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The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

**This issue is
dedicated to**

- *James J. "Jim" Brennan
- *Gerald "Otis" Garnett
- *Mary Noble
- *Eugene "Gene" O'Toole
- *Jeanne Polinski
- *John Rucki
- *Daniel Salvaggio



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NJ 101.5 Salutes Two Sayreville Officers

By Steve Schmid

New Jersey 101.5 FM morning host Bill Spadea wanted to let his listeners know that two Sayreville police officers have a great heart. On his February 12 show in his Blue Friday segment, Spadea said police officers have no idea what they face when they're dispatched to a call. He said a little boy was upset that he broke his toy police car. The officers went to the scene because a child had called 911 and you could never tell what danger the child might be in. Spadea said Sayreville police officers Vicky Treator and Matt Salvatore met the little boy who had called because he had a broken toy police car. He was hoping to get a toy police car for his birthday the following week. Spadea said the officers had to be relieved there was no crisis and with that said, the officers did what the good guys do. They stepped up to the plate and bought the little boy a brand new toy police car. Spadea added this small action is a great example of the humanity of our police force. They are our neighbors, friends, family members, and sometimes the bearer of gifts. He went on to publicly thank Officer Treator and Officer Salvatore for their act of kindness. He added they are great examples of the men and women who wear the uniform and protect and serve the people of New Jersey.



A question/answer session was recently held at the Hillcrest Manor in South Amboy. Pictured (l-r) South Amboy Board of Education VP, Anthony Conrad, NJ State Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Mary Porcello, Ann Marie Applegate, South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry, Marge Gorczyca, Lorraine Zebro Kennedy. (Photo/info courtesy of Dawn Gorczyca)

South Amboy Gets Legislative Grant

Large or small, any municipality that is a home to mass transportation has to be ready to monitor and respond to emergencies. That difficult job became a bit easier for the South Amboy Police Department with its recent launch of a city-wide closed circuit camera system.

This new system, funded through a legislative grant arranged by Speaker Craig Coughlin [D-19], consists of 37 camera locations that monitor the NJ Transit Station in the City and all road and pedestrian access points to the transit hub.

Powered by the Verizon FIOS network, the system is operational around the clock and provides live and recorded video streams that are fed directly to the South Amboy Police Dispatch center.

"In addition to the upgrade of our downtown street lights to LED, this grant opportunity allowed us to obtain a state-of-the-art camera system that will allow for constant monitoring of public spaces in and around the NJ Transit station" said Mayor Fred Henry. "Moving forward we plan to integrate a similar system in our Ferry Terminal complex that will allow seamless operation to the existing network."

South Amboy is one of the first four designated New Jersey Transit villages and upon completion of their ferry terminal will be the only community with that designation to have both rail and ferry service in close proximity.

"Leveraging grant opportunities like this have stimulated robust waterfront residential development in the City" said Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski. "With the unprecedented demand for market rate housing coupled with our very desirable waterfront location and easy availability of mass transit, South Amboy has seen a boom in redevelopment projects".

Later this year construction of two warehouse projects on lower Main Street on the north end of the City are expected to begin as well as a new sanitary sewer pumping station.

"As we continue to grow, my administration will continue to work on infrastructure improvements to support development projects and provide optimum services for all of our residents", Henry said.



The City of South Amboy recently received a legislative grant for a city-wide closed circuit camera system. (Photo/info submitted)

Bailey - Bebert To Chair Sayreville GOP

On January 19th the Sayreville GOP held their first committee meeting of the year, and installed Karen Bailey Bebert as their new Chair. The previous Chair, Donna Roberts announced that she will step down from the position in order to concentrate on her campaign to retain her Sayreville Borough Council election in 2022.

Councilwoman Roberts stated, "by stepping down from the Chair role, I will be able to serve Sayreville even better through my outreach as a councilwoman. Karen Bailey Bebert is well suited for the role and the party is in an excellent position for growth and to protect individual freedoms."

Chair Bebert jumped right into action, building the standing committees with some new, and some existing officers including: Ken Kreisler, Treasurer; Anna O'Leary, Secretary; Donna Roberts, Vice Chair Communications; Heidi Farley, Vice Chair

Administration; David Lewis, Vice Chair Technology. Additional committees include Membership, Fund Raising, Hospitality and an Internship Program.

Bebert said, "I am looking forward to a successful year, we are building the party and want to make a difference for the people of Sayreville."

There will also be some updates and revisions to the bylaws and the introduction of new standing committees including the Election Integrity Committee, formerly instituted by previous Chair Roberts and the Campaign Committee established by Chair Bebert to continue to ensure the right candidates are selected and have the tools they need to be successful.

For more information including monthly meetings, calendar of events and current news, visit SayrevilleGOP.org.

Honor and Respect



South Amboy Police Dept. placed one of their patrol vehicles next to the SAPD monument with black and blue bunting to show honor and respect to murdered Police officers within the last month. (Photo/info by Jamie Norek)

Corned Beef Dinner March 20

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 are holding their annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner Sunday March 20 at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy after the St. Patrick's Day parade in the city. Enjoy a sit down or take-out dinner with potatoes, cabbage, and dessert plus Irish music. For more information call Gary at 732-512-8923 or 732-721-2025



Last month, the Manhattan Beach waterfront developers appeared before The South Amboy Planning Board for modifications to their Phase II building. During their presentation, one of the principals for the project, Jonathan Schwartz, noted that the street name had been chosen for their Station Bay roadway. It is "1000 Schindler Drive." When asked the reason for choosing that name, he explained in detail; "It is in honor of Oskar Schindler," a German industrialist who saved more than a thousand mostly Polish-Jewish refugees from the Holocaust by employing them in his factories during WW II. Jonathan's grandfather was saved by Oskar Schindler. The Holocaust, a sad story for mankind. Manhattan Beach & Station Bay, a great project & neighbor in South Amboy. Schindler Drive, a new road in 2022 for South Amboy's Renaissance! (Photo/Info Submitted by Dr. Jorge Gonzalez-Gomez)

Next Issue March 26th -- Deadlines March 14th

St. Patrick's Day Parade, Easter

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The gazebo at Raritan Bay Waterfront Park is covered in white after snow fell on Super Bowl Sunday (Photo by Steve Schmid)

Super Bowl Sunday Sees White

By Steve Schmid

This year's Super Bowl Sunday saw a blanket of white that surprised residents, since the previous day temperatures reached the upper 50s and spring was in the air. Residents planning Super Bowl parties saw about 4 inches of snow on the ground. The snow was pretty and accumulated on branches, bushes, lawns, and wires. Fortunately the snow failed to stick to sidewalks, driveways, and streets since they were still warm from the previous day. The snow was a nuisance for people going to church or Super Bowl

parties because they had to brush it off their cars before traveling. The snow didn't last long as temperatures got back to the low 60s February 17 and 18. Our biggest snowstorm for the season occurred Saturday January 29 when nine inches blanketed the area. That storm forced the cancellation of church services and other activities and closed Raritan Bay Waterfront Park to traffic for a couple of days. The good news is the days are getting longer and we're getting closer to the first day of spring Sunday March 20.

Talk Of The Towns

By Tom Burkard

"Biff" & "Lady" Elizabeth

Our very special congratulations are extended to former South Amboy/Sayreville residents Bill "Biff" McKeon and his wife "Lady" Elizabeth (Unfried) McKeon on their 65th Wedding Anniversary, which was celebrated on February 9th. We wish you God's blessings for many more happy days together!

Mardi Gras Night March 5

Our Lady of Victories Council #2061, located at 775 Washington Rd., Parlin, will present Mardi Gras Night at their hall on March 5th from 7 pm to midnight. The price is \$40 p/p and includes open bar, nice, Mardi Gras themed buffet, live music by the great Mardi Gras Band-Noisy Neighbors, prizes for best dressed couple. "Bring ya' beads! Your Mardi Gras chefs are Jerry Freeman and Fast (but not too fast) Eddie Reagan for your culinary fare. Be sure to book your tables of 8 early. Call Bayou Joe 646-483-2883.

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

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P.O. BOX 3027 • SOUTH AMBOY N.J. 08879
 Tel/Fax 732-727-0398
 email: satimes@aol.com
 website: thesatimes.com

Publisher Tom Burkard
Associate Publisher Brian Stratton

Feature Writers
 Elaine Holton Scott Steve Schmid
 Teo Weber John Phillips
 Clem Skarzynski Richard Kosmoski
 Dr. John Misiewicz

Layout Design Phyllis Stratton
Photographer Jamie Norek

Poet Laureate Albert Gomolka Jr.

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Pleasant Little TRIVIA By Tom Burkard

- In 1999, where was the Sayreville Hobby Place located?
 a. Washington Rd. b. Boehmurst Ave. c. MacArthur Ave.
- Honorary Grand Marshal in 2012 South Amboy St. Patrick's Parade?
 a. Harold Topper b. Hershey Patel c. Patrick O'Herlihy
- In '92, where was Covello's Italian Restaurant Seafood & Cocktail Lounge located in Sayreville?
 a. Washington Rd. b. Rt. 35 North c. Rt. 9 South
- Selected new Business Administrator for South Amboy in 2002?
 a. John Mason b. Natasha Kant c. James Maloney
- Sadie Pope Dowdell Library Director in 2002?
 a. Phil Israel b. Elaine Gaber c. Mary G. Whitburn
- In '97, this person was chosen Chairman of the Sayreville Housing Authority?
 a. Irv Tischler b. William Jackson c. Ricardo Montalvo
- In '96 he was selected Sacred Heart Church Holy Name Society's Man of the Year?
 a. Edward Zrebiec b. Frank Sullivan c. Albert Gomolka Sr.
- Don Giovanni in South Amboy was previously known as?
 a. Main St. Pub b. The Corner Bar c. Ogan's Tavern
- In 2011, where was Sayreville Seafood & Deli located?
 a. Pulaski Ave. b. Ernston Rd. c. Washington Rd.
- What section of Sayreville is Oak St.?
 a. Morgan b. Melrose c. President Park

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

Business Of The Month
Gabriele Group
D.B.A. Schwartz and Nagle
Tires & Complete Auto Care



The excellent staff at Schwartz & Nagle (l-r) John Rush, Matthew Gabriele, David Szucs and Brian Diaz.

A staple of the South Amboy and Sayreville communities have been the Gabriele family, owners of Gabriel Tire & Auto for over 50 years. Vince Gabriele opened in 1963, after working in the business for over 17 years with Firestone. He operated there with a great crew which included his son in law, Tom. His son, Jerry, joined after graduating college in 1976. They ran the business together until Vince's passing in 1988.

Jerry's oldest son, Vincent John, would "dabble" there summers and weekends during high school and college years before moving on. Younger son, Matt,

came aboard in 2009. He and his dad now operated until 2012, when they sold to STS, now Mavis Tire.

But, this business is who they are. In June 2021, they purchased Schwartz and Nagle Tire & Auto in Highland Park. They added John Rush, formerly of Weber's Garage, who brings over 40 years of experience with him.

To them, service is key. They are a full service Auto Repair Shop with ASE certified technicians, and a full stock of tires featuring American made Cooper and Goodyear tires.

South Amboy Middle/High School



Throughout the school year, the South Amboy Middle/High School teaching staff nominate students for the student of the month award. The nominations are based on character, school spirit, and academic integrity. For January, we are happy to announce our winners. Pictured from left to right: Principal - Dr. P. McCabe, students: H. McCloud - 6th grade, N. Lasia- 7th grade, A. Vasquez - 8th grade, D. Bashir- 9th grade, J. Venosa -10th grade, K. Buchanan -11th grade, and B. Rodriguez -12th grade. (Photo/Info Submitted)

News From The Historical Society of South Amboy

The Historical Society of South Amboy (HSSA) is glad to announce that the History Gallery, located at 141 No. Broadway, South Amboy, NJ will be open to the public on Sunday February 27, 2022 from 1-4 PM, and will be open every fourth (4th) Sunday in the future. If you have some free time, come on down to the gallery and view some of the society's artifacts relating to the City

of South Amboy's history. View some of former NJ Governor Harold G. Hoffman's collection of elephants. St. Nicholas Bells, manufactured in South Amboy, items from South Amboy's past businesses, military and much more. If you're new to the city, or lived here your entire life, come on down and learn about the community that you live in. Hope to see you there.

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Yearbook-Cardinal McCarrick 2002

By Tom Burkard

Dr. Frank "Dr. I." Ianniruberto was principal, Jeanne Polinski, assistant principal, and Stacy Hicks-Development/Alumni Director. Some of the fine staff was Cynthia Phillips, Sister Kateri Hawley OSF, Stanley Drwal, Jesse Holovacko, Rosa Smith, John Reid. The Homecoming King & Queen were Chris Dobrowski and Tricia Mackiel, and Homecoming Princess was Jean Marie Henry... The Fall Play was "Arsenic and Old Lace." The Variety Show was a huge success. Cathleen Ziegler was President of the Foreign Language Society... Tri-captains of the cheerleaders were Tricia Mackiel, Jessica Gutowski, and Kristin Vlachakis... The Eagles had a wrestling team in '02, but the headline grabbers were the boys basketball team coached by Joe Lewis, who won the Gold Division title, and the girls basketball squad under Coach Don Szatkowski, finished 15-1 in division play to win its 3rd consecutive Blue Division crown. The school

yearbook was titled "Feature Presentation," and it was dedicated to Carol Moskwa. Stephanie Carver was Editor-In-Chief. Some of the graduating seniors selected randomly include: Scott Bare, Lynn Bartkovicz, Lisa Basha, Marc Black, Renee Carnevale, Karen Castello, John Chapman, Sara Cooney, Joseph Corcione, Steven Dey, Jean Dowd, Michael Farley, Jessica Furey, Ginette Gotta, Matthew Kopacz, Kaitlyn Katko (Girls' All-Time leading scorer with over 1,600 points), Jennifer Kanca, Rae Anne Kukulski, Thomas Mahoney Jr., Jaime Marcinczyk, Jason Meszaros, Mark Modzelewski, Michael Murtha, Marc Nietubyc, Chrystal O'Brien, Carly O'Connor, Diane Opalinski, James Pizzillo, Matthew Pritchard, Joseph Sciortino, Daniel Szatkowski, Amanda Thomas, Brian Weiler, Erin Volosin, John Towlen, Thomas Harris, Mary Horezga, Erin Kellert, Greg Latham, David Olejnik, Maria Otero, Ryan Rush, Mary Ellen Szraga.

Dowdell Library

Sadie Pope Dowdell Library celebrating 108 years of service to the South Amboy Community

Throughout the years, the Dowdell Library has led the way in introducing the latest technology and trends and has never hesitated to explore new opportunities to provide innovative services. At this time their service model serves as a library without walls.

Library Director Elaine Gaber noted some fun facts about the last 108 years: there have been 27 South Amboy Mayors, 19 U.S. Presidents, 7 Dowdell Library Directors, 16 Library Board Presidents, 84 Library Trustees, and more than 100 staff. The library currently owns 55,511 items, and is a member of the Libraries of Middlesex Consortium, which provides South Amboy residents access to more than 4.9 million items – both media, print and downloadable materials.

Some history: in 1861, prior to the Library being established, there was a reading room located at the southwest corner of Broadway and Second Street in 1861, and on March 17, 1914, the South Amboy Library opened. The Library was first located on the second floor of the South Amboy Post Office at Broadway and David Street. The Library was such a success that by January 1, 1917 the Library became a municipal agency with city support. The Library then moved to other quarters, relocating to the top floor of the South Amboy Trust Company (later known as the First Fidelity Bank) at the corner of Broadway and Augusta Street. In 1923, Sadie Pope Dowdell was hired as the new Librarian. One of the early supporters and Library Trustee was Harold Hoffman. After World War II, a growing number of children started to use the facilities for school assignments. After the 1950 explosion, the library was increasingly busy and was open for 35 hours each week. More space was needed, so the Council purchased the vacant Calvary Methodist Church in 1963 at the corner of Second Street and Stevens Avenue for \$18,000. Fifty volunteers spent more than \$32,000 in renovations and on January 31, 1966 the Library reopened in its new quarters. With almost 50 years of service, Sadie Pope Dowdell retired in 1970, and in grateful recognition of her services the Board renamed the Library after her in 1972. The Library needed more room as its collection kept doubling, so on October 18, 1997 the Library reopened its doors within

the new South Amboy High School complex off John T. O'Leary Blvd. A new era began with the new online catalog.

The Library has a variety of ways of presenting programs and content: virtually through the library's YouTube channel, which has generated approximately 13,000 views since its 2020 inception; online through community partners such as Robert Wood Johnson and St. Barnabas Hospital; in-person with social distancing considerations, or providing contactless service through free tax preparation services, curbside pickups or take-home activity kits. Additionally, lifelong learning continues through online genealogy resources, language instruction, BrainFuse live tutoring, JerseyClicks 24/7 information resources for K-12 and academic and business needs, computer instruction, online resume preparation assistance, practice SAT and citizenship tests. The Library also provides free Wi-Fi service and online access to resources such as Hoopla (streaming movies, eBooks, comics, etc.), eLibraryNJ and the Libby App (eBooks, e-Audiobooks, downloadable magazines, etc.).

Through the years, the Library has received more than \$200,000 in grants from state and county sources. New computers, energy efficient lighting, as well as a new HVAC system were installed as a result of the Library receiving these grants. Additionally, historical documents, yearbooks and local newspapers were digitized with grant funding to preserve South Amboy's history. The Library was the first organization in South Amboy to provide a 3D Printer to the community as a result of a grant from the Dowdell Library Foundation.

The Library's community partners include the Friends of the Dowdell Library (1986-), the Dowdell Library Foundation (2009-), as well as Thor, their first dog book buddy. The Library is also privileged to partner with the City of South Amboy on joint projects.

For information on how to obtain a library card with access to all these free services, just contact the Library at comments@dowdell.org or 732.721.6060. Anyone who lives or works in South Amboy is eligible.

Library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 am – 8 pm; Wednesday, Friday 10 am – 5 pm and Saturday 12 Noon to 4 pm. The Library is adjacent to the South Amboy High School off John T. O'Leary Blvd. More information is available at dowdell.org.

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Sayreville Public Library Events

Blood Drive- February 28th.

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Valentine's Art with Komal (Virtual) February 28 at 6PM

Join Komal for another craft session. This time, join in to make some lovely Valentine's Day crafts by swirling & twirling some colorful paper strips. These will make great personalized gifts for loved ones this Valentine's season.

Materials required: Paper quilling kit (includes paper strips, quilling pen, scissors, other quilling tools)

White card stock paper (1-2 sheets) Liquid glue.

This is a Virtual program. Please register to get the zoom link, register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Phones and EReader devices for Beginners Tuesday March 1 @6PM.

Want to learn more about how to work your smartphone or Ereader device? Today's the day. Join us for the evening and learn more about how to work your devices. This seminar will also go over laptops and downloading apps.

This program is supported in full or in part with funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the New Jersey State Library, award number LS-250226-OLS-21.

Registration is required. Please register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext. 112.

Computer Basics for Beginners Tuesday March 8, @6PM .

In this seminar, we will go over computer

basics such as learning how to use a mouse, basic email functions, sending and downloading attachments, and web browsing. "This program is supported in full or in part with funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the New Jersey State Library, award number LS-250226-OLS-21." Registration required. Register online, or by calling 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Microsoft Office For Beginners Tuesday, March 15, @6PM

In this seminar. Learn the basics of Microsoft Office. We will go over the basics of Excel Spreadsheets, Word Documents, Powerpoint presentations, and much more. "This publication/activity/program is supported in full or in part with funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the New Jersey State Library, award number LS-250226-OLS-21." Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Microsoft Word for Beginners Tuesday, March 22 @6PM.

In this seminar, learn the basics of Microsoft Word. This class will go over basic word processing, copying, pasting, saving, and different styles of spacing and document presentation.

"This publication/activity/program is supported in full or in part with funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the New Jersey State Library, award number LS-250226-OLS-21."

Registration Required. Register online or by calling 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Fish Fry

St. Stan's Buildings & Grounds Committee is hosting a "To Go" Fish Fry Fundraiser on Friday, March 4th. You can drive-up & pick-up your order behind the school from 4-7pm. Platters are \$17 and include 2 pieces of fried

flounder, French fries, homemade coleslaw, pickle spear & rye bread. Tickets are for sale at St. Stan's after the weekend Masses, during the week in the Church office or by texting/calling Gina at 732-277-2552 to order.



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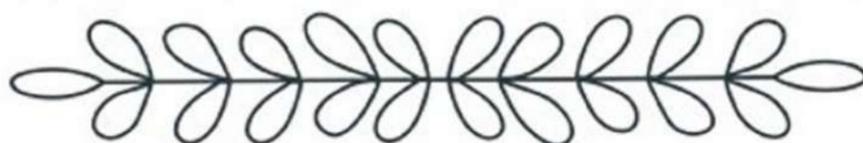
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HAPPY EASTER





Ex-Chief Steven Szatkowski and Firefighter Christian Petras are pictured clearing fire hydrants on Saturday January 29th, as Winter Storm Kenan hit South Amboy. Members of SAFD and SAFA were on stand-by at their quarters throughout the storm. During the stand-by SAFD members went out and cleared fire hydrants from large snow drifts or plowed in. It is important that residents clear fire hydrants so it doesn't delay firefighters during a fire. (Photo/info by Jamie Norek)

Virtual Tricky Tray

Sacred Heart Church will be having their 2nd annual "virtual" tricky tray! Drop off tickets to play in person at Memorial Hall, 531 Washington Avenue South Amboy, but then enjoy virtually, while ticket pulling starts at 6pm, with family and friends at your homes on Friday April 29, 2022, live streamed from our website and Facebook page. Purchase a PRE-sale bundle NOW at \$60 to save \$10. (NO bundle packs will be sold at the door!) Drop off ticket days and times are as follows: Wednesdays April

13th, 20th and 27th, 6pm to 8pm: Friday April 22nd, 6pm to 8pm: Saturday April 23rd, 3pm to 6pm: Sunday April 24th, 11am to 2pm. Ticket sheets and additional raffles available at the event, CASH ONLY! Due to coronavirus, the following precautions will be implemented: masks required and social distancing with limited people allowed in at one time. Any questions, more details or to order your pre-sale bundles, please contact the parish office at 732-721-0040 or email sheart224@aol.com.

Used Clothing Drop Off

First Presbyterian Church, located at 172 Main St. has a new clothing bin/shed located behind the red container in the parking lot! You can find more information on what items are accepted at www.timkey-enterprises.com/

Oldies At Sacred Heart

Sacred Heart Church will feature SOUNDS OF THE STREET, an Oldies group, on Saturday, March 5th at Sacred Heart Memorial Hall. \$50 per person, and includes dinner, soda, dessert and a chance to win \$500! BYOB. Doors open 7pm...call Duffy @ 732.496.3005 or Sacred Heart office @ 732.721.0040.

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St. Stan's School

(Photos/Info Submitted)



St. Stan's Religion Club members give a thumbs up to say thank you to the school, parish, and friends who donated to the Outerwear Winter Clothing Drive. Winter coats, scarves, gloves, hats, and blankets were collected. The donations were given to the Blessing Bag Brigade NJ who will distribute the items to those in need. (Photo by Lisa Grover)



St. Stan's School supported Color a Smile, a non profit organization that distributes cheerful drawings to anyone who needs a smile. The students submitted 315 color sheets. Pictured is third grade student, Ella Poulsen, holding two of her pictures.



Students in grades PreK through second celebrated their 100th day of school by doing different activities. Pictured is first grade teacher, Ms. Danielle Brkaric, and her students, Leah Read and Madeline Ciesielski, who dressed up pretending to be 100 years old. (Photo by Danielle Brkaric)



St. Stan's students, faculty, and staff receive a treat from their Home School Association with a visit from Ice Cream Emergency. Pictured is a worker from the mobile ice cream parlor who is about to present fifth grade student James Girard his ice cream sundae. (Photo by Jean Jackowski)

As a part of Teacher Appreciation Day during Catholic Schools Week, eighth grade students served as assistants to the teachers. Pictured is teacher assistant Theodore Pavlonnis helping fifth grade student Luke Tympanick.



Kenneth Murphy, pastor, stopped by the pre-kindergarten classroom to tell them about St. Blaise and blessed their throats.

Second grade St. Stan's student, Veronica Aiello, expectantly looks at Mrs. Lori Hodder, principal, as her piece of paper containing her sins from her First Confession are to be burned. (Photo by Ron Madeira)



Growing Up On The Other Side Of The Hole-In-The-Wall

By Elaine Holton Scott

Three and a half streets with one road bisecting those three and a half streets, Mechanicsville had been thoroughly cut off from the rest of the "one-mile square" little City of South Amboy. Even so, I believe that all the "old families" in this small city were related in some way through blood or marriage. Of course, we, who were born in Mechanicsville, had to cross through the long and always dark Hole-In-The Wall (thanks to Johnny Pappa and Ray Batissa, (may he RIP) to go to school, church, the library or to Oppenheimer's 5 and 10 cent Store on Broadway, but we always returned to "where we belonged" and that was the Mechanicsville section of South Amboy. The Hole-In-The-Wall was like the Great Divide for Mechanicsville back then, filled with families who had settled and remained there for generations. "Next door," or one street over, is Melrose, like an extension of Mechanicsville, which also had been thoroughly cut off from the Borough of Sayreville. Most of us from Mechanicsville back then had relatives who had been living there too. The only unfair difference between us was that the Borough of Sayreville had provided a bus to take the Melrose kids to school but South Amboy had us walking the long road to town while the Melrose bus would pass us by. At that time, the road to town was undeveloped. a long stretch of nothingness, which meant the sidewalk was never shoveled after heavy snowfalls. Going to St. Mary's School with its strict dress code which disallowed even knee socks or tights to keep girls' bare legs at least a little warm in the winter cold, had made walking through all that snow a lot harder. Even after the Roller Rink had been built on the other side of Stevens Avenue, the sidewalk still was never shoveled. We had been the "forgotten kids" of the city, ones which had to walk that long stretch of road through the heavy rainfalls, strong winds, and the bitter cold...with our arms loaded down with school books from all the homework the nuns had given, plus carrying our lunches in brown paper bags. If you had forgotten your lunch, you had to go hungry as there was no food served in schools at that time. Besides, even if lunches had been served, we wouldn't have had the money to buy them. Thinking back, I just cannot remember one single, solitary day when any school in town had been called off because it was "too cold." We, all of us kids in South Amboy, had been made "street tough"

starting early in our lives and even tougher as we continued to grow. Young teenage boys overflowing with testosterone would prove how strong they were getting by squashing the original metal cans with one hand and if they "just happened to find" a thick phone book, somehow managed to tear it in two. Meanwhile, older teens would pack into a car together to go looking for a fight. South Amboy, on both sides of the hole-in-the wall and our neighbor, Melrose, surely weren't places for "sissies." Unlike the kids in town, we who had lived in Mechanicsville with its three and a half streets, had little to keep us stimulated...no pizza parlor, no shops, no, well, no nothing really, except bars: Anton & Chucks, on the corner of Conover and Ridgeway Avenue, another liquor place a few hundred yards down, and Johnny's Halfway House (half in Mechanicsville and the other half in Melrose). There was also a Barber shop on the other side of Ridgeway Avenue where men would go to play cards in the backroom. I know because my Uncle Bill used to go there as a young man. Since playing cards was always better when you had a few glasses of beer, the Barber always had plenty on hand to sell to them. Other than bars, there was "Bill's" small store on Ridgeway Avenue across from "our side" of Johnny's Halfway House, where we'd go to buy candy. With a never changing exasperated look on his face the moment he saw us, we'd deliberately take our sweet old time picking out penny candy as he impatiently waited. There was also Lena's old store. I still remember the day when I and my friends were 13 and heard Lena had caught on fire and burned to death from putting broken, painted furniture into her wood stove to keep warm. After she died, we were down to just one store. Bill had no rest from us after her death. My 2x great grandfather Holton had come from Ireland and quickly settled in Mechanicsville in time for the 1850 census. He and his son, my great grandfather, had one main characteristic. They knew how to father children. Because there were so many "offspring" for the three and a half streets of Mechanicsville, many had no choice but to become "townies." Growing up on the other side of the Hole-In-The-Wall had made everyone seem like family...very possibly it was because we had all been related. HAPPY ST. PAT'S DAY, EVERYONE!!!!



2002-Mayor John T. O'Leary (c) served as Grand Marshal of the South Amboy Irish-American Association's Annual St. Patrick's Parade. Pictured with the Mayor are Mary Ellen Donnelly (l), Pete Kenny (partially hidden behind Mary Ellen), Tom O'Leary (r) who was the South Amboy Democratic Party Chairman, and Councilman Russ Stillwagon (behind Tom). (Photo By Tom Burkard)

The South Amboy Scene On St. Patrick's Day
 The South Amboy scene On St. Patrick's Day
 The huge parade and kids at play
 The AOH is the host with the most
 As Irish music fills the air
 People wearin' green
 And happiness everywhere
 At the South Amboy scene
 On St. Patrick's Day.



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

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

The South Amboy Irish-American Association
1979-Frank Connolly 1980-James & Mary Lenahan 1981-Robert J. Hourahan 1982-Allie Clark 1983-David P. Kelly 1984-Alfie O'Connor 1985-Mary Powderly 1986-William Coman 1987-Joe Crowe 1988- John Potthoff 1989-Edward Wallace 1990- John P. Kenny 1991-Jim Harvey 1992-George Shuler 1993-Neil Hourahan 1994-Jim "Red" O'Connell 1995-Ginny Tierney-Inman 1996- Jack A McCarthy 1997-William J. McDonnell 1998-Edward Semoneit 1999-William J. Tierney 2000-Jack O'Leary Sr. 2001-Peter John Kenny 2002- Mayor John T. O'Leary 2003-Dick Cronin, Joe Noble, Russ Stillwagon 2004-Geneva Kelly 2005-Jim "Doc" Ryan 2006-Leo McCabe 2007-Walter "Pete" Casey 2008-Elizabeth "Betty" Leveille 2009 John Donnelly Sr. 2010-Thomas J. Noble 2011-Francis "Butch" Mulvey 2012-Rob McQuade 2013-James Downey 2014-Msgr. John Gordon 2015-Hugh Rone, 2016 Rich Moran, 2017-Mayor Fred A. Henry 2018-Brian J. Kelly 2019-Christine Noble 2020-Karen and Tim Walczak 2021-No Parade 2022-Tom Dempsey.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

There will be a takeout St. Patrick's Day Dinner at Sayreville United Methodist Church, 406 Main St., Sayreville, NJ on Saturday, March 19, 2022 from 6-8 pm. Cost: \$12.00 Corned Beef Dinner, \$10.00 Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner. Dinner Includes: Corned Beef or Spaghetti & Meatball, Boiled Cabbage & Carrots, Boiled Potatoes, Rye Bread or Roll, Beverage and Dessert. Dinner will be takeout. For questions or reservations, please contact Winsome (732)432-9072.

The Wearing Of The Green
By Al Gomolka Jr.
Times Poet Laureate
C.1995

**Green is my favorite color
But that's not why I wear
Parties and jollies on March 17th
But that's not why I care
Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and beer
Still not the reason why I join the cheer
I'm not even Irish, nor pretend to be,
Though there's a spirit alive,
Goodwill is the key
That a saint from one nation,
A hero he be,
Is honored by many, and quite openly
With parades, shamrocks, and music that smiles,
For one day forgetting
O' Ireland's trials
To share these festivities,
Come let it be seen,
Commemorate, celebrate,
By wearing green**

Happy St. Patrick's Day



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South Amboy's 45th St. Patrick's Day Parade

Sunday, March 20, 2022 2pm

Grand Marshal—Tom Dempsey

This family friendly event includes 23 bands, fire apparatus, civic organizations, music and more.
For updated parade information please visit www.southamboyparade.com

Save the Date for our
Second Annual Irish Festival
Sunday, October 2, 2022

- Food and Craft vendors
- Music by Andy Cooney and The Willie Lynch Band
- Spectacular fireworks display





The band 14A pictured (l-r) Frank Pawlowski-bass, Jack Mieczkowski-guitar/vocals, Kevin Boyle-lead vocals/acoustic guitar, Fern DePina-guitar/vocals, Danny Scals-drums/vocals. (Photo courtesy of Jack Mieczkowski)

South Amboy Knight Had Recording Contract

By Tom Burkard

Jack Mieczkowski, a Past Grand Knight of South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426, is a standout guitar player/vocalist, who had an incredible run with his band 14A from 1997-2004. The band named after Exit 14A on the NJ Turnpike, which is the exit for Bayonne, featured 4 of the 5 members who lived in Bayonne at the time, including Mieczkowski. The group initially called themselves October.

In 2001, 14A signed with Canadian independent record label, Attack Records, and in '02 released an excellent CD titled 14A. The band was kept very busy playing the New York City club circuit including live gigs, at venues such as Kenny's Castaways; The Elbow Room; The Baggot Inn; The Lions Den. In addition, they played regularly at The Whiskey Bar in Hoboken, and also headlined a show at The Stone Pony in Asbury Park. 14A once performed at Shea Stadium for a Make-A-Wish Foundation before a New York Mets game.

14A was featured on radio station 103.7

on a regular rotation for their nighttime local show. They also got airtime on 105.5 WDHA. The band also had a spot on a Bayonne local cable TV show called "The Launching Pad." 14A band members included Jack Mieczkowski-guitar/vocals, Frank Pawlowski-bass, Kevin Boyle-lead vocals/acoustic guitar, Fern DePina-guitar/vocals, Danny Scals-drums/percussion/vocals.

When asked to pick his favorite song from the CD, Jack said, "I think it's "Intersection," but they all hold a special place in my heart. They are like the band's children in a sense! We nurtured each one, built them and formed them into what you hear on the album. We have a "lost track" from the CD that was never released, but may be released this year in honor of the CD's 20th Anniversary.

Jack and his wife, moved to Old Bridge in 2007, and he served as Grand Knight of the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426 from 2016-18.

RUMBLES FROM THE ROCK AND ROLL REUNION

By Clem Skarzynski

Yeah, it's been quite awhile rock n rollers. This Pandemic has shut down more than we thought, and for longer than we imagined. The music scene just disappeared. Quite a few outstanding local musicians and friends decided to call it quits after being away from it for so long. Like others I've tried to keep busy by building a few guitars, trying my skills (which at 72 are few), at other musical instruments. Fractured Axe Guitar Shop has been busy with doing setups and repairs and mods to guitars, etc. from my many customers I've had thru the years, so, I've been lucky and blessed to keep the "sanity" intact! As others out there I've lost quite a few friends over the past 2 years or so, hey, it's our "generation".. Just recently lost a dear friend and outstanding vocalist, Charlie "Chips" Wathington, lead vocalist of The Wathington Brothers, who, thru the 70's and 80's, I had the pleasure of sharing many stages and venues with him and the Popular Rt.35 club band "People"! "Clem and Friends" are still alive and well. In the process of trying to put together some possible upcoming shows in 2022.. Was thankful to the crew who put together St.Stans Car Show, in memory of Jerry Ust, this past Oct.2021..Along with DJ Richie Hart..they were able to assemble over 150

cars at the "last minute" due to bad weather ,but it was a rousing success..I'm sure Jerry Ust was smiling..Look forward to this spring and fall as we'll be planning 2 Car Shows in Jerry's name. "Clem and Friends" will feature some "new members" to the "Family." Also in planning stages with a Summer Show, more to follow on that. I'm hearing the ever popular "Open Mic" shows at the South Amboy Knights, just might re-ignite shortly also. Let's keep our hopes up, this "mess" cleans itself up, and we're back to playing music once again. "Friends" tenor saxman, Jerry Mokar, will be with Frank Di Robella, Buddy Brewer, Larry Monteleone, and Tommy "Smooth" Siconolfi, better known as "Sounds of the Street," for an "Oldies Night" Dinner Dance at The Church of Sacred Heart, on Washington Ave. in So. Amboy, Saturday March 5th. Tix are \$50.00..for tix call Duffy at 732-496-3005 or the Sacred Heart Office at 732-721-0040..\$500.00 Door Prize, and a nite of great oldies doo wops sounds like a great time for all. Stay tuned for further news on local bands getting back to work, as this "pandemic" hopefully eases up and allows us all to begin a new normal lifestyle..Stay tuned all...till then..think "Rock and Roll"..

#1 Pop Hits February 26

- 2007-Say It Right-Nelly Furtado
- 1990-Opposites Attract-Paula Abdul
- 1988-Seasons Change-Expose
- 1974-Love's Theme-Love Unlimited Orchestra
- 1963-Hey Paula-Paul & Paula
- 1958-Get A Job-The Silhouettes

#1 Country Hits February 26

- 2000-My Best Friend-Tim McGraw
- 1994-I Swear-John Michael Montgomery
- 1983-Why Baby Why-Charley Pride
- 1978-Don't Break The Heart-Margo Smith
- 1966-Waitin' In Your Welfare Line-Buck Owens
- 1955-In The Jailhouse Now-Webb Pierce

Top 20 Music Hits

Most viewed/listened to on our website for February

- 1-Don't Let The Sun Catch You Crying-Gerry/The Pacemakers;
- 2-Talk To Me-Greg Evigan;
- 3-Happy Together-The Turtles;
- 4-The National Anthem-Meatloaf;
- 5-You've Got A Friend-James Taylor;
- 6-Peaceful, Easy Feeling-The Eagles;
- 7-Give Me Love-George Harrison;
- 8-God Only Knows-The Beach Boys;
- 9-People Got To Be Free-The Rascals;
- 10-Let There Be Peace On Earth-Vince Gill;
- 11-My Sweet Lord-George Harrison;
- 12-Ooh Baby Baby-Smokey Robinson/The Miracles;
- 13-You Can Count On Me (My Two Dads Theme)-Greg Evigan;
- 14-You're A Friend Of Mine-Clarence Clemons/Jackson Browne;
- 15-Day By Day-Godspell;
- 16-Oh Happy Day-The Edwin Hawkins Singers;
- 17-You Can't Make Old Friends-Kenny Rogers/Dolly Parton;
- 18-The Time Of Your Life-Green Day;
- 19-Jesus Is Just Alright-The Doobie Brothers;
- 20-I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing-The New Seekers.

More Memories About Charlie

By Al Ust

My wife and I, and another couple had the opportunity to watch Charlie Wathington and his band perform in Red Bank and they were fantastic. Here is the rest of the story. Charlie moved over to the Manufacturing side of DuPont as an Engineering Supervisor... Charlie was an Outstanding Athlete along with being a talented musician... DuPont had a Touch Football team in the 70's and one year, Charlie and his brother Willie played on the team. Both were exceptional players. Charlie was the quarterback and a gifted one. Fast, Quick, with a strong throwing arm. Amazing athlete... Charlie also played baseball for Matawan High School and

was an outstanding shortstop. In 1962, an unbeaten St Mary's team played an unbeaten Matawan and defeated them in a close game in South Amboy. Matawan came back the following week and handily beat St. Mary's. Charlie was responsible for part of that win. He was solid at shortstop and a great hitter. Charlie and Perth Amboy's shortstop Walt Manuel, were in my opinion the two best shortstops I played against. They possessed great throwing arms, a lot of range in the infield, and were good hitters.

Charlie was liked in DuPont and a good guy to be around. RIP Charlie Wathington.

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- 7.Tobacco Road
- 8.Sentimental Street
- 9.On Broadway
- 10.Goodbye Yellowbrick Road
- 11.Baker Street
- 12.Electric Avenue

- a.The Nashville Teens
- b.The Beatles
- c.Gerry Rafferty
- d.Night Ranger
- e.Wilson Pickett
- f.America
- g.The Drifters
- h.Elton John
- i.Eddy Grant
- j.The Orlons
- k.Bruce Springsteen/The E-Street Band
- l.The Doors

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

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Do you recognize the guitar virtuoso? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by March 14th.

Who is it?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

Last month's Who Is It? took us back to the South Amboy High School Prom in 2010. So many memories made. Amazing how this was 12 years ago and it feels like just yesterday! Pictured (l-r) Stephen Breeden, Brittany Mecca (Larkin), Colleen Applegate, and Dan O'Connor. Congratulation to the following people who knew who they were: Rachel Holder (4), Jim & Debbie Sissick (4), Ken Blekeski (4)



Pictured (l-r) Stephen Breeden, Brittany Mecca (Larkin), Colleen Applegate, and Dan O'Connor.

One Hit Wonders 50 Years Ago

1972-Sunshine-Jonathan Edwards; I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing-The Hillside Singers; Precious and Few-Climax; Bang A Gong-T.Rex; Suavecito-Malo; Hot Rod Lincoln-Commander Cody & His Lost Planet Airmen; How Do You Do-Mouth & MacNeal; Day By Day-Godspell; Layla-

Derek & The Dominoes; Hold Your Head Up-Argent; Motorcycle Mama-Sailcat; Beautiful Sunday-Daniel Boone; Popcorn-Hot Butter; The City of New Orleans-Arlo Guthrie; Good Time Charlie's Got The Blues-Danny O'Keefe; Thunder and Lightning-Chi Coltrane; Convention '72-The Delegates.

Elvis Sighting!



Outstanding Elvis Tribute Artist (ETA) Richie Santa, sang many of Presley's hits to the sold-out crowd at the Brick House Bar & Grill in Sayreville on Valentine's Day. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

SAAA Announces "Acoustic Friday"

On March 25, 2022, South Amboy Arts Alliance (SAAA) will begin its "Acoustic Friday" program. The monthly event features performances by acoustic-oriented musicians on the fourth Friday of every month from 7 to 9 pm at 141 North Broadway, South Amboy, NJ. Doors open at 6:30 pm. The gallery is a friendly, intimate venue with limited space. SAAA monitors evolving mask guidance and encourages masking for the March 25 event.

Barbara Paskin and a soon-to-be named performer will appear in the March show.

For additional information, or if interested in performing, contact SAAA at 732-727-4600 ext. 5971, or by email at SAarts141@gmail.com. Watch for updates on the South Amboy Arts Alliance Facebook page.



Novena Prayer to St. Anthony of Padua

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



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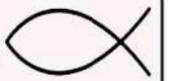


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Bishop Checchio Visits St. Mary



Bishop Checchio visited St. Mary Parish recently. He is shown speaking to parishioners at Sunday Mass, as St. Mary Pastor Father Dennis Weezorak looks on. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

South Amboy Arts Alliance Celebrates

Youth Arts Month 2022 with South Amboy Schools

South Amboy Arts Gallery will be showcasing the works of our Elementary through High School Student Artists during 'Youth Art Month'. The HS students are preparing their choice pieces to hang in the gallery at 141 N Broadway for their exhibition. The opening reception will be held Friday, March 4th at 6 p.m. Student artwork will include 2 and 3 dimensional pieces such as paintings, drawings, sculptures and photographs, as well as creative writing pieces and musical performances.

The first SAMHS student exhibition was in 2019 with an evening that brought together the student artists, their proud parents and administration. The outcome was many smiling faces. Both students and their families were happy to see their art at a public venue. We all agreed that the following year would be a bigger and better exhibition but with the pandemic all our hopes were put off until this year. As we prepare for this celebration of the students' work, we will see how the students moved on and worked

on their art with creative minds. Creativity is significant in one's life; it allows an individual to escape the ordinary and envision something new. Experienced or beginner artists create for many reasons: to tell a story, express an emotion, record an event or just play with color and shapes. Whether a 2 or 3-Dimensional piece of artwork, an original poem or story, a dance in motion, a still photo or original film; a piece of art can make us stop, notice and think. We all have different reasons for choosing a medium but we must realize we may not understand, as a viewer, why this piece of art was made but it will always make us wonder.

We invite you to come view the creativity of our Elementary through High School South Amboy Student Artists and to celebrate their work that has been created this year. Opening Night is scheduled for March 4th, or you can view the exhibition during the SAA's gallery's open hours. Questions can be sent to saarts141@gmail or call 732-727-4600 x5971. Come and Join the Celebrations!

March Madness at Dowdell

March Madness, anyone? Stop in and take your shot in the March Madness Basketball Toss! Your slam dunk will earn a chance to win a new basketball! Don't let the cold weather slow you down! Get your game on and borrow sports equipment such as basketballs, footballs, and soccer/volleyballs from the Library! All you need is your Dowdell Library card! Thank you to Councilwoman Dato for kick starting the Game On! program and to the South Amboy/Sayreville Rotary Club for the generous donation.

The Dowdell Library is 108 years old! They are also celebrating Read Across America for Dr. Seuss's birthday. Stop by the first week in March to get a free Dr. Seuss hat and take your picture with The Cat in the Hat.

March is all about Makers Day. Makers Day encourages creativity and exploration using your imagination. Every Wednesday in the children's room, there will be a new Maker's challenge. On March 24, from 4:00 - 7:03, bring the whole family for a Makers Day event. There will be science, technology & engineering activities set up throughout the Library.

Is the luck of the Irish with you? Adults (18+) can stop by the Library and enter our Luck of the Irish Trivia Contest during the entire month of March. One lucky person will win an Irish gift basket. The contest runs from March 1- 17.

The 2022 Tax season is here! The Sadie Pope Dowdell Library is pleased to support financial stability in our community. Free, contactless tax return assistance is available

for individuals earning less than \$65,000 annually. The VITA program has operated for over 50 years, offering free tax help to low- to moderate-income, individuals with disabilities, and non-English speaking taxpayers. Pick up the tax documents at the Library.

Invest more time in yourself this year! The Dowdell Library offers free virtual classes through the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Classes offered in March include A Virtual Guided Imagery Relaxation Session, a stretching and flexibility workshop, age-related hearing loss, and a course to learn what your nails say about your health. For more information or to pre-register, please email kathleen.johnson@rwjrh.org.

Planning ahead in life secures your legacy. On Thursday, March 31, from 6:30 - 7:30 pm, author and speaker Kenneth Verccammen will be at the Library to discuss wills, probate & Estate Planning. Learn about the 2022 Federal Estate tax changes and more! Limited seating.

Please check dowdell.org and the library's social media pages for the latest up-to-date information on upcoming programming.

Library Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 am - 8 pm, Wednesday & Friday 10 am - 5 pm, and Saturday 12-4 pm. Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org. The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School.

Lenten Take Out Fish Fry

OLV Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes Lenten Take Out Fish Fry at Sayreville Knights of Columbus, 775 Washington Rd, Parlin. Our menu includes Fried Flounder Platters, Shrimp Platters, Combo Platters all which include Salad, Vegetable, French Fries & Dessert. Also available are Fish Sandwiches which includes French Fries.

Time: 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Dates: 3/2 (Ash Wednesday), 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, & 4/15/2022. Reminder: this is a Take Out Only dinner.



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Rozalia Czaban - Irishwoman of the Year

Joseph Britton - Flag Raiser

The South Amboy Irish-American Association

Jessica Lopez - 2022 Irish Person of the Year



Great Job Mickey & Parade Committee!

Best Regards, Bob Heiser



Peer Leadership Conference



Alex Kross (l) and Vera Bacsoka (r) represented South Amboy High School at the leadership conference. Pictured with them is Jeannine Sieber (c) Elks coordinator for Peer Leadership. Her guidance has sent dozens of local high schoolers to this valuable conference. (Photo/Info Submitted)



Davey Cheng, Chris Chan, Justin Venosa and Dominick Pawlis with the Elks mascot at the Peer Leadership Conference. (Photo/Info Submitted)



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Special Needs Trusts & NJ Able
March 30th
6 pm (on Zoom)



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The Smoke Column

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

Are we aware of the dangers that modern technology imposes on our daily activities? I am talking about Lithium-Ion batteries and the dangers associated with them. They are known to catch fire and/or explode and not necessarily while being charged or in use. Fire CAN erupt or explode at any time!

Just recently, a fire occurred in New York City which was highly publicized. Many of you may have seen the video report on the local news where two teenagers escaped from a fourth-floor apartment fire. The teenage girl went out the window and grabbed onto a drainpipe and then helped her brother do the same. They both shimmied down the pipe to safety. Their mother was trapped inside the apartment and remains in critical condition while another occupant died because of the fire. The fire/explosion was so intense that it blew out an entire wall and partial ceiling. In 2021 there were ninety-nine reported Lithium-Ion battery fires in New York City alone and remember those were ONLY the report fires.

I tell you this because according to the FDNY Fire Marshal, the fire was started by a Lithium-Ion battery pack that "self-combusted" while it was being charged. The battery pack was used to power an e-Bike/scooter. You say that you do not have an E-Bike/scooter so you do not have to worry. Yes, but if you have any of the following devices, you will have Lithium-Ion batteries as the power source: Bluetooth headsets/phones; cell phones; computer peripherals; digital cameras; eReader; laptops; Smartwatch; smoke/fire/CO detectors; hearing aids; tablets; hoverboards; remote key fobs; talking greeting cards and the list goes on and on!

Why do these fires/explosions occur? As the batteries age and their construction materials degrade, cracks can form in their coatings, or internal components can short and lead to a fire. The actual chemical reaction that causes the fire can end after a brief time, depending on the size of the battery and the severity of the

failure. In general, a Lithium-Ion battery has a carbon-based negative electrode, a metal-oxide positive electrode, and a separating membrane, and an electrolyte composed of lithium and an organic solvent. The battery components are part of a sealed container to prevent contact and reaction with air, as lithium is HIGHLY REACTIVE with water. When either the battery is ruptured or the membrane fails and the lithium ions react with the moisture in the air, it can cause excessive heat and will catch fire. As the first battery cell ignites, the excessive heat will cause the entire unit to catch fire and explode similar to a domino effect.

It is recommended that when charging larger batteries, they be charged outside the home but that may not be possible in many cases. Not all Lithium-Ion batteries are rechargeable and those batteries must be disposed of properly and not thrown in the trash because they are considered a hazardous material. Be mindful of the products/devices you have that contain these batteries. If something does not look right or smells funny, investigate further for the cause. If possible, do not let children charge their hoverboards, e-Bikes, scooters inside their bedrooms. You can find many videos online of actual fires/explosions occurring with these devices.

How would the fire department manage a Lithium-Ion battery fire? First step would be to determine that it was Lithium-Ion involved. According to the Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) guide#147, for a small fire a water spray or regular foam could be used to extinguish the fire. If the fire was just Lithium, the ERG states "DO NOT USE WATER OR FOAM." So, it is imperative that first responders identify the product correctly before taking any actions. Sometimes it may not be possible to identify the burning product upon arrival. In those cases, step back and secure the scene until you can. Many Lithium-Ion fires have been left to burn out on their own.



The above is an original photo from the filming of "The Perils of Pauline," a movie made in Sayreville, way back in 1914. This particular shot was taken at what was known as Duck's Nest by the railroad bridge. (Photo/info courtesy of Regina Haklar)

Special Events At Dowdell Library

The Dowdell Library is pleased to announce two special programs being presented during March. On March 24, from 4 pm - 7:30pm, drop in with the whole family for the library's annual Makers Day event. Makers Day encourages exploration with both low-tech and high-tech equipment and challenges attendees to use their imagination. Have fun with the library's 3D printer; enjoy creating. There will be science, technology & engineering activities set up for ages 0-100. Planning ahead in your life secures your legacy. On Thursday, March 31, from 6:30 - 7:30 pm, author and speaker Kenneth Vercammen will discuss wills, probate &

estate planning. Learn about the 2022 Federal Estate tax changes and more!

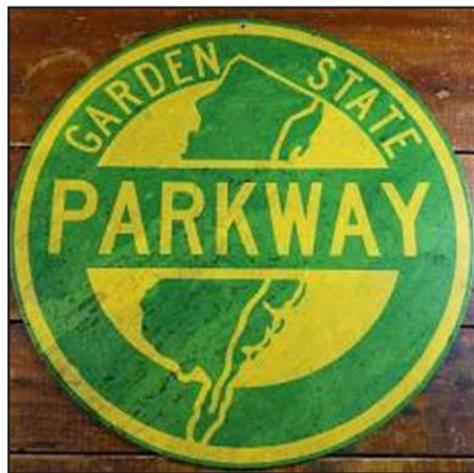
These programs will be well attended, so stop in early to reserve a spot! Social distancing protocols will be followed.

Library Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 am - 8 pm, Wednesday & Friday 10 am - 5 pm, and Saturday 12-4 pm. Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org. The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School.

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



Call Brian - 732-841-5249



February What Exit..

This month we are looking for the exit that will take you to Paramus, NJ.

What Exit?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

January What Exit:

Last month we were looking for the exit that would take us to the Metro Park Train station. Exits 131 a or b and exit 132 with some maneuvering will get you there. Interesting fact from one of our readers: the train station and that entire business park was Cooper's Dairy Farm. It was great visiting the dairy cows back then.

The following sent in the correct answer: Michael & Irene Kilcomons, Alice Walsh, Eleanore Westerholm, Pete McIntyre, John & JoAnn French, Edna Mazur Pilch, Vincent Farina, Pat Scully, Betty Leveille, Toni Ruzsala, Gary Feret, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Dermot Scales, Dane Colburn, Steve Villig, Mark Moniello, Craig Yetko.



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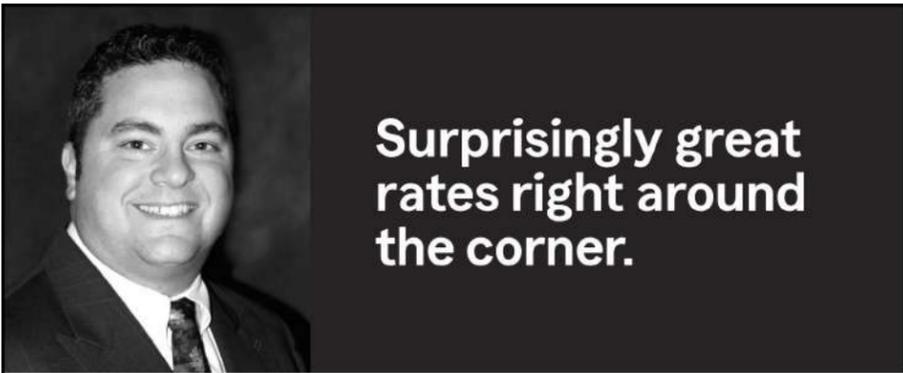


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Bishop of Metuchen James Checchio and St. Mary Church Pastor Father Dennis Wezorak are joined by members of the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426 and Msgr. John F. Brady Assembly #676 after the Bishop celebrated Mass at St. Mary on February 6. (Photo by Nancy Smetana)



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Remembering Reni



Reni Santoni was another local who did very well in his acting career, which spanned from 1962-2012. He was a '55 graduate of Sayreville HS (senior yearbook pic left), and went on to appear/star in many movies and TV shows including "The Pawnbroker," (1964), "Dirty Harry," (1971), "Cobra," (1986). His most notable TV role was a Poppie on Seinfeld. Reni Santoni was 82 years old when he died August 1, 2020.



Actor Reni Santoni is pictured in 1973.



Reni Santoni (l) with Clint Eastwood in "Dirty Harry," a '71 movie.



Reni Santoni as Poppie (l) with Michael Richards (r) on "Seinfeld."

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The Spinal Column
By
Dr. John Misiewicz

SNOW SHOVELING

For much of the east coast this is turning out to be one snow filled winter. Remember your body was made for use not abuse. Shoveling snow qualifies for 30 minutes of daily aerobic activity, and counts as a moderate to difficult workout. The heavier and wetter the snow, the bigger the burn. Digging out from the storm can burn up to 400 calories an hour.

Snow shoveling is serious stuff and can be hazardous to your health. In an ABC News study, heart attack rates jump 20% in the week following snow storms. In a 17 year study period of 11,500 individuals, the most common diagnosis was soft tissue injury at 55%, followed by lower back disc injury at 35%. Slips and falls, and cardiac related injuries accounted for the other 10%.

Safe Shoveling Techniques

1. Before going out, take a few minutes to stretch and warm up.
2. Stay hydrated. Dehydration during physical activity can cause muscle cramping and increase your heart rate.
3. Keep your body warm and well insulated by layering your clothes. Wear boots with good traction to reduce the risk of slipping and falling.
4. Push snow to the side instead of lifting it.
5. Practice safe lifting by bending at the knees and keeping your upper body straight.
6. Avoid twisting your body and walk your shovel full of snow to where you want to dump it.

As always an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

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It's the time of the year
For green beer Lots of fun
And Irish cheer for everyone.



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LETTERS

Letter To The Editor

Referring to the January 26, 2022 issue; The item in question is a Stylus (needle) Cartridge for a record turntable. Brand is Audio-Technica.

I enjoy the South Amboy – Sayreville Times! I grew up on Grover Avenue in the early 1960s to 1989 then moved to Toms River. I regularly drive up to Bob's Barber Shop to get my haircut and I always pick up the SA Times newspaper!

Regards,
Joel Stolte



Dear Mr. Burkard:

I read with interest your article about the movies that were made in and around South Amboy. Attached please find a copy of a still from The Perils of Pauline which you mentioned in that article. The engineer on the train was my grandfather, Barney Nowak. He lived in South Amboy and worked for the Raritan River Railroad. Thank you,

Ken Haklar



Dear Editor,

My father was an avid reader of The SA Times. He thoroughly enjoyed reading of current activities and past memories of his hometown every month. I want to personally thank you and your staff for all your efforts producing the paper and providing him (and countless others) with this important link to a memorable and special past.

James W. Brennan
Florida



LETTERS
LETTERS
LETTERS

On St. Patrick's Day

The town is rockin'

In old SA

The crowd is huge

For the parade On

St. Patrick's Day

Firemen, First Aid,

Bands and more

Proudly march

through town

And people cheer

As they pass by

From Pine Avenue

to Bordentown

And across

Stevens Avenue too

It's a proud day

for the Irish

So much fun,

and parties

Lots of things

to do

The town is rockin'

In old SA

It's time to party

Time to play

And

wear the green

On

St. Patrick's Day.



The Vintage Car Contest

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Can you identify this vintage vehicle? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by March 14th.

Last month's vintage car was a 1978 Chevrolet Official Indy Pace Car Edition. The RPO (Regular Production Option) code was 1YZ87/78. They were available in any colors you wanted; as long as the colors you wanted were black over silver. They were based on the official pace car of the Indianapolis 500, run on May 28, 1978. All corvettes that year were built in St. Louis, Missouri, and NOT in Kentucky as many people believe. Thank you Gary Vrabel for your clever information.

The following know their cars: Eileen & Frank Brylinski, Michael & Irene Kilcomons, Thomas Harrigan, Gary Vrabel, John Tarallo, Nora Carroll Heyer, Pete McIntyre, John & JoAnn French, Edna Mazur Pilch, William Sunderman, Mark Moniello, David Mccleery, Bruce Grankowski, Anita Quigley, Steve Laskiewicz, Gary Feret, Eleanore Westerholm, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Dane Colburn, Steve Villig.

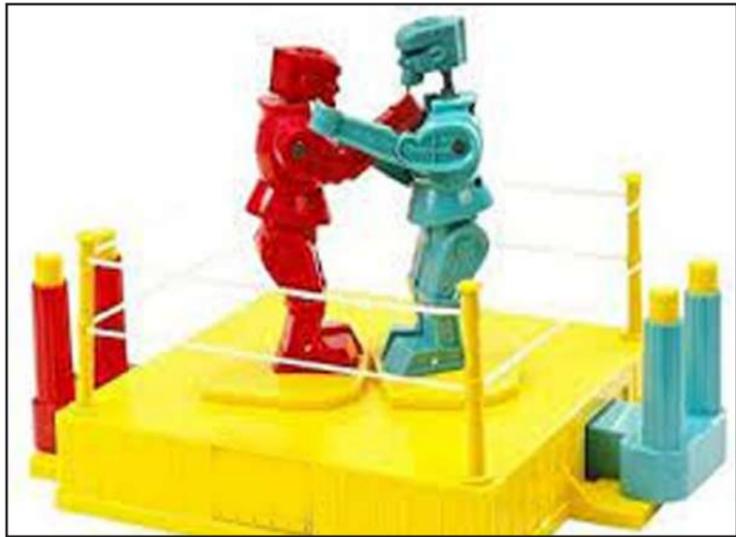
January Vintage Car



1978 Chevrolet Official Indy Pace Car Edition

WHAT IS IT?????

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Can you identify this object? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by March 14th.

January What Is It?

Phonograph Cartridge

Last month's item was a phonograph (record player) cartridge. This particular one was made by Audio Technica. Quite a few readers responded that it was a garage door opener.

The following had the correct answer: Ray Andrejewski, Alan Chambers, Frank Kenute, Edna Mazur Pilch, Jeff Deverin, Rick Jackson, Michael & Irene Kilcomons, Mark Moniello, Anita Quigley, Joel Stolte, Steve Laskiewicz, Gary Feret.



Phonograph Cartridge

Where in NJ?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Last month the Where in NJ was the GSP rest area recently dedicated in Jon Bon Jovi's name, it was previously the Cheesecake rest area. The following got the correct answer: Frank & Eileen Brylinski, Michael & Irene Kilcomons, Patti Tengelic, Yvonne Kronowski, Eleanore Westerholm, John & JoAnn French, Edna Mazur Pilch, Mark Moniello, Chelle Martin, Pat Scully, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Betty Leveille, Bruce Grankowski, Gary Feret, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Dane Colburn, Craig Yetsko.



Do you know the location of this place? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by March 14th. (Photo by Mark Merriman)



Jon Bon Jovi GSP Rest Area.




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Fishing Flashes
By Teo "Weebles" Weber



Salt Water

It's that time of year again when rod and reel fishing is at its low point. The snow and cold weather put a stop on the few Striped Bass being caught in the LBI surf. The big blizzard also put a damper on party boat fishing as well. Before that, it was just a pick on Blackfish although some of these were large fish. There was a report of some Mackerel but nothing to follow it up. When the snow melts, there is a possibility of catching White Perch in Toms River if you can find a public dock. Use blood worms if they are available. As far as new regulations this year, the government has allocated a little more poundage to the recreational sector for Fluke. It's too early to see if it will affect size or bag limit yet. Striped Bass and Flounder will open to fishing on March 1st. Don't expect a bonanza with either due to cold water and snow melt.

Fresh Water

Panfish and Pickerel were being caught in lakes that did not freeze up in Ocean and Monmouth counties. The recent heavy snow put a stop to that. Ice fishing is a question mark? Some cover in Lake Hopatcong has some safe ice but there are open water areas and much of the iced areas are too thin and not safe to fish on at this big lake. This situation is true statewide due to fluctuating cold and warm Temperatures.

50th Anniversary Lange Joins 1,000 Point Club
By Tom Burkard

1972-Hoffman High's all-around superstar athlete, Gary Lange became the third Governor in history to score 1,000 points in his career. Coach Ray "Butch" Tomaszewski's standout "Golden Boy," as he was affectionately known, broke the elusive barrier in an 84-70 romp over Montgomery. The Purple & Gold powerhouse squad placed all 5 starters in double figures, as Lange led the way with 21 points. Ron Croddick and Bob "Ozzie" Levins each scored 18 points, Doug Buckalew hit for 16, and Jimmy Keegan 12. Prior to Lange's milestone accomplishment, Curt Wood and Billy Clayton were the only other Hoffman players to score over the magical 1,000 point barrier in their careers.

65 Years Ago

1957-The Hoffman boys basketball team christened their new gym by winning the season opener over Jamesburg, 56-34. The scoring was paced by Bob Martin 15 points, Bob Bloodgood 15, and Paul Poetsch 13.

55 Years Ago

1967-The combined scoring of Curt Wood 28 points and Billy Clayton 26, was not enough to stop the powerful John Somogyi led St. Peter's, as the Guvs fell 108-86. Somogyi had another huge game, scorching the nets for 51 points against the talented Hoffman contingent.

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

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



The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

From The Sports Archives

10 Years Ago...



2012-Cardinal McCarrick girls' bowling team captured the Group 1 State championship, and also the CJ Group I Sectional crown. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

Lady Eagles Win CJ Group I Title

By Tom Burkard

2012-The talented Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's girls bowling team captured the CJ Group I Sectional championship, winning over second place Keyport by a score of 2,671 to 2,121. The victory margin of 550 pins, was the largest of any of the four groups in Central Jersey. Katie Rose Noble had an outstanding series of 601, the 6th best of all groups, and also rolled a 232 game, 4th best. Teammate Katie Latham racked up a 570 series. Both girls qualified for The Tournament of Champions. Also contributing

to the victory were Nicole Higgins took 2nd place in CJ Group I. In addition to the Group I crown, the Blue & Gold placed 2nd in the GMC Tournament, and also 2nd in the state in the prestigious Tournament of Champions (TOC). In the TOC final, Manchester beat Cardinal McCarrick, 214-190, 207-181, 214-165. However, CM captured the State Group I championship before facing Manchester Twp., who were the Group 2 champs. Coach Jones and her Blue & Gold powerhouse had a truly outstanding season!

Glory Days In Local Sports

1963-Hoffman boys basketball team hammered Henry Hudson, 73-56 behind the scoring of John Lange 22 points, Jerry Drill 18, and Ken Wahler 17...1978-The Hoffman Governors talented boys soccer squad ripped Ranney Prep, 8-1, as Mark Wahler drilled in 5 goals. Gerard Marrone scored 2 and Tom Mulligan added 1 goal and had 5 assists... 1984-Trenton Central belted the Sayreville girls basketball team, 68-53 in the CJ Group IV semis. Caryn Lukie pumped in 22 points, Terry Lockwood hit for 13 points and hauled down 21 rebounds, and Kate Briody scored 11 points...1997-St. Mary's girls basketball team topped South Amboy, 55-48 to sweep the City Series. Janine Swanson led all scorers with 19 points for the Saints, while Kristen English popped in 11, and Hanna Glomska

10 points for the Lady Guvs...2003-Cardinal McCarrick boys basketball club shocked unbeaten New Brunswick, 56-54. The Zebras were (8-0) and ranked #1 in the county, 13th in the state. Mika Wilson turned in an awesome performance by burning the nets for 27 points, ripping down 16 rebounds, and had 5 blocked shots. Bill Wagner tossed in 12 points and had 6 rebounds, and Ed Fulham was a perfect 4-for-4 on free throws under big-time pressure in the final 17 seconds. 2014-Sayreville boys basketball team won its first ever GMC Division title, defeating three-time defending White Division champion, North Brunswick, 72-55, for their 15th win in a row, (17-2 overall), (12-0 division). Jehyve Floyd fired in 17 points, Corey Taite 15 points and 8 assists, and Rob Seraji 12 tallies.

80 Years Ago...

Norek Beat St. Peter's Twice In A Week

By Tom Burkard

1942-What are the odds of the same basketball player connecting on the game winning shot twice in one week, and would you believe against the same team? Well, John Norek did it for the legendary St. Mary's Eagles 1942 championship club against St. Peter's.

In the first game, which was a NJ Catholic Schools Tournament contest played at St. Mary's Rec Center in Perth Amboy, the Saints trailed St. Peter's, 31-27 with 2:00 minutes to go, when according to old newspaper reports, "Norek swished leather from the side to cut the lead to 31-29. Frank "Trip" Cheeseman's free throw sliced the margin to 31-30." This set the stage for the thrilling finish, and with only 30 seconds remaining, Norek pumped in a mid-court shot to win it

for St. Mary's, 32-31. He also took scoring laurels with 15 points, followed by Johnny Zebro 12. John "Bing" Miller 3, Cheeseman 2. Jay Fuller and Johnny "Jinx" Dowling also contributed to the victory.

John Norek came to the rescue once again, a week later against the Cardinals of St. Peter's. The stage was set, and 1,300 fans showed up in New Brunswick to see these Parochial School rivals square off. The intense battle went into overtime, and with the Eagles trailing, 30-29, Norek sank a rebound shot in the closing seconds of the game to give the Blue & Gold a heartstopping 31 -30 triumph over the Petreans. Miller was the high scorer with 14, Norek 8, Zebro 5, Dowling 2, Cheeseman 2.

T.H.E. Game

Year-2002

Sport-Girls Basketball

Teams-Cardinal McCarrick (16-4) vs. South Amboy (19-5)

Recap-In a real battle of talented teams, the Lady Eagles prevailed over the Lady Guvs, 58-52. Kaitlyn Katko copped game scoring honors with 23 points. Reagan Rone topped the Purple & Gold with 20, while her teammate Kiersten McCarthy scored 18.

Player-of-the-Game-Kaitlyn Katko, Cardinal McCarrick.

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 -MJC & EMP.

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...



2006-Gene O'Toole (r), who recently passed away is pictured with former New York Yankee, the late Allie Clark (l) and former Major Leaguer/New York Yankee, Dale Berra (c), Yogi's son, on a visit to the Yogi Berra Museum & Learning Center at Montclair. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



March, 1952 - St. Mary's legends, the O'Brien twins, Johnny (R) and Eddie (L) flank their good friend Gene O'Toole (C) of South Amboy in this photo taken at a New York City car showroom, prior to the Twins appearance on "The Ed Sullivan Show." They had just completed their senior year at Seattle University and Johnny broke the all-time collegiate scoring record, finishing with 3,306 in 3 varsity seasons. He was also an All-American selection. O'Toole volunteered to drive the twins to NYC.

Remembering Gene O'Toole

By Tom Burkard

If you were fortunate to have known a South Amboy/Sayreville gentleman named Eugene "Gene" O'Toole, affectionately called "Gene O" by some, consider yourself very blessed. Gene and I became friends, as "walkers" at Kennedy Park in Sayreville back in '96, around the time his beloved son, Eugene "Chip" O'Toole, a Catholic priest, passed away unexpectedly at a very young age. The loss of "Chip" was devastating to Gene and his lovely wife Rita, but they persevered and carried their love and memories of him with them always.

A 1947 graduate of St. Mary's HS, Gene briefly entered a monastery to see what life would be like as a monk. He felt that wasn't where he was meant to be, so enlisted in the U.S. Army, and was most proud to serve our country during the Korean War. Following his military hitch, he came back to town, and tried a couple of business ventures, eventually ending up as co-owner of The Sportsman (formerly The Landmark) on North Broadway, in South Amboy, with former Major League Baseball star Allie Clark. Gene had many great stories to tell about Allie bringing other pro baseball players into the Sportsman to visit, as they were on their way to the Jersey Shore on an off-day.

Gene O'Toole was a true sports fan, and loved watching the Yankees or NY Giants on TV, or reading about sports. In his business travels throughout the United States, he once sat right next to Yankee legend, Joe DiMaggio, for the entire flight from California to Newark Airport. O'Toole said

that they had a "wonderful and interesting conversation throughout the flight." Gene's business partner, Allie Clark was a teammate of DiMaggio's on the 1947 world champions, so they had a lot to talk about. On another trip he sat with the famous Phil Rizzuto, another New York Yankee Hall of Famer.

Gene O'Toole played an important role in my life, and countless other people's lives. To me, he was always uplifting, with that big and (glad to see you) smile of his, and had a kind word that could cheer you up if you were feeling down, or having a bad day. Gene was certainly kind to all, always giving encouragement when it was needed. He was also very inspirational; someone to look up to; always a good listener, who had sound advice to give you, if you asked his opinion; and if you had a problem and needed help, Gene was the guy to go to.

Most importantly, Gene loved his family/friends, and loved our Lord Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

I'll never forget being invited by Gene and Allie Clark to visit the Yogi Berra Museum on the Montclair University campus. Yogi wasn't there that day, but his son Dale Berra was, and we all enjoyed chatting with him. Gene O'Toole was by far the most religious man I have ever known, who prayed the rosary everyday, and never missed Mass when he was healthy. I, and many others feel that he would have made an outstanding priest, if he had chosen that career path.

May God bless Gene for touching so many lives, including mine, in such a positive way. He will never be forgotten.

Back In Those College Days

Mike Wasko (Sayreville) starred in track at Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU)... Bill Beyer (St. Mary's) played baseball for Seton Hall University... Eleanor Wykpisz (St. Mary's) was a basketball record-setter, and still record-holder at Kean College/University. In 1988-89, she set season records

for most assists (283), and best assist average (9.8). On Jan. 28, 1989 against Albany State, she set a single-game assist record by dishing out 18 assists! (Wow). For her outstanding feats, Eleanor was selected to the 1988-89 All-NJAC Basketball 2nd Team.

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Sayreville Olympian



Mike Wasko, a 1982 Sayreville War Memorial HS graduate is pictured at the 1988 Winter Olympics, where he competed in the 4-Man Bobsleigh for the United States of America.



1988-Mike Wasko (c) is pictured with his proud parents at the Winter Olympics in Canada.



1988-Mike Wasko, an '82 graduate of Sayreville War Memorial HS competed in the 4-man Bobsleigh for the United States of America in the 1988 Winter Olympics held on Feb. 27-28 at Olympic Park in Canada. The Americans finished 4th in this category, behind 1st place Switzerland, 2nd-East Germany, 3rd-Soviet Union. Mike, who starred in track at Sayreville, and after high school at Fairleigh Dickinson University, was inducted into the Hall of Fame at both schools.



1965-Christina DiPoalo Olender was the Morgan Panthers Pop Warner football team's official mascot at 2 1/2 years old. Pictured above is her first uniform, which she still has in perfect condition. (Photos courtesy of Christina DiPoalo Olender)

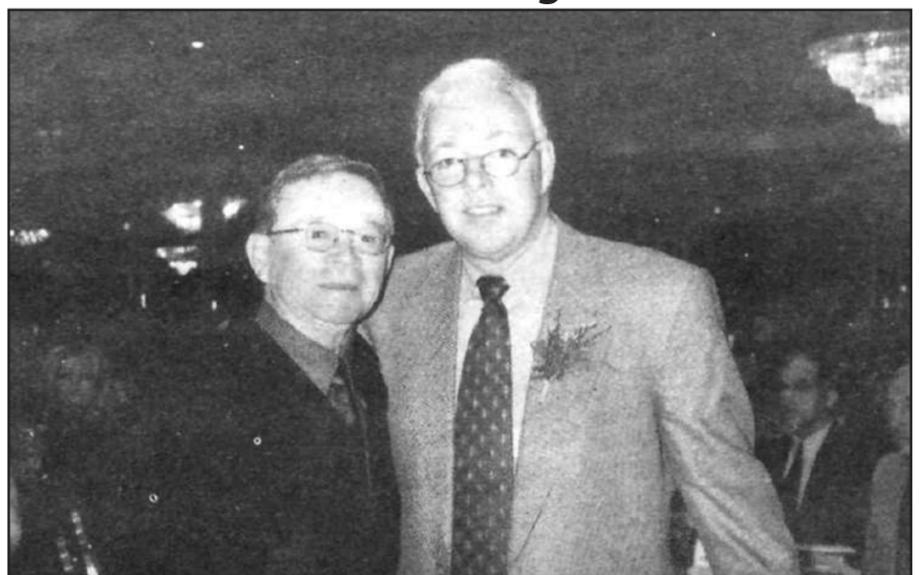
Morgan Panthers Official Mascot

By Tom Burkard

Christina DiPoalo Olender, CEO of Parlin DuPont Employees Federal Credit Union for 23 years, was the Morgan Panthers Pop Warner Football team's first official mascot back in 1965, when she was only 2 1/2 years old. Christina tells the story of the early Morgan Panthers days: "In the 60's, when the Morgan Panthers were getting started, boys borrowed mismatched uniforms, and the cheerleader uniforms were hand-made by a few of the mothers. My dad, John DiPoalo, and my uncle Danny DiPoalo were instrumental in getting the Panthers off the ground. My brother John and cousin Danny both played, and my sisters Denise and Lorraine, and

cousin Donna were cheerleaders. We were one, big, happy family! I was the official mascot, and my Aunt Lorraine, who was a cheerleading coach, made me a uniform from extra scraps of material after making the girls cheerleading outfits." Christina has the distinction of being the only mascot in the rich history of the Morgan Panthers. Christina DiPoalo Olender has been employed by the Parlin DuPont Employees Federal Credit Union in Sayreville for 30 years, and has served as the CEO for the past 23 years.

20 Years Ago



2002-Former local resident and recently retired manager of the Minnesota Twins, Tom Kelly (r), is congratulated by his first baseball manager, Alfie O'Connor (l) of South Amboy, at the New Jersey Sportswriters Association Annual Banquet, where Kelly was inducted into their Hall of Fame, and also named "AL Manager of the Year." (Photo By Tom Burkard)

Kelly Inducted Into New Jersey Sportswriters Hall of Fame

By Tom Burkard

Approximately 1000 people attended the New Jersey Sportswriters Association's 66th Annual Banquet at The Pines Manor in Edison on January 27, 2002. South Amboy/Sayreville sports legend and longtime Minnesota Twins manager, Tom Kelly was inducted into the NJ Sportswriters Hall of Fame, and also received the Association's American League "Manager of The Year" award for 2001, after guiding his young, low-budgeted club to a second place finish in

the AL Central. He announced his retirement at the end of the season, after 15 years of managing the Twins, which included World Series Championships in 1987 and 1991. He was selected AL "Manager of The Year" both years. Kelly, who was born in Minnesota and grew up near the South Amboy/Sayreville border on Evelyn Terrace, had over 100 dedicated family, friends and fans in attendance for this monumental event.



School Sports

By Tom Burkard

Boys Basketball

Sayreville (9-11) Scoring Leaders-Peter Luster 179 points, Max Negron 175, Kyler Crespo 168, Jaden Hargrove 155, Santino Whitaker 149.

South Amboy (6-11) Scoring Leaders-Brandon Gasiewski 243, Gavin Pelkey 183, Jianny Caraballo 145.

Rebound Leaders-Anthony Vella 113, Pelkey 81, Floyd 60.

Girls Basketball

Sayreville (7-14) Scoring Leaders-Brooke Holland 337, Chisom Ejikeme 115, Janai Negroni 88.

Rebound Leaders-Ejikeme 176, Holland 167, Ashley Ament 139; Blocked Shots-Ament 20, Holland 16; Steals-Negroni 25, Holland 24, Ejikeme 24.

South Amboy (1-16) Scoring Leaders-Faith Nemeth 213, Taylor Gliese 211.

Wrestling

Sayreville (15-7) Coach Marcus Ivy's team finished 5th in the GMCT. The top 5 and their team point totals were as follows: 1-South Plainfield 231, 2-St. Joseph's 219.5, 3-St. Thomas Aquinas 175, 4-Old Bridge 139, 5-Sayreville 94.

South Amboy HS Swimmer At County Championships

(Article Submitted)

Sophomore Vera Bacsoka represented South Amboy HS in the GMC Swim Championships in North Brunswick on February 3. Competing against 253 athletes from 19 school districts, the qualifying meet represented the elite swimmers of Middlesex County.

Vera had a great meet, securing 12th place in the 100 yard backstroke among 60 other competitors.

In the 200 yard IM, Vera established a personal best time of 2:31.97 and got 13th place in a field of 41 swimmers.

Elementary teacher Georgann Tice was the Coach on Deck. Great job Vera!

Guvs Fall In GMCT

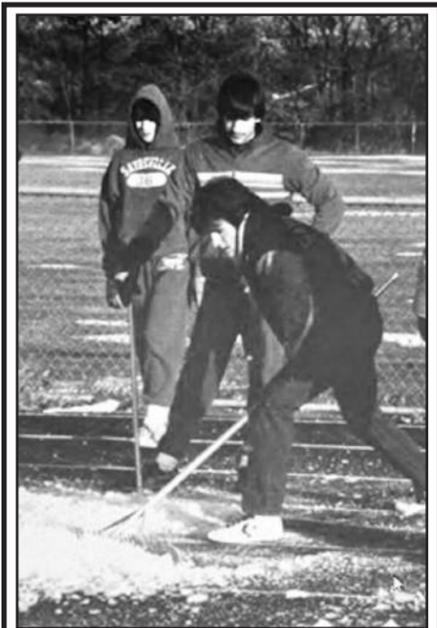
The South Amboy Guvs boys basketball team was ousted in the Play-In-Round, by Highland Park, 42-35. Brandon Gasiewski tossed in 11 points and Josiah Floyd 8 for SA.

Highland Park Rips South Amboy

Highland Park girls basketball team easily routed the South Amboy Lady Guvs 77-36 in a GMCT Play-In-Round game. The Purple & Gold scoring was paced by Faith Nemeth with 14 points and Taylor Gliese 12.

Bombers Nipped In Group 4

The Sayreville Bombers wrestling team lost a heartbreaking 37-36 contest to Sayreville's individual winners were: 126 lbs. William Marks, decision, 8-7; 138-Chris Schmitt, sudden death victory, 5-3; 150-Jeriel Severino, forfeit; 165-Edward Williams, pin, 3:05; 175-Bryce Bouchard, pin, 2:37; 215-Ryan Bouchard, pin, 0:29; 285-Connor Walsh, pin, 1:29.



1985-Sayreville War Memorial HS Winter Track athletes clear off the track so they could practice after a snowstorm hit the area.

Sacred Heart's Greatest Team (1965-66)

By Ted Krzyzanowski

The Sacred Heart 1965-66 8th grade basketball team hoped to carry on the great tradition that was in place at the school from the 50's. As Coach Ray Tomaszewski moved on to assume the coaching reins at Hoffman H.S., the task of carrying on the Hearts program fell to a much younger guy, Rick Ferguson. Fielding an experienced club that won 30 games the prior year as 7th graders, the season held much promise.

The Hearts truly ruled Middlesex County basketball under Coach Ferguson as they ran through the Perth Amboy Area CYO and the Tri County (New Brunswick) CYO leagues undefeated, a talented team that featured a pressing man to man defense, and a high-powered, fast-moving offense that often had the starting team sitting mid way in the 3rd quarter. Along the way, they did win the Msgr Wujek Christmas Tournament, beating Immaculata, Somerville in the final. In March of that year, they later beat Our Lady of the Valley from Orange NJ, on their way to winning a March invitation final at South River HS. That same Immaculata exacted some revenge, as they beat the Hearts, ending any thoughts of an undefeated season, topping the Hearts in the 32 team field Trenton Diocesan Tournament finals, 71-59. A few of those Immaculata players later played for an undefeated Bridgewater-Raritan West HS championship team. Over the course of the season, Coach Ferguson also scheduled an exhibition game vs St. Mary's freshman team, a team that featured Jim McCloud, Mark Bratus and Bob Howarth, all who starred on the great St. Mary's team of 1968-69. While

a score is not available, the Hearts did come out winning against this formidable HS team at the Walnut St. gym.

The team later entered the prestigious 32 team Garden State Grammar Bowl in March, which was played annually at Asbury Park's Convention Hall. The tournament featured all of the Catholic school powers at the shore, including St. James, Red Bank, St. Catherine's Spring Lake and Star of the Sea of Long Branch, not to mention strong public schools like Bangs Ave (Asbury Park), Atlantic Highlands and Neptune grammar schools. The Hearts dropped their 2nd game of the season, losing a heartbreaker in the quarterfinals to Ocean Twp, 50-49. That Ocean Twp team, 4 years later lost in the Group III State Championship game to Central out of Newark. Adding insult to injury that March day, had the Hearts quickly traveling back to the St. Mary's High School gym, to play a 2nd game that day versus St. John Vianney from Colonia, a team the Hearts easily beat by 30 points earlier in the year for the Amboy Area post season tournament final. With fatigue obviously a factor after their grueling game at Convention Hall taking its toll, the Hearts lost a close one to the Colonia team and finished their season at a very impressive 43-3. The team was led in scoring all year by the trio of Larry Kurzawa, Ted and George Krzyzanowski. The point guard position was handled nicely all season long by Dan Weiman (R.I.P) who later had a terrific career pitching for Rowan along with Dan Wisniewski who played at Sayreville HS.

WWW.?

By Tom Burkard



Does this place look familiar? If you think you know what it is, send your answer to: satimes@aol.com by March 14th Good luck! (Photo by Tom Burkard)

WWW.? Winners January

Last month's Mystery Photo was Our Lady of Victories Rectory on Main Street in Sayreville. The following correctly identified the structure: Michael & Irene Kilcomons, John M Kelly, Dennis Quinlan, Patti Tengelic, Michael Greenhaus, Yvonne Kronowski, Leon Credico, Eleanore Westerholm, Anne & Bruno Szatkowski, Fred Lepping, Don Zrebiec,

Lauree Zaczek, Pete McIntyre, John & JoAnn French, Edna Mazur Pilch, Joan Gorczyca, Chuck Pickard, Pat Scully, Connie Jacobs, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Betty Leveille, Joan Fulham, Steve Laskiewicz, Gary Feret, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Lynn Loy, Mary Agnes Morris, Mark Moniello, Barb Bockus, Lisa Grankowski, Dane Colburn, Steve Villig, Craig Yetko.



January's WWW - Our Lady of Victories Rectory

South Amboy Arts Alliance Thanks You!

The South Amboy Arts Alliance would like to take a moment to thank all who have voiced their support for our arts programming. We have compiled a list of your names and contact information that has been collected at our various events in the gallery and around the city. With this place we will be able to directly email you with our latest programming such as: Call for Art, Exhibitions, Music Events, Holiday Markets, Arts Lessons, Meet-ups for Book Club, Artist Talks, and our annual Artsfest. We know you will enjoy the value of being connected with us. Since we all have been trying to bring some normalcy to our lives, we have diversified our planning for opportunities for all to enjoy. We are expanding our efforts for youth, adult, senior and veteran arts programming. We have been working on increasing our funding opportunities to include more hands-on experiences in the gallery and community events, which include live performances and workshops. At the same time, we are planning on upgrading our facilities to accommodate the new programming.

The South Amboy Arts Alliance is beginning a membership drive to encourage our supporters to take one further step and join

us in growing our arts network in South Amboy and our surrounding neighbors. Our low-cost membership levels will offer you access to benefits, discounts, resources, and opportunities. Whether you are an artist, musician, writer, dancer, crafter or just enjoy being a part of the conversation; we have something for all. In return, your support helps us provide arts programming, services, workshops, and community outreach!

To make these plans a reality, we need your help! Please be a part of our future by supporting our efforts to grow into the next phase of our exciting future and meet the needs of our community. These initiatives are only a small portion of what we want to accomplish in the future. Your tax-deductible contribution ensures that we can continue our work and reach new heights.

Your membership will not only help strengthen the arts community but make South Amboy a special place to live and work! Please join us and become part of our network of creators and supporters of the arts. Email us at SAarts141@gmail.com or call 732-727-4600 x5971 for any questions you may have.

Two Years - 37,975 Meals Served in the 19th District



Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin and Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez (both D-19th Dist.) distribute food at the Salvation Army Worship and Community Center, 433 State St. in Perth Amboy.

We would love to hear from you!



OR



OR



James J. Brennan

April 6, 1939-February 6, 2022

The world has lost another one of its "good guys." James "Jim" Brennan passed from this world surrounded by love on February 6, 2022.

Jim started his life in 1939 in the small, seaside town of South Amboy, New Jersey, where he lived with his mother, Natalie (Reese) Brennan, his father Joseph Brennan, and his two younger siblings Ann and Bill. Jim resided in South Amboy until 1977. He took on the role of "man of the house" at only 9 years old when his father unexpectedly died after battling Tuberculosis. His mother went on to become the South Amboy City Clerk, a position she held for many years. Jim continued in school while working side jobs to support the family. During that time, he formed a very close bond with his maternal grandfather Irving Reece. Irving provided Jim with love, guidance and an endearing male mentorship that would shape the man he would become. He graduated from South Amboy High School in 1957, and one year later married his high school sweetheart and love of his life, Carol

attack on the World Trade Center watching it all unfold from his office directly across the Hudson River in Jersey City. Jim, along with Carol, were both gifted artisans and spent much of their free time painting, building and creating to enhance their home. They also enjoyed traveling and exploring the world together. From NYC to the Jersey Shore. From Mexico (Cozumel, Cancun, Tulum) to Canada (Montreal, Quebec, Toronto). From the Caribbean to Europe (Ireland, Wales, England, Italy, Spain, and Portugal). In 2003, Jim retired from work life and with Carol, settled into retirement life in New Port Richey, Florida. They both lived a peaceful, happy life together, enjoying the warm Florida sun and the joyful times tending to their 2 grandsons, Colin Brennan and Jack Warfield. Jim and Carol lived a full and incredibly loving life, taking on life's occasional challenges, and enjoying the many more delights, hand-in-hand until Carol's passing in 2017. While sorrowfully missing his wife every day after, Jim lived the next 4 years with his grandson Colin, learning, supporting and bonding with each other just as Jim had done with his grandfather many decades prior.

Jim is predeceased by his wife, Carol Ann Brennan, and his brother William J. Brennan. He is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Ann and Robert Borbely. His sister-in-law Cathy Brennan. His brother/sister in-law Chester and Judy Meinzer. His son and daughter-in law, James and Sandra Brennan. His daughter and son in-law, Tracy and Paul Schirmer. His grandsons, Colin James Brennan and Jack Warfield. His in-law grandchildren, Caitlin Schirmer, Patrick Schirmer and Conor Schirmer. Dear cousins Mary Lou and Paul LoVecchio. Dozens of loving nieces and nephews. Plus a caring friend, Monique Noujaim.

In lieu of flowers, you are encouraged to make a donation in his name to the American Cancer Society. Readers can leave a condolence/note at: <https://www.michels-lundquist.com/obituary/james-j-brennan/>



James "Jim" Brennan

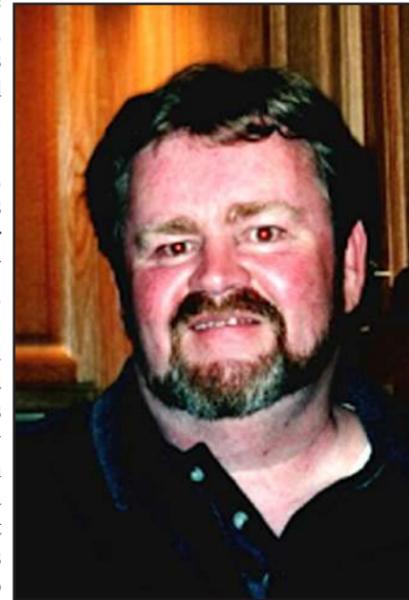
Ann Meinzer (1939-2017). Jim was drafted into the US Army in 1959 and was soon shipped out to Korea to patrol the DMZ. He returned home and was honorably discharged in December 1960, and subsequently met and held his 8-month-old son James William for the first time. He quickly went to work and began his lifelong career as a Draftsman/Engineer. In October 1962, Jim and Carol lovingly welcomed their second child into the world, Tracy Ann. The family of four remained in South Amboy for 17 years until moving to Metuchen, N.J. where they purchased/renovated a post-revolutionary war home built in 1789.

Jim, along with his brother Bill Brennan, and sister/brother-in-law Rob and Ann (Brennan) Borbely owned the Monaghan House Tavern from 1978-1988.

Jim continued to advance in his career as a Senior Pharmaceutical Engineer working for many of the world's largest companies like Merck and Pfizer. He eventually ended his career at NY/NJ Port Authority as Project Engineer. He was there during the 9/11

Gerald "Otis" Garnett

Gerald "Otis" Garnett, 69, of South Amboy died on Friday February 11, 2022 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Old Bridge. Born in South Amboy he lived there all his life. He was employed by South Amboy Department of Public Works for 35 years, spending 20 years as Superintendent and retiring as Director. A member of St. Mary's R.C. Church, South Amboy he was an exempt member of South Amboy Fire Department, Enterprise Ladder #1. Son of the late William Garnett and Virginia Crowe Mundy he is also predeceased by his stepfather Ken Mundy; his wife Aneca Applegate Garnett in 2017; his sons Mark Matarangolo in 2013 and Michael Matarangolo in 2014. He is survived by his sons Joseph Matarangolo and his wife Jane and Matthew Matarangolo; his daughters Ann Seres and her husband William and



Gerald "Otis" Garnett

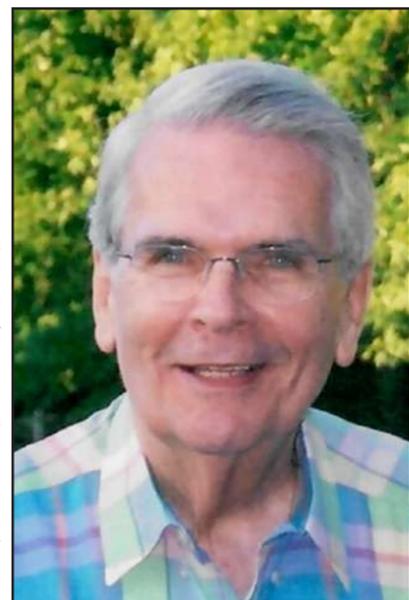
Aneca McNelly and her husband Lloyd; his brother William Garnett and his wife Linda; his grandchildren Aimee and Jill Matarangolo, Nicole Seres-Flynn and her husband Tom and Alexander and Sara McNelly; his great-grandchildren Amanda, Aniyah and Joseph; his nephew William Garnett; his niece Kelly Trzeciak and her husband Tom; his daughter-in-law Nancy Scocco and his dear friend Phebian.

Funeral services were held at The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by interment in Christ Church Cemetery, South Amboy. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the South Amboy First Aid Squad, P.O. Box 328, South Amboy, NJ 08879 or Deborah Heart & Lung Center.

Eugene L. O'Toole

Eugene L. O'Toole, 92, of Sayreville passed away peacefully at his home on Thursday, February 3, 2022. Born and raised in South Amboy, he moved to Sayreville in 1962. Gene was a Korean War veteran and was very proud to serve his country. He was a true American who loved God, his family, and his country. Gene was a devoted family man and friend to all who were blessed to know him. He was a faithful NY Yankees and NY Giants fan. He was an avid reader of the morning paper, sports magazines, and always awaited the new issue of The SA Times. When you were in Gene's company you enjoyed the conversation, his laughter, and he always offered you many compliments. You

always walked away feeling better after you saw Gene because he had the ability to bring out the best in people. His late friend often said "He was a gentleman's gentleman." Gene had the kindest heart and spoke the softest words to everyone he encountered through his life. Gene was very active in St. Mary Church, South Amboy, as a former Eucharistic minister and also as one of the trustees of the parish. Throughout the years, Gene also served on many committees in the parish. Also, Gene was a former member of the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club. Gene graduated from St. Mary High School and while working at Western Electric for



Eugene L. O'Toole

ten years he became co-owner with Allie Clark of the Sportsman Inn (formerly The Landmark) on Broadway in South Amboy, NJ. Gene joined Syntex/Roach pharmaceuticals as their Distribution Manager for 28 years until his retirement in 2004.

Son of the late William J. and Ethel B. he was predeceased by his brothers William and John and his sisters Ann Maniscalco and Majorie David. He was also predeceased by his wife of 51 years, Rita (Wieczorkowski) in 2002 and his son, Rev. Eugene (Chip) O'Toole in 1996. He is survived by his two devoted friends Rev. Dennis Wezorak of South Amboy and Susan Chesakis of Old Bridge. Gene is also survived by

his goddaughter Meghan (McKenna) Winston of Middletown, cousins Kenneth Henderson of Port Richey, FL and Mary Beth Henderson of Dobbs Ferry, NY, a niece Colleen (O'Toole) Fobes and a nephew John O'Toole of Florida and a host of friends. A special thank you to his doctor and long-time close friend, Dr. Harold McKenna. Also, to his devoted neighbor Erik Antone and his caregiver, Mariya. Funeral services were held from The Gundrum Service "Home for Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church. Interment was at Holy Cross Burial Park, East Brunswick.

Jeanne Menk Polinski

Jeanne Menk Polinski, 88, of the Parlin section of Sayreville died on Tuesday February 8, 2022 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy. Born in Elizabeth, she was a graduate of St. Mary's High School, South Amboy and Seton Hall University. Jeanne was employed by St. Mary's Elementary School before moving to the High School, later becoming Director of the Guidance Department and ultimately retiring in 2008 as Vice Principal. A member of St. Mary's R.C., she was a former trustee of the parish as well as a Eucharistic Minister. She enjoyed traveling the world, babysitting and spending time with her family most of all.



Jeanne Menk Polinski

Daughter of the late Gordon and Helen Newman Menk she is also predeceased by her husband Raymond A. Polinski in 2002. She is survived by

her daughters Cathy Polinski of Clermont, Florida and Cindy Burns and her husband Mike of Parlin; her sisters Barbara Skarzynski and Marilyn Martenak; her grandchildren Brian Burns and his wife Jacki, Kevin Burns and his wife Sandy and Colleen Noden and her husband Sean; her great-grandchildren Sean, Kate, Emma, Abby, Brea, Mikey and Colton and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held from The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church. Entombment was in St. Mary's Cemetery Mausoleum. In lieu of flowers donations

may be made to St. Joseph Senior Home, 3 St. Joseph's Terrace, Woodbridge, NJ 07095.

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 -BS, PS, MM, ML, LF.

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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 -ML

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. -PS..

Novena Prayer to St. Anthony of Padua

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

Obituaries

Ambrosio, Anna M., 96, of Parlin died on Jan. 26.
 Barbato, Michael, 101, of Sayreville died on Jan. 20.
 Biancamano, Francis E., 94, formerly of Sayreville died on Jan. 29.
 Brennan, James J. "Jim," 82, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 6.
 Brugnoli, Barbara, 85, of Sayreville died on Feb. 7.
 Cervantes, Pedro M., 87, of Parlin died on Feb. 13.
 Chiofalo, Peter, 82, of Parlin died on Jan. 28.
 Cruz, Julita "Nanay," 85, of Sayreville died on Jan. 27.
 Csordos, Joseph J., 93, of Sayreville died on Jan. 20.
 Dennis, Paul J. Sr., 62, of Sayreville died on Jan. 29.
 Diaz, Carlos O., 67, of South Amboy died on Feb. 9.
 Elwood, Mary R., 94, formerly of Sayreville died on Jan. 27.
 Fernandez, Rev. Edward H. Jr., 69, of South Amboy died on Jan. 22.
 Friedman, Maryjane Fleming, 82, of South Amboy died on Jan. 6.
 Garnett, Gerald "Otis," 69, of South Amboy died on Feb. 11.
 Gill, Janet, 87, of Parlin died on Jan. 18.
 Grasso, Ronald, 81, of Sayreville died on Jan. 29.
 Herman, Alexander L., 79, of Sayreville died on Jan. 27.
 Inzana, Anthony W. Jr., 47, of South Amboy died on Jan. 29.
 Iorillo, Louise, 87, Sayreville died on Feb. 4.
 Litwinski, Violet, formerly of Sayreville died on Jan. 24.
 Lonnay, Eileen, of South Amboy died on Jan. 20.

Luberto, June, 91, of Madison Park Sect. of Old Bridge died on Feb. 1.
 Marcinczyk, Ronald E. "Ronnie", 43, formerly of Sayreville died on Jan. 4.
 Niewinski, Dorothy, 95, of Sayreville died on Jan. 24.
 Niewinski, John, 93, of Sayreville died on Jan. 28.
 Nilsen, Gerald Sr., 87, formerly of South Amboy died on Jan. 23.
 Noble, Mary, 84, of South Amboy died on Jan. 28.
 O'Toole, Eugene L. 92, of Sayreville died on Feb. 3.
 Pena, Maria del Carmen, 82, of Sayreville died on Jan. 18.
 Polinski, Jeanne Menk, 88, of Parlin died on Feb. 8.
 Repsha, Marylou M. Sullivan, 60, formerly of South Amboy died on Jan. 20.
 Rucki, John M., 72, formerly of Sayreville died on Jan. 20.
 Salvaggio, Daniel, 93, of Morgan died on Jan. 22.
 Scibek, Maryann, 86, of Parlin died on Feb. 8.
 Scully, Chrisanne Loniewski, 66, of Sayreville died on Feb. 2.
 Sickler, Rick, 59, of Sayreville died on Feb. 7.
 Skwira, JoAnne "Joan," 80, of Sayreville died on Feb. 12.
 Szabo, Olga, of South Amboy died on Feb. 8.
 Toth, Jody, 82, of South Amboy died on Feb. 4.
 Urban, Edward J., 95, of South Amboy died on Nov. 19.
 Verlingo, Christian B., 50, of Parlin died on Jan. 19.
 Zeromski, Wojciech A., 83, of South Amboy died on Jan. 18.

In Memoriam

John Rucki, 72, formerly of Sayreville died on Jan. 20. He was a '67 graduate of St. Mary's HS, and a fine basketball player and overall "good guy." He went on to have a respected and rewarding career in nuclear power. Marylou Sullivan Repsha, 60, formerly of South Amboy died on Jan. 20. During her high school years, she was a cheerleader at St. Mary's. Daniel Salvaggio, 93, of Morgan died on Jan 22. He lived in Morgan for 61 years, and was an avid reader of the SA Times. He was a devoted family man, and known to all as someone always

ready to lend a helping hand.
 Rev. Edward Fernandez Jr., 69, of South Amboy died on Jan. 22. He was a minister at Messiah Lutheran Church in Parlin. In addition, he was founder/pastor of River of Life Christian Center in Sayreville before retiring in 2010. Peter Chiofalo, 82, of Parlin died on Jan. 28. Before retiring, he was a supervisor at Hercules. Francis Biancamano, 94, formerly of Sayreville died on Jan. 29. Prior to retirement, she worked as bank manager for Perth Amboy Savings.

Happy 13th Anniversary in Heaven

*If we could visit heaven
 even for a day,
 maybe for a moment,
 the pain would go away.
 We'd put our arms around you
 and whisper words so true,
 that living life without you,
 is the hardest thing to do.
 No matter how we spend our days,
 no matter what we do,
 no morning dawns or evening falls,
 when we don't think of you.*



Kenneth G. Kubinak
 February 12, 2009 - February 12, 2022

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

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

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

MIRACULOUS INVOCATION TO ST. THERESA
 O Glorious St. Theresa, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind, I invite your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you in obtaining every need of body and soul, our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a "prodigy of miracles, the greatest Saint of modern times." Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and carry out your promise of doing good upon earth of letting fall from heaven a shower of roses, henceforth, Dear Little Flower, I will fulfill your plea to be made known everywhere and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen. Say prayer every day for 9 days. By the 4th day ask for a sign, if prayer is to be answered between 4th and 9th day you will see a rose in a magazine, tv, picture or receive roses. Must promise publication. M.L., LF

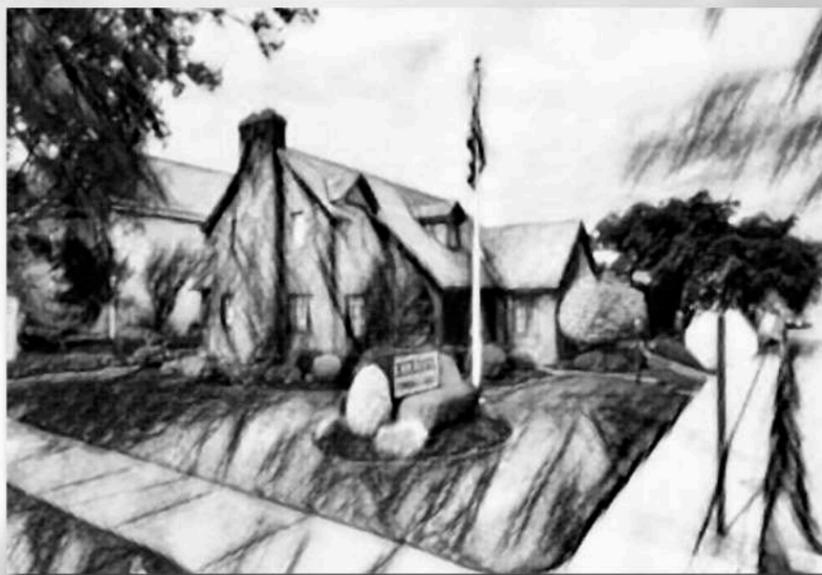


*There is truly only one thing that
 can be done once.....your loved one
 deserves the best!*



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 South Amboy and Sayreville with
 respectful services since 1933

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We offer a dignified funeral experience to meet every family's needs, while creating a comfortable peaceful environment with ample street parking and handicap accessible barrier free.
 Inquire about our affordable guaranteed pre-funding programs, especially for the Community Senior Groups, Veterans, Firemen & Law Enforcement.



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

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

Sayreville Memorial
Funeral Home
 Joseph J. Kurzawski, Manager
 N.J. Lic. No. 3717
732-257-3134

COME JOIN THE SOUTH AMBOY SENIOR CENTER

Any resident of South Amboy 60 years and older, is eligible to join our senior center and take advantage of all the services we provide.

Social activities

Trips to local shopping centers and restaurants

Lunch and learn seminars

Bingo

Chair yoga

Senior clubs

Book club

Medical transportation within a 10 mile radius of town is also available.

For additional information please call the center at (732) 525-5960
Visit www.southamboynj.gov/page/senior-citizen for calendar of monthly activities

Did you know...?

Sidewalk and exterior home repair grants are still available.

If your primary residence is in need of any exterior repairs, sidewalks or stairs please contact the Mayor's office at (732) 525-5932 or russoa@southamboynj.gov for more information.

2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mayors Wellness Walk: May 7th (rain date: May 8th)

City Wide Yard Sale: June 25th and June 26th

4th of July Celebration: July 2nd (rain date: July 3rd)

Irish Festival: October 1st (rain date: October 2nd)

Fall City Wide Yard Sale: October 8th and October 9th

Halloween Parade & Trunk or Treat: October 29th (rain date: October 30th)

Tree Lighting/Emergency Light Parade: December 9th (rain date: December 10th)

Holiday Home Decorating Contest: December 2nd—16th

Holiday Lights Trolley Tour: December 16th

(For more information or any questions about community events please contact Jaclyn at (732) 525-5965 or kellyj@southamboynj.gov)

Visit the City website at www.southamboynj.gov for up to date information about City events