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The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

**This issue is
dedicated in
Memory of**
*Shirley Aceta
*Mary Ellen Bialoblocki
*Donald Czok
*Paul Gulick
*Paul Jankowski
*Joseph Kelly
*Jim Kennedy
*Bob Masterson
*Joanne Ust
*Chester Zonak

January 23, 2021 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 30 Issue 4

GET VACCINATED WHEN YOUR TURN COMES UP!!!

By Dr. Jorge Gonzalez-Gomez, MPSL

In light of the fears around the Covid-19 vaccine and as someone who received the vaccine, I want our communities to know a few things:

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved vaccines and are safe for most of the population. Side effects are usually identified before the vaccine is licensed. Follow guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and your primary care medical provider to determine whether the vaccine is safe for you.

Getting the vaccine is not as bad as you think. Expect mild to moderate soreness at the injection site in the arm. You may experience a self-resolving slight headache. Tiredness, muscle aches, joint pain, nausea are some of the minor symptoms you may feel for a day or so. In remote circumstances, within the hour of receiving the vaccine; someone may experience allergic reactions with resulting shortness of breath, swelling of the face or throat, fast heart rate, rash, dizziness and weakness. This is why immediately after receiving the vaccine, your administering provider will monitor you for these rare signs.

Adults should get vaccinated to help protect themselves, their households and their communities.

Currently Group 1A is receiving the vaccine and it includes hospital healthcare workers and long-term care residents. Next will be Group 1B which will include adults over age 75 and front-line workers such as police, firefighters, mass transit workers, teachers, childcare providers, postal workers and food service workers. Group 1C will include adults 65-74 years of age, persons 16-64 years of age with medical conditions that are at increased risk of dying from the virus. Others in Group 1C include essential workers in utilities, transportation, those that live in crowded conditions such as college students. Pharmaceutical companies are beginning to test the vaccine on teenagers and children as young as 12 years of age. You can always check the CDC, NJ Dep. of Health and/or Middlesex County Health Department website for more current Covid19 testing and vaccination sites. More information can be found at the www.covid19.nj.gov/vaccine web site.

Once you receive the proper vaccine regimen from your provider, make sure that you continue to wear facial mask, social distance and hand wash often (or use hand sanitizer) for the foreseeable future. Covid 19 vaccine grants the recipient immunity but it is not known yet if it prevents transmission, so we need to continue to use best practices – face mask, social distance and hand hygiene!!

Concluding, this vaccine represents an opportunity to protect people around you and in your life!! Think of all the people in your life that you can potentially save if you are courageous enough to take the vaccine.

New Chief Sworn In



On Jan. 1st at noon, Andrew Bielak was sworn in as the 2021 South Amboy Fire Chief by Mayor Fred Henry, during a smaller than usual ceremony at the Enterprise Hook & Ladder Co. firehouse. Chief Bielak's niece, Emma holds the bible. Chief Bielak serves on Enterprise Hook & Ladder truck 8, and is following his brother Patrick Bielak, who served as Chief in 2010-11. (Photo/Info Submitted)



On hand for the Sayreville Recreation Department's Toy Drive were Santa and Mrs. Claus, along with Recreation Advisory Board members, who worked hard at the drive through event. Cheryl McQuade of the Recreation Dept. said, "It was a very nice event." (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Sayreville GOP Reorganization

The Sayreville Republican Municipal Committee reorganized at its December 2020 meeting. Chair Arthur Rittenhouse and Secretary Rosetta Fisher stepped down from their posts. However both will remain active with the Committee as County Committeeman and Committeewoman.

The Committee unanimously elected Councilwoman Donna Roberts as Chair and Karen Bailey Bebert to a vacant Vice-Chair position. Rittenhouse thanked the Committee for their support over the past seven years. He

also thanks the Middlesex County Republican Committee and NJ GOP for their support of Sayreville. The Committee is in a good position to serve the residents of Sayreville. Fisher has served on the Committee for over 15 years. Rittenhouse and Fisher will remain active in the community, Rittenhouse as Chair of the Sayreville Shade Tree Commission and President of the Sayreville Historical Society. Fisher serves on the Sayreville Economic Redevelopment Agency (SERA) and is an active volunteer with EPIC Church.

Mild Start To The New Year

By Steve Schmid

The start of 2021 brought a very nice stretch of weather following a stormy December. After some rain on New Year's Day, temperatures averaged approximately 5 degrees above average for the first half of January. Very little precipitation fell in the first half of the month. January is normally the coldest month so the mild weather was welcome. December was rougher. The biggest snowstorm in two years began on December 16 and continued into the morning of December 17. When all was said and done

about 7 inches of snow was on the ground. The storm brought out snow blowers, shovels and snow plows for the first time since November 2018. Schools closed and Raritan Bay Waterfront Park was closed to traffic. People who were hoping for a white Christmas were disappointed when the snow quickly melted. Another storm hit Christmas Eve and with it came nearly hurricane force wind gusts and heavy rain. The wind downed trees and branches, and some roofs lost shingles. That was the last big storm of 2020.

Valentine's Day Rose Sale

Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1, South Amboy, will hold a Valentine's Day Rose Sale. Come out and support your local Firefighters on Feb. 13th from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Feb. 14th from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The sale will be held at the Independence Firehouse, 127-129 North Broadway, South Amboy. The prices are as follows: 1 dozen red roses-\$20; 1 dozen color roses-\$15; 2 dozen color roses-\$25. All sales are cash only.

Middlesex County College is Now Middlesex College

Middlesex County College is transforming to Middlesex College. The College's Board of Trustees approved the name change in October, which took effect January 1, 2021. A public unveiling of the new logo and visual identity is planned for sometime in May.

"We know two things," said College President Mark McCormick. "First, that students receive an excellent education here, and when they transfer to a four-year college or university, they do as well or better than students who start at a four-year institution. They are very well prepared. But we are also well aware that there is a stigma attached to community colleges. While we know the high quality of the educational experiences we provide, that message has not fully penetrated in our community. We hope this name change will go a long way in doing that."

Two-year colleges in other states have already begun to drop "Community" or "County" from their names as part of a rebrand, including Gloucester County College, which changed its name first to Rowan College at Gloucester County and then last year to Rowan College of South Jersey when it merged with the former Cumberland County College.

Dr. McCormick noted that the name change would not affect the objective of the College. "Our mission remains the same," he said. "It is to offer a quality, affordable education for the people of Middlesex County, and to help our students thrive in education, growth and personal success. That will not change."

"We are fortunate to have the support of the Middlesex County Commissioners in this effort," Dr. McCormick said. "We thank the Commissioners and the County Administration for their incredible support of Middlesex College and our mission."

The College is planning an Open House on Sunday, April 18 and expects to have new Admissions materials created by that date.

The diplomas for May 2021 graduates will say Middlesex College, and the College anticipates having a fully revamped website by the fall of 2021. College athletic teams, which have been known as the Blue Colts, will now be the Middlesex Colts, and a mascot will be unveiled in the months ahead.

**Next Issue February 27th -- Deadlines February 15th
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Pictured (l-r) Mayor Fred Henry, Chief Andrew Bielak, 1st Assistant Chief David Szatkowski, 2nd Assistant Chief John Dragotta. 1st Assistant Chief David Szatkowski took the oath with his mother Eileen Szatkowski holding the bible and his father Ed Szatkowski Sr. looking on. Szatkowski serves on Protection Engine Co. Engine 6. Ed Sr. served as chief in 1981. 2nd Assistant Chief John Dragotta took the oath with his wife Diane Dragotta holding the bible while his daughters Hannah Dragotta and Jenna Dragotta looked on. Dragotta serves on Independence Engine & Hose Engine 7. John also serves on the Board of Education, and previously served as Fire Chief in Madison Park. (Photo/info submitted)

Locals Named To MCC Dean’s List

Congratulations to the following local students who were named to the 2020 Fall Dean’s List at Middlesex County College:

South Amboy

Nana Sarfo Adupoku, Lucas Amaniera, David Baginski, Thomas Brennan, Jenna Caruso, Emily Chacon, Megan Flanagan. Kirsten Francisco, Yasmine Ghaly, Javeriya Khan, Rania Khatab, Jamelia Kingston, Dylan Laforge, Justin Lewis, Ava Lynch, Cheyenne Moskal, Emily Mulligan,

Krinaben Patel, Manjali Patel, Manan Patel, Yanira Perez, Kelly Rainey, Erin Reilly, Jalyssa Ruggiero, William Taylor, Pawel Zalewski.

Sayreville

Paridhi Agrawala, Nicole Boehler, Brendan Bukowski, Keilly Castillo, Sophy Castro, Yao Chen, Brittney Correa, Hailey Cusick, Reeya Dave, Rhamses Delgado, Jose Gonzalez, Joseph Gottstine, Mera Habashi, Eesha Imran, Julia Lakatos, Ana Martelo, Rafaela Martelo, Ryan McCracken, Sandra Michael, Joseline Mosquera, Sarah Nemshick, Chinmay Pandya, Kathleen Sabo, Jerimot Stern, David Tichy, Snezhana Veselkova, Areej Waseem, Emily Wright, Fizza Zaidi.

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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

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100 Years Ago ... 1921 South Amboy

The Magistrate was Judge Forgotson . . . Contractors Lambertson & Reese rushed to complete new stores of C.I. Bergen on Stevens Ave. . . Ex-Senator, Daniel Chase and daughter Edna returned home after an extended visit to Buena Vista, Fla . . . The Daughters of Isabella held a meeting at the Columbus Club on David St.... The Holy Week Passion Play, "The Upper Room" by the late Msgr. Benson was presented at St. Mary's Hall... Members of the Robert Emmett Dramatic Association of St. Mary's put on their annual St. Patrick's Day theatrical...

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The South Amboy/ Sayreville Serving The Bayshore Area

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Pleasant little TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

1.St. Mary’s Church Pastor in 1991?
a.Father Brembos b.Msgr. Gerety c.Father Leonard

2.Back in ‘91, where was Wood Chrysler-Plymouth located in Sayreville?
a.Rt. 9 South b.Rt. 35 North c.Ernston Rd.

3.South Amboy Council President in 1996?
a.James Reick b.Craig Coughlin c.Donald Thomas

4.In ‘96, this travel agency was located on Main St. in Sayreville?
a.Holiday Tour Agency b.Manny’s Travel c.Magteam Travel

5.The South Amboy Elks 2001 Americanism Citizen of the Year Award was presented to?
a.Dr. Harold McKenna b.Dr. Eli Younes c.John McElroy

6.Pastor of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in ‘96?
a.Fr. Janek Rutkowski b.Fr. Leon Aniszczczyk c.Msgr. Ralph Etchemendy

7.Where was Harbor Lights located in South Amboy back in 1996?
a.N. Stevens Ave. b.Main St. c.S. Broadway

8.In ‘96 Bayside Garden Center & Landscaping was located in Sayreville at?
a.Rt. 35 South b.Washington Rd. c.Bordentown Ave.

9.This former South Amboy resident was Mayor of Holmdel in 1996?
a.Mary Ann Zimmerman b.John Fusco c.Art Davey

10.VFW Post 4699, Sayreville Ladies Auxiliary President in ‘96?
a.Lucy Rossi b.Jane Hawkins c.Eileen Bradley

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

Business Of The Month Brick House Bar & Grill

Since the Pandemic hit last year, Brick House Bar & Grill has offered outside dining, and with the approval of the Borough of Sayreville, they offered a concert series to the public. Brick House would like to thank all of their patrons and the performers for making so many people happy, when there wasn't much else to do.

The Brick House Bar and Grill in Sayreville, recently celebrated their 68th Anniversary. The popular establishment, family-owned and operated by Mary Ann Spisso, brother Wally Rodesko, and sister Donna Amato, was started in 1952, and originally called Kelly's Bar, and later became Wally's Bar. After the Brick House Bar & Grill opened, it quickly became the place to go, for those looking for a friendly neighborhood spot, offering everything from tasty Angus burgers to a delicious full course meal. According to owner Mary Ann Spisso, "We offer casual dining at its best." The Brick House menu is loaded with mouth-watering food with some of its specialties including House Fried Chicken, Brick House Steak Salad, Marino's Famous Steak Bites, Pierogies, Homemade Soups, and they also offer a small variety of desserts. Every Friday features a Seafood Fry & Broil, and sandwiches as well as dinners are also available. Some of their superb specialties include Flounder Francaise, 1lb. Seafood Combo Dinner, in addition to offering seafood sandwiches such as Cod, Flounder, Scallops, and Shrimp. Menu specials change daily, plus Brick House also offers homemade fare. You can enjoy casual dining in the bar area, and there is also a separate dining room and sun porch area.



Mary Ann Spisso, owner of the popular Brick House Bar & Grill in Sayreville, is pictured during a relaxing moment at her outstanding business. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

There is always a friendly atmosphere and great service at the Brick House Bar & Grill, plus there are 13 HD TV's.

The Brick House hours and capacity have changed due to the government restrictions. They are now in operation Tuesday thru Sunday from 12 noon-10 p.m., serving lunch and dinner. Just call 732-254-8899 for your takeout order.

Owner Mary Ann Spisso said, "We thank you for the support, and for helping us to keep our doors open during this difficult time."



Broncs, Bulls, and Barrels

Story /Photo by Chelle Martin

It was a crisp fall day in September, 1995, when the rodeo came to Sayreville. In the most unlikely of places, it was held on the grounds of a nightclub on Highway 35. Since the location has changed names many times over the years, it may have been Close Encounters or IROC when the event took place.

The rodeo began with a patriotic parade of riders carrying American flags, before moving on to the individual competitions which included barrel racing, calf roping, trick riding, and the most exciting eight seconds for each contender—bull riding!

Bleachers had been set up for spectators along with food and beverage trucks. There

was also a penned area where visitors could safely view some of the livestock, which were just as athletic as their human counterparts.

The event drew a good crowd and all of the riders provided a different form of entertainment not often seen in our area.

For those who missed it, there is always a chance to catch some rodeo action at the Cowtown Rodeo in Pilesgrove, New Jersey, which happens to be the oldest weekly running rodeo in the United States.

Bio: Chelle is a local writer who used to own an Appaloosa and a Morgan/Quarterhorse. She never rode in a rodeo, but she did compete in a few horse shows in South River at Kuberski Stables.

SOUTH AMBOY ELEMENTARY ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT FOR TRIMESTER 1-2020/2021

FOURTH GRADE-HONOR ROLL WITH DISTINCTION: Adam Koziej and Alyssa Pellot. **HONORROLL:** John Bixby, Michael Chambers, Rafael Espinosa, Yencil Gomez, Amelia Guthrie, Robert Guthrie, Mateusz Kosinski, Malani Lombardi, Riley Patrick, Caleb Sipsis and Brooke Sofilkanich. **FIFTH GRADE-HONOR ROLL WITH DISTINCTION:** Daria Dobrin and Mila Rodriguez. **HONORROLL:** Kariana Conde, Mackenzie Conroy, Jaileen Cruz, Christopher

Dejesus, Hadiya Farooq, Daniel Gemian, Gary Gragg, Alexis Lee, Hailey McCloud, Lia McNulty, Liam Murphy, Maximus Ortiz, Aidan Pieklo, Daniel Puchalski, Kayla Radich, Reagan Restiano, Benjamin Rodriguez, Alfredo Sanchez Campos, Alexander Sempertegui and Kyra Zeleniak.



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Many Hindu organizations throughout the state joined in this year's Sewa Diwali Food Drive, which benefited the Middlesex County College (MCC) Food Pantry. Sewa Diwali is a collection of organizations and individuals rooted in Indic values that promotes service and giving back to the local community. "This very, very generous donation came at a great time, as many of our students have been struggling with food insecurity since the pandemic began and our supplies were beginning to run low," said Amanda Lyons, MCC's basic needs coordinator. "This is a huge relief and a very generous gift. We are so very grateful." Mark McCormick, President of the College, agreed. "We are very grateful to the incredible support from the Sewa Diwali project," he said. "This will make a tremendous difference to those students who are food insecure. No one should go hungry, and this effort will feed a tremendous number of people." (Photo/info submitted)

Yearbook-St. Mary's 1991

By Tom Burkard

St. Mary's HS Class of 1991 returned for its final year in early September 1990, and you can bet many students were fans of local rock superstar Jon Bon Jovi, whose "Blaze of Glory" topped the national charts on Sept. 8th. The yearbook was titled "Together As One," and dedicated to Sarah Shipman. Carolyn Kuzniak was the editor. John Gloss Jr. was principal, and some of his fine staff included Sister (Sr.) Kateri, Sr. Alexandra, Sr. Lucia, Jim Davidson, Deborah Gulick, Sr. Ester, Charlotte Kierst, Dorothy Tighe. The Senior Senate was headed by Robert Russo, and other members were James Cleary, Robert Clayton, Gino Vattelana, Erin Bulmer, Robert Zaleski, Jesse Anstett. The two big social events were the Halloween Happening and the Annual Christmas Ball, which was held at Buttonwood Manor. Some of the '91 grads selected randomly: Sylvia Marciniak, Danielle Corlett, Hilary Gearon, Katherine Delaney, Joyce Kosanovich, Leann Dalfonzo, Stacy McCormack, Tara Mitchell, Jennifer Melnyk, Catherine Murphy, Sharyn Nash,

Laura Pentz, Janet Rzepka, Julianna Schneck, Cindy Solis, Michelle Sweeney, Catherine Teffenhart, Jo Anne Toth, Judy Vargas, Robin-Lynn Williamson, Robbin Fraley.

The Class of '91 featured many talented athletes including three basketball stars who scored over 1,000 points in their career, Jo Ellen Paczkowski, Dan Blaha, Rob Zaleski. Other SM senior athletes were Stacie Bacsoka, Valerie Archie, Jesse Anstett, Jim Cleary, Billy Comitini, Bob Clayton, Rosemarie Cuesta, Yosmarie Diaz, Maureen Fleming, Beata Jankowski, Cheryl Julg, Keith Klass, Claudia Lucas, Brian McLaughlin, Tom Moran, the late Steve Pavich, Dave Orlowski, Jimmy Pavlonnis, Robert Russo, Mike Pyrik, Vinnie Saunders, Phil Smith, Jennifer Sullivan, Martha Tsilimidos, Gino Vattelana, Lisa Witt, Kerri Walker, and Kevin Zebro.

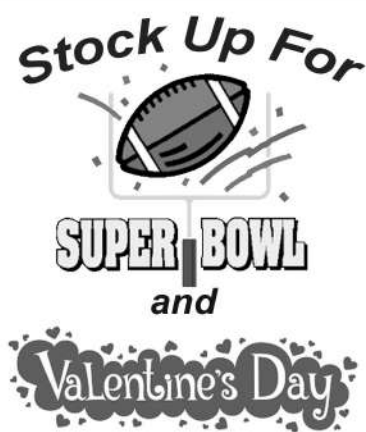
Mariah Carey's "I Don't Wanna Cry" topped the pop charts as St. Mary's Class of '91 received their diplomas in late May.

Life Saving Skills!

On December 28th members of South Amboy First Aid Squad practiced their skills with CPR and first aid training at SAFA Headquarters. (Photos/info submitted)







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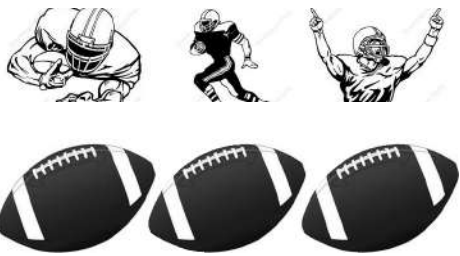
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Have You Noticed Our Window Exhibition Of 'Faces Of The City' At 141 N. Broadway?

By Joan Conway

If you have not seen the exhibition, please take a walk to see 'Our Faces of the City'. The photographer, Robert Nuzzie, captured radiating smiles as well as pouting faces, eyes that twinkled and showed gentleness. These individual photos showed how our city comes together if asked! Although there is only a sampling of the individuals, we call our neighbors and friends; they are the individuals who make our town what it is! They show the charm and character this city radiates. South Amboy Arts thanks them for allowing us to have them as a part of our exhibition! This exhibition shows who we are!

The mission of this exhibition was to celebrate our community and come together; we wish to continue our goal to provide activities for all. Our last Artsfest was 2019 and we look forward to our next in 2021. We want the gallery to be a center for arts for all to enjoy. In the meantime we are preparing to create online activities for all to enjoy and participate in...So until we can open our doors, please remember to:

Local Businesses In 1988

Some of the local businesses in South Amboy and Sayreville 33 years ago were: South Amboy-The Landmark Tavern & Cafe; Leslie & Son (All types of roofing work done); Pine Liquor; Downzie's (Wine, spirits, & package goods); Air Electric; E & E Construction; The Brave Bull Tavern & Restaurant; Smiley's Food Stores; J.A.G.'s White Eagle Tavern; Melrose Toy Amusements, Inc.; Albern's Seafoods; Mag's Subs; Metaline Products Co., Inc.; Sister's Lunch & Deli; B & B Market; Gabriel's Tire

BE KIND, THANKFUL, GRATEFUL, HOPEFUL AND BLESSED.

The Alliance has been striving to build our community through the arts and we invite anyone wishing to volunteer or to become a member to contact us at: SouthAmboyArtsAlliance@gmail.com.

We can provide local-area artists space where artwork can be exhibited, to teach classes or conduct workshops. Due to our present health crisis the Alliance expectations of hosting workshops, lectures, and other educational opportunities for all ages throughout 2020 had to be canceled. Presently we are now creating virtual programming to reach out and plan our 2021 year. So, we are actively seeking local artists since we want to add to the color and artistic vitality to South Amboy's downtown. We will be posting a 'Call for Artists' in January, please check our Facebook Page and the City's Website. Our website is being developed for future use of communication.

Center; Reiner's Hardware; DSI Designer Shirt Inc.; Dot's Luncheonette.

Sayreville-James Greenhaus Jewelry; Carriage House Manor; Club Bene; Morgan Lumber, Inc.; Morgan Frame Specialist Inc.; Amboy Multiplex Cinemas; Razz-Ma-Tazz; Peterpank Diner/Restaurant; Burlew's Fishery; Wood Chrysler-Plymouth.

*If anyone has photos of any of these businesses, and they would like to see printed in the upcoming issues of The SA Times, please contact us at: satimes@aol.com.

The Miraculous Prayer

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

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

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Growing Up In South Amboy: Baseball Cards

John "Flip" Phillip

Over the years I have written about the many things we did growing up in the Summer below the tracks. However, while sitting in my sunroom one afternoon, and looking out at the snow-covered golf course, something popped into my mind. Something that over the years I completely forgot...Baseball Cards: collecting, trading and just spending time putting teams together by position and player. It was a very good way to spend a rainy or boring day. The cards came in a pack of five and a couple of pieces of bubble gum, that we almost always threw away. I think the company that sold the cards was TOPPS. We always looked for the rare to find like Ted Williams, Joe DiMaggio, Stan Musial, Mickey Mantle, Willie Mays, Duke Snider, and other big stars. TOPPS always made sure that the most sought-after cards were available in limited quantity. We always needed the hard-to-get ones to complete a team. Why were they so hard to get? You had to buy more and hoped eventually you got lucky, and got the player you were looking for. If not, you kept buying and hoping. A good marketing strategy.

If you heard that somebody got a Mickey Mantle, Duke Snider or another hard-to-get card at a store in Melrose, or up by the Sacred Heart Church. You got on your bike and hustled with your nickel or dime to that store hoping to get lucky, before the card you were looking for was gone. It may sound ridiculous but believe me I did this, and I

was not the only one. Most of the guys my age did the same thing. It was a big deal if you had every player by position for the sixteen major league teams we had back then. There was always a big-name player or some other player I could not find, either through purchase or trade. But the search continued all through the Summer. Since we had three New York area teams back then: Yankees, Dodgers and NY Giants, priority one was to complete the roster for those teams. Most of us stored our cards in an empty cigar box with each team wrapped with a rubber band. I wish I had a few of those cards today. Some are probably worth big dollars. Oh well! Now I can add Baseball Card Collecting to the other activities that I have written about, that kept me occupied and out of trouble during those long, hot (no air conditioning) and sometimes boring summer days.

In 1953 when I was in the 7th grade, we moved to the new housing project, the Dohaneys Homes. Or better known as the Project. Around this time, I became "very interested" in basketball. So, I started to hang out in the Astarita store on Stevens Avenue, up by St Mary's, where I met and made new friends. Basketball was almost always being played at the old Tennis Courts on Augusta Street, and that is where I wanted to be. My Coal Docks, Raritan Bay, Back Field and Baseball Card collecting days were over. So, as one page in my growing up years in South Amboy was turned, another began.

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Happy Valentine's Day



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Sayreville Public Library Adult Programming

Contagious Optimism Wellness Group Virtual!
Feeling down or discouraged? Want to increase your positivity? You need The Contagious Optimism Wellness Group! Dr. Colleen Georges, author of the award-winning, best-selling RESCRIPT the Story You're Telling Yourself and co-author of Contagious Optimism, facilitates this monthly wellness group designed to help grow your optimism and your overall happiness. Join Dr. Georges on January 9, 2021 and the first Saturday of each month from 10:30am to 12noon.
Movement and Restoration Based Yoga Practice, Virtual: Have the pandemic and the holidays left you feeling stressed? Join Stephanie Barrios-Cullins for two classes offering restorative Yoga practice during January 2021! These events will be held on Monday, Jan. 11 & 28 from 6-7pm. Note:

Participants need a webcam to participate in this program.
Virtual Stitchers and Knitters Anonymous: Looking to share your passion for knitting and crocheting as well as meet a few new crafting buddies? Enjoy this opportunity to pick up a few new tips from fellow craft addicts at this low-key club for folks who know the basics, but want to take their addiction to a whole new level! Have your supplies and your current craft project ready and let the fun begin! This group is open to all residents, adults only please. We will be meeting virtually on Thursday Jan. 28, at 6:30PM. For more information, contact Aziza at 732-727-0212. We hope to see you there!
Register for any of these programs on the Sayreville Public Library Events Calendar on our website: <http://www.sayrevillelibrary.org> so we can send you the Zoom link.

Remember When?



1950's- Locomotives with passenger cars were a common everyday site at the John St. railroad crossing in South Amboy. The building to the left was the Raritan River Railroad office, and also in the same building was Joe Smokes Confectionery store and William Kurtz Insurance Agency. (Photo/info submitted)

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St. Stan's School

(Photos/Info Submitted)



Kindergarten student, Quinton Mount, learns how to program during Computer Science Education Week in December.



Eighth grade student, Elizabeth Bera, leads her fellow Religion Club students during the practice of their Virtual Christmas Show as moderator, Mrs. Lisa Grover, observes.



Novalie Torres, grade 4, adds her handmade ornament during the school's annual Jesse Tree Ceremony.

Christmastime 2020

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



Santa and Mrs. Claus are pictured with Jeff Schnitzer (r) and Cheryl McQuade (2nd from right) of the Sayreville Recreation Dept, as they greeted the drive-by visitors.



Christmas trees were lit up beautifully, around the school, rectory and church, at Our Lady of Victories in Sayreville, and were dedicated by parishioners to loved ones.



Our Lady of Victories Church is pictured at night during the Christmas season.



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

(Article submitted)

Morrill Worcester, owner of Worcester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine, was a 12 year old paper boy for the Bangor Daily News when he won a trip to Washington D.C. His first trip to our nation's capital was one he would never forget, and Arlington National Cemetery made an especially indelible impression on him. This experience followed him throughout his life and successful career, reminding him that his good fortune was due, in large part, to the values of this nation and the veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

In 1992, Worcester Wreath found themselves with a surplus of wreaths nearing the end of the holiday season. Remembering his boyhood experience at Arlington, Worcester realized he had an opportunity to honor our country's veterans. With the aid of Maine Senator Olympia Snowe, arrangements were made for the wreaths to be placed at Arlington in one of the older sections of the cemetery that had been receiving fewer visitors with each passing year. As plans were underway, a number of other individuals and organizations stepped up to help. James Prout, owner of local trucking company Blue Bird Ranch, Inc., generously provided transportation all the way to Virginia. Volunteers from the local American Legion and VFW Posts gathered with members of the community to decorate each wreath with traditional red, hand-tied bows. Members of the Maine State Society of Washington, D.C. helped to organize the wreath-laying, which included a special ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The annual tribute went on quietly for several years, until 2005, when a photo of the stones at Arlington, adorned with wreaths and covered in snow, circulated around the internet. Suddenly, the project received national attention. Thousands of requests poured in from all over the country from people wanting to help with Arlington, to emulate the Arlington project at their National and State cemeteries, or to simply share their stories and thank Morrill Worcester for honoring our nation's heroes. Unable to donate thousands of wreaths to each state, Worcester began sending seven wreaths to every state, one for each branch of the military, and for POW/MIAs. In 2006, with the help of the Civil Air Patrol and other civic organizations, simultaneous wreath-laying ceremonies were held at over 150 locations around the country. The Patriot Guard Riders volunteered as escort for the wreaths going to Arlington. This began the annual "Veterans Honor Parade" that travels the east coast in early December. The annual trip to Arlington and the groups of volunteers eager to participate in Worcester's simple wreath-laying event grew each year until it became clear the desire to remember and honor our country's fallen heroes was bigger than Arlington, and bigger than this one company. In 2007, the Worcester family, along with veterans, and other groups and individuals

who had helped with their annual veterans wreath ceremony in Arlington, formed Wreaths Across America, a non-profit 501-(c)(3) organization, to continue and expand this effort, and support other groups around the country who wanted to do the same. The mission of the group is simple: REMEMBER, HONOR, TEACH!

In 2008, over 300 locations held wreath-laying ceremonies in every state, Puerto Rico and 24 overseas cemeteries. Over 100,000 wreaths were placed on veterans' graves. Over 60,000 volunteers participated. And that year, December 13, 2008 was unanimously voted by the US Congress as "Wreaths Across America Day". In 2014, Wreaths Across America and its national network of volunteers laid over 700,000 memorial wreaths at 1,000 locations in the United States and beyond, including ceremonies at the Pearl Harbor Memorial, as well as Bunker Hill, Valley Forge and the sites of the September 11 tragedies. This was accomplished with help from 2,047 sponsorship groups, corporate contributions, and donations of trucking, shipping, and thousands of helping hands. The organization's goal of covering Arlington National Cemetery was met in 2014 with the placement of 226,525 wreaths. The wreath-laying is still held annually, on the second or third Saturday of December. WAA's annual pilgrimage from Harrington, Maine to Arlington National Cemetery has become known as the world's largest veterans' parade, stopping at schools, monuments, veterans' homes and communities all along the way to remind people how important it is to remember, honor and teach.

Wreaths Across America also conducts several programs to honor our veterans, including the popular "Thanks a Million" campaign which distributes cards to people all over the country to give veterans a simple "thank you" for their service. WAA participates in veterans' events throughout the year and has a veteran liaison on staff to work with local veteran's organizations.

WAA is committed to teaching younger generations about the value of their freedoms, and the importance of honoring those who sacrificed so much to protect those freedoms. The organization offers learning tools, interactive media projects, and opportunities for youth groups to participate in the events. They also work to create opportunities to connect "the Greatest Generation" with the "Generation of Hope", passing on inspirational stories from World War II veterans to the leaders of the future.

Wreaths Across America would not be successful without the help of volunteers, active organizations and the generosity of the trucking industry, which offer invaluable support to WAA's mission to remember the men and women who served our country, honor our military and their families, and teach our children about our freedom and those who protect it. There are many ways you can help—learn more about how you can get involved.



Irish Drive-Up Breakfast March 14

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 will have a drive-up Irish breakfast Sunday March 14 from 9 AM to 1 PM at the K of C parking lot at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. No need to get out of your

car. Members will be there to take your order and deliver it to your vehicle. Cost of \$10 includes eggs, bacon, sausage, and more. For more information call Gary at 732-512-8923 or Jan at 732-553-9060.

Faces, Lots and Lots of Faces

By Elaine Holton Scott

“Letters...we get letters...we get stacks and stacks of letters....,” went the jingle on Perry Como's show in the 1950's. Now, what all of us are getting are faces, lots and lots of faces from the overabundance of TV commercials on the originally claimed commercial-free TV. Faces staring straight into the camera; faces staring at something we cannot see; faces looking at each other; faces looking smug; faces looking happy; faces looking sad; faces looking stupid; faces trying to look smart; faces pretending they're not getting paid; faces looking surprised; faces looking relieved...and faces, well, just looking. These faces, white, black, brown, yellow, multi-mixed, all of which silently represent our much more open and accepting society, seem to be the current advertising theme in commercials. Some years ago, I had written that it was dancing because almost every single commercial had people dancing. Supposedly, everything they purchased made them so happy they would dance, but it never made any of us dance when we bought the same things. Now, it's usually people's faces, one after the other, promoting some product. Having all of these different faces looking every which away, often without saying a word, makes it easy to ignore what's being sold. I guess, we could say that commercials really have come “a long way, baby,” and the way has been downward in comparison to the ones of long ago.

Even before television sets became the most important possession, as well as a necessity, in every American household, commercials had been selling products on the radio for a very long time, just like it had been portrayed in the movie, Christmas Story. When our country's exploding economy had all males who were willing to work getting a paycheck after WWII and the Korean War, they were also put to work installing antennae on their rooftops. Those silver, spindly-legged monstrosities, usually crooked as all get out, began cropping up on rooftops faster than quickly growing weeds. Since TV viewing was free, no doubt something unbelievable to the Millennials and younger generations, commercials paid for all the shows, not the viewer. Actually, it's become even harder for those of us who are of a certain age to believe

no “Provider” bill had come each and every month back then. Some companies even sponsored certain TV shows, literally owning them. Dinah Shore singing, “See the USA in your Chevrolet; America's asking you to call.... So make a date today to see the USA in your Chevrolet...America's asking you to call...” was a good indication the latest model of Chevy had been the real star of her TV show which ran from late 1951 to 1954. For the “more mature” of us, those lyrics seem to be indelibly imprinted on our brain cells.

The 1970s and 1980s were decades for unforgettable product jingles. Who of us could ever forget the little boy singing, “I'd love to be an Oscar Meyer Wiener,” or “Hold the pickles; hold the lettuce; special orders don't upset us?” Then there was the young man dancing while singing, “I'm a Pepper; he's a Pepper; she's a Pepper. Wouldn't you like to be a Pepper, too?” and “Tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, peas...your mother says you gotta eat a lot of these.” When the commercials didn't have the jingles, they had many unforgettable slogans: “Bounty, the quicker picker upper;” “Please, don't squeeze the Charmin;” “I'd rather fight than switch;” “If my men don't wear English Leather, they wear nothing at all;” “Irish Spring...manly, yes, but I like it too;” “No thanks. I'd rather pick;” and “You can't fool Mother Nature.” The best of the best, though, hadn't been a jingle or a slogan. It was the powerful voice of a little white-haired, elderly lady “barking” loudly, “WHERE'S THE BEEF??!!”

So, let's knock off this “face thing” which floods our TV sets...and no more of the idiotic dancing either. Forget about the huge red bows on top of new cars popping up before every Christmas, too....enough is enough with that phoniness. Let's forget about commercials showing fake people, promoting products they probably never even used or will ever use. Instead, let's remind the cable companies about their old claims of “commercial-free” TV viewing, companies which are now responsible for the very high bills we get each month...currently providing us with faces, lots and lots of faces.

***An honorable mention goes to the Tidy Bowl Man.

Past Business



Checker's was located on Rt. 9 South in Sayreville for a couple years before going out of business. Checker's was famous for unique and scrumptious burgers. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Holiday Hope!



Santa Claus is pictured in front of this beautifully decorated house on Dayton St. in South Amboy. Note the star which was in a tree behind the home. Lori Latil and her fiance B.J. Blair proudly stated “The neighbors were really impressed with the star, and during these crazy times, it seemed to bring some Christmas joy to our neighborhood.” (Photo/info courtesy of Lori Latil)



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In the early morning hours of December 11th South Amboy First Aid ambulance 604 (The Doc) was struck by a deer on Rt 18, as it was coming back from RWJ Medical Center. Although damage was significant there were no injuries to crew members (except the deer). The ambulance was taken to and quickly fixed by Al's Auto Body in South Amboy. (Photo/info submitted)



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Jammin For Jaclyn

Odd One Out Productions and annual NJ based fundraiser for those battling cancer, Jammin for Jaclyn, announced the web release of their short documentary titled Jammin for Jaclyn on December 23rd, 2020 at 11am EST. The documentary follows Jammin for Jaclyn as they put on their annual benefit in 2019, featuring behind the scenes footage, interviews with the organizers, and clips of the performers. It tells the story of how this family run benefit in a small New Jersey town came to last over seven years and raised over \$185,000 for 8 families in their ongoing fights with cancer. The organization was originally established for local New Jersey resident, Jaclyn Squillace, who was diagnosed with stage three breast cancer while five months pregnant in 2014. Her brother, Michael Squillace, a professional multi-instrumentalist, along with her parents and co-founders, Denise and Ron Morgan, created

the annual event in order to raise funds for Jaclyn's many surgeries and treatments, but also to lift her spirits. As she went in and out of remission for several years, they continued to run the event for others fighting cancer in the community. The Jammin for Jaclyn family pride themselves on throwing a party for their beneficiaries while simultaneously raising large amounts of funds with the help of multiple live bands, over 60 eateries, and generous donors. The documentary is directed by Zachary Grullon, featuring a score by Jake Tavill and produced by Zachary Grullon, Lou Blackmon, and Michael Squillace. It will premiere on YouTube as a well as other web-based platforms. YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/ms8oKkZQ7OQ> Contact info: Michael Squillace – Co-Founder <https://www.jamminforjaclyn.org> jamminforjaclyn@gmail.com 732-525-9536.

Six Vintage Christmas Songs Hit Billboard’s Top 10

Every year around the Christmas/Holiday season, popular Christmas classics of the past begin to pop up on the Billboard Hot 100 chart, and for 2020, a record-breaking 39 holiday songs appeared on the magazine’s list. The songs climbed the chart as their popularity resurfaced through streaming, radio play, and digital sales. There were 6 songs that were previously released in past years that occupied the Top 10 at the same time, another record! The

songs and their ranking, and the year they initially hit the charts is as follows: 1-All I Want For Christmas Is You- Mariah Carey (1994); 2-Rockin’ Around The Christmas Tree- Brenda Lee (1958); 3-Jingle Bell Rock- Bobby Helms (1957); 4-A Holly Jolly Christmas- Burl Ives (1964); 5-It’s The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year- Andy Williams (1963); Feliz Navidad- Jose Feliciano (1970).

Dowdell Library

There are no winter blues around here! The Dowdell Library is still celebrating! Join us while we ring in the Chinese New Year through new virtual programs. Celebrate while Dennis and Maryanne cook up a tasty stir fry in the latest Test Kitchen episode. Then watch Ms. Maryanne read a story and create a Chinese Fan in a special two-part Storytime. Don’t forget to stop in the library starting on February 8th to pick up the take home fan craft so you can get crafty with Ms. Maryanne too!

The Library is launching into the remainder of the month with more new virtual programs! On February 18, 2021, The Mars Rover Perseverance will land on the surface of Mars. Stop by the library the week of the 16th to pick up a rocket take home craft. Then tune into Sadie’s Studio on YouTube with Ms. Laura to learn more about the Rover and make the rocket together! After making the craft, listen to an out-of-this-world tale during Storytime with Ms. Maryanne on YouTube! Follow us on social media and check out Dowdell.org to access all the fun activities and crafts for the month!

Don’t miss the new Teen Social Media challenge! You can choose from one of five categories, including a South Amboy category, and participate in our social media challenge! Those who complete the South Amboy category will be given credit for community service! Please take a picture and send your finished objective to comments@dowdell.org with your name and which category you chose. The Library will share your accomplishment on our Social Media pages! Each month will have a different set of objectives, and each teen will be able to choose more than one category to complete.

The New Year is often filled with the excitement of what's to come. Maybe you have decided to start a new hobby or try that new recipe, or maybe you're just looking forward to leaving 2020 behind. Let's take a moment to reflect on all the small things that brought us joy during such a trying year. Library Director Gaber stated, "After reading Brooks' uplifting Washington Post article on experiences that brought us joy in a tough

75 Years Ago . . . 1946 Sayreville

Ralph Merrett, Director of the Sayreville Lions Minstrel Show conducted a rehearsal at Hercules clubhouse . . . the Angels Society, as a body, received Holy Communion at Our Lady of Victories Church . . . South Amboy - St. Mary's Church revived "Night in Ireland" Parish Social, which was so

popular before the war. It was billed as a "gala parish get together." It included a dance and entertainment in the school hall, and a St. Patrick's Day game program in the Guild Hall. Irish music was provided by Walter Kross & his Orchestra, with Hank Leonard as vocalist. .

Bowie/Crosby Top Christmas Songs

By Tom Burkard

This was the first year I downloaded some of the greatest Christmas songs ever, actually 110 songs in total on my Facebook page, and the following is a list of the Top 21 most views/thumbs up they received from my many Facebook Friends.

1.The Little Drummer Boy-David Bowie/Bing Crosby 53; 2.The Bells of Saint Mary’s-Bing Crosby 48; 3.Mary Did You Know?-Kenny Rogers/Wynona Judd 43; 4.The Twelve Days of Christmas-Mitch Miller 23; 5.Rockin’ Around The Christmas Tree-Brenda Lee 20; 6.Silver Bells-Bing Crosby 18; 7.White Christmas-Bing Crosby/Frank Sinatra 17; 8.Where’s The Line To See Jesus?-Becky Kelly 17; 9.White Christmas-Bing Crosby 15; 10.Blue Christmas-Elvis

One Hit Wonders-50 Years Ago

1971-For The Good Times-Ray Price; Rose Garden-Lynn Anderson; Sweet Mary-Wadsworth Mansion; Me And Bobby McGee-Janis Joplin; Help Me Make It Through The Night-Sammi Smith; One Toke Over The Line-Brewer & Shipley; Stay Awhile-The Bells; Timothy-The Buoys; Put Your Hand In The Hand-Ocean; Chick-A-Boom (Don’t Ya Jes’ Love It)-Daddy Dewdrop; Here Comes The Sun-Richie Havens; Toast And Marmalade For Tea-Tin Tin; Funky Nassau-Part 1-Beginning Of The End; Rings-Cymarron; What The World Needs Now Is Love/Abraham, Martin And John-Tom Clay; Mr. Big Stuff-Jean Knight; Smiling Faces Sometimes-Undisputed Truth; Chirpy Chirpy Cheep Cheep-Mac & Katie Kissoon; Trapped By A Thing Called Love-Denise LaSalle; I’ve Found Someone Of My Own-Free Movement; Easy Loving-Freddie Hart; Desiderata-Les Crane.

You Tube-In

For all of you Bruce and Mrs. Springsteen fans out there, check out “The Boss” playing with the band Bleachers on the song “Chinatown.” “Mrs. Boss,” better known as Patti Scialfa, had her new album released last year with the song “You’re A Big Girl Now,” the top cut. We liked the Boss much better with his E-Street Band. What do you think about his performance with Bleachers? Let us know at: satimes@aol.com.

#1 Country Hits Jan. 23

2001-Born To Fly-Sara Evans
1991-Unanswered Prayers-Garth Brooks
1981-I Love A Rainy Night-Eddie Rabbitt
1971-Rose Garden-Lynn Anderson
1961-North To Alaska-Johnny Horton

Presley 13; 11.It’s The Most Wonderful Time of the Year-Andy Williams 13; 12.I’m Gettin’ Nuttin’ For Christmas-Shirley Temple 13; 13.Let It Be Christmas-Alan Jackson 12; 14.Snoopy’s Christmas-The Royal Guardsmen 12; 15.Little Saint Nick-The Beach Boys 11; 16.O’Holy Night-Celtic Women 11; 17.Christmas Time Is Here-Vince Guaraldi 11; 18.Driving Home For Christmas-Chris Rea 11; 19.The Christmas Song-Nat “King” Cole 10; 20.A Holly Jolly Christmas-Burl Ives 10; 21.Ring Christmas Bells-The Ray Conniff Singers.

*A special thank you to all my Facebook Friends who took the time to watch the videos and enjoy the Christmas music!



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80’s TV Stars With One Hit Wonder Songs

John Schneider-Dukes of Hazard-It’s Now or Never-#14 in 1981...Jack Wagner-General Hospital-All I Need-#2 in 1985... Don Johnson-Miami Vice-Heartbeat-#5 in 1986...Bruce Willis-Moonlighting-Respect Yourself-#5 in 1987.

#1 Pop Hits-Jan. 23

2000-What A Girl Wants-Christina Aguilera
1990-How Am I Supposed To Live Without You-Michael Bolton
1980-Rock With You-Michael Jackson
1970-Raindrops Keep Fallin’ On My Head-B.J. Thomas
1960-Running Bear-Johnny Preston



By Tom Burkard

Little/Big

1. Just A Little

2. A Little Bit Of Soap

3. Little Bit Of Soul

4. Big Girls Don't Cry

5. Little Girl

6. Big Time

7. I Say A Little Prayer

8. Big Shot

9. Mr. Big Stuff

10. Biggest Part Of Me

a. Jean Knight

b. The Syndicate Of Sound

c. The Four Seasons

d. Peter Gabriel

e. The Jarmels

f. Ambrosia

g. The Beau Brummels

h. The Music Explosion

i. Billy Joel

j. Dionne Warwick

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

School Sports

By Tom Burkard



Congratulations to the South Amboy High School Cross Country team members for being awarded GMC All Division honors for the 2020 season. Pictured (l-r) Neftali Rodriguez, Joe Jamolawicz, Rafael Albarran, Guinevere Kennedy. (Photo/info submitted)

Simmon 1st Team All-Middlesex Pick

In the Home News Tribune 2020 All-Middlesex County Football Team selections, Javiion Simmon, talented punter for Sayreville was a 1st Team choice. He averaged 36 yards punting, with the longest being 55 yards. He also placed 5 inside the 20. Simmon also excelled on defense, where he recorded 20 tackles and blocked a kick. The versatile athlete rushed for 141 yards and 3 touchdowns, and on returns, notched 257 yards and a TD.

Second Team selections were offense-Zach Zebro, fine quarterback for East Brunswick, whose parents are from South Amboy; defense-linebackerRodney Acquah and defensive back Janiel Taveras both of Sayreville. Honorable Mention-DL/OL-Jalen Roman, OL/DL Ryan Bouchard; OL/DL-Michael Steiner. All 3 played for the Bombers of Sayreville. Congratulations to all on a fine season!

Zebro Wins Prestigious Award

Zach Zebro, standout quarterback for the East Brunswick Bears football team captured the 2020 Borden’s Baller of the Year Award, out-distancing 20 other top players from Middlesex County high schools. The players were initially nominated by former East Brunswick legendary football coach Marcus Borden, a hall-of-famer, and the online voting was open. A total of 98,158 total votes came in from the public, and Zebro notched an incredible 41,311 votes or 42% of the votes.

Zebro was not only a threat passing, but

Locals In Pro Basketball

Jehyve Floyd (Sayreville) is having a fine season playing for Gilboa-Galil in the Israel Winner League. He is averaging 12.1 ppg., 8.7 rpg., 1.9 apg...Marques Townes (Cardinal McCarrick/St. Joseph’s) plays for Liga-Endesa in the Spain League, and is averaging 1.5 ppg., 0.5 rpg., and 0.4 apg.

LETTERS

Letter to the Editor,

Tommy Furia from 5th Street in South Amboy, my cousin Jill’s husband, had to be a nit picker about my claiming I was 22 years old in 1972, in December’s story, “The Sweetest Christmas Memories.” Once, long ago, in a story I had written called,” Don’t Ask; Don’t Tell,” I wrote that I wish I had a dime for all the times I fibbed about my age... but not this time. My own brain fibbed without my knowledge. Ah, but Tommy wasn’t the only one who made sure this “error” was brought to my attention. My personal friend, Mike Feher, an engineer who had worked 50 years for our Defense Department, quickly told me about it too. I would lay a heavy bet many of my classmates and “old” friends noticed it, too. So, how old was I when I made that Fruitcake?? Well, I plead the 5th because my lips are sealed.

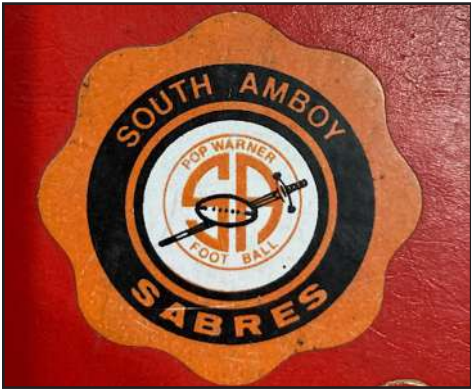
Elaine Holton Scott
The SA Times Feature Writer
(Formerly of South Amboy/Parlin)



LETTERS
LETTERS
LETTERS

The Hartsfield Watch

Myles Hartsfield (Sayreville) played the entire NFL season for the Carolina Panthers, who finished (5-11-1). The defensive back/safety finished with 9 solo tackles, 5 assisted tackles, and recovered 2 fumbles.



Did You Know?

The South Amboy Sabres Pop Warner football team was organized in 1960-61 by Russell Hahn, Robert Eppinger and George Stader. The Sabres first official game was played in 1962.

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The Smoke Column

By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski, BA, MS
The Dangers of Car Fires Part 1

Ever since Henry Ford introduced the Model A to the motoring public in 1903, firefighters have been extinguishing car fires. Throughout the years these fires have become more difficult to extinguish because of the 21st century materials used in their manufacturing. Early automobiles consisted of a gasoline engine, some electrical wiring, cotton/wool fabrics used in the passenger compartment for seats and carpeting, rubber tires, and a gasoline tank located under the trunk. Fighting a fire in this type of vehicle was pretty much standard. When applying water from a safe distance to the burning material, the fire was extinguished. Caution had to be taken to avoid the metal gas tank from catching fire and exploding. But, if the fire was kept away from the gas tank and it was kept cool, there was little threat of a gas tank fire. After applying copious amounts of water to the burning material, the fire would go out! Problem solved.

Today’s vehicles can cause a multitude of problems for firefighters due to the materials used in manufacturing. This includes the placement of safety equipment, namely airbags, in various locations throughout the vehicle. It is almost impossible to keep abreast of the airbag locations because every make and model may change these locations with each new model year.

Forty/fifty years ago, vehicle fires were fought using the reeled red booster hose-line which supplied between 35 and 50 gallons per minute. That amount of water was sufficient to extinguish a vehicle fire containing the above mentioned materials. The basic material used in the passenger compartment in today’s vehicles is mostly polyurethane foams in one form or another. These foams are used for the interior finish, the seats, headliners, dashboards, doors, windows, arm rests, and carpeting. These foams may also be used in the manufacturing of fenders, bumpers, and

other exterior parts. Push against a newer car fender or bumper, you will notice that there is some give. As you apply pressure to a fender and it bends inward, release the pressure and it will return to its normal shape. It is made of plastic!

This type of material is beneficial because most dents can easily return to their normal shape and position and is a big saving on insurance. But unfortunately, when these vehicles catch on fire there is nothing left but a pile of melted plastic and the vehicle is totaled. Most all vehicle fires result in the vehicle being totaled.

The problem that firefighters face in these situations is that the burning plastics release toxic fumes and smoke. As most firefighters already know, toxic smoke can cause a multitude of cancers and a burning vehicle releases many unknown carcinogenic compounds. They also produce a high heat when burning, in some cases the temperature of burning plastic can reach upward of 15000 F.

The idea of the energy absorbing bumpers used in cars in the 70’s and 80’s saved many a bumper from needless replacement. These bumpers worked like a shock absorber where the bumper pistons would absorb the shock of being hit and minimize and denting of the bumper. But, when these pistons were exposed to high heat, they would explode and randomly send the parts in all directions with missile speeds. There was no pre-warning when this would occur nor was there time to react. The only warning is that the vehicle was on fire. Firefighters could be severely injured or even killed from one of the flying pistons. These types of struts/pistons are also used in the trunk/hatch and hood assemblies and contain compressed gas at 1500 pounds per square inch.

Part 2
will appear next month







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The
Spinal
Column
By
Dr. John Misiewicz

Cold Weather Exercise

Exercising outdoors in cold weather can be exhilarating. Even if skiing isn't your all-time favorite sport, you can have just as much fun running, cycling, or walking in winter time. Winter sunlight can revive your spirits, and exercise in the cool, crisp air can relieve the stress and tension related to the busy holidays.

There are special considerations to remember for cold-weather exercise:

Athletes may not be aware of the loss of fluids in cold weather, but the loss is real and potentially dangerous. Athletes have similar hydration needs year round, but many of them simply don't drink enough fluids during the winter months. Sports nutrition experts advise athletes to drink about one quart of non-caffeinated fluids for every 1,000 calories expended each day. "Drink two cups of fluid two hours before exercise and least 4-6 ounces of fluid every 15-20 minutes during exercise."

Don't overdose. Exercise raises body temperatures significantly and even a moderate workout can make you feel as if it's 30 degrees warmer. The answer to this is wearing several layers of loose-fitting thin layers of clothes.

The first layer should be thermal underwear made of a fabric that draws perspiration away from your body. That layer should not be cotton, as cotton holds moisture next to your skin and makes you feel cold and clammy.

Your middle layer should be a synthetic turtleneck and wool swather. Sweat pants or Lycra tights worn over thermals will help keep your legs warm. If precipitation is evident, your outer jacket should be waterproof, wind-resistant, yet breathable. Or for a short workout in dry weather, just an ordinary windbreaker would be suitable.

Zipppers make clothes more adaptable for controlling the amount of air you let in or for removing quickly. Mittens are warmer than gloves. Fingers resting against each other stay warmer than fingers separated by the added air surface between the fingers of gloves.

Headgear is important since you lose so much heat through your head. Be sure to wear good running shoes, with enough support and cushion.

Fishing Flashes

By Teo "Weebles" Weber



Salt Water

It is the Weeblemeister once again wishing you a great 2021 fishing year! The bays and rivers are closed until March for Striped Bass and Flounder. It is just as well, as the few people fishing had nothing when I checked some of the areas on the Bay. You can still fish in the ocean legally. The recent snowstorm killed whatever fishing there was at Island Beach. After the storm on LBI south areas, a few Stripers were caught. If you want to try your luck at fishing it, it might be worth a try. Bass are all back areas in Barnegat bay, but that is closed as of now. Party and charter boats that work at it are catching Blackfish and some are nice sized. A new state record has been set for Blackfish. One was caught from a charter boat, weighing in over 25 pounds. No Mackerel so far at this time.

Fresh Water

Due to the recent snowstorm and heavy rains, there has been no ice fishing or any safe ice as of now. Holdover Trout are a possibility but most rivers, lakes and streams are high and swollen. Conditions do not seem to be safe at this time. My advice is to wait until things settle down a bit before heading out. The Delaware River is still very high too.

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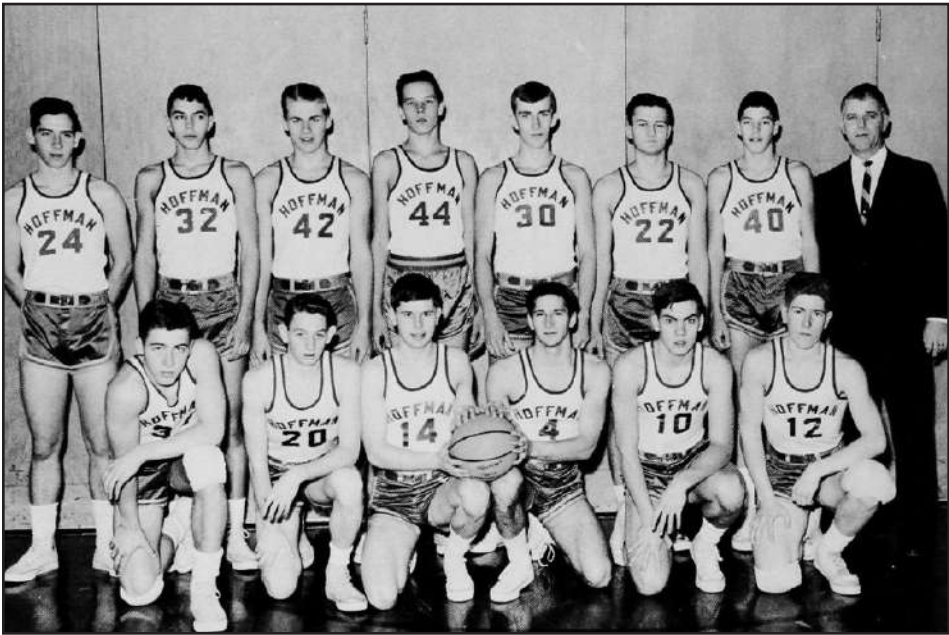
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The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

From The Sports Archives



1964-65 Hoffman boys varsity basketball team featured top row (l-r) Harold Dennen, Bill Keegan, Edwin Witkowski, Don Baranowski, John Jankowski, Bob Keegan, Coach Jim Croddick. Bottom row (l-r) Curt Wood, Leo Dohan, Ed Szatkowski, Rich Gunther, Tony Pelican, Billy Clayton.



1964-65 Hoffman varsity cheerleaders front Carol Selover, Donna Scully. 2nd row (l-r) Chris Baranowski, Linda Griffin, Loretta Douglas, Joyce Letts. Top of pyramid Claire Kierst, Carol Malinowski.

Glory Days In Local Sports

1962-63-St. Mary's blasted Perth Amboy St. Mary's, 76-55 in hoops play. Tom Farrell burned the nets for 23 points, Jay Derent 11, Jack Kreiger 10 points, and a school record of 14 assists...1979-Bill Lewis hit the game-winning free throw with 0:06 left to give Hoffman a thrilling 61-60 victory over Montgomery. Frank Kuziemski led the scoring attack with 22 points, Lewis had 15, 11 in the 4th quarter, and Jim Bright added 10...

1984-Sayreville girls basketball squad slammed South Brunswick, 72-43. Kate Briody scored 14 points, Caryn Lukie 12, and Terry Lockwood 12 points, while hauling down 18 rebounds...1991-Scott Mish scored

a clutch touchdown and 2 extra points to give Sayreville a thrilling 15-12 comeback victory over Piscataway. Eric Warden scored the first Bomber TD, and Tom Roberts kicked the extra point...2005-06 Cardinal McCarrick junior basketball superstar Vincente Rosario captured the Middlesex County scoring title with 825 points and a 29.4 avg. He also set a new county record by firing in 131 three-pointers for the season...2012-South Amboy boys basketball nipped Kearny 47-46, as Joe Fruncillo hit the game-winning free throw with 0:05 left to play. He finished the game with 10 points and 20 rebounds, while teammate Steve Herdman captured scoring laurels with 14 points.

Memorable Moments In Local Sports

85 Years Ago...1936-Hoffman's basketball club, under the leadership of Coach Eugene "Jimmy" Dobrzynski, captured the CJ Group II championship by pounding Princeton. 33-24. Lewandowski was top scorer with 10 points, followed by Jensen 7, Pete Pavich 6. Henry Conroy 6. Lagoda 4. Nicorvo 0. Cranford eliminated Hoffman. 41-24 in the state semis, despite 7 points from Jim Roberts...

72 Years Ago... July 18, 1949-The City of South Amboy held "Allie Clark Day" at Yankee Stadium. 1,500 residents, who were all Ailie Clark fans, attended. He received many beautiful gifts, but probably the most memorable was the blank check he was presented, to pay for furniture in his new home. Clark was a member of the Cleveland Indians at the time...

65 Years Ago... 1956-Sayreville topped Carteret. 4-0. as Bob Witkowski pitched his fourth O-hitter of the season. He struck out 8. Vince Chitren went 2 for 2 with an rbi...

50 Years Ago... 1971-In a City Series basketball thriller between St. Mary's and Hoffman, George Krzyzanowski missed a jumper with 10 seconds remaining, but got the rebound and scored the game winning basket with 0:06 left, to give the Eagles a nerve

wracking, 78-76 win over the previously unbeaten Governors. Krzyzanowski had a huge game with 29 points and 21 rebounds, and teammate Jay Thomas tossed in 15 markers. Ron Croddick fired in 22 points, and Gary Lange 17 for Hoffman...

50 Years Ago...1971- Coach John Zdanewicz' baseball team downed Henry Hudson. 8- 0 to capture the CJ Group 1 championship. Gary Lange picked up the victory with the masterful shutout. Center fielder, Mark Abbatiello made two catches, which in Zdanewicz' words were "two of the best defensive catches I've ever seen in my life."

35 Years Ago... 1986-The Hoffman girls Softball squad blasted Pompton Lakes, 10-2, to win the Group I state championship. Dawn Kaiser was the winning pitcher, and finished the season with a perfect (19-0) record. The Lady Guvs under Coach Rich Klein turned in an outstanding (26-2) mark...

35 Years Ago...1986-The Sayreville baseball nine defeated Piscataway, 5-1, to capture its first CJ Group IV championship since 1974.



15 Years Ago...

2006-Sayreville wrestlers copped their first District title in school history. Coach John Denuto's team had the following champions in the District: (125) Eric Tsang, (140) Scott Poore, (145) Tom Danielsen, (171) Mike Velardi.

30 Years Ago...

1991-Larry's Appliances captured the South Amboy Men's Senior Basketball League championship, by winning the best-of-three series over Magoo's. The champs were led by Ken Palczewski who averaged 21.7 points per game, and 9 rebounds per game. Jim McCloud poured in 16.7 ppg., George Krzyzanowski 8.7 ppg., and 7.7 rebounds, Wayne Kreiger 8.3, to lead the scoring for Player/Coach Sonny Sabine's squad. Also contributing for the winners were Robert Mendez, Eric Veit, Tom Bailey, Ed Barcellona, Buddy Brodzinski, and Sabine. The top scorers on Magoo's were Dave Kilpatrick 17 ppg., Marvin Wood 13.3 ppg., Jim Daly 12.7 ppg. Their leading rebounder was Gary Jablonski with 7.7 per game. Other members of Magoo's were Tom Thomson, Randy Kazmir, and Rudy Mann.

75 Years Ago...

1946-St. Mary's boys basketball team topped Hoffman, 45-37 in a game played at the Perth Amboy HS court before 1,200 fans. Reggie Carney and Dan Fuller led the Saints with 16 and 10 points respectively, while Jim Croddick paced the Guvs with 16 points. Bill Kennedy added 7, Jack Massing 6, and Leon Kedzierski 6 for the Eagles, while George Munck scored 6, Render 6, Stan Kowaleski 6 and Doukas 3 for Hoffman.

City Series-90 Years Ago

Friday, February 13.1931-Friday the 13th turned out to be a fine night for St. Mary's boys basketball team, as they downed cross-town rivals, South Amboy. 23-17 in City Series action. Joe McGonigle of the Saints led all scorers with 6 points.

The Boxscore:

St. Mary's 23
Joe McGonigle 6, Cleary 5 Nebus 4 Dowling 2 Conway 2 Bulman 2 Fleming 2 Jaskowiak 0 Hensberger 0 Kolodziejewski 0.
South Amboy 17
Nicorvo 5 Johnson 4 Roxbury 4 Colucci 4 Inman 0 Goldstein 0 Check 0 Masterson 0.

South Amboy Men's Senior Basketball League Teams

1975-76 Season-Vince's Rental; Roddy's Tavern; Phillip's Association; Colonel's Garter; Budweiser A.C.; Bottle Stop; Bucks A.A.; English's; Mystic Knights; Kavemen; Halfway House; Kare Paints; Midgets; Bobby G.'s; South Amboy A.A.; Alumni.



Don Czok Sr. Dies At 95

Sayreville HS star athlete from the 1940's Don "Mickey" Czok, died at 95 years old in Barre, Vermont on December 25th. After his high school graduation in '44, he served in the U.S. Navy, and then went on to Panzer College, where he graduated in 1952, with a B.S. degree in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. While living in N.J., he taught and coached baseball at St. Mary's H.S. in the early 1950's, and also taught at East Brunswick Twp. School District, Red Bank Catholic HS, Raritan Twp. HS. Don moved to Vermont in '68, and became athletic director/Driver's Education teacher at Spaulding HS. He retired as assistant principal in 1990. He was a talented pitcher at Sayreville HS, but never achieved his dream of playing in Major League Baseball because of a knee injury suffered in the service.

T.H.E. Game

Year-1987

Sport-Girls Basketball

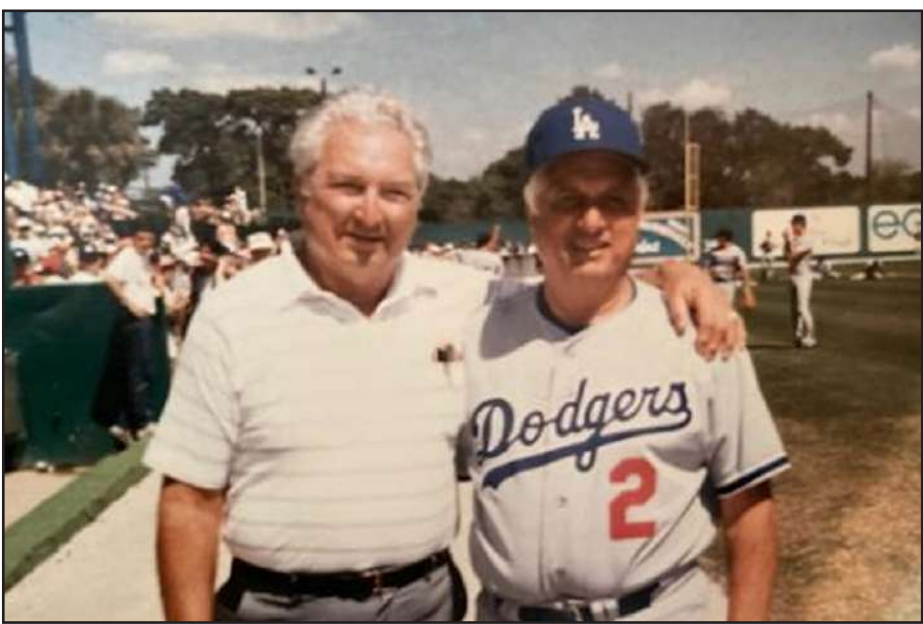
Teams-Hoffman (29-0) vs. Waldwick (25-2) for the NJSIAA Group 1 State Championship

Recap-Hoffman annihilated Waldwick, 73-29, to finish their second consecutive perfect season with a (30-0) record, and capture another state championship. MVP Lynn Ust poured in 28 points, had 3 blocks and 2 steals, and had plenty of help from Krissy Kuziemski 17 points, Tricia Popowski 9. Also contributing were Jenny Kuziemski, Lisa Smith, Renee Bialoblocki, Chris Noble, Zulin, Lorraine McNerny. Coach Reggie Carney's champions led 13-6 after one quarter, 32-12 at the half, and 58-19 after the 3rd quarter. In addition to the standout offense, the Lady Guvs defense was awesome, as they pressured Waldwick into 34 turnovers. **Player-of-the-Game**-Lynn Ust, Hoffman.

Athletes 1966-1970 Sayreville War Memorial High School

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Joe Gabel, Class of 1970
Email: joeg6398@gmail.com



Many years ago, South Amboy's Allie Clark (l) visited with his former Winter Baseball League teammate/friend Tommy LaSorda (r) at Spring Training in Florida. LaSorda managed the Los Angeles Dodgers for many years and was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown. LaSorda died Jan. 7 at age 93. (Photo submitted).

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God Break

by Al Gomolka Jr.
Times Poet Laureate
c. 1995

Timeout!
Hold Your Horses!
Chill out!
Calm down!
Count to 10!
Take a God-Break
Bills to pay,
important dates
Driving everyone
everywhere
Doctors, lawyers,
taxes, crime
Take a God-Break
Demands,
demands,
work, children, spouse
Confusion,
agitation
disillusion
Take a God-Break
Headache,
worry, turmoil
Uncertain,
unsafe, undone
Take a God-Break
Soothe, restore, heal
Close your eyes
In the light of your mind,
whisper;
"Please God?
thank you, God!"
That's the God-Break.

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

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

Another New Year... Vaccines & Hope

By Tom Burkard
c.2021

Another New Year
And Co-Vid
is still here
Isn't it strange
Seems like
the whole world
Has changed
Vaccines are out there
And people
praying everywhere
That they find a cure
Make the
world healthy
Like it was before
That's for sure
You gotta
have hope
So they say
Leave it in
God's hands
And don't
forget to pray.

Wreaths Across America Held

(Article submitted)

On a frigid Saturday morning with temperatures hovering in the 20's and eight inches of snow on the ground, a "Wreaths Across America" ceremony was held at the Sacred Heart Cemetery. The ceremony was led by Jeff Pawlowski of the South Amboy-Sayreville Rotary Club and in conjunction with the American Legion Lenape Post 211 Honor Guard of Sayreville. This ceremony began at exactly noon in conjunction with over 2000 other "Wreaths Across America" ceremonies being conducted simultaneously across the entire country including at the Tomb of The Unknown Soldier in Washington, D.C. and the graves of our

fallen heroes at Arlington National Cemetery. A short program was read by Jeff Pawlowski and followed by the American Legion Honor Guard firing of weapons and the playing of Taps for the honored dead. Afterward, everyone grabbed an armful of wreaths and trudged throughout the cemetery snow placing a wreath on a veteran's gravesite until they were all placed. Once the wreath was placed on the veteran's grave, the veteran's name was to be called out in recognition of their service to our country. The donated wreaths are from the Worcester Wreath Company in Harrington, Maine.



Wreaths containing a flag for each branch of the military lay in wait in preparation of the ceremony



American Legion Past Commander Rich Kosmoski places a ceremonial wreath at his father's grave, Ambrose Kosmoski, a World War II Army Air Corp Veteran. (Photos submitted)



Middlesex College Creating Apprenticeship Opportunities in Advanced Manufacturing

Middlesex College is developing apprenticeship opportunities in Advanced Manufacturing through Career Advance USA, a U.S. Department of Labor-funded grant. Apprenticeships, developed and implemented in collaboration with employers, are earn-and-learn programs that combine formal classroom learning with on-the-job training.

For those seeking good jobs in this industry, apprenticeships are a viable entryway.

"Start your path to a rewarding career," said John Miller, program manager.

Those interested in the program should register for a virtual information session at middlesexcc.edu/manufacturing-apprenticeships. They will be held over Zoom at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays: February 9, March 9, April 13 and May 11.

Miller said the College is also looking for

employers interested in developing excellent workers.

"Middlesex will partner with employers who can benefit from these resources to assess and improve their entry-level worker abilities and support the recruitment and hiring of effective, long-term employees," he said. "We can also help you customize apprenticeship readiness training to prepare potential employees specifically for your workplace. Let's set up a time to discuss your needs. We can help!"

For further information about the Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship grant and how to participate, please visit the Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Program website: middlesexcc.edu/manufacturing-apprenticeships or contact Yarelis Figueroa, yfigueroa@middlesexcc.edu or John Miller, jsmiller@middlesexcc.edu.

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.L. & L.F...

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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

Lois Larkin Honored By Fire Department

(Article/Photos submitted)



Pictured are Lois Larkin, with members of Independence Engine & Hose Co.



Pictured back (l-r) Lois Larkin, Fire Chief Bob O'Connor, 2nd Assistant Fire Chief Dave Szatkowski. (Kneeling front left is Independence Fire Co. President/Ex-Chief Mike Toth.

On December 20th, members of the South Amboy Fire Department gathered at the home of Firefighter Lois Larkin for her retirement, to show their appreciation for her 28 years of service as the Department Record Secretary.

Lois was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a plaque from Independence Fire Co., and a gift certificate from Fire Chief Bob O'Connor.

Lois's volunteer career began in 1987, when after many years of helping around the firehouse, cleaning the fire engine, and helping with company fundraisers, the members approached her and said she should become a member. So she became South Amboy's first female firefighter, following after her husband Jimmy into the Independence Engine and Hose Co.

In 1992 Chief Chuck Pickard asked

Lois to be the department record secretary. This job entails collecting and entering all department fire reports into the State of New Jersey Division of Fire system and to keep an accurate count on fire runs during the year and provide the chief's report. Lois would also provide members with letters of membership when needed. Lois was always willing to assist any member. These were no easy tasks. Tracking down missing reports and then deciphering some very bad handwriting was a challenge. Lois performed this job so well that the next 27 fire chiefs appointed her as Department Record Secretary.

After 28 years and new systems and technology, Lois felt it was time to pass the torch to someone else. She has enjoyed working with many chiefs and members through the years, and thanked all for the show of affection and support.

YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy to Open Day Camp June 21

Programming to keep kids exploring and learning all summer long

The YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy will open its summer day camp for the season beginning June 21st.

Summer is the ideal time for kids to get up, get out and explore, and this is especially true this summer, following several months of quarantining, explains Rose Cushing, President & CEO. "The social, emotional and physical benefits camp provides are going to be more beneficial in 2021 than ever before, and we're thrilled to be able to open and to help children get active and make connections with friends both old and new." In addition to their traditional programming, this year the Y is offering academic support options to address learning loss that may have occurred during the 2020-2021 school year. Registration begins February 1st and there is an Early Bird Special for those families

who register before March 1st.

While campers and parents can expect to see continued compliance with all safety guidelines provided by state and local health departments, the benefits of camp remain constant. "Safety has always been our top priority at YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy and while COVID-19 is unlike any other challenge we've faced, we're confident that by following guidelines set forth by YMCA of the USA, American Camp Association, CDC and state and local authorities, we will be able to provide kids with a safe, beneficial and memorable experience like no other" said Cushing.

For additional information including registration and scholarship information, please visit www.ymcaofmews.org/camp.





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In Memoriam

Stella Doughty, 86, of Sayreville died on Dec. 3. She worked at her family’s business, Benny’s Tavern in Sayreville before retiring. She was also very active at St. Stan’s Church. Paul Gulick, 68, of South Amboy died on Dec. 11. Paul was a 4th Degree member and Past Grand Knight of the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426. He was a St. Mary’s HS graduate in the Class of ‘70, and a really good guy who will always be remembered. Stephen Kelly, 74, of Parlin died on Dec.15. He was the owner of SPK Services. Rose Marie Callahan Nafus, 82, of Sayreville died on Dec. 19. She was a clerk for the Borough of Sayreville, and very active in the Columbiettes, holding various offices at the local, state, and chapter levels. She was also a member of many Sayreville organizations, and gave her time and talents to each one. Chester Zonak, 87, of Parlin died on Dec. 24. He served in the United States Marine Corps, and before his retirement, he was a manager at Foodtown in South Amboy. Elizabeth “Betty” O’Leary, 98, of Parlin died on Dec. 27. She was an active charter member of the Messiah Lutheran Church in Parlin, where she played organ, and acted as secretary. In addition, she was on the church council and also taught Sunday School for many years. Joseph Kelly, 73, of Sayreville died on Jan. 2. He was employed by the Sayreville Police Dept. for over 35 years, and was a Past Ranger Master. He later worked for Spezzi Funeral Home for 15 years. Gregory “Don” Dwyer, 82, of Sayreville died on Jan. 13. He was a lector at Our Lady of Victories Church; past president of OLV HSA; started the OLV Saturday morning bowling league; coached Little League baseball teams over 20 years, and led the Sayreville Hardware team to several league titles; was the distinctive “voice of Sayreville Leprechauns football team for over 20 years.

Joanne Knable Ust

Joanne Knable Ust, 76, of South Amboy died on Wednesday January 6, 2021 at Bayshore Community Hospital, Holmdel. Born in Newark she moved to Sayreville before settling in South Amboy. A member of St. Mary’s R.C. Church, South Amboy, was an exceptional athlete who hit a grand slam home run in addition to being a hole-in-one golfer. Before retiring she was employed by FoodTown, South Amboy. She was passionate about gardening, was a talented baker and an amazing cook. She loved to travel and spend time with her family and was a proud Mema to her grandchildren.

Daughter of the late John and Anna Michalik Knable she is also predeceased by her brother John Knable and her sisters-in-law Dorothy Knable and Betty Jane Semenza. She is survived by her husband of 55 years Alexander Ust, Sr.; her children Alexander Ust, Jr. and his wife Barbara, Lynn Ust, Barbara Ann Tooker and her husband Ryan and Jeffrey Ust; her grandchildren Alexander, III, Emily and



Jeannie Ust and Benjamin, Brody, Brielle and Brynn Tooker; her siblings Ronnie Knable and his wife Benita, Tony Knable and his wife Joanne, Tom and his wife Judy, Mike Knable, Susan Coughlin and her husband Walter Barbour, Eileen Marino and her husband Jerry, Patricia Knable and her husband Andy Kurnava, Mary Cuomo and her husband Bob and Linda Stalgaitis; her brothers-in-law Paul J. Ust, Jr. and his wife Paula and Daniel Ust and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on January 12, 2021 at 8:45am from The Gundrum Service “Home For Funerals” 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by a 9:30am Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary’s Church. Interment was at Christ Church Cemetery, South Amboy. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Mary’s Food Pantry, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879 or St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.


Prayer to St. Therese
St. Therese, the little Flower, please pick me a rose from the Heavenly Garden and send it to me with a message of love. Ask God to grant me the favor I thee implore and tell him I will love him each day more and more. -M.S..

Prayer to St. Gerard
O good St Gerard, powerful intercessor before God and wonder worker of our day, confidently I call upon you and seek your aid. On Earth you always fulfilled God’s designs, help me now to do the holy will of God. Implore the Master of Life, from whom all paternity proceeds, to render me fruitful in offspring, that I may raise up children to God in this life, and in the world to come, heirs to the Kingdom of His Glory. Amen.. S.P. & M.W.

Dorothy Zajak Jesberger
January 28, 1940 - February 2, 2000

*I feel a warmth around me,
like your presence is so near.
And I close my eyes to visualize
your face when you were here.
I adored the times we spent together,
and they are locked inside my heart
As long as I have those memories
we will never be apart.
Even though we cannot speak anymore,
your voice is always there,
because every night before I sleep,
I have you in my prayers.*

Your Loving Family




**21
Years
In Heaven**

Robert D. Masterson

Robert D. “Bob” Masterson, 68, of South Amboy died on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick. Born in South Amboy, he lived there all his life. A veteran of the Air National Guard he was employed by the Middlesex County Department of Labor. A member of St. Mary’s R.C. Church, South Amboy, he was a longtime member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, where he was named Hibernian of the Year in 2017. He was a member of the Col. D.B. Kelly Pipes and Drums, the St. Stephen’s Lodge 63 F&AM and Cub Scout Pack 391/99.

Son of the late William and Mary Carbone Masterson he is survived by his wife of 47 years Gloria Jeannette Masterson;



his sons Richard Masterson and his fiancée Sara Wood and Ryan Masterson and his wife Renee, Robert Masterson, II and Ross Masterson; his brother William P. Masterson and his wife Carol and his grandchildren Maddux, Mickey, Emily, Landon, Harden, Isaac, Johnathan and Kaileigh.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday January 19, 2021 at 8:45am from The Gundrum Service “Home For Funerals” 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by a 9:30am Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary’s Church. Interment was at Christ Church Cemetery, South Amboy. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to The Ancient Order of Hibernians, 271 Second Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879.

FRANK J. OSTROWSKI

Frank Ostrowski, 99, longtime Upper Main Street resident of South Amboy, peacefully passed away on December 20 at The Willows in Holmdel, his home for the last 12 years. He was predeceased by his wife Mary (Dolly Sobczak), and son Gregory, of Holmdel. He is survived by

his son Mark (Debra) of Timonium, MD, daughter-in-law Karen (Patella), seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, cousins, nieces and nephews. He was a long-time and dedicated member of Sacred Heart Church. A complete obituary is available at www.spezzifuneralhome.com.

Chester E. Burkhardt

Chester E. Burkhardt, 70, of South Amboy died on Wednesday January 13, 2021 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Old Bridge. Born in East Orange he grew up in Nutley before settling in South Amboy. Chet was a member of the Irish American Association. He was a devoted father and husband who enjoyed spending time floating at the beach.

Son of the late Chester and Muriel Evers Burkhardt he is also predeceased by his son Robert Joseph Burkhardt. He is survived by his wife Marianne Szraga Burkhardt;

his son David Joseph Burkhardt; his sister and brother-in-law Janice and John Torvi and many nieces, nephews and wonderful friends and family.

Cremation was private under the direction of The Gundrum Service “Home For Funerals” 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy. A celebration of life will be held at a later date when we can safely get together with our family and friends. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Friends of South Amboy, 329 Cedar Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879.

Obituaries

Aceta, Shirley V., 86, of South Amboy died on Jan. 8.

Balabas, Anna R., 90, of Sayreville died on Jan. 7.

Bath, Clara R., 78, of South Amboy died on Dec. 17.

Besso, Margaret C., 93, of Parlin died on Jan. 5.

Bialoblocki, Mary Ellen Jankowski, 77, of South Amboy died on Dec. 31.

Bodak, Marie Novak, 99, of Sayreville died on Dec. 13.

Burkhart, Chester E., 70, of South Amboy died on Jan. 13.

Candelora, Rocco T., 92, of Parlin died on Dec. 30.

Caravella, Vincent, 80, of Parlin died on Jan. 2.

Czok, Donald M. "Mickey," Sr., 95, formerly of Sayreville died on Dec. 25.

Doughty, Stella Marcinczyk, 86, of Sayreville died on Dec. 3.

Dwyer, Gregory "Don," 82, of Sayreville died on Jan. 13.

Frazier, Irene, 25, of South Amboy died on Dec. 2.

French, Donald G., 84, formerly of Parlin died on Jan. 9.

Gizzi, Barbara A., 87, of Sayreville died on Jan. 7.

Grzyb, Eugene T., 79, of Sayreville died on Dec. 29.

Gulick, Paul, 68, of South Amboy died on Dec. 11.

Hardy, Janet F. Gardner, 85, formerly of Morgan died on Dec. 13.

Harper, Horace, 73, of Sayreville died on Dec. 21.

Holt, Evangeline "Peggy," 87, of Morgan died on Dec. 11.

Jankowski, Paul, 72, formerly of South Amboy died on Dec. 25.

Jurkiewicz, Agnes, 89, of Sayreville died on Jan. 7.

Kelly, Joseph J., 73, of Sayreville died on Jan. 2.

Kelly, Stephen P., 74, of Parlin died on Dec. 15.

Kennedy, James F., 75, formerly of South Amboy died on July 23.

Kenovin, Susan M., 53, of Sayreville died on Dec. 29.

Kieselowsky, Joseph W., 84, of Parlin died on Dec. 11.

Konopka, Elaine J., 76, of Parlin died on Dec. 11.

Kultys, Helen, 92, of Sayreville died on Nov. 4.

Kwiecinski, James, 52, of Parlin died on Jan. 1.

Masterson, Robert D. "Bob," 68, of South Amboy died on Jan. 13.

Matysik, Mary E. Nelson, 91, of Sayreville died on Dec. 16.

Mesh, Walter "Sonny" S., 85, of Sayreville died on Dec. 11.

Miglin, Carol, 88, of Parlin died on Jan. 4.

Murphy, Lawrence W., 60, of South Amboy died on Jan. 2.

Nafus, Rose Marie Callahan, 82, of Sayreville died on Dec. 19.

O'Leary, Elizabeth "Betty," 98, of Parlin died on Dec. 27.

Ostrowsky, Frank J., 99, formerly of South Amboy died on Dec. 20.

Pavlik, Joseph J. Jr., 71, of Morgan died on Jan. 5.

Quinn, Lorraine, 83, of South Amboy died on Jan. 3.

Rieger, Walter A., 86, formerly of South Amboy died on Jan. 7.

Sebok, Barbara A., 76, of Parlin died on Dec. 29.

Sexton, Raymond M. Jr., 84, of South Amboy died on Dec. 24.

Shingola, Marie D. Burkard, 89, formerly of South Amboy died on Dec. 21.

Shouldis, Suzanne, 74, of Parlin died on Dec. 26.

Taglienti, Carmella, 68, of Parlin died on Dec. 2.

Terebinski, Arthur S., 65, of Parlin died on Dec. 25.

Terzinio, Cynthia "Cindy," 63, of Sayreville died on Dec. 17.

Ust, Joanne Knable, 76, of South Amboy died on Jan. 6.

Zagata, David, 69, formerly of Sayreville died on Dec. 23.

Zdan, Lynn, of Sayreville died on Dec. 25.


Zonak, Chester J., 87, of Parlin died on Dec. 24.

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

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. -R.S., A.S., H.S., L.S., L.P.

Prayer to St. Therese
St. Therese, the little Flower, please pick me a rose from the Heavenly Garden and send it to me with a message of love. Ask God to grant me the favor I thee implore and tell him I will love him each day more and more. -L.E.

Happy Birthday In Heaven!



In loving memory of
Ronald S. Gorczyca
Jan. 22, 1934
June 27, 2005

*We think of you in silence
We often speak your name
But all we have are memories
And your picture in a frame
Your resting place we visit
And put flowers there with care
But no one knows the heartache,
As we turn and leave you there
Not a day goes by
That you are not in our thoughts.*

Wife Marge, Children & Grandchildren

In Memoriam



25 Years In Heaven
Victoria V. Burkard
12/2/1906-2/9/1996



*It's been 25 years
Since that fateful day
When God's train came
down from heaven
And took you away
But since you've been
With the Lord up above
We know you're always
watching over us
Looking down with love.
Love Always,
Tom Burkard (son),
Family/Relatives/Friends*

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



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*As new years may come and as new years may go,
they are all pieces of time all in a row.
As we live our life, each second and every minute,
we know we are privileged to have what we have.
Our appreciation never ends, for our greatest
blessings are, our family and our friends.*

Rocco M. Cuoco, Manager
N.J. Lic. No. 4605

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Joseph J. Kurzawski, Manager
N.J. Lic. No. 3717
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WWW.?
By Tom Burkard

WWW.? Winners
December

South Amboy Arts Gallery

Judy Guilfoyle, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Don Zrebiec, Marie English and Ed English, Dennis Quinlan, Mike & Irene Kilcomons, Leon Credico, Eleanore Westerholm, Joan Fulham, Steve Laskiewicz, Jack Piskorski, Keith Piskorski & Lorraine Krauss, Pat & Bill Scully, Betty Leveille, Chuck Pickard, Gary Feret, Lisa Grankowski, Mary Agnes Morris.

*Incorrect answers included the South Amboy City Hall at 140 North Broadway.



December WWW?
South Amboy Arts Gallery



Does this Sayreville or South Amboy business look familiar to you? If you think you know the answer, send it in to: satimes@aol.com by February 15th. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Fulham, Quinlan Win WWW.? Title

Joan Fulham, and Dennis Quinlan captured the 2020 WWW.? championship by correctly identifying all 12 photos, plus one bonus picture for the entire year. Through the years, both Dennis formerly of South Amboy and now living in Tennessee, and Joan have done extremely well in this contest, and have won championships before.

Eleven other contestants tied for 2nd place including: Betty Leveille; Gary Ferret; the team of Jack & Keith Piskorski & Lorraine Krauss; Judy Guilfoyle; Leon Credico; Lisa

Grankowski; Marie & Ed English; Mary Agnes Morris; Steve Laskiewicz. 3rd place was a tie between Pat & Bill Scully; Chuck Pickard.

Congratulations to all who had fun and participated throughout the year! Best of luck in the 2021 WWW.? contest!

*A special thank you goes out to our statistician Lisa Grankowski, who kept close count on all the contestants in each of our 3 monthly contests. Great job, Lisa!



Joan Fulham



Dennis Quinlan

🎉🎉🎉 Congratulations 🎉🎉🎉



Marie and Ed English hold up their favorite "Good News Newspaper".

Marie & Ed English Win 2 Contests

Congratulations to the team of Marie and Ed English for winning the 2020 championships for the What Is It? Contest, and also the Vintage Car Contest. They had

all 12 correct for the What Is It? Contest, and 11 out of 12 in the Vintage Car Contest! Wow! Great job, Marie & Ed!

WHAT IS IT?????

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

January What is it?



Can you identify this item? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by February 15th.

Last month was a little different than the items from previous months. It was an Eastern Box Turtle. Not seen as often as they were years ago, the Eastern Box Turtle is one of the protected species in New Jersey. As a matter of fact it is illegal to take a Box Turtle from the wild, and fines can be imposed on anyone caught taking one. So if you see a Box Turtle or any Turtle in the wild, just enjoy them in their natural habitat. If you see one in the road and can safely get out to help them, just place them on the side off the road, in the direction they were heading. Be careful not to get too close, to their mouth especially if it is a snapping turtle.

Those who correctly identified last months What Is It? were: Eleanore Westerholm, Pete McIntyre, Leon Credico, Marie English and Ed English, Dennis Quinlan, Mike & Irene Kilcomons, Chuck Pickard, Pat & Bill Scully, Betty Leveille, Jack Piskorski, Keith Piskorski, and Lorraine Krauss, T.J. Albanese, Gary Feret, Maryanne Matarangolo, Laurie Loftus, Lynn Loy, Mark Moniello.



December What Is It?
Eastern Box Turtle

Answers to all contests
are due by
February 15th.
Email to
Satimes@aol.com

The Vintage Car Contest

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Last month we kept with the Holiday theme having Santa at the wheel of a sports car. That car was none other than a 1963 Chevrolet Corvette Convertible. 1963 marked the first year for the legendary Stingray and while the split window coupe introduced that same year is more desirable, the convertible is also a great car for a drive with the top down. Those who correctly identified the car were: Kurt Kapes, Pete McIntyre, Marie English and Ed English, Mike & Irene Kilcomons, Eleanore Westerholm, Steve Laskiewicz, Mark Moniello.



Can you identify this car? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by February 15th.



Who Is It? Contest

If you know these renowned gentlemen, send in your answer to: satimes@aol.com. You will get one point for each correctly identified, and 5 extra points if you can remember where this picture was taken, and another 5 bonus points for the exact year. The winner will be announced in the February issue of The SA Times. (Photo from the Tom Burkard Archives)