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This Issue Is Dedicated
In Memory Of
South Amboy's
#1 Citizen

TIMES



Ed Paczkowski

March 26, 2016 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 25 Issue 6



Ed Paczkowski, one of South Amboy's most beloved and respected citizens passed away on March 12. In this photo from 2012, Ed prepares to leave South Amboy Foodtown for the final time. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Ed Paczkowski Remembered

By Tom Burkard

One of South Amboy's most admired and highly-respected men, Ed Paczkowski, 78, died on March 12, ironically on the day of the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade, which Ed always looked forward to, because he served as the MC at the reviewing stand for many years.

While in fourth grade at Sacred Heart Grammar School, he began working at his father's business, Frank's Market, which later became South Amboy Foodtown. Paczkowski was the owner/operator until his retirement in 2012.

Ed was most proud of his wife Judy, their children and grandchildren, and was always there to support them at their many school activities, sports events, and much more. In addition, he was active in numerous community activities and organizations including Sacred Heart Church, Sacred Heart Polish Choir, The Holy Name Society, Cardinal McCarrick HS Advisory Board, Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's Sports Hall of Fame Committee, past president & treasurer of Frog Hollow Swim & Tennis

continued on page 23

South Amboy Budget Over \$1.3M Surplus

The City of South Amboy has an excess of \$1,323,071.98, and some of the money should be used to reduce this year's tax increase. Mayor Fred Henry and Business Administrator (BA) Camille Tooker said that the surplus came from a \$200,000 reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency from Hurricane Sandy, an increase of about \$50 million in the city's net worth, and a change in health insurance

plans for city employees. Mayor Henry said that "We'll take some of the surplus for this year's budget, and the overall tax increase will be \$23 for the year, or close to \$2 per month."

BA Tooker was very pleased with the city's financial situation, and mentioned that the surplus at the end of 2014 was approximately \$640,000.



Ryan O'Leary (c) with his proud parents Kathy (l) and Jack O'Leary (r) after scoring his 1,000th career point. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

O'Leary Scores 1,000th Point

Sayreville standout basketball star, Ryan O'Leary joined the elusive 1,000 point scoring club by hitting a free throw in a 62-

52 loss to East Brunswick. He became the ninth Bomber in history to hit the 1,000 mark. Congratulations, Ryan!



South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal Rich Moran waves to the crowd as he leads the parade. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

St. Patrick's Day Parade A Huge Success

By Tom Burkard

The sun was out when the parade started at 2 p.m., at the corner of South Pine Ave. and Bordentown Ave., with temperatures hovering around 60 degrees, as countless thousands of parade marchers and spectators from all parts of the country came out to enjoy South Amboy's biggest and best social event of the year. Once again, American Legion Luke A. Lovely Post #62 was the first line of marchers in the parade, which is one of New Jersey's largest.

Richard Moran served as Grand Marshal, Harold Dennen Jr. was Deputy Grand Marshal, Special Honorary Grand Marshal-Woodbridge Mayor John McCormac, Special Guests Jacqueline and Joe Julian, and former South Amboy Councilman William Schwarick.

The sad news that one of South Amboy's most beloved sons, Ed Paczkowski had passed away earlier in the day, spread throughout the parade route, shocking and saddening locals who had known and loved the popular businessman.

Thousands of spectators lined the route of the parade along South Amboy's busiest streets, and were caught up in the Irish spirit, as they cheered and waved to the participants as they passed. Vendors were all over selling balloons, cotton candy, hot pretzels and much more, and the kids had a terrific time picking

"Mr. Mal" Dies At 93

John "Mr. Mal" Malinowski, 93, of South Amboy died on March 9. Mr. Mal spent much of his career working for the YMCA, starting with the Metuchen YMCA as an Extension Director in 1970, and was responsible for developing relationships between the local school systems and the Y. A couple of years later he was promoted to Branch Director, responsible for the operation of the Metuchen Y. From 1980 until his retirement, he served as the General Director of the Metuchen Y. Mr. Mal was best known around South Amboy and Sayreville for his tenure as the Swim & Dive team coach at the Frog Hollow Swim Club. He coordinated swim shows with the "Aqua-Maniacs" who performed aqua-based comedy acts. Mr. Mal was instrumental in spearheading the yearly community effort of food baskets and toys for those in the community who found it financially challenging to enjoy a holiday. John "Mr. Mal" Malinowski touched many lives in a positive way and will always be remembered.

up candy that was thrown to the crowd by many of the marchers, businesses, and organizations who participated in the parade.

People marching in the parade included 23 performing groups, including the return of the Happy Days String Band, fire companies, first aid squads, rescue squads, veterans and military personnel, policemen, schools, social groups, churches, fraternal organizations, businesses and more. Local favorites, the Colonel D.B. Kelly Pipe & Drums drew applause and cheers all along the route. Also popular was the Perth Amboy Police Dept. Motorcycle Unit, as they performed some pretty cool loops at different spots during the parade.

Local, county and state dignitaries enjoyed the day, as they marched through South Amboy and waved to the crowds. Parade Chairman/South Amboy City Council President Michael "Mickey" Gross, who predicted prior to the parade that it would be "The biggest and best ever," was right on the money with that statement, as it was a most spectacular event that will be remembered for a long time. Everyone had a terrific time once again, and a big "thank you" and congratulations go out to Mickey, the Parade Committee, and all who helped make this day a tremendous success!

Judge Vail Dies

District Court Judge John T. Vail, 83, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 16th at his home in Hawaii. Judge Vail grew up in South Amboy, and graduated from St. Mary's HS Class of 1950, where he was a 1st Team All-County basketball player, and helped lead the Eagles to a fine (17-4) record. He finished his career with 659 points.

Vail moved to Hawaii many years ago and served as a 2nd Circuit, District Court Judge from 1989-1996. Prior to that, he served as a per diem judge in district court while still running his law practice.

*See Bill "Biff" McKeon's tribute to his good friend on page 17.

Henry Chosen Chairman

South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry was selected Chairman of the South Amboy Democratic Party in January, succeeding former South Amboy Mayor John T. O'Leary, who served as Chairman for the past few years.

NEXT ISSUE: April 30th Mothers Day DEADLINES: April 18th
FOR ADS CALL: 732-727-0398 OR 732-841-5249

Talk Of The Towns

By Tom Burkard

Eicher On Dean's List

Freshman Lauren Eicher of Parlin was named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Loyola University in Baltimore, MD. Congratulations, Lauren!

All Aboard!

Raritan River Railroad former employees Reunion will be held on Saturday, May 14th. For more info contact Joe at: jprus@comcast.net. (Be sure you type in RRRR as the subject).

In Memoriam

Sister Mary Theresine Jablonski 93, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 18. She was a member of the Bernadine Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of St. Francis, in her 71st year of religious life. Lisa Lewis, 51, formerly of Sayreville died on Feb. 20. Prior to her retirement, she was a Special Education Teacher at Truman Elementary School. Alice Poulson, 72, of Sayreville died on Feb. 25. Prior to retiring in 2007, she was a legal secretary for Casper P. Boehm, Attorney-at-Law in Sayreville for 20 years. Sister Mary William O'Brien, 99, formerly of South Amboy died on March 2. She served as a Sister of Mercy for 82 years. John Barrett III, 56, formerly of South Amboy died on March 2. He was Past President and member of the Raritan Bay Cougars for 24 years. Ronald Eden, 77, of Sayreville died on March 3. He was cemetery director of St. Stanislaus Kostka R.C. in Sayreville for the past 12 years. Ronald also was a Eucharistic Minister, Lector and Sacristan for their daily Mass. In addition, he was a member/Past President of St. Stanislaus Kostka Holy Name Society, and held many other offices. George Burdak, 94, of Sayreville died on March 8. Before retiring, he worked for 41 years as a pipefitter for Hercules. May they rest in peace and always be remembered.

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. -P.S.

Polish Night At K Of C

Knights of Columbus Council #2061 will hold a Polish Night at its Victorian Hall, 775 Washington Rd., Parlin, on Saturday April 16th from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. Tickets are \$35 per person which includes Buffet Dinner, Open Bar, and a Polka celebration featuring music by The Polka Family Band. Don't delay-reserve your place or table today! Call Joe Halmi at 732-721-4563 or James Poltrictzky at 732-254-8896 for more information.

Save the Date!

The former Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's High School will host a faculty and staff reunion on Saturday, April 16th at 6pm in the SHS cafeteria.

If you ever worked at CM/SMHS, please join us for this fun get together. The cost is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple (buffet, dessert and soft drinks are included) you can bring your own beer/wine.

RSVP by April 4th to monicamendoza@att.net

Please make checks payable to Sacred Heart School and submit to: CM/SMHS REUNION - 301 Augusta Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879

All proceeds to benefit Sacred Heart School.

Autism Awareness Month

Help us celebrate Autism Awareness Month at Emma Arleth Elementary School's 3rd annual Autism Awareness Fair on Saturday, April 16 from 10 am - 2 pm (rain date is April 23). The fair is held on the school grounds. Come enjoy shopping from local vendors, have your car washed, enjoy food and baked goods, and let the kids have fun at the carnival-themed Kid Zone with carnival games, bounce houses, face painting, spin art, and more! Admission to the fair is FREE, and tickets to the Kid Zone are available at the event. For more information or to purchase a vendor space please email arlethpto@gmail.com.



The Dowdell Library of South Amboy held a 102nd Anniversary Appetizer Cooking Contest recently. Pictured (l-r) is Mary Rager (Judge), Phyllis Stratton (Judge), Allison Stickle, who won 1st place for Best Cold Appetizer, Maryanne Matarangolo, who won the top prize for Best Overall, Jim Riehl (Judge). Congratulations!

Pleasant Little Trivia

By Tom Burkard

- In 1975, where was Melrose Sales & Melrose Toy & Sport Center located?
 - North Broadway
 - Scott Ave.
 - Main St.
- In '65, where was Bob's Barber Shop located?
 - South Stevens Ave.
 - Bordentown Ave.
 - Main St.
- This jeweler was located at the Mini Mall, Ernston Rd. in Parlin back in '73?
 - Moonshadow
 - Diamond In The Rough
 - Aquarius
- In 1983, where was Hay's Bike Shop located in Sayreville?
 - Rt. 35, Morgan
 - Washington Rd.
 - Jernee Mill Rd.
- This well-known architect resided in Parlin in 1973?
 - John Jamisovich
 - Frederick Fischer
 - Barry Magwire
- Where was the Europe Lounge located in Sayreville in 1979?
 - Rt. 9 South
 - Main St.
 - MacArthur Ave.
- Where was Century Productions located in Sayreville?
 - Ernston Rd.
 - Rt. 35, Morgan
 - Washington Rd.
- South Amboy's Republican Municipal Chairman in 1985?
 - Edmund Kaboski
 - John Baranowski
 - Peter McMullen
- South Amboy's Board of Education President in 1987?
 - Thomas Tice
 - Margaret McCarthy
 - Eileen Ryan
- South Amboy's City Council President in '87?
 - Craig Coughlin
 - Mike Charmello
 - John T. O'Leary
- The winner of the South Amboy Recreation Dept. 1st Annual fishing tournament in 1987?
 - Charlie Koerner
 - Phil Kurtz
 - Rick Shingola
- South Amboy's Fire Chief in '88?
 - Walt Kozak
 - Ed Szatkowski
 - Rich Johnson

Answers: 1b 2c 3c 4a 5b 6b 7c 8b 9a 10a 11b 12c

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Business Of The Month Lockwood Boat Works, Inc.



Back row from left: Theresa Lockwood, Pat Rose, Bill Lockwood, Robert Lockwood, Michael Lockwood. Front row: Janet O'Connor, Mary Ann Langan, Judy Speicher, Cathy Wisneski, Ellen Lockwood Harrigan.

There is something special about a family owned and operated business and Lockwood Boat Works Inc. is certainly special. Celebrating 70 years in business – Lockwood's was originally founded by Bill Lockwood Sr. in 1946.

Bill would build, rent and sell rowboats. He was joined by his wife Mary in 1950. To support their growing family, the business focus changed from boat building to a full service marina. To facilitate this change, Mary and Bill purchased a piece of property on the Cheesequake Creek in 1954.

Called a damn fool by Bill's father for purchasing "the hole", they started building from scratch. Bill and Mary dredged the marina, building bulkheads and docks. Over the past 70 years "the hole" has been transformed into the marina that exists today, including a fully stocked ship store, a top notch repair facility and 200 slips at the main marina and the Olde Spye property.

Lockwood Boat Works is owned and operated by all ten of Mary and Bill's children. With the assistance of the 3rd

generation of the Lockwood family and many loyal employees, Lockwood Boat Works is the place for all boaters in central NJ.



The 3rd generation of the Lockwood Family with their new boat line, RELEASE BOATS.

Lockwood's is the newest dealer of Boats from Opa-Locka, Fl.

Now enjoying their 70th year of business, Lockwood Boat Works will kick off their Anniversary year with an Open House and Nautical Flea Market on April 16th. Call for info!

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South Amboy, NJ 08879-2525
Phone (732) 721-1605
Fax (732) 525-8209
Service Fax (732) 721-2740



Sayreville War Memorial HS Hall Of Fame

The Sayreville War Memorial High School 2016 Hall of Fame Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for 6:00 PM Saturday, April 30th, at the VFW Hall on Jernee Mill Road. Join us as we honor these outstanding alumni of SWMHS. The honorees are:

Keith Barrack, Class of 1991: Serves as Chief of Staff to the President of Montclair State University; Named as a "Rising Star" in Super Lawyer Magazine in 2012.

Mary Barna Bridgeman, Class of 2000: Doctor of Pharmacy Degree from the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University; Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist & Certified Geriatric Pharmacist.

Gerald Carney, Class of 1968: SWMHS and Trenton State College Head Coach; Played an integral part in the design & implementation of an Alternative Education

Program.

Kofi B. Genfi, Class of 2007: Executive Board Member of the National Society of Black Engineers; Real estate investor, management consultant, spoken word artist, and freelance writer.

Christian D. Rizzo, Class of 1991: Major in US Marine Corps (Retired); Harrier Attack Pilot & Special Operations (Joint Terminal Attack Controller).

Karen Sissick, Class of 1988: Treasurer/ Comptroller of the Middlesex County Utilities Authority; Member of the New Jersey State Society of CPAs.

Tickets are \$50.00 each and \$30.00 for children with a choice of meals. For further information, call Elaine Kubacz at 732-727-0192.



The Col. D.B. Kelly Pipes and Drums Band march down Stevens Ave. during the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day parade. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

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Happy  Easter

Yearbook-St. Hoffman 1996

By Tom Burkard

The title of the Hoffman yearbook was "Saving The Best For Last." The Class of '96 dedicated it to Carol McDonnell and Joanne O'Brien. . . Robert Bloodgood was principal, and some of his fine faculty consisted of D. Abadie, S. Farrell, Sheila Inman, C. O'Connor, R. Rim, and H. LaPoint. . . The '96 seniors were: Jennifer Al-Tawil, Kristen Al-Tawil, Valerie Aronsen, Kelly Athineos, David Bouchard, Nicholas Caputo, James Charmello, Christine Connors, Ryan Cushing, Robert Delia, Jessica Dempsey, Stephen Dietrich, Salvatore Esposito, Corinne Freyer, Jessica Gidaro, Jennifer Guerrero, Tammy Haak, Michelle Harenza,, Edward Healy, Sean Healy, Valentina Hickey, Constance Hulsart, Abbeygale Ikan, Jeanette Kuczbaniski, Martin Lane, Jason Mader, Shane Mason, Erin McCarthy, Colleen McDonnell, Megan McNamara, Mary Kate McQuade, Jon Milochik, Cheryl Namowicz, Michael Natusch, Dena O'Brien, Kristen

Ross, Frank Rowley, Margaret Rynkowski, Edyta Safin, Edward Smith, Robert Smith, Shawn Tominus, Fernando Torino, Gabriel Torino, Christine Travisano, Melissa Vargas, Lisa Venezia, Dianne Walczak, Sylvia Was, Lourdes Zeballos. . . Social activities included the Senior Trip, The Showcase of Talent, Halloween Happening, Spirit Week, various clubs, and the plays which were "Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs," and "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown." The talented senior athletes were: Christopher Chodkiewicz, Gary Colfer, Steven Darabos IV, April Elyea, Jessica English, Christopher Gulick, James Hicks, Joseph Hoehman, Charles Honimar, Heather Poland, Joseph Salkiewicz, Robert Sekerak, Jorge Zeballos, Jason Read, Thomas Ehrlich, Keith Oshman Jr., Cara Toscano, Matthew Doyle, Joseph Cross. H. G. Hoffman High School's Class of 1996 was a fine group of talented youngsters with bright futures on the horizon. . .

Night Out For A Cause

Do you like to eat and support a cause at no extra cause? If you do, then do we have the events for you! The Morgan First Aid Squad, a volunteer organization conveniently located in Sayreville, NJ will be having multiple "nights out" at some of your favorite restaurants! There will be an event at Arirang Hibachi Steakhouse and one at Texas Roadhouse. All you have to do is eat, bring our flyer, and pay for your bill, and 10% of your bill will be donated to the organization.

Dates include: Arirang Hibachi Steakhouse: June 15th and 16th. Texas Roadhouse May 5. Email [dcccappillo618@gmail.com](mailto:dccappillo618@gmail.com) to receive your copy of the flyer or just stop by the building, we will be happy to provide you with one!

Mets Trip Saturday July 9

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 will sponsor an outing to beautiful Citi Field to see the National League champion Mets battle division rival Washington Nationals with Daniel Murphy in a 7:15 p.m. game. Cost of \$100 includes a Mets fedora hat, Caesar's Box reserved ticket, round trip motor coach transportation, sandwich, snacks, water, and soft drinks. Motor coach leaves the parking lot at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy at 3 p.m. For reservations call Steve at 732-727-1707.

Designer Pocketbook Bingo

Sacred Heart School is hosting it's Annual Designer Pocketbook Bingo on Saturday April 23, 2016 located at Sacred Heart/St. Mary's school cafeteria 301 Second Street, South Amboy...BYOB and Snacks.... also soda and snacks will be sold that night! 50/50 and Basket Raffles...tickets are \$35 each which includes (12 Bingo sheets)...to purchase tickets please contact Patty Velez via email: hsasacredheartsa.com or call Mr. Pritchard @ 732-721-0834... Proceeds to Benefit Sacred Heart School.



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Class of 2016

Spaghetti Dinner

Frog Hollow Swim and Tennis Club will be hosting a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Friday, April 8, 2016 at the Knights of Columbus of Sayreville 775 Washington Road Parlin. Food will be served from 5-9 PM buffet style. There will be no set seating time. Tickets in advance are 13 and older \$10, 6-12 \$7, and children 5 and under are free. At the door 13 and older \$13, 6-12 \$7 and children 5 and under free. Dinner includes soft drinks and juice, pasta, marinara sauce, meatballs, bread, salad and music. Tickets can be purchased through www.froghollowswim.com (additional minimal service fee for credit card processing) or buy mailing a check to Frog Hollow PO Box 3122, South Amboy, NJ 08879

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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

In Memoriam:

John Edward Rupp (1933 - 2016)

John Edward Rupp of Surf City, New Jersey and Stuart, Florida passed away peacefully on March 2 with his family by his side. He was 82 years old. John was married to Katherine Frances (Fran) Rupp (Atkinson) for 58 years. Together they owned and operated the Parlin Guest House in Parlin, New Jersey, where he and his family resided for 43 years. He was also an Industrial Arts teacher and department supervisor at Sayreville War Memorial High School for 30 years.

John attended Pennsylvania Military College for a year before volunteering to serve in 1954. After serving two years in the U.S. Army, he received a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Arts from Montclair State College and Master of Arts in Industrial Education from Trenton State College. A lifelong student of architecture, he pursued his talent and passion for building well into his retirement.

John was predeceased by his parents, Frank and Harriet (Keller) Rupp, and his brother, Haydn Rupp. He leaves behind his wife and their eight children: Karen Chicaless of Manahawkin, NJ, Allison Provine and her husband, Fred, of NM, Tracy Jarvis and her husband, Skeeter, of CA, John Rupp Jr. and his wife, Valerie, of East Windsor, NJ, Frances Sanchez and her husband, Brian, of Manahawkin, NJ, Alan Rupp of Sayreville, NJ, Robert Rupp of Tinton Falls, NJ, and Justine Habicht and her husband, Doug, of Palm City, FL.

He also leaves behind 12 grandchildren: Hollie Ventriello and her husband, Anthony,

Cori Sanchez, Keith Sanchez, Katherine Wood and her husband Bruce, Lana Rae Jarvis, Logan Rupp, Paige Rupp, Payton Rupp, Teagan Habicht, Reese Habicht, Blake Rupp, and Mason Rupp; and two great-grandsons, Fisher and Jack Ventriello.

John is also survived by his sister, June Schneider and her husband, Elmer, of Parlin, NJ, his brother, Wendell Rupp and his wife, Eleanor, of Jupiter, FL, his sister-in-law, Monica Rupp of Tampa, FL, and many nieces, nephews, and long-time friends.

John will be remembered as a positive self-starter who was insightful and not afraid to take risks. He was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and teacher with a unique sense of humor that helped him through many of life's challenges. John had a gentle way of guiding his children. He led by example and will forever be remembered by his family for saying, "If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all." He possessed a strong work ethic that earned him a full and meaningful life spent with family and friends. After the many successes throughout his life, he remained humble. John will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by many.

A Memorial Service was held in Florida in March, another will be held New Jersey during the summer of 2016.

In lieu of flowers, his family requests donations to the Laura Lee Novak Special Needs Trust in care of Donald C. Novak, 2712 Heathgate Way, Land O Lakes, Florida, 34638



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English Language Evolves

By Steve Schmid

Do you remember the last few years when things seemed simpler? Over the last 50 years the English language has evolved with many words changing to reflect a more favorable impression. Occupations have changed the most, as a stewardess is now called a flight attendant. A secretary is an administrative assistant. A waitress is a server. An undertaker is a funeral director. A janitor is a custodian. Jail guards are corrections officers and they don't work in jails. They work in correctional institutions. A salesman is an account executive. Garbage collectors are sanitation engineers, and they go to landfills not garbage dumps. A housewife is

frequently called a domestic engineer. When you lose your job, you're not fired; you're terminated or let go. When you're looking for an automobile, you're not interested in a used car. You are looking for a previously owned vehicle. At the mall you go to restrooms not public toilets, and you use bathroom tissue not toilet paper. When you leave this world, you don't die, you pass away. At home when you watch TV, you don't see repeat performances, you look at previously aired shows. Sports is not immune to these changes. Exhibition games are now preseason contests. It will be interesting for us to see how English continues to evolve in the next few years.

Tricky Tray

Catholic Daughters of the Americas #769 will be holding its Annual Tricky Tray Charity Fundraiser on Saturday April 23, 2016, 1:00-4:00PM, Admission \$10.00 (no refund) At St. James Church (lower level) Main St and Amboy Ave, Woodbridge NJ. Come bid on our Fabulous items, Flat Screen TV, Wine baskets, Gift Cards and MORE Light refreshments Dessert and Beverages will be available. or Tickets/Reservation call; Mickey Brady 609-664-2462 or Loretta Zimmer 732-636-1252.

Spring Chicken Dinner

St. Stanislaus Kostka Holy Name Society and Carmen Spezzi Presents a "Spring Chicken" Dinner. On Friday, April 15, 2016 from 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm at St. Stan's School, 221 MacArthur Ave. Sayreville, NJ.

The following will be served: Spezzi's Special Roasted Half Chicken, Baked Potato with Butter & Sour Cream, Side Vegetable, Salad Bar, Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Soda, Beer & Wine Included. Also available is a Children's Meal consisting of Chicken Fingers with French Fries. Cost, Adults - \$17.50, Children (under 12) - \$8.00. Please purchase your ticket in advance in the CHURCH LOBBY or at the OFFICE - 732-254-0212.

Golf Outing

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 will hold their annual golf outing Thursday May 12 at Cruz Farms Golf Course in Farmingdale. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with tee-off at 9 a.m. Cost of \$100 includes 18 holes, golf cart, lunch, dinner, and many prizes. For more information call Ray at 732-721-2025 or Wayne at 732-406-2340.

Senior April Meeting

The OLV Seniors will hold their April meeting on Friday, April 1, 2016 at 1:00PM in Monsignor Hall. After our business meeting, we will celebrate Easter with a delicious luncheon. The price of the luncheon is \$12.00. Mary Bouchard is compiling a list of members who will be attending the luncheon. If you have not signed up and wish to attend, please call Mary at 732-727-5056 by Monday, March 28, 2016. Absolutely, no orders will be taken after that date. Please bring a non-perishable food item for St. Vincent de Paul pantry. Final payment is due on Rumors and the 9/11 New York trip. Deposits are due on all other trips. Payments are also due on the Branson trip. For trip information contact Teri (732-727-7639) Carmen (732-254-9425) or Finita (732-721-5081). For further information, please contact Teri Yetsko, OLV Senior President at 732-727-7639.



South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade Deputy Grand Marshal Harold Dennen (back seat left) with his family, daughter Wendy Erickson (back seat right) and (l-r) Jessica Erickson, Meredith Erickson and Heather Erickson proudly standing behind their grandfather. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

Founders' Day Gift Auction

The South Amboy PTO will be hosting our annual Founder's Day Gift Auction. Come join us on April 22, 2016 and let's celebrate outstanding members of our community for going above and beyond for the children of our district. This year's winners are: Mrs. Kim Gundrum, Ms. Jacqueline Campbell, Mr. Jimmy Charmello, and Mr. Gary Cottrell. The event will be held at the Knights of Columbus, South Amboy from 7PM-11PM.

It will be a fun filled night- dinner, dancing, door prizes, 50/50, and a chance to win one of our great baskets. Tickets are still available. No tickets will be sold at the door so please email us at SAPTO08879@gmail.com for ticket information. We are also still accepting donations and sponsors- these will be recognized on our website and press releases related to the event.

Trip to See Rumors

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to see the Neil Simon play, Rumors, on Thursday, May 26, 2016. The cost of the trip is \$90.00 which includes the play, luncheon, bus transportation, and bus driver gratuity, and snacks on the return trip. The bus will leave from the OLV lower parking lot at 9:15 AM and return approximately 5 PM. For further information or to reserve a space please contact Teri at 732-727-7639.

Free Movie Night April 8

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 invite you and your family to see the inspirational movie "Do You Believe?" starring Cybil Shepherd, Lee Majors, and Ted McGinley, Friday night April 8 at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. Movie begins at 7 p.m. Pasta, meatballs, and salad will be available before the film. Cost for dinner is \$5 Adults, and \$2 per child. For more information, call 732-721-2025.

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MCC Open House Sunday, April 3

An open house for prospective Middlesex County College students and their families will be held Sunday, April 3 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the College Center on the Edison campus.

High school students who are considering continuing their education at Middlesex, as well as anyone who is thinking about taking a course at the College, are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served. To register online, visit www.mccopenhouse.com.

In many programs, students earn an Associate Degree and then transfer into a four-year college or university as members of the junior class. Working closely with their faculty and advisors ensures this seamless transition and they find that the cost of their undergraduate education is substantially lower because of their work at Middlesex.

The College offers formal credit articulation transfer agreements and dual-degree admissions programs with more than 50 four-year institutions, including Rutgers, Montclair State, Kean and NYU. It has always been the largest "feeder" school to the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) where its graduates are continually recognized for their outstanding academic achievements.

In other academic programs, the students graduate from Middlesex and go right into a career.

"There is no better value in higher education today than the community college," said MCC President Joann La Perla-Morales. "Our tuition is about one-third of what the public colleges and universities charge and a fraction of the cost of the private schools. In addition, many scholarships are available through the Middlesex County College Foundation."

At the open house, advisors and administrators will address everything a student needs to know about attending and being successful at Middlesex.

Brian Clemmons, dean of enrollment management, said the day will allow prospective students to get a taste of what Middlesex has to offer.

"The Open House will showcase all of the College's offerings, including the many dual admissions programs with four-year colleges and universities, career opportunities, financial aid and career services," he said.

There will be representatives from all academic areas. Services for military veterans will be explained and prospective students can tour the campus.

Casino Night Tricky Tray

Casino Night & Tricky Tray Fundraising Event hosted by Emma Arleth Elementary School PTO on Saturday, April 9 from 4pm to 10pm in the School Gym. All proceeds from the event will allow the Arleth PTO to continue to provide educational enhancement programs, purchase much needed school and technology supplies, and provide family fun events

This event promises to be a fun filled evening with blackjack, poker, craps, roulette, & money wheel. Earnings from the casino games will then be cashed in for raffle tickets for luxury tricky tray prizes. Cost per ticket is \$40 which includes: \$50 casino chip money, 1 sheet of tricky tray raffle tickets (25), light dinner, coffee/dessert bar and music. For tickets email arlethpto@gmail.com.

Thank You

The Kelly Family would like to thank everyone who donated their time, money, gift baskets and food for "Wheels for Annie" fundraiser. The outpouring of love, care and concern for Ann has overwhelmed us and we want everyone to know how much we appreciate all of you. Our little City of South Amboy is one of the best communities to live in, and this is another example of how great the people of this town really are. Special thanks to Wade, Jay & family, Davie D and Debbie for putting this special event together.

*With Sincere Love and Appreciation,
The Kelly Family*

Military News



Brandon K. Nguyen

Brandon K. Nguyen, an Old Bridge High School graduate, Class of 2015, graduated from Parris Island Marine Base Feb 12, 2016. His proud parents are Glenn Smith, Aimee Firestine Smith, and Huy Nguyen. His siblings are Chaz Nguyen, Mariah Nguyen, Alec Jake Nguyen, and Taylor Smith. (Photo/Info Submitted)

Eustace Graduates

U.S. Air Force Airman Kevin Eustace graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. The airman graduated in 2013 from St. Joseph HS in Metuchen. He is the son of Jeffrey S. Eustace of South Amboy.

Morgan FAS Cadet Car Wash

Tell your friends, tell your neighbors, tell your family, or even your family's neighbors, it is time once again for the Morgan First Aid Cadet Car Wash. This will be the second year in which this car wash will be taking place and due to the success in the past we again need people just like you to stop by! We will be in the parking lot of PURE, located off Route 35 North right next to our building ready to give your car a nice scrub! All proceeds for each car and any donations will be going to help aid the cadets, under 18 years of age members, of the volunteer organization Morgan First Aid Squad. The cadet program is full of eager teenagers willing to learn and one day become full time members on the organization and to also become EMTs so they can further help their community.

Quick details about the event: Date: June 5th Time: 1p-4p Cost: \$5 per car, \$8 per truck. Location: PURE parking lot (1970 NJ-35, South Amboy, NJ 08879). We hope to see you all there and don't worry if you missed this chance, there will be another car wash in July, info to come later.

Comedy Show

The Columbian Club of Perth Amboy will be hold Comedy Knight 28 on April 16th featuring the Comedy of Paul Venier. (proceeds to benefit the good work of the K of C) Tickets cost \$35 per person and include Buffet dinner 7PM beer and wine, and the show starts @ 8:30 Location 228 High Street, Perth Amboy. Tickets available by contacting John Fedorka @732-727-9659 or 732-442-2998.

A Girl Scout Silver Award Project

Megan Corby, is a cadette girl scout from Sayreville/South Amboy troop 80073. She will be collecting and running an exchange of new and gently used children's baseball and softball equipment for her girl scout silver award project. She will have table set up at the Sayreville Little League complex on Saturdays starting opening day, April 9, 2016. If you have any equipment that your family no longer needs, please consider donating it. Equipment will be distributed to families of Sayreville Little League and Sayreville Buddy Ball. Any questions, please contact her at 732-721-1567 or corbybobmo@aol.com.



"An Evening With Uncle Floyd" was held by The South Amboy Fire Department's Mechanicsville Hose Co. on Feb. 27 at Sacred Heart Memorial Hall. The flamboyant standup comic, singer, and piano playing showman had the huge crowd attending in stitches on a fun-filled night. Uncle Floyd has been a brilliant TV and radio host for many years in New Jersey and surrounding areas, and always leaves his audience laughing. Congratulations SAFD for a big-time event!



The packed-house at Sacred Heart Memorial Hall is pictured enjoying Uncle Floyd's performance. (Photos/story by Joe Lotkowitz)

Love, What It Is

By Rev Rhea Carol

It is in the flower, in the power
In the grass, the weeds, the seeds and in the fertilizer
In the one we love and the one we don't
It is all around, in the sound of surround
(in the boom, boom of the bass even when it is very LOUD and you can feel it like your heart beat)
Love Is All There Is, thank you Beatles
Kitty, puppy, worm, slug, elephant and the elegant, it is all love
It is in the boss, in the bad experience, in the good experience, love is in there
Receiving Love is as good as giving it and learning how to do both
It is in the finger that points accusingly and
In the finger that points to the beautiful landscape, to the sea, to the bee
Love is in my very nice warm bed, and getting out of it at 6:00 AM is love too
Love is in the gym, when you have muscle pain and smell like an old sock
Love is when I do my best and when I don't do my best
Love is doing what I am supposed to do;
Love is doing what I am not supposed to do
Love is feeling good about myself when I do something good, when I feel bad about myself, I am still Love
Love means go, love means stop, love means power, love means you, love means me
Love yourself always no matter whom you are or who you are not
Love is the sunrise and the sunset
Look in your eyes and see Love, look in each person, thing and being and see it there.
Know it always, LOVE.

Rev Rhea Carol is a non-denominational licensed minister at Centers for Spiritual Living and a motivational speaker. The Centers for Spiritual Living is all inclusive. Rev. Rhea performs customized weddings, blessing of your home, pets and memorials. Any ceremony can be customized and each one is exceptional. A meditation is held on Tuesday evenings. For more information, please contact Rev. Rhea at 732 727 8219 H, 732 771 7562 C, rhea_nj@yahoo.com email.

Mets Trip

The OLV School Alumni Association is sponsoring a trip to see the New York Mets vs. San Francisco Giants on Saturday, April 30 at 4:00 pm. The bus will leave the OLV Church lower parking lot at 1:15 pm. The cost of the trip is \$55, which includes the ticket, bus transportation, sandwich, soda/water, and snacks. For tickets or information, please call Joe at 732-432-4882.

Disco Fever Coming

The Cultural Arts Council of Sayreville will sponsor a performance of Disco Fever on Wed., April 6th. The event will be held at the Senior Center, Main St., Sayreville and begin at 7:30 p.m. Admission is FREE, and there will be light refreshments. All ages are welcome. For more info call 732-390-8195.

Trip to Branson

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Branson, Missouri from September 16 – 24, 2016. The price of the trip is \$1000.00 which includes 4 overnights to and from Branson, 4 nights lodging at the Welk Resort Hotel, 8 breakfasts, 4 dinners, 6 spectacular shows, a 45th Anniversary Celebration at the Welk Resort, and much, much more. For further information or to reserve a seat please contact Teri at 732-727-7639.

Yankees Trips

The Sayreville Recreation Department is running bus trips to watch the New York Yankees battle it out in America's favorite past time. Come join us as we cheer on the New York Yankees for these exciting bus trips:

June 24, 2016 – The New York Yankees vs. the Twins

July 22, 2016 – The New York Yankees vs. the Giants

August 26, 2016 – The New York Yankees vs. the Orioles

Cost for the tickets are \$90.00 for each game and are on a first come first served basis. All games are 7:05 pm games and the bus will leave the Mickey Sedlak Recreation Center at 4:15 pm sharp. Price includes bus transportation and ticket to the game. Please contact the Recreation Office at 732-390-7096 for more information. Let's Go Yankees!

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Sayreville's Brendan O'Brien, who is a senior at Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison, recently ran a solo 15-mile trek in a steady rain, to raise awareness and money for the plight of military veterans. Pictured following the end of the run at Sayreville are (l-r) Legionnaire Frank Sullivan, Honor Guard Captain Ed Streck, Brendan O'Brien, Past Commander Rich Kosmoski, Past VFW Commander Ken Kelly. The men presented Brendan donations for his foundation on behalf of their organizations. Mel Meszaros, formerly of South Amboy, and a former U.S. Marine, was part of O'Brien's entourage, and presented him with a medal that included black sand from Mt. Suribachi. Meszaros visited the site during the 60th Anniversary of Iwo Jima in 2005. Congratulations, Brendan on a job well-done! (Photo/info submitted)

Where Did The Quality Go????

By Elaine Holton Scott

It's becoming more and more difficult to remember that time of long ago when products, big and small, had been made with an unbeatable American pride. Companies flourished, manufacturing everything under the sun, while always making sure quality was equally important as profit. In the decades since, something raised its ugly head... something called too much greed.

disappears. That's what I believe is happening to the little things in our lives. For example, take the old, reliable safety pin. I bought a pack of safety pins recently and had difficulty believing how flimsy and crappy they are now. Just how "safe" are "safety" pins when they open under the slightest pressure?

Has anyone else noticed how thin plastic hangers have become? How about the standard white envelopes sold in boxes? The paper is so thin, it "screams" cheap. I've also noticed that even the glue on the envelopes has become sparser.

"You can't see the forest for the trees" is a well-known quote which basically means that when we focus on one thing, we can't see what is obvious. It's sort of like the old saying, "If it had teeth it would bite you." I buy a lot of writing pads, but it was only recently that I noticed how much thinner the sheets are. It's the same with tissues, paper napkins, and even foil pans. If you have purchased any bottles of water lately, the no-name kind, you already know how ridiculously thin the plastic bottles are...so thin they squash and crackle like bubble wrap.

As for old-fashioned American quality, I think I know what happened to it. It disappeared when our American companies either moved or out-sourced their businesses to other countries to make more profit. Shame on them.

***We've all heard, "Don't drink the water," when you're in Mexico...so what about the Mexican water used in the making of Nabisco cookies??



Mary Ann Spisso (c), President of the Sayreville Thursday Senior Club, is pictured with the Franklin Hi-Steppers after the dancing group did a wonderful job performing for the senior club. The event was a big success. A St. Patrick's Day lunch followed. (Photo/info by Joe Lotkowitz)



Our Lady of Victories 7th and 8th grade students along with art teacher, Mrs. Pliatakis at Kean University. The students submitted Artistic Impressions of the Holocaust Liberation to the Holocaust Resource Center, which were on display during the month of February at the James Howe Gallery at Kean University. (Photo/info Submitted)



St. Stanislaus Kostka School in Sayreville donated toys and other items needed to the Child Life Program at Bristol-Meyers Squibb Children's Hospital in New Brunswick. Pictured here are some fourth grade students and a second grader who helped load the donations to be delivered to the hospital. (Photo Submitted)



Harbor Lights at Sciortino's was one of the busiest establishments in South Amboy following the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Pictured (l-r) is Lou Seminski Jr., Sheri Seminski, owner Lou Seminski, and in front is Isabella Seminski. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

**South Amboy Knights of Columbus #426
Breakfast With The Easter Bunny**
(Photos by Tom Burkard)



The Easter Bunny just finished his delicious breakfast, and visits with happy youngsters.



Everyone had an excellent time visiting with the Easter Bunny at the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426, annual Breakfast With The Easter Bunny.



Happy Easter

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OLV School's Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration on March 2. (Photo Submitted)

The Smoke Column

By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski, B.A., M.S.

As I have done in the past, I dedicate one Smoke Column annually to the new chief of the fire department. Therefore, in this month's Smoke Column I will be highlighting the 2016 Sayreville Fire Department Chief, Vincent Waranowicz. Chief "Vinnie" as he is affectionately called has been a member of Sayreville Engine Co. #1 for 18 years. In his ascension to the position of Chief, he has held all of the leadership positions in the company and in so doing has gained the knowledge and confidence to lead the department in 2016.

His interest in the fire department came at a young age. Usually young members join the department because of relatives preceding them and enticing them to join but in the Chief's case, he is the first in his family to become a firefighter. He said he joined the department because it looked like a fun job and one in which he could help people. Once fighting fires got into his blood, he loved it so much that he became a career firefighter in Monroe Township and has been on the job there for 10 years.

One of the Chief's memorable fires was the DeSarno house fire which occurred on the night of December 29th, 2014. Chief Vinnie was the first officer on scene and became the Incident Commander. With flames coming out all windows and knowing that he had multiple residents still inside the structure, he had his hands full. Due to his quick actions and decisions, there was no loss of life and all six residents were evacuated either by self-evacuation or with the assistance from neighbors and the Sayreville Police Department. Another memorable fire occurred in 2008 on Route #9 at approximately 3:00am when an out of control, fully loaded gasoline tanker hit the center barrier, rolled over and exploded in flames. This fire was extremely dangerous because this leaking, burning gasoline was entering the storm sewers along the highway and re-emerging in the residential areas.

When not fighting fires, the Chief and his lovely wife Nicole are raising four children. Even at a young age, the boys are already showing an interest in becoming junior firefighters. The Chief said that his children

are his greatest accomplishment and really enjoys as much time as he can with them. Many a night you can find the Chief at the little league field coaching his team.

One of the Chief's goals for the fire department this year is to have everyone return home safely after every fire call. The Chief is also attempting to acquire tablets for all the apparatus. These devices will allow for more organization and control at a fire scene as well as including critical information that can be used to keep everyone safe while mitigating any hazards that may arise.

This year will be an exceptional year for the Chief as well as the Sayreville Fire Department as the Department readies plans for its 100th Anniversary celebration. In conjunction with the Anniversary celebration, the Sayreville Fire Department will be hosting the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association 130th convention on the morning of June 25th, 2016 to be held at the Sayreville War Memorial High School. Immediately following the convention at 1:00 pm a parade will be held with firefighters and fire apparatus from all around the state. The entire department is anticipating a memorable experience and hoping for favorable weather.

In closing, I would like to congratulate Chief Vinnie Waranowicz as he takes the reins of the Sayreville Fire Department for 2016 and hope that he enjoys his year as "The Chief."

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

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



The NED Show Assembly : Never give up Encourage others Do your best. Fourth grade student, Ann-Michelle Afere proudly wears her balloon crown during the NED Show Assembly held at St. Stan's school on February 23rd. (Photo/info Submitted)

Our Best Wishes For A Blessed Easter & Happy Passover

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DONALD APPEGATE
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St. Stan's Senior Club held an Easter Hat Parade recently at the Sayreville Senior Center. Pictured (l-r) is Bernadine Lajewski, Alfreda Dzergoski, Freda Bastek, Peter Cottontail (Bob Kohl), Ann Floersch, Julie Novak, Rose Nafus (President of St. Stan's Senior Club). The beautiful hats were made by the Girl Scouts, and everyone had a great time. (Photo/info by Joe Lotkowitz)

Growing Up In South Amboy High School Days

By John Phillips

Well, I am finally a freshman and new friends and memories are about to be made. There was a whole group of kids that came down from Sacred Heart and more came from Laurence Harbor, Keyport, Matawan, Cliffwood, Sayreville and South River. I got to know a lot of them, and today I wonder how things turned out for them. I know some have passed on but I still remember them. My homeroom teacher was Sister David. Forgive me for saying this but she was a "looker". The one thing I did not like was that freshmen did not change classes. The nuns came to us. So we did not get to see all of the new "girls" in the hallways. Somehow I was elected class president. And, my "friends" harassed me. What made it worse was I found out that the nuns picked the candidates, a real democracy right?

Now here is how I met a guy that would be a close friend until we went our separate ways after marriage. His name was Edward "Ned" Moran. He would join my grammar school best friend Robert "Rock" Stader as my closest buddies in "fun and trouble" throughout the next four years.

The Haircut

Right before the start of the school year I was wandering the hallways talking to the nuns I knew, when I went into the boy's restroom. There getting a "haircut" was Ned...the person doing the cutting was a guy named Bobby Vona who would also become a close friend. Now that haircut was really bad, really, really bad. Bobby "butchered him". I guess Ned thought he would take the money (50 cents back then) and spend it on "treats". He was really scared to go home and face his parents. Right then I knew he was my kind of guy and we were close for many years. Sadly he passed away way before his time. I think of him sometimes and smile... he was a funny guy, a true friend and always made me laugh. I have a funny story to tell about him and Rock but it will have to wait until my junior year.

Basketball

I could not wait until the tryouts for the JV's and Varsity basketball teams were announced. This was Mr. McCarthy's first year as the St. Mary's coach so I did not know if he knew anything about me. But, I guess he did, as I made both the JV's and Varsity teams. Some of the guys I remember were: Bobby Leslie, Pete Delaney, Jimmy Higgins, Ed Paczkowski, Tommy Lovely, Russell Knowles and our go to guy Marty Metzger, the "Bun". Why did we call him the "Bun"? Well, his parents owned Lou's Bakery on Broadway. And when you rode around town with him in his parent's big Buick there was always plenty of "buns" to eat.

Our first regular game was played against Rutgers Prep over at the Hoffman gym on John Street. And, playing against us was a guy named Jerry Gorczyca. He played for St. Mary's the previous year and was on the All County team. It was a close game and I scored my first varsity points, but we lost. Soon after that we bused it up to South Orange

to play Seton Hall Prep in the college gym. It was another close game but we lost again. That's how the season went. We played a lot of good teams but came out the loser in most of them. I think we won about 7 or 8 games. Marty scored over 300 points and was selected to the Second All County team. Because of the fire that destroyed our gym the previous year we had no "home" court to play or practice on. So began the "Gypsy Caravan" that would last through my playing days...practice here today there tomorrow. Play here today there tomorrow. Every game was an away game. To this day I wish we had a gym to call home. I know we would have won a few more games. I did not have one until I played in the Marines. It was nice to have your own locker and a court to get used to. Oh well, back to the way it was.

Here is something that I remember that brings a smile whenever I think about it today. When Coach McCarthy called me to go into the game he would tell me: John get the ball in to Marty. Then when I went up to the check in table, both Adam Lovely and Sylvester Sullivan (score and time keepers) would tell me: Get the ball into the Bun (Marty). So, I had my instructions not only from the coach but Adam and Sy: Get the ball into the "Bun", and I tried to do just that. How did I do? I think I scored around 100 points.

Social Life

There was not much of a social life during the school year. We did not have a gym so there were no dances. The only thing that came close was every Sunday night Sacred Heart held a teen dance. I remember going up the hill to "check the scenery" and dance a little. I really did not know how to dance back then...most of the boys only knew how to go one way: straight ahead. However, being part of the basketball team I got to hang out with the guys (both St. Mary's and Hoffman) at Astarita's on Stevens Avenue. That would be my place to go for the remainder of high school. I met some good guys from Hoffman that I still remember: Frank Kitchen, Jimmy English, Frank (Yokum) Grimley, Steve Malkiewicz and the Charmello brothers: Mike and Augie. That's about all I remember about my freshman year. The summer was spent hanging around the Black Tank (the Mecca of Basketball in SA) waiting to be picked on a team for a chance to play with older players and college guys. Sometimes I was picked and sometimes not...but always willing.

Now it's off to my sophomore year and what that would bring, and of course more basketball. And, I think I met my first real girlfriend that year. And, so it goes growing up in my hometown: South Amboy.

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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

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Pictured at the St. Ann's Sports Card Show in Raritan is (l-r) Steve Boychuk, Tom Boychuk, Joshua Gomolka, and his dad, SA Times Poet Laureate Al Gomolka Jr. The show was excellent, and there was plenty to see for all collectors. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Finger Lakes Wine Safari Trip

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to the Finger Lakes Wine area on October 11-13, 2016. The price of the trips is \$420.00. The price includes: 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, to dinners, wine tasting at 9 wineries, souvenir gift, bus transportation, and taxes and gratuities. Dinners will be at the Belhurst Castle and Finger Lakes Casino. The bus will leave from the lower parking lot of OLV. To make reservations or for further information, please contact Teri at (732)727-7639.

Trip to American Music Theater

The OLV Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to the American Music Theater Christmas Show in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on Saturday, November 5, 2016. The price of the trip is \$125.00 which includes the show, lunch at Shady Maple, bus transportation, bus driver gratuity and snacks on the return trip. To reserve a seat or for further questions, please contact Teri at (732)727-7639.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday celebrating the Jubilee Year of Mercy will be held on April 3rd at Our Lady of Victories Church, 42 Main St., Sayreville. The day will feature: 2 p.m.-Announcements; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration; Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image and Relic; The Rosary; Readings from The Diary of St. Faustina; Divine Mercy Music; 3 p.m.-Divine Mercy Prayers and Chaplet followed by Holy Mass; Healing Service with Father John Campoli.

Trip to "Cabaret by the Sea"

The OLV Seniors are sponsoring a trip to see "Cabaret by the Sea" featuring Vincent Talarico at Crystal Point Yacht Club on Tuesday, August 16, 2016. The price of \$110 includes the show, 3 course lunch with dessert, soda, tea and coffee, bus transportation, bus driver gratuity, and snacks on the return trip. To make a reservation or for further information, contact Finita at (732) 721-5081.

Limbo Of The Lost

By Al Gomolka Jr.
Times Poet Laureate

C. 1998
Where's the match to this sock
That didn't come out of the dryer?
Information on the circus?
I just had that flier
Where is the candybar
That nobody ate?
Where is the umbrella
We always kept in its place?
There must be a limbo of lost stuff!
Or are they in hiding?
Or do they reappear in another home
As a mysteriously new finding?
What happens to these items
That vanish without a trace?
Do we have a ghost taking them
Or are they simply misplaced?
Everyone's known that feeling when
It was just here!
Did it pass into another dimension?
It couldn't of disappeared!
A question of physics
Of lost time and place
Shrugging one's shoulders isn't enough
There must be a limbo of lost stuff!

3rd Annual Mother/Son Spring Fling

Moms, Grandmother's, Aunts, or Any Special Lady please join us with your son/nephew/grandson on April 30, 2016 @ 5:30pm-9:30pm at South Amboy Knights of Columbus 308 4th Street South Amboy, NJ 08879. Tickets are \$45 per couple (includes dinner and dessert) Tickets can be purchased by mail Mother/Son Dance 377 Main Street Sayreville NJ 08872....Ticket Deadline is April 10, 2016....Cash/Paypal/Checks made payable to Julie Veloz....Photo packages will be available for purchase with Amy McLaughlin Photography. 50/50, Giveaways and Contests, Facepainting by Just Jules. 100% of all Proceeds will be donated to Sayreville Association of Brain Injured Children (B.I.C.) please email danceticketmom@gmail.com or call 732-343-1896 for any questions etc!



Sacred Heart School was well represented by students, faculty, staff and parents at the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade. (Photo by Brian Stratton)



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FREE Pest Inspection






The VFW Post #4699 fundraiser to support the troops Classic Rock/Oldies Night was a huge success. Clem and Friends rock 'n' roll band really rocked the sold out crowd of 200 people. Pictured with Clem and Friends is Carmen Delikat, who organized the event with help from Frank and Val Olszewski (also in photo).



The crowd had an excellent time dancing to the terrific music of Clem and Friends at the fundraiser to support the troops.

Happy Easter To All



From
 Mayor Fred A. & Linda Henry
 and Family

Music Trivia Hello

By Tom Burkard

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. ___ Hello | A The Beatles |
| 2. ___ Hello I Love You | B The Doors |
| 3. ___ Hello Again | C Allan Sherman |
| 4. ___ Hello Dolly | D Neil Diamond |
| 5. ___ Hello, Goodbye | E Barbara Lewis |
| 6. ___ Hello It's Me | F Lionel Richie |
| 7. ___ Hello Mary Lou | G Faron Young |
| 8. ___ Hello Muddah, Hello Father | H Ricky Nelson |
| 9. ___ Hello Stranger | I Todd Rundgren |
| 10. ___ Hello Walls | J Louis Armstrong |
| 11. ___ Hello Hello | K Sopwith "Camel" |
| 12. ___ Hello Old Friend | L Eric Clapton |

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



During their recent visit and performance at South Amboy's South Stevens Pub is Rory Kelly, Mike Kelly, Walter Krzyzkowski, and Billy Miller. The Rory Kelly band was once again outstanding, and really rocked the house. (Photo submitted by Walter Krzyzkowski)

Benefit Concert

Jammin for Jaclyn has joined with RJC Charities, Inc., a non-profit organization. We will be running the Jammin for Jaclyn Benefit Concert annually. 100% of the proceeds will go to families in need due to cancer. The benefit this year will be for Wyatt Scott a 2 year old little boy who has Neuroblastoma. He will need multiple surgeries, Chemo and Radiation. Please help this family help their son. The 3rd annual JAMMIN FOR JACLYN BENEFIT CONCERT WILL BE APRIL 16th 2016, at the Knights of Columbus, 308 Fourth Street in South Ambo., 4pm-11pm CONTINUOUS Live Bands. HUGE hot and cold buffet. Adults only please. \$25/pp tickets sold at the door.

Cancer does not discriminate. Anyone can be struck at anytime, please help. Contact Denise Morgan at 732-525-9536 for further information. If you would like to donate prior to the event, checks can be made out to RJC Charities Inc.-please put Jammin for Jaclyn in the memo. Mail to 292 Stevens Avenue South Amboy NJ 08879. <https://www.facebook.com/Jammin-for-Jaclyn-826847727403904/>

Open Mic April 29

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 will hold their next Open Mic Friday April 29 at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy beginning at 8 p.m. If you play a musical instrument or like to sing you are cordially invited. Snacks and refreshments are also available. For more information call 732-721-2025.

#1 Country Hits March 26

- 2003-Travelin' Soldier-The Dixie Chicks
- 1992-Dallas-Alan Jackson
- 1984-Roll On (Eighteen Wheeler)-Alabama
- 1977-Southern Nights-Glen Campbell
- 1964-Saginaw, Michigan-Lefty Frizzell

#1 Pop Hits March 26

- 2006-So Sick-Ne-Yo
- 1998-Gettin' Jiggy Wit It-Will Smith
- 1988-Never Gonna Give You Up-Rick Astley
- 1971-Me And Bobby McGee-Janis Joplin
- 1966-The Ballad Of The Green Berets-SSgt. Barry Sadler



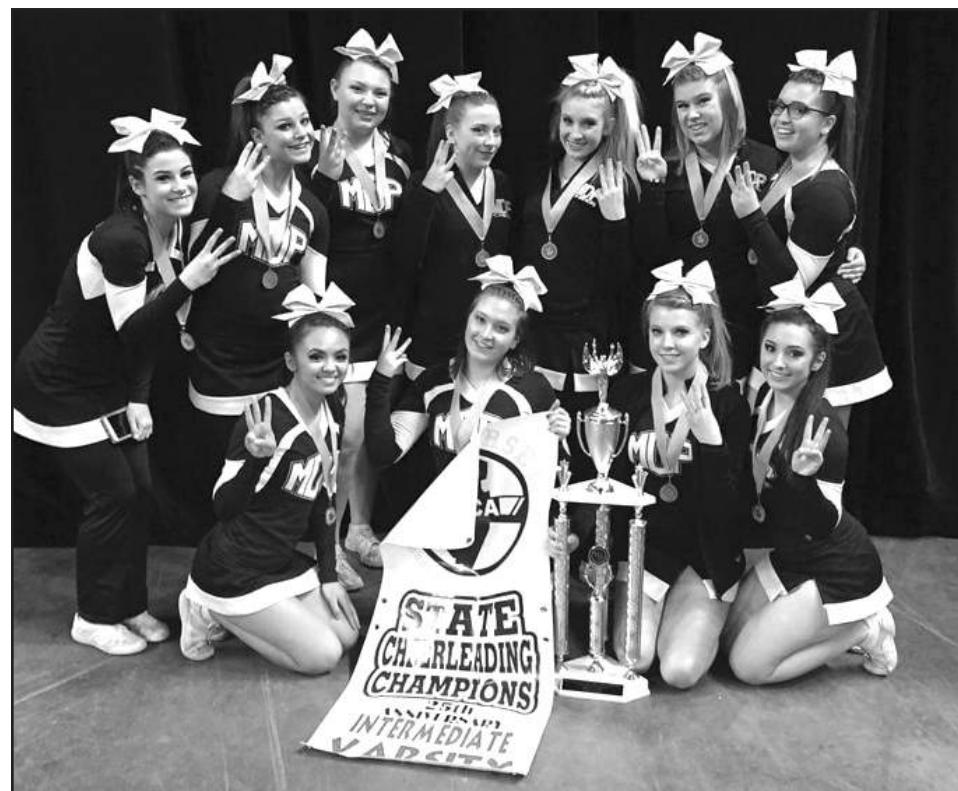
Rory Kelly (r) rocked the South Stevens Pub in South Amboy recently on the band's return trip to NJ.. (Photo by Amy Jones)

Rhonda Rompola Retires

By Steve Schmid

Former Sayreville War Memorial High School basketball star Rhonda Rompola has retired at the age of 56 from her job as head coach of Southern Methodist University's women's basketball team. Rompola said she wanted to spend more time with her husband, play golf, and enjoy their lakeside home. She also said the changes in student athletes factored into her decision. She said the players today are not as coachable as they were years ago. Rompola is leaving the school where she spent the last 35 years as a player and coach. In her final season, the Mustangs went 13-18 and were 7-11 in the American Athletic Conference. Her coaching career ended with a 73-60 loss March 5 in the AAC tournament. She finished her SMU coaching career with a final record of 439-318 and is

SMU's all time leader in coaching victories in any sport. Rompola's coaching highlights include SMU's first ever Western Athletic Conference tournament championship in 1998. She coached the Mustangs to back to back 20 win seasons in 1998 and 1999 and was named WAC Coach of the Year in 1999 for her efforts. Rompola had an outstanding career at Sayreville High School where she was a three-time state and all conference performer. She led the Bombers to a 44-8 record and the 1978 Central Jersey championship. Rompola was inducted into the Sayreville High School Hall of Fame in May 2005. The Sayreville community is proud of Rhonda's accomplishments on the hardwood and wishes her good luck in the future.



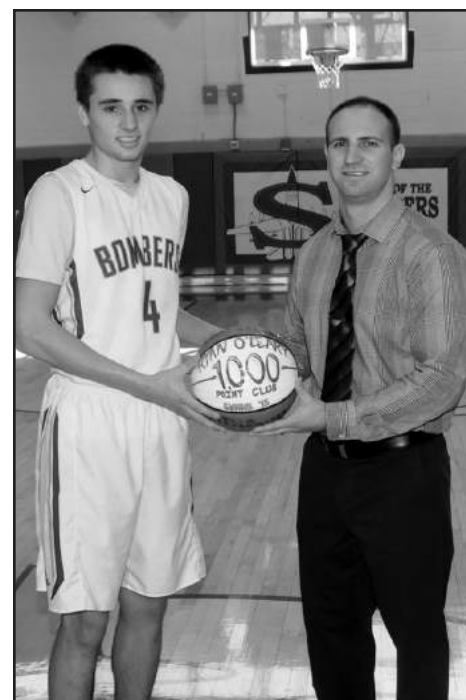
The Mater Dei Prep HS Varsity Cheer Team won the NJCDCA State Championship Title at the Sun Bank Arena in Trenton recently. This is their 3rd year in a row capturing this great achievement.... Way to Go Seraphs!!!! (Photo Submitted)

"Ozzie" Remembered

We just found out the sad news that Bob "Ozzie" Levins 60, formerly of South Amboy, who was a standout basketball player for Hoffman HS in the early 1970's, passed away last year on July 15, 2015 in Florida. During the 1971-72 season, "Ozzie," who was a fine shooter, scored 357 points and averaged 17.0 per game, second best on the Guvs, who finished (20-5). Other standout players on the '71-'72 Purple & Gold squad which was coached by Ray "Butch" Tomaszewski, were leading scorer, Gary Lange, who average 20 points per game, Jimmy Keegan, Ron Croddick, Doug Buckalew, Tom Szatkowski, John Szatkowski, Frank Bongiorno, and Kevin Nemeth. Gary Lange remembered "Ozzie" as a "great teammate", good guy who came over to Hoffman from Sacred Heart Grammar School, and was a good all-around guy."

The last time we saw "Ozzie" was many years ago when he worked as a car salesman for the late Curt Wood at Wood Chrysler in the Melrose section of Sayreville. Our belated condolences to his family.

1000 Points



Sayreville Bombers standout Ryan O'Leary (l) poses with Coach John Wojcik (r) with the ceremonial ball just after Ryan scored his 1000th point. (Photo by Brian Stratton)



Ryan O'Leary puts up a foul shot that fell for his 1000th career point. Congratulations Ryan! (Photo by Brian Stratton)

Locals Star At MCC

(All photos courtesy of Tom Peterson, Middlesex County College)



Brian Gay breezes by an Ocean CC defender.



Brittany Clayton drives by a defender.



Caitlin Norek battles defenders to get a rebound.



Jonathan Bracero of Sayreville drives to the hoop.



Lauryn Materowski throws up a hook shot.



Michael Valentin soars high for another basket.



The Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's connection at Middlesex County College (MCC) pictured (l-r) is Brittany Clayton of Morgan, Madison McNally of Piscataway, Lauren Materowski of Sayreville, Caitlin Norek of South Amboy. The ladies are all class of 2014 Cardinal McCarrick HS players, who now play for Middlesex County College. MCC finished with a (25-4) record, but fell in the NJCAA Region XIX championship against Ocean CC. (Photo/info submitted)

MCC Finishes (25-4)

The Middlesex County College (MCC) women's basketball turned in one of the finest records in the school's history by finishing with a stellar (25-4) mark that included a perfect (15-0) in the conference. MCC was amazing throughout the season, but unfortunately fell in the Division III championship game, 96-80 to Ocean County College (OCC). Middlesex CC featured 4 graduates of Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's on its roster; Brittany Clayton, Caitlyn Norek, Lauryn Materowski, and Madison McNally. Clayton, who averaged 8.3 ppg., scored 2 points and had 2 rebounds in the title contest, while Materowski 4.9 ppg., scored 4 points and ripped 10 rebounds vs. (OCC). Norek averaged 2.5 ppg., and hauled down a rebound in the championship game.

Lewis A Standout At Rutgers

Richie Lewis, son of legendary St. Mary's/Cardinal McCarrick basketball coach Joe Lewis, continues to impress in the collegiate wrestling arena. Lewis, a Rutgers University junior wrestles in the (157) lb. class, and has qualified for the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships at Madison Square Garden. While competing in high school for Toms River East, he finished with a superb 4-year record of (121-22), earning All-American honors twice, and was a 3-time All-Shore Conference choice, as well as a 3-time placewinner in the NJSIAA Tournament. For the last 2 seasons, he wrestled at Iowa Central Community College, and was a National Junior College Athletic Association 2nd and 3rd place finisher in his two years at Iowa Central. Richie dropped a 7-6 heartbreaker to Andrew Atkinson of Virginia in the first round of the NCAA Championships at MSG, to finish a great season with a (26-6) record.

Porcaro Wins Region, Places 4th In State

Sayreville's amazing wrestler, Anthony Porcaro captured his second consecutive Region V championship in the 285-lb. Class, by taking a 3-1 decision in sudden victory over Montgomery's Dylan D'Amore, who is the Somerset County and District Tournament champion.

Porcaro then went on to Atlantic City, and dropped a heartbreaking 3-2 Ultimate Tie-Breaker (UTB) decision, which was decided by a disc flip to Eric Chakonis of Don Bosco in the quarterfinals of the 285-lb. class at the NJSIAA Individual Wrestling championships. Chakonis went on to win the state crown. Porcaro also bowed in the 3rd place consolation contest to Antonio Rodriguez of Buena, 7-5, but claimed 4th place in the state.

Anthony finished a brilliant schoolboy wrestling career with 126 victories, 4 short of the school record held by Ramon Santiago.

School Sports

by Tom Burkard

Boys Basketball

Sayreville (18-10) Ryan O'Leary and Jahsim Floyd were the biggest guns on the talented John Wojcik-coached club. Also contributing throughout the campaign was Henderson Manutes, and Opeluwa Olaloko.

South Amboy (11-15) Kehare Ford, Alan Kazar, Nick Reagan, Justin Lewis, and Isaiah Munoz turned in a fine season for Coach John Zammit.

Girls Basketball

Sayreville (19-8) Isi Enahoro topped the team with a 12.8 scoring avg., Patrice Harding averaged 12 ppg., Monike Akinrefon 10 ppg., Katie Esposito 7.5 ppg., Ryane Brush 7.5 ppg., Jasmine Van Note 6.0 ppg., Nura Sbeah 5.0 ppg., Rebecca Wehrle 4.0 ppg., provided lots of scoring for the Bombers throughout the season. Coach Janet Cook's club looks like it's in good shape for next season, as most of the players will return.

South Amboy (13-10) Beth Noble, Kelsey Kuhn, Serina Townes, Alissa Bikowski and Chelsea Nebus scored big throughout the year.

35 Years Ago

1981-Hoffman girls' basketball team mauled Monroe, 79-20. Linda Smith led the way with 24 points, Patti McCabe scored 19, and Jamie White added 16.

50 Years Ago

1966-Several local high school baseball players were All-State selections: Star Ledger picks-George Armstrong (Sayreville)-third base, All-Groups and Group III; Costy Pawlowski (Sayreville)-pitcher, Group III, 2nd team; Charlie Lynch (Sayreville)-pitcher, Group III, 2nd team. Newark News picks-Armstrong-All-State, All-Groups 3rd Team, 1st team Group III; Lynch-2nd team Group III; Curt Wood (Hoffman)-shortstop, 2nd team Group I; Billy Clayton (Hoffman)-outfielder, 3rd team Group I.

1966-At Rutgers Summer Basketball Camp, Hoffman's Billy Clayton won the Decathlon with 180 points, missing the record by 1, and also captured the foul shooting tournament, hitting 20-for-25.

Rappleeya Top Defenseman

Sean Rappleeya of Sayreville was selected the CCHL Tier 1 Top Defenseman of the Year. Rappleeya, a St. Joseph's HS graduate has excelled for the Ottawa Junior Senators in the CCHL for two seasons, and this year in 60 games has scored 3 goals, dished out 35 assists, for a total of 38 points. Congratulations, Sean! Keep up the good work!

College Notebook

Soph Matt Zebrowski (CBA), and a Sayreville resident captured his second consecutive fly gold medal in 1:49.33 for Seton Hall University at the 2016 Big East Championships.

Brandon Bielak (St. Joseph's), and a resident of Sayreville, is now in his sophomore year pitching for Notre Dame University (6-5). He has no decisions in 3 appearances, and has pitched 9 innings with 7 strikeouts. His ERA is 5.00, but it's early yet, and he should be back to his outstanding freshman year form. In 2015, he turned in an outstanding campaign, that saw him earn a spot on the ACC All-Freshman team; ACC All-Academic Team; ACC Academic Honor Roll; Monogram Winner. The talented right-hander led the Irish with 14 starts, and innings pitched with 88.2. In 17 total appearances, he finished (6-3) with 1 save, a 3.55 ERA, and had 62 strikeouts, #2 on the talented Notre Dame squad that finished (37-23).

Before this season began, he was tabbed by Perfect Game as the #14 prospect in the ACC among players eligible for the 2017 MLB Draft. Brandon was also chosen as the #88 college prospect for the 2017 MLB Draft, and the #57 sophomore in the nation.

Corey Taite (Sayreville) had a super freshman year at Goldey-Beacom College (10-18) in Delaware. He led the Lightning in steals with 58, 2.1 avg., and tied for the top free throw % with an .805. In addition,

NJSIAA State Tournament

CJ Group IV

Boys

1st Round

Sayreville, seeded #9 downed #8 Montgomery, 55-52. Jahsim Floyd topped Bomber scorers with 16 points.

Quarterfinals

Hunterdon Central, seeded #1 ended the Bombers season, 81-71. Ryan O'Leary poured in 23 points to lead Sayreville, while teammates Elijah Clark and Jahsim Floyd scored 18 and 13 points respectively.

CJ Group IV

Girls

1st Round

Sayreville walloped West Windsor-Plainsboro, 73-43. Isi Enahoro had a strong all-around effort by scoring 14 points, grabbing 7 rebounds, and picking up 8 steals. Jasmine Van Note tossed in 10 points and dished out 10 assists.

Quarterfinals

South Brunswick slipped by the Bombers, 57-53 to end another highly-successful campaign for the girls from Sayreville.

CJ Group I

Boys

South Amboy, seeded #7 bowed to Henry Hudson 53-47, despite a balanced scoring attack from Alan Kazar 13 points, Kehare Ford 11, Nick Reagan 11 and Isaiah Munoz 9.

CJ Group I

Girls

Shore seeded #10 shocked #7 South Amboy, 63-33. Beth Noble led the Lady Guvs with 10 points and 8 rebounds, while Chelsea Nebus pumped in 8 points.

Aidoo Wins Title At Meet Of Champions

Sayreville's Benjamin Aidoo captured the 55H title at the Indoor Track Meet of Champions. Aidoo finished at a quick 7:47, over 2nd place finished KiShaun Carter of Brick Memorial, who clocked in at 7:58.

Locals Played At Other High Schools

Through the years, many local athletes/coaches have played/coached at high schools other than St. Mary's/Cardinal McCarrick; Hoffman/South Amboy; Sayreville. If you know of someone we have not mentioned in our past installments, please let us know.

Kevin Lawrence (Sayreville) was a standout pitcher for Bishop Ahr. Joe Vigilante (Hoffman) played baseball for Bishop Ahr. Brendan O'Brien (Sayreville) currently plays 3 sports at Wardlaw-Hartridge. He was captain of the cross country team.

he finished #2 on the club in the following categories: scoring-375 points, 13.9 avg.; assists-75, 2.8; 3-point field goal %-359. Taite is a member of the Sayreville War Memorial HS 1,000 point scoring club... Former St. Mary's HS girls basketball coach Tony Bozzella has led his super Seton Hall University to another terrific season. The Pirates returned to the NCAA Tournament for the second straight year, and were seeded #8 with a (23-8) record...Marques Townes (Cardinal McCarrick, St. Joseph's) had a fine season with Fairleigh Dickinson (18-14). He helped the Knights to their first NCAA Tournament appearance since 2008, and most wins in a decade. Townes scored 365 points, 11.4 avg., to finish #3 in that category, was 3rd in rebounds with 129, 4.0, #3 in assists with 85, and 2nd in steals with 42...Jen Kuziemski-Palmateer (Hoffman) guided her Monmouth University women's basketball team to a (14-17) record this year, and they advanced to the MAAC semis, before bowing to #1 Quinnipiac, 66-59. Alyssa McDonough (Sayreville) topped FDU women hoopsters with assists 106, 4.1, free throws made-114, and free throw pct. 814, and tied for the most 3-point field goals with 45. In addition she was #2 in scoring with 407 points, 15.7 avg...Jehyve Floyd (Sayreville) averaged 2.9 points per game and 1.5 rebounds, and has high hopes of seeing more playing time next season.

The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

Glory Days In Local Sports

1962-Sayreville boys basketball team defeated Madison 67-53. Bob Pawalek led the way with 25 points, soph Jeff Osowski scored 16, Rick Paprota scored 10, and John Karlowitz also tossed in 10. 1975-St. Mary's pounded St. Mary's Perth Amboy, 64-48 in boys hoops. John Miller and John "Herb" Belmonte led the Saints with 18 points apiece, while Matt Stolte tossed in 11. 1984-Hoffman boys basketball team shocked St. Pius, 69-48, as Peter Smith fired in 33 points and Joe Lewis added 25. 1994-In the season opener, St. Mary's girls basketball team destroyed Dunellen, 46-29. Robyn Palomo popped in 16 points, and Shannon Kemble added 14. 2003-South Amboy's Kiersten McCarthy joined the 1,000 point scoring club by pumping in 21 points, as the Lady Gavs fell to Carteret, 70-42 in a 1st round GMCT contest.

College Days

Chris Bielak (St. Joseph's), and a Sayreville resident had an excellent 4-year baseball career while pitching for Marist College from 2010-2013. As a senior, he tied for the team lead in wins, going (7-3) with a 3.59 ERA, and also led the staff with 64 strikeouts. He also had a career high of 11 strikeouts against Niagara University. In 2012, he led Marist with 53 strikeouts in 62.2 innings. As a soph in '11, he was selected for the MAAC All-Academic Team. Bielak's career won-lost mark was a fine (12-9)...Dana Feltz (Sayreville) turned in an incredible collegiate athletic career at William Paterson College. She starred in softball, basketball and soccer and received many honors and awards. Dana scored over 1,000 points in hoops, and in softball, she was selected the 1996 NJAC Rookie-of-the-Year as a freshman. In 1995 and 1997, she was NJAC All-Conference 1st team midfielder in soccer, and during the 1999-2000 season, she was an All-Conference 1st team forward in basketball. In soccer, she ranks in the Top 10 in career goals-25, assists-18, and points-68.

Remembering Jack Vail

By Bill "Biff" McKeon

Like everyone in South Amboy, Jack Vail had a nickname, "Wendo," which wasn't used much during his high school or college days. Jack Vail was an above average basketball and baseball player in both sports at St. Mary's HS, and in 1952, also played baseball for the South Amboy Briggs team, as well as the South Amboy All-Stars. He decided to go to play at Wichita, Kansas instead of going to Johnstown, PA, where he would have been a starter, but instead was a reserve at Wichita.

Jack, as he was normally called, played basketball at the famous "Black Tank" in South Amboy, which was across from his Bertram Ave. abode. He learned to rebound and shoot with the Highlanders best, Tony Lopez and Bob Eppinger.

Jack was the leading scorer on St. Mary's 1949-50 basketball team, which helped him win a Georgetown scholarship. Other players on that team were Luke Lenahan, Bob "Pep" Bennett, George Spiecker, Jerry O'Brien, Eddie South and myself.

He was very adamant about the changing of St. Mary's HS to Cardinal McCarrick, but he spoke very highly of the good Sisters of Mercy and the education they presented to all Eagle students. He was a very good golfer and played nearly every day at his Maui, Hawaii Country Club.

Jack never forgot his roots in South Amboy, whereby he kept in touch with John Quinlan and myself over the years, and took time to visit with his St. Mary's HS classmates whenever possible.

Jack Vail was known as a good judge on this earth, and I am quite sure that the final Judge in Heaven is welcoming him with open hands. God has chosen another former South Amboy basketball star, Jack Vail, to play center for St. Mary's HS Class of '48 Eddie O'Brien's Heaven basketball team.

T.H.E. Game

Sport-Boys Basketball Year-2001

Teams-Sayreville(17-5)vs.St.Mary's(15-8) Recap-In a tight battle, Sayreville prevailed, 54-50, thanks to a balanced scoring attack led by Steve Gitlin 16 points, Samir Sanu 13, Dwayne Thomas 12, and Ryan Charzewski 10. Kevin Burns led the Eagles with 21 points, and John Towlen added 10. Players-of-the-Game-Sayreville's Gitlin, Sanu, Thomas, Charzewski.

Girls' Basketball South Amboy (Part II)

By Fran Fitzmorris

The overwhelming success of the St. Mary's girls' teams from 1921-1925 helped spread the popularity of the girls' teams of both schools in town. Beginning in 1927-28, the St. Mary's team consisted of many younger players. The two future stars of those teams would be Mary Baranowski and Gert Grimes. They were consistently the top scorers. Besides them, other important players were at center or the defensive players, R. Ust, Miss Dooling, Mary Siminac and Jane Farrello. I was able to uncover the names of the South Amboy girls' team from 1930-31. They were, at forward, the Misses White, Goldstein, Applegate, Sabb and Longstreet. Miss Peterson and Miss Steiner were the centers and Miss Brinamen and Miss Colucci were guards. I believe St. Mary's won three out of the four games played those first years. I recently discovered an interesting rule for both the girls and boys. Two-hand set shots were the norm. However, at least into the early thirties, if a player took a one-hand shot from above their heads and made it, it counted only as one point.

The most interesting single girls' game I could find was played between St. Mary's Perth Amboy and St. Mary's South Amboy on a Thursday afternoon in Perth Amboy. When the South Saints arrived, they were notified that the state certified girls' official had failed to show up. The South Saints were talked into allowing a high school girl, there to watch the game, to referee the game so that it could be played. You can imagine what happened! She did not call one foul against the home team. The final score was Perth Amboy 12 and South Amboy 9. I believe it was their only loss for the year.

Unfortunately, all good things, many times, come to an end. St. Mary's girls would not field a team after the 1932 season until 1938-39. The most likely reason was a lack of funds due to the depression. I also believe football was dropped by the late thirties for that reason. All of St. Mary's sports were funded by people from town, going from house to house looking for donations.

In January, 1938, the St. Mary's girls were preparing to open their season. Not everyone was thrilled. A local sportswriter was not happy with the style of play (three in the front court, three in the backcourt) and believed that the game would not be competitive. How wrong he was! The first game was scheduled against St. Peter's New Brunswick. The game ended in a 32-32 tie after one overtime. The varsity girls were led by a Miss Noble who scored 25 points, Miss Ryan with 5 points and a Miss Arete with 2 points. Other varsity players included the Misses Freeman, Thomas, Powderly, Schussler and O'Leary. The J.V. teams tied 20-20. Some of the J.V. players were the Misses Weber, Crowe, Sullivan and Steuber. Only two other games made the paper; the Saints beating Star of the Sea Academy and another where they lost by forty points to Mt. St. Mary's of Plainfield.

This 1942-43 team was coached by Johnny Zdanewicz. After this season, he left for the Air Force. That 1942 season was the last girls' team to be mentioned in the local paper until the late 1970's and early 1980's. The players then were Mary McCoy, Helen Everest, Kathleen Sullivan, Margaret Hollywood, Selma Hollywood, Mary Armstrong and Jean Ryan. The boys' teams continued to be covered weekly, even during the war, to show how popular they were.

From The Sports Archives



2000-The talented St. Mary's Lady Eagles basketball team pictured top row (l-r) Erin Kilduff, Kelly Gardner, Meghan Langan, Heather Baumlin, Megan Olsen, Kaitlyn Katko. Bottom row (l-r) Kelly Kazlauskas, Kara Kurzawa, Lisa DiBernardo, Courtney Kowal, Mary Connolly.

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Sayreville Cultural Arts Upcoming Shows

The following shows have been planned by the Sayreville Cultural Arts Council:
Wednesday, April 6: Jake's Country Band (this is a changed in previously scheduled show) 4 piece band dressed in authentic cowboy attire, playing classic and contemporary country music by popular artists.

Wednesday, May 4: J Mo - Saxophonist and singer. AKA Jerry Mokar, Sayreville native and talented performer.

Wednesday, June 1: The Jersey Girls - provide a truly entertaining musical experience that all ages can enjoy. They will have you up and dancing to the oldies from 60s 70s and more.

All shows are held at 7:30 p.m. at the Sayreville Senior Center, 425 Main St., Sayreville. The shows are free and include light refreshments. All ages welcome!

5K To Benefit Vets

The Old Bridge- Sayreville Rotary Club is hosting a 5K Run to benefit veterans. The event will take place on Sunday, April 24th, 2016 at the Sayreville Sports Complex, 4441 Bordentown Avenue in Sayreville. Deadline for pre-registration is April 22. Cost to pre-register is \$25.00 per runner, and increases to \$30 after April 22nd.

Race Day registration begins at 8:00 AM, with the 5K Run kicking off at 9:30 AM. The 5K will be preceded by a Kids 1 Mile Fun Run at 9:00 AM. The cost for the fun run is \$15 for pre-registered participants and \$20 after April 22. The Fun Run is limited to children 12 years and under. Sign up at: www.raceforum.com/5kforvets.

For more information or sponsorship opportunities, contact Rotary Club of Old Bridge-Sayreville 5K Committee Chairman, Lawrence Zucconi at 732-673-3729

Calling All Irish!

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND - Join Merynda Adams and Christopher Collins Lee as they team up for this wonderful concert of music for violin and harp. Christopher Collins Lee is a world-famous violinist who holds degrees from the Juilliard School of Music, a Doctorate from SUNY Stony Brook, and five Honorary Doctorates from foreign institutions. Merynda Adams, an internationally renowned harpist, has performed throughout the United States, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Puerto Rico. Ms. Adams has performed with the New Jersey Symphony, New York Grand Opera, New Philharmonic, and many others. Sunday-April 3, 2016; 4:00 pm, at Saint Mary Church, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy NJ, 08879! Free admission (\$15 donation suggested). A special IRISH RECEPTION will follow the concert in honor of Saint Patrick's Day!



Dowdell Library Director Elaine Gaber (c) is pictured after presenting prizes to the winners of the 102nd Anniversary Appetizer Cooking Contest, Allison Stickle (l), who won 1st Place for Best Cold Appetizer, and Maryanne Matarangolo, who won the top prize for Best Overall. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

WWW.?



See if you can identify this local building. It is located in either South Amboy or Sayreville. Send your answers in to: satimes@aol.com.

February Winners

There were many winners last month who correctly identified the Mystery Photo as Metaline, a business across the street from Protection Fire Co. on North Feltus St. in South Amboy. The winners were: Chuck Pickard, Pat & Bill Scully, Marie English, Jane Wortley, Dennis Quinlan, W. Tom Kross, Joan Gorczyca, John Gelsinon, Rosanne Nizolek, Jay McKeon, Mary Agnes Morris, Joan Fulham, Don Zrebiec, Kelly Heinz, Nancy Berry, Peggy Yuhas, Jack Piskorski, Gerry Sherry, Lynn Loy, Elizabeth Leveille, Gary Feret, Lisa Grankowski, Ish Ambroziak, Scott V. Farina, Walter Starzec



February WWW.?

Jr., Judy Guilfoyle. One incorrect answer submitted was Raritan Printing, the same block as Metaline, but the wrong answer. Congratulations to the winners!

Former St. Mary's Nuns Celebrate Milestones

By Steve Schmid

Sister Frances Hewitt is celebrating 80 years of service as a Sisters of Mercy nun in the Catholic church. She took her religious vows in 1936 and showed a strong interest in ability in mathematics during her early years in the novitiate. Her first apostolic assignment was teaching, and she began her career at St. Mary's elementary school in South Amboy where she spent 16 years teaching mostly math. She went on to teach at Notre Dame Diocesan High School in Lawrenceville, Holy Spirit in Absecon, Cathedral High School in Trenton, and St. Pius X Diocesan School in Piscataway among others. Today Sister Frances resides at McAuley Hall Health Center in Watchung and is happy she chose to be a Mercy Sister.

A significant milestone is also being observed by a nun who taught at St. Mary's..Sister Francesca Holly is celebrating 60 years as a Sisters of Mercy nun. She graduated from Georgian Court College (now University), earning a bachelor's degree in English and a master's in theology. Sister Francesca started teaching English at Red Bank Catholic High School. On the elementary level she taught at St. Mary's in South Amboy, Our Lady of the Sea School in Atlantic City, St. Joseph School in Bound Brook, and St. Mary's in Perth Amboy.

Sister Francesca is now retired and living at Mount Saint Mary's Gabriel Hall in Watchung.

Letter

Dear South Amboy Residents, I have been a teacher at South Amboy Elementary School for 12 years now. I have seen something occurring much more frequently that scares me very much. What I am seeing is numerous residents making illegal U-turns in the middle of the street. Not only is this illegal, but it is extremely dangerous. Nobody expects to see this and the consequences could be dire. Please take the extra couple of minutes and drive around the block. Please, please stop making these illegal U-turns, ESPECIALLY in front of the elementary school. I would hate to see a tragedy occur as a result. Thank you. Bryan H. Jenner, M.Ed.

Selling Your Stuff on Amazon & eBay

Learn the basics of buying and selling on Amazon and eBay at Sayreville Public Library on Tuesday, April 12 from 6:00 to 8:00PM! This beginner's level course will cover how to both buy and bid on items using both services. You will also learn how to setup accounts on both services and post items for sale to start selling your stuff! This course will also cover how to use PayPal to accept payments.

For more information or to register, contact Alaina at alainad@laxac.org or call 732-727-0212 ex. 25. You may also register online at www.sayrevillelibrary.org/!



The South Amboy Schools Marching Band were on hand for the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day parade and they did a great job! (Photo by Brian Stratton)

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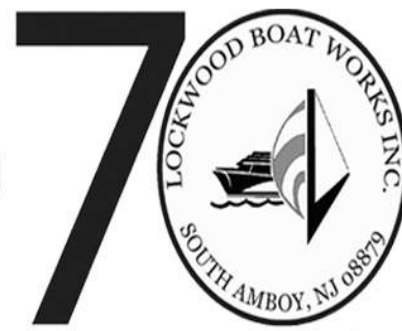
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The Spinal Column
By
Dr. John Misiewicz

Soccer Risks

Research is inconclusive on whether repeatedly bouncing a soccer ball off young player's head can affect the child's thinking ability. Some studies have found that players who suffer repeated blows to the head can suffer impaired brain function years later. Players can also suffer head injuries by running into other players or a goal post, or striking their head on the ground in a fall. Research indicates on crash test dummies that the impact of a ball is powerful enough to warrant head protection.

A study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association in 1999 reported that amateur soccer player scored lower than other amateur athletes on test of memory and planning. The researchers suspected that repeated blows to the head might be the reason. Other studies in Europe, found similar problems in elite players.

Researcher Mariccz Ziejewski of North Dakota State University tested the impact of soccer balls on crash test dummies heads and used computer modeling to estimate what those results could mean in terms of brain injury. The balls struck the heads with 150 – 200 pounds of force, which Ziejewski considered to be less than those which can occur in a goal.

In a properly headed ball, the forehead takes the impact, and bent knees absorb much of the force. But in an improperly headed ball by an inexperienced player who may be caught by surprise, movement of the head creates rotational forces on the brain. Some of the impact would be sufficient to create shearing stresses that could stretch and deform brain tissue, if the ball is not headed properly. If you execute the header properly, the effect on your brain is most likely minimal, however, if you get hit in the head and don't expect it, it could be a different story.

Even though there are few reported cases of concussion, which itself is not always easily to identify on the field. The cumulative effect of repeated head trauma could not be taken too lightly.



Fishing Flashes

By Teo "Weebles" Weber

Salt Water

Striped Bass and Winter Flounder fishing opened on March 1st. As for now, fishing for either one, is not too good. One keeper Striper was caught, so far, in the bay. A few keepers were caught in south Jersey. I checked Cliffwood and Ideal Beaches a few times. I did not see any fish but was told of only a few bites. Bunkers have arrived in the bay that means an early Bluefish run is not far behind. In Shark River and Barnegat Bay it's only a pick on Flounders. Bottom fishing on the Party Boats is slow with a few Ling, some Cod and a few Pollock. Dogfish are present in water depths over 150 feet causing a nuisance. Special off-shore Cod trips are not too much better either. The Feds imposed stricter Sea Bass regulations with bag limit cuts and a size increase a half inch up to 13 inches in the fall. The Fluke season this year will be May 21st to September 25th.

Fresh Water

Opening Day Trout season begins on Saturday April 9th. All the Trout stocked will be Rainbows due to the disease problems at the hatchery. Shad are moving up the Delaware River. A few have been caught in the lower reaches of the river. This fishing will be better later at the end of the month. My wife and I took a long ride to Tilcon Lake one weekend in mid March. We did a lot of casting. She had a small Pickerel follow her lure and that was all the action we saw. We caught nothing, but neither did anyone else fishing from shore or from their Kayaks.

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Long, Long Ago



This vintage photo shows the old Raritan Diner in the late 1920's to early 1930's, when it immediately established itself as one of South Amboy's most remembered icons. (Photo/story submitted by Charlie Koerner and Joe Lotkowitz)

Dowdell Library Card Offers Access To Hi-Tech

Dowdell Library will be celebrating its 102nd anniversary this year and is happy to announce that South Amboy residents have access to the latest and greatest in hi-tech! Check out the following services and either drop in or access downloadable services via the website at www.dowdell.org

Free Downloadable E-books & E-audio- Enjoy these collections on your computer (PC or Mac) or transfer the title to a compatible eBook reader (including Kindle, Nook, Sony, iPad, and iPod Touch). Browse the eBooks collection to find popular and classic novels, non-fiction, study guides, mysteries, romance, Young Adult literature, and more!! Just go to www.dowdell.org, select Dowdell Library, and sign in using your 14 digit library card number. Join in on the Advantage program to get first dibs on new releases. E-book help is also available.

Kindles- Dowdell Library has a selection of Kindles that adults can borrow for two weeks. Each kindle is loaded for every reading level. Patrons can borrow one kindle at a time, and parents must sign out Kindles for teens and young children.

Boopsie-Library App. Have the Dowdell Library at your fingertips 24/7. From any mobile phone connected to the Internet you can instantly tap into library resources, anytime, anywhere. You can search the library catalog, check your account, ask a question, and more! The App even offers a feature called BookLook that allows you to scan a book ISBN barcode anywhere you are to see if the Dowdell Library owns it. If you're at a bookstore you can just scan the book's ISBN barcode, see if the library owns it, and if so, just place a reserve on it right from your phone.

Zinio- The award-winning digital magazine service, is also available. Your library card gives you access to over 100 magazine titles, including Bloomberg Businessweek, Cosmopolitan, Elle, ESPN, Marie Claire, and much more! All you have to do is create an account, put in your 14 digit library card, and be all set to browse the collection!

Indieflix- This streaming movie service provides unlimited access to award-winning shorts, feature films, and documentaries. With thousands of films to choose from across more than 50 countries. Use your library card through our website to create an account and start viewing films immediately.

Free Wi-Fi. Dowdell Library offers free wireless web access for patrons using personal devices such as cell phones, Kindles, and iPads. Need to print a document off your wireless device? Now you can with the wireless printer. Log onto the Dowdell Library website to get the App to automatically print from your cell phone, laptop or iPad.

Scanner- Dowdell Library now has a large format scanner to preserve South Amboy heritage. Drop in any evening and ask us to add your South Amboy memorabilia to our archives; we'll scan the photograph or South Amboy memorabilia on the spot.

Sadie Studio- Children, teens and adults could have fun with make-it-yourself (MIY) projects that are geared towards STEM learning. Learn how to use a 3D printer! Participants will be able to make three dimensional objects online, then transfer their work to the 3d printer; a Librarian will assist. Moreover, enjoy using fun electronic kits, making healthy smoothies, 3D printing, hand crafts and sewing, and many more technologies.

Faxes, photocopier, etc. - Dowdell Library provides the option to fax documents; a small charge covers telecommunications' costs. A photocopier and computer printer can be used any time during library hours.

SmartPay- Have a fine, but don't have cash on you? Now you can pay online with SmartPay. Just log onto the library website and type in your 14 digit library card number and four digit pin to access your account and pay online.

Need homework help? Ask your librarian! Get quality online resources such as JerseyClicks on the library's web page. Resources are available for consumer or health advice as well as educational resources for every age – from elementary school to college-level.

National Library Week takes place in April. Special programs as well as the monthly calendar will be highlighted on the library's webpage.

The library is adjacent to the South Amboy High School off O'Leary Blvd. Library hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 10 am – 8 pm; Wednesday and Friday 10 am – 5 pm and Saturday 12 noon – 4 pm. Directions: www.dowdell.org For additional information, contact the library at comments@dowdell.org or 732-721-6060.

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Dr. Seuss Day



Commander of the American Legion Post 62 Bob Sekerak presenting member Jim Cannon with The National American Legion 50 year consecutive membership award. (Photo by Phyllis Letteriello)



St. Stan's students listen intently as Lisa Grover, fourth grade teacher at St. Stan's School, reads during Literacy Night (Dr. Seuss Day) on March 2nd. (Photo Submitted)

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Obituaries

Barrett, John III, 56, formerly of South Amboy died on March 2.
 Burdak, George J., 94, of Sayreville died on March 8.
 Cislo, Michael S., 48, formerly of Morgan/South Amboy died on March 7.
 Eden, Ronald J., 77, of Sayreville died on March 3.
 Grace, Christopher J., 37, of Parlin died on March 8.
 Hanlon, Helen, 88, of Parlin died on March 8.
 Hrankowski, Rita I., of South Amboy died on Feb. 22.
 Jablonski, Sister Mary Theresine, 93, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 18.
 Joyce, Christine E. Nemeth, 60, formerly of Sayreville died on Dec. 14.
 Kazar, Janet, 82, of Morgan died on March 6.
 Kugel, Helen M., 93, of Sayreville died on March 1.
 Lambert, Donald J., 87, of Parlin died on Feb. 29.
 Levins, Robert "Ozzie," 60, formerly of South Amboy died on July 15, 2015.
 Lewis, Lisa A., 51, formerly of Sayreville died on Feb. 20.
 Malinowski, John G. "Mr. Mal," 93, of South Amboy died on March 9.
 Marks, Edward J., 82 of Parlin died March 19.
 Norton, Victor Jr., 78, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 22.
 O'Brien, Sister Mary William, 99, formerly of South Amboy died on March 2.
 Paczkowski, Edmund J., 78, of South Amboy died on March 12.
 Poulson, Alice B., 72, of Sayreville died on Feb. 25.
 Puchalski, Raymond E., 86, of Sayreville died on March 6.
 Sano, Americo "Rico," 86, of Parlin died on March 5.
 Vail, Judge John T. "Jack", 83, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 16.
 Wrobel, Jean M., 71, of Sayreville died on March 5.

In Loving Memory

John T. DiPoalo
 4/10/1925 - 3/23/2001
 It is hard to believe that it's been 15 years

Dad.... Remembering you is easy, I do it every day. Missing you is the heartache that never goes away.

Love and miss you,
 Christina DiPoalo Olender,
 Benjamin and Ian Olender

4th Annual Autism Awareness Swim-A-Thon

The fourth annual Autism Awareness Swim-A-Thon, an event to benefit Autism NJ, takes place from 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 23 at the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey's (ESCNJ) Aquatics & Fitness Center, 333 Cheesapeake Road, Parlin.

This year's Swim-A-Thon is dedicated to Marika O'Rourke, beloved friend, teacher, and supporter of Autism Awareness, who passed away earlier this year. "Marika was a terrific teacher and Swim-A-Thon participant, so we wanted to dedicate this year's event to her memory," said Academy Learning Center Principal Erik Solberg, a Trustee for

Autism NJ, and one of the coordinators of the Swim-A-Thon. "We encourage swimmers to find sponsors to make donations on a per lap basis," said Dr. Solberg. "Non-swimmers can also show their support by making a donation," he added.

To participate or make a donation to the Swim-A-Thon, please contact Katelyn Dauphinee, Aquatics Coordinator, at (732) 317-0333 or KDauphinee@mresc.k12.nj.us. Autism NJ, founded in 1965, is the largest network of parents and professionals dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Additional information about the Swim-

A-Thon or Autism New Jersey can be found at www.mresc.k12.nj.us, and www.autismnj.org. The ESCNJ (formerly the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission), includes seven schools for student's ages 3-21 with autism, multiple disabilities, and at-risk behaviors, including two schools with on-site clinical support services. The ESCNJ provides shared services in all 21 counties, coordinates statewide transportation services for nearly 14,000 students, and manages a Cooperative Pricing System with over 1,000 members, the largest cooperative buying program in New Jersey.

Conservation Corp Interviews

The Borough of Sayreville will be conducting interviews for the Conservation Corp on April 20, 2016 at Borough Hall in room 310 at 3:00pm. All interested applicants should bring their applications to the interview and working papers if under 18 years of age.



2012-Ed Paczkowski, proudly shows a painting of his father, Frank Paczkowski Sr., who founded Frank's Meat Market back in 1928. The store later became South Amboy Foodtown. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Ed Paczkowski Remembered-continued from page 1

Club, served on the Foodtown Board, the Twin County Grocers Board, South Amboy Trust Co. Board, Sacred Heart Mom & Dad's Club, and St. Mary's Eagles Athletic Association. He was named Citizen of the Year for South Amboy in 1990, South Amboy Businessman of the Year in 2002 by the Old Bridge-Sayreville-South Amboy Chamber of Commerce, Businessman of the Year in 2005 by the Pete Kenny Association, and in 2007 served as the Middlesex County Grand Marshal of the 2007 Pulaski Day Parade in New York City. He was an avid train hobbyist, and at Christmastime he would bring out his trumpet at Foodtown, and help to get shoppers at his store in the Christmas spirit. Ed wore many different hats and wore them all very well. He put his heart and soul into any endeavor he attempted.

Paczkowski also had a love for sports as a player, coach and spectator. A 1955 graduate of St. Mary's HS, he played varsity basketball under the legendary coach Woodrow "Woody" McCarthy. Following graduation, he played on the first Monmouth College (now University) basketball team. He later went on to compete in the South Amboy Men's Basketball League for about 30 years, where he was a prolific scorer and rebounder, and is believed to be the league's all-time leading scorer with approximately 3,000 points. During the 1971-72 season, he finished 2nd in the league in scoring with 166 points, and a 20.6 avg. while a player/coach for his team, the South Amboy A.A. He also played in the South Amboy Men's Slow Pitch Softball League for several years, and in 1972, won 10 games (tied for the 2nd most in the league), pitching for the Mechanicsville Bombers.

Paczkowski also coached Sacred Heart boys 6th Grade basketball team for 13 years, and won many championships, while turning out some very talented young players. He also enjoyed throwing horseshoes, and in the late 1980's, early 90's, he participated in the South Amboy Horseshoe Tournaments.

Surviving is his wife Judy and their children and spouses: Edmund Jr., Lynn & Anthony Ascione, Frank, Judy & Greg McCabe, JoEllen & Don Sofilkanich, Gregory & Diana. Ed was predeceased by his son Jerry in 1983. He is also survived by 10 grandchildren: Anthony, Josie, Frankie, Brayden, Jack, Erin, Emily, Ashley, Taylor, and Brooke and Baby Boy due to arrive next month. Also surviving are his brothers and sister and their spouses: Frank, Raymond & Ella, John & Theodora, Stanley & Marge, and Helen & Warren Eberle. In addition, his cousins and many nieces and nephews.

Comments

Mayor Fred Henry "South Amboy lost a really great friend. He was very generous to the city, always helping out and volunteering."

Father Stanley Gromadzki, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in his eulogy at the funeral Mass, with over 500 people in attendance, said that "Ed was a giant of a man, not only in size, but with a kind and generous heart. When I first came to Sacred Heart Church there was a large tabernacle

in the rectory that needed to be repaired and I asked the parishioners at Mass if anyone could help with a donation so we could get it repaired, and immediately, Ed and his wife Judy volunteered to donate the money, and we now have a beautiful tabernacle on the altar dedicated in memory of their son Jerry. Edu meant so much to so many people. He was "Mr. South Amboy."

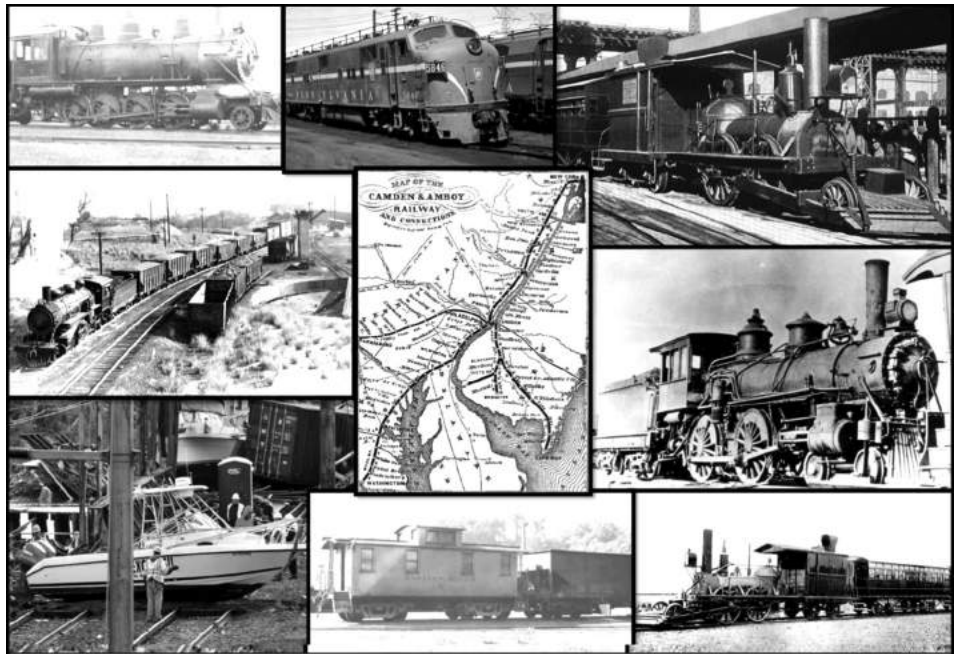
Al Gomolka Jr. "Edu was a big man in the town of South Amboy, not only in his stature, but with his heart. I considered Ed South Amboy's number 1 citizen, because he was always first to volunteer his time and money, his energy and love to the community, events, associations, his church, or private concerns. A true Christian, Ed will be missed."

Steve Schmid "We're going to miss him at the Knights of Columbus Car Show, and seeing that big black Cadillac there. He was a fixture there. My wife Cheryl and I enjoyed working with him and his wife Judy on the Sacred Heart 100th Anniversary Yearbook Committee. Without Ed's research and input, the yearbook would not have been nearly as good."

I personally will miss Ed, who I considered a very good friend, and excellent businessman. He truly loved his family, South Amboy, sports, life, and so much more. He wasn't just a highly-successful businessman. Ed was a down-to-earth individual, a regular guy, a friend to so many people, who came from all walks of life. It seemed like he was always there to help, whether it was the church, schools, or fraternal organizations through the years, plus he was always the first to volunteer when someone was in need. He was a straight-shooter, and a perfect role-model for his children, grandchildren, and the youngsters he coached for many years. May God Bless him."

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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



The Historical Society of South Amboy
4th Annual Open House

- Guest speakers will discuss the railroad and its influence on South Amboy
- Local history, old photos, genealogy, artifacts and more...
 - Bring your photos to scan and share

April 30, 2016 12pm-3pm

Free hot dogs and other refreshments

Senior Center, 108 S. Stevens, South Amboy

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

Visit us on Facebook for more details

Website hsosouthamboy.wix.com/hssa

historicalsocietyofsouthamboy@gmail.com



Well, you've heard of the first robin of spring...Here's the first turtle of spring, a Red-Eared Slider spotted at a local lake taking in some sun after a long winter. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

South Amboy High School Players



The South Amboy High School Players presented "Beauty And The Beast" earlier this month to near capacity crowds all three nights. The show was directed by Brian and Phyllis Stratton (with assistance from Adam Scapolatempore), Choreography by Samantha Stratton, Stage Managers Paul Murphy and Joe Przybylski. The principal cast: Belle - Melissa Hoehman, Beast - Jayson Olivares, Lumiere - Randy Breigle, Mrs. Potts - Hailey Krainski, Cogsworth - Louis Mastro, Gaston - Brandon Kubinak, Lefou - Philip Joks, Madame de la Grande Bouche (Wardrobe) - Zoe Liptak, Maurice - Liam Roberts, Babette - Ashley Rodriguez, Chip - Franchesca Sambucci, Silly Girl 1 - Skylar Honimar, Silly Girl 2 - Breanna Vazquez, Silly Girl 3 - Aliyah White, Monsieur D'Arque/Baker - Theodore Lenahan, Bookseller - Emma Schaefer. A total cast and crew of 104 ranging from grades pre-K to 12th did a great job and all are looking forward to next year's production. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

The South Amboy St. Patrick's Parade Committee wish to thank all of the following businesses, organizations, and individuals for their generous donations which cover the cost of bands and other expenses for our parade.

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(Photos by Brian Stratton)

Thank you Chief Darren LaVigne for coordinating the day's event with other police depts. and for keeping our city safe, and thank you to Mayor Fred Henry and Council for all of your support.

Parade Committee
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 Cathy Schwartz, Secretary
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 Jeremiah O'Grady, Website Coordinator
 Marilyn Grillo-Springer, Communications
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SAVE THE DATE!
NEXT YEAR'S PARADE IS
SATURDAY, MARCH 11TH, 2017



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARADE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FOR NEXT YEAR: WWW.SOUTHAMBOYPARADE.COM

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ANYONE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING ON THE COMMITTEE, PLEASE CONTACT SAPARADE3@GMAIL.COM.