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# The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

This issue is dedicated to \*Tom Marcinczyk



September 25, 2021 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 30 Issue 12



## Sister Mary Gomolka Celebrates 70 Years In Religious Life

By Steve Schmid

Former South Amboy resident Sister Mary Gomolka is celebrating 70 years of religious life as a Sister of Mercy. She had faith-filled parents and received a solid Catholic education at Sacred Heart Grammar School and St. Mary's High School, both in South Amboy. Sister Mary thought about a religious life in sixth grade but forgot about it until five years later. Sister recalled that as a high school senior she went on a retreat, and a priest said to pretend you were on your deathbed, and you wished what you had done in life. This young woman fulfilled her desire and entered the Sisters of Mercy on September 8, 1951 and was accepted as a novice by the community. Sister Mary reflected that when she joined the Mercy sisters, she remembered thinking she came for God, and would stay with God. Her first two assignments were as teacher at Sacred Heart School South Plainfield, then St. Mary Academy in Lakewood. Sister Mary continued her education and earned a bachelor's degree in English at Georgian Court College (now University) Lakewood in 1967. She earned a master's degree in music at Trenton State College in 1973. She served as principal at St. James School, Woodbridge from 1970 to 1972 before returning to Georgian Court, where she was a music teacher from 1972 to 1975. Sister Mary next went to Mount Saint Mary Academy, Watchung, where she had a 36-year career as head of the school's music department until her 2011 retirement. Over the years, Sister Mary was well known for her music and her ministry. She was included among "Who's Who Among America's Teachers" and chosen as "Outstanding Educator" in the Diocese of Metuchen. The year she retired, Sister Lisa Gambacorto, director at Mount Saint Mary Academy, had a plaque hung outside the music offices in the Mount Building designating the hallway the "Sister Mary Gomolka Music Corridor." Sister Mary has returned to St. Mary Church in South Amboy and performed at Music at St. Mary's events playing piano. She always enjoys returning to her old hometown and sharing her music. She still gets calls to this day from surrounding parishes to play and sing at funerals.

## SAFD Wins State Championship



On Sept 18th South Amboy Fire Dept. was awarded 8 first place trophies and their band Bondal Blues won 1st place best appearing marching band. The Awards are 1st place Best Appearing Command Vehicle (Progressive Fire Co. Truck 11), 1st Place Best Appearing Pumper 15-25 yrs old (Protection Eng Co. Eng. 6), 1st Place Best Appearing Pumper 26-50 yrs old (Mechanicville Hose Co. Eng 10), 1st Place Fire Dept Color Guard, Best Appearing Marching Unit over 21 people, 1st Place Best Appearing Fire Dept with Music, Longest Distance Traveled- In State, and Best Overall Fire Department. Pictured (l-r) 1st Asst. Fire Chief David Szatkowski, Chief Andrew Bielak, 2nd Asst. Fire Chief John Dragotta and Fire Dept. Chaplain Fr. Stanley Gromadzki. Congratulations and great job to our South Amboy Firefighter. (Photo/Info by Jamie Norek)

## Hurricane Ida Slams Area

By Steve Schmid

People are still talking about the flooding rains from Hurricane Ida's remnants that dropped 4-8 inches of rain in our area. The storm flooded roadways and snarled traffic. Many people had flooded basements and had to pump out water. South Amboy High School had some flooding damage, which necessitated cleanup operations by the custodial staff. Weber Avenue in Sayreville, the scene of major flooding from Hurricanes Floyd, Irene, and Sandy, escaped this time with only minor flooding. Total Hardware and Camillo's Restaurant reported no flooding. After hurricane Sandy struck in October 2012, many homes on Weber Avenue were purchased by the state under the Blue Acres program which helped to mitigate against flooding.

## Grand Ole Pumpkin Family Fall Festival

(Article submitted)

The Sayreville GOP is pleased to extend an invitation to families, children and friends to join us at our 2nd Annual Grand Ole Pumpkin Family Fall Festival on Saturday, October 9th, 2021 across from 277 Johnson Lane (formerly Buddies Tavern), Parlin from 12 noon to 3 pm. Enjoy pumpkin picking and decorating, prize wheel, face painting, music by DJ Jared Lampkin, apple cider, water, hot dogs and something sweet! All while supplies last. Entry is FREE. We are asking for canned/perishable food donations which will be donated to the Sayreville Food Bank. Join us at 3 pm to celebrate the Raritan Bay Ruckers as they transport your donations, via rucksacks, to the Sayreville food bank. For more information, please visit sayrevillegop.org or call 732- 727- 1482. Rain date is October 10, 2021.

## Rise Light & Power Acquires Former Power Station In South Amboy

Rise Light & Power, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the LS Power group, recently announced plans for an innovative new renewable energy hub to deliver New Jersey's tremendous offshore wind resource to the state's electric grid in an environmentally-responsible, efficient, and affordable way.

Rise is proposing to build the Outerbridge Renewable Connector, a new solution to streamline the delivery of renewable offshore wind energy to New Jersey homes and businesses. Rise recently completed acquisition of the site of the former E.H. Werner Power Station in South Amboy, New Jersey, and plans to redevelop the site as a renewable energy hub serving as a central interconnection point for offshore wind farms to deliver clean energy to the New

Continued on page 8

## Shoregate Residents Have Returned

By Steve Schmid

Residents are back in their units after a fire displaced them. The fire is believed to be the result of a lightning strike at the 117 unit Shoregate condominiums at John T. O'Leary Boulevard. South Amboy police observed smoke coming from the roof line. The firefighters came to the scene and found the fire in the attic space and worked to put out the fire according to First Assistant Fire Chief David Szatkowski. Four units sustained smoke and water damage. The Middlesex County Office of Emergency Management arranged temporary housing for the displaced residents. Fire trucks stayed at Shoregate for several days to continue the investigation and ensure the safety of the residents..

## Volunteer Honored by Governor Murphy

The New Jersey State Governor's Awards are the state's official recognition for community service. Honorees of the New Jersey State Governor's Jefferson Award achieve measurable community impact and represent outstanding acts of public service, without the expectation of recognition or compensation. Recipients demonstrate unique vision, dedication, tenacity of heroic proportion and serve as an inspiration to others.

On Sunday, September 12 longtime South Amboy resident Mary Porcello, who was nominated for this prestigious honor by Senator Joseph Vitale [D-19th District], was among those honored by Governor Murphy in a ceremony at the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton.

Mary has volunteered in her community for many decades in particular as the



Mary Porcello

coordinator for the Food Bank at the First Presbyterian Church. During the pandemic where the need for supplemental groceries increased dramatically, she took on the added responsibility of seeking out new sources and building relationships to ensure that the vital work of her team of volunteers could continue.

"Mary is a stellar example of volunteerism in our community," said Mayor Fred Henry. "Her boundless energy and enthusiasm are only eclipsed by her dedication to those in our community that need help".

A thirty-year resident of the City, Mary serves as an elder for the congregation. In the past year under Mary's stewardship the First Presbyterian Church Food Bank in alliance with the Food Bank at Saint Mary's Church provided over 42 thousand pounds of food to those in need.

"I am not an island unto myself," said Mary. "During the pandemic many members of the community reached out to support our collective efforts, in particular the Friends of South Amboy and the City's first responder community." The SA Times sends our congratulations to Mary, and thank you for all you do and have done for our local communities.

Next Issue October 30th -- Deadlines October 18th  
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<p><b>2</b> 3 Large Cheese Pizzas <b>\$34.99</b> (Plus Tax) 1 - 2 Liter Soda With coupon only Limit 1 per customer - Exp. 11-30-21 coupons cannot be combined, use only 1 at a time Must Present Coupon At Time Of Order</p>	<p><b>4</b> Pickup Only One Large 16" Pizza (Round) <b>\$10.99</b> (Plus Tax) With coupon only Limit 1 per customer - Exp. 11-30-21 coupons cannot be combined, use only 1 at a time Must Present Coupon At Time Of Order</p>

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Last month we incorrectly identified Ryan Zsorey in our photos at Sayreville's National Night Out. Pictured (l-r) President Park Fire Co. firefighters Ryan Zsorey, Joe Temenski, and Tom Parsons. Sorry Ryan!



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

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

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### 9/11 Exhibition at Dowdell

(Article submitted)

This September marks the 20th anniversary of the September 11 attacks on the nation. The Dowdell Library was honored to receive and display the limited edition poster exhibition "September 11, 2001: The Day That Changed The World." The poster exhibition is curated by the 9/11 Memorial & Museum, and it includes a series of 14 posters. The display depicts the events of September 11, 2001, the immediate aftermath of the attacks and the nine-month recovery period, and the ongoing repercussions of 9/11 to this day. Archival imagery, artifact photography, and individual stories accompany the explanatory text to give visitors a deeper understanding of a critical moment in modern American history. This poster exhibition has been made possible in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

To commemorate the 20th anniversary and share the 9/11 poster exhibit we invite our patrons to write a short note or create artwork to honor the hero in your life. Police officers, firefighters, doctors, paramedics & others risked their lives to help those who needed assistance during and after the 9/11 attacks. Do you have a hero in your life? Have you ever had someone go above and beyond for you? Stop in and share your story.

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

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

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## Pleasant little TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

- This Sayreville man once served as a U.S. Senator?  
a.Randy Corman b.John Wisniewski c.Ed Kolodziej
- Appointed principal of Sacred Heart School in '92?  
a.Sister Mary Martin b.John J. Haynes c.Sr. Dorothy M. Sojczuk
- In '92, where was Sayreville Dressmakers located?  
a.Embroidery St. b.Main St. c.Rt. 9 South
- In '94, where was Weber's Garage located in Sayreville?  
a.Melrose b.President Park c.Morgan
- St. Mary's HS play in 1992?  
a.Oklahoma b.Grease c.Man of La Mancha
- Elected president of the Melrose Improvement Association Inc. in '92?  
a.Colbert Bowie b.Michael Chorpita c.Emerson Jones
- In '94, the new pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in South Amboy?  
a.Rev. Seamus Casey b.Rev. Brian Croak c.Rev. Magdalena Skorski
- Chosen by Sayreville Board of Education as Secretary/School Business Administrator?  
a.John Galbraith b.Michael Poll c.Mary Hodges
- She became South Amboy's first full-time policewoman in 2001?  
a.Patti Kanecke b.Rita Hurst c.Alice Cichalski
- In '97, where was Whiteley's Funeral Home located?  
a.Washington Rd. b.Main St. c.Bordentown Ave.
- Served as President of the South Amboy PTO in 1994?  
a.Anna Mannano b.Pam Campbell c.Lori Whitburn

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

## Business Of The Month

### D'Castillo Shoppe Deli & Convenience Store



The family members who have helped to make the D'Castillo Shoppe Deli & Convenience Store one of the top new local businesses in the area are (l-r) Felix, Damian Castillo (head of the Castillo family), Bryana, Yocasta and Bryan. (Photo/info submitted)

Welcome to D'Castillo Shoppe! It is located in the Morgan section of Sayreville at 339 South Pine Avenue. The Shoppe is a new business in the area that opened its doors in March of 2021 after a long search for the perfect opportunity and community to plant their dream. Although new to the business community of Sayreville, the Castillo Family have been residents of Sayreville for over five years.

D'Castillo Shoppe is a family business owned and operated by the Castillo family, Felix and Yocasta Castillo and their children, Bryan (16) and Bryana (10). Felix & Yocasta thought it was important to create a family business since family is so important to them. They did not want to lose out on continuing to build memories with their children, since the business would require so much of their time. It was also a way to teach and show their children the importance of hard work and a great work ethic. It is important to them that their children understand the value of entrepreneurship.

D'Castillo prides itself on being more than your typical deli or convenience store, they are a family business that supports the needs of their community. They view everyone that walks through their doors as family.

At D'Castillo you will find a wide array of delicious culinary choices and they offer dine-in, take-out and delivery options. Whether you're looking for hot or cold sandwiches, salads or cakes, you will find it at D'Castillo. From quality products, such as Boar's Head, fresh bread and bagels from Staten Island, espresso coffee, Dominican pastries, Portuguese Natas- to other delicious baked goods that no one can resist. They have an understanding of food allergies too, given that one of their children has had a severe reaction since a very young age.

You would think that would be enough, however, Yocasta "Jo" as her customers know her, specializes in bringing her authentic Spanish seasoning- not found elsewhere in town. Her yellow rice with guandules, stewed chicken, pernil, sautéed pork ribs are only part of the flavorful menu offered on their daily lunch specials. The cleanliness of the store, to the friendliness displayed as every customer walks in is only a small portion of the positive ambient their store offers. You can pick up many other household items while waiting for your food order. They deliver and offer catering to celebrate life's special moments with family and friends. They look forward to seeing you soon.

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Pictured is Mikell's Pilot who will be performing at Freedom Fest 2021. (Photo Submitted)

## Freedom Fest 2021

(Article submitted)

The Sayreville GOP is hosting an outdoor Freedom Fest 2021 on October 9th, 2021 from 5 to 9 pm, across from 277 Johnson Lane (formerly Buddies Tavern). Please join us for an old fashioned BBQ including beer, wine, soda and dessert! Live music will be brought to you that evening by Moe Loughman, and Mikell's Plot. Grind and Grindhouse Rock & Roll! Come out and meet Sayreville GOP Candidates for 2021, Eunice Dwumfour and Christian Onuoha.

Most importantly, that evening, we will be honoring our veterans! You cannot have a Freedom Fest without acknowledging those who gave it to us. We will be hearing from Afghan Vets that evening and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to NJ Veterans Network. Ticket price is \$60 per person, 21 and older only. For more information or to purchase tickets please visit [Sayrevillegop.org](http://Sayrevillegop.org) or call 732-727-1482.

We would love to hear from you!



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**Yearbook-St. Mary's 1966**  
 By Tom Burkard

Frank Sinatra's Top 10 hit song, "It Was A Very Good Year," could sum up the final year for the Class of '66, at least until that fateful May day when the old high school burned down... Msgr. Sullivan celebrated 50 years in the priesthood (25 at St. Mary's)... Sister M. Madeline was in her second year as principal, and celebrated 25 years as a Sister of Mercy... Madge Mahoney and Agnes Cody were school secretaries... The Hendricks brothers, Ray and Fred were the hard-working maintenance men... Popular teachers were: Sister Melita, Sr. Frederick, Sr. Theodore, Sr. Cephas, Sr. Amadeo, Sr. Gloriana. Other favorites included Ronald Lucas, Henry "Henny The D.J." Conroy, Stephen Nestinger, Charles Nuziale, James Dowd, John Toscano... Christine Fogler was Editor-In-Chief of the yearbook, while James Dufford held the same title with "The Crown" newspaper... Robert Knight was Student Council President and Kathleen Haag Secretary-Treasurer... Paul Jankowski was President of the Science Club, and George Gundrum was President of the Visual Club... John Germak was Senior Class President... Proctors at SMH wore armbands that read "SMH Proctor." On the social scene, a Shindig featuring The Duprees and The Isley Bros. was held on Nov. 21, 1965... The Shakespearean play, "Everyman" was popular with the students... "The King & I" was a huge success, even though the school was ravaged by fire the same week. The leads were played by Germak and Carol Henry... The prom was held in the auditorium. Knight was one of the Top 7 students in NJ and attended the Chicago Youth Conference on the atom...

SMHS seniors randomly selected from the Class of '66 were: Rita Adamecs, Edward Baranowski, Michael Bialek, the late Rosemary Bissett, Richard Blakeslee, Janice Blanchard, Kathleen Bowie, Marvin Carroll, Patrick Casey, Jo Ann Chodkiewicz, John Conroy, Patricia Conochan, Mary Ann & Patricia Coman, William Coman, Catherine Coughlin, Francis Coulter, Robert Credico, Rita Cross, Philip D'Atre, Mary Dempsey, Christine Dragon, Elizabeth Drahos, Madonna Egan, Karen Fox, Michael Galinski, Priscilla Gilbert, Ann Grabowski, Bridgette Grant, John Hackett, John Hansen, Susan Hansen, Mary Healy, Jo Ann Hlivka, Barbara Hodges, Susan Hoffman, Patricia Holtz, Wayne Hult, Beverly Jackson, Mary Jane Jancola, John Keenan, Carolyn Kelly, William Kennedy, Marideane Kimball, Michelle Kolb, Ralph Koneski, Garrison "Gary" Kosovich, Robert Kuchta, Frances & Louise Livera, David Lobyecz, Karen Lyons, Diana McAndrew, Harold McLaughlin, Charlene McNamara, Kevin McQuade, Valerie Mangin, Wayne Meszaros, Georgia Miller, Linda Moskal, Mary Munn, Susan Murray, Agnes Nebus, Barbara Nebus, John Nolan, Timothy O'Brien, Anne Marie O'Leary, Arthur O'Leary, Terence O'Leary, Wayne Palko, Patricia Piluso, Linda Ploskonka, Samuel Potthoff, Donald Potts, John Price, Madonna Rojek, Maryann Ropelewski, Michael Schaeffer, Mark Sciora, Blanche Skwira, Joyce & Margaret Sillcocks, Warren Smith, Elizabeth Sorrentino, Bruce Stankiewicz, Maureen Stover, Richard Trella, Marybeth Vigilante, Daniel Volosin, Karen Wisniewski, Paul Wojciechowski, Harry White (St. Mary's original "Ollie The Eagle" mascot)... On the sports scene, the boys varsity basketball team had a tough season, going (6-14). John Quigley was Captain, and Paul Jankowski, was the top scorer with 225 points, 12.5 avg. John Pintauro was captain of the Boys Cheerleaders. Standout senior athletes were: Knight, Quigley, Brian George, Bill Beyer, Billy Bulman (One of the greatest girls basketball coaches in NJ history at St. John Vianney), Gary Brown, John Burke, Margaret Christensen, Ellen Coffey, Michael Fabiszewski, Gerald Illaria, Jankowski, Sean Kelly, Carolyn Lopes, Robert MacNeil, Thomas "Tee" O'Connell, Patricia O'Hare, Pintauro, James Wallis (former South Amboy Chief of Police), Vince "Coop" Cannata. St. Mary's HS Class of '66 was a really strong group that stuck together, and survived many tough times including the famous fire. An outstanding class.



On Aug 20th, over 120 students from the SWMHS Class of 1981 gathered at Bubba's 33 for their 40th High School Reunion. Classmates came from around the country to meet up and rekindle old friendships.



Classmates Stephanie Gumas Venancio, Jill Knast LaFond, Lisa Haber Dvorin and Christina DiPaolo Olender from MA to FL, NJ and CO created a wellness club on Facebook. These connections inspired them to pull together their SWMHS Class of 81 40th reunion. In addition to increased wellness, they connected to encourage each other to help lose over 150 lbs combined. All welcome to join on Facebook at Living Well to 100. (Photos/info submitted)

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## Fall at Dowdell

(Article submitted)

The Dowdell Library will celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month from September through mid-October. This year they are showcasing Hispanic and Latino art. Stop in anytime during the month to create a paper flower craft and help us decorate the Frida Kahlo mural. On Monday, 9/27, at 6:30 pm, join us in celebrating Hispanic music, arts, and culture during our open house event. Mrs. Marcia Mercado will be presenting a bilingual Storytime with music and a craft. There will be music, Paletas- Mexican popsicles, dominoes and you can enter to win the door prize!

The October Exhibition will feature local artist Ashleigh Heyder. Ashleigh is a 20 year old artist who finds liberation from the neurotypical world through her art. She enjoys creating things with her hands, painting, and making jewelry and is continuously exploring art with new media. Stop by the Dowdell Library to view Ashleigh's work or for more information you can visit her website at ashleighheyder.com

Invest more time into yourself! The Dowdell Library offers free virtual classes through the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Classes include Virtual Guided Imagery Relaxation Sessions, Tips to Help

You Prevent Digestive Problems, Stretching and Flexibility workshops, and many more! You must be pre-registered. For more information or to pre-register, please email Susan.capolongo@rwjbh.org or kathleen.johnson@rwjbh.org. Find details about each session on Dowdell.org.

The Dowdell Library proudly supports local businesses and will host a Business Fair in December. Register your business to attend the fair online at Dowdell.org or in person. Registration is only \$25.00 per table. Enjoy a fun holiday shopping opportunity!

Coming up in October: Fire Prevention Week is October 4. The Video game challenge also continues in October, and there will be a Halloween costume party on. Continue checking Dowdell.org for the latest information, dates, and times.

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

## Girl Scout Earns Silver Award

Anya Kanodia from the Sayreville-South Amboy Girl Scout Troop 81804 has earned her Silver Award. The pandemic caused a setback for many activities but Anya continued working on her award until it was completed. She managed both in person and virtual meetings through Zoom. With her project, Herbal DIY, she was able to educate others about the benefits of different kinds of herbs. She taught her participants by using different activities for the herbs and explained their benefits. They made various products, such as chamomile tea, peppermint bath bombs, citronella candles, a jasmine scrub, rose water, lavender lemonade, coconut soap,

aloe vera gel, and lemon balm bug spray. Anya's classes provided her participants with more knowledge about the environment and an appreciation of nature's gifts. Her main goal was to encourage people to become more interested and aware of the environment.



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### Knights In The News



Pictured (l-r) are Grand Knight Jim Smith of St. Bernadette Knights of Columbus Council 8478, Chris Duffett Faithful Navigator John F. Brady Assembly 676 Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, and Gary Lattanzi Grand Knight South Amboy Council 426 Knights of Columbus. They were recently installed as officers at a ceremony at the South Amboy K of C. (Photo Lois Ann Smith)



Officers and members of the Msgr. John F. Brady Assembly Knights of Columbus 4th Degree are pictured after the recent installation of officers ceremony held at the South Amboy Knights of Columbus hall. (Photo by Lois Ann Smith)

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# South Amboy Artsfest 2021

(Photos by Brian Stratton)



**Jerry Smith (r) and Michael Balog (l) open the entertainment with Jerry's hit song "South Amboy USA"**



**Dan Toye performs for the crowd.**



**The Rone family had info for Riley's Touch A Truck happening on Oct. 10th at the Middle/High School.**



**There was plenty for children to do at the Artsfest.**



**Dr. Tim Lenahan (r) with his nephew Teddy Lenahan (l).**



**Jean Marie Henry performing in the Arts Gallery.**



**South Amboy Council President Mickey Gross (2nd from left) joins in for a photo with vendors and their customers.**



**The South Amboy YMCA was on hand and had a lot of activities for the children.**

## Rise Light & Power - continued from page 1

Jersey electric grid. With Rise's ongoing remediation efforts, the project will also lead to the elimination of a once-contaminated brownfield site dating back to the 1930s.

The acquisition of the former Werner coal plant continues Rise's mission to transform aging energy infrastructure into hubs of clean energy. Rise is currently advancing the clean energy transformation of New York City's largest power plant, the Ravenswood Generating Station, to host several green infrastructure projects, including battery storage and renewable transmission solutions.

After months of consultations with elected leaders, policymakers, offshore wind developers, environmental advocates, labor, business, fishing interests, and other stakeholders, Rise submitted to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) and PJM Interconnection the innovative Outerbridge Renewable Connector plan.

"Rise Light & Power is committed to helping New Jersey achieve its ambitious clean energy goals," said Clint Plummer, CEO of Rise Light & Power. "The state's bold vision calls for a responsible, affordable solution to delivering offshore wind energy to the state electric grid. Outerbridge solves the challenge of finding appropriate and acceptable cable landing sites by using existing infrastructure that avoids siting transmission lines in sensitive areas like residential neighborhoods and recreational beaches."

"Governor Murphy positioned New Jersey as a leader in transitioning to clean energy and we are proud to play an integral part in his goal for the state to obtain 50 percent of its power from clean sources by 2030," said South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry, who supports the project. "The Outerbridge Renewable Connector is the only project in our state that can deliver clean offshore wind to our residents without the controversy of disturbing beaches and communities. Outerbridge is also a major economic generator for South Amboy that will create good-paying local jobs and support our community as a major taxpayer. This is the kind of partner and project South Amboy is proud to endorse."

The Outerbridge proposal is a superior solution for delivering offshore wind energy to New Jersey electric customers because it enables offshore wind projects to avoid bringing high voltage power cables ashore at New Jersey's beaches or other sensitive areas.

Instead, Rise proposes transforming an industrial waterfront site, formerly home to the Jersey Central Power & Light Company's E.H. Werner power station, into an ideal gateway for bringing power from offshore wind farms into New Jersey.

The 26-acre, industrially-zoned site was retired as a fossil-fueled power plant in 2015. The site on Raritan Bay features an existing substation and switchyard, rail and highway access, a pier with expansion potential and unobstructed access to the Atlantic Ocean with 24 acres of submerged lands.

Once offshore wind energy is delivered to the new clean energy hub at South Amboy, Outerbridge would function as a giant extension cord, delivering clean energy to the local power grid through upgraded grid infrastructure on the site and to the Deans Substation through buried cables along an existing railroad right of way. The power cables will be entirely underground. A proposed battery energy-storage system offers the opportunity for further reliability to the grid.

In repurposing the past to power the future, Outerbridge will be a valuable part of the South Amboy waterfront, creating good-paying union jobs during construction.

Outerbridge would generate power for up to 1.4 million homes and create over \$1 billion in economic value to New Jersey, including nearly \$88 million in tax revenue for state and local governments. In addition, Rise is committed to fund and implement programs to build the local economy and support workforce development. Outerbridge would accomplish this while minimizing costs and controversy and building confidence in New Jersey's offshore wind systems.

For more information on these and other projects, as well as LS Power's energy transition companies CPower Energy Management, Endurant Energy and EVgo, please visit [www.lspower.com](http://www.lspower.com)

## ANNUAL ELECTION DAY FISH DINNER

The Camp Dill Foundation and the Old Timers of Troop 91 will be having their annual Election Day Fish Dinner on November 2, 2021 in the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy. Due to COVID, this event will be a totally "drive-by" take-out only dinner. The time of the event will be 5:00PM to 7:00PM and the cost is \$15.00 per dinner.

ALL TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE. For ticket information, call 732-899-6074 or e-mail [djsibol@aol.com](mailto:djsibol@aol.com). Ticket mail orders with payment can be sent to Dan Sibol, 90 Meridian Drive, Brick, NJ 08724.

We thank you for your support as we continue to benefit the youth of the South Amboy / Sayreville area.



Peter Smith of South Amboy holds one of his six chickens after cutting the grass near his house. He said that five of the chickens lay eggs. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

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## From The Rock 'N' Roll Archives



1963-The Del Royals were a talented local band, who played at many high school dances and other events. Pictured (l-r) Wayne Turback, Glen Giles, John Klimkiewicz, Frank Mason, and Danny LaCross.

## Music

By John "Flip" Phillips

Back in my teen years of the 50s my primary focus was becoming a basketball player. However, there was another important side to me that few people knew of. It was my love of music! A long time ago my mom insisted that I would be her accordion player. Believe me I resisted but she won. My first accordion was white. I wanted a red one, but she won again. But surprise! I really liked playing the accordion and listening to music of the day on the radio, especially music from the 40s and 50s. I played in a couple of bands until I lost interest as other "teenage things" got my attention. After I retired I moved on to a Keyboard. I started with an entry level and now have a top-of-the-line Yamaha called a Workstation. To keep active, I started playing at social parties for our age restricted community. Another surprise....I found I had a "pretty" good voice and began to play and sing at parties. We also did shows with residents performing musical numbers from Broadway plays like South Pacific. We also did themed talent shows. One show I really liked featured community residents

performing Rock and Roll and Country and Western music with dresses that fit the music and performers. You would be surprised at the talent we "old timers" still had. I still remember the husband-and-wife Sonny and Cher act...hilarious! I was the music director for those shows and several others.

Along the way I finally got my red accordion. I play it now and then to keep it ready for my great granddaughter who looks like she inherited my love of music. Since I could carry a tune I started to record vocals of songs I liked... mostly from the 40s and 50s. They are now on YouTube, almost 100 songs with over 12,000 hits. There are instrumentals and vocals along with images for each one related to the theme of the song. They were all done in my little studio with my "does everything" keyboard. If you want to listen to Flip, bring back some memories of your youth, then give a listen. [www.youtube.com/phillik/use](http://www.youtube.com/phillik/use) Click on Videos and listen to the music I love.

If you listen, thanks. If you like the music, I am happy!

### 15 Years Ago 2006

Toddstock '06 was a highly-successful fundraiser organized and run by Todd Norton, owner of Todd's Dugout Sports Cafe in South Amboy. The event featured all-day entertainment from acts including John Eddie, Keith Kenny, John Walsh, The Ergs, If 6 Was 9, and the Melrose Blackhawks Senior Drum & Bugle Corps.

Norton donated a check for \$3,350 to Mary Ann Gordon of the Sayreville Association for the BIC which served Sayreville, South Amboy, and South River.

ST. JUDE

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray us. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank You St. Jude. -R.S., A.S., H.S., L.S..

### #1 Country Hits Sept. 25

2003-It's 5 O'Clock Somewhere-

Alan Jackson & Jimmy Buffett

1998-How Long Gone-Brooks & Dunn

1981-You Don't Know Me-Mickey Gilley

1972-I Can't Stop Loving You-

Conway Twitty

1960-Alabama-Cowboy Copas

1953-A Dear John Letter-

Jean Shepard & Ferlin Huskey

1944-Smoke On The Water-Red Foley

### #1 Pop Hits-Sept. 25

2008-Whatever You Like-T.I.

1993-Dreamlover-Mariah Carey

1985-Money For Nothing-Dire Straits

1976-Play That Funky Music-Wild Cherry

1966-Cherish-The Association

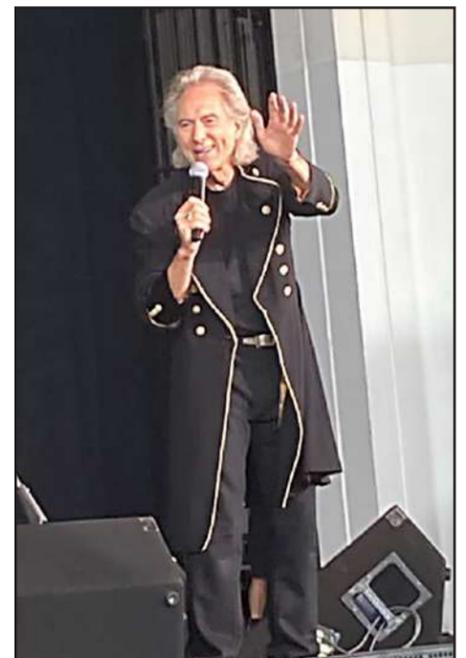
1959-Sleep Walk-Santo & Johnny

## PNC Bank Arts Center Fall Show

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



The Association led by the only founding member of the group, 78-year old Jules Alexander (c) featured amazing harmonies and musicianship on their timeless, hits from the 1960's such as "Windy," "Cherish," "Along Comes Mary," "Never My Love," and many others.



The great Gary Puckett, who reached music fame in the 60's as Gary Puckett & The Union Gap, performed all of his hits including "Young Girl," "Woman Woman," and "Lady Willpower," and was a huge hit with the crowd.

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## MUSIC TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

## Friend/Friends

1. You're My Best Friend
2. With A Little Help From My Friends
3. You've Got A Friend
4. Why Can't We Be Friends
5. That's What Friends Are For
6. Old Friends
7. Thank You For Being A Friend
8. He Was A Friend Of Mine
9. Friends In Low Places
10. Can We Still Be Friends?
11. Daytime Friends
12. You're A Friend Of Mine

- a. James Taylor
- b. Garth Brooks
- c. War
- d. Simon & Garfunkel
- e. Queen
- f. Dionne Warwick & Friends
- g. Clarence Clemons/Jackson Browne
- h. Andrew Gold
- i. Kenny Rogers
- j. Todd Rundgren
- k. The Byrds
- l. The Beatles

Answers

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

## Elvis Was In The House... The Brick House That Is

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



This creative and delicious sheet cake was baked by one of Richie Santa's big fans, and shared with patrons at the Brick House in Sayreville during Richie's outstanding performance.



11-year old Aubrey Alfrey made her solo musical debut playing "Can't Help Falling In Love" on the clarinet at the sold out show. at the Brick House in Sayreville. She did a fine job, and had the crowd singing along as she played.

Pictured with Aubrey are Mary Ann Spisso, owner of the Brick House, and Elvis Tribute Artist (ETA)

← Richie Santa.



One of the top Elvis Tribute Artists (ETA) in the U.S., Richie Santa captivated the crowd, with his outstanding vocals and Elvis Presley-like showmanship once again at the Brick House in Sayreville.

→

## Relics & Rarities

By Steve Schmid

There are plenty of oldies shows you can enjoy on the radio that countdown hits you're familiar with. Many more records however, were produced in the 1960s that

were excellent, but never got heard due to tight radio station playlists limiting songs. Dave Kapulsky has an extensive record collection and loves sharing his records with listeners. He has over 120,000- 45's, 30,000 albums, and 35,000 CDs, at his Freehold Township home. He is known as Dave The Rave on his radio show heard every Sunday on WOLD 95.1 FM from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. He also has a three hour show Sunday nights from 9 p.m. to 12 midnight on topshelfoldies.org



Dave Kapulsky

Dave The Rave has spent many hours searching for hit sounding 45's that never hit the Top 40 but had the sound potential to have done so. Dave's show is very diverse in the music he plays. You'll hear surf, soul, girl groups, British Invasion, rockabilly, garage, and instrumentals. He calls his show "Relics & Rarities" because he says nobody wants to be called "old." He feels the Moldy Oldie term sounds like records that gather dust and never played. "I have records many people don't have. There aren't many places where you can hear songs that never had a chance," he said. He is happy to share great songs that haven't been widely heard. "It feels great to bring back people who made records

who had hopes and dreams for a better life," he added. Probably the best definition of Dave's show is by Tommy James of Tommy James & The Shondells. Tommy called the show one day and said he loves "the new old songs." produced in the 60s that were new, since few people heard them. Dave The Rave has been doing his "Relics & Rarities Show" since February 1996. He calls himself a "record geek" and he has been collecting records since the Beatles appeared on the "Ed Sullivan Show" on February 9, 1964. His first 45 that began his collection was "A Wonderful Dream" by the Majors on the Imperial label. He won a dance contest at the J.C.C. in Highland

Park. Shortly thereafter his father bought him his first Beatles record. He is a big fan of the Beatles and "Meet The Beatles" was the group's first domestically released album. He is also a big fan of Bruce Spingsteen and was recognized in a 1989 Rolling Stone article as Bruce's biggest fan, and had a full page photo in the magazine. Every week he pulls out 16 to 18 records for the show, but said there are thousands he would like to play. Dave is glad his show is carried across many stations in America, and he hopes you'll tune in to WOLD Sundays, and enjoy these records that deserve a second chance on the radio.

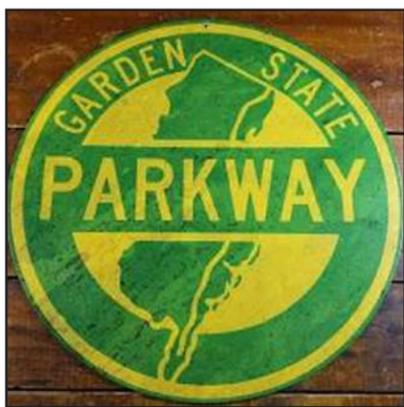
## Song Shootout

Top 17 (Aug. 11-Sept. 11)

The following songs/performers had the most views on our Facebook page. The number of total views is listed after the performer's name.

1-Woodstock-Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young 15; 2-Open Arms-Journey 14; 3-Just Like Me-Paul Revere & The Raiders 13; 4-The Wedding Song (There Is Love)- Noel Paul Stookey 12; 5-Margaritaville-Jimmy Buffett 10; 6-San Francisco (Be Sure To Wear Flowers In Your Hair)-Scottie McKenzie

9; 7-May I-Bill Deal & The Rhondels 9; 8-Forever-Dennis Wilson 7; 9-Friends In Low Places-Garth Brooks 7; 10-Delilah-Tom Jones 6; 11-Remember When-Alan Jackson 6; 12-You Didn't Have To Be So Nice-The Lovin' Spoonful 6; 13-Double Shot (Of My Baby's Love)-The Swingin' Medallions 6; 14-Walkin' In Memphis-Marc Cohn 6; 15-Hang On Sloopy-The McCoys 5; 16-See You In September-The Happenings 5; 17-Good Riddance (Time Of Your Life)-Green Day 5.



September What Exit.. This exit will take you as far north as you can go on the GSP. Send your answers to satimes@aol.com .

## What Exit?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

### August What Exit:

Last month's answer was exit 74 Forked River. Turning right off the exit will take you toward Route 9 and the Barnegat bay and the Captain's Inn. Turning left off the exit will take you west toward Popcorn Park Zoo.

The following correctly identified it: Eleanore Westerholm, Dennis Quinlan, Edna Pilch, Marie English and Ed English Betty Leveille, Pat & Bill Scully, Craig Yetsko, Eleanore Westerholm, Steve Laskiewicz, Jack Piskorski, Keith Piskorski & Lorraine Krauss, Steve Villig, Dane Colburn.

## OLV Seniors October Meeting

The OLV Seniors will hold their October meeting on Friday, October 1, 2021 at 1:00 PM in Monsignor Dalton Hall. At this meeting dues of \$15.00 will be collected. All new members are welcome. After the business portion of the meeting, we will have a light dessert and beverages. Due to the constant presence of Covid 19 wearing of masks is an optional choice if you are fully vaccinated. If you have not been vaccinated, please wear

a mask. If CDC rules change our group will follow their guidelines. We look forward to being with our members after this long journey with the virus.

October 1st will be the last day of payment for the Brooklyn trip.

Donations of non-perishable food to St. Vincent de Paul will continue.

Any questions please contact Teri Yetsko at 732-727-7639.

## Night of Recollection

The South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426 cordially invites you to attend a Night of Recollection on the Blessed Virgin Mary presented by Sister Hosea Rupprecht of the Pauline Center for Media Studies on

Tuesday, October 12, from 7 pm to 8:30 p.m. in St. Mary Church. The event is open to ALL men and women of the community. October is the "Month of the Rosary."

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# WHAT IS IT?????

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Ok this is a fork..but what is called if you are a know it all seagull in a certain Disney movie? Send your answers to satimes@aol.com by October 18th.

## August What Is It? 1958 Gibson Moderne guitar



Last month we featured the famed 1958 Gibson Moderne guitar. In 1958 Gibson wanted to design more futuristic guitars which they did with the Moderne being one of three models with new shapes. They were made with Korina wood bodies. The other two models were the Flying V and the Explorer both of which went into production, the Modern however did not go into production and none are known to exist. Very limited numbers of the Flying V and Explorer were made and today the Flying V can command over \$500K while

the Explorer can bring in over one million dollars. If a 1958 Moderne was to surface it would truly be priceless. It should be noted that all three guitars have been reissued by Gibson but are not worth the same as the originals from 1958.

The following correctly identified it: Clem Skarzynski, Vincent Farina, Yogi, Marie English and Ed English, Mike Moe, Craig Yetsko, Eleanore Westerholm, T.J. Albanese, Mark Moniello, Dane Colburn, Some incorrect answers were: Flying V guitar, Hammer Flame Zephyr.



Gibsons new models for 1958 (l-r) Flying V, Explorer and the Moderne.

## Fish, Fishing & Fishy

By Elaine Holton Scott

“Catfish are garbage fish,” my father used to say, and way back when I was young, I believed him. My dad, like so many other men, loved to fish, always getting his bait at the same place in Morgan. If I remember correctly, and keep in mind I was a child, it wasn't too far down from where the Ye Olde Spye Inn had stood since the 1700s. Fire had taken the Inn; time had taken my dad; and Arkansas “took” catfish as their claim to fame. Having lived in that land-locked state for ten years, I remember how huge signs for farm-raised catfish were everywhere. So, too, were the kind of eating places where you got a tray to serve yourself, especially the breaded and deep-fried catfish, the only fish I ever saw sold in the ten years Arkansas had been my home. The breaded, deep-fried catfish went with the breaded and deep-fried hush puppies, breaded, deep-fried okra, breaded and deep fried pickles the places had for sale.. For dessert, there were different kinds of fruit pies, all deep fried as well. Being told by someone as he was deep-frying, a whole turkey, that he had a cholesterol level over 600 for some reason hadn't shocked me.

I guess I have the South in my blood as I also lived in Georgia, another land-locked state, for a total of 18 ½ years. For someone who actually hates, no, abhors the hot weather, I still find it odd I moved South instead of North, where the cold weather I so love would have made me the happiest. In Georgia, gone were the breaded and deep-fried farm raised catfish. Instead, the seafood shelves in the grocery store where I had shopped were filled with fish which shockingly didn't come from the Atlantic Ocean lining our Northeastern Coast or the Pacific Ocean lining our West Coast, nor did they come from any of the many lakes and rivers in our country. Nope...the U.S. actually imports fish from China, fish raised in filthy water and fed the “droppings” from the chickens in wire cages who live above them. When I first heard about this, I had trouble believing it. So, I checked every seafood item being sold in that well-known Southern grocery store chain, and found it to be true. I then made a complaint, the first of many, to the store's manager about them

selling fish from China. I was told he agreed with me, but their Head Office made all the decisions. So, I never ate any fish the entire time I was living there.

We never had to worry about stuff like this years ago. Fish were either caught, purchased at the Fish Market in Perth Amboy, or bought from the refrigerated fish truck which religiously went up and down the streets every Thursday right before the sun went down. Since Mechanicsville and Melrose had seemed like another world from “downtown,” we had no places selling fish sandwiches. Actually, living on the “other side” of the Hole in the Wall, except for taverns, Lena's store until she burned herself up, putting broken varnished furniture into the stove to heat her house, when I was in the 8th grade, and Bill's small store with inventory even smaller, it was either cook the fish or just dream about eating it. Back then, eating meat was a sin on Fridays, so all of us had eaten plenty of fish, fearful of confessing this venial or, possibly at that time, mortal sin, to the priest in the church confessional.

Moving back to NJ in October of 2019, I now eat fish again, as well as other types of seafood, hopefully all caught in the waters off our coastline. I don't eat as much fish as I had done before moving to Georgia and certainly no catfish since moving from Arkansas. The United States has so much water...water filled with every type of fish, crab, clam, mussel, shrimp. So, I would like to know why the price of fish and all other seafood now is “through the roof”??? Is it because the price of beef is getting so costly only the wealthy can afford it, so seafood followed suit? Is it because this hideous Pandemic has so many of us ordering foods to be delivered to our homes no matter what the cost...you know, being at their mercy?? Do you actually think any fish is worth almost 40 bucks a pound especially knowing how fish shrinks when cooked? Do I feel this way because I'm a senior who used to buy a pound of Perch for 99 cents at Acme?? Probably...but it sure seems fishy to me.

\*\*\*\*Eat American...even if it's catfish.  
Please forgive me, Dad!\*\*\*\*

## New President



On Sept. 13, 2021, South Amboy First Aid Squad (SAFA) swore in Robert Sekerak as new president to run the administrative side of the organization. In the top photo, Sekerak is sworn in by James “Doc” Ryan. Pictured in the bottom photo at the swearing-in ceremony are (l-r) Councilwoman Christine Noble, SAFA President Rob Sekerak, Councilman Brian McLaughlin, and Mayor Fred Henry. Also present were family members, fellow squad members, Councilman Tom Reilly, and 2nd Asst. Fire Chief John Dragotta. Rob Sekerak was born and raised in South Amboy. He began his volunteer career as a member of SAFA in 1993, when joined as a cadet member. Rob became an EMT in 2002 and went through the ranks of Lieutenant, Asst. Captain and Captain in 2009 and 2010. He is currently serving as Asst. Captain. Sekerak also serves as a member of the South Amboy Fire Dept. Progressive Fire Co. as Lieutenant. Rob is devoted to serving his community. He has put in many hours, and answered thousands of calls, all while working a full time job and caring for his family. (Photos/story by Jamie Norek)

# FOR SALE

1971

Gibson Les Paul Deluxe Goldtop  
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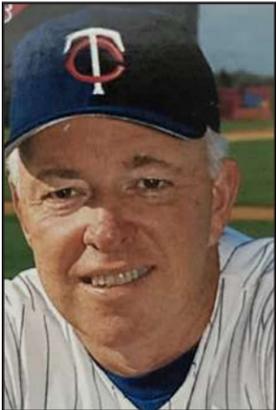
(Photo/story by Tom Burkard)

Pictured prior to their induction at the St. Mary's/Cardinal McCarrick 1st Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet/Induction ceremony in 2000, are two of Major League Baseball's most successful managers in history, Jack McKeon (l) and Tom Kelly (r). McKeon, a '48 St. Mary's graduate, led the Florida Marlins to the World Series championship in 2003 over the New York Yankees.

McKeon finished his MLB managing career with a record of (1,051-990, .515), and is ranked #58 All-Time for most wins in MLB history. He also won over 1,000 games managing in the minor leagues, finishing with a record of (1,146-1,123, .505). Kelly, a '68 graduate of St. Mary's, guided the Minnesota Twins to 2 World Series championships in 1987, and 1991. His MLB record was (1,140-1,244, .478). He ranks #52 all-time in MLB victories for a manager. Both McKeon and Kelly won countless honors and awards in their careers, including being named MLB Manager of the Year in their respective leagues. Wouldn't it be great to see these two outstanding local products, inducted into the MLB Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, NY someday?

### Did You Know?

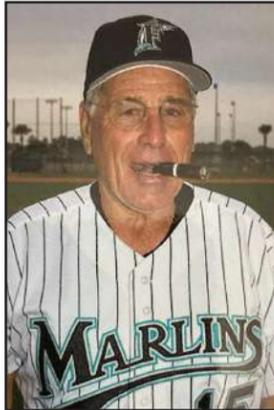
**Tom Kelly** was drafted by the Seattle Pilots in 1968, when he was 17-years old and just graduated from St. Mary's HS...He played for 13 seasons in the minors appearing in 1,143 games, hit 116 home runs, and batted .271...Kelly, who was an outstanding left-handed pitcher in the



South Amboy Little Fellas League and South Amboy Babe Ruth League, pitched briefly in 4 games during his minor league career, and was (1-0)...In '75, he had "a cup of coffee" with the Minnesota Twins, playing in 49 games, and hit 1 homer while batting .181...

**Jack McKeon** signed with the Pittsburgh Pirates organization in 1949, and played minor league ball for 10 years, appearing in 901 games. He hit 25 home runs and batted .212... He began his professional baseball managing career as a 24-year old with Fayetteville in the Carolina League...

During his managing career in MLB, he skippered the Kansas City Royals, Oakland A's, San Diego Padres, Cincinnati Reds, and Florida Marlins...Jack was the GM of the Padres from 1980-90, and guided them to the National League pennant and first World Series in '84...



## Trinity Methodist Church Roast Beef Dinner

Please join us on Saturday, October 23 for our Roast Beef Dinner from 4 pm - 7 pm. The church is located at 815 Bordentown Avenue located by the Parkway entrance. Due to Covid, the dinner will only be delivered or picked up. Dinner includes Roast Beef, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables, Rolls and homemade desserts and costs \$15. Please call Lori at 732 763 6232 to reserve your dinners.



South Amboy Boys Varsity Soccer Coach Tony G (far right) poses with current and former players at the recent Artsfest. Pictured (l-r) Angel Barillas, John Dragotta, Mark Herdman and Giovanni Pepe. Coach G also wants to let alumni know there is a reunion game at 2 o'clock during the Irish Festival being held at Waterfront Park on September 25th. (Photo by Brian Stratton)



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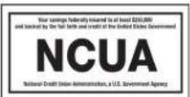
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**The Vintage Car Contest**  
 By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Does this car look familiar? Send your answers to satimes@aol.com by October 18th.

Last month's vehicle was a 1977 Ford Econoline Cruising Van. The cruising van was built by Ford during the height of the custom van craze of the 1970's and for one year only. In addition to the van, Ford also produced a Pinto Station Wagon decked out in the same color scheme.

Those who correctly identified the van were: Laurie & Gary Loftus, Marie English and Ed English, JoAnn & John French, Eleanore Westerholm, Steve Laskiewicz, Steve Villig.

Some incorrect answers were '76 E-150 Econoline 40 Chateau, Shaggin Wagon, Econoline Qudravan.

Those who correctly identified the van

**August Vintage Car**



1977 Ford Econoline Cruising Van



The Ford Pinto Cruising Wagon the companion to the Cruising Van

**100**

# SAYREVILLE CENTENNIAL DAY

**Contests**

**Food**

**Skateboard Demo**

**October 2, 2021**  
 (Rain Date Oct. 3rd)

**12 - 7:30**

**Kennedy Park**

**Games**

**Beer Tent**

**Vendors**

**Fireworks @ 7pm**

## 55 Years Ago: St. Mary's High School Fire

May 4, 1966  
By Tom Burkard

May 4th marked the 55th anniversary of the old St. Mary's High School fire. One of the largest and most memorable fires in the history of South Amboy, it was discovered on the morning of May 4, 1966, in an old storage closet on the second floor by sophomore proctor Kevin Stover right before the start of classes. He immediately called other proctors Dennis Noel and Mark Sciora for assistance. History teacher Stephen Nestinger aided the boys, as they tried to control the flames, while the fire company was notified. Several students entered the school and salvaged costumes for the school play "The King and I," and also decorations for the Senior Prom. Other conscientious students pitched in and helped clear the school office and library.

In days following the fire, the boys from each class helped teachers transfer desks, books and equipment to the grammar school and Guild Hall. Thanks to the quick action of the students, the play went on as scheduled from May 6-8, and was a huge success, as was the Senior Prom, "Roman Holiday." Fire and water damage were very severe throughout the school, mainly in the front hallway and on the second floor.

The catastrophe affected between 700-800 students who were attending the high school, and also St. Mary's Grammar School. Starting on May 9th to the end of the school year, the two schools shared the facilities of the grammar school. Split-sessions were held for the grammar school from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, and the high school classes were from 12:30 to 5 p.m. Plans for the new school (current one) on the same location were set, with hopes of having it originally completed by January, 1967. However, complications arose, and the school was not ready until September of 1968. The first graduating class from the present-day structure was the Class of '69.

### Students Memories Of St. Mary's High School Fire

The following are recollections of the fire by those who attended St. Mary's in 1966:

Mark Sciora, senior (proctor summoned to the second floor after the fire was found by Stover), "I was surprised how fast it spread, and within 30 minutes the roof collapsed. We were lucky that hardly anyone was in the building. We (proctors) ran through the upper floor to see if anyone was in there. We had extinguishers, but didn't get to use them, because the smoke was so thick and we had to get out."

Dan Cheeseman, junior, "It changed us all. Little did I know that I would get my first lesson in shock and awe, and it would not be my last. After police and firemen arrived, we stood across the street by the statue of Mary, and the nuns were praying. What was learned that day was never give up, there is always a path. Never lose faith in the power of Mary. She protected us all that day, and if that fire was 30 minutes later, the story would be different."

Jim Vail, freshman, "I was standing directly under the wall where the fire started, and somebody yelled, 'The school's on fire!' and I said 'Oh, sure.' Then I looked up and saw the smoke. I also remember people running in and rescuing costumes."

Janice Blanchard, senior, "My first reaction was to the Prom decorations. We

### Summer Round-up at Dowdell

The Library's Tales and Tails summer program was fun for all! Thank you to everyone who participated. There were more than 100 programs, 1000 participants and 477 books read this summer! The summer started off with a splash at our Summer Splash program and ended on a high note at the outdoor music concert. Thank you to musicians Jerry Smith and Dan Toye for your entertaining performances! Here is a big shout-out to all the summer winners! Adult raffle winners: Muriel S. and BLANK. Adult trivia contest winner: Vickie S; and teen winners: Isabella V. and Joseph D. The top readers this summer are Rachel D., Anyssa F., Noah D., and Kipling J. Congratulations!

had worked on them the night before, and we wondered if we left something on while we worked, and it may have caused the fire, but we didn't."

Judy Kurowsky Meinzer, freshman, "My memory is one of being a "walker" to school from Mechanicsville, and forever hearing catcalls from the few who owned cars. That day, they screamed at me, 'St. Mary's is on fire! No school.' "Yeah right, I thought. How eye-opening to get there and see it happening."

Kathleen Haag Williams, senior, "I remember St. Mary's High School and Grammar School sharing classrooms in half day sessions after the fire. Also, Bobby Knight and his posse rushed into the building to rescue the costumes for the annual play before the fire trucks came. Most of us were watching on the sidewalk next to the church in disbelief. A media person asked me how I felt about having the day off (not kidding) to which I replied, while I didn't mind having a day off, but, I'd rather have my school safe. Of course, they printed that I was grateful to have the day off."

Rich Gray, freshman, "I remember being on the bus and seeing smoke as we got closer to school. When we got near our regular drop-off, everyone could see our school was on fire. Debbie McGinn, Bobby Blakeslee, Sharon Mulroy, and Tom Tighe were all on the bus, and I guess none of us could believe what we were seeing. Everyone was suddenly very quiet. What happens now? It was an incredible day that will live forever in my memory."

Eileen Loftus George, sophomore, "I was walking to school and heard the siren, and started counting the sirens out. I think Joan Laurie was with me. We said kidding, 'Maybe St. Mary's High School is on fire.'

When we got close to the convent, we couldn't believe it! Very sad. The next 2 years at St. Mary's High School were very different going half sessions with the grade school."

Joe Caracappa, sophomore, "Fifty-five years later, I can still smell the smoke between the pages of my copy of "The King & I" script!"

#### Editor's Note:

"As for myself, I was nearing the end of my freshman year, and was walking to school with my friend Gene Cross, when we saw fire engines speeding towards the school. When we were near the light on Main St. & Stevens Avenue, someone yelled out of the window of a passing car, 'The school is on fire!' At that time in '66, some kids thought it was cool to say 'I hope the school burns down,' so we thought it was just a joke, until we got there. Then we were shocked! I can remember everyone standing across the street by the church, and watching it burn."

Wednesday, May 4, 1966 was a most memorable day in the lives of hundreds of St. Mary's students, as well as countless others. Many lives and normal schedules, as well as daily routines were altered, and it was also a major change at the time, for many youths who attended the school. The St. Mary's High School Fire of 1966 will never be forgotten, and go down in history as one of the most memorable fires ever in South Amboy.

See photos on page 14.

### 10 Years Ago 2011

Karen M. Juliano was named Principal of Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's HS...Justin Fiory was selected by the Sayreville Board of Education to become the new Eisenhower Elementary School Principal...Brothers Jack and Bill McKeon were inducted into the Amateur All-American Baseball Association (AAABA) Hall of Fame at Johnstown, PA... On August 25th, South Amboy and Sayreville were shaken by a surprise earthquake that registered a 2.0.

#### ST. JUDE

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



This photo was taken near the Augusta St. entrance/exit of St. Mary's High School, during the fire that destroyed and closed the school permanently on May 4, 1966.



Smoke rises from the roof of St. Mary's High School, as firefighters battled the fire.

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**Who is it?**



Can you identify these two performers? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by October 18th. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

**Who is it?**

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

Last month's who is it, was a photo taken at Count Basie Theatre of Glen Campbell and his daughter Ashley Campbell. It was taken during his last tour in 2012. See the letter on right from Edna Pilch it summarizes what Glen went through during that tour and the role Ashley played in helping him.

Those who correctly identified them were: Clem S, Sandor Schneck, Edna Pilch, Marie English and Ed English, John & JoAnn French, Kevin Beebe, Craig Yetko, Eleanore Westerholm, Loretta Dressing, Dane Colburn. Some incorrect answers: Tanya Tucker and Glen Campbell, Jewel and Glen Campbell,

**LETTERS**

**Letter In Response To Who Is It?**

Ashley Campbell with her father, superstar country music legend Glen Campbell. I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to hear her (and also her mother, Kim Campbell) speak about Glen Campbell's courageous fight with Alzheimer's disease. He still decided to do a year-long tour in 2012, even after he was diagnosed. There is an excellent documentary called "I'll Be

Me," which chronicles this tour and shows very clearly that music is the last thing to leave the brain with this devastating disease. There were times during the tour where he had no idea who his daughter playing the banjo next to him was, but he remembered every note and word to each song. Celebrate the power of music!

Edna Pilch



Ashley Campbell and her father, Glen Campbell in 2012

**Senior Citizens Club Seeks Members**

(Article submitted)

The South Amboy Senior Citizens Club is looking for new members. Anyone 60 years old that lives in South Amboy or has an 08879 zip code is eligible to join. Our meetings are every second Wednesday at 12 noon at the Senior Building on Stevens Ave. Come have fun and join us for lunch, and see if you would like to join. If interested, call Gretchen at 732-721-2501 or Sandy at 732-721-6576.

**Public Rosary Rally**

America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16th, 12 noon in front of Sacred Heart Church Memorial Hall on Washington Ave., South Amboy. Please join us in praying for our nation along with 20,000 other rallies. For more information, contact Joan at 732-727-7379.

**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. -C.R.

**50 Years Ago...**

1971-The following H.G. Hoffman HS students were inducted as members of the 1971 National Honor Society; Edward Conlon, James Croddick, Blaise Falowski, Robert Huryk, Marianne Moroski, Karen Nix, Karianne Vona, Roger White, John Wojciechowski.

**Halloween Party October 22**

The South Amboy Columbiettes are holding a Halloween party Friday night October 22 beginning at 7:30 p.m. It will be at the K of C Hall on 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. Tickets purchased in advance are \$12 and will be \$15 at the door. Price includes food, and one complimentary drink. Prize will be awarded for the best costume. Cash bar will be available. For more information call Vicki at 732-598-6910 or Donna at 990-265-7529.



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**SUNDAY OCTOBER 10TH 2021**  
*RAIN DATE OCTOBER 24, 2021*  
**10:00AM - 3:00PM**  
**AT SOUTH AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL**

Come and touch, climb, and take pictures with your favorite trucks and vehicles. Enjoy the DJ, Live Music and Col. D.B. Kelly Pipes and Drums, 50/50, face painting and refreshments.

A great day for the whole family!

Donation: \$20/family, \$5/person  
 100% of the proceeds will go to the  
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## Historical Society of South Amboy Annual Cemetery Tour

**Christ Church Cemetery**  
S. Pine Avenue  
South Amboy, NJ

October 23, 2021  
3:30-5:00pm (tour every 30 minutes)

- Follow us on Facebook for more information and updates
- No rain date
- Wear comfortable shoes
- Event being held in conjunction with the City of South Amboy
- \$5 donation for admission



## South Amboy 911 Memorial Service

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



**NJ Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin**



**South Amboy Fire Chief Andrew Bielak**



**South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry**



**Phyllis Letteriello South Amboy Elks**



**SA Councilman Tom Reilly**



**Frank "Fran" Norek leads the crowd in the closing song, "God Bless America."**



**South Amboy Firefighters take a moment of silence to remember the victims of 911.**



**Girl Scouts carry a floral arrangement and flags, to be placed in front of the 911 memorial.**

## The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

### From The Sports Archives



1956-For a while back in the 1950's at St. Mary's HS, the senior athletes climbed aboard a pickup truck for what they called their "Last Ride." The Eagle athletes pictured in no particular order are Jimmy Higgins, Bob Kennedy, Joe Nehila, Frank Hackett, "Babe" Wojciechowski, Norm Laricy, Vic Norton, Frank Leonard, Tom McCarthy, Bill Dabney, Jim Scully, Bob Noble, Joe Matarangolo, John Thomas.

### Glory Days In Local Sports

1962-Undefeated St. Mary's won its ninth straight baseball game, smashing St. Rose of Belmar, 10-3, as winning pitcher Ray Riddell upped his record to (5-0). Joe Jankowski hammered 2 doubles and drove in 3, Frank Ruzsala unloaded a 3-run double, Tom Fitzmorris had a perfect 3-for-3 game, and Art O'Donnell added an RBI triple...1974-Sayreville nipped J.P. Stevens, 2-1 to cop an MCCBT quarterfinal victory. Winning pitcher Steve Makwinski fired a 4-hitter, and unloaded a 2-run homer to lead the Bombers...1983-Sayreville shutout Westfield, 3-0 in Field Hockey action. Terry Lockwood, Vanessa Carney and Kate Briody

scored a goal apiece, and goalie Joyce Winkler notched 5 saves for the shutout... 1997-South Amboy girls softball squad trounced Piscataway Tech, 30-11. Sue Rowley blasted a double and 2 home runs to drive in 5, Gina Rae Miller had 3 rbi, and winning pitcher Lily Munoz also knocked in 3...2002-South Amboy slammed Somerset Tech, 7-0 in boys soccer. Pablo Penagos blasted in 4 goals and added 3 assists, Chris DeLuca notched 3 goals and 2 assists, while Jared Gonsalves had 2 assists...2011-Cardinal McCarrick boys cross country team topped South River, 24-35. Julius Madden took 1st place, Juan Napoles 3rd, and Blaise Hode-5th place.

### South Amboy/Sayreville Pro Baseball Players

South Amboy and Sayreville have sent many players to play professional baseball. The following is a list of those who were talented enough to make it to pro ball:

#### Major League Baseball

**South Amboy**-Allie Clark, Ed O'Brien, John O'Brien, Jack McKeon, Tom Kelly.

**Sayreville**-Bob Dustal, Eddie "Buddy" Popowski, Kevin Mulvey, Brandon Bielak.

#### Minor Leagues

**South Amboy**-Murray Borland, Frank "Red" Cleary, Charles Dorman, Ed "Lefty" Jankowski, Andy Kane, Leo Kedzierski, John Kovaleski, Tom Malik, Bill "Biff" McKeon, Rudy Neumann Sr., Pete Pavich, Ken Rogers, Walt Rogers Jr., Walt Rogers Sr., John "Skeets" Skarzynski Sr., Ray Stockton Sr., Bill Stratton, Joe Tarallo, Tony Tarallo, Jack Zawacki, Ed "Lefty" Zebro, Frank "Box" Zebro.

**Sayreville**-Mike Cannon, Tom Cannon, Stan Jastrebski, Bob Keister, Charlie Kolakowski, Charlie Lynch, Walter Shinn, Jeff Toth, Bob "Whitey" Witkowski, Eddie (Wayne) Wlodarczyk, John Wojcik Sr.

### Locals Played At Different High Schools

Kevin Lawrence (Sayreville) was an All-Area 1st team pitcher in Home News Tribune in '96 for Bishop Ahr...Frank Kurzawa Jr. (South Amboy) played basketball for Oratory Prep...Glenn Gerding (South Amboy) was an outstanding baseball player for Cedar Ridge.

### Popowski Blasts 3 Homers

Sayreville's Mike Popowski blasted 3 home runs in 3 consecutive innings to propel Sayreville American Legion to a 21-5 romp over Clara Barton. Popowski blasted 2-run dingers in the first two innings, and a 3-run moonshot in the 3rd. He finished the night with an awesome 8 rbi's. Chris Spiewak notched the win as Sayreville improved to an excellent (14-5) record on the year.

### T.H.E. Game

Sport-Football  
Year-2003

Teams-Sayreville vs. Edison (Opening Game)

**Recap**-The Bombers destroyed Edison 35-0, and had plenty of offensive help from quarterback Mark Poore, who had 2 TD runs of 8 and 7 yards, Vinnie Otero also 2 TD runs of 13 and 3 yards, Keith Simpkins a 9-yard touchdown run, and Matt Kenny, who was a perfect 5-for-5 kicking extra points.

**Co-Players-of-the-Game**-Mark Poore and Vinnie Otero.

### Back In Those College Days

Al Waters III (St. Mary's) played baseball for Mount St. Mary's College back in the 1960's...Kevin Corrigan (Sayreville) pitched for Trenton State College (now the College of New Jersey) in the '70's

### 25 Years Ago

**1996-Diamondbacks Perfect Start At 11-0**

The South Amboy Diamondbacks Men's Over 30 Baseball Club ran their incredible winning streak to 11 straight without a setback. The South Amboy squad racked up win #10 by crushing the South Brunswick Athletics, 17-1. Billy Bright pitched 4 strong innings and went 4-for-4 at the plate with 3 rbi's. John 'Skeets' Skarzynski was 3 for 4 and drove in a run... The Diamondbacks notched their 11th win, belting the Braves of North Brunswick, 8-4. Robert Ruskuski pitched 7 innings and got the win. "Skeets" continued his torrid hitting going 2 for 3 with 3 rbi's. Brian Schafer stroked 2 hits...

Team Leaders (1st Half of Season) Avg. - Dennis Tapra .583, Billy Bright .527, Fred Aparicio .484. RBI- Skarzynski 15, Bright 14, Bill Tarallo 12. Hits - Bright 19, Skarzynski 18, Jim Stevens 18. Pitching Won-Lost-Tarallo 6-0, Rob Ruskuski 3-0, Skarzynski 1-0, Bright 1-0. Team Batting-.402. Team ERA -1.46.



### Name The Players Contest



Pictured are members of a legendary South Amboy Sabres Pop Warner football team. How many players can you name (You get 1 point for each correct name), and (3 points for the correct year). Put the players number and name, (such as #7-Joe Jones) and e-mail your answer to: satimes@aol.com by October 18th. Good luck!

### Diamond Dust

**1996**  
**Home News & Tribune**  
**Senior Baseball League**  
 Madison Park 6 Milltown 4-South Amboy resident Joe Tarallo blasted a 2-run homer.  
**Home News & Tribune**  
**Junior Baseball League**  
 Sayreville 14 South Amboy 0-Matt Rubio and Tom McCarthy both drilled 2 hits and drove in 3 runs apiece. Sanders was the winning pitcher with a beautiful 2-hitter. Edison Reds 13 South Amboy 0-Mike Florentino ripped a double for the locals.  
**1982**  
**South Amboy Little Fellas League**  
 K of C 9 Daylight Bakery 7-Bill Moskal blasted 2 home runs for the winners.

Lions 9 Enterprise 7-Robby Santucci unloaded a 3-run homer to win the game.  
**1979**  
**South Amboy Little Fellas League**  
 First Aid 5 Progressive 1-Winning pitcher Steve Humphreys struck out 14. Enterprise 7 Rotary 6-Joe Blaha hammered his 4th and 5th home runs of the season.  
**1969**  
**South Amboy Babe Ruth League**  
 Sacred Heart CYO 14 Mechanicsville 1-Winning pitcher George Olszewski struck out 9, and Dave Wisniewski stroked 3 singles. Komars 10 Independence 3-Charlie Steuber was the winning pitcher, and Doug Buckalew ripped a double and triple to drive in 2 runs.

### 25 Years Ago

**1996**-St. Mary's (10-0) girls soccer club defeated South Amboy (10-1), by a score of 3-0. The talented teams battled to a scoreless tie at halftime, but the Lady Eagles got goals from Nicole Montanile, Jen Van Assen, and Melissa Furey to capture the big victory.

### 70 Years Ago

**1951**-St. Mary's was trailing Hoffman, 6-0 after 2 innings, but battled back to capture a 10-7 City Series victory over their crosstown rivals. George Spiecker and John Stefanski each belted a single and triple, and Ed Downs was the winning pitcher.

### Opening Game Of Football

**1928**-St. Mary's battled Metuchen for 3 quarters of scoreless football, but in the final stanza, Johnny Grimes connected on a 40-yard scoring strike to Ed Carroll, as the Saints won the season opener, 6-0. St. Mary's lineup was as follows: Ed Carroll lb, Walling It, Reese lg, Joe McGonigle c, Chris Grimley rg, Formica rt, Lou Lagoda re, Joe Wallis qb, Johnny Grimes lhb, Connie Doukas rhb, Hen Vel Camp ob.

### 85 Years Ago

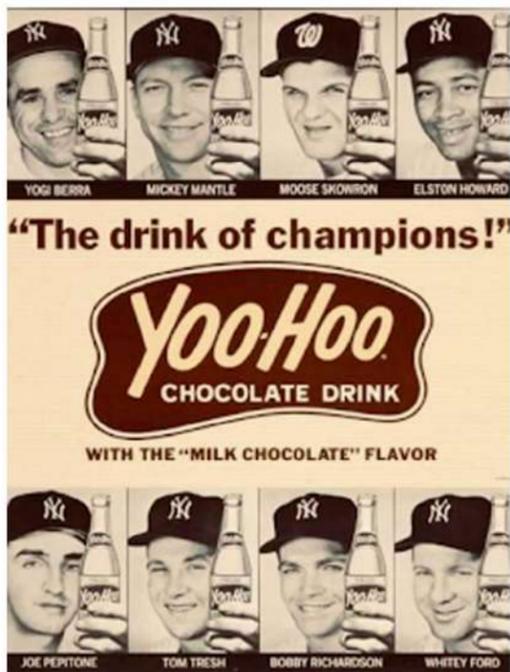
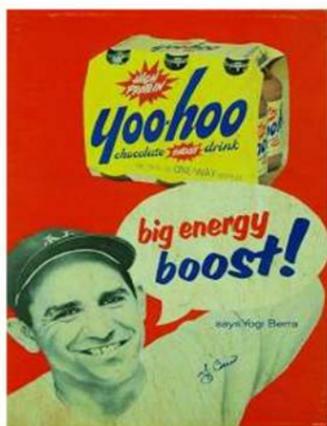
**1936**-Bill Stratton of St. Mary's fired a brilliant 9 inning no-hitter and struck out 17, as the Eagles blasted Good Counsel, 13-0. Potthoff got 3 hits, catcher Woodrow "Woody" McCarthy had 2 doubles, and right fielder Al Gomolka also ripped 2 doubles.

### South Amboy Sabres First Roster

The South Amboy Sabres Pop Warner football team played its first season in 1962. The Head Coach was Russ Hahn. The premier roster consisted of: Fran Chonsky, Norman Kilcomons, Bruce Buckiewicz, Mark Norek, Frank Dombrowski, Marty O'Connor, Neil O'Connor, Fred Poli, Dennis Nardone, Pat Harland, Bob Eginton, Tom Kelly, George Beck, Robert Rhen, Jim McCoy, Pat McDonough, Bob Coakley, Mike DeLucia, Joe DeLucia, Al Gomolka, Bob Eichele, Bill Eichele, Tom Downs, Ray Downs, Clem Skarzynski, Brian Kelly, Ed Buckalew, Al Clark Jr., Mike Powers, Tom Smith, Don Szatkowski.

\*Note: SA Times feature writer Clem Skarzynski scored the Sabres first touchdown in history!

### Classic Ads



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 Join us Monday, September 27th  
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 Hear stories read in English & Spanish.  
 Traditional Hispanic Music, crafts,  
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 Stop in and help decorate the Frida Kahlo mural all month long!  
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## City of South Amboy Fall City Wide Yard Sale

Saturday, October 9th  
 Sunday, October 10th  
 8AM - 4PM

ALL SOUTH AMBOY RESIDENTS CAN PARTICIPATE AT NO COST. IF INTERESTED - SELLERS CAN REGISTER THEIR ADDRESS FOR A LIST THAT WILL BE AVAILIABLE TO PROSPECTIVE SHOPPERS.  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1ST**  
 TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT  
 JACLYN AT (732) 525-5965 OR  
 RECREATION@SOUTHAMBOYNJ.GOV

### South Amboy "Drive-Up" Rabies Clinic for Dogs & Cats

**Date:** Saturday October 16, 2021  
**Hours:** 9am-12pm  
**Location:** Enterprise Snorkel Co. Firehouse  
 107 George St. South Amboy, NJ 08879  
**For more information please contact:**  
 Deborah Brooks:  
 brooksd@southamboynj.gov  
 732-525-5920 or 732-525-5941

-Upon arrival, please stay in the car and you will be provided with directions.

## School Sports

By Tom Burkard  
Boys Soccer

**Sayreville (1-1)** The Bombers won their opener over St. Joseph's of Metuchen, 2-1. The winning goal was scored with 5 minutes left, despite playing the final 30 minutes with one man down...North Brunswick throttled the Sayreville squad, 7-2, despite a goal apiece from Kevin Appau and John Kovalchuk.

Girls Soccer

**Sayreville (0-3)** In a 6-3 loss to North Brunswick, Adrianna Westcott, Leila Stevenson, and Alysa Marley each scored a goal, while Abigail Mayer notched an assist... After being shut out by Woodbridge, 4-0, the locals bowed to Colonia, 5-1, despite a goal by Westcott, and assist by Abena Frispomaa.

## Sayreville Drops First Two Games

Week #1-The Sayreville Bombers football team dropped its opening game, 17-14, to Bridgewater-Raritan on a 21-yard field goal with 0:01 remaining in the game. The Bombers scored the first touchdown of the season on a 36-yard scoring strike from Tim Mayer to Shawn Sparrow, and later came back to tie it with 7 minutes left in the final quarter, when sophomore Zaimer Wright broke loose for a 9-yard TD run...Week #2-The Bombers went up against the #1 team in the county, Woodbridge, and fell, 42-28, but gave the Barrons a tough game, and kept the score tied at 28-28 in the third quarter. The Sayreville contingent showed plenty of signs for turning the young season around.



## College Notebook



South Amboy native Nick Krimin warms up before the September 11 game at the Syracuse Carrier Dome. Nick, the Scarlet Knights starting center, helped lead the team to a 17-7 victory over the Orange, and start the season with a 2-0 record. (Photo/info submitted)

## Big League Watch

Sayreville's Brandon Bielak has been outstanding in relief for the Houston Astros (MLB) team since his recall from the Astros' Sugar Land Skeeters AAA minor league team. In his last 3 appearances, he has held opponents scoreless in 6.2 innings, and in a 3-inning outing against Seattle, he picked up his first Major League save, by getting the Mariners to hit into 3 double plays, in addition to striking out 3.

Bielak is currently (3-3), with a 4.47 ERA, and in 44.1 innings pitched, has struck out 37 batters.

## The Smoke Column

By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski, BA. MS.

One of the most important skills of a seasoned firefighter is being a mentor to new firefighter recruits. As a mentor, you must have patience and understanding. Mentoring has become one of the most underrated and forgotten skills in the fire service. New recruits are sent to fire academies to learn the basics of the fire service. Unfortunately, that is all they are learning, "the basics." It is important that they learn as much about their own fire company/department because after fire school, that is where they will perform their duties. Recruits entering the fire service usually have no idea of the skills veteran firefighters take for granted. As a mentor, you must wear a variety of hats if you are to do your job correctly. Listening, teaching, passion, patience, and understanding are just a few.

Remember the time you went on your first driving lesson with one of your parents? Was there any hollering as to the way you were driving the car? Were the imprints of your parent's hands left in the dashboard when you were done?

Teaching recruits can be similar. It is not easy to teach someone the dangerous task of firefighting, a task that could get them killed. When mentoring a recruit, the priority to instill in them is safety, their safety, and the safety of those around them. If they get hurt at the scene of an incident, it takes other firefighters away from their assignment to rescue them. This may lead to the threat of the incident increasing and place others in danger.

Mentoring a recruit takes patience because many recruits have never seen the inside compartments of a fire engine, or the tools and equipment carried on board. It is difficult to teach a recruit how to use

a powered saw to cut a hole in a roof when they never had to start a gas-powered engine like a lawn mower. There are cases where a recruit was asked, "didn't you ever start a lawn mower to mow the grass?" Their answer was, "no, the landscaper came in to cut the grass."

This is the way it is in 2021. Recruits have not had the opportunities available to veteran firefighters when they were growing up. Back in the 50's, 60's 70's kids were always using some type of tools, cutting the grass and getting those experiences. Sometimes the mentor takes for granted what these recruits should already know. The task of mentoring these recruits takes patience and understanding. It is understanding where these young people are coming from and the social climate they grew up in that the mentor must accept. Many recruits are like sponges and want to absorb as much information as possible. Occasionally, there is someone who has difficulty understanding and learning the ins-and-outs of the fire service. This is where a good mentor is needed and can make the difference. Recruits are sent to fire academies to learn the basics of firefighting, but only the basics. It is back at their firehouses working with veteran firefighters where they learn the most. But to do so, there needs to be a mentoring system in place. Sure, not everyone is cut out to mentor others, and we understand that. It is the person with the patience and understanding that makes a great firehouse mentor. You will see that person teaching and showing a recruit how to perform various tasks not only at the firehouse but at the scene of an incident. These mentors are some of the most important people in your firehouse and should be recognized for teaching the firefighters of the future.



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PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT:

# SAYREVILLE B.I.C.

# Sayreville 911 Memorial Service

(Photos/Info Rich Kosmoski)



Memorial wreaths placed at the Sayreville 911 Memorial in tribute to those who perished in 911.



Members of the Sayreville Fire Department participate in the Sayreville 911 Services.



Combined first responders from throughout the Borough of Sayreville placed memorial wreaths at the 911 Memorial.



Post Commander Joel Bloom plays Taps during the Sayreville 911 services.



South Amboy Fire Dept. Chaplain Father Stanley Gromadzki getting Engine 10 ready for the parade in Wildwood. (Photo Submitted)

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 The South Amboy, Sayreville  
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 Call Tom at 732-425-5850 or email [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com)

## WWW.?

By Tom Burkard

### WWW.? Winners August

The following correctly identified our Mystery Photo for August as Terry's Garage in South Amboy. Congrats to the following: Leon Credico, James Creed, Jessica Lopez, Dennis Quinlan, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Eleanore Westerholm, Joanne Niestempski, Joan Gorczyca, MaryBeth Chodkiewicz, Mary Agnes Morris, Jim Sissick & Debbie Scarfi, Edna Pilch, Marie English and Ed English, Betty Leveille, Pat & Bill Scully, Joan Fulham, Pete McIntyre, Steve Laskiewicz, Barb Bockus, Jack Piskorski, Keith Piskorski & Lorraine Krauss, Lisa Grankowski, Lynn Loy, Steve Villig, Dane Colburn.

\*We inadvertently missed Joan Fulham in our July contest. Sorry Joan.



This should be an easy pic to identify for all of our local WWW.? experts. The business shown is located in either Sayreville or South Amboy. Send your answers in by Oct. 18th to: [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com). Good luck! (Photo by Tom Burkard)



July WWW Terry's Garage, South Amboy

We would love to hear from you!



### Catholic War Veterans Raffle

Catholic War Veterans, Post 578, South Amboy is now selling their 2022 CWV National Cash Calendar raffle. The calendar cost is \$25, and there will be 365 winners. Weekday cash winning amount \$25, weekend winning amount \$100. There will be 14 additional special amounts \$150, \$500, and the big one \$1,000. Calendars are now

available and will be through October 31, 2021. If interested in purchasing a calendar, please contact Commander Frank Sullivan, 440-876-7140. On Saturday October 16, 2021, 3-7 p.m., and Sunday October 17, 2021, 6 AM till 2 PM. The calendars will be available in front of Sacred Heart Memorial Hall, Washington Avenue, South Amboy.



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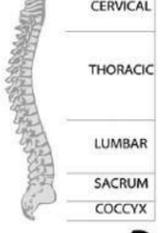
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**The Burden of Childhood Backpacks**

Some kids may feel they carry the weight of the world on their shoulders. Considering the load many are carrying, that's almost true! They are stuffed with textbooks, notebooks, papers, pencils, CD players and anything else they can think of.

After observing the children and speaking to other parents and teachers, I learned that "pack mulling" was not unusual for children in elementary and high school. With over 30 percent of school-aged children reporting frequent backaches, it has become increasingly important to select the correct pack and how to use it.

Here are some suggestions when selecting a backpack:

- 1) Adjustable, wide and padded straps;
- 2) Think padding in the area that rests against the back
- 3) Several compartments to avoid shifting contents.

The American Chiropractic Association recommends the following:

60 lb. person	5 lb. backpack
61-75 lb. person	10 lb. backpack
100 lb. person	15 lb. backpack

As a general rule, backpacks should not exceed ten percent of your child's body weight, nor should a pack exceed fifteen percent of an adult's weight.

Books should be separated into several compartments and heavy items should be placed closer to the back. Be sure to place pointed or sharp items away from the back.

Backpacks should be worn as close to your child's body as possible, especially when walking to and from school. One strap should be worn on each shoulder so that the weight is balanced evenly across the back.

Straps should be adjusted so that the backpack rests on the hips and pelvis with less strain on the back muscles. If the backpack has a waist belt, it should be fastened to ease neck and shoulder stress.

As always, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure! Following these simple steps will ease the stress placed on your child's spine and prevent future problems.

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**Mother and Father**

By Al Gomolka, Jr.  
Times Poet Laureate  
c. 1992

Mother -  
life, love  
Heart  
of the family  
The most beautiful  
word  
Father  
- life, love  
Head  
of the family  
The most beautiful  
word  
Mother and Father  
With respect  
You are equally  
God's Importance  
The head  
cannot work  
without the  
heart  
The heart  
cannot work  
without the head  
Mother and Father  
The most beautiful  
words.

## LETTERS

Dear Al Gomolka,

I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for the wonderful tribute to John Kaboski.

John was very dear to all of us, and you brought back some sweet memories. We are all very appreciative, and wanted to say thank you for your thoughtfulness. All the very best,

**Lori (Hann) Rogich**

**On behalf of: my Mom, Marian Kaboski,  
and my sister, Beth (Kaboski) Cahill.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Hi,

I recently found a copy of last October's SA Times and happened to see Jesse Selover School Song submitted by Linnea Friberg Stevenson. That really sent me back in time.

I remember Margaret (Kerwin) Abbatiello, wife of then principal of Jesse Selover-later School Superintendent Vincent Abbatiello-composed that song. My Aunt Margaret performed it for our family in our Morgan living room on my piano.

Margaret and Vince were South Amboy natives. I was so lucky to hear all kinds of town stories from them when I was a child. They were both sensational storytellers which was an art form back then.

Though not an aunt through blood, but certainly through deep affection, Margaret Kerwin was an amazingly gifted pianist and also church organist at Saint Mary's in South Amboy. She was one of a kind.

I'm not sure why she didn't put her name to the song but I guess the old saying holds true . . . "anonymous was a woman."

**Jesse Selover School Song**

**Raise your voices, children let's give praise,**

**Praise to our Jesse Selover School.**

**Proudly it stands beneath the sun's warm rays,**

**As we children learn the Golden Rule.**

**Love for our country tells the story.**

**Star Spangled Banner waves in glory.**

**(sung slowly and with great reverence)**

**-God watch o'er us-Help us each day**

**(now dramatically up-tempo and energetic)**

**-In Jesse Selover School!**

Thanks to S.A. Times and Linnea for bringing back those warm memories!

**Karen Palma**



## Phi Theta Kappa Members Receive Grant For Their 'Honors in Action' Research

(Article submitted)

The Middlesex College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa – Upsilon Gamma – has been selected to receive an Honors in Action grant in the amount of \$1,000 to enhance its 2021 Honors in Action (HIA) project.

HIA is a program that combines academic research, problem solving and service to address real-world challenges in communities. Participating students gain job-related experiences while helping to create impact in their communities as they engage in their HIA activities.

For participating members, the ability to conduct and utilize research and apply it to service improves by leaps and bounds, according to Charlotte Quigley, director of Civic Engagement and Community Partnerships at Middlesex College and lead advisor for Phi Theta Kappa/Upsilon Gamma Chapter.

What's more, she says, their HIA experience leaves a lasting impact on their leadership skills.

"It's closing the loop in what they learn academically and then applying it to be able to really have an impact on their community. I think it's eye-opening in many ways in understanding that what you're doing is beyond you – academically and then making change in the communities that we serve and the communities that we're part of," she said.

The grant funds will support PTK students in conducting the research and service components of the project, and can be used in a variety of ways, such as to help pay for training, supplies or a guest speaker.

"Every two to three years, Phi Theta Kappa issues a wide variety of topics, identifying 10 themes. You pick within those themes and then drill down to arrive at a research project that involves service within that theme," Quigley explained.

At Middlesex College, past HIA research projects include a focus on mental health disparities within the Perth Amboy area, reducing individual carbon footprint, and support for STEM education for elementary students.

The focus of this year's HIA research project will be on challenges facing students who are parents of young children. Nathalia Allenza, PTK vice president of HIA at the College, elaborated on the difficulties student-parents like herself face while attending school.

"I have a baby who is 18 months old, but I can't rely on the child care center on campus because she's not of age. I want to be active on campus but it's hard because I don't have childcare. We would like to have a space on campus so parents don't feel that they cannot engage in more college activities because they have children," Allenza explained.

The grant is a first for the Middlesex College chapter, which has participated in HIA for the past six consecutive years.

It was thanks, in large part, to a strong application submitted by Allenza and the other members of the HIA team, Joysleen Morales and Kimberly Garcia, as well as faculty members Cristobal Espinoza-Wulach and Crystal Quillen, who helped refine the topic and ground the research question.

"We so appreciate your willingness to go above and beyond with your Phi Theta Kappa engagement to apply for the grant and are proud of the work you do at your college and in your community with your participation in a robust Honors in Action project. We can't wait to hear and read about your Honors in Action adventures as you move forward," Susan Edwards, associate vice president of Honors Programming and Undergraduate Research for Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, told the Middlesex College HIA team in her announcement of the award.



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## Where In NJ?



Does this Church look familiar? Send your answers to satimes@aol.com by October 18th.

## Where in NJ?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

The photo last month was taken at the 2021 Middlesex County Fair. The following correctly identified it: Laurie & Gary Loftus, Edna Pilch, Marie English and Ed English, Betty Leveille, Pat & Bill Scully, Eleanore Westerholm, Dane Colburn, Lorraine Kost.

Some incorrect answers were: St. Stan's Carnival, Carnival at Kennedy Park.

There is always something for everyone at the Middlesex County Fair. This year it was held on August 1st to August 8th. The Middlesex County Fair has a long history of providing fair visitors with access to a wide variety of

concessions, vendors and exhibits.

Some of the concessions we tried included: waffles, frozen cheesecake on a stick, specialty flavored sodas, gyros, and barbeque. We also found vendors for home improvement contractors, kitchen tools and insurance.

Of course it wouldn't be a trip to the fair if we didn't see the animals, petting zoo and the 4H entries. I just love the handmade arts. So many talented people.

The different musical acts, dance teams and performers provided something for everyone. My grandchildren really appreciated the magic show.



2021 Middlesex County Fair.



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**Fishing Flashes**

By Teo "Weebles" Weber



**Salt Water**

Fluke fishing remains good especially in the Barnegat and LBI areas. There are a good number of keepers being caught up to 9 pounds. The ocean areas are also producing Fluke and some are up to 10 pounds. Fluke season closes September 19th. In Raritan Bay it's still mostly short Fluke but there are still some keepers out there. Party boat Bluefishing got better. It's mostly jig fishing with fish going up to 10 pounds. Chub Mackerel are sometimes caught on these trips. In Raritan Bay, however, beach fishing is slow. Only a few small Bluefish have appeared. The few times I checked the Cliffwood Beach and Morgan areas, I didn't see much caught. Surf fishing to our south at LBI is small Bluefish, Kingfish, some of these are quite large. Among these are the usual junk fish-Skates, Rays and Dogfish. Blowfish are all over the bay areas there. Barnegat Inlet areas have produced many Semi-Tropical fish such as Ribbonfish and other species of southern fish. George Hanakis owner of the Coney Island Restaurant in Perth Amboy caught a new State record, a 24 pound Blueline Tilefish on an offshore trip.

**Fresh Water**

Hurricane Ida has put a stop on most fishing. Your best bet might be to fish smaller lakes when the water level drops. The Delaware River is impossible to fish as of now. Most of the rivers I saw in my travels were high and off color. Fall Trout stocking begins the second week of October.



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**Gone Fishin'**



Dennis Poulson of South Amboy is a happy fisherman, as he just pulled in this 1 1/2 pound Largemouth Bass at Kennedy Park in Sayreville. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

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**Friends of the Sayreville Public Library**  
(Article submitted)

"Boscov's 25% Off Shopping Discount" Wednesday, October 20th, 8:00am - 11:00pm, Location: Boscov's (Woodbridge Center or Eatontown) Friends Helping Friends Fundraiser.

\$5 Pass for 25% Discount at Boscov's (off most purchases). The \$5 is donated right back to Friends of the Sayreville Public Library. Select our charity at the register in-store during checkout. Passes may be purchased at the Library or at Boscov's the day of the event.

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## Friends of the Sayreville Public Library Book Sale

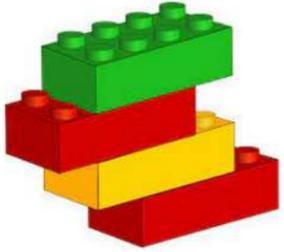
(Article submitted)

Saturday & Sunday, October 16th & 17th, 1:00pm-3:30pm. Changes implemented to keep within the guidelines of safe social distancing ONLY \$10 for a bag of books or \$15 for a box of books. Must use bags and boxes provided. Also, donated gifts will be priced to sell/ Sayreville Public School Teachers free of charge, with proper ID. Location: Sayreville Free Public Library.



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# Birthday Aurora



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**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.

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

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

**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.

**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. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. By the eighth day your prayer will be answered. Original sentence to end it: It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you, St. Jude D.P.R..

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

## Aberdeen Day

(Photos by Tom Burkard)

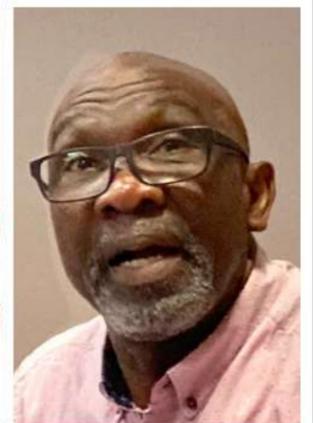
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# ST STANS SCHOOL

(Phoos/Info Submitted)



**Mrs. Lori Hodder, principal at St. Stan's School, welcomes the students and families on the first day of school.**



**Eighth grade students pose with their constructed spaghetti and marshmallow tower during STEM class at St. Stan's School. Pictured from left to right: Matthew Salgado, Michael Krupinski, and Kurt Vranica.**



**Third grade student, Vanessa Girard, receives Holy Communion from Bishop James F. Checchio during his visit to St. Stanislaus Kostka Church on September 12, 2021. (Photo by Ron Madeira)**



**St. Stan's Kindergarten student, Noah Poulsen, demonstrates his knowledge of the alphabet on his first day of school. (Photo by Catherine Mundy)**



**Third grade students help bring in clothing and sneaker donations into the school for their recent drive. (Photo by Lisa Grover)**

## Middlesex County Office of Health Services Rabies Advisory - (Article submitted)

The Middlesex County Office of Health Services is reporting that a skunk tested positive for rabies in the Township of Plainsboro, Middlesex County, in the vicinity of Mershon Lane and Gulick Lane.

This is the fourth rabid animal reported within Middlesex County for 2021 and the second rabid animal in Plainsboro.

On Monday, September 13, 2021 a resident of Plainsboro let their pet dogs into the yard, and the dogs attacked the skunk. The animal was picked up by the Animal Control Officer and was then taken to the New Jersey Department of Health Laboratory for testing. It was reported on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 that the animal tested positive for rabies. There was no human exposure and two domestic animal exposures. The resident has scheduled their pets for follow-up treatment.

The Middlesex County Office of Health Services continues to monitor rabies cases within the municipality. Residents should report wild animals showing signs of unusual behavior to the Police Department. Additionally, it is recommended that residents should avoid contact with wild animals and immediately report any bites from wild or domestic animals to your local health department and consult a physician as soon as possible. Finally, be sure that all family pets are up to date on their rabies vaccinations.

Rabies is caused by a virus which can infect all warm-blooded mammals, including man. The rabies virus is found in the saliva of a rabid animal and is transmitted by bite, or possibly by contamination of an open cut. New Jersey is enzootic for raccoon and bat variants of rabies. Bats, skunks, groundhogs, foxes, cats and dogs represent about 95 percent of animals diagnosed with rabies in the United States.

### Rabies Prevention Guidelines

The Middlesex County Office of Health Services is advising residents to follow these guidelines to prevent rabies from being

transmitted to themselves or their pets:

1. Immediately report a bite from a wild or domestic animal to your local health department. Wash animal bite wounds thoroughly with soap and water as soon as possible after the bite. Contamination of open cuts and scratches with saliva of potentially rabid animals should also be washed off immediately. Consult a physician as soon as possible.
2. Immediately report any wild animals showing signs of unusual behavior. Signs of unusual animal behavior could be that the animal may:
  - Move slowly
  - May act as if tame
  - Appear sick
  - Have problems swallowing
  - Have an increase in saliva
  - Have increased drooling
  - Act aggressive
  - Have difficulty moving
  - Have paralysis
  - Bite at everything if excited

Residents should avoid any contact with the animal and call your local animal control officer or local police department

3. Be sure that all family pets are up to date on their rabies vaccination. If unsure, please call your veterinarian. Call your local health department for free rabies vaccination clinic availability.
4. Animal proof your home and yard. Make sure all garbage containers have tight fitting lids, do not leave pet food or water outside, do not allow rainwater to collect in outdoor containers or equipment and keep yard free of garbage and debris.
5. Do not feed or handle wild animals.
6. Avoid contact with stray animals or pets other than your own.
7. Try to prevent your pets from coming into contact with wild animals.
8. Screen off vents to attics and other areas that could provide shelter for bats

## Intel Expands Its AI for Workforce Program to Include Middlesex College

(Article submitted)

Intel, one of the largest semiconductor makers in the world, is expanding its Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Workforce Program and partnering with Middlesex College along with 18 community colleges across the country in 11 states, including Arizona, California, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin. This expansion will enable hundreds of thousands of students to land careers in high-tech, healthcare, automotive, industrial and aerospace fields.

"This partnership with Intel underscores Middlesex College's commitment to prepare students for high-skilled jobs that are in demand and have high growth potential. There is no better partner than Intel in training the next generation of AI technology workers. We are excited to have their expertise and resources in helping to develop a workforce that will be critical to our local and national economy," said Middlesex College President Mark McCormick.

Spanning the 18 participating community colleges, including Middlesex College, the program is available to more than 800,000 students nationwide. According to Linda Scherr, vice president of academic affairs at Middlesex College, Intel's AI content will be infused in the curricula for students in business and computer-science related fields.

Middlesex College's implementation of Intel's AI for Workforce Program is the latest example of the College's strong record of working with industry partners in establishing career pathways to high-paying jobs for students from diverse communities.

Community colleges offer the opportunity to democratize AI technology since they attract a diverse array of students with various backgrounds and expertise. The expansion of the program will provide access and opportunities to a broad group of students in these fields, including those in underrepresented and underserved communities and offer the technological skills

needed for the job market. Students will learn traditional skills, such as data collection, AI model training, and coding. Additionally, students will explore the societal impact of AI technology and develop a social impact of AI projects, working closely with faculty and mentors from Intel.

In a 2021 co-branded Dell and Intel survey, AI and machine learning are the areas of study most anticipated to increase in demand over the next three years. According to the same survey, AI skills were the second most in-demand skill behind cybersecurity. Furthermore, 69% of respondents indicated employer demand for AI technical skills increasing, with 73% expecting AI literacy skills to become more in-demand by employers.

In 2020, Intel launched its AI for Workforce Program, first piloted by Arizona's Maricopa County Community College District, to provide AI content to community colleges across the nation. Now Middlesex College is a part of the larger program that includes hands-on programming, and expanded access to technology skills needed for current and future jobs.

The College's Business and Computer Science Department has been working directly with the team from Intel since Spring 2021. The faculty have already received training and are working on developing a curriculum to prepare for the first cohort of students for a certificate program in Fall 2022.

"As AI and machine learning takes over, I cannot stress enough how much I look forward to the launch of this program which will give us an opportunity to make AI and machine learning knowledge and skills accessible for a larger population at a lower cost and high quality," said Dr. Aslihan Cakmak, chair of business and computer science at Middlesex College.



**In Memoriam**

Margaret Leusenring, 94, of South Amboy died on July 30. Before retiring, she was employed by the Edison Board of Education as Principal of Menlo Park School. John Brusich Jr., 66, of Sayreville died on Aug. 18. He was a Past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Post 2061, also a Fourth Degree Knight, and a member of American Legion Post 211. Beverly Fitzgerald, 82, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 25. She worked as a Real Estate broker for Century 21 in Sayreville. Carole Conroy, 89, of Parlin died on Sept. 3. She was an elementary school teacher for over 20 years in Sayreville, and taught 2nd grade at Emma Arleth and Eisenhower Schools. Following retirement, she was a regular volunteer at the Sayreville Food Bank, and also the Sayreville Public Library. Thomas "Tom" Marcinczyk, 63, of Sayreville died on Sept. 10. He was the owner of Floralscapes in Parlin for many years, and prior to that was a Borough of Sayreville Police Dispatcher for 20 years. Tom also served as an elected Borough of Sayreville Councilman.



**Mary Beth Mueller**

Mary Beth Mueller, age 67, of Sayreville, passed away on Friday August 27, 2021 at home with her loving husband and son, along with her two brothers and sister by her side. Born in Ridgewood Mary Beth grew up in Paramus before moving to Sayreville where she and her husband Dave started their family. Before Mrs. Mueller's passing, she worked for Dr. Hriso as an administrative secretary. Mary Beth was a communicant of Our Lady of Victories Church as well as a member of OLV's Right to Life Group. Mary Beth was a loving wife, mother, sister, aunt, friend and so much more. She will be missed by all who had the honor of knowing her.

She is predeceased by her parents George & Rose Sargia as well as her mother & father-in-law Ruth Mueller & Julian Ciecko. Surviving is beloved husband Dave of 36 years as well as her much loved son Danny, her siblings Jane Ann Sargia, George Sargia & Paul Sargia, her sister-in-law Donna Cannon, her adored cats Audrey, Murce, Bandit & Jennie, her best friends Sue & Doug MacAulay, Theresa Flannery, Matt & Sharon Cotter, Dennis & Mary Cashin, Kevin Crowe, Robin & John Koffler, Jennifer & Anthony, all of her Zumba friends and many loving nephews, cousins, friends and neighbors.

Funeral services were held from the Carmen F. Spezzi Funeral Home 15 Cherry Lane Parlin, followed by a mass at Our Lady of Victories Church in Sayreville. The burial followed at New Calvary Cemetery in Parlin, NJ.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Mary Beth's name to the Susan B. Komen Foundation 13770 Noel Road, Suite 801889, Dallas, TX 75380.

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



**Obituaries**

Brusich, John H. Jr., 66, of Sayreville died on Aug. 18.

Buckalew, Marion "Maz" Cottrell Bednar, 89, of Morgan died on Aug. 8.

Burlett, Mary, 83, of Sayreville died on Aug. 17.

Cacace, Olga, 88, of Parlin died on Aug. 30.

Conroy, Carole J., 89, of Parlin died on Sept. 3.

Dowling, Francesca Lee, 38, of Sayreville died on Aug. 18.

Dzioba, Zofia, 96, of South Amboy died on Aug. 17.

Fitzgerald, Beverly A., 82, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 25.

Hager, Beatrice G., 97, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 13.

Hessner, Dorothy, 91, formerly of South Amboy died on Sept. 13.

Howden, Robert N., 75, of South Amboy died on Aug. 22.

Jorgenson, Irene, 93, formerly of Sayreville died on Sept. 10.

Leusenring, Margaret M., 94, of South Amboy died on July 30.

Malek, Pamela, 65, of Sayreville died on Sept. 4.

Marcinczyk, Thomas M., 63, of Sayreville died on Sept. 10.

Marfrici, Thomas "Masi", 97, of Sayreville died on Aug. 21.

Martin, Mary T., 90, of Parlin died on Aug. 23.

Mueller, Mary Beth, 67, of Sayreville died on Aug. 27.

Munker, Edna, 96, of Sayreville died on Sept. 9.

Niedzialek, Andrew "AJ," 32, of Sayreville died on Aug. 16.

O'Hara, Thomas J., 88, of Parlin died on Sept. 9.

Osolinski, Courtney L., 33, of Sayreville died on Sept. 1.

Reidmiller, Leonard, 39, of Sayreville died on Aug. 19.

Rhaesa, Roger B., 57, formerly of Sayreville died on Sept. 5.

Urbanik, Jean, 73, of South Amboy died on Aug. 29.

Ust, Josephine Chrzan, 90, of Sayreville died on Sept. 16.

Waxmundsky, Patricia, 70, of Parlin died on Sept. 15.

Zupko, Maryann, 62, of Parlin died on Sept. 3.



**John Kover**

John Kover, 93, of Sayreville died on Saturday September 11, 2021 at CareOne at Holmdel. Born in South Amboy, he was employed by Hercules in Sayreville, and the Raritan Diner. He enjoyed cooking and polka dancing.

Son of the late Emery James and Mary Horvath Kover he is also predeceased by his wife Frances Meisner Sekerak Kover in 2015. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law Robert and Maureen Sekerak of South Amboy; his daughter and son-in-law Donna and Michael Mastorio of Sayreville; his grandchildren Rob Sekerak and his wife Joann, Mike Sekerak and his wife Alisha, Michael Mastorio, Kevin Mastorio and his wife Stephanie and Samantha Derelanko and her husband Kevin and his great-grandchildren Taylor, Jordan, Julie, Ava, Ella and Hailey. Funeral services were private under the direction of The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy.

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



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