

The South Amboy/ Sayreville

Serving The Bayshore Area

#### The "Good News" Newspaper August 29, 2015 0

# **Charmello Takes New Post**

Woodbridge Councilwoman Michele Charmello, formerly of South Amboy, recently resigned from the Woodbridge Town Council to take a position working with an educational non-profit in Pittsburgh, PA. Michele represented the 3rd Ward sections of Avenel and Port Reading, and served as Council President. Best of luck always, Michele!

# Former Councilman O'Brien Remembered

By Tom Burkard

Thomas O'Brien, who served the city of South Amboy for many years as Councilman-At-Large, City Council President, Board of Education member, and also sat on the Planning Board, passed away at age 94 on July 18, at his son's home in Florida, where he resided.

O'Brien served in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve during WW II, and went on to work for 45 years at Hercules Powder Company in Parlin, where he successfully rose through the ranks to Lab Foreman.

In addition to politics, "Tom" was involved in many other community groups and organizations including the South Amboy Boat Club, where he was elected Commodore, and was also a member of the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426, and a life member of BPOE.

Tom O'Brien was a very dedicated and hard-working man who truly loved South Amboy, and always looked out for its residents. He was always there to lend a helping hand. This fine gentleman, touched many lives along the highway of life, and will always be remembered. God Bless Tom!

#### **Former Commander Welsh Dies** By Tom Burkard

William "Bill" Welsh Jr., who was past Commander of the DAV Benyei-Connors Chapter 67, died on July 26 at age 72. Bill was an active member of many other veterans groups and organizations, and was always in charge of, and helping them out with fundraisers. He also served as an usher occasionally at St. Mary's Church. Bill was proud to serve his nation during the Vietnam Era, and was a true All-American, who was with the U.S. Navy Seabees, U.S. Naval Construction Force. May God Bless Bill!



Troop 91's newest Eagle Scouts Thomas E. Lukie (1) and Anthony J. Lavigne (r) celebrate at Camp Dill in Clinton Township, NJ. (Photo/Story Submitted)

# LaVigne, Lukie Become Eagle Scouts

Troop 91 Scouts Anthony J. Lavigne and Thomas E. Lukie were presented their Eagle Scout awards in a Court of Honor conducted at Camp Dill in Clinton Township, NJ on Sunday, July 12, 2015. Both of the South Amboy residents were honored in front of their families, friends and Scouting peers.

Anthony is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Darren Lavigne and is a 2014 graduate of Saint John Vianney High School in Holmdel, NJ, currently attending Rowan University. Thomas is the son of Mr. & Mrs. John Lukie and is a 2015 graduate of South Amboy High School, currently attending Penn State University. Both Scouts have been members of Troop 91 since 2007.

Obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout is the highest honor that a Scout can earn and only approximately 2% of registered Scouts actually achieve the honor. Requirements are extensive and include obtaining numerous Scouting skills through the Merit Badge program; demonstration of extensive service to the Troop and the community; and the successful completion of a Service Project

that must benefit their community.

**Don't Miss Our 6th Annual** 

Favorite Pooch Contest See Page 12

Anthony's project was to build 12 wooden road block barriers for the South Amboy Police Department. These were in short supply during "Super storm" Sandy and were much needed by the department. Thomas' project was to paint the basement of the South Amboy First Aid Squad building, in addition to patching, caulking and painting significant portions of the building's exterior. Both Scouts assumed complete project management responsibility for the projects, including materials acquisition, soliciting and organizing the necessary manpower, and on-site management of the project's completion.

Troop 91 is one of the oldest Boy Scout troops in the country and will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in May of 2016. Any boys between the ages of 11 and 18 interested in joining can attend a weekly meeting on Monday nights at 7:30 PM at the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy on Broadway.

# Vol. 24 Issue 11

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# SAFD 125th Anniversary

The South Amboy Fire Dept. will be celebrating 125 years of Volunteer Service with a parade and post-parade activities at the Raritan Bay Waterfront Park.

Parade is Saturday, October 3, 2015. Kick-off is 12:30pm sharp. Rain or Shine! Parade will begin on South Pine Avenue and Portia Street. Post-parade refreshments and entertainment will be held at the park.

Tee-shirts and mugs will be available (while supplies last) for sale at the park. Hope to see you there!

# **Fred Henry Retires** After 41 Years As An **Educator**

By Tom Burkard

Irecently met with South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry who retired after 41 years as an

Educator to discuss his career and future plans. TB: What inspired you to become a teacher?

FH: There was no single inspiration in my

desire to become a teacher. It was just something I wanted to do. There were, however, three



teachers who helped motivate me toward that goal. In high school it was Henry Conroy who seemed to make history interesting and fun. At Middlesex it was Prof. Pasternack who made me think on a different level and get very involved with researching data. And at Trenton State it was Prof. Faughnan who was full of information and rarely taught with any notes but seemed to have the answer to any question you asked.

TB: What colleges did you attend and what was your major?

FH: After graduating from St.Mary's in South Amboy in 1968, I attended Middlesex County College and graduated the Liberal Arts program in 1970. From there I attended Trenton State College, graduating in 1973 with a degree in Social Studies. I also attended classes at Rutgers and Kean in order to become certified in English.

> TB: What schools did you teach at? Continued on page 7



# NEXT ISSUE September 26th

# **FALL SPECIAL**

**DEADLINES** September 14th FOR ADS CALL 732-727-0398 OR 732-727-1906

The Independence Hose and Engine Co. held its 16th annual Antique Classic Car Show on August 2nd. It was a beautiful day with a large turnout of cars and people. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

## Knights Classic Car Cruise Night September 11

Council 426 host their fall Classic Car Cruise Night Friday September 11 from 6-9 p.m. at the parking lot on 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. Hot dogs, beverages and music will

South Amboy Knights of Columbus be on hand along with vintage cars. Bring a non-perishable food item and receive a free hot dog. For more information call 732-721-2025.

# This Issue Is Dedicated In Memory Of



Jessica Hulsart &



#### **Pleasant Little Trivia** By Tom Burkard

1. In 1962, this gas station was located on the corner of Fifth St. & North Stevens Ave. in South Amboy? a. Harry's b. Bulman's Shell c. Ronnie's Shell 2. Senior Class President of Sayreville HS in '64? a. Sharon Chevalier b. Donna Ziobro c. Richard Noble

3. This bar and liquor store was located at 426 Raritan St., Sayreville in 1996? a. TNT b. Shakers c. Joey D.'s

4. Owner of Peterson's Pharmacy in '96? a. Stanley Steiner b. Jeffrey Weiss c. Edward Sibol

5. St. Mary's HS school physician in '62? a. Dr. Weber b. Dr. Hoffman c. Dr. Fazio 6. President of South Amboy Young Democrats in 1962? a. Frank English b. Alfie O'Connor c. Thomas Dohaney

7. Where was Rex Gene's supermarket located in Sayreville? a. Pulaski Ave. b. Jernee Mill Rd. c. Raritan St.

8. Received the most votes in the 1993 Sayreville Board of Education election? a. Joseph Bellan b. Barbara Anderson c. Joseph DiBella

9. St. Mary's HS school play in '62? a. Good News b. The Ten Commandments c. The Sound of Music

10. Pastor of Our Lady of Victories

Church in '96? a. Rev. John O'Hurley b. Rev. Stanley Stankiewicz c. Rev. Terrance Lawler

11. In 1996, Angelo's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant was located in Parlin. Where? a. Main St. b. Bordentown Ave. c. Washington Rd.

12. The owner of South Amboy Glass Works in 1996? a. Andy Paisal b. Wally Moon c. Albert Levitsky

#### Answers

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



#### Talk Of The Towns By Tom Burkard

#### **Thorsen With Diamondbacks**

John Thorsen, a former Morgan resident who graduated from St. Mary's Grammar School in 1965, and Sayreville War Memorial HS in 1969, can be seen on youtube. com during an Arizona Diamondbacks Major League Baseball game, serving as a volunteer ball boy positioned down the first base/right field line. John, who played for legendary Sayreville Bombers Coach John Wortley looked terrific in his D'Backs uniform and baseball glove. The clip is titled "Golden Glover of the Century." Way to go, John! In Memoriam

Margaret "Peggy" Bowlby, 82, of South Amboy died on July 18. She taught at Our Lady of Victories Grammar School in Sayreville, and also Holy Family Grammar School in Union Beach. Joan M. Dooling Conroy, 95, of South Amboy died on July 20. Always active in the community, she was a member of numerous organizations including St. Mary's Altar Rosary Society, St. Mary's High School PTA, where she was an officer, Catholic Daughters of America, Court Queenship of Mary, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Rahway and the Irish Federation of Monmouth County. She was also a volunteer Caring Listener at St. Mary's Grammar School. Joan touched many lives through the years and will never be forgotten for her kindness. John Schwolow, 94, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 1. In WW II, he was with the U.S. Army Air Corps 8th Army Air Force, and was a pilot who flew 35 missions in a B-17 Flying Fortress in the European Theater. For his bravery and outstanding record, he received a Distinguished Flying Cross and an Air Medal with 3 Oak Clusters. Frank Jedrusiak, 78, of Sayreville died on Aug. 5. He was a great guy, who could always brighten the day with a good joke, and was known for his love of food, especially at Chinese buffets. "Frank" Malaquias, 77, of Sayreville died on Aug. 5. He was a substitute teacher with the Sayreville Board of Education for 15 years,

Sun 8am-2pm



Pictured (l-r) are Elaine Gaber, Director of Dowdell Library, Mary Rager, President of Dowdell Library Foundation, and Joe Mullane of Amboy Bank at the ribbon cutting ceremony of the new 3D printer, which was donated to the library for use by the public. (Photo/info by Joe Lotkowictz)

and also served on the Board of Trustees at Sheffield Mews Condo Association. James Gaynor, 86, of Parlin died on Aug. 7. He was a member of many local groups and organizations, and was a bus driver for the Sayreville school system for 10 years. At Frog Hollow, he was lovingly known as "The Mayor of the Hill." Lawrence Benson Sr., 84, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 10. He was Past-President of the South Amboy Irish-American Association, and was also a baseball coach in the South Amboy Midget League. Larry Martin Sr., 74 of South Amboy died on Aug. 11. Before retiring, he was employed as a teacher by the South Amboy Board of Education. He also taught at Middlesex Vocational & Technical High Schools in Perth Amboy and East Brunswick. In addition, he worked for GM Corp. in Clark and Linden. Larry also coached the English Chevron Little Fellas League baseball team in South Amboy, and was a tennis coach for the South Amboy Recreation Dept. He was also an avid golfer. Sharon Pugliese of Sayreville died on Aug. 13. Before retiring, she was a music teacher

in the Sayreville school system for over 40 years. Sharon was also the music director/ organist at Messiah Lutheran Church in Parlin for over 35 years. Frances Tarallo Sobush, 97, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 15. She was a member of many local organizations including South Amboy Senior Citizens, OLV Columbiettes, Orchard Lake Society, Sayreville VFW Post 4699 Ladies Auxiliary. Rosalie Mauro, 91, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 17. She spent her entire career in the nursing field, and at one time served as a school nurse at South Amboy HS.

Let us never forget these fine people who have left so many wonderful memories for their loved ones.

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 -E.P..



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# Business Of The Month Joe's Famous Pizza & Catering



Owners of Joe's Famous Pizza & Catering, Maurilio "Mo" Fonseca and his brother Dani "Danny" Fonseca proudly show one of their delicious pizza pies fresh out of the oven. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Maurilio "Mo" Fonseca, and his brother Dani "Danny" Fonseca came to the United States from Costa Rica 18 years ago, and have worked very hard to realize the American Dream. The men started washing dishes and cooking when they were 14 years old, and went to culinary school back in their country. When the arrived in the U.S., they "started all over again."

Mo and Danny have over 28 years combined experience from cooking in restaurants to making pizzas, as well as catering weddings, birthdays, and all types of events. Joe's Famous Pizza & Catering will be celebrating its 1st Anniversary in South Amboy, and Mo and Danny really love "The Pleasant Little City." "The people are awesome in South Amboy! People love our food! We hope to stay here for many years," said "Mo."

Joe's Famous Pizza & Catering always works with the local communities of South Amboy and Sayreville, giving

Sacred Heart 50-Year Reunion

The Sacred Heart Grammar School Class of 1965 will hold a 50-Year Reunion at American Legion Post #214, 264 Whitehead Ave., South River on Sunday, Oct. 25 at 2 p.m. Cost is \$12 per person. For more info call Lenny at 732-251-1814.

#### special prices to organizations, schools, the fire department and first aid according to Mo. In addition, he said that, "We offer all types of catering for all events with Italian, Spanish and other food."

Joe's Famous Pizza & Catering is always involved in fundraisers to help special causes, and they "do pizzas for kids at Frog Hollow. They also offer a 10% discount for Senior Citizens on any food or pizza, and have special rates for clubs, organizations, schools, etc. For other great specials, check out Joe's Famous Pizza & Catering ad each month in The SA Times (clip out the \$2 off any pizza coupon this issue), and when in South Amboy, drive by 132 South Pine Ave. at the corner of John St., and see what specials are being offered.

Mo and Danny said, "We have the best pizza in town. Stop in and try it." Joe's Famous Pizza & Catering, 132 South Pine Ave., South Amboy. Phone ahead with your order: 732-721-1040.

# 9/11 Service At Waterfront Park

The American Legion Post 62, along with The South Amboy Elks #784, will be having a Service in remembrance of 9/11. The service will be held on Friday, 9/11/15 at 6:30 pm. It will take place at The Eagle Pavilion Memorial site at The South Amboy Waterfront Park. Please come out and join us, Never Forget.

# Historical Society Seeks Information On Helen M. Applegate

The Historical Society of South Amboy is doing research on well-known South Amboy teacher, Helen M. Applegate for its upcoming Historic Cemetery Tour at Christ Church Cemetery in October. They are looking for former students, friends, or family members who would be willing to share stories, memories, or photos with them, so that they may tell her story as completely as possible. If you can help, please contact the Society at:





Bill Scully (r) gives Butch a treat at the Times Favorite Pooch Contest. See page 12 for photos. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

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#### Yearbook-South Amboy 2005 By Tom Burkard

The school yearbook, Notre Livre titled "Take A Closer Look," marked the 50th Anniversary since the first one was printed in 1955. Notre Livre is a French term meaning "our book."

While on the school scene, Jose Aviles was the principal, and Gene Mosley vice-principal. Some of the fine faculty members: Mike Elson, Gary Kuhn, John Bernosky, Phyllis Stratton, George Gundrum, Carol McDonnell, Rich Klein, Tony Gonsalves, Fred Henry, Larry Martin Sr.

There were plenty of clubs and committees in '05 including Peer Leadership, South Amboy Gaming Association, TIGS, Science League, History Club, Video Club, Operation Shoebox, and many more. Some of the cool activities were Spirit Week, the Winter Concert, two school plays, "Aladdin," and "Little Shop of Horrors." The school newspaper was called "The Messenger," and the literary magazine "Perspective." Students and teachers, families and friends participated in the March of Dimes Walk America to lend a helping hand to those in need.

The Student Council Executive Board

# Bake Sale Fundraiser

Kessler Rehabilitation Center will hold a bake sale fundraiser on Wednesday, September 16th from 9:00am to 5:00pm to benefit the American Cancer Society. Please stop by and support this important cause! Kessler Rehabilitation Center is located at South Amboy Medical Center, 540 Bordentown Ave, Suite 4700 (the former South Amboy Hospital). For more information, call 732-525-0123 or visit kessler-pt.com.

### **Open Mic September 25**

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 host Open Mic again Friday September 25 at 8 p.m. at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. Free admission. If you like to sing, play a musical instrument or play with a band, come and join us. For more information call 732-721-2025. was comprised of President- Brianne Gonsalves, Vice President-Jeff Lampart, Secretary-Ashley Charmello, Treasurer-Ed Barchowski. The Homecoming King was Donte, and the Queen was Ryan.

Some of the fabulous South Amboy HS Class of 2005 selected randomly: Greg Barna, Meaghan Campbell, Patricia Charmello, Crystal Clark, Mariana Cuello, James Disbrow, Justin Dudley, Robert Bodnar, Amanda Christensen, Kyle DeLucca, Jessica Festini, Nora Hartigan, Jaclyn Keegan, Nicole Mroz, Jeremy Gonzalez, Elizabeth Gray, Christopher Hallam, Elissa Hyer, Lauren Idyk, Timothy James, Kimberly Kassing, Jeff Lampart, James Nance, Robyn Moskal, Ryan Murphy, Megan O'Connell, Kimberly O'Loughlin, Dan Opalinski, Frank Richiusa, Jennifer Riehl, Gloriann Rutkowski, Amy Saddler, Richard Steele, Kira Terbecki, Dareesha Thompson, Michelle Tomaszewski, Brittany Usa, Jessica Winkler, Shauna Zdanewicz, Timothy Riley.

The SAHS Class of '05 was certainly a group of very talented and ambitious teenagers, ready to make their mark in the world.

# **Potluck Dinner**

Sacred Heart Parish's INTERNATION-AL POTLUCK DINNER will be held on Sunday, Sept. 13th at Memorial Hall, from 3 to 7 pm. Bring your favorite ethnic dish, hot or cold, or your favorite dessert. Please make enough to share! Not a cook? No sweat! We are looking for donations for additional items such as: soda, water, paper goods, plastic utensils, coffee, tea, sugar, bread, butter, etc. Doors will open at 12 noon to drop of your donation, all hot dishes should dropped off by 1 PM the latest. Any dry goods or paper products can be dropped off at the Parish Office, prior to 9/13. See flyers at the back of the Church or at the Parish Office or call for more information 732-721-0040. Hosted by the Knights of Columbus #426, South Amboy Council in conjunction with the South Amboy Columbiettes.







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Holly Hughes Horning, Secretary of the Historical Society of South Amboy, inspects the new 3D printer donated to the Dowdell Library of South Amboy, with a look of amazement, and watches history being made before her eyes. After attending the demonstration, she commented that "This is the wave of the future, and I'm part of it." (Photo/story by Joe Lotkowictz)

# Growing up in South Amboy

By John Phillips

Sometime in 1953 we moved to the housing project. They were still below the railroad tracks in the area we called "The Mini Ditch". I don't know why it was called that, but that's what everyone in town called it. Now we would have central heat, a refrigerator and a bath tub! Surely we were moving up. However, before I leave the Bowery I need to tell a couple of sports stories that bring a smile to me whenever I think of them. And, I think of yesterdays more frequently lately. I wonder why?

Every group has a leader and ours, school wise, was a guy named Robert (Rock) Stader. He always had ideas that we almost always went along with. Well, about this time, (1950?) the Little League was becoming popular. Rock gathered us together and said that all we had to do was win about eight games and we would go to Williamsport PA to participate in the Little League World Series. Now, we knew we could win those games....who would beat us? Then he decided we needed uniforms. So we bought a small canned ham and sold chances. We got our uniforms and proudly wore them to the first game being held at Roosevelt Stadium in Metuchen. Guess what? We got beat and that was the end of our dream of the Little League World Series. But, we wore the uniform whenever we played until we outgrew them. A lesson learned on the way to growing up...you're never as good as you think you are. And, I forget who won the ham. Rock was always a mover and doer. He started his own company and was becoming highly successful until he suddenly died much too young.

Another funny thing happened while I still lived in the Bowery. Saint Mary's grammar school was invited to play in a basketball

tournament by St. James in Woodbridge. It was for boys in the seventh and eighth grade. I was only in the sixth grade so did not try out for the team. I was sitting watching and wishing when the coach, George Spiecker, asked where I was. He said he did not care that I wasn't in the proper grade, but wanted me to play on the team. He got permission and it was a surprise to me when I was on the starting five. And, we won the tournament. The humor came when we were invited to a Communion breakfast to accept the trophy. Well, Sister Rose Mary gathered us together for a talk on how to "act" and behave ourselves. She was concerned that we would embarrass the school if we did not behave. All I remember about that breakfast was that Terrance Murphy kept putting away eggs and bacon one after the other. The ladies serving the breakfast thought it was great and we had a good time encouraging him on. I think Sister Rose Mary had reason to be concerned, but we were the hit of the breakfast. Here are some guys that I remember that were on the team:

"Clink" Clark, (He was Allie Clark's brother), Jimmy Higgins, Jackie Connors, Bobby Noble, Terrance Murphy and "Rock" Stader. I am sorry I don't remember the rest of the guys.

Oh, before I forget. The referee's name was Persey and he was big and heavy. Since there was only one referee he stood at half court and only turned when the action went from one end to the other. We got a good laugh out of that. And I always remembered him, even now at 76 years old. Isn't it funny how things that happened years ago start to "pop up" in you mind as you get older? Now off to the Project....the Dohaney

# Now off to the Project....the Dohane Homes.

#### **REMEMBERING 911** By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski MS

Within the next few weeks ceremonies of the ordinary, report it immediately to the

will be held across America in remembrance of those killed on 911. This unprovoked attack on America's home soil fourteen years ago was an attempt to destroy our way of living. The cowardice acts by terrorists on that day will never be forgotten nor should they. Some of us may remember the words spoken by President George Bush on that fateful day when he said, "America will never be the same." As courageous Americans, we say, "No, it will be better." Our way of living has changed since 911 in ways that we would have never imagined 25 years ago.

Security measures are in place everywhere we turn. Enormous amounts of funding is spent on homeland security measures in the protection of our infrastructure and the lives of all Americans. Unfortunately this is a burden that we must accept in order to keep our country free and safe from organizations who are out to harm us. Not only must we keep a watchful eye on outside extremists and terrorists but we must also watch for homegrown terrorists who may be living just around the corner. If you see something out local authorities, before it's too late.

No matter what type of situation may occur, your local first responders will be ready and able to respond to any and all emergencies in our communities or wherever else they may be called upon to respond.

On the anniversary of September 11, take a moment to pray for those who perished at the hands of terrorists. Remember those 343 brave firefighters of the Fire Department of New York, along with the 37 Port Authority Police Officers, and the 23 members of the New York Police Department. We also want to remember and thank our local first responders who responded to New York City on that day along with those who remained on duty locally to protect our neighborhoods in the event of more attacks.

If you have the opportunity to attend any of the local services honoring those lost on that day, please do so.

Sayreville will be holding their 911 Memorial Service on September 10, 2015 at the 911 Memorial located next to Burke's Park on Washington Road starting at 7:30pm.

#### Fred Henry Retires (Continued from page 1)

What subjects?

FH: I began my teaching career at St. Mary's Elementary School in South Amboy in 1974. I remember being interviewed by the Principal for an opening in science in 7th and 8th grade. There were only a couple of weeks before school started and science was not my field (not by a long shot!) but I had to get started somewhere so I took the job. After a short time I was moved to the social studies department and through the years there, I taught classes from 5th to 8th grade. In December of 1981 I was interviewed by Superintendent John Olexa of the South Amboy school system and was hired to teach English in the Middle School which at that time was being bused to a school in Spotswood. The following year I was hired to teach English and American Literature to juniors and seniors in Hoffman High School. Over the years I taught mainly US I and US II but also American and English Literature, Political Science, A.P. History, World History, History through Film, Facing History and Ourselves, and 7th grade English.

TB: How many years did you teach? FH: Itaught at St. Mary's for 7 1/2 years and at the South Amboy district for 33 1/2 years for a total of 41 years.

TB: How are kids different today than when you first began your teaching career?

FH: I don't see a big difference in kids today as to when I first started. Kids are kids. Most want to learn but some take a little longer than others. However, there are more distractions today with video games, cell phones, social media, etc. When I taught H.S. English, students did term papers and physically had to go to the library to do research. Many went to Woodbridge Library and had to look up information in books and magazines. Today with computers and the internet a lot of information is right at their fingertips. But I don't think that they really get the feeling what research is all about.

TB: Can you mention a few major changes in the school system as compared to when you began your career?

FH: The biggest change is the use of technology: computers, the internet, social media, and cell phones. When I first started students were using typewriters to complete papers. Also, now it's easier to contact parents about students' progress with the use of email.

TB: What did you enjoy the most about teaching and what will you miss the most?

FH: Teaching history and English allowed for some interesting exchanges of ideas and opinions, and the discussions which would evolve from certain lessons is what I will miss the most. There were times when the students would try to get me off topic (many times I let them!), but I usually didn't mind because those were the times when other students would join in the conversation and that would make it easier for them to understand the main topic at hand. And, what I miss most was getting students who didn't really care about history or English a little more involved and maybe give them a little appreciation for the subject

# While coaching, I was fortunate enough to be

named "Coach of the Year" in three different sports: baseball, softball, and cross country. I also served as the Athletic Director at

Hoffman/South Amboy for 12 years. One of the greatest times I had was

when I served as the assistant coach during the great girls basketball teams at Hoffman in the 1980s. Under head coach Reggie Carney we won 5 consecutive state championships and the first ever Tournament of Champions! Incidentally, Reggie, whom I've known since we played Little League on the same team, was best man when LInda and I were married 15 years ago.

I was also the assistant baseball coach when the boys last won the state championship in the 1980s.

One other honor really deals with my position as teacher and Mayor in that a number of former students asked me to officiate their weddings. Being a part of their lives at that most important moment is a great feeling.

TB: If you didn't become a teacher, what career path do you think you would have taken?

FH: Like anyone who has played sports I would have liked to have continued doing that with dreams of the Major Leagues. I was good enough to play 4 years of varsity baseball in college and as a pitcher I won more games than I lost. But I realized that I needed to do something realistic for a career. I always wanted to be a teacher and for a short time, I tinkered with the idea of being a lawyer, but I didn't really have the passion for that.

TB: What will keep you busy in retirement?

FH: At this time I am still serving as the Mayor of our great city of South Amboy with 3 1/2 years to go on my present term and I'm sure that I can find plenty to do through the Mayor's office and the Redevelopment Agency. I continue to play softball and now I will be able to get out and play a little more golf with my wife, Linda. We plan to do a little more traveling and we would like to visit Hawaii in the near future.

TB: If you could choose one favorite memory of your teaching career, what was it?

FH: My favorite memory was being able to teach all 3 of my children: Kristen, Erin, and Fred. Being able to influence them in the classroom through my role as a teacher and being able to coach Erin on the softball team helped create memories that I will never forget (especially when Erin would approach me in the hallway and ask for lunch money!).

TB: Who was your teaching colleague that meant the most to you?

FH: There were many teachers who helped me through the years but there are 2 in particular that stand out the most. One is Tony Gonsalves (Tony "G"). Our classes were next to each other for many years and the passion that he had for his students is something that will always stay with me and helped to remind me why we do what we do. The other is Reggie Carney. As I mentioned I've known Reggie since we were in Little League. His passion for coaching and teaching the kids the right way to play, had a great influence on the way I approached coaching. And he also taught me how to play golf. I consider myself very fortunate to have two friends such as these.



give mentalitate appreciation for the subj

TB: What is the toughest part of being a teacher?

FH: The toughest part was dealing with students who seemed to have no motivation or who had given up. That was very frustrating especially when you knew that the student had potential.

TB: What honors teaching awards, etc. have you received during your career?

FH: One of the biggest honors I or any teacher could receive was being chosen as an Honored Educator by the students. Over the years I was chosen by many students to be their Honored Educator and that means a lot because it was coming from the students themselves and showed that I was more than just a teacher to them and that I did have a positive influence on their education. I was also blessed with the opportunity to coach several sports at both St. Mary' High School and at Hoffman/South Amboy High School. I coached varsity baseball at St. Mary's and Hoffman; varsity girls basketball at South Amboy; varsity softball at South Amboy; and varsity Cross Country at South Amboy.

TB: Is there anyone that you would like to acknowledge as you retire from teaching?

FH: I am very fortunate to have had the career and opportunities that I have had. I would like to thank my parents, Ann and the late Fred Henry for all the support they gave me over the years. They helped to fill me with the desire to give back to the community. I hope that in my small way I was able to do that through my teaching, coaching, and even in politics. I would like to thank the late John Olexa, Superintendent, and the South Amboy Board of Education for giving me the opportunity to teach, to coach, and help the youth of our community. And lastly, I would like to acknowledge my wife, Linda, and now full time golfing partner! I've had a great career.

### Enjoy Our Food & Drink Specials! 💰

Stop in for Supper One Nite Enjoy your favorite Sports in the Bar Area or Casual Dining in our Separate Dining Room & Porch Area

> We have Apps - Wraps -Burgers - Salads Sandwiches or Full Dinners to choose from

Seafood Every Friday - Fried or Broiled







### Past President Reception October 10

St. Bernadette Columbiettes will hold a reception to honor Past President Kathleen Jessen and all Past Presidents of St. Bernadette Columbiettes on Sat., Oct. 10, 6 p.m. at St. Bernadette Lourdes Center, Villanova & Princeton Roads in Parlin. The event will also feature dinner and dancing, and the cost is \$30 per person. Make check payable to St. Bernadette Columbiettes. Mail to: Past President Reception, 141 Luke St., South Amboy, NJ 08879. For more info call 732-721-4596.

PART 1. Purchasing a new piece of

fire apparatus can be an arduous task. It

is time consuming, intense, adventurous,

and expensive. When residents see their

local firefighting equipment consolidated

in one location, their first comment maybe,

"why do we have so many fire trucks?"

These comments are easily dismissed the

next time a major fire develops in town. In

these instances, there usually isn't enough

equipment in town to battle this type fire

and a call must go out to surrounding towns

tween a fire engine and a fire truck. Most

people use these terms interchangeably but

in the fire service, using them interchange-

ably may not get you the apparatus you

es, maintains a booster tank of water, and

carries a limited supply of ladders and hand

tools. Whereas a fire truck or ladder truck

specializes in forcible entry, ventilation, roof

operations, search and rescue, and deploy-

ment of ground ladders. Trucks are equipped

with an aerial device, such as an aerial ladder,

tower ladder, or ladder/platform. These aerial

devices can be raised and positioned above

a roof to provide fire fighters with a stable,

safe work area where they can apply water to extinguish a fire or to provide rescue of

whatever type of engine or truck that is re-

quested by the department and if necessary,

for or any specialized duties it may be called upon to perform. The designs and features of

all new firefighting apparatus must conform

to the National Fire Protection Association

(NFPA) standards that are in effect at the

time of purchase. Safety takes top priority

answers depending on who you listen to is,

"when is it time to replace an old piece of

fire apparatus, engine or ladder, with a brand

new one?" The answer can be complicated

St. Mary's

**South Amboy** 

A question that has many different

in the design of any new apparatus.

Fire apparatus manufacturers can build

trapped residents and fire fighters.

A fire engine has a pump, carries hos-

First let me explain the difference be-

for mutual aid.

really wanted.

# St. Vincent de Paul Walk/Run

Our Lady of Victories Conference of St. Vincent de Paul will be participating in the National "Friends of the Poor Walk/ Run" on Saturday, Sept. 26 beginning at 8:30. at Kennedy Park, Washington Road, Sayreville. All walkers/runners are welcome and all funds raised will be for the benefit of the poor served by OLV's Conference. Donations will be accepted at the event and can also be made by check, payable to OLV St. Vincent de Paul Society and mailed to the Parish Office at 42 Main Street, Sayreville, NJ 08872

#### The Smoke Column By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski MS

and is based on many factors.

The Insurance Service Office (ISO) has a great impact on the local fire departments and what they should have. The ISO collects information on fire departments throughout the United States. For each of those communities, the ISO analyzes the relevant data using a Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). They then assign a Public Protection Classification from 1 to 10. Class 1 generally represents superior property fire protection. By classifying a community's ability to suppress fires, ISO helps the community evaluate its public fire protection services. The program provides an objective, countrywide standard that helps fire departments in planning and budgeting for facilities, equipment, and training. Because of better fire protection services and a lower number classification rating, fire insurance premiums for homeowners can be maintained at a lower rate.

In most of our local communities, fire engines are replaced after 20 years of service. Each year during that 20 year period, their pumps are tested for efficiency and must be able to pump water at the minimum rate they were designed for. After 20 years of flowing water, the brass parts of the pump will show signs of wear in addition to a rusting truck body. Constantly being subjected to water, salt and corrosion, these items all take a toll on these vehicles. Due of the high cost of maintaining an old piece of apparatus, it may be cheaper in the long run to replace it.

Fire apparatus are not like the family SUV. When a fire erupts and the engine is needed, there isn't time to warm it up. It has to respond immediately, going from zero to top speed quickly. It is not the mileage on the apparatus that determines when it needs to be replaced as much as the usage that it is required to take during its 20 year lifetime. The ISO rates fire apparatus and recommends what is needed and when the old ones need to be replaced.

PART II next month.

### FALL REGISTRATION FOR RECREATION PROGRAMS

Micaela Sullivan

# JG talkin'heads salon 122 South Broadway South Amboy 732-721-7060

# **Welcomes Inquirers**

St. Mary's Parish in South Amboy is now accepting registration for any adult (age 14 or older) who is interested in preparing for Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation.

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) begins with several weeks of inquiry sessions. Joined by team members and supported by the entire parish community, participants will journey through the scriptures and learn more about the Catholic faith and tradition. No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary. Sessions will be held on Sunday. This will be the ONLY preparation available for adults this year. Catholics must have celebrated all three Sacraments in order to serve as godparents or sponsors.

If you or someone you know has ever considered joining the Catholic Church, or if you are a Catholic and have not yet celebrated First Communion and/or Confirmation, RCIA is for you. Please contact Karen Housman at (732) 546-8361 to register or for further information. The Sayreville Recreation Department Fall programs are now open for registration at www.sayrevillerec.com. Programs include Little Kids Playtime @ Kennedy Park, Recreation Fun Days and Mommy & Me. Programs begin the week of September 14th.

Our Annual Hit the Bricks Run 5K fun run / walk returns this year to its new home at our beautiful Capik Nature Preserve on October 10, 2015. Please register on our website www.sayrevillerec.com.

> Upcoming Recreation Events: **Movies in the Park** August 29, 2015 8:00pm Guardians of the Galaxy

Blast from the Past Car Show September 12, 2015

Sayreville Day September 13, 2014 (Rain date September 27, 2015)

South Amboy-Sayreville Times August 29, 2015 9





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2, 3, or 5 days

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Former South Amboy Mayor Jack O'Leary (I) kids around with Council President Mickey Gross (r) while he sits in the Dunk Tank during the Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1 Antique and Classic Car Show & Flea Market. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



60th Reunion-Sayreville High School Class of '55 held its 60th Reunion on June 26 at Shore Café. 25 classmates attended and had a wonderful time. (Photo by Janice Zuzov, courtesy of Dotty French)

## **Ballroom Dancing** Social

Always wanted to learn Latin ballroom and swing dancing? Here's your opportunity! "Women with Purpose" committee of Christ Church South Amboy invites you to their Ballroom Dancing Social with Instruction to be held on Friday, September 18th from 7:00PM to 11:00PM at Memorial Hall on 210 Main Street, South Amboy. The evening will feature 1 hour of formal Latin ballroom dance instruction followed by dancing social mixers with instructors available to assist you. Admission is \$15 per person. There will be light refreshments served. Door prize giveaway.BYOB-Beer and/or Wine only.For more information and/ or to purchase tickets call 732-525-9759 or 732-598-0134.

# **Rose Wood Awarded Scholarship**

Rose Wood of South Amboy received the Trade and Vocational School Scholarship, from the New Jersey Utilities Association (NJUA), which is awarded to a qualified student who will be pursuing a trade or vocational degree at an accredited school. The scholarship, is valued at up to a total of \$6000, depending on the total cost of the vocational program. Congratulations and may you have much success, Rose!

The Morgan Lions Club is sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 4 at Eisenhower School, Ernston Rd., Sayreville from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Cost is Adults-\$7, Children (under 12) \$3. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

# The Boys From South Philly By Elaine Holton Scott

Located in West Philadelphia, Dick Clark's American Bandstand didn't have too far to look when it came to finding talent for the show. For example, South Philly in the '50's was the "hood" for lots of future celebrities, including three "boys" who'd all have hit songs on the Hot Billboard 100 Chart in 1959. Amazingly, 66 years later, those same three Italian guys, have been performing together as "The Golden Boys" since 1985.

Born on September 18, 1940, Frankie Avalon is the oldest of the trio. In a little less than one month, he'll be celebrating his

he began playing the drums, and by the age of 9, he was the drummer for the band, Rocco and the Saints for which Frankie Avalon was playing the trumpet. In 1959 at the age of 17, with the help of American Bandstand promoting his music, Bobby Rydell had the first of his 40 songs to be in the Top 40 on the Hot Billboard 100 Chart. "Wild One," "Sway," "Volare," and "Forget Him" would soon follow. In the year 1995, he received the honor of having the street on which he was born renamed "Bobby Rydell Boulevard. In 2012, Bobby had double transplant surgery for his liver and kidney, and in 2013, double by-pass surgery. Within a few months, he was back singing with "The Golden Boys." Fabian Forte, born on February 6, 1943, was the "baby" of the trio. In 1959, at the age of 16, he was one of America's top teen idols, with a total of 8 records on the Hot Billboard 100 chart during that year. "Turn Me Loose" hit #9, and Tiger scored the #3 slot. In 1959, Fabian also starred in "Hound Dog Man" with the young Carol Lynley, and in 1960, he had a role in "North to Alaska" with John Wayne. By the age of 18, Fabian's singing career was basically over. According to information on the internet, after getting his draft notice, Fabian was given a 4F status for what used to be a "don't talk; don't tell" kind of thing. Since marrying his third wife in 1998, the couple was sued by the resort where their wedding took place and by their home builder, both for unpaid bills. Fabian is currently hosting the Original Stars of Bandstand at the Dick Clark Theater in Branson, Missouri when not performing with the two other "Boys from South Philly."

# Sayreville WMHS **Class Of '70 Reunion**

The Sayreville WMHS class of 1970 will have their 45th reunion Sept 19th, 2015. For information email casazz@aol.com.

Ballroom Dancing Social With Instruction

# **Polish Night Buffet & Dance**

St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish will present a Polish Night Buffet and Dance on Saturday, Sept. 26. The dance will feature Tony Blazoncka "New Phase," who is the son of the late and great Eddie B. Sr. of Chicago Push, preserving the music we love! Please join us and witness "his father in him." Keep Polkas alive in 2-0-1-5.

The doors will open at 6 p.m., with Buffet at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$30 for Buffet & Dance, and \$15 for Dance only. (Not admitted before 7:30 p.m.). For further info call Bernie 732-710-0016 or 732-210-4081; Connie 732-614-3835; Church Office 732-254-0212. Please reserve early.

# Pancake Breakfast

Serving South Amboy Joe's Famous Sayreville Morgan Pizza & Catering Parlin Special **Spanish Cuisine** Mon - Thurs 132 S. Pine Avenue (Pick-Up Only) South Amboy, NJ 08879 -Large Plain Pie \$8.95 Friday - Saturday Sunday - Thusday 11:00 am to 9:00 pm 11:00 am to 10:00 pm www.joespizzacatering.com \$2.00 FREE DELIVERY OFF 11 am to Clos Any Pizza 2-721-1040 (Pickup or Delivery) Fri. Sat. & Sun. Only sit Us On Face For Specials ORDER NOW!

75th birthday, with a career already spanning over six and a half decades. In 1951, at the age of 11, Frankie Avalon performed on "The Jackie Gleason Show" playing his trumpet. A few years later, he was a member of the group called Rocco and the Saints. In March of 1959 when he was 19 years old, Frankie's record, "Venus," became #1 and stayed there for 5 weeks. That was followed nine months later with "Why," the last #1 hit of the 1950's. The decade of the '60s began with a role in the movie, "Alamo," with John Wayne, and in 1961, a role in the movie, "Vovage to the Bottom of the Sea." The roles kept coming. In 1962, Frankie's record "Bobby Sox to Stockings" charted. From 1963 to 1965, Frankie Avalon would appear in 4 "beach party" movies and one "pajama party" film with Annette Funicello, one of the original Mouseketeers. In '68, he appeared in "Grease"...and has never stopped performing. Frankie Avalon and his "one and only wife" have 8 children.

Bobby Rydell was born Robert Louis Ridarelli on April 26, 1942. At the age of 5,

# Sayreville American Legion Lenape Post #211 Holds Annual Korean War Service

(Photos/Story by Joe Lotkowictz)



Sayreville American Legion Lenape Post #211 held its annual Korean War Service on July 27th. Rich Kosmoski (c) reads to those in attendance, while veterans Larry Bishop (l) and Ed Strek (r) listen intently and remember those who died for our freedom.



Richard Kosmoski (l) and Larry Bishop (r) are pictured after placing a memorial wreath for all the Korean War veterans who served in the conflict.

# The Korean War

The Korean War began on June 25, 1950 and lasted until July 1953. It started when 75,000 soldiers from the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th Parallel, which was the boundary between Soviet backed People's Republic of Korea to the north of the Western Republic of Korea to the south. This marked the first invasion of military action of the Cold War. By July 1950, American armed forces engaged in the war on South Korea's behalf. Finally in July of 1953, the Korean War came to an end. Some 5 million soldiers and civilians "All gave some, and some gave all" before the action escalated into what would have been World War III. The Korean peninsula is still like it was in 1950, divided into North and South Korea.

# Joe McCarthy Remembers "Skeets

Last month, popular and beloved umpire John "Skeets" Skarzynski died. Joe McCarthy, one of the greatest catchers in Hoffman/South Amboy HS history, knew him well, and shared some of his fondest

memories of "Skeets." "Every month or so I read The SA Times. Just to see what's going on in good old SA.

Then I saw that Skeets died. Now there was a guy, a real guy. A lot of memories of him. He and my mom throwing crude at each blocks and get into a dispute on the field, watch out, he's burn you.

There was a picture of Skeets and my dad in the back room at 412 Ward and it hung there for years, I think I have that picture somewhere.

Ever notice Skeets never aged, amazing. Skeetz, it was great to know you, you taught me a lot about the game. I enjoyed the talks we had when you umpired and I was catching. I will never forget you telling me to move closer to the plate. Tom Burkard, Brian Stratton you guys did a good job with the stories in the paper. It was nice reading and did him right."





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other as John walked up Ward Ave to his car after a game, that was funny. Skeets, sitting on the porch after softball games, umpiring with my dad. His voice, would echo for



Aubree Marchione (2nd from left) of South Amboy is a highly-talented performer, pictured at the Pan Am Closing Ceremonies. (Photo Submitted)





## WWW.?



Does this structure look familiar to you? It is located in South Amboy or Sayreville. Send your answers to: thesatimes@aol.com. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

# **July Winners**

The correct answer to the July Mystery Photo contest was Prestige Auto Repair on Washington Rd. in Sayreville. It was previously called Spinelli Motors or Spinelli Ford.

The winners who correctly identified the building were Dennis Quinlan, Pat & Bill Scully, W. Tom Kross, Joan Gorczyca, Joan Fulham, Joe Prusik, Lisa Grankowski, Mary Agnes Morris, Don Zrebiec. Congratulations!

# Correction

In last month's issue, we mentioned that our feature writer Elaine Holton Scott told us that Tom Kelly lived in Mississippi. Well, that was our inadvertent mistake. Tom actually resides in Emerald Isle, North Carolina. Sorry for the miscue!

#### St. Mary's Memories By Bill "Biff" McKeon

Mr. Jack Phillips writer for The South Amboy-Sayreville Times newspaper wrote an interesting article relative to the Good Sisters of Mercy who taught and encouraged their students of St. Mary's Grammar and High School. He was really paramount in describing these God Blessed ladies who thru the gift of patience and love of God helped us/we troublesome students find their proper place in life. Sister Rose Mary who appointed me ( Sir William ) Captain of the Student Patrol when I was in the 8th grade, and South Amboy Police Dept. Captain McCormick gave me the (KEY) to the Traffic Light. Sister Cleophas the nun who loved all the boy athletes, and who told me in a Biology class that my name should be Bluff not Biff. Sister Madeline, who danced with the famous Rockefeller Dancers, and of course Sr. Helene who actually ran the school and taught "Water, Water every where but not a drop to drink, Water. Water every where but oh how the boards did shrink, can this be a dagger I see before me, I see the still, but fell thee not." Then there was our beloved Principal Sr. Loretta who actually told the student body that a loss by the basketball teams really was a moral victory as the players played hard but fair. Lest we forget Sr. Cosmas who came back to the Pleasant Little City in 1975 and when my wife, Lady Elizabeth's last born son Jeffrey was to be baptized in the Convent (St. Mary's Church) was being renovated I asked the Good Sister who answered the door if Sr. Cosmas was available, where upon the Sister (nun) introduced me by saying "Sr. Comas here is one of your former students who is the GRANDFATHER of the child to be Baptized." (Jeff was baptized in the morning by one of my former students who was a temporary priest assigned to St. Mary's Catholic Church, and with the help GOOD FRIENDS of John and Mary Kenny, George and Dorothy Spiecker, Bill and Flo Lyons and others, we celebrated Jeff's Baptism with over 250 guests. Good departed Friend Bill Lyons started cooking the Roast Beef around the hour of 9:00 AM and was still cooking Hamburgers/Hot Dogs at 10:00 PM that night.



July WWW - Prestige Auto Repair



Pictured is Paul Ust Jr., formerly of South Amboy, who was on a recent visit to "The Pleasant Little City" of South Amboy from his home in Washington State. The SA Times caught up with him and extended congratulations on the great story he wrote about his memories of the May 19, 1950 explosion, which made you feel like you were actually reliving it over again with his amazing, detailed account of that fateful day in South Amboy history. Thank you Paul, and keep the stories coming! (Photo/story by Joe Lotkowictz)

# Where Have You Gone?

Brothers Patrick and James O'Rourke, who played for English Chevron Little Fellas League team in the early 1970's, Bill Trzaska, Bob Keister, Rich Dumas, Tom DeBiase, Glenn Lemerich, Greg Chierchie, Charlie Lynch, Kevin Lynch, John Karlowitz, Ray Riddell, George Hubbs, Paul Slovik, Luke Lyons, John Foley, Ed Galinski, Barbara Jancola, Ralph Pohl, Ed Presnal, John Potthoff, Ron Sanecki, Kenneth Stolte, Richard Pine. If any of these people see their name in this column, and would like to update readers on their whereabouts, etc. Send us an e-mail at: satimes@aol.com. Just for Seniors!

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Our program features swimming, sports, crafts, homework time, games, movies, healthy snacks, and fitness. We serve

# 9/11 Service

The Borough of Sayreville will be hosting the 14th Annual Memorial Service to remember the victims of September 11, 2001. The Memorial Service will be held at 7:30 PM, Thursday September 10th, 2015 rain or shine at the Sayreville Borough 9/11 Memorial in Burke's Park, Washington Road.

Those wishing to attend are asked to arrive by 7:00 PM. For more information contact Kenneth Kelly, Program Coordinator at 732-727-1724. children on all regular school days, half days, early dismissals, holidays, and snow closures when our building is open.

Morning Care starts at 7am

After Care runs until 6:30pm

#### We serve the following schools:

South Amboy, Raritan Bay Prep, Eisenhower, Truman, Arleth, and Samsel Upper Elementary.

Call 732-553-9622 or visit our website www.ymcaofmewsa.org for more information.

#### SOUTH AMBOY YMCA

200 John T. O'Leary Blvd, South Amboy, NJ 08879 732-553-9622 www.ymcaofmewsa.org

# Now Offering Morning Care for Sayreville Students!





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- All staff is certified - Daily lessons & activities to engage and teach all children Shady outdoor setting

# Felix Cavaliere's **Rascals/Lovin' Spoonful At Ocean** Grove Aug. 29

Hot town, summer in the city! Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association will present two iconic 60s bands, Felix Cavaliere's Rascals and The Lovin' Spoonful, on Saturday, August 29 (8 PM) at the Great Auditorium.

Tickets are \$50 reserved, \$45 general admission. Order tickets by phone: 800-590-4064 or online: www.oceangrove.org. The Great Auditorium is located at Pilgrim and Ocean Pathways in Ocean Grove, NJ. All facilities are handicapped-accessible.

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

# **The Pursuit Of Joy**

By Al Gomolka Jr. **Times Poet Laureate** c. 2013 Don't settle on just being happy Pursue the next step and aim for joy You know you can without sounding sappy By trusting in God when low or annoved Under His control In good times or bad Joy stays inside you Whether happy or sad No outside circumstances People, place or thing Can take from the certainty That true joy can bring There's way more to life Than food, clothes, or home Rich class or poor man Or where one may roam Embrace grace and focus within Just love yourself and you can employ That mistakes aren't important, nor negative whims There's happy, happy, happy, and then there is joy!



Assemblyman Craig Coughlin (c) poses with a group of bowlers at the 6th Annual "Bowl for Hunger." (Photo/Story Submitted)

# **6TH ANNUAL "BOWL FOR HUNGER"**

Assemblyman Craig J. Coughlin in partnership with the Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation and Middlesex Water Company held the 6th Annual "Bowl for Hunger", on Thursday, July 23, 2015, at Majestic Lanes of Hopelawn. Since the event's inception in 2010, more than \$119,000 has been raised to feed the hungry. This year's event once again featured a double session, 5:30 to 7:30 PM and 8:00 to 10:00 PM, and, due to an increased demand for additional teams, was held at a larger bowling venue, which helped raise more money for area food banks., Nearly 600 bowlers took part in this year's Bowl for Hunger compared to 350 bowlers in 2014.

Assemblyman Coughlin, Michael D'Agnes, President and CEO of Raritan Bay Medical Center, and Dennis Doll, President and CEO of the Middlesex Water Company thanked event participants and sponsors for supporting the fun event and the area's twenty-eight (28) food banks who help nourish the underserved. While all pledges and donations are still forthcoming, the 2015 Bowl raised approximately \$25,000.00. Interested community members or businesses still wishing to make a donation to the "Bowl for Hunger" should contact the Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation at 732-324-5374. The grand total will be released in the coming weeks. The event drew pledges and support from all five Mayors of the 19th Legislative District including-Mayor Daniel J. Reiman of Carteret, Mayor Wilda Diaz of Perth Amboy, Mayor Kennedy O'Brien of Sayreville, Mayor Fred Henry of South Amboy, and Mayor John E. McCormac of Woodbridge. In total, 78 corporate, community and individual sponsors donated at least \$100.00 to support the cause. Of the 78 sponsors, 22 organizations donated at the \$500 level-Aetna; Amerigroup; Bank of Woodbridge; Bayshore Recycling Corporation; Bubble Tea; NJ/NY Carpenter Contractor Trust; Carteret Business Partnership; CME Associates; GEICO; Gerdau; Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield; JJ Elek Realty Co.; McManimon Scotland & Baumann, LLC; Middlesex County Democratic Organization; Motiva Enterprises, LLC; NJ Bankers Association; NJ Bankers Association; NJ Credit Union League; NJ Hospital Association; NJM Insurance Group; Professional Insurance Agents of New Jersey; and Reliance Insurance Group..

Assemblyman Coughlin, Presidents D'Agnes and Doll thanked the combined 78 corporate and individual sponsors, including 48 sponsors who donated \$100 or more:

Almasi Companies; American Irish Association of Woodbridge;Eric & Phyllis Aronowitz; Cape May Brewing Company; Dr. Michael Ciencewcicki; Columbia Bank; James P. Durek, Esq.; Elizabethtown Gas; Erickson Family; First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy; Flying Fish Brewing Company; Daniel Harris; Hatch Mott Mac-Donald; Middlesex County Surrogate Kevin Hoagland; Insurance Council of New Jersey; Investors Bank; JFK Medical Center; JGT Management Co. LLC; Katz Government Affairs; Kaufman Zita Group; D.B. Kelly Div.#1 of the Ancient Order of Hibernians; Knot Just Bagels; Local 68 Operating Engineers; Larry and Peggy Mayerowitz; Kenneth L. Michelson Foundation, Inc.; Metuchen Democratic Organization; Middlesex & Somerset County AFL-CIU Labor Council; Middlesex County Building & Construction Trades Council; Middlesex County Young Democrats; MMC Contractors; Beatrice Moskowitz; New Jersey Food Council; James Nolan & Associates, LLC.; Our Lady of Fatima Church; Congressman Frank Pallone; Princeton Public Affairs Group; Pringle Quinn Anzano; Raritan Bay Area YMCA; Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretto LPP; Donald Sico & Co. LLC; Sills Cummis & Gross, PC; Spevack Law Offices; Senator Joseph F. Vitale; VNA Health Group; Wakefern Food Corporation; Assemblyman John S. Wisniewski; The Woodbridge Center Mall and The Club at Woodbridge; and Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce.

A Mission of Trinity Methodist Church 815 Bordentown Avenue South Amboy, NJ 723-721-3887



#### Summer Fun

Sayreville Photos by Tom Burkard



Burke's Park Summer Camp counselor keeps kids cool with the water spray on a very hot day.



South Amboy Counselors and Campers enjoy Chalk Day at 6th Street Park



Youngsters having lots of fun with water guns at Burke's Park Summer Camp



South Amboy Recreation Volunteer Counselors are a very large and energetic group.



Burke's Park Summer Camp counselors did an outstanding job to help make the Sayreville Recreation Department's program a huge success. Congratulations! The summer camp program in Burkes park is run by the Sayreville Recreation Department, and supervised by Linda Zurawski and Kevlyn Uveges. The 300 campers have a blast each summer.



South Amboy 2015 Recreation Department Counselors (l-r) Tyler Sullivan, John Bauer, Ryan Kudelka, Steven Herdman, Amy Reilly, Stephanie Gay, Allyson Keegan, Natalie Ghigliotty had a great time working with the children this summer and are eager to start school in the fall.

### **Coughlin Bill Now Law**

Legislation Assemblyman Craig officer, or any sheriff, undersheriff, or sheriff's officer while they are engaged in their duties.

Then:

In class waiting for the summer, Windows open, smelling the new smells of the season

SUMMER

**By Rev. Rhea Carol** 

Walking and skipping home from school, breezy and warm

Open the door, the house is cool from the

shade of trees

The day is longer, play more

Homework on hold

School is out and we shout

No more teacher's dirty looks!

Free, free, free,

To pick blueberries in the woods behind the house,

To just lie on the grass and be

Watching all the bugs and insects in the grass

Pack a lunch and ride my bike for miles and miles

Turn around and see the sky with white fluffy clouds and the sun shining so bright, I am the light.

These days but a memory whenever I feel the beautiful summer breeze.

ing Princeton, NJ. Rev. Rhea offers unique and customized wedding ceremonies. House blessings, pet blessings (individual and group) and memorial services are offered as well. Rev. Rhea gives healing prayers by appointment. Her contact information is: 732-727-8219 H and 732 771 7562 C.

Rev. Rhea Carol is a non-denominational

staff minister at the Center for Spiritual Liv-

#### **Defensive Driving Program**

The Friends of the Sayreville Library will be offering the Defensive Driving Institute of New Jersey Official Point & Insurance Reduction Program on Wednesday, September 23 and Thursday, September 24 from 6:30 to 9:30PM. The course offered is the New Jersey State Safety Council's Program which is approved by the State of New Jersey. This will be taught by a retired police lieutenant/police driving academy driving instructor. For a 2-Point Reduction, the cost is \$65. For a 5% Insurance Discount, the cost is \$55. For both, the cost is \$65. Visit www.sayrevillelibrary.org or call 732-727-0212 for more information regarding eligibility requirements, registration, and accepted payments.

Coughlin (D-Middlesex) sponsored to enhance the punishment for assaulting certain law enforcement officers and employees who are targeted because of their work in law enforcement has been signed into law.

"This is not an easy job. These officers risk injury or worse when they report for work," said Coughlin. "It is important that we made it clear that if you assault one of these officers simply because of the work that they do, you will be charged with aggravated assault and punished accordingly."

The law (A-3836) upgrades simple assault to aggravated assault if the assault is committed against certain law enforcement officers and employees because of their job status.

Under former law, simple assault was upgraded to aggravated assault if the assault is committed against a Department of Corrections employee, county corrections officer, juvenile corrections officer, state juvenile facility employee, juvenile detention staff member, juvenile detention officer, probation

This new law clarifies that simple assault is upgraded to aggravated assault if the assault is committed against any of these law enforcement officers or employees because of their status as a staff member, probation officer, corrections employee, undersheriff, or other law enforcement officer.

Aggravated assault under is a crime of the third degree if the victim suffers bodily injury; otherwise it is a crime of the fourth degree. A crime of the third degree is punishable by a term of imprisonment of three to five years; a fine of up to \$15,000, or both. A crime of the fourth degree is punishable by a term of imprisonment for not more than 18 months, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

"Law enforcement work is inherently dangerous. Sometimes the uniform can be enough of a provocation for troublemakers," said Coughlin. "Law enforcement officers have enough to deal with without having to worry about this additional threat. This law can help by serving as a deterrent."



This talented group of young musicians played some terrific original music at Buddies Tavern Open Mic Night.



Beaches, Lakes, Oceans, Rivers, Sea, Bay, Etc	
•	Burkard
Beach Baby	a. The Marvelettes
2Indian Lake	b. Creedence Clearwater Revival
BFire Lake	c. Otis Redding
Dirty Water	d. Bobby Bloom
5Green River	e. Mr. Acker Bilk
6Moon River	f. The Platters
Sea Cruise	g. The First Class
8Montego Bay	h. The Beach Boys
Sitting On The Dock Of The Bay	i. The Duprees
0Brighton Beach	j. Neil Young
1Stranger On The Shore	k. Bobby Darin
2Down By The River	1. The Honey Drippers
3Harbor Lights	m. Bruce Springsteen
4Too Many Fish In The Sea	n. The Band
5The Girls On The Beach	o. Frankie Ford
6The Sand And The Sea	p. The Standells
7Up On Cripple Creek	q. The Cowsills
8Sea Of Love	r. Andy Williams
9The River	s. Bob Seeger
20Beyond The Sea	t. Rod Stewart
Answers:	

# You Tube-In

1961-For all you Doo-Wop fans out there, "Little Girl So Fine" by Ray and The Darchaes is a really good song, that featured Sam Siciliano, who recently died. He was an executive with the Asbury Park Press newspaper. On the flip side of the 45, the group had an original called "Carol"...1964-A song we guarantee you never heard, "Alone On The Beach," no not by The Beach Boys, but a little-known group called The Fantastic Baggys is a nice tune with beautiful harmonies (Yes, similar to The Beach Boys). Give it a listen. The song is only 1:56, and it's surprising that these boys didn't reach stardom back in the day...

Some new songs/videos to check out: Bon Jovi's "We Don't Run," which was written for the new movie "Southpaw." On Aug. 21st, the group released a new CD "Burning Bridges." In September, Bon Jovi will begin his latest tour at Indonesia with the first stop Jacarta... The Rolling Stones'

## **#1 Country Hits On** Aug. 29

2001-Austin-Blake Shelton

1990-Next To You, Next To Me-Shenandoah 1983-You're Gonna Ruin My Bad Reputation-Ronnie McDowell

1971-Good Lovin'-Tammy Wynette 1965-Yes, Mr. Peters-Roy Drusky & Priscilla Mitchell

1957-Teddy Bear-Elvis Presley

# **Sayreville Day** Schedule

10:30 - 11:00 Opening Ceremonies 11:00 - 12:30 Patsy Palma and Family 12:40 - 1:00 Main Street Theatre 1:00 - 1:20 Black Belt Karate 1:25 - 1:35 Head Over Heels 1:40 - 2:00 Bodies In Motion Dance Centre 2:15 - 3:30 Clem and Friends

'82 hit, "Hang Fire" only reached #20 on the charts, but still sounds cool today... On the country-side, Alabama is back with a great brand new one, "Wasn't Through Lovin' You Yet"...

"Let's Go" was a pretty cool song title, which was used successfully by a few groups with different versions. The tune first hit the charts in '62, when The Routers took it to #19; The Cars version reached #14 in 1979; Wang Chung made it to #9 in '87; In 2004, Trick Daddy with Twista & Lil John drove it to #7. "Come On Let's Go" also charted with The McCoys going to #22 in 1966, and Los Lobos went one notch higher in 1987 at #21...

Country-Terri Clark has a new song out, "I Cheated On You," which should do pretty well on the country charts...if it gets the airplay... "Stronger Than That," by Craig Campbell is about someone fighting cancer, and the video is an inspiration to see.

# #1 Pop Hits On Aug. 29

2003-Crazy In Love-Beyonce with Jay-Z 1992-End Of The Road-Boyz II Men 1985-The Power Of Love-Huey Lewis & The News

1972-Brandy-Looking Glass 1968-People Got To Be Free-The Rascals 1958-Bird Dog-The Everly Brothers

# "Doo Wop" Finale At Ocean Grove

The Duke is back! Gene Chandler, aka "The Duke of Earl," will be joined by The Crystals, Vito and the Salutations, and Bill Haley Jr. and The Comets, at Ocean Grove's Great Auditorium on Saturday September 5. Tickets are \$30 reserved, \$25 general admission. The Great Auditorium is located at Pilgrim Way and Ocean Pathways, in Ocean Grove, NJ. Reservations: 1-800-590-4064 or online: www.oceangrove.org;. The Great Auditorium is located at Pilgrim and Ocean Pathways in Ocean Grove, NJ. All facilities are handicapped-accessible.

# **RUMBLES FROM THE ROCK AND ROLL REUNION**

By Clem Skarzynski

Attention all Gearheads, Grease Monkeys, and Rock and Rollers of all ages!!It's time for Mr.Jerry Ust and the Staff for the Sayreville Rec Deptartment's 8th annual "Blast from the Past" Car Show and Concert.. Saturday, Sept.12 th, at Sayreville Kennedy Park.The fun starts at 5pm..and "Clem and Friends" will be rockin the Park for all to enjoy!! Got a talented bunch of local musicians with Tim and Fran Fee from the Rockdaddys, Jerry and Ron Mokar, from Collage, Emerson Jones from Basement Audio, along with the writer, and we'll be playing your favorite "Classic Rock" from the 50's to the 70's..also expecting a few "surprise guests to join us onstage too...and I'm hearing there's gonna be a "mini class reunion" of the class of '67 (that's 1967 for all you wise guys out there) from S.W.M.H.S... joining the crowd...this event has been just awesome from it's inception 8 years ago... and the "Customs..Hot Rods..Bikes..Race Cars"..and anything cool on wheels have been "overflowing" the park year after year ... Richie Hart, the D.J. with Heart...along with the Just Us Cruisers Car Club..will once again host this, the "best Car Show and Concert in Central Jersey"....Cool Rides...Live Classic Rock..Refreshments, and great company.. For more info, call..732-390-7092/390-7096...so, Classmates from the Class of '67.. and every other class before and after...see you there..AND .. the following day, Sunday the 13th brings us.."Sayreville Day"..organized and hosted by Patti Burch and Elyse Barone with the entire Sayreville Day Staff, Sayreville's Kennedy Park will again be overflowing with our Boro's residents, and visitors from neighboring towns, enjoying the entertainment..food...games..rides and numerous other attractions the yearly event has to offer..It's quite an accomplishment by the entire staff, and the Rec Dept....

so,again..c'mon out and enjoy.Scheduled musical entertainment is "Patsy Palma and Family" 'and "Clem and Friends".other acts appearing will be, Main Street Theatre Company, Black Belt Karate, Head Over Heels, and Bodies in Motion Dance Centre.. for more info on this event call Elyse Barone at 732-390-7008. Rain date for Sayreville Day is Sunday, Sept.27th. And..more great news for you rockers out there, young and old alike..good friend and fellow musician Dave Florio, keyboardist for "Krystal",has just opened "Sound Cave Studios" at 120  $Main \,St., Sayreville.. The \,Rehears al \,Studio \,is$ complete with everything needed for us rockers to walk in "ROCK"...Amps/Keys/P.A.... it's all there...AND..if it's all sounding "good," just say the word and you're able to "Record" your session!! Also..Rockstar Idol Fantasy Parties..Private "Ladies Nite Out" Karaoke Parties, Birthday Recording Parties, and every imaginable Production Service will be available, from Rehearsing to Recording...Dave and Co.will have numerous "packages" for your every need and want for every service at the studio... Hours will be by appointment..and Dave has 40 years experience in the music/recording industry, to help you "get it right", and sound like a "pro"...you can contact Dave at,732-416-8177..or find "Sound Cave Studios at soundcavestudiosnj@gmail.com....and facebook.com/soundcavestudiosnj...also.. lets not forget our friends at the South Amboy Knights..They're having their Car show Friday,Sept.11th(the nite before ours]..and the first "Open Mic" of the season...Friday, Sept.25th..so "Tune it or Lose it", and get ready to R.O.C.K.!! So...hoping to see you at the upcoming "Rockin' Weekend"at Kennedy Park..Sat./Sun.,Sept.12th-13th... Be Well All...



South Amboy resident Sandor Schneck, one of the area's most talented musicians holds a BBQ/Jam at his house each summer, and features many outstanding musicians. Jimmy Keegan, pictured above, is an amazing guitarist, who plays in 4 bands including popular local group, The Black Knights, who are led by standout frontman/vocalist, Tom Kelly of Sayreville. (Photo/story by Tom Burkard)

# **The Local Sports Memory Machine**

By Tom Burkard

### **From The Sports Archives**



**1995**-Does this Men's Slow Pitch Softball team look familiar to you? It's Gianna's Crew, that competed in the Sayreville Slow Pitch Softball League. Pictured kneeling (l-r) Willy Carling, Eddy Heppel, ?, Bill Brower, ?, Dennis Gissell, ?. Standing (l-r) Mickey Mauro, Jim Kenny, ?, John Van Orten, ?, Don Heimall, Mike Sluboski, Roger Franklin. (Photo/info courtesy of the Debbie Carling)

# South Amboy Sabres 40 Years Ago

The South Amboy Sabres Pop Warner Midget football team slammed South River, 27-0. SA got off to a flying start, when Johnny Munck broke loose for a beautiful 9-yard touchdown run. Mike Attardi returned a punt for a TD, which was followed by an extra point on a pass from Alex MacNeil to

### Champions

1984-The Astros won the South Amboy Midget League championship with a (13-3) record, and swept 3 games in the playoffs. George Seaman was the manager, and his coaches were Lou Green, Harry Finnegan, and L. Green. The talented youngsters on the roster were: Jim Holovacko, John Erdek, Keith Gorman, Lou Green, Scott Carroll, Pat Bielak, Rob Thomas, Gerard Finnegan, Matt Cannon, Nick Haak, Jon Christie, Dan Seaman, Oliver Horan, Chris DeLude. Shawn Leonard. MacNeil then recovered a fumble and raced 46 yards for a score. Munck followed with an extra point run. MacNeil fired a 38-yard TD bomb to Paul Bergin, and Ray Kreiger cut loose on a 14-yard TD run, while MacNeil scored the extra point for the victorious Sabres.

## Frog Hollow Annual Road Race 25 Years Ago

1990-In the 1-mile Fun Run, the top finishers were Male-John Lukie, and Female-Leah Soltis. In the 5-Mile Run, Madelyn Noe of Sayreville finished 1st place in the female category. The first Frog Hollow male to finish was Rich Tanchyk, and the first female was Patti Borbely.

# South Amboy/Sayreville Athletes Who Played/Coached High School Sports For Other Schools

#### Part 1

There were many South Amboy/ Sayreville athletes who opted to go to high schools other than our local schools. So many excelled in sports, and in the next couple of issues we will acknowledge that they participated in varsity sports, and also mention the school they played at, as well as the town they are from.

Ernie Read-Perth Amboy Tech, East Brunswick Vo-Tech, coach, (South Amboy); Mike Lyons-St. Peter's, basketball (Sayreville); A.J. Boyer-East Brunswick Tech, baseball, (South Amboy); Nicole Scarillo-St. John Vianney, softball, (South Amboy); Nick Scarillo-CBA, baseball, (SouthAmboy); A.J. Szatkowski-CBA, baseball, (SouthAmboy); Anthony LaVigne-St. John Vianney, baseball, (South Amboy); Chris Martin-Perth Amboy Vo-Tech, baseball (South Amboy); Larry Martin Jr.-Perth Amboy Vo-Tech, basketball, soccer (South Amboy) Jack Trenta-CBA, basketball (Sayreville); Paul Chrzaszcz-East Brunswick Tech, baseball, (South Amboy); ; Darren LaVigne-Perth Amboy Vo-Tech, baseball, basketball (South Amboy); Jim Smith-Perth Amboy Vo-Tech, soccer, (South Amboy); Glenn Reiger-Perth Amboy Vo-Tech, soccer (South Amboy); Craig Gorczyca-CBA, basketball (South Amboy); Kevin Zakrzewski-Perth Amboy Vo-Tech, basketball (South Amboy); Jack O'Leary-Croydon Hall, football, cross country, baseball, basketball, (South Amboy); Janet Ust-Bishop Ahr, volleyball, basketball, (Sayreville); Tami Coyle-St. John Vianney, softball, soccer, basketball, (Sayreville); Tom Jacobi-St. Mary's Perth Amboy, baseball, (Sayreville); Mike Novak-Bishop Ahr. baseball. (South Ambov): Jamie Soltys-Bishop Ahr, baseball, (South Amboy); Rob Applegate-East Brunswick Tech, baseball, (South Amboy); Manny Garcia-St. Joseph's, basketball, (South Amboy); Bill Garcia-St. Joseph's, basketball (South Amboy).

Post Graduates who played for Prep schools after high school graduation:

Bill "Biff" McKeon-St. Benedict's Prep, baseball, (St. Mary's); Jerry Gorczyca-Rutgers Prep, basketball, (St. Mary's); Gary Stratton-Rutgers Prep, basketball, (Hoffman); Bob Shorosky-Rutgers Prep, basketball, (Sayreville).

# Locals who coached varsity sports at other high schools:

Bill "Biff" McKeon-Madison Twp., baseball, (South Amboy) Bill Bulman-St. John Vianney, girls basketball, (South Amboy); Greg Wyzyzkowski-South River, boys

### **Glory Days In Local Sports** 1957-St. Mary'snipped

Red Bank Catholic, 3-2 on the baseball diamond. Charlie Conroy was the winning pitcher, and Tom Pristavec blasted a 3-run homer. 1969-Sayreville pounded Perth Amboy, 12-2 in baseball action. Winning

pitcher Frank Olszewski ripped a single and double, Joe Gabel laced 2 singles, and Bob Gaspartich unloaded a long triple. 1976-Hoffman baseball team smashed Somerset Vo-Tech, 12-0 on a brilliant 1-hitter by Jack Conlon, who also drove in 3 runs. Greg Kardos and Pete Toth added 2 RBI apiece. 1984-Hoffman beat St. Pius, 7-4 in baseball. Winning pitcher Mark Thompson struck out 6. Kevin Gorczyca belted an RBI double, and Billy Bright added 2 hits.

1999-St. Mary's stopped Mother Seton, 12-2 in softball play. Jackie DuBois went 2-for-2 with a double and 4 RBI. Winning pitcher Jill Palomo knocked in 2 runs for the Lady Eagles. 2002-Sayreville girls' softball squad pounded Perth Amboy, 10-1 behind winning pitcher Jessica Small. Danielle Martin belted a single and triple to knock in 3 runs, Lisa Oriolo added 2 hits and had 2 RBI, while Julia Switzer also stroked 2 hits and drove in 2 runs.

### T.H.E. Game

Year-1970

Sport-Baseball

Teams-Sayreville (9-1) vs. St. Mary's (5-7) Game #1

Lineups Savreville

Joe Gabel 3b Bob Casazza 2b Dan Hocke-

jos ss Kevin Lynch rf Rich Lerche lf Rick Popowski cf Jim Campion 1b Gary Unkel c Greg Lyonp. Res. Olszewski 3b Bruce Buckiewicz lf Cristosi 2b Tony Mancini rf Gorrie 1b Mike Drahos PR Bruce Marcinczyk c. St. Mary's

Joe Kelly cf Dan Weinman rf Nick Charmello ss Bernie Mackiel c John Ammon 3b Tom Boychuk lf Dave Wisniewski 2b Bob Miller 1b Jim Shannon p. Res. Doug Sprgaue rf Mike Luczkow p.

Recap-Lefty fireballer Greg Lyon was phenomenal, firing a 2-hit shutout against the Eagles, while belting an RBI double to lead the Bombers to a 6-0 victory. Joe Gabel blasted a 3-run homer, Rick Popowski drilled an RBI triple, and Kevin Lynch added an RBI single. Nick Charmello and Tom Boychuk got the only hits for the Saints, as Jim Shannon took the setback and fanned 4 Bombers. The win was the 9th in a row for Coach John Wortley's Sayreville squad. Player-Of-The-Game-Greg Lyon

rayer-or-me-Game-Greg Lyon



# **Diamond Dust**

1975 South Amboy

the local communities.

Midget League

Mets 6 Orioles 1-Joe Hoffman led the way with 2 hits and 2 RBI. Steve Martin chipped in with 2 hits.

#### Little Fellas League

Modern Trans 1 English Chevron 0-Winning pitcher Frank Wahler was outstanding, as he fired a 3-hitter and struck out 11.

Rotary 8 Enterprise 7-George Carroll clubbed 3 hits for the winners.

Progressive 9 Lions 4-Winning pitcher Steve Richmond fired a 3-hitter.

First Aid 8 Jo-Tom's 3-Tim Bloodgood led the winners with 2 hits and 3 RBI. Bob Aucone and John Aube each belted home runs for Jo-Tom's.

#### Girls Softball League

Senators 11 Angels 1-Mary Cooper ripped 3 hits including a triple.

Rangers 15 Pirates 12-Winning pitcher Laurie Astarita laced 3 hits. Mary Beth Bowlby belted a home run and triple.

# 75 Years Ago

1940-Hoffman hammered Matawan, 7-1 in baseball action, as winning pitcher Leo Westernick fired a 4-hitter and struck out 7. "Buck" Buckalew and Nick DeBiase drilled 2 hits apiece.

# **From The Youth League Archives**

tennis (South Amboy);

Fact Book: Ernie Read has the most wins in history for the Perth Amboy Tech baseball team...Kevin Zakrzewski was the Middlesex County boys basketball scoring champion in the 1970's, and also scored over 1,000 points at Perth Amboy Vo-Tech...Janet Ust was an All-Area Basketball player for all 4 years at Bishop Ahr, and also All-Conference in volleyball...Tami Coyle was selected the Shore Conference of the Year during her senior year at St. John Vianney...In 1934, St. Mary's leading scorer in basketball was Ed Springsteen, who was a (PG) from Keyport, playing for the Eagles...Bill "Biff" McKeon coached the new Madison Twp. baseball team to its first win in history, a 12-5 romp over Hoffman...

\*We know we missed a lot of names, but if you were not mentioned in Part 1, it should make it in Part 2...If you help us! Call or drop us an e-mail and tell us what high school and varsity sports you played.

Watch for Part 2 in the September 26th issue!



**1953 or 1954**-Pictured is the Protection Fire Company's Little League baseball team that competed in the South Amboy Little League. Pictured front row (l-r) Joe Coughlin, Richard Dooling, Ed Conroy, Dennis Quinlan, Buddy Flanagan, Joe Jankowski. Back row (l-r) Ron Jurski, Philip Purcell, George Smith, Bill Moran, Bob Sullivan. Ed Conroy commented that "If we won we went back to the firehouse to get ice cream Dixie Cups, and from the way we all look, I guess we won." Ed also said that some team members were missing from the photo. (Photo/info courtesy of Ed Conroy)



**55 Years Ago** 1960-The Women's Auxiliary of South Amboy Memorial Hospital put a cookbook together with lots of tasty recipes from locals and also people from as far away as San Francisco, California. Others renowned people who contributed recipes were first ladies, Mamie Eisenhower and Lady Bird Johnson, as well as New Jersey Governor Richard Hughes. The cookbook by today's standards would be called a thicker type of program that is given out at banquets and other social events.

The locals who had their recipes included in this work were: Rosemary Bennett, Kay Baranowski, Edna Agan, Mary Szarejko, Bernice Witkowski, Eleanor Kurzawa, Agnes Subjack, Helen Kurzawa, Caroline Wenzel, Helen Kurowsky, Edna Chase, Peggy Kress, Mary Pohl, Carole Kurtz, Florence Pawlowski, Millicent Rehn, Elaine Burkard, Mary Beattie, Mildred Fox, Dorothy Wisniewski, Rose Pohl, Evelyn Krolik, Viola Point, Catherine Walczak, Doris Aiazzone, Ruth Applegate, Claire Cislo, Rosalie Point, Rose Nebus, Sara Deibert, Val Baranowski, Lucille Kurtz, Mildred Lewis, Marlene Barton, Christine Baranowski, Helen Woznica, Emelia Wisniewski.

\*A special thank you to Jim Kopystecky for sharing the cookbook with us so we could bring this great memory to our readers.

24-7 By Eleanore Krygier Munck 24-7 always there 125th Anniversary South Amboy Fire Department 1890-2015 1.4 mile city By the bay On 5-31-1890 The Independent Engine and Hose Company was established As time passed The Protection-1890 The Mechanicsville-1904 The Progressive-1921 The Enterprise on George Street Were established Staffed with dedicated volunteers 24-7 they were always there When the fire bell-box 911 sounded They were there For small fires and big fires Parades, Satski's ribs, etc. They were there Many thanks to past and present volunteers Who are always there 24-7 Eleanore Munck, age 86, is a former South Amboy resident, who still loves "The Pleasant Little City," and is forever grateful to

### The Prayer by Jessica Festini

our firefighters.

A woman went to bed one night and prayed; Dear Father, Teach me to love better Teach me to gain wisdom Teach me to give patience Teach me to control my temper Teach me to help my loved ones understand me Teach me to teach The same woman woke up the next morning and found out she would be a mom and month by month learned what she needed to be taught through a tiny blessing called a child.





**REHABILITATION SERVICES** PHONE 732-610-2528 FAX 732-416-6142

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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.





# THE CHILDREN'S CENTER FOR LEARNING OF SOUTH AMBOY

Is Now offering a before care & after care program for children ages 5-11

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Children will be dropped off at 8:30 a.m. at the South Amboy Elementary School and will be picked up by 2:40 p.m.

\*We accept all State voucher programs (Community Childcare Solutions) \*Weekly paying program and only one-week deposit \*Homework help \*4:30 snack & drink \*We are open during the holiday breaks when most schools are closed (Christmas/NYE week, Easter Recess) \*We are open 12 months out of the year \*We offer an affordable Summer Camp Program Call now for more information and our affordable prices!!

148 North Broadway, South Amboy

732-727-7373



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

Fluke fishing in both the bay and ocean is producing mostly short fish. There are a few keepers to be sure but you have to work hard to get one. There is a decent number of keeper Fluke caught from the surf at the south end of LBI. Blowfish are there in the bayside. There have been a few Kingfish in the surf in that area. Surf fishing at local beaches in the bay has been slow. I didn't see anything, but I heard of a few very small Bluefish in the surf. The big Cow Nose Rays have made an unwanted appearance. I saw a few jumping out of the water at Cliffwood Beach. Watching your rod is a must, when the Rays are around or else goodbye rod!! Party boat Bluefishing is slow. There are a few small fish caught and Chunk Mackerel are mixed in at times, otherwise they end up bottom fishing to fill out the day. Wreck fishing in the Mud Hole still consists of Ling, a few Cod and some large Winter Flounder. I even heard of a stray haddock-unusual for this far south.

#### **Fresh Water**

The very hot weather has taken its toll on all fresh water fishing. All Trout fishing statewide has been poor and the same for Bass and Pickerel at night in Spruce Run and Lake Hopatcong. Hybrids are hitting on live bait and chicken livers. Catfish of all species are being caught at night too. You can catch Carp anytime with corn and dough bait.



#### 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; and 3) Several compartments to avoid shifting contents.

The American Chiropractic Association recommends the following:

Fax: 732-721-1228



New Patients Seen Same Day

**CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATES OF** SAYREVILLE CARES FOR YOU

Through all life's ages ... and stages



60 lb. person 61-75 lb. person 100 lb. person

5 lb. backpack 10 lb. backpack 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.



This ring toss game was one of the most popular activities on Broadway during the Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1 Antique and Classic Car Show & Flea Market. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

# **Old Friends**



Three old friends from St. Mary's HS Class of 1970 reminisced at the Antique and Classic Car Show & Flea Market. Pictured (l-r) Ray Downs, former South Amboy Police Chief Jerry Pizzillo, and former Sayreville Police Chief Mike Burns. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



The Somerset Patriots welcomed South Amboy YMCA summer camp kids onto the TD Ballpark field during the camps visit to the park. (Photo/Story Submitted)

# SA YMCA Summer Campers Get Up Close And Personal With Somerset Patriots

SouthAmboy YMCA summer campers on the Patriots, visit http://www.somersetgot a special treat on Thursday, August 6, patriots.com/. 2015 when they visited the Somerset Patriots at TD Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater. The kids got the opportunity to go onto the field for the singing of the National Anthem, and even talk to some of the ball players! "It was a very memorable experience for many of them," said Kaleigh DeLucca, summer camp and childcare director at the South Amboy YMCA. "I think it was a first for all of them!" The Somerset Patriots are an American professional baseball team and a member of the Liberty Division of the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball. The Patriots are the winningest franchise in the Atlantic League, capturing five championship series titles, the most recent in 2009. For more information



About the YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy

The Y is one of the nation's leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the U.S., 2,700 Ys engage 21 million men, women and children - regardless of age, income or background-to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation's health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. Anchored in more than 10,000 communities, the Y has the long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. ymca.net

# A Beginners Guide to Windows 8 & 10

For everyone who still remains befuddled by Windows 8 and wants to learn all about the new Windows 10, come down to Sayreville Public Library on Tuesday, September 22 from 6:00 to 8:00PM. You can even bring your own device to follow along

so that you can walk away with a better understanding of these systems.

Adults only, please. To register, contact Alaina at alainad@lmxac.org or call 732-727-0212 ex. 25. You may also register online at www.sayrevillelibrary.org/.





### **Obituaries**

Baranowski, John, 45, formerly of South Amboy died on July 16.

Benson, Lawrence Sr., 84, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 10.

Blaska, Wanda Macko, 86, of Sayreville died on Aug. 15.

Bowlby, Margaret "Peggy," M., 82, of South Amboy died on July 18.

Buehler, Ethel, of South Amboy died on Aug. 6.

Conroy, Joan M. Dooling, 95, of South Amboy died on July 20.

Crater, Richard "Richie" C., 70, of Parlin died on July 23.

Czachur, Shirley, 77, of Sayreville died on July 14.

Dittmer, George III, 49, of Sayreville died on Aug. 8.

Eppinger, Margaret M. "Marge," 73, of Sayreville died on July 27.

Gaynor, James, 86, of Parlin died on Aug. 7.

Hulsart, Jessica A., 35, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 5.

Jedrusiak, Frank J., 78, of Sayreville died on Aug. 5.

Kabara, Ronald J., 73, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 8.

Kover, Frances Meisner Sekerak, 91, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 5.

Malaquias, Francis "Frank," 77, of Sayreville died on Aug. 5.

Malinowski, Marion T. Suminski, 88, of South Amboy died on Aug. 11.

Martin, Lawrence P. "Larry" Sr., 74, of South Amboy died on Aug. 11.

Mauro, Rosalie E. Ellvinger, 91, of South Amboy died on Aug. 17.

McCoy, Dolores, 84, of Sayreville died on July 16.

Murphy, Angelina, 87, of Morgan died on Aug. 7.

Nemeth, Lillian, 91, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 18.

O'Brien, Thomas A., 94, of South Amboy died on July 18.

Pugliese, Sharon of Sayreville died on Aug. 13.

Schwolow, John C., 94, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 1.

Sobolweski, Zbigniew, 63, of South Amboy died on Aug. 2.

Sobush, Frances M. Tarallo, 97, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 15.

Stawinski, Albin, 83, of Sayreville died on July 27.

Theurich, Bernard, 93, of Parlin died on July 10.

Welsh, William H. Jr., 72, of South Amboy died on July 26.

Westfall, William Magee II, 31, of South Amboy died on July 28.

Winnicki, John R., 82, formerly of South Amboy died on June 29.



Born in New Brunswick, she lived in South Amboy most of her life before moving to

Toms River in 2013. She

well as a wide assortment of aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and friends who

deeply loved her.

Lillian enjoyed bingo, gardening, flowers, traveling to Atlantic City, and watching her grandchildren.

NJ. Born in Perth Amboy, Lillian resided

in South Amboy before moving to Wall.

Lillian was the last of ten children and is survived by her children, Sharyn Nemeth, Howell, Helen Kwitkowski and her husband John, Brandon Florida, John Nemeth South Amboy, and Gloria Peterson Toms River. She was the loving grandmother of Lauren, Jeanine, Kevin, Jessica, James, Kimberly, and Brett. She is also survived by her twelve Great Grandchildren.

A private family memorial was held on Saturday, August, 22, 2015, at O'Brien Funeral Home. For further information or to send condolences to the family please visit www.obrienfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Geraldine Thompson Care Center, Wall NJ.



was employed by Bonefish Grill, Brick. A graduate of South Amboy High School, she earned an Associate in Arts degree from Middlesex County College, Edison and was currently attending Georgian Court

University, Lakewood, majoring in Art and Holistic Health. She was also a certified yoga instructor and a Reiki Healer.

She is survived by her fiance, Gene Mercer; her sons, Jackson and Kevin Mercer; her

#### PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

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



college fund. Please make checks payable to Jackson Mercer c/o 363 Portia St., South Amboy, NJ 08879. - See more at: http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/ app/obituary.aspx?pid=175458055#sthash. GD3XXNXe.dpuf

#### 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. -Anonymous

She always leaned to watch for us Anxious if we were late In winter by the window In summer by the gate

And though we mocked her tenderly Who had such foolish care The long way home would seem more safe Because she waited there

Her thoughts were all so full of us She never could forget And so I think that where she is She must be watching yet

Waiting/till we come home to he Anxious if we are late Watching from heavens window Leaning from Heavens' gate

Sadly missed by Husband, Children, Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren

#### 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.



Jeff Pawlowski, Jim Zagata, Kevin Hildreth, Glenn Methner - in Budapest on the way to Poland. (Photo courtesy of Alexis Pawlowski)

# Poland/Sayreville Share Similar Names

Recently returned from their annual trip to Poland, my father, Jeff Pawlowski, and his friends Glenn Methner and Jim Zagata informed me of some interesting information they found regarding the extreme similarity of the family names of Sayreville and the names they saw in a small Polish town just south of Krakow called Lipnica Murowana. The journey started at first when they sought to find the towns of their own ancestors. After contacting family and friends for stories and clues, Jeff managed to find the town that he thought his ancestors were from, Lipnica Murowana. After doing further research on ancestry.com, the gang contacted their friend Chris Koszalka, who grew up in Sayreville but also runs his family's hotel in Polanczyk, for help. Soon they were off to Poland. After meeting up with Chris and spending a night at his hotel, they headed to Lipnica Murowana's town hall and then to the city's Roman Catholic Church, Saint Simon's, for more information. They were soon referred to the churches cemetery. Even though Jeff did not find the names he were looking for, Pawlowski, Witkowski and Grombeski, his friend Glenn Methner was able to find

the names of his grandmother, Bronislawa Wlodarczyk, and his grandfather, Jan Jozef Krakowski. They also found the names of many of the people they recognized from Sayreville. Upon seeing familiar names such as Dusko, Felik, Zagata, Poporta, Lesniak, Fielek, Obel, and Kurek, they felt as if they were walking through the Saint Stan's Cemetery right in Sayreville. They were so surprised by this similarity that they decided to research it more once they returned home. In the early 1900's a labor shortage existed for the growing industries in Sayreville. Agents were sent all over Eastern Europe to recruit men and women to fill these positions. Both Sayre and Fischer Brick Company and the DuPont Company's agents recruited large numbers of people from Lipnica Murowana and the surrounding areas. Even though Jeff did not find his name on this trip, he did not give up. Upon finding his grandfather's passport, written in Russian, he uncovered new clues that pointed towards Lomza, an area in northeast Poland. The gang will head out again in February 2016 in search of their Polish roots.

# Death in the Family: A Tribute to the Cardinal McCarrickHigh School Family

When a former student of Cardinal McCarrick High School and friend of our community told me about the closure, I felt a sense of death, was very saddened, and started grieving. You see Cardinal McCarrick High School was like a family. I grew up as a teacher there and was blessed to get to know both staff and students, people I will never forget. The building has closed, but the family does not end. 130 years is a legacy and I was blessed to be part of the last decade and our congregation part of the last 30. First I must say Thank you for the beautiful memories and lessons learned that I will cherish for a lifetime.

I remember when I visited my grandma the last time. She was 95 and had lived a good life; traveled the world, enjoyed golfing, watching tennis, and every once in a while a good game of backgammon with her granddaughter. She was not Catholic like me but she said she was the proud grandma of a nun. It was not an easy visit, partly because she was constantly in pain and this is not how I had ever experienced her, but mostly because I knew this would be the last time I would see her and be able to speak to her. The most agonizing moment actually was having a delayed flight and realizing I could have spent at least another hour with her. Time is precious and sometimes we do not realize what we have until it is gone. But in this case, I had realized the gift I had at CMHS as I left. The people were wonderful, a true family, working together, supporting each other, listening, loving, learning and laughing. There were tough times of course but that is what makes a family even better - sticking together, helping each other out.

us remember special times or people. When I was stuck in the airport I found a sea otter and cub that now remind me of my grandma, and since I have animals in my science classroom, I can even talk about her when I share the significance of the sea otter and why I want it to be treated with respect (less roughness on the part of the guys). I have an eagle, the mascot of CMHS, that can remind me but I think the greatest reminders are of the people and adventurers had are written on my heart.

A photograph helps us remember those who are important to us but old time photos are put in a box or an album that we rarely open, and now phones (which I do not have or need) have these collections but only small digital captures of time. I remember our German Reverend Mother, while visiting the U.S. years ago, took time and slowly looked at everything. She was taking pictures with her mind. I have learned since that she takes pictures (as I do) but that action of hers back then really impressed me. Let not time pass us by, take in the moments, enjoy and savor, like prayer which is taking time to listen, to soak in the graces, to be open to what is offered and not to be too quick as to miss the opportunity given. So I will remember the people who have gone before me and the school family I was blessed to be part of. I am happy to have some pictures of precious moments, like the March for Life trips with all the students who were passionate about life, the adventures of Science Club, and my Canada wall (a collection of animals and scenery that captured by beloved home near the Rocky Mountains so thank you Angela for painting the masterpiece and Carlie for photographing the wall so that I could bring it to Illinois), but I am thankful most for the

### Local Wildlife



Pictured is Cindy Nalavany of Helmetta, who was walking with her friend Jill Shell of Sayreville at Kennedy Park, and saw a duck that appeared to be in trouble on the edge of the lake,, and was tangled in fishing line, a hook, and fishing lure. They untangled the animal and brought it to shore, only to find that the hook was stuck down in its throat, and had another hook lodge in its leg. They tried their best to gently help the animal, but had no success with getting the hooks out, and called Animal Rescue and a few other organizations to see if they could get help. The ladies stayed with the distressed animal until dark, waiting for help. This SA Times reporter had to leave, so if anyone knows what the outcome of this rescue mission was, please let us know by e-mailing: satimes@aol.com. Congratulations Cindy and Jill for your efforts to try and save the life of a beautiful duck! (Photo/story by Tom Burkard)



This green frog was spotted recently at Kennedy Park in Sayreville. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



Sometimes mementos or souvenirs help

This gray seal was spotted recently in the Raritan Bay close to Waterfront Park. It was later sighted swimming in Morgan Creek. (Photo By Angela Kennedy)

impressions these and many blessed times made on my mind and heart.

It was said to me more than once that teaching in New Jersey is tough but I never received anything but respect, acceptance, and love. I think I prefer students who are a little rough on the edges and challenge is good for the soul. I do not wear a badge that says I can teach anywhere now; I have a heart that says hold nothing back!

The day I found out about the school closure, I asked each of my classes at Alleman High School in Rock Island to pray for the school I came from. They had heard many stories as I had talked about Jersey a lot when I first moved to Illinois. In one class after our prayer, a student said "You are part of our family now." What a beautiful thing to say. I know he meant it and sensed the grief I was experiencing. Teaching in a Catholic school is a privilege and a blessing. Parents entrust their children to you and I have experienced nothing but generosity from these people who already sacrifice so much to have their children in a Catholic school.

I had to write this, like unfinished business, not a eulogy but a tribute to all the people that made an impression on me and to all whom we had an impact on each other. Praise God for the opportunity! Grief takes time. It has been six years since my grandma died, and I remember her and other loved ones as if they were still here with me. My beloved Cardinal McCarrick family keeps surfacing in my mind and will always remain in my heart and prayers.

- Sister M. Benedicta, FSGM My Religious Community: www.altonfranciscans.org





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