no good if there is no one to man them. When additional manpower is needed for an incident, a mutual call is made for help from surrounding communities. Many times, this call goes unanswered due to lack of

manpower. What happens in your community when there is no one to answer the call? The emergency situation, being medical or fire, only gets worse as time passes waiting for responders to arrive. And if they are delayed, or worse yet, no one responds, then what? Many a time when asking a new resident if they would like to join the volunteer fire department, the answer is usually, "how much do they pay?" Many of the fire departments in the county have gone to some type of career fire protection service due to the lack of volunteers. The writing is on the wall, sooner or later it will be necessary in your community. When it becomes necessary for a career fire department, who is going to inform the residents of the property tax increase necessary to support the department? The annual price tag would be similar to the amount of funding necessary to support the police department. Can the community afford that tremendous increase in property taxes? And if they cannot afford the increase? Something must be done now to recruit and retain our volunteers. Talk and promises do not get volunteers in our doors. Years ago, there were waiting lists to join the fire department, those days are history. Action must be taken by our community leaders NOW because the lights are slowly being turned off in the volunteer fire stations as there is no one there to keep them lit. How many times have ANY of your local elected officials attended a company/department meeting and asked, "how can we help you?" In my fifty active years in the fire service, I have NEVER seen this occur. Many of us senior members are in the twilight of our fire careers and looking for someone to fill our boots. As we look out the door for those new volunteers, we see NONE.

NOTE: The comments and opinions of this article are expressly those of the author.





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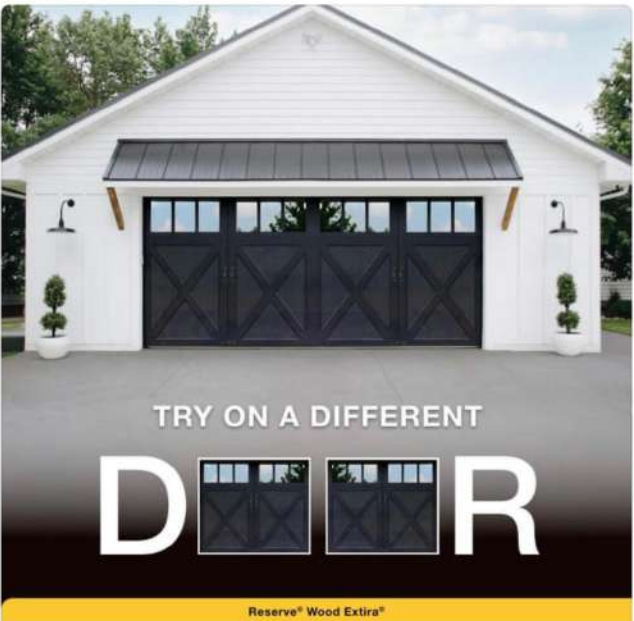
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South  
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St. Patrick's  
Day Parade

3/17/2024

Photos by  
Brian Stratton





The Color Guard from Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62 lead the parade.



A Leprechaun on Bordentown!



Mayor Fred Henry and his wife Linda stopped for a quick photo along the parade route.



South Amboy Fire Department.



Parade Grand Marshal Mickey Gross (center w/sash) is surrounded by friends and family.



Knights of Columbus OLV Council #2061.



Ryan Tooker from Century 21 Realty in his VW Hot Rod!



A very colorful band in vivid yellow playing their drums.



Col. D.B. Kelly Pipes and Drums.



Sayreville GOP was well represented.



South Amboy Middle/High School.



These two had a blast at the parade!!



The Ancient Order of Hibernians carrying flags representing the different regions in Ireland.



A very colorful String Band.



It took nine people to carry this Dragon.



Pretty in pink.



Audience participation with the String Band!



The Spirit of '76.





**South Amboy**  
3/17/2024  
**ST. PATRICK'S PARADE**



Photos by Tom Burkard



Always a Marine! Mel Meszaros salutes the crowd on North Broadway, and you can bet he said, "Semper Fi" many times to lots of brother servicemen throughout the day.



Sayreville War Memorial HS Marching Band sounded great as they marched through "The Pleasant Little City."



This big dog waved to the crowd along the parade route.



This colorful character brought smiles to many faces at the parade.



Grand Marshal Michael "Mickey" Gross, gives a big wave to parade goers throughout the City. Mickey, who is also the South Amboy City Council President, has done an amazing and outstanding job in helping to make the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade, the best in NJ. Congratulations Mickey, Parade Committee, and all who helped in any way to make this parade the biggest event of the year in South Amboy.



Councilman Tom Reilly (l) and Councilman At-Large Anthony Conrad enjoyed marching in the beautiful St. Patrick's Day Parade.



Former Sayreville Police Chief and current Councilman, John Zebrowski is pictured as the parade passes Independence Hose Co. 1 on Broadway.



St. Mary Star of the Sea Church Pastor Father Guy waves to the crowd on Broadway. South Amboy Knights of Columbus member Marty Dombrowski sits in the back of the beautiful '57 Chevy.



South Amboy Knights of Columbus #426 Columbiettes.



South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426.



Knights of Columbus OLV Council #2061.



Who remembers this tiny VW bug, which was a very popular car throughout the world many years ago.



Three generations! Sue Gross (l) proudly looks at her husband Mickey Gross who is holding their granddaughter Susan Francheca Gross while their son Michael smiles for the camera. (Photo Submitted)



Sue Gross, wife of Parade Grand Marshal Mickey Gross rides in a beautiful Rolls Royce convertible. (Photo Submitted)



Parade Grand Marshal Mickey Gross celebrates at the AOH after the parade. (Photo Submitted)



## New Police Chief In South Amboy

(Photos by Brian Stratton)



South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry swears in new Police Chief (L-r) Mayor Henry, Jane Matarangolo and Chief Matarangolo.



(L-r) Mayor Henry with new Police Chief Matarangolo and former Chief Darren LaVigne.

## The South Amboy/Sayreville Rotary Club Current Activities

By Mike Poll

*This is the third article in a four-part series leading up to the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the South Amboy/Sayreville Rotary Club in April of 2024.*

The motto of Rotary International is “Service Above Self” and, as explained in the last article, the Founders of the South Amboy Club had as their goal projects that would improve their local community. However, since each individual and each club is a part of Rotary International, they were also expected to support national and international projects along with local ones. As mentioned earlier, the main goal of Rotary for the past several decades has been to erase the childhood disease polio from the face of the Earth. This and other projects are achieved through the financial arm of Rotary International, the Rotary Foundation.

Some of the current activities of the South Amboy/Sayreville Club include its annual support of students graduating from the local high schools through cash scholarships. We also sponsor the “Adopt-

a-Family Program” which gives financial assistance to a needy family in each community at the beginning of the school year. Last year (2023) the Club provided each community with two “Little Free Libraries” as part of its Literacy Program. You may also be familiar with the Dictionary Project in which over 11,000 free dictionaries have been provided over the years to third grade students in our elementary schools.

The Club also sponsors semi-annual blood drives through the Red Cross. It has recently sponsored two fund-raising concerts to benefit the people of Ukraine. Members of the Club have traveled to Ecuador to participate in a project called “Homes of Hope”. These members have traveled, at their own expense, to build houses, a community center and to renovate an elementary school in San Pablo, Ecuador.

The Club has supported these and other projects through the annual raffle of a toy chest during the Holiday Season, and an annual Daddy/Daughter Dance usually held around

Valentine’s Day. Member donations and dues also support local and international activities.

As an activity to help celebrate our 100th Anniversary, the Club will be providing free coffee to anyone visiting the Bomber Café on Main Street, Sayreville on April 2nd.

To quote Rotary Magazine, “The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise.” The first tenet of the Rotary Code of Conduct is to “act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life.” Rotary International has 1.4 million members worldwide. These neighbors, friends, leaders and problem solvers are dedicated to providing service to others.

We meet on Tuesdays at 8:30 AM at The South Side 35 Diner. Join us as a friend. Call Greg at 732-721-0400. We will be happy to welcome you.



## Appreciation For Creation

By Al Gomolka Jr.  
C.2009

How much more our expectation  
Than scientific explanation  
Deciphering our exploration  
God in His elaboration  
In my daily recreation  
Thankful for His application  
With every person, every nation  
Blind to earthly exploitation  
Need I no further verification  
For physical and spiritual fabrication  
In my utmost estimation  
An appreciation for creation!

### PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY

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

# Happy Easter To All



from  
Mayor Fred A. & Linda Henry  
and Family



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

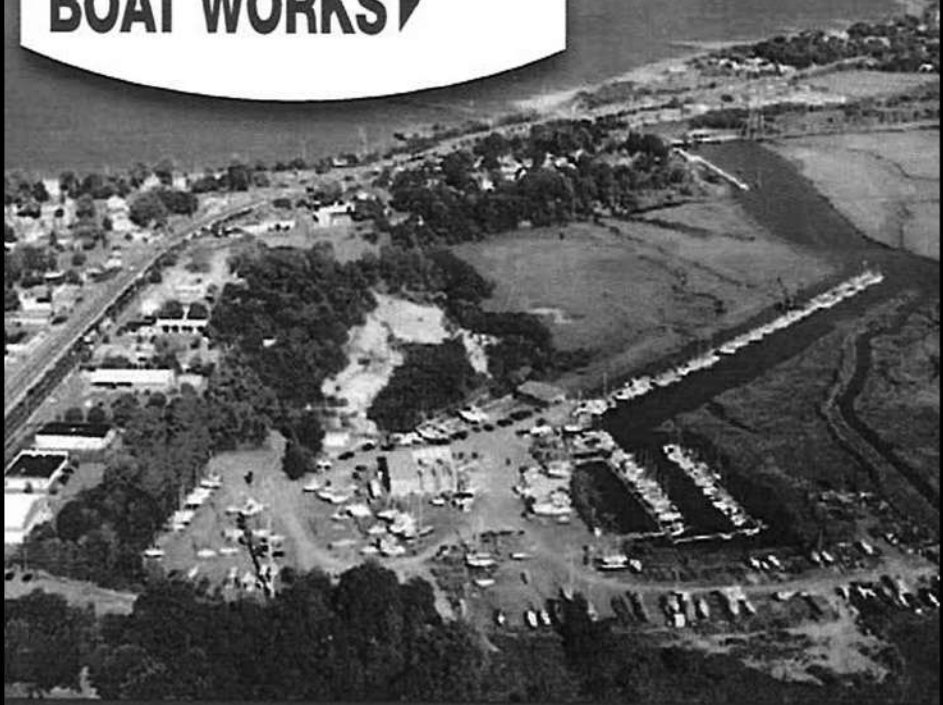
"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go" - Dr. Seuss  
It was a fun, wacky, and educational week celebrating Dr. Seuss at St. Stan's!



Thank you to our missionary, Luke Fuller, for visiting us again! The students enjoyed being able to interact with him during their gym classes.



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# In Memory Of A Trailblazer Guitarist Eddie “Whitey” Dill

By Roger Johnson and Clem Skarzynski

When the Dill Family Name is mentioned, a vast array of unbelievable musical talent precedes itself. I remember, as a young, “beginning” guitarist, seeing members of the Dill family, playing in local bands at the “block dances,” behind the Hoffman High School, and turning my attention to the guitarists on stage, brothers LeRoy and Eddie Dill. Leroy, being a “smooth” jazz type guitarist, and Eddie more of the “Fast Rock ‘n’ Roll” style of play, and hearing “Eddie tear into a searing solo for the first time! Talk about “realization and incentive” hitting you in the face all at once! Realization, damn I’m nowhere near that caliber of musical ability, and Incentive, I gotta listen to this guy if I wanna get anywhere near that level. That’s how and when I first saw and met Eddie Dill. And along the way, I got to see Eddie master the guitar in ways I just couldn’t comprehend. “Playing the Guitar with HIS FEET!” And his “signature behind the back of the head” technique, which he saved for the “closing number at every show”! My first “real guitar lessons were coming at me full speed!” “Go home and try that” was Eddie’s “advice”.

And how fate plays a big part in a musician’s life. Eddie would join the area’s first Garage/Basement Band, based in Morgan, N.J. The Iconic “Roger Johnson and The Hubcaps” in 1964. The “Caps” needed to have a bass player, so Roger got in touch with Eddie and asked him to join, and “switch guitar and bass duties with founding member Darryl James. Eddie was hesitant, because of his love for the guitar, but came on board to help Roger

achieve the sound he was looking for. Eddie stayed with Roger for a year before leaving to become a member of “Megaton.” Roger and Eddie were friends since the mid/late 50s when Eddie and his brother Le Roy Dill were doing a “Duo Act” in the South Amboy bars playing mostly Country music! So their friendship was sealed, as Roger could count on Eddie for whatever was needed in the group. As per Roger’s thoughts. “Eddie was always there for ANYONE who needed help in any way. Ed would give you the shirt off his back if you needed it, the salt of the earth. No matter what problems Eddie was having, yours were more important to take care of, and as I, the writer, got to know Ed better, he came across as such a “humble person.” Another “dream of mine came true” when after I sponsored the 1998 “Rock ‘n’ Roll Reunion Benefit, Roger Johnson took me on as an “honorary member and full time guitarist with “the Hubcaps.” There I was alongside the “Master” sharing “licks and solos, play in Rock ‘n’ Roll Music. ALWAYS awaiting the “Nod” from Ed to jump in with the “licks” I’ve learned from his technique! And as mentioned previously, another Dill family member was also a member of the “Caps.” Ed’s nephew Frankie Dill, who is BEYOND a MASTER of multiple musical instruments, on the drums! I’m still trying to figure out how that happened! Me onstage with Eddie Dill, Frankie Dill, Roger Johnson, and Frankie Joisne, the guys I used to sneak into high school dances and clubs to listen to, and learn! What an honor! Eddie was such a perfect guitarist to be a part of the band. He “cut his teeth” on this Rock ‘n’ Roll from the 50s! Note for note, Eddie had it down! Eddie was such a humble man and guitarist. He was a member of the longest running local band “Megaton,” who dominated the Rt.35 strip music scene, and beyond from the mid 60s thru the 90s and beyond! Musicians like him, and the entire Dill Family, along with the entire “Hubcaps” lineup, were truly the “Trailblazers” for local rock ‘n’ roll musicians and forming a band! My sincerest thanks go out to Eddie and Roger Johnson, for thinking this kid {the writer} could easily share the stage with them, and their groundbreaking music styles from the 50’s, when it all started! Special special thanks to Roger Johnson for coming on board for this month’s column with his memories and thoughts of his “best friend” in music and everyday life, Eddie “Whitey” Dill. And, Eddie, my sincerest thanks and appreciation for believing in my abilities on the guitar, and sharing the “cool rock ‘n’ roll licks of the 50s” with you onstage, a time in my musical life I’ll never forget! Everytime I do a 50’s lick onstage, It’s for you Ed! Thank You!



Eddie Dill soloing with The Hubcaps to Johnny B. Goode, onstage at the Rock ‘N’ Roll Reunion Benefit Concert in 1998.

## One Hit Wonders

60 Years Ago

1964-California Sun-The Rivieras; Penetration-The Pyramids; High Heel Sneakers-Tommy Tucker; (Just Like) Romeo & Juliet-The Reflections; Haunted House-Jumpin’ Gene Simmons; We’ll Sing In The

Sunshine-Gale Garnett; Little Honda-The Hondells; Ringo-Lorne Greene; Tobacco Road-The Nashville Teens; Last Kiss-J. Frank Wilson & The Cavaliers; Have I The Right?-The Honeycombs.

# Angel/Angels/Devil

By Tom Burkard

1.Earth Angel

2.Angel Of The Morning

3.Blue Angel

4.Devil With The Blue Dress On

5.Devil Or Angel

6.Angel Of Harlem

7.Devil Woman

8.Calling All Angels

9.Devil Went Down To Georgia

10.The Angels Listened In

a.The Charlie Daniels Band

b.Roy Orbison

c.The Penguins

d.Mitch Ryder/The Detroit Wheels

e.Merilee Rush

f.Train

g.Cliff Richard

h.The Crests

i.U2

j.Bobby Vee

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

Ed Dill (2nd from left) and Bobby Ligatino (r) when they starred for many years in the always-popular Megaton band.

## Rumbles from the Rock and Roll Reunion

By Clem Skarzynski

This month’s column is dedicated to 2 of the area’s top, consummate musicians, the late Ed “Whitey” Dill, and Bobby “Bobby Lee” Ligatino, who passed away days apart in February. Ed and Bobby were longtime members of this area’s longest lasting rock group “Megaton,” with Ed being their guitarist and Bobby, the bass guitarist. And both were true geniuses behind the control booths in any given recording studio. Ed, Bobby, thank you for your talents and being there for all of us when needed, R.I.P.!

Winter’s history, Spring’s on its way..O.K.Rock ‘n’ Rollers looking forward, some dates to put in your music calendars! The Boro of Sayreville’s Annual “Blast from the Past” Car Show and Concert scheduled for Saturday September 14, from 5 to 8 pm at Kennedy Park. DJ Richie Flash and the “Just us Cruisers,” along with Jersey’s Classic Rockers “The Clem and Friends Band” will be your hosts. A show that attracts an eclectic array of customs, lead sleds, hot rods and various “themed rides” just gets bigger each year, with cars from the local and tri state area! Live music from the 50’s thru the 80’s, food trucks, and friends! Just doesn’t get better than that! Followed on Sunday,

## Acoustic Friday April 19

By Jerry Smith

On April 19, 2024, the South Amboy Arts Alliance an Acoustic Friday showcase featuring Mike Conaway, a one-man band who performs original songs that are based on his own life experiences and other things that inspire him. Mike describes his style of music as fitting “somewhere between alternative and emo rock with a focus on meaningful and emotive lyrics.”

The evening’s entertainment will include one other musician to be announced soon. SA Arts Alliance is located at 141 N.

### #1 Pop Hits-March 30

- 2020-Blinding Lights-The Weekend
- 2016-Work-Rihanna/feat. Drake
- 2003-In Da Club-50 Cent
- 1994-The Sign-Ace Of Base
- 1985-One More Night-Phil Collins
- 1977-Rich Girl-Hall & Oates
- 1966-The Ballad Of The Green Berets
- SSgt. Barry Sadler

the 15th, by the Boros “Sayreville Day,” again, at Sayreville Kennedy Park, 11a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors, rides for the kids, food trucks and various forms of entertainment on the center stage..and ,again, for the 21st year,the “Clem and Friends Band will be onstage at around 2:30 pm to close out the show with some “Cool Classic Rock!” So, put checks on your calendars for those “back to back gatherings. Looking forward to seeing all our friends there. Rain Dates for the above shows are Sept.21st and 22nd!. Fast forward to Sunday October 27th. Our 3rd Annual St.Stan’s Church Car Show, on the church grounds, with the times to be announced soon. Rain date on that one is the following Saturday, Nov.2nd. And I’ll be sending along dates as we book more music fun in future columns. Our thanks go out to Recreation Director Brian VanDongen and his Sayreville Rec.Dept. crew for having us continue the Car Show and Sayreville Day Tradition going into our 21st year, and the St. Stan’s Car Show staff for our 3rd year, with the Jerry Ust, and Tommie Samuel Trophy Show! Till next month...you know the drill..”Rock ‘n’ Roll.”

## #1 Country Hits- March 30

- 2022-Til’ You Can’t-Cody Johnson
- 2013-Sure Be Cool If You Did-Blake Shelton
- 2008-Small Town Southern Man
- Alan Jackson
- 1997-How Was I To Know-Reba McEntire
- 1981-Texas Women-Hank Williams Jr.
- 1975-The Bargain Store-Dolly Parton
- 1968-A World Of Our Own-Sonny James

Enjoying Activities as they learn to improve their artistic skills through critiques and workshops!

Thank You, Mrs. J West for the photos



Elks National Foundation



The Great Heart of Elksdom Swells and Throbs in South Amboy. The South Amboy Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks National Foundation Grant Committee Has reached out to our neighbors in the four neighboring towns we represent. Our Lodge received a \$6,000.00 Grant to provide help to four food pantries. \$1,500.00 Renovation House in Perth Amboy, \$1,500.00 to Union Baptist Church Joshua food pantry in South River, \$1,500.00 to Our Lady of Victories food pantry in Sayreville, and \$1,500.00 to St Mary's food pantry in South Amboy. ELKS CARE ELKS SHARE. Pictured (l-r) are Tom Kuczynski, President from OLV Church St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, Val Tarr South Amboy Elks National Foundation Chairman & Grant writer, Ed Smith from St. Mary's Food Pantry, JoAnn Jackson from Union Baptist Church Joshua Center Food Pantry, Jeanine Sieber Elks Exalted Ruler, and Pastor Paul Sears from Renovation House Food Pantry. (Photo/info submitted)

Two St. Mary Teens Honored By Diocese

By Steve Schmid

Two young St. Mary Star Of The Sea Church parishioners have received the Saint Timothy Award from the Diocese of Metuchen. Emily Herrera and Avery Booth, were two of the 47 teenagers honored at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen. Bishop James Checchio said the young people are good role models for the church. Emily and Avery, and the other teens were nominated by their principals, pastors, youth ministers, and catechetical leaders. St. Mary Director of Religious Education John Kobiernicki, is proud of these young women. "Emily was an important part of our program for eight years. She's conscientious and dedicated and should go far in life." Emily is a junior at St. Thomas Aquinas High School

in Edison, and is the younger sister of Brianna Herrera who also won the Saint Timothy Award. Kobiernicki said Avery comes from a family that values religious education. "She's helping to teach 3rd graders, and at only 17 years old, has the maturity of a 30 year old." Avery is a junior at Communications High School in Wall Township. The South Amboy Sayreville Times joins the Diocese of Metuchen in honoring Emily Herrera and Avery Booth for their leadership in the local Catholic community.



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Happy Easter



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BRIAN McLAUGHLIN  
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City Clerk

DAVID KALES  
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DANIEL BALKA  
Finance Director

JOSEPH MATARANGOLO  
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## Fishing Flashes

By Teo “Weebles” Weber



**Salt Water**  
Striped Bass fishing in the bays and rivers opened March 1st. I checked Cliffwood and Keansburg a few times but I saw either no participation or very few people fishing. It’s still slow from the Raritan Bay shore. Recent heavy rain runoff doesn’t help, however back bay areas in back of LBI have produced a few Bass to our south. Some White Perch are also there and at Toms River too. Fluke regulations are also in place with a return to 3 fish at 13 inches with a longer season from May 4th to September 25th as per the cut mandated by the feds. Party boats are catching Blackfish, some Ling and a few Cod and Pollock. One party boat ran into a school of Pollock and everyone did very well one time. Special trips to far out waters have been producing some Pollock. Not much word on Winter Flounder but Shark River would be a likely spot to try. The latest word I have is that some Stripers were caught at Ideal Beach.

**Fresh Water**  
As of now rivers and streams are closed and spring Trout stocking will start. Opening day is Saturday April 8th at 8AM. With warm weather approaching, lakes in the south and central portions of the state are producing some Largemouth Bass, Pickerel and Panfish. Walleyes are in the Delaware River and the first Shad will show up anytime soon.

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## South Amboy, NJ

**BETTER....."BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE"**



Longtime SA Times “Fishing Flashes” writer Teo Weber and his wife Karen are pictured in front of City Hall waiting for the St. Patrick’s Day Parade to pass by. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

### Gone Fishin’



Former South Amboy resident Rick Shingola proudly shows the rare Golden Trout, 16.25 inches, and a Rainbow Trout, which he caught while fishing in Maryland. (Photo/submitted)



Dowdell Library News

April 8-13 is National Library Week so stop by to appreciate all the Dowdell library has to offer!

Don't miss out! The 10th annual Maker's Day is occurring on Thursday, April 11 from 3:30 to 7:30 pm at Dowdell Library. There will be a multitude of activities such as STEM Parachute Gravity Drop, Marshmallow Engineering, Make and Take Stations, Tie – Dye Waffles and more. It will be a fun family experience for all!

April 8-13 is National Library Week! The theme "Ready, Set, Library!" is all about embracing your local libraries and all they have to offer during a time when the internet is so heavily present in society. So, this week (and every other week!) check out the Dowdell Library to learn something new and see all of the resources the library has that makes it so valuable to the community.

Parents with toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for Reading Rascals on Thursday, April 4 and 18 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm for fun stories, games, activities, and crafts. Also, don't miss out on Spring Crafts happening on Saturday April 13 at 1 pm.

Kids! Stop by for weekly fun at the After School Fun Club on Wednesdays in April from 3:30 to 4:30 pm including Comic Club on April 17 and Bingo on April 24. Also, we are having an Egg Hunt on Wednesday, April 3 at 1 pm.

Kids and Teens! Don't miss out on the Kid/Teen Hangout happening on Fridays in April from 3:30 to 4:30 pm for Board Game Frenzy, Mythology Mania, and more.

Adults and Teens! Grab your knitting needles and crochet hooks! Drop in for the Crocheting and Knitting Circle on

Mondays from 3:30 to 5:00 pm and 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

Don't miss out! Stop by and view the exhibit of vintage and antique sewing machines on display from the collection of Karen DeCarto through April.

Adults! We are having Adult Bingo on Friday, April 19 from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Also, solar eclipse glasses are now available at the library. Pick yours up today to make sure your eyes are protected while viewing the stunning solar eclipse happening on Monday April 8.

The Senior Book Club will meet on Monday, April 29 from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Stop by the Library to pick up this month's book. Want to join? Just contact the library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org.

Dowdell Library, in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and RWJ Barnabas Health, offers online virtual health programs. Please register by emailing communityed@rwjbh.org. Stretching, Flexibility, and Strength – Chair Exercises is on Thursdays in April at 1pm. Also, Guided Imagery Relaxation Sessions is on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in April at 1pm.

Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org. The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School.

The Dowdell Library is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, from 10am-8pm. Wednesday and Friday from 10am-5pm. Saturday from 12-4 pm. Connect with us on social media. Email us at comments@dowdell.org.

The Staff and Management at John Auto Center 272 North Stevens Ave. South Amboy 732-727-8500



Wish You and Your Family



A Blessed Easter

Save the Date for the "SOCK HOP" Join us & wear your best 50's outfit

The South Amboy Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Sock Hop Dance on Friday, April 12th

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Pallone Secures Nearly \$1 Million for Sewer Pump Station in Sayreville

Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-06), recently announced that he secured \$959,752 for a sewer pump station in Sayreville in the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development spending bill. President Biden signed the underlying legislation into law last week.

The funding will be used for the reconstruction of the sanitary sewer pumping station in the Melrose section of the Borough. The proposed facility would eliminate the potential for operational failure during future flood events and the associated health and safety issues that result from wastewater overflows. The station suffered significant damage from Superstorm Sandy, and more recent flooding events exposed the risk the station faces without upgrades.

"I'm proud to announce today that I've secured federal funding for Sayreville. This funding will allow the Borough to rebuild the sewer pump station so that it can operate effectively," said Pallone. "This project will help protect public health and safety by ensuring the station can withstand a major flooding event. I'm glad we were able to get this project across the finish line."

"In my sixth term as Mayor, I can attest to the immutable fact that Congressman Pallone has always been a fierce advocate on behalf of the needs of municipalities in his district," said Mayor Kennedy O'Brien. "We are beyond grateful to the Congressman for obtaining this funding for the Borough of Sayreville to complete this vital infrastructure project."

Volunteer Artist



Steve Tarr volunteering at the South Amboy YMCA. He does an awesome job keeping our rock garden paintings up to date! (Photo/info Submitted)

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 -L.P.

Catch Any Fish Lately?

Let The SA Times and its readers share in your good day of fishing. Why not show it to everyone? Send a photo of you and your catch with a caption including your name and town, type of fish, when and where you caught it, the length and weight if you wish, or any other pertinent information. Please make sure it's a clear picture and we will be glad to publish it in The SA Times for FREE! Email your photo/caption to: satimes@aol.com.

Notification of Environmental Investigation and Cleanup Sayreville Seaport Associates Site (Block 257/Lot 3.052 and Block 257.01/Lots 1.10 and 30.12) NJDEP Preferred Identification #743154 2/12/2024

In accordance with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) regulations for "Notification and Public Outreach", the Sayreville Economic Redevelopment Agency (SERA) and Sayreville Seaport Associates Urban Renewal, L.P. (SSA) is required to provide information relating to environmental conditions and remedial activities being conducted at the above referenced site.

Former MCUA operations which included use of a pump station, drainage swales, and wastewater sewerage easement with potential runoff from local industrial operations may have led to low-level contamination. Chemicals associated with site operations include certain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and certain metals at concentrations above NJDEP standards and were initially detected in the soil and groundwater in 2013. Since this time, SERA has determined that VOCs in the groundwater had migrated from the site. SERA and SSA have investigated and determined the extent of contamination.

SERA and SSA conducted investigative and remedial activities in accordance with the requirements of the NJDEP to address the VOCs and metals and have evaluated the environmental impacts from the site including the potential for the contamination from this site to affect drinking water wells and the quality of indoor air to ensure that any impacts from the contamination is promptly mitigated.

For additional information or to obtain a copy of the complete fact sheet for this site, please contact Sayreville Seaport Associates Urban Renewal, L.P. at (860) 214-7195 and/or the LSRP of record Michael Gonshor at (856) 423-8800.





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**School Sports**  
By Tom Burkard

**Boys Basketball**

**South Amboy (16-9)** Coach Matt Wiater  
Team Leaders  
Points-Gavin Pelkey 425, Jake Eberle 379, John Kelly 289, Jaden Eagan 225; Rebounds-J. Kelly 208, Eberle 185, G. Pelkey 176; Assists-G. Pelkey 87, Eagan 67, J. Kelly 49; Blocks-Eberle 48, J. Kelly 18; Steals-G. Pelkey 82, J. Kelly 39.

**Sayreville (15-12)** Coach John Wojcik  
Team Leaders  
Points-Sam Jones 434, Chidi Chukwurah 371, Keithan Shuler 284, Jayce Green 251; Rebounds-Shuler 172, Chukwurah 149, S. Jones 100; Assists-Green 127, S. Jones 57, Shuler 32; Blocks-Shuler 14, Chukwurah 9 Devon Mitchell 8; Steals-Green 24, S. Jones 23, Shuler 20.

**Bombers Bow In CJ Group 4**

The Sayreville boys basketball team was defeated in the first round of CJ Group 4 play by North Brunswick, 82-67. Sam Jones topped the locals in scoring with 22 points, and Chidi Chukwurah added 17.

**Girls Basketball**

**South Amboy (5-17)** Coach Jeffrey D. Gumbs  
Team Leaders  
Points-Emma Kalantis 168, Sarah McLaughlin 118, Olivia Rivera 87; Rebounds-E. Kalantis 196, Gwen Kalantis 101, Olivia Gulick 81; Assists-Rivera 51, E. Kalantis 30; Blocks-Gulick 17, E. Kalantis 11; Steals-Rivera 54, Ashley Moreira-Burgos 50, E. Kalantis 37.

**Sayreville (1-24)** Coach Janet Cook  
Team Leaders  
Points-Angelina Sepulveda 111, Daniella Verlingo 88, Kaylee Elizarov 64; Steals-Sepulveda 17, Dyanna Sharpe 17.

**South Amboy Falls In CJ Group 1**

In Central Jersey Group 1 girls basketball action, South Amboy bowed out in the first round, 43-16 to Pt. Pleasant Beach. Olivia Gulick led the Purple & Gold with 7 points.

**College Notebook**

Two Sayreville Bomber baseball standouts from last season, will be honing their many talents on the college level this spring. Michael Novak will be playing for New Jersey City University (NJCU), and Michael Colonnello will be with the Kean University team.



**Michael Colonnello**  
Former Sayreville Bombers baseball star, Michael Colonnello is now playing for the Kean University baseball squad. The talented outfielder was an important part of the Sayreville baseball program for the past couple of years.

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 -J.B.



# The Local Sports Memory Machine

## Champions

By Tom Burkard



1989- The jubilant Hoffman Lady Governors basketball team are pictured following their championship victory in the first-ever NJSIAA Girls Tournament of Champions. In addition, they also captured their 5th consecutive NJSIAA Group 1 state title under their brilliant Coach Reggie Carney, who is one of the most-successful coaches in New Jersey history.

### From The Sports Archives



The talented Hoffman HS girls JV basketball team finished the 1978-79 season with a perfect (16-0) record under the outstanding coaching of Carol Galley. Pictured top row (l-r) Dawn O'Dell, Eileen DeFort, Cindy Kozak, Francine Kuzma, Cathy Clayton, Robin Piazzolla, Julie Farkas, Dawn Leonard. Bottom row (l-r) Kathy Therkelsen, Lisa Petrosky, Gloria Florczak, Kathy Regan, Sharon Christensen, Dotty Fritsch, Adriana Molina.



Michael Novak

Michael Novak, one of the top players on the Sayreville Bombers baseball team last season is now playing for New Jersey City University (NJCU).

### Mets Trip June 29

For all of you baseball fans, the South Amboy Knights Knights of Columbus will run their annual Citi Field trip Saturday June 29. The Mets, led by slugger Pete Alonso, host the Houston Astros led by future Hall of Famer Jose Altuve. First pitch is 4:10 PM. Motor coach leaves the K of C parking lot at 2 PM. Cost of \$160 includes game ticket, round trip motor coach transportation, \$24 of Mets Money that can be spent anywhere in the ballpark, and refreshments. To reserve your seat, call Steve at 732-727-1707 or 732-721-2025 and leave a message.

### 30 Years Ago

**1993-94 Boys All-Division Selections**  
Red Division-Chris Sola-Sayreville; Gold Division-John Kugel-St. Mary's.  
**1993-94 Girls All-Division Selections**  
Gold Division-Kristy Parfianowicz-Hoffman; Trish O'Toole-St. Mary's; Shannon Kemble-St. Mary's.

### St. Joe's Downs Sayreville

1998-In the GMCT boys final, St. Joseph's defeated Sayreville, 66-54. Bombers' Leland Norris captured game scoring laurels with 26 points, while teammate Marcin Ziobron added 12 for Coach Dennis Barbieri's Sayreville squad. Andy Chodkiewicz of South Amboy, who played for the champions scored 6 points.

### Metuchen Beat Hoffman For Title

1981-The Hoffman girls were defeated by Metuchen, 53-34 in their first appearance in the county championship game. At the time it was called the Middlesex County Tournament (MCT), and in '86 changed the name to the Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament. Under the coaching genius of Reggie Carney, the Lady Guvs would go on to capture 3 straight county titles in 1986-87-88, and 5 NJSIAA Group 1 state crowns.

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.S.

### Glory Days In Local Sports

1962-Joe Jankowski fired in a long jumper at the buzzer to give St. Mary's a thrilling 66-65 basketball triumph over St. Cecelia's. He paced the Eagles scoring with 22 points, Bob Suminski netted 12 and Billy Tibbitt 11 points...1974-In the 1st round of the (MCCAT) boys county basketball tourney, Sayreville jolted J.P. Stevens, 66-50. Steve Makwinski paved the way with 22 points, John Wojcik tossed in 16, and Wayne Kreiger added 12...1982-Hoffman boys basketball squad topped Monroe, 72-65. Pete Smith scored 18 points, while teammates Frank Wahler 16, Joe Schiavino 15, and Ron Brown 13 points aided the cause...  
1992-The Hoffman Lady Guvs copped the Gold Division title with a perfect (10-0) record. Coach Bob Dougherty was selected

### 35 Years Ago Hoffman Won First Tournament of Champions

1989-Coach Reggie Carney's powerhouse Lady Governors of Hoffman, who were seeded #6 in the basketball tourney blasted #3 Bishop Eustace, 74-61 in the quarterfinals. In the semis, they nipped Pascack Valley the #2 seed by a score of 45-43. In the championship contest, and overtime thriller, the Lady Guvs edged #4 Union Catholic, 45-43.

### Hoffman/South Amboy Boys Basketball

**All-Time Scoring Leaders (Revised List)**  
Ed Behnen 1,993; Brian Seres 1,632; Curt Wood 1,630; Peter Smith 1,576; Gary Kuhn 1,543; Kyle Gasiewski 1,382; Frank Kuziemski 1,323; Nick Shaw 1,280; Steve Herdman 1,229; Gary Lange 1,167; Joe Charmello 1,143; Joe Bartlinski 1,135; Bill Clayton 1,118; Gavin Pelkey 1,062; Bob Clayton 1,011; Joe Fruncillo 1,003.

### 50 Years Ago Records Set In Winter Track

1974-Bob Gutkowski set Sayreville HS records for Winter Track in the 880-1:59.2 and Mile-4:32.5. In addition, he finished runner-up in the county/conference in the 880, and was undefeated in dual meets for the season.

### Lady Guvs Won 3 Straight GMCT Titles

The Hoffman Lady Guvs talented basketball teams of 1986-87-88 captured 3 consecutive Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament championships. 1986-In the first GMCT, they beat Bishop Ahr, 55-52. Lynn Ust fired in 18 points, and Tricia Popowski added 10 to lead the Hoffman club. 1987-They once again blasted Bishop Ahr, 73-46. Ust powered the balanced scoring attack with 22 points, followed by Kris Kuziemski 18, Jen Kuziemski 11, and Lisa Smith 10 points. 1988- The Purple & Gold downed St. Peter's 45-38. Lisa Smith poured in 20 points to lead Carney's contingent to their third straight GMCT title. 1989- St. Peter's bounced back to avenge the loss and captured the crown, defeating Hoffman, 70-56, despite strong double figure scoring performances from Kris Kuziemski 18 points, Jen Kuziemski 17, and Chris Noble 14.

### Panthers Topped Bombers In Final

1973-The powerful Perth Amboy boys basketball team blasted the Bombers of Sayreville in the Middlesex County Tournament championship game, 87-67. The Panthers were paced by Blake Taylor who pumped in 30 points Lou Pennyfeather and Kruppa tossed in 24 apiece. Sayreville was led by Ray Borup with 16 points, John Wojcik 15, and Steve Makwinski 10 points.

### Sayreville Girls Fell In '78

The Sayreville girls basketball squad went to the Middlesex County Basketball Tournament championship game in 1978, and lost a heartbreaker to Piscataway, 50-43.

Division Coach of the Year, and players Jen Ingstrup and Aneca Matarangolo were All-Division choices. St. Mary's standout Leo Cannon was a boys All-Division pick...2004-The South Amboy girls tennis team won their first match of the season, as they defeated Dunellen, 3-2. Victorious in singles competition: Liz Gray; Michelle Tomaszewski. The winning double team was Megan O'Connell/Kelly Fitzgerald...2012-Cardinal McCarrick girls basketball squad clipped Colonia, 46-35. Alyssa McDonough poured in 21 points and Candace Turner 8...2022-In a 1st round CJ Group 4 boys basketball game, Marlboro blasted the Bombers, 86-50. Sayreville had 3 players in double digits; Max Negron 17 points, Peter Luster 13, Santino Whitaker 13.

### Flashback To 1993

Locals selected to All-Division Teams were: Boys-Red Division-Paul Thompson-Sayreville; Gold Division-Larry Kovacs-St. Mary's; Girls-Red Division-Joanne Pachkowski-Sayreville; Gold Division-Kristy Parfianowicz-Hoffman, Shannon Reick-Hoffman; Trish O'Toole-St. Mary's, Kim Respol-St. Mary's.

Lisa Smith of Sayreville was All-Conference Coach of the Year and also Co-Coach of the Year for the Red Division with her former high school coach Reggie Carney, who was now coaching East Brunswick. Don Szatkowski was selected Gold Division Coach of the Year.

### T.H.E. Game Sport-Boys Basketball Year-2009

**Teams-Cardinal McCarrick vs. Carteret Recap**-The talented Eagles under the brilliant coaching genius of Joe Lewis, ran away with the Ramblers, trouncing them 62-36. Julio Rosario fired in 33 points, and Taylor Snider scored 13 for the Blue & Gold.  
**Player-of-the-Game**-Julio Rosario.

### 60 Years Ago

#### St. Mary's Sweeps Hoffman

1964-Coach Luke Lenahan's St. Mary's Eagles boys basketball team swept the City Series, by downing the Governors of Hoffman, 68-63. The Saints had captured an earlier meeting, 72-65.

Leading the way for the winners was Jay Derent 18 points, Bob Kukulski 13 points and 16 rebounds, Joe Chodkiewicz 12, Bob Cavanaugh 12 (only played half of game). The Hoffman scoring was paced by Jerry Drill 22 points, Dennis Wood 13, and Ted Reick 13. St. Mary's record improved to (13-4) while the defending Group 1 state champs mark fell to (8-7).

### Shaw Topped State Of NJ In Scoring

South Amboy HS basketball great, Nick Shaw turned in an unbelievable season in 2003, leading Middlesex County and also the entire state of NJ in scoring by pouring in an incredible 32.6 ppg. In addition, he burned the nets for an incredible 73 points against Perth Amboy Tech, to shatter the 51-year old school single-game scoring record of 65 points, which was set by John Ciol way back in 1952. In Shaw's last 2 seasons with the Purple & Gold, he rolled up an amazing streak of 40 straight games in double figure scoring. During the 2002-03 season, his lowest scoring game was 22 points, despite being triple-teamed throughout the year. He holds the Hoffman/South Amboy school record for most points scored in a season.

Nick was easily selected All-Middlesex 1st Team, and also was a 1st Team All-State Group 1 choice. He finished his outstanding schoolboy career with 1,280 points for the Governors.

### 80 Years Ago

1944-Sayreville boys basketball club pounded Perth Amboy St. Mary's, 44-28. Ted Gutkowski scored 12 points, John Wortley 11, Homer Dill 11, and Johnny Johansen 10 for the Bombers.



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WWW.?



Does this building look familiar? It is located in either South Amboy or Sayreville. If you think you know the answer, send in to: satimes@aol.com. by April 15th. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Last month's WWW.? was The Brass Monkey Pub located in Sayreville. The following got it right: Sonia Iglesias, Ralph Jurkiewicz, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Edna Pilch, Mark Moniello, Thomas Harrigan, Don Zrebiec, Paul Conlon, Betty Leveille, John & JoAnn French, Dermot Scales, Barb Bockus, Pete McIntyre, Pat Scully, Walter Starzec Jr , Steve Laskiewicz, Gary Feret, Lynn Loy, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Anne and Bruno Szatkowski, Fred Leppig, Ed English , Lisa Grankowski, Dane Colburn.

February WWW.?  
The Brass Monkey Pub



Who is it?  
By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



We are looking for the name of the actress, the car she is driving and the movie it is from! Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by April 15th.



February Who is it?  
Last month we had a three part question. The correct answers were Max Baer Jr. (Jethro Bodine) on The Beverly Hillbillies and he is driving a Jaguar! The following got it right: Bruce Grankowski, Jim & Debbie Sissick, David McCleery, Edna Pilch, Mark Moniello, Rick Esposito, Thomas Harrigan, Nanci Deverin, Betty Leveille, John & JoAnn French, Dermot Scales, Pete McIntyre, Pat Scully, Walter Starzec Jr , Ed and Katie Elichko, Steve Laskiewicz, Gary Feret, Lynn Loy, Vincent Farina , Kathy jo Engelhardt, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Anne and Bruno Szatkowski , Fred Leppig, Ed English, Dane Colburn.



Max Baer Jr., The Beverly Hillbillies and a Jaguar!

People who stopped to pay their final respects for the beloved Robert “Bear” Kominkiewicz, who died on Feb. 18th, were pleasantly surprised by this 2,000 pound bear statue by the entrance of Kurzawa Funeral Home in South Amboy. Kurzawa’s Owner Rocco Cuocco had the statue transported from its regular location on Bordentown Ave. in Sayreville, (where Kominkiewicz had his popular Bear’s Hot Dog stand located), to the funeral home as a tribute to “Bear” Kominkiewicz. “Bear,” a terrific man, was the owner/operator for 48 years from 1971-2019 and will never be forgotten. (Photo submitted/ Story by Tom Burkard)

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..

LETTERS

Just finished reading the February edition. It was great seeing the names of the leading basketball scorers of the 1000 point club. Many familiar names brought back many memories of the games of yesteryear. Seeing Nick and George scoring 22 and 23 points in the 1970 game gave me thrills too. Living in Colorado we are used to snowy winters but SA getting 9 inches on a February day beats our total of one day so far. Hope it melted like our six inches did.

Bill Farrell  
(Formerly of South Amboy/Sayreville), Colorado

Christine Marie Phillips (nee Baranowski)



Christine Marie Phillips (nee Baranowski) age 75 of Waretown passed away on Thursday, February 29, 2024, at Community Medical Center, Toms River. Christine was born and raised in South Amboy moving to Massachusetts in 1964 (where she attended Clark University for her Bachelor of Arts Degree, cum laude and then went on for her Masters Degree in School Psychology) before moving to Waretown in 1984. She worked for the Ocean Township Board of Education where she started as a teacher and then became the Principal in 1987 before retiring in 2004. Christine loved the water. You could find her enjoying Barnegat Bay or on a cruise vacation. Christine was predeceased by her husband Richard in 2017. She is survived by her sister Kathy Baranowski and her companion Jeffrey Hutchins. Funeral Arrangements were under the direction of the Riggs Funeral Home, Forked River. Interment was at Ocean County Memorial Park, Waretown, NJ.

Robert Williams



Robert Williams, 85, of South Amboy died on Friday March 15, 2024 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy. Born in South Amboy he lived in Marlboro and Browns Mills before returning to South Amboy in 2007. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Son of the late Earl and Anne O’Brien Williams he is also predeceased by his wife Annette Quirion Williams in 2003; his brother-in-law Russell Williams in 2003; his cousin Mary Wilson and his fiancée Edy Hanmore. He is survived by his sister Virginia Stillwagon; his nephews Ron and Bobby Stillwagon; his cousins Louise Gray, Patricia Sasso, Jimmy Wilson and Joe Wiessenburger; Edy’s children Patty and Dave and his longtime friend Ron Rufner. A special thank you to his neighbors at McCarthy Towers, and also many thanks to all at Perth Amboy Hospital. Cremation and interment in Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery was private under the direction of The Gundrum Service “Home For Funerals” 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy.



Obituaries

Abramik, Ralph S., 93, formerly of Morgan died on Feb. 29.

Bielak, Adam, 95, of South Amboy died on Feb. 15.

Ciszewski, Robert E. "Bobby C," 68, of Morgan/South Amboy died on Feb. 24.

Colella, Anthony P. "Tony," 36, of Sayreville died on March 13.

DeBaro, Victoria, 101, of South Amboy died on Feb. 14.

DeOliveira, Deborah A., 54, of Sayreville died on March 13.

Detlefsen, Rita P. Prusakowski, 95, of South Amboy died on March 20.

Dohn, Dolores L., 92, of Sayreville died on Feb. 25.

Faccone, Anna Marie, 70, of South Amboy died on March 18.

Grabowski, Mary Ann Malinowski, 87, of Sayreville died on March 16.

Grothusen, George F., 66, of Sayreville died on Feb. 24.

Grotovsky, Ronald W. Sr., 78, of the Parlin section of Sayreville died on Feb. 15.

Hyle, Bernadette M., 88, of Sayreville died on March 6.

Jackson, John, 68, of Sayreville died on March 11.

Jasionowski, Thomas R., 56, of South Amboy died on March 13.

Kominkiewicz, Robert "Bear," 82, of Sayreville died on Feb. 18.

Koval, Iris L., 89, of Sayreville died on March 10.

Letts, Robert "Bobby," 62, of South Amboy died on March 2.

Loniewski, Katharina, 90, of Sayreville died on Feb. 23.

Luciano, Elizabeth "Betty," M., 90, of South Amboy died on March 8.

Maindelle, Robert, 85, formerly of Sayreville died on March 9.

Mannell, Debbie, 63, of Parlin died on March 11.

Metz, Christopher J., 47, formerly of Sayreville died on March 19.

Mrvicin, Lisa Pazur, 48, formerly of Sayreville died on March 19.

Nowak, Dorothy W., 77, of Parlin died on March 17.

Nowak, Phyllis R., 97, of Sayreville died on Feb. 21.

Olson, Charles E. "Charlie," 68, formerly of Sayreville died on Feb. 17.

Palmer, Margaret R., 72, of Parlin died on March 14.

Pasztornyicky, Alan J., 69, of Sayreville died on March 13.

Phillips Christine Marie (nee Baranowski), 75 of Waretown died on Feb. 29.

Regan, Francis E. "Ed," 79, of Laurence Harbor died on Feb. 20.

Reingold, Jerry R., 75, of Parlin died on Feb. 22.

Squires, Francis G., 95, of Morgan died on Feb. 20.

Toth, Robert S., 91, of Sayreville died on March 5.

Tomkutomes, Helen, 94, formerly of Sayreville died on Feb. 18.

Ust, Julius "Joe" Jr., 86, of South Amboy died on March 17.

Williams, Robert, 85, of South Amboy died on March 15.

In Memoriam

Robert "Bear" Kominkiewicz, 82, of Sayreville died on Feb. 18. He was the well-known and popular owner/operator of Bear's Hot Dogs on Bordentown Ave. in Sayreville for 48 years from 1971-2019. "Bear" was a '59 graduate of Hoffman HS, and a great guy who will be missed by everyone. Katharina Loniewski, 90, of Sayreville died on Feb. 23. She worked as a secretary for the Sayreville Board of Education for over 30 years before retiring. Dolores Dohn, 92, of Sayreville died on Feb. 25. Before retiring, she worked at DuPont in Parlin for almost 40 years as Executive Assistant to the Plant Manager. Robert Toth, 91, of Sayreville died on March 5. He was a founding member of the South Amboy Elks, and also served as Past Exalted Ruler and District Deputy. Bernadette Hyle, 88, of Sayreville died on March 6. She was a clerical worker for the Borough of Sayreville for many years before retiring. Elizabeth "Betty" Luciano, 90, of South Amboy died on March 8. Prior to retiring, she was employed by the former Spezzi's Restaurant in Parlin. Iris Koval, 89, of Sayreville died on March 10. She was a lifetime member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, and also worked as a dedicated crossing guard for the Borough of Sayreville for 40 years. Anna Marie Faccone, 70, of South Amboy died on March 18. She was an Extraordinary Minister of Communion at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church, and also was previously employed by the Sayreville Public Library. In addition she was the author of a book, "Take A Bike Ride To Infinity." She was also a devoted caregiver to her 104 year old mother and others. Alan Pasztornyicky, 69, of Sayreville died on March 13. In his younger days he was an outstanding baseball player, and later a top-notch softball performer.

Robert "Bobby C" Ciszewski

Robert Edward Ciszewski, 68, of Morgan/South Amboy, New Jersey passed away peacefully on Saturday, 2/24/24, at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune, NJ. Robert (Bob) known to all as "Bobby C" is survived by wife Roxanne, devoted son Jason together with his sister Marilee Jones of Arizona. Bob is predeceased by parents Ed & Mary Ciszewski, brother Ron, aka "Mookie". He was a retired licensed water treatment operator for Middlesex Water Company in Iselin, NJ. He also had numerous cousins, nieces and nephews, who loved him dearly. He had a list of friends as big as a phone book with Joe "Schmoe" Kieselowsky at the top. Anyone who knew Bob, knew how colorful of a story teller he was, narrating stories like an author. He had a smile and a sense of humor that brought joy to all those



around him. Bob was proud to be the loudest, goofiest, most energetic guy in the room. He was selfless, kind, caring, he'd give the shirt off his back to a complete stranger. He looked out for those around him and made sure everyone else's needs were taken care of before his own. Bob's youthful and adventurous spirit was truly something special, he was well known to all for his toys whether it be his cars, motorcycles, boats, etc. Bob had recently relocated to Keyport with Roxanne and Jason where he enjoyed walking the waterfront and making new acquaintances. Friends and relatives called at Aftercare Cremation Service (Raritan Bay Funeral Service) 241 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy, NJ 08879 on Tuesday, February 27, 2024. In celebration of Robert's life. Cremation was private.

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 -K.S..

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



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