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# The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

This issue is  
dedicated to  
\*Barbara Anderson  
\*Walter Bowerman  
\*John "Johnny K." Kizabavich  
\*William Moglia



May 25, 2026 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 35 Issue 8

## South Amboy Police Dept Memorial Service



The family of the late former Police Chief Jerry Pizzillo Sr. placed the memorial wreath during the annual ceremony. Police Chief Patricia Kanecke proudly joined the Pizzillo family in the photo. (Photo by Brian Stratton) See more photos on page 23.

## SWMHS Hall Of Fame



SWMHS's newest HOF inductees (l-r) Justin Iacouzzi, Kim Bright Molteg, Ashish Moholkar, Matt McIvor and Eric Morrell. (Photo by Benjamin Stanislawczyk) Justin Iacouzzi, Class of 2000: Decorated U.S. Navy logistics specialist with 2 deployments (2003-2009); Leader of hazardous materials safety programs in military and corporate settings; Compliance & Safety Specialist, founder of the company's corporate safety initiative program; Multiple advanced degrees with ongoing PHD studies in business; Dedicated community and humanitarian volunteer locally and abroad. Matt McIvor, Class of 1999: Starting PR/Marketing firm, Localite LA Public Relations in 2012; Getting married and having a son; Proudly Serving, (burger restaurant) out of my driveway during covid; Recognized as one of the top burgers in Los Angeles; Proudly Serving free meals to first responders and anyone displaced in the LA wildfires. Ashish Moholkar, Class of 1988: 25+ years of service at Novartis; Global Head Citrix Services & Storage Services; Director AI & Innovation Technology Partnerships; Certified Information Systems Security Professional; Instrumental in Coordinating fundraising by the Class of 1988 for Scholarships for SWHS Seniors. Kim Molteg, Class of 1975: Proud Mom of Holly Nicole; Licensed New Jersey Cosmetologist and Notary Public; 33 Years in Surgical Education as a Certified Program Supervisor/ Administrator for the General Surgery Residency Accredited Program at Rutgers RWJ Medical. Eric Morrell, Class of 1990: Middlesex County Bar Association - Municipal Court Practice Award 2024; Member of National Standards Committee for Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity; Chapter Advisor for Sigma Delta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Mu, Rutgers; Selected as a Superlawyer for Criminal Defense NJ 2020 - present; Public Defender and a member of the Zoning Board for Township of Scotch Plains.

### South Amboy Summer Concert Series

7-24 Whiskey Time Machine  
7-31 Rebel Creek  
8-7 Emily Grace Lucas Band  
8-14 DNA  
8-21 No Direction  
8-28 Almost Average

6-8 pm at the Train Plaza on Broadway.




## South Amboy Police Department



South Amboy Chief Patricia Kanecke and the South Amboy Police Department along with Business Administrator David Kales and Mayor Fred Henry pose for this photo following the annual memorial ceremony. (Photo by Amy McLaughlin Photography)


Next Issue June 27th - Deadlines June 15th  
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## Sayreville Police Memorial Service



In photo (l-r) Kim Feingold, Karen Fallon and Kenny Kurczeski (better known as Kenny K), are shown at the Borough of Sayreville Annual Police Memorial Service. The siblings father was the late and beloved Sgt. Richard Kurczeski. A huge crowd was in attendance to honor, remember, and pay tribute to all of the wonderful and dedicated police officers who have passed away. (Photo submitted)

## Project Before PTO



Sayreville's Project Before PTO & Friends recently sponsored a "Be Our Guest" Disney Dance Night. There were games, crafts and fun for the whole family. Posing above are the committee organizers with some very important guests.



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## FROM THE DESK OF TOM REILLY



I have discussed in this column several times over the years the solemn remembrances we owe to those who gave their lives for our country. I have also discussed my firm belief that our greatest act of commemoration is to dedicate ourselves through our acts and deeds to the furtherance of that same cause. As Abraham Lincoln stated in the Gettysburg Address -- in words President Kennedy described as "too eloquent for paraphrase or summary" -- our greatest tribute is to take "increased devotion to the cause." That cause, Lincoln said, was nothing less than a "new birth of freedom." In short, remembrance is most meaningfully expressed through action, not words alone -- and that principle continues to guide us today.

That commitment to action has shaped acts of remembrance throughout our history and continues here in South Amboy. Memorial Day traces its origins to May 5, 1868, when General John A. Logan, leader of an organization of Union Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance. This observance became known as Decoration Day, and originally honored Union servicemen lost during the Civil War. Following World War II, the holiday evolved to recognize all American service members lost in service to their country, reminding each new generation that remembrance carries with it an ongoing responsibility to those who serve and return home.

As the leader of a veteran's organization, General Logan's story evokes the obvious connection between those we have lost and those still with us for whom we owe our unending gratitude. Across the country, communities are working to address veteran homelessness and housing insecurity through partnerships between local governments, veterans' organizations, nonprofits, and private citizens. These efforts recognize a simple truth: those who served our nation with honor deserve dignity, stability, and support when they return home, especially at a time when too many veterans still struggle to secure safe and affordable housing.

Here in South Amboy, American Legion Post 62 is leading one such effort through its proposed Stars and Stripes Veterans Center. The project will provide five affordable apartments for low-to-moderate income veterans while also creating a permanent meeting place for the Post and the veterans' community. Though modest in size, the project represents a lasting, tangible investment in stability, connection, and

dignity for those who have served. This project holds special meaning for me personally. My father served as commander of Post 62 and helped oversee the rehabilitation of the post during the late 1970s. As many residents know, Post 62 has been without a permanent home since the building was destroyed by Hurricane Sandy. Despite that loss, the organization has remained committed to serving our veterans and our community.

Recognizing the importance of this effort, the City of South Amboy has committed \$300,000 from our Affordable Housing Trust Fund and has also acquired an adjacent property to help preserve additional space for the project. This investment reflects a deliberate choice to ensure that veterans are prioritized in our affordable housing strategy. Supporting our veterans is not only right and proper, but a deed of remembrance worthy of those who sacrificed all they had for all of us.

There are also several opportunities this Memorial Day for residents to come together in remembrance. On Sunday, May 24, Luke Lovely American Legion Post 62 will begin a memorial service at 9:00 a.m. at Christ Church Cemetery, concluding at Veterans Memorial Plaza on Bordentown Avenue at noon. On May 30, a Community Memorial Picnic will be held at 107 George Street from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. I hope you will join us.

By honoring those we have lost and supporting those who still carry the burdens of service, we strengthen the values that define our community and our nation. Or, as Lincoln said, "with charity for all, with firmness in the right . . . let us strive on to finish the work we are in . . . to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace." It is my hope that we will continue to do so through our continued acts in service of those who served.

Respectfully  
**Tom Reilly**  
 2nd Ward Councilman  
 City of South Amboy

## Sayreville Library News

**Chair Yoga (Virtual)**  
**Monday, June 1 @4PM.**

Join us for an evening of mindful, therapeutic movement. This chair yoga class is open to everyone and will help you decompress and relax using gentle stretching and breathing work. Participants will need a chair, preferably one that allows their feet to be flat on the floor. Please wear comfortable clothing. This is a virtual session. Registration is required to get the Zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

**Guided Meditation (In-Person)**  
**Saturday, June 6 @2PM**

Join Barbara Brown, an expert in stress-reduction meditations, for this in-person meditation session. Ease your mind and relax with some deep, relaxed breathing and focused meditation. The event will be held in the meeting room. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

**\*NOTE\*** Small children may not be left unattended in the library while an adult patron attends this event.

**Vacations and Day Trips with Jamie Novak (Virtual)**  
**Tuesday, June 9 @6:30PM.**

Day trips and vacations are supposed to be fun, log on and learn how to take the stress out of the planning and packing. Join expert organizer Jamie Novak when she shares what to pack and what to put on the "before you

leave checklist". This is a virtual session, registration required to get the zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112. Patrons must provide a valid email address.

**Movie Matinee**  
**Tuesday, June 16 @1PM**

This month: The Family Stone: Daine Keaton, Rachel McAdams, Sarah Jessica Parker, Craig Nelson, etc. Rated PG 2 hrs 5 mins. Refreshments provided. Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

**\*Note\*** Small children may not be left unattended in the library while an adult patron attends this event.

**Sweet and Savory Fruit Recipes with Vanessa (Virtual)**  
**Wednesday, June 24 @3PM**

Summer fruit belongs in sweet and savory dishes. Join Vanessa Young from Thirsty Radish and learn to incorporate it into an abundant salad with your choice of protein as well as sweets that celebrate the best of the season. This is a virtual session. Registration required to get the zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112. Patrons must provide a valid email address.

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.P.N.P., M.S., K.H., S.S.-

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## Gomolka's Collectables Give Away!



AI Gomolka  
As seen on  
American Pickers

(Images are for example and not the actual items)

**Super collector AI Gomolka in conjunction with The SA Times will offer a new contest in each upcoming issue Gomolka's Collectables Give Away. AI would like to give away "FREE" portions of his collections to his fellow South Amboy/Sayreville readers of The SA Times to enhance their collections or just to make them happy.**

**All one has to do is to e-mail to: [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com) for the Gomolka's Collectables Give Away, and a winner will be selected via a random drawing to receive box fulls of AI's collectables for FREE! The winner will be notified via e-mail before the next newspaper comes out.**

**For the next issue's free giveaway will be "A little bit of a lot!" of different collectables, including: comic books, baseball/sports cards, postcards, old baskets, collectable cereal boxes, old magazines, and magazine adds, collectable sheet music, walking sticks, 8 track tapes and CD's, sunglasses, old decorative tins, and other goodies. Over a dozen different collections!**

**Wouldn't your dad or husband love some collections to go thru and bring back wonderful memories as a Father's Day gift?**

**E-mail The SA Times at: [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com) by June 7th to enter for a chance to get all these freebies. God Bless!**

Last Month's winners were:  
**Kimberly & Anthony Cordero**

**The winner must pick up the winning prize in person at a certain location in South Amboy or Sayreville. \*The winner must be available to pick up the prize at a predetermined location and time, or the prize will be forfeited.**

**\*No prizes will be mailed, and must be picked up in person. Email your name to:**

**[satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com)**  
Put Gomolka's Contest in the subject line  
**By June 7th**  
**GOOD LUCK!**  
Must enter each month  
Staff of The SA Times and their family members are not eligible to enter. One entry per household.  
Must be 18 years or older to enter.



## Yearbook-Hoffman 1981

By Tom Burkard

At the beginning of senior year in September 1980, songs like "Sailing" by Christopher Cross, and "Another One Bites The Dust" by Queen and many others were popular at H.G. Hoffman High School. Mr. DePasquale was principal...Some of the fine faculty included Mrs. Silla, Miss Folis, Tony Gonsalves, Ray "Butch" Tomaszewski, Tom Magielnicki, Mr. Johnson...The yearbook was titled "Music and Movies" and dedicated to "Giff" Thomas Gifford. Robin Piazzolla and Diane Adams were the editors...Tom Mulligan was Class President. Kids from the Class of '81 hung out at the Bay, the Jug, Hoffman corner, the John Street courts, and Spiral Metals... Some of the class of '68 graduates selected by lottery were: Don Applegate, John Buckalew, Dawn Clark, Cathy Clayton, Marlene Cole, Charlene Coyle, Diane Damion, Debbie Lee Dill, Brian Dudley, Wendy Dyer, Patty Fear, Gloria Florczak, Sharon Foldi, Diane Garsick, Jeff Gold, Mark Gonsalves, Patty Gonzalez, Robin Gumprecht, Dianna Hoover, Joanne Jakubczak, Karen Januszak, Cheryl LaBerge, Tom Levandoski, Tom Lewis, Maureen McNeil, Barbara Malinowski, Karen Mar mone, Michelle McCabe, Bill McGowan, Terri McLaughlin, Patty McMahan, Adrianna Molina, Christine

Morrisey, Nancy Moskwa, Diane Newton, Bob Ordner, Frieda Orłowski, Shawn O'Toole, Jose Pestoinit, Ellen Rasmussen, Nancy Ratajczak, John Samuelson, Mike Savin, Janice Scully, Dave Silva, Donna Smith, Joanne Snover, Chris Szatkowski, Steve Thompson, Debbie Vattelana, Michelle Volker, Carol Vona, Karen Wawerczak, Tammy Wisenfelder... On the national news scene in '81, 52 American hostages were released by Iran...Assassination attempts were made on President Ronald Regan and also Pope John Paul II...Rubik's cube was very popular...Remember the Royal Wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana?... Hoffman fielded its first girls' soccer team in the fall of 1980 under Coach Rich Klein... The athletic teams were loaded with senior talent in '81, and some of the big names included: Tom Mulligan, All County, All-State Baseball, Jamie White, All-Around superstar, 1,000 point scorer, Patti McCabe, Linda Smith, Bob Aucone, Eileen DeFort, Pat DeJoy, Darren Gorczyca, Darryl Munck, Robin Piazzolla, Steve Richmond, Brian Septor, Dawn Leonard... At graduation time in 1981, Kim Carnes hit, "Bette Davis Eyes" ruled the airwaves. The Class of '81 was a talented group of really great people.



AI Gomolka (c) is pictured with Anthony Cordero (l), and his wife Kimberly Cordero (r), who were the May winners of Gomolka's Collectables Give Away contest. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

### Flea Market

The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville will be having their annual Flea Market on Saturday June 6, 2026 from 8am to 2pm. We are located at 172 Main Street, Sayreville, directly across from the Borough Hall. Our rain date is June 13, 2026. Come out and see if you find your treasures. We have individual, personal vendors and the Church has a variety of wares for sale, including clothes, books and more. So check out our various vendors, have a good meal and just enjoy the day. There is ample parking across the street at the Borough Hall.

### Memorial Day Service

The Catholic War Veterans, Sacred Heart Memorial Post 578, South Amboy.

Monday, May 25th, 2026, 8:00 AM Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Washington Avenue, South Amboy, NJ. All Catholic Veterans are invited to attend.


Monday, May 26th, 2026, 9:00 AM, Memorial Day Service, Sacred Heart Cemetery, Johnson Lane, Parlin, NJ. The public is invited to attend.

TO ST. JUDE  
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored and glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude gave me hope. -P.S., B.S., S.S., M.S., K.S., S.P., N.P.

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 intention 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.

## Pleasant Little TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard



1. Grand Marshal of the 2010 South Amboy Memorial Day Parade?  
a. John O'Connell b. Harold Dennen c. Thomas Noble
2. What section of Sayreville is Bayview Rod & Gun Club located?  
a. Morgan b. Melrose c. Oak Tree
3. This bar and grill was located on Ridgeway Ave., South Amboy in '10?  
a. Johnny's Halfway House b. Getz's c. Anthony's
4. Pizza/Cafe/Catering business located on Washington Rd., Parlin in 2010?  
a. Maria's b. Nonna Rosa's c. Santa Maria
5. Chosen Commander of Luke A. Lovely Post 62, South Amboy in 2002?  
a. Bob "Zak" Sekerak b. Joe Szaro c. Cynthia Harrigfeld
6. In '02, this drive-in restaurant held their grand opening on Rt. 9 South in Sayreville?  
a. Stewart's b. Checkers c. White Castle
7. Owner of Broadway Coiffures in 2002?  
a. Sharika Munombo b. Eileen Michalik c. Susan Johansson
8. President of St. Stan's School Student Council in '02?  
a. Caitlyn McCarthy b. John Vincenzo c. Katherine Kobanowski
9. Where was Harbor Lights Family Restaurant & Bar located in South Amboy in 2002?  
a. South Pine Ave. b. South Stevens Ave. c. South Broadway
10. Elected Commander of Sayreville Memorial Post 4699 for 1997-98?  
a. Barry Cook Jr. b. Bob DeLucia Sr. c. George Monks

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

## Councilman John's Monthly Minute

The Power of Volunteerism in Sayreville



Earlier this month, our community came together to bury a time capsule marking Sayreville's 150th anniversary. It wasn't a big, flashy event, but it didn't need to be. It was meaningful in a quieter way, the kind of moment that makes you stop and think about where we've been and where we're headed.

One hundred and fifty years is no small thing. The Sayreville we know today started as a brickmaking town, and not just in a small way. At one point, Sayreville was home to one of the largest brick manufacturing operations in the country, producing millions of bricks every year and shipping them throughout the region and beyond. Bricks made right here found their way into major projects across the region and helped shape communities far beyond our borders.

Over time, that industrial spirit grew well beyond brickmaking. Sayreville became home to a wide range of factories and nationally recognized industries, so much so that the Borough once proudly carried the motto, "Home of Nationally Known Industries." That era shaped generations of families who worked hard, raised their kids here, and built a strong sense of community. My own family is part of that story. My father worked at the JCP&L facility, what many of us knew simply as the Power House. For families like mine, those jobs weren't just about making a living, they were about building a life right here in Sayreville.

Like many towns with that kind of history, we eventually faced the challenges that came with industrial decline and environmental impact, which pushed us to evolve once again.

What stands out is that Sayreville has never been a town that stands still. We've continued to remake ourselves over time, adjusting to new realities while never losing sight of where we came from. There's a real effort to strike that balance, to move forward while preserving our heritage, respecting our neighborhoods, and honoring the generations who built this community. That includes restoring and revitalizing areas that became contaminated brownfields, building a more sustainable community, and making sure we remain protective of our environment while still creating opportunities that strengthen what makes Sayreville special and worth sharing.

Another part of who we are, and something that has always been part of this town, is how we support the men and women who serve our country. That tradition is still alive today. Our upcoming Memorial Day parade remains a fixture in Sayreville, a reminder of the respect we have for those who served. It brings to mind an earlier time, back in the 1940s after World War II, when the entire town came together to celebrate the return of our service members. Folks like my dad, and his brothers, who served,

were welcomed home and recognized by a grateful community. That sense of pride, gratitude, and standing by those who serve is something that continues to define us today.

The time capsule itself is really just a snapshot, a way of telling future residents, "this is what life felt like in 2026." In my letter, I tried to touch on Sayreville's past, where we came from, where we are today, and what we're facing as both a community and as a nation. I wrote about the pride we have in our history, the progress we've made, and the challenges that still exist, especially when it comes to the tone of conversations in our country today. There's a lot of noise, not always a lot of listening. My hope is that when this capsule is opened years from now, we've found our way back to more respectful, productive conversations, where working together matters more than winning an argument.

At the end of the day, communities like ours don't thrive because of politics, they thrive because of people.

Neighbors helping neighbors. Volunteers stepping up. Residents who care enough to get involved, to show up, and to make a difference. That's the real foundation of Sayreville.

I also want to thank our Borough staff for putting this together. Even though it was a simple ceremony, a lot of effort goes into making these moments happen. This is just one piece of a larger celebration, and I'm really looking forward to the events still to come as we continue to mark Sayreville's 150th anniversary alongside our nation's 250th.

I'd also like to extend an invitation to our friends in South Amboy to join us for these celebrations. We share so much history and community spirit, and I look forward to being part of your events as well. These milestones are even more meaningful when we celebrate them together.

If there's one thing I'm sure of, it's this, Sayreville has been through a lot over the past 150 years, and we're still here, still strong. That's not by accident. It's because of the people who call this place home.

"Sayreville Strong" isn't just something we say, it's who we are. It's part of our DNA.

And I have no doubt that long after that time capsule is opened, that will still be true. Until next time,

With gratitude and pride,  
**John Zebrowski**  
 Sayreville Councilman



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## Sayreville Community Time Capsule



Above: The 2026 Time Capsule  
 Left: Sayreville Mayor Kennedy O'Brien

Sayreville buried a community time capsule in Kennedy Park to celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary and the borough's 150th anniversary. Sealed on Saturday, May 9, 2026, the capsule will remain untouched for 100 years, capturing a glimpse of life in Sayreville today for future generations. Some of the capsule's contents include a Tap and Growler sticker, two books on the history of Sayreville, a "Save Our Firehouse" mug, a Hunka Bunka Ballroom cap and t-shirt, "The Story of Sayreville" DVD, and a roll of pennies. Each member of the Borough Council, Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski, Mayor Kennedy O'Brien, and the Department of Parks and Recreation wrote letters to whomever opens the capsule in 2126. "Today is about passing our culture and our values and passing the torch on to future generations," noted Board of Education President Eloy Fernandez. "Many years after we're all gone, this will live on. Our culture today, our society today, our town, will live on in immortality because of this." (Photos courtesy of Edna Pilch)

**Thank you for all your support over the past 43 years! I will miss you all.**

**John**



**Sayreville Seafood & Main St. Sub Station/Deli**

Best Wishes John on your retirement  
 and thank you for your years in the Times.  
 From Tom and Brian

## Sayreville Class of '76, 50 Year Reunion News!

By Kathy Reardon

### To the SWMHS Class of '76-

Here are the details you've been waiting for, regarding our 50 Year Reunion!

Our celebration will take place on Saturday, September 26, 2026 at the Old Bridge Elks, located at 67 Old Amboy Rd, Old Bridge, NJ.

This is the same venue where we had our previous reunion, 5 years ago. We felt it fit our needs perfectly!

It will run from 3pm-8pm. Casual attire. We will have a cocktail hour, full buffet, desserts, and open bar! Plus who knows what else we will come up with by then! Of course there will be DJ/music, and live entertainment as well, provided by our very own Bill Frank and Midge Painchaud!

To register to attend, please contact Jim Ashe either on Facebook or by email: jimashe@comcast.net

Be sure to include your full name

(maiden name as well, ladies), email address and phone number. Also, please include the year you graduated from SWMHS. We often have guests from other classes. If you are bringing your spouse/significant other, please include their name/class info as well.

There is a Hampton Inn hotel close by, located at 300 Spring Valley Rd. in Old Bridge. It opened up less than 5 years ago. We will update you with details regarding room reservations.

And finally.... the Cost?

Nothing. We are covered by some very generous friends who would like every member of our class who wants to attend, to be able to. We only ask that if you commit to attend, you show up.

Our class, the Class of 1976, was the Bicentennial Class, graduating during our country's 200th birthday! This year marks our great country's 250th birthday, which

we will celebrate along with our own 50 year milestone.

We hope you will join us!

Your committee has been hard at work, hoping to create another exciting and memorable experience for our classmates.

We know that many of you have offered to help, and as the time gets closer, we will have a better idea of what we may need assistance with. Until then, sit back and be sure to register and mark the date on your calendar!

**50 years is a VERY BIG DEAL!!!!**

Additionally, please share this info with any friends who are not on Facebook.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Kathy, Robin, Gina, Jim, Pat



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## Celtic Cross at Christ Church South Amboy

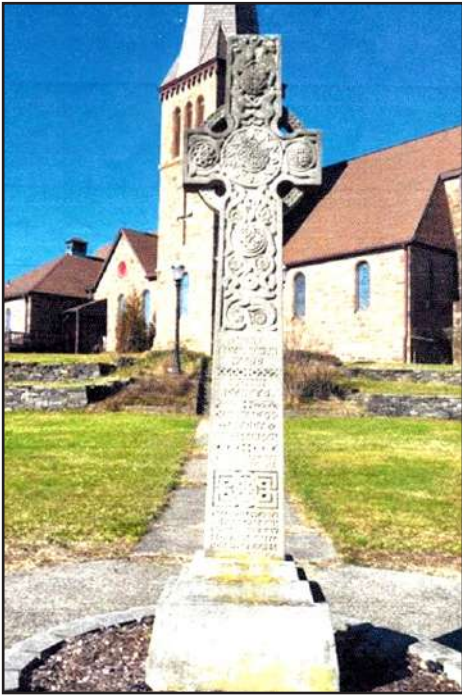
By Kurt N Kvist

Four score and seven years ago,, wait, wrong story. Tell me where in South Amboy is there a ten foot white concrete Celtic cross? Here's a hint, it sits on a 2 acre grassy hill on the corner of Main Street and Broadway. This beautiful monument is dedicated to the fallen soldiers of the First World War from South Amboy. Thomas Treganowan Kerr, John Render and Edward Jeppe Christensen.

They were killed in action in France September 29th, 1918. They were struck by ordinance, blown up by incoming shell fire. Tomas Treganowan Kerr was a second Lieutenant and received a Purple Heart. According to records John Render had enlisted in 1918 and died the same year. These brave Army men died next to a Canadian compatriot Ed Christensen. Inscribed on the cross is;

**“GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS. THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIEND.”**

This beautiful cross is loaded with ancient symbols of Celtic lore, pagan and Christian beliefs many centuries old. The cross has twenty feet of never ending knots which symbolize eternal life. Suns, stars and a lot of snakes adorn the cross. The snakes represent rebirth as they shed their skin and are born again. The familiar circle around the top of all Celtic crosses represents the sun. There's a story that God promised men there would be women in all the four corners of



Earth. Then he made it round, and he laughed and laughed. I digress.

The Celtic cross is one of the few memorial stones left on the church property. It was an Amboy & Camden Railroad cemetery prior to the existing church's construction.

There are forty people buried on the lawn of Christ Church. Nine in the crypt. So where are the headstones?

Well, back in the 1950's we had a priest who imbibed a bit. (That's drinking for those of you in Mechanicsville.) He saw ghosts one night and unbeknownst to the congregation, he had the headstones removed. Not the bodies, just the headstones. (Just like in the movie Poltergeist.) The congregation went nuts. He got tossed. The bodies stayed, all of them are still there

to this day. We had a stone retaining wall installed in the early 80's and the backhoe operator screamed when he accidentally uncovered one of the graves. I think he's still running. He sure bolted that day.

During Hurricane Sandy, the Raritan bay uncovered a lone piece of headstone belonging to Rebecca Stewart, who died in 1862. Thanks to Joe and Mary Szaro of the Historical Society, who saw the white marble grave stone sticking out of the water and retrieved it for us. I have that part of her gravestone on display in the church's bell tower area. Thank you Mary and Joe.

What I dug up so far, (no pun intended) is Thomas Treganowan Kerr's great grandfather was Dr. Ambrose Treganowan. He was a

doctor in the Revolutionary war. Literally, real saw bones. His father was also a Doctor and the first mayor of the "City" of South Amboy. We have a beautiful stained glass window dedicated to Thomas Treganowan Kerr in the church. (Donated after the Gillespie munitions explosion of 1918.) He was 24 years old when he gave his life for his country.

We also have Michael Bloodgood of Company K of the 21st New Jersey infantry. This regiment of the Union Army fought in the Civil War. He is buried in the lawn of Christ Church somewhere.

As we celebrate our 250th anniversary as a country, Christ Church has been there in

some way, for most of it. From Colonel John Stevens serving under George Washington, to our Civil war veteran Thomas Bloodgood, to our WWI memorial to Thomas Treganowan Kerr, John Render and Edward Christensen.

Inside Christ Church we have a small altar and memorial wall dedicated to those who served in all the armed forces. (My dad's on there, Thomas Nelson Kvist, Navy, WII.) May God bless all our existing and departed hero's and their families wherever they may be as we celebrate this blessed 250th anniversary of the greatest experiment in the history of the world, The United States of America.



1919 cross dedication.

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



### What is Memorial Day

Memorial Day, which was originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance in honor of America's war dead. Decoration Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1866 by General John Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. It was first observed on May 30, 1868. May 30th was chosen specifically because it was not on the anniversary of a major battle. Federal law recognized the holiday as "Memorial Day" in 1967. In 1971, a law was passed moving the date from May 30 to the last Monday in May.

# Memorial Day Services

## Sunday May 24th

Meeting at 9 A.M. at Christ Church Cemetery and continuing to local cemeteries and ending at Veterans Plaza on Bordentown Ave. at 12 noon with placing of the Memorial Wreath.



American Legion Luke A. Lovely Post & Unit 62  
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 62



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# The Smoke Column

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

There is always something or different occurring in the fire service. It may be new and updated equipment, apparatus features, technologies, tactics, etc. In previous years, terms such as fire flow, neutral path, transitional attack, and various hazardous material terminology were not widely recognized; however, these concepts are now commonly integrated into modern fire service practices. This article will introduce you to a new term, a term of which I have recently heard. In the big cities, the fire services train on fighting fires in high-rise buildings reaching hundreds of feet into the sky which are called "Skyscrapers." Locally, buildings are mostly low or mid-rise. The new term I want to introduce into your vocabulary is "Groundscrapers." Chief Jack Murphy, a New York City building official, coined the term "Groundscrapper" to highlight that firefighting methods in skyscrapers and ground-level buildings are quite similar. The difference between a Groundscrapper and a Skyscraper is that one is constructed horizontally while the other is constructed vertically. A skyscraper can be a thousand feet up into the sky where a groundscrapper can be a thousand feet across the ground both length and width. Walking through a groundscrapper while wearing full PPE without fire conditions can be very exhausting, just imagine the effects when wearing full PPE and carrying tools. Many low-rise buildings use stand-pipe systems to supply water close to fires, eliminating the need for lengthy fire hose deployment. Carrying extra air tanks over these long distances can exhaust firefighters even before attacking the fire. Many of the larger cities are now requiring new high-rise structures to install Firefighter Air Replenishment Systems (FARS) near the water supply standpipe systems. This will provide an unlimited supply of air for the firefighters near the area they are working in. So now what has this to do with Groundscrapers? The distance from the fire apparatus providing a water supply and an air filling station can be extremely long distances from the scene of the fire. Having



horizontal water and air supply systems located throughout the enormous structure would be an immense help to the firefighters. Will these new life safety suggestions cause an increase in the construction costs of the structure? Of course, they will but wouldn't it be worth the price to help the firefighters that enter that structure to protect its occupants and the products inside? A firefighter entering a groundscrapper wearing Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) only has a breathable time limit of 20 to 25 minutes of work time. Figuring out the amount of time to enter the structure, find and attack the fire, and consider the amount of time to evacuate before the air supply is empty happens very quickly. You typically have just a few minutes to tackle the fire before running out of breathable air. Consider how much additional time firefighters could have if air refill stations were spread throughout the building's interior. Some historic groundscrapper fires, like the K-Mart fire in Pennsylvania, could not be contained even with added resources, resulting in total loss of the structure. The warehouse, immense in size, contained various materials, some of which were dangerous. After the fire broke out, it proved impossible to control, resulting in complete destruction of the building and losses amounting to millions of dollars. Look locally at the groundscrapers we have, yes, those immense warehouses built into our communities. What do they contain? How much protection is possible? Is a firefighter's life worth entering a groundscrapper to save WHAT?

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Tickets are on sale now and may be purchased from members of the American Legion and Auxiliary or by contacting us at [post62americanlegion@gmail.com](mailto:post62americanlegion@gmail.com)

Drawing held 4pm at the picnic. You do not need to be present to win. The winner will receive 50% of ticket sales with the remainder of the proceeds going to the American Legion Building Fund for the construction of the Stars & Stripes Veterans Center of South Amboy to provide housing for homeless or at-risk veterans and new headquarters for American Legion Post #62.  
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### Kenny K & The Way Upcoming Shows

Sayreville's own Kenny Kurczeski, leader of the band Kenny K & The Way announced his outstanding group's upcoming performances. June 27-Albert Hall; July 14-Asbury Park Brewery; August 16-Sayreville Kennedy Park. Be sure to catch the band in action for some great entertainment!

### One Hit Wonders 40 Years Ago

1986-I Can't Wait-New Shooz; (I Just) Died In Your Arms-Cutting Crew; Take My Breath Away-Berlin; The Way It Is-Bruce Hornsby and The Range; The Future's So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades-Timbuk 3; Keep Your Hands To Yourself-The Georgia Satellites; Rumors-Timex Social Club; Rock Me Amadeus-Falco; Tuff Enough-The Fabulous Thunderbirds; Take It Easy-Andy Taylor; The Captain of Her Heart-Double.

Sayreville's top Elvis Tribute Artist (ETA) Richie Santa recently performed to a packed house at Maietta's Ristorante in Englishtown. He will be returning to Kennedy Park in Sayreville for a show on August 13th, so don't miss it! (Photo/info by Tom Burkard)

### #1 Country Hits May 26

- 2022-Thought You Should Know -Morgan Wallen
- 2015-Girl Crush-Little Big Town
- 2008-I'm Still A Guy-Brad Paisley
- 1994-Be My Baby Tonight -John Michael Montgomery
- 1982-Always On My Mind-Willie Nelson
- 1977-Lukenbach, Texas-Waylon Jennings
- 1969-My Life-Bill Anderson

### #1 Pop Hits-May 26

- 2021-Good 4 U-Olivia Rodrigo
- 2014-All of Me-John Legend
- 2006-SOS-Rihanna
- 1991-I Don't Wanna Cry-Mariah Carey
- 1983-Flashdance-What A Feeling -Irene Cara
- 1977-Sir Duke-Stevie Wonder
- 1965-Ticket To Ride-The Beatles



Tom Magielnicki (r) and his wife Janice were recently spotted at a nearby park. Tom taught for many years at Hoffman and South Amboy High Schools, prior to his retirement. He was affectionately known as "Mr. Mag" by his students. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

**MUSIC TRIVIA**  
By Tom Burkard

## Farm Animals

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.The Horse</li> <li>2.Lonely Bull</li> <li>3.Disco Duck</li> <li>4.A Horse With No Name</li> <li>5.Little Red Rooster</li> <li>6.Wild Horses</li> <li>7.Do The Funky Chicken</li> <li>8.White Horse</li> <li>9.Chicken Fried</li> <li>10.Black Horse &amp; The Cherry Tree</li> <li>11.Save A Horse</li> <li>12.For All The Cows</li> <li>13.Dark Horse</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a.George Harrison</li> <li>b.Foo Fighters</li> <li>c.Big &amp; Rich</li> <li>d.KT Tunstall</li> <li>e.Zac Brown Band</li> <li>f.Rufus Thomas</li> <li>g.Laid Back</li> <li>h.The Doors</li> <li>i.The Rolling Stones</li> <li>j.Rick Dees/His Cast of Idiots</li> <li>k.Herb Alpert/Tijuana Brass</li> <li>l.America</li> <li>m.Cliff Nobles &amp; Co.</li> </ol>
--	--

Answers  
1m 2k 3j 4l 5h 6i 7f 8g 9e 10d 11c 12b 13a.



The South Amboy Elks had the pleasure of awarding five Girl Scouts their Gold and Silver Achievement Stars. The Gold Star winner was Elizabeth Romer from Troop #81804 for building four Little Free Libraries. These libraries are located at the South Amboy YMCA, South Amboy Frog Hollow, St. Stanislaus Kostka School, and the Sayreville Little League Field. In each book, she placed a writing prompt to stimulate the children's imaginations so they will start writing their own stories. Four Silver Stars were awarded to Allison Braun, Izabelle Colgan, Penelope Haney, and Ardeth Anastos from Troop #81803 for their Mental Health Awareness Project for 4th and 5th graders: IT'S OK TO ASK FOR HELP. They designed a slideshow to use in small groups and made a flyer for guidance that explains why it is important to ask the guidance department for help and how to recognize if a friend needs help. All these young ladies proved to be exceptional, and it was the South Amboy Elks' honor to present the awards. Pictured left to right is Valentine Tarr and PER John Leo from the Elks, troop leaders Julia and Cathy then winners Elizabeth Romer, Allison Braun, Isabelle Colman, Ardeth Anastasia. Behind is troop leader Ramona. Silver winner Penelope Haney is missing. (Photo/Info Submitted)

# June 18 - 19 - 20, 2026

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### Cinco de Mayo Celebration In South Amboy



Cinco de Mayo festivities at Station Square on Broadway. (Photos/info Submitted)



South Amboy Councilman-At-Large Anthony Conrad (c) poses with Adolfo (third from right), owner of Las Delicias Tex Mex and Grill on Broadway, and members of the Mariachi Singers and Folkloric Dancers during the Cinco de Mayo celebration which was a partnership between the City and Las Delcias.

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<b>MICHAEL KELLY</b> Fire Chief	<b>KENNETH KRASS</b> Public Works Superintendent
<b>JOANNE KATKO</b> Tax Collector	<b>ELAINE GABER</b> Library Director

## School Sports

(As of May 13)

By Tom Burkard

Girls Softball

Sayreville (20-1)

Coach Jordan Vazquez

### Team Leaders

#### Batting

Runs-Mya Infante 30, Josephine Vanore 28, Gianna Falto 26; Hits-Riley Arena 34, Falto 33, Vanore 30; RBI-Arena 29, Falto 24, Infante 22, Marissa Shipman 22; Doubles-Infante 11, Kayden Badami-Menges 10; Triples-Badami-Menges 2; Home Runs-Infante 4, Arena 3, Sara Williamson 2; Stolen Bases-Falto 13, Infante 5; Avg.-Arena .548, Falto .524, Vanore .484.

#### Pitching

Innings Pitched-Vanore 101, Arena 25; Strikeouts-Vanore 135, Arena 42; ERA-Arena 0.28, Vanore 1.87; Won-Lost-Vanore (14-1), Arena (4-0).

South Amboy (10-9)

Coach Jake Salvatore

### Team Leaders

#### Batting

Runs-Sophie Hernandez 33, Addison Lonardo 21; Hits-Hernandez 32, Lonardo 25, Gwen Kalantsis 24; RBI-Hernandez 28, Kalantsis 25, Kayla Kokoszka 15; Doubles-Hernandez 9, Kalantsis 5; Triples-Hernandez 3, Kokoszka 1; Home Runs-Kalantsis 2, Kokoszka 1; Avg.-Hernandez .640, Kalantsis .490, Lonardo .439.

#### Pitching

Innings Pitched-Hernandez 89.2; Strikeouts-Hernandez 123; ERA-Hernandez 7.03; Won-Lost-Hernandez (6-6).

Boys Baseball

South Amboy (9-8)

Coach Dan Poulsen

### Team Leaders

#### Batting

Runs-Robert Senape 27, Micah Nemeth 23, Kenneth Kokoszka 18, Robert Conklin 18; Hits-Senape 26, Joseph Foreman 25; RBI-Senape 20, Nemeth 20, Foreman 19; Doubles-Nemeth 11, Senape 6; Triples-Conklin 2, Foreman 2; Home Runs-Madden Bizzarro 1; Stolen Bases-Senape 12, Nemeth 6, Conklin 6; Avg.-Nemeth .487, Senape .464, Foreman .463.

#### Pitching

Innings Pitched-Nemeth 29, Bizzarro 26.2, Foreman 20.2; Strikeouts-Nemeth 64, Bizzarro 32, Conklin 22; ERA-Nemeth 1.45; Won-Lost-Nemeth (4-2), Bizzarro (3-3), Foreman (1-0), Conklin (1-2).

Sayreville (9-11)

Coach Timothy Ballard

### Team Leaders

#### Batting

Runs-Trevor Yan 14; Hits-Will Lukie 18, Chase Cannan 14, Logan Kaufman 14; RBI-Lukie 15, Kaufman 11, Yan 10; Doubles-Kaufman 3, Yan 3; Triples-Lukie 1, Canaan 1; Home Runs-Cannan 2; Avg.-Lukie .353, Ray Koester .312.

#### Pitching

Innings Pitched-Kaufman 37.1, Jack Martyn 31.2; Strikeouts-Kaufman 36, Justin Maher 18; ERA-Jaden Phillips 0.67, Kaufman 3.00; Won-Lost-Kaufman (3-4), Phillips (2-1), Maher (2-2), Martyn (2-3).

## Bombers Romp In GMCT

Sayreville girls softball powerhouse notched their 20th victory of the season by pounding North Brunswick 14-1 in GMCT 1st round play. Winning pitcher Josephine Vanore tossed a 5-inning 2-hitter, struck out 8, and excelled at the plate by going a perfect 3-for-3 with 2 singles and a double to knock in 2. Riley Arena was also a perfect 3-for-3 with 2 doubles, a single and 4 RBI.

## Lady Guvs Nip Highland Park

The Lady Guvs softball team from South Amboy HS nipped Highland Park 9-8 to avenge an early season 15-11 setback. Winning pitcher Sophie Hernandez struck out 8 and drove in 3 runs with a single and two-bagger. Gwen Kalantsis belted a 2-run double, and Wilson Anaiah stroked 3 singles.

## Sayreville Downs Edison

Sayreville ripped a strong Edison team, 16-1 in softball action. Kayden Badami-Mengs had an outstanding game by going 3-for-3 with 2 doubles, a triple and 4 RBI. Riley Arena blasted a 3-run homer, Mya Infante belted a double and homer to drive home 2 runs. Winning pitcher Josephine Vanore tossed a 5-inning 4-hitter and struck out 6.

## Bomber Boys Win Prelim

Sayreville boys baseball team clubbed a strong Carteret squad, 6-1 in the Jim Muldowney GMCT Preliminary Round. Winning pitcher Logan Kaufman fired a 4 hitter, struck out 5, and drilled a 2-run single, and Jaden Phillips chipped in with a single and two-base hit.

## Sayreville Tops South Amboy

The Sayreville Bombers boys baseball squad blasted South Amboy 16-0 in a 5 inning contest. Justin Maher was the winning pitcher and struck out 5 in 3 innings, while allowing 1 of the Governors 2 hits. Javier Reveron ripped 2 singles and a double to drive in 3, while Logan Kaufman hit a single and double, good for 2 RBI. Micah Nemeth and Joseph Foreman each singled for the Purple & Gold's only hits.

## Congratulations!



Scott Klimchak (l) is pictured with his father, former South Amboy resident Mike Klimchak. Scott was recently inducted into the Arthur L Johnson ( Clark) high school Athletic Hall of Fame. He was a three sport scholar athlete at ALJ garnering all conference and all county selections in ice hockey and football. In addition, he received All-State, Under Armour All-American, and US lacrosse high school All-American honors in his high school career. He was a four year starter in lacrosse at Rutgers University ranking sixth all-time in Rutgers scoring history. He played professional lacrosse for the Ohio Machine, and Chesapeake Bay Hawks of the Major League Lacrosse League. Congratulations, Scott!

## "Things"

By Al Gomolka  
SA Times Poet Laureate  
C. 2025

What is a "thing?"  
It could be anything!  
Something is to be said of things  
To the collector of things  
Remember—  
Things are frivolous  
There are more important  
Things in life  
Than "things"...



Bucknell University hung a banner of Ashley Sofilkanich of South Amboy to honor her as the 2025 Patriot Player of the Year! (Photos/info submitted)



The Baruch college men's tennis team achieved a national ranking of 75 during the year. VS D3 schools during the regular season and went undefeated. Out of 16 wins all but one was a shutout. The men's team won the conference for the 8th time in a row earning a trip to the NCAA tournament. In the NCAA they made it to the 2nd round before losing to TUFTS who is ranked #3 in the country. The Baruch team is coached by Greg Wzykowski who once again won coach of the year. Greg is pictured standing far right in the above photo. Congratulations Greg! (Photo Submitted)

## Diamond Dust

1976

### South Amboy Little Fellas Baseball League

Knights of Columbus 15 Rotary 6-Todd Zulin belted 3 hits and had 4 RBI. Jo-Tom's 2 Daylight Bakery 0-Andy Pipala was the winning pitcher and struck out 10. English Chevron 15 Protection 8-John Burkard ripped 4 hits including a long home run to drive in 5 runs. Dave Silva and Steve Martin had 3 hits apiece.

1970

### South Amboy Little Fellas Baseball League

Modern Transportation 3 Knights of Columbus 1-Winning pitcher Tom Harland struck out 12. First Aid 6 Daylight Bakery 5-Winning pitcher Ron Stillwagon belted 2 hits. Daylight Bakery 4 Protection 3-Pat Douglas hammered 2 hits to aid winning pitcher Jerry Kotula.

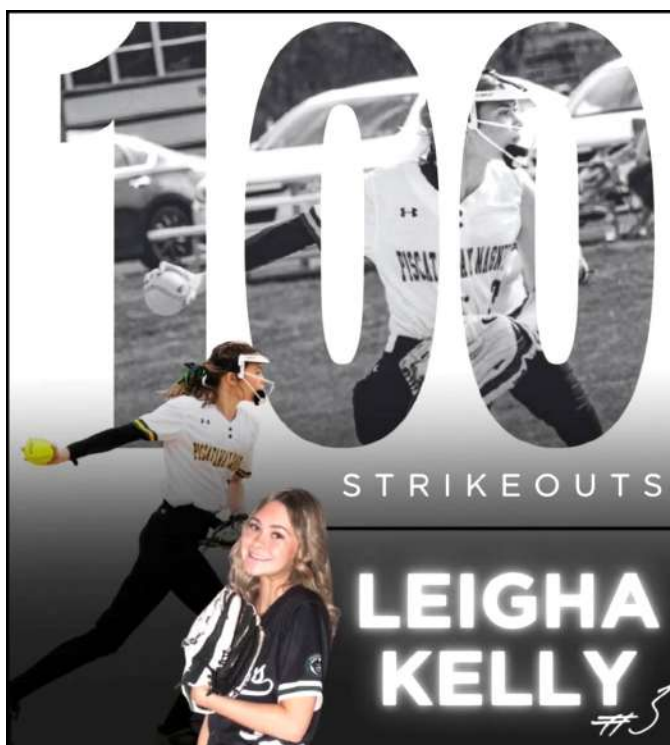
1966

### Mid-County Baseball League

South Amboy 8 Milltown 0-Winning pitcher Dan Hansell was masterful, as he fired a 1-hitter and struck out 13. Tom Kelly (who went on to manage the Minnesota Twins MLB team to 2 World Series titles), had a perfect 4-for-4 game, Vince Zebro hit a single and double, and Tony Ruzsala also had a single and two-bagger.

## Bus Trip to City Field

The South Amboy K of C council 426 is sponsoring their "Annual Bus Trip to City Field" to watch the New York Mets vs Miami Marlins. Date: Saturday August 1st 2026 game time 4:10 pm. Bus departs KofC parking lot @ 12:30 pm Cost: \$160.00 pp (\$24.00 back in Mets cash) snacks for the ride included. Call Ray at 732 721-2025 for ticket information. Tickets are non refundable. "All proceeds go to local charities."



On May 12, 2026, Leigha Kelly of South Amboy attained her 100th Varsity Softball Strikeout. Leigha is a freshman Varsity Pitcher for the Piscataway Magnet School Raiders. Congratulations Leigha on this notable accomplishment and the best of luck in your future career.



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**MARK WEST PINOT NOIR**



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\*We reserve the right to limit quantities. Not responsible for typographical errors. In the case of an error the lowest price allowed by NJ State law will apply. Products are available while supplies last. Artwork does not necessarily represent items on sale. Prices subject to change.

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**Memorial Day 2026**  
**Remembering Our First Responders**

By Richard Kosmoski, MS  
 U.S. Navy Vietnam Veteran

On Memorial Day, in recognition of our nation's 250th anniversary, we pay tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives in service of our freedoms. Honoring fallen veterans can be accomplished by showing appreciation to current members of the armed forces, whose ongoing commitment is integral to preserving our way of life.

It is essential to acknowledge that these individuals have encountered considerable risks to defend national interests and promote global security. Observing Memorial Day with appropriate gestures—such as displaying the flag and taking time for reflection or thoughtful acknowledgment of all military personnel and their families—demonstrates respect for the continued dedication that safeguards our freedoms.

Memorial Day is also a time to recognize our local first responders, who work tirelessly at any hour to help with emergencies and serve their communities. Their dedication and readiness to put themselves in harm's way locally reflect the commitment shown by Veterans worldwide. When you visit local cemeteries, you'll see graves marked with new American flags, each honoring a fallen Veteran and thoughtfully placed by other Veterans. Fire Department flags also serve

to honour the resting places of our fallen first responders, and some graves feature both symbols. This longstanding tradition acknowledges the bravery and commitment shown by these individuals in serving their country and community. The following is a list of first responders who have died since last Memorial Day.

**WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER AND NEVER FORGET!**

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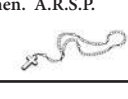
- PHILIP DEFORT**  
Progressive Fire Company
  - JOHN JACK MACKIEL**  
Protection Engine Company
  - ARTHUR B. CHAPMAN JR.**  
Progressive Fire Company
- MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

**Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel**  
 Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle, Be our protection against the malice and snares of the devil. We humbly beseech God to command him, and do thou, O prince of the heavenly host, By the divine power thrust into hell Satan And the other evil spirits who roam through the world Seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**Prayer for the Safety of Soldiers**  
 Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in you will be glad and forever will shout for joy. Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**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. -A.R.S.P.

**Prayer to One's Guardian Angel**  
 Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom his love commits me here. Ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen. A.R.S.P.



*The* **FIGHTING EAGLES**

*The Fighting Eagles* put their lives on the line every day, carefully patrolling the roads of Mosul, Iraq to find and disable Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)—roadside bombs concealed in small piles of debris. This Army company of 76 Soldiers cleared 675 IEDs and fought through nearly 200 ambushes in Mosul, Iraq during the Troop Surge of 2007.

In this searing and timely military memoir, Lieutenant Colonel Ed Marion takes us to the front line of the Iraq war and into the battle zone of every soldier's mind. He shares the details of his path to joining the Army, his tour of duty as a platoon leader, but also his courageous work to face and deal with the post-traumatic stress that he carried home from the war. He pays homage to his fallen comrades and honors them with his own resolve to heal.



Lieutenant Colonel Ed Marion served in the U.S. Army for over 20 years, including a 14-month deployment to Mosul, Iraq, where his platoon searched for and cleared roadside bombs.

After leaving Active Duty, Ed earned his Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) and now runs a private house-call therapy practice. Concurrently, he remained committed to military service until retiring from the U.S. Army Reserve as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2026.

He lives outside of Philadelphia with his wife, Christine, their two children, Avery and Brandon, and their rescue dog, Roby.

Lt. Col. Ed Marion, who grew up in Sayreville /South Amboy, went on to serve in the U.S. Army for over 20 years, including a 14-month deployment to Mosul, Iraq, has written a military memoir, *The Fighting Eagles* which is an account of the IED War in Iraq. The book is available on Amazon and Kindle. Note: On May 16th, Ed was honored as Veteran of the Subway Series game at Citi Field between the Yankees and Mets. Congratulations Ed, and our wishes for great success with your book!

**Thank You Novena**

Lord God, we do not always remember to thank you as we ought for all you have done for us and given us. We praise you for your goodness and offer our prayers of thanksgiving to you today for all you have done for us and given us. You did not have to create man or any of creation. Out of your goodness, you chose to create the world and to make man in your own image. You have given each of us life in order that we might know, love, and serve you. We thank you for all of your blessings, and we particularly thank you today for giving us life! Help us to grow in gratitude each day, in every circumstance. Help us to grow closer to you each day of our lives. And I especially pray in this novena (mention your intentions here). Lord, hear our prayers! Amen

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## Who is it?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Can you identify these men? They were at the top of their game, you need to be "Perfect" and name all four. Send your answers to satimes@aol.com by June 15th.



Last month's mystery trio was longtime New York Mets announcers Bob Murphy, Lindsay Nelson and Ralph Kiner. The following winners may be Mets fans: Ralph Jurkiewicz, Dennis Quinlan, John Gelsinon, John Giaquinto, Ed English, Joe Rall, John and JoAnn French, Thomas Logan, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Elaine & Rich Angerstein, Pete McIntyre, Walter Starzec Jr., Edna Pilch, Gary Feret, Joe Hansell, Dane Colburn, Laurie & Gary Loftus.

\*Last month we missed Pete McIntyre and JoAnn & John French who had the correct answer. Sorry!



New York Mets announcers Bob Murphy, Lindsay Nelson and Ralph Kiner.



## Dowdell Library News

Jump start your summer with Dowdell Library!

South Amboy Residents! Dowdell Library is pleased to offer free passes to the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) to South Amboy resident cardholders in good standing! Contact the library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org for more information.

To celebrate America's 250th Anniversary, look for many library events this year! The next program will take place on Thursday, June 18 at 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Join historic interpreter Leslie Bramlett in full period dress for a presentation of colonial women of color in Washington's household in Witness to the Revolution.

Coming soon! Real Housewives of New Jersey: Early American Women and their Kitchen Gadgets on Thursday, July 16 at 6:30 pm.

Visit Dowdell Library at the South Amboy Stars and Stripes Spectacular on Saturday, June 27 at 3:00 pm.

Celebrate Juneteenth with Dowdell Library! Drop in on Friday, June 19 from 2:00-3:00 pm to participate in commemorative trivia and light bites. All ages welcome.

Get excited! For the Eyes of the Wild animal programs this summer! Join Dowdell Library to meet some animal friends on Thursday, July 23 at 2:00pm and Thursday, August 13 at 2:00pm!

"After Lunch" by Seward Johnson - caught sleeping on the job! Drop in to the Dowdell Library to visit this special sculpture on loan from the Seward Johnson Atelier. In the meantime, he will be catching some ZZZZs.

Celebrate the Kids Summer Kick-Off starting on Wednesday, June 10 from 10:00-4:30pm. Sign up for the Summer Fun Reading Program, learn about summer activities! Signups Wednesday, June 10 to Friday, June 12 from 10 to 4:30 pm.

Toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for Toddler Thursday Play Dates in June from 12:00 to 2:15 pm for games, activities, crafts, and a fun story time. Meet other parents and make new friends!

Kids! Stop by for weekly fun at the After School Fun Club on Wednesdays in June from 3:15 to 4:30 pm.

Artists! Compete in Dowdell's Summer Art Contest! Create a work of art for each theme and enter to win a razor scooter! Ages 5 to 10. June's theme: dinosaurs! Submit your art by June 30 in person or email to

comments@dowdell.org

Kids and Teens! Don't miss Drop in Club this June from 3:15 to 4:30 pm on Tuesdays for Board Games and from 2:30 to 4:30 pm on Fridays for Video Games. Ages 11+!

Tweens and Teens! Stop in for the Teen Summer Kick Off on Friday, June 12 from 2:15 to 4:00PM. Eat some snacks, sign up for the summer program, and get an Applebee's ice cream coupon!

Stop by to register for the June Test Kitchen on Monday, June 15 for ages 13+ and Tuesday, June 16 for ages 10 to 12 at 3:00pm! Learn how to make different treats and snacks.

Seniors! Senior Tech Time will be held on Monday, June 1 at 10:30am. Come learn about a new technology topic.

The Senior Book Club will meet on Monday, June 29 from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Ask about joining! The city can provide transportation if needed.

Dowdell Library, in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and RWJ Barnabas Health, offers online virtual health programs. Please register by emailing communityed@rwjbh.org. Guided Imagery Relaxation Sessions are on June 9 and 23 at 1:00 pm.

The Knitting and Crochet Club meets Mondays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Bring your supplies, tools, and let's get started! Interested in learning how to knit? Drop in for some informal tips.

Check out the library's Freegal Music+ Service, which allows you to access a collection of over 18 million songs from more than 93,000 music labels. Or, ask about our new video streaming service, Kanopy with a collection of thousands of movies, television series, and documentaries! Both services offer a mobile app and website at no cost to ensure an easy-to-use and enjoyable experience. These are available for South Amboy cardholders and can be downloaded in the Apple® App Store and Google® Play store.

Dowdell Library's summer hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, from 10am-8pm; Wednesday and Friday from 10am-5pm. Connect on social media!

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.

## WWW.?



Does this building look familiar? Let us know what and where it is or was. Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by June 15th. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

### WWW.? Winners

Last month's WWW.? was Raritan Bay Credit Union located on Raritan St. in Sayreville.

Winners: Ralph Jurkiewicz, Dennis Quinlan, Ed English, CindyAnn Drill, Joe Rall, Adele O'Hara, John and JoAnn French, Jay Seyglinski, Sonia Iglesias,

Raymond Tyska, Thomas Logan, Dee Ujobagy, Steve Laskiewicz, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Pete McIntyre, Walter Starzec Jr., Edna Pilch, Paul Conlon, Mary Agnes Morris, Gary Feret, Debbie O'Connor, Joe Hansell, Dane Colburn, Laurie & Gary Loftus.



Raritan Bay Credit Union



Pictured at Mount St. Mary's recently are well-known and beloved Sisters of Mercy (l-r) Sister Mary Gomolka, who is celebrating her 75th year as a sister, Sister Mary Amadeo, and Sister Mildred Rossiter, who was formerly known as Sister Maria Pacis, when she taught at St. Mary's Grammar School from 1960-69. When asked about her 75 years with the Sisters of Mercy, Sister Gomolka said, "It all seems like yesterday that I began. Thank God for all of His many blessings." Sister Mildred said, "Come and see, join us in our prayer life and areas of service" when she was asked what she would say to anyone interested in becoming a Sister of Mercy. (Photo/ Story by Tom Burkard)

### 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.

### Prayer to St. Jude

Saint Jude Thaddeus, patron saint of impossible causes, walk through my house and take away my worries and any illnesses. Please watch over and heal my family & friends, in the Name of Jesus. Amen. S.P., M.S., P.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 -R.S., A.S., L.P., H.S., L.S., E.P., I.P.

THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY PRESENTS  
**South Amboy's Stars and Stripes Spectacular!**

*Honoring Our Past and Celebrating Our Future*

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2026  
(rain date June 28)

3:00PM - FESTIVAL BEGINS  
9:15PM - FIREWORKS DISPLAY

100 Radford Ferry Road, South Amboy, NJ

**CENTER STAGE PROGRAM**

3:00 PM - OPENING CEREMONY

- A formal American Legion entrance will kick off the event
- Mayor's Welcome and Prayer with Rev. Stanley Gromadzki
- Pledge of Allegiance led by The American Legion
- The Star-Spangled Banner performed by South Amboy Middle High School student, Sophia Hernandez
- South Amboy Middle High School student Alex Knapik delivers a guitar rendition of 'The Times They Are A-Changin'
- Historical Society's Reenactment - The Morgan Family
- Reenactment: Adoption of the Declaration of Independence with The Honorable Fred A. Henry

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT CONTINUES ON CENTER STAGE**

Musical performances by local artists throughout the day.

Featured performers include:

- 4:30PM - Patrick Bamburak, Reina Williams & Pedro Morales
- 5:10PM - A Block Off Broadway (ABOB) performing songs from Hamilton & 1776
- 5:45PM - Kevin McGowan
- 6:20PM - Dan Toye
- 6:55PM - Jackie June
- 7:45PM - The Masons
- 8:30PM - Sharleen Leahey

**MAIN STAGE ENTERTAINMENT**

Enjoy continuous live music from our featured band, **Almost Average**, beginning at 4:30PM.

Children's Rides - Puppet Show - Arts & Crafts - Food Trucks - Local Vendors - Community Organizations

**FIREWORKS DISPLAY**

9:15 PM GRAND FINALE FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Join us as we light up the night sky with a spectacular fireworks show in celebration of our nation's independence.

*Celebrate with us as we honor our past and celebrate our future!*

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**Fishing Flashes**  
 By Teo "Weebles" Weber

**Salt Water**  
 Striped Bass bay fishing at most of our local beaches is still on the slow side. I checked Cliffwood, Keansburg and S A Beach and the people I talked to didn't report any bites. I didn't see any fish either. It's a different story in the ocean at Island beach and LBI. Several keeper Bass have been caught mostly on clams although lures are working too. Some fish are short and a few have been over 31 inches which is max size and must be released. Party boat fishing is still Ling and some Blackfish. The high fuel prices for diesel fuel is affecting the boats and unfortunately means that it will cost more money to go out. Bluefish are on their way. Several have been caught in South Jersey and will be here any day. More than a few Black Drum have been caught mostly at LBI and Island beach along with the Stripers. Fluke season has now opened. Some are being caught now.

**Fresh Water**  
 Trout stocking is going along at a good pace. My wife and I tried our favorite spot on the Pequest River at the beginning of May. We caught five Rainbows. She out fished me four to one. We had numerous bites and misses too. Shad are now going up the Delaware River. Statewide all fresh water lakes and rivers that can be fished in are producing Bass, Pickerel, Catfish and assorted Panfish.

**Gone Fishin'**



Luis DeCarlo & Isaiah King with the nice fish they caught at Kennedy Park in Sayreville. (Photo Submitted)

**Sayreville Fishing Derby Results**  
**Overall: Niko Blaszk**  
**(16.5-inch largemouth bass)**  
**Three- to four-year-olds:**  
 1. Cruz Palacios  
 2. Gemma Piatek  
 3. Liam Fahey  
**Five- to six-year-olds:**  
 1. Gregory Byler  
 2. Ismal Hanaty  
 3. Peter Piatek  
**Seven- to eight-year-olds:**  
 1. Isaac Shah  
 2. Layla Hanaty  
 3. Dylan Letsche  
**Nine- to 10-year-olds**  
 1. Kelly DuChemin  
 2. Jaxon Genthe  
 3. Noah Poulsen  
**11- to 12-year-olds**  
 1. Randall Williamson  
 2. Jenavie Murphy  
 3. Owen Marcineyk  
**13- to 15-year-olds**  
**(only one fish was caught in this group):**  
 1. Mason Wallenstein

**Sacred Heart News**



Catechists Carolyn Wriolie and Adriane DiSario prepared the altar for their Level 2 students to receive First Holy Communion on May 2nd. At Sacred Heart Church.



Nancy Smetana's Level 4 students and their Moms painted flower pots with powerful positive thoughts. Beautiful flowers were planted to honor our Blessed Mother in her special month.



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

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

We would love to hear from you!

EMAIL or MAIL or Guestbook



The Rone family.



(l-r) Hugh Rone, 50/50 winner Joanne Niestemski, Barbara Rone and Regan Porter.



(Photos Submitted)



## Thank you

The Rone Family would like to Thank everyone who participated in the 8th Riley's Touch A Truck Fundraiser, benefitting the Hugh Riley Rone Scholarship Fund, Especially Coach Dan Poulsen and The South Amboy High School Baseball Team and Softball Team. Whether you made a donation, provided a truck, were a sponsor, volunteered your time or came out for a fun day with your family, it means the world to us. We hope you had fun and look forward to doing it again next year!

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 Ashley Minkler  
 Alyssa Beresky  
 Ava Was  
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 Brandon Koerner  
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 Danny McCabe  
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 Dave Kales  
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 Ed Cetnar  
 Irene & Scott Anderson  
 Jasmine Del Rosario  
 Janet Porter  
 Jay Kennedy  
 Jeremy Beary  
 Joann Noble  
 Kathy Kesley  
 Kelly Gallagher  
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 Kristina Romano  
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 Lisa Beretsky  
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**Middlesex County Office of Aging and Disabled Services Offers Free Online Program Trualta to Caregivers**

Caregivers have access to resources, events, and a supportive community

WHAT: The Middlesex County Office of Aging & Disabled Services is committed to supporting caregivers through its ongoing partnership with Trualta, a web-based training platform designed to help families and self-directed caregivers to build skills to manage home care for their loved ones. With Trualta, caregivers have unlimited access to a library of resources, personalized skill-based training, weekly live events to connect with other caregivers, and a supportive community forum where they can ask questions and receive advice.

Through Trualta's interactive online learning system, content is tailored to each caregiver's situation and covers topics including:

- Communication changes
- Behavior management
- Transition from hospital to home
- Personal care
- Activities and recreation
- Personal wellness
- Heart and lung health
- Mobility and fall prevention
- Documents and decision-making
- Meaningful activities
- Grief and loss
- Caring for kids

Registration is free for all residents and can be completed here.

WHO: For more information and questions, please call the Office of Aging and Disabled Services at 732-745-3295 or email mcoads.events@co.middlesex.nj.us.

**Celebrate Middlesex County Returns with Free Family-Friendly Festivities**

Saturday, June 13, 2026

WHAT: Join Middlesex County for the annual 2026 Celebrate Middlesex County taking place on Saturday, June 13, from 10 am to 3 pm at Roosevelt Park in Edison. This free, family-friendly celebration showcases the unique programs, services, and people of Middlesex County's government through interactive booths and displays. Attendees will be able to engage with County offices and partners while enjoying activities for all ages. This FREE event is open to the public and the media.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS: Food vendors, Live entertainment, Roller skating, Games and activities, Arts and crafts, Fife and Drum group, Musket firings, Historical reenactors Antique farm equipment display, Face painting, Caricature and airbrush artists, Junior Ranger and Bark Ranger Photo Ops, Inflatable obstacle course, Touch-a-truck And much more! Children ages 4 to 14 have a special opportunity to show off their skills and win exciting prizes by participating in the annual Fishing Derby.

Attendees interested in participating must register by Thursday, June 11.

WHEN: Saturday, June 13, 2026, 10 am-3 pm

WHERE: Roosevelt Park, 151 Parsonage Road | Edison, NJ 08837

WHO: For more information on Celebrate Middlesex County, please visit middlesexcounty.nj.gov/celebrate.

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., P.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 -B.A.,

**Obituaries**

Ament, Stephen A., 64, of Parlin died on May 2.  
 Anderson, Barbara A., 86, of Parlin died on April 22.  
 Bath, Mary Ann Novak, 78, formerly of South Amboy died on April 30.  
 Bonaguro, Dolores M., 72, of Parlin died on April 20.  
 Bowerman, Walter J., 71, of Matawan died on May 5.  
 Boyd, David G., 76, of South Amboy died on Dec. 31, 2025.  
 Cruz, Wilfredo R., 84, of Sayreville died on April 23.  
 Drohan, Donald J. "Don," 85, formerly of Parlin died on April 23.  
 Elyea, Phillip D., 58, formerly of South Amboy died on May 10.  
 Grabowski, Charles F. "Casey," 100, of Sayreville died on May 6.  
 Kilcomons, Margaret Render, 95, formerly of South Amboy died on April 24.

Kizabavich, John "Johnny K.," 72, of South Amboy died on April 29.  
 Korman, Agnes, 50, of Parlin died on May 9.  
 Krosnowski, Dorothy M. "Dottie" Cieslarczyk, 90, formerly of South Amboy died on May 7.  
 Meirose, Thomas E., 66, formerly of Sayreville died on April 27.  
 Mills, Marian, 93, of Parlin died on May 13.  
 Moglia, William "Bill," 76, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 23.  
 Murtha, Patricia Kirk, 62, formerly of Sayreville died on March 22.  
 Resina, Fatima L., 58, of Sayreville died on May 4.  
 Smith, Susan A., 75, of South Amboy died on April 17.  
 Tier, Theodore "Ted," 67, of Parlin died on April 19.

**John Kizabavich**



John Kizabavich, better known as "Johnny K.," 72, of South Amboy died on April 29, at Raritan Bay Medical Center Perth Amboy. John lived most of his adult life in South Amboy. He worked at Frigidaire in Edison for many years until it closed. He also was a bartender at Ogan's Tavern on Main St. in South Amboy for many years. He enjoyed working there and making friends everywhere he went. He was a great guy who'll be remembered for his unwavering sense of humor, kind heart, and confidence. He's survived by his dear friend Bambi Brewer and their son Adam. Cremation arrangements were private.

**Walter J. Bowerman**

Walter J. Bowerman, 71, of Matawan, NJ passed away Tuesday, May 5th, at Bayshore Community Hospital, Holmdel.

He was the husband of Jane (nee Martin) Bowerman.

Walter was born in South Amboy, NJ on February 11, 1955, a son of the late Madeline (Burkard) Bowerman and Walter Bowerman. He worked as an Industrial X-ray Technician for JANX in East Brunswick, NJ. He belonged to the operating engineers union and was also a



member of the Keyport/Matawan Elks.

He is predeceased by his son Kevin in 2017.

Walter is survived by his loving wife Jane, devoted children Janelle Bowerman and Matthew Bowerman, cherished granddaughter Madeline and his sister Jessica Alfonso.

A memorial gathering was held Monday May 11, 2026 from 4-8 PM at Day Funeral Home. A Catholic prayer service was held at 6:15 PM.

**Phillip David Elyea**

Phillip David Elyea, 58, of Baton Rouge Louisiana died on Sunday May 10, 2026. Born in Red Bank he grew up in South Amboy before moving to North Carolina in 2004, where he owned the Plymouth Bakery Café. He moved to Florida in 2016 and recently relocated to Louisiana. He loved the beach and was a member of St. Aloysius Church, Baton Rouge.

Son of the late Gweneth Elyea he is also predeceased by his nephew Michael Kosanovich. He is survived by his father Kenneth Elyea



and his wife Joyce; his brother Michael Elyea and his wife Andrea; his sister Joyce Kosanovich; several nieces and nephews and his dear friends Luis Oliveria and Terri Jakubowski.

Cremation was private. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday June 3, 2026 at 5:30pm during visitation from 4 to 6pm at The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Mary's Food Pantry, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879.

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**Away In Heaven**

By Robert W. Eginton

*Why did you leave?*

*Where are you now?*

*Did you have some better place to go?*

*We'll meet again somewhere,*

*Somehow, someday I know.*

*But until then, how I'll miss you*

*But for now, the memories of your love*

*Will have to do.*

*I look up, I look down*

*I look everywhere,*

*But, still I cannot see*

*Sometimes I feel I'm falling down.*

*I'm just a fraction of the man I used to*

*be*

*With the thought of not having you around.*

*So, where did you go?*

*Will you let me know?*

*So I can call you now and then*

*But, until then, how I'll miss you,*

*And I can't wait*

*Until the time we meet again.*

**Prayer to St. Jude**

Most Holy Apostle St. Jude Thaddeus, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor who delivered your beloved Master into the hands of the enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the Church honors and invokes you universally as the patron of hopeless cases and of things despaired of. Pray for me who is so needy; make use, I implore you of that particular privilege accorded to you to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolations and succor of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings and that I may bless God with you and all the elect throughout eternity. I promise you, O blessed St. Jude to be ever mindful of this great favor, and I will never cease to honor you as my special and powerful patron and to do all in my power to encourage devotion to you. Amen. Thank you St. Jude for answering my prayers. JJ.

**A PRAYER FOR HEALING**

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**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. C.P.

**A PRAYER FOR HEALING**

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

**PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN**

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

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**A PRAYER FOR HEALING**

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# The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

## From The Youth League Archives



1979-Pictured is one of the greatest South Amboy Little Fellas teams in history, the Daylight Bakery team that went on to win the league championship with a perfect (17-0). Top row (l-r) Coach Charlie Walters, Michael Sharp, Bob Waltz, John Clayton, Manager Joe Pacansky, Craig Gorczyca, Joe Chrzaszcz, Brian Nash, Paul Kenny, Coach Joe Connors. Bottom row (l-r) Scott Gumprecht, David Gumprecht, Carmen Scamenza, Randy Stratton, Rob Pacansky, John Nemeth, Andy Pawlik. Several of the ballplayers went on to outstanding high school baseball careers. (Photo/information courtesy of Joe Pacansky)

## Daylight Bakery 1979-80 South Amboy Little Fellas League Champs

The 1979-80 Daylight Bakery team was a real powerhouse in South Amboy. The boys became the 2nd team in history to have an unbeaten season, finishing (17-0)! In the championship series in '79, Daylight swept Modern Transportation in the 3-game series behind standout pitching by John Clayton and Randy Stratton. Craig Gorczyca was outstanding at the plate, and in the final game orbited a long home run and triple. Clayton, Stratton, and Brian Nash were also offensive standouts, getting timely, big

hits for Daylight Bakery. Joe Pacansky was manager, while Joe Connors, and Charlie Walters were the excellent coaches. The '79 roster was comprised of Clayton, Stratton, Gorczyca, Nash, Joe Chrzaszcz, Mike Sharp, Paul Kenny, Bob Waltz, Scott Gumprecht, Dave Gumprecht, Rob Pacansky, Carmen Scamenza, Andy Pawlik, John Nemeth. In 1980, Daylight Bakery successfully defended their title and finished with a fine (14-3) record.

## Karlowitz Made History

Sayreville's standout all-around athlete, John Karlowitz is in the school's sports history books for achieving some very important firsts. In September 1963, the school dedicated its new football field, and quarterback Karlowitz scored the first TD, and led the Bombers to a 25-13 win over Madison. The new gym at SWMHS opened in

December '63, and Karlowitz scored the first basket, but the Blue & Gray lost to Edison, 61-52. On April 10, 1964, John ripped the first hit, and scored the first run in a 1-1 tie game with South River in the opener at the new baseball field. Those feats are simply amazing!

## Softball Scoring Machines

1976-St. Mary's girls softball squad blasted Roselle Catholic, 32-9. Winning pitcher Sue Wilson crunched 3 home runs, a double and triple to drive in an unbelievable 10 runs. Kathy Redling unloaded 2 round trippers, and Linda Budrewicz, Tina Alvarado, and Diane Klein blasted 1 HR apiece. Also in '76, the Sayreville girls powerhouse annihilated New Brunswick 33-1, as undefeated Karen DeSiena and Debbie Spitzer combined for a no-hitter. The Bombers blasted 7 home runs by Sharon Denk, Rhonda Rompola, Deb Szymanski, Lee Szatkowski, Donna Hauser, Melinda McFadden, Barb Hennessey. And if that wasn't a scoring rampage, in the very next game, the Bombers really kicked it into high gear and obliterated Highland Park, would you believe a 44-2 score! Coach Pat Willis' club was paced by Rhonda Rompola who blasted 3 homers and had 7 RBI, Lu Ann Ferenci 5 RBI, and a homer, Sharon Denk 5 RBI, and a HR, and Janet Murray 5 RBI. 1977-St. Mary's pounded Roselle,

25-11. Winning pitcher Kathy Redling clouted 3 HR's, a 3-run, grand slam, and 2-run homer for 9 RBI. Ann Noble added a solo HR. Also in '77, the Saints destroyed Dunellen, 26-4, behind Redling's 2 homers, 3 doubles, a single and 5 RBI. Sue Wilson was the winning pitcher. Redling then went on to break Wilson's single game RBI record by driving in 11 runs in a 19-5 romp over cross town rival, Hoffman. The slugger orbited a 3-run HR in the 1st inning, a grand salami in the 4th, and a 2-run shot in the 7th, and also pounded 2 doubles for good measure, finishing a perfect 5-for-5.

## The 1982 Parochial B State Champions, St. Mary's Girls Softball Team



Back row left to right: Coach George Micak, Janice Reilly, Lynn Kilcooley, Karen Charmello and Assistant Coach MaryJo Kuegle. Middle row left to right: Bookkeeper Tom Radwanski, Robin Rutillio, Alison Carew, Karen Waltz, Mary Jean Sibia, Eleanor Wykpisz, and Jeanne Radwanski. Front row left to right: Mary Del Duca, the four senior captains - Regina Korkowski, Bridget Beshada, Beverly Godleski and Eileen Reilly, and also Karen Hughes. Missing is Karen Kilcooley. Our last two games of the season were beating Mater Dei High School of Middletown, 1-0 in extra innings for the Parochial B South Sectional title. Our final game was when we beat Bayley Ellard of Madison 2-1 for the Parochial B state title." Congratulations to the winners for identifying all of the players, etc. in the above team photo. The winners, sisters Eileen Reilly-Green, and Janice Reilly-Skokowski both of South Amboy also commented above. \*Editor's Note: This amazing softball team is most likely the only team in St. Mary's history to win both the sectional and state titles in the same year.

## Glory Days In Local Sports

2024-Sayreville girls softball squad won their season opener over Spotswood, 2-0, as Josephine Vanore fired a 4-hit shutout and struck out 11. Mya Infante laced 2 hits...2015-South Amboy girls softball club romped over East Brunswick Tech, 14-6. Ashley Mandola drilled 3 hits including 2 home runs and drove in 5. Emily Trzeciak was a perfect 3-for-3 with 3 runs, and 3 RBI. Shannon Tran stroked 2 singles to knock in 2 runs...2008-South Amboy boys baseball team nipped Cardinal McCarrick on Opening Day. John Winkler blasted a grand slam homer and 2-run single to notch 6 RBI. Winning pitcher Craig Warzecha had 6 K's. The Eagles were led by Ben Mendoza, who unloaded a 2-run homer,

Moises Gomez with 2 hits, 2 RBI, and Rob Geant added 2 hits...1999-South Amboy's Kristen English set a new career stolen base record by stealing 5 bases in a 21-1 victory over St. Peter's, to raise her career mark to 104...1985-Hoffman girls softball team trounced Metuchen 24-9. Tricia Popowski paced the offense with a 3-run homer and 8 RBI. Lynn Ust added 2 doubles to support winning pitcher Kim Schuck...1970-Greg Lyon fired his first of 3 career no-hitters, as Sayreville topped Matawan, 9-0...1961-St. Mary's downed undefeated Matawan 4-2 behind sophomore ace pitcher Joe Pohl, who fired a 2-hitter and fanned 9. Matawan entered the game with an (8-0) record).

## South Amboy City Wide Yard Sale

Photos by Tom Burkard



There was lots of activity, and treasures to be found on Augusta St.



This sale on Bertram Avenue featured many interesting items for all yard-salers.



Connors Drive was a hot spot for shoppers, and it looks like they've found something good!



## T.H.E. Game

Year-2011

Sport-Baseball

Teams-South Amboy vs. Cardinal McCarrick (GMCT Play In Round)

Recap-The Guvs blasted the Eagles, 10-3. South Amboy had loads of offense from John Guiliano, who blasted a 3-run double, Charles Pannell, 3-for-3, 2 doubles, Kevin Riley 2 hits and an RBI, and Tony DeMaio added a sac fly. Joe Smith was the winning pitcher. **Players of the Game**-The entire Governors team, who were outstanding throughout the contest.

## Back In Those College Days

Mike Popowski (Sayreville) starred for the Rutgers University team who captured the Big East regular season and tournament championships...Lauren Switzer (Sayreville) played varsity softball for Seton Hall University...Dan Poulsen (South Amboy) pitched for the Bloomfield College baseball squad...Mallory Kirchner (Cardinal McCarrick) played at Georgian Court College, and was selected to the NCAA Division II All-American Softball Team...Matt Ryan of South Amboy (St. Joseph's HS) played 2 years varsity baseball at Belmont Abbey College in 1990-91, and went on to help Middlesex County College gain a national ranking in '93. He was an All-Conference and All-Region selection in 1992 and 1993.

### PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY

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

# South Amboy PBA 63 Annual Police Memorial

May 11, 2026  
(Photos by Brian Stratton)



Father Stanley Gromadzki said the opening and closing prayers.



Det. Christopher Norek leads the crowd in The Pledge of Allegiance.



Francis Norek Jr. sang God Bless America and The Lord's Prayer.



Mayor Fred Henry addresses the crowd for the 16th year in a row.



Chief Patricia Kanecke addresses the crowd.



Sgt. Walter Fuentes recites St. Michael's Prayer for Policemen.



Sgt. Kurt Miller reads the Memorial Roll Call.



Det. Sgt. Dennis McQuade raises the flag. (Photo by Jamie Norek)



P.B.A. 63 President Ptl. Max Garcia



## AMERICA 250 CELEBRATION

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27**  
**4:00PM - 9:30PM**  
**KENNEDY PARK**

**INFLATABLES - FOOD TRUCKS**  
**FACE PAINTING - CARNIVAL GAMES**  
**FIREMEN'S CHILI COOKOFF - FIREWORKS**

LIVE MUSIC BY **BIG HIX**



# Vote for the Team Working for the FUTURE OF SOUTH AMBOY



**ANTHONY CONRAD**  
for Mayor of South Amboy

Anthony Conrad is the proven leader that we can trust. Committed to stable taxes, strengthening our community and building a brighter future for South Amboy families.



**MICHAEL "MICKEY" GROSS**  
for Council at-Large

Mickey Gross has devoted his career to public service and strengthening our community. With 16 years of experience serving the people of South Amboy, Mickey Gross will continue as a trusted voice on the Council.



**JUDITH RASKOSHIN**  
for Council at-Large

Judith Raskoshin brings a new, fresh perspective and a strong commitment to South Amboy families. Currently serving as President of the Board of Education, she combines professional expertise in special education with a deep personal investment in our community's future.

# Vote for the Team Endorsed by the MIDDLESEX COUNTY DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION



## VOTE BY MAIL

Ballots will be mailed on April 18th  
YOUR NEAREST DROPBOX  
South Amboy Train Station  
137 North Broadway



Scan the QR code to register to vote by mail



## VOTE EARLY IN PERSON

May 26th – May 31st  
YOUR NEAREST EARLY VOTING LOCATION  
Sayreville Senior Center  
423 Main Street



Scan the QR code for a list of other early voting locations and times



## VOTE ON ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, June 2nd  
Polls will be open  
6 a.m. – 8 p.m



By June 2nd, Vote Anthony Conrad for South Amboy Mayor & Michael "Mickey" Gross and Judith Raskoshin for Council at-Large

(732) 906-3680 | /SouthAmboyDems | @SouthAmboyDems

Paid for by SA Mayor & Council 2026  
137 S Broadway, Suite A3, South Amboy, NJ 08879