

### O'Brien Wins Primary In Sayreville

Incumbent Mayor Kennedy O'Brien easily outdistanced challenger and former Republican Councilman Frank Bella, 433 votes to 128 to win the Republican Party's nod for the mayoral election in November.

### Fitzsimmons Leads Locals On All-State Teams

By Tom Burkard

NJ.Com/Star Ledger selected several local high school softball and baseball players for its All-State teams. Erin Fitzsimmons, star pitcher for the GMCT champion Sayreville softball team was chosen 1st Team All-Group 4, and also 3rd Team All-Groups. Other softball standouts picked were South Amboy's Samantha Rios, 1st Team All-Group 1, and her teammate Alissa Bikowski, 3rd Team All-Group 1. In baseball, Sayreville's ace pitcher Pete Soporowski was a 3rd Team All-Group 4 choice, and Keith Warzecha of South Amboy was honored with a 3rd Team All-Group 1 pick. Congratulations to all on a truly memorable season!

### Antique & Classic Car Show/Flea Market

Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1 will present its 16th Annual Antique & Classic Car Show and Flea Market on Sunday, Aug. 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Broadway in South Amboy. Rain date is Sunday, Aug. 9.

The event will be a fun-filled day for the entire family, and in addition to some of the finest antique and classic cars on the planet, will feature Vans, Race Cars, 4 x 4's, and bikes. There will be plenty of food throughout the day, and make sure you come and taste the famous Satski's Ribs. 50/50 Raffles will be held, and there will be lots of prizes to win. Listen to some great 50's music provided by Jukebox Jimmy. Don't forget to watch the fabulous Irish dancers. For the entrants, there will be \*Blacktop Parking \*Chief's Trophy \*Mayor's Trophy \*Sponsor Award Trophies \*No Judging of Vehicles \*Fans Choice of Trophies. Due to the economy, the entry price for contestants is being lowered to \$5 for early registrants! Advanced entry fee is \$5 per vehicle/Day of Show entry is \$15. Pre-Registration deadline is July 31.

Vendors/Craft Vendors are wanted to participate at this big event. Early entry is \$20, and Day of Show entry is \$25. For more info call or write: Mike Toth, 41 Miara St., Parlin, NJ 08859. (908-930-3497) or e-mail at: IndependenceFD@SouthAmboyNJ.gov.

### Harold G. Hoffman Multi-Class Reunion..

"Class of 65, come alive and help celebrate your 50th reunion at our annual multi-class reunion. It's been a long time since we've seen each other. This may be your last chance to be together once again So don't hesitate, let's celebrate our purple and gold colors for the dear old Governors. For info, contact Shots at 732-721-2956."

The reunion for ALL Hoffman graduates will be on Sunday, September 20, 2015 at Mara's, located at Rte. 35 N and Catherine street in South Amboy. The hours are from 1-5 and the cost is \$50. Please send payment to Susan Mattsson, 241 Cindy Street, Old Bridge, NJ 08857.



Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's High School Student Ambassadors from the graduating class of 2015 are pictured prior to the graduation ceremonies. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

### Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's Closes Doors

By Tom Burkard

It was a sad day in "The Pleasant Little City," when the Diocese of Metuchen announced that Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's High School would not reopen in September, after educating literally thousands of students since the school was founded in 1885.

Students and parents were totally shocked and heartbroken, and some angry that the school would no longer be open. Those who planned on attending the school in September will be given the opportunity to attend Bishop Ahr HS in Edison, according to the diocese.

Diocesan superintendent Ellen Ayoub said in a news release that "It was not just one factor that led to the decision. The accumulated weight of so many issues indicated that there was no option but to close

the school."

The school, the oldest in the diocese of Metuchen, was celebrating its 130th year, and once had a peak attendance of 500 students, but only 210 registered for the 2015-16 school year, according to the diocese. The South Amboy school was paid a \$1.8 million subsidy per year by the diocese, which was no longer affordable.

St. Mary's opened in September 1885, and taught grades 9-11, and in 1918, 12th grade was added. The school was renamed to Cardinal McCarrick High School in 2001 by Bishop Vincent Breen, in honor of Bishop Theodore McCarrick, the first bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen.

\*See lots of comments and memories on page 7.



**Champions!** The Sayreville girls' softball team lets everyone know who's number 1 following their GMCT championship win over East Brunswick. (Photo by Tom Burkard) \*More photos on page 17.

### Bombers Cop GMCT Championship

By Tom Burkard

Coach Crista DeLucia's Sayreville Bombers girls' softball squad captured the Greater Middlesex County Tournament (GMCT) title by romping over East Brunswick, 7-0. Ace pitcher Erin Fitzsimmons was amazing, as she fired a brilliant 2-hit shutout, and also added a sac fly RBI. For her superb efforts, she was selected MVP of the GMCT. The Bombers jumped off to

an early 2-0, first inning lead, when Mary Kate Kersting ripped a 2-run single. Other big offensive contributors were power-hitting shortstop Ryane Brush, who blasted a 2-run homer, and center fielder Brianna Parisio, with 2 hits and an RBI. Congratulations to Coach DeLucia and her outstanding Sayreville Bombers softball team on a job well-done!

### Rittenhouse Re-Elected Chairman Of Republicans

Art Rittenhouse was re-elected as Committee Chairman of the Sayreville Republican Municipal Committee at the annual meeting on June 10, and pledged to run an aggressive campaign in the upcoming

election in November. Also elected to the Committee were David Lewis, Vice-Chair, Ken Kreismer, Treasurer, and Rosetta Fisher, Secretary.

### Retired DuPont Worker Saves Life

A fast-thinking retired DuPont employee, John Trzeciak, 72, of South River was swimming at LA Fitness, and noticed something wrong with fellow swimmer, John Szabo, 68, of East Brunswick, who was about to go under the water. Trzeciak went to the man who suffered a heart attack, and with the aid of another swimmer, pulled Szabo out of the pool. Trzeciak performed CPR until East Brunswick Police took over. Congratulations John on your quick-thinking, and helping to save a fellow human being's life!



Track standout, Patrick Walsh (r) of South Amboy High School became the school's first athlete to win a state championship by capturing the 3,200. Congratulations, Patrick! (Photo by Brian Stratton)

### Walsh Makes History For South Amboy HS

South Amboy HS sophomore track sensation, Patrick Walsh became the first Governor athlete in history to win a state title, as he captured the NJSIAA Group 1, gold medal in the 3,200 in 9:59.95. This season was the school's first official track season. Congratulations, Patrick!

This Issue Is Dedicated In Memory Of

- Ginger Quirk
- Henry Wojciechowski

**NEXT ISSUE**  
**JULY 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**JERSEY SHORE SPECIAL**  
**DEADLINES**  
**July 13<sup>th</sup>**  
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## Talk Of The Towns

By Tom Burkard

### Congratulations Joe and Gary

Congratulations to former South Amboy resident, Joe Charmello, who retired last September, after 27 years of dedication and hard work with the South Brunswick Police Dept. Joe worked his way through the ranks and finished his excellent career with the prestigious rank of Captain.

Sayreville resident, Gary Lange, who was formerly of South Amboy retired recently after 38 1/2 years of service with the United States Postal Service (USPS), working out of the South Amboy branch. He is currently in his fifth year as Union President of Garden State Merged Branch 444. Gary was one of the fastest walking mailmen in history, and always made sure his deliveries were on time! Once again, congratulations Captain Joe and President Gary!

### McCarthy Graduates From U. Of Delaware

Daniel F. McCarthy of Sayreville, son of David and Joan (Vanni) McCarthy graduated from the University of Delaware on May 30 with a Bachelor of Science degree, with a Finance major, and Economics and Political Science minor. Daniel is a 2011 grad of Sayreville War Memorial HS. He will begin working at Corporate Executive Board (CEB) in Arlington, VA, as a Research Analyst and Consultant starting in August. Congratulations, Dan!

### In Memoriam

Marjorie Whitaker, 68, of Sayreville died on May 13. She was a Hoffman HS graduate, who worked as a school crossing guard in South Amboy until her retirement. Rita Clayton, 87, of Morgan died on May 19. She was a founding member of Morgan AA, and served as a board member for many years. Ellen Buckley, 80, of Morgan died on May 21. She was a secretary for the Borough of Sayreville for 35 years before retiring. Ed Kwiatkowski, 88, of Sayreville died on May 25. He retired in 2004, after working as a custodian at Sayreville War Memorial

(Continued on page 8)

## Pleasant Little Trivia

By Tom Burkard

1. This Sayreville resident made an unsuccessful bid for Governor in 1989? a. Alan Karcher b. Ed Kolodziej c. John McCormack
2. In 1993, where was Wedding World located in South Amboy? a. South Broadway b. Main St. c. Bordentown Ave.
3. In '93, this popular store was located at 138 South Broadway in South Amboy? a. Bay City Liquors b. Brown's Market c. Olde Towne Deli & Liquors
4. Where was Dot's Luncheonette located in South Amboy? a. South Broadway b. South Stevens Ave. c. North Broadway
5. In 1976, where was Spezzi's Bar & Restaurant located in Parlin? a. Washington Rd. b. Bordentown Ave. c. Rt. 9 South
6. Where was the Oak Tree Inn located in Sayreville back in '76? a. Jernee Mill Rd. b. Rt. 9 North c. MacArthur Ave.
7. In 1983, this tire business was located on Ernston Rd. in Parlin? a. Goodyear Tire Store c. Gabriel's Discount Tire Center Inc. c. Tires Plus Service Center
8. Sayreville's building inspector in 1975? a. John Zollinger b. Andrew Piatek Jr. c. George Kolb
9. President of the Sayreville Fireman's Relief Association in 1982? a. Frank Wisniewski b. Andrew Cross c. Robert Waitt
10. He served as South Amboy Postmaster in '76? a. Charles Mahoney b. Norman Kilcomons c. George Stader
11. Pastor of St. Bernadette's Church in 2002? a. Father O'Day b. Father Laurence Smith c. Father Andrew Szaroleta
12. Pastor of the South Amboy First Presbyterian Church in 1989? a. Rev. Wilbur Newton b. Rev. Joseph Gray c. Rev. Wilfred Montanez

Answers

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



Pictured at the Democratic Victory Gala, which was held at Grand Marquis in Old Bridge are (l-r) South Amboy Councilman Tom Reilly, South Amboy Councilwoman Christine Noble, South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry, South Amboy Councilwoman Zusetta Dato, Councilman Michael "Mickey" Gross. The event was a huge success and everyone had a great time. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

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★ **Business Of The Month** ★  
**Old Bridge Flight School**



Old Bridge Flight School owners Joseph P. Holt (l) and his wife Dr. Alyson L. Beausoleil-Holt (r) are pictured near one of their planes used for training. The school is located at 182 Pension Rd., Englishtown. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

The Old Bridge Flight School, LLC was established in order to provide quality flight training to students. The owners Dr. Alyson L. Beausoleil-Holt, Aerospace/Flight Instructor, and her husband Joseph P. Holt, a Federal Aviation Administration Designated Pilot Examiner, have been able to provide a safe environment conducive to learning at the Old Bridge Airport (3N6).

Dr. Beausoleil-Holt's interest in establishing a flight school was fueled by her desire to promote the field of aviation. As a high school teacher she has the distinct pleasure of teaching Aviation Technology to 9-12 grade students. She has 19 years of experience, and is a dual rated pilot/Certified Flight Instructor.

Her husband Joe has been a part of the aviation industry for over 50 years. The couple's passion lies in aviation, and they believe it is important to encourage, introduce, and train individuals to learn the skill of flying, thereby earning a private pilot certificate and advanced ratings.

The requirements to become a private pilot are: A student must be 17 years old; be able to read, write, speak and understand the English language; pass the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) written test; pass the FAA practical test; obtain at least a third class medical certificate. An FAA Class III Medical/Student Pilot Certificate is obtained from a FAA Medical Examiner, and a prior solo

flight is necessary. Flight requirements are: minimum of 40 hours (National average 50-60 hours); minimum 20 hours of dual flight; minimum 10 hours solo flight; remaining 10 hours dual or solo as required by the student.

The flight training is designed to ensure that the student is prepared and proficient in the following: aircraft preflight; airport operations; take-off & landings; aborted take-offs & landings; performance maneuvers (short & soft field takeoffs and landings); maneuvering the airplane by reference to flight instruments; night operations; emergency operations; pre and post-flight procedures. Throughout the training, students will be required to complete the following: pre solo written exam; progress check with senior instructors; stage checks (written and practical); ground instruction, which will prepare the student for safe operations and to successfully complete the Private Pilot written exam.

Based on 30 hours of dual flight time and 10 hours of solo, flying twice weekly (allowing for weather cancellations), the estimated time to complete the flight training is approximately 6 months.

If you're thinking about obtaining a Private Pilot's license, stop in and visit Old Bridge Flight School, located at 182 Pension Rd., Englishtown, NJ, or call 732-483-4596 for more information. You may also go to the website: Oldbridgeflightschool.com.



Bridget Giovenco, of Sayreville, NJ, was recently named to the Dean's List for the Spring Semester at West Chester University of PA, West Chester, PA. Bridget is a junior, majoring in Communicative Disorders, with a double minor in Linguistics and Deaf Studies. Recently, Bridget was awarded a \$1,000.00 scholarship by the APSCUF (Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties) for academic excellence and community service. (Photo/Info Submitted)



Our Lady of Victories eighth graders, who were National winners in the Scotties Tree Contest, along with their principal, Mrs. Rosalind Esemplare and their teachers Mrs. Joann Hockenjos and Mrs. Betty Bowes, were recently recognized for their environmental efforts by the Sayreville Environmental Commission. Certificates of Achievement were given to each student by SEC Chairwoman Teri Yetsko. (Photo/Info Submitted)

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Summer  
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**Yearbook-St. Mary's 1965**

By Tom Burkard

St. Mary's High was a "happening" place in Sept. '64, as the Class of 1965 returned for its final year. Some of the social activities were: class dances, many of which featured the fabulous Austin Four, a rock group comprised of St. Mary's seniors Rick "Ricky J." Jarusiewicz, Tom Kelly, John Klimkiewicz, and Sayreville War Memorial HS student Wayne Turback on drums; The Hootenanny was a blast, as was the 6th Annual Carol Festival at Christmas time.

James Fritz was Student Council President. Catherine Dempsey- Editor-In-Chief of the yearbook. Barbara Warnowicz-Editor-In-Chief of "The Crown" newspaper. The theme of the Prom was "Shangri La," and happy couples dance the night away to the music of Walter Kross & His Orchestra. Barbara Jancola was captain of the cheerleaders.

Sister Madeline was principal, and really had her hands full, especially in the Spring of '65, when miniskirts became a trend, and Maryites would break the dress code, by trying to keep up with the times. Some popular teachers were Sister Richard, Sister Gabriel, Mr. Walling, Sister Theodore, Sister Kateria, Sister Gloriana, Sister Celeste, Mrs. O'Donnell, Sister Frederick. If you were in the Class of '65, you could never forget the National Shakespeare Company's performance of Macbeth, or the Friday Night Social.

The Eagles boys basketball team brought home a 9-8 record in Coach Luke Lenahan's final season. Art O'Donnell Sr. was the varsity baseball coach. Talented senior athletes were: Walt Carroll, John

Constantine, Joe Crowe, Jim Doyle, Fran Fitzmorris (Educator), Jim Fritz, Tony Januszak, Rick Jarusiewicz, Tom Kelly, Ed Suchciki, Joe Vail, Tom Triggs (Priesthood), Tom Zalewski.

Some seniors selected randomly: Barbara Birmingham, Barbara Borne, Constance Chodkiewicz, Donna Chuilli, Jimmy Cleary, Kathy Clark, Frances Coan, Loretta Condiracci, Patty Conroy, Donald Coward, Roseanne Cross (Successful South Amboy businesswoman), Richard Dancsecs, Richard Devlin, Joan Dobrzynski, John Ellvinger, Helen Eldridge, Mary Jude Ferguson, Kathy Farrell, John Foley, Sheila Freeman, John Gelsinon, Paul Harrigan, Bernice Hensberger, Ann Kapica, Carol Keenan (Educator), Patty Kilcommons, Arlene Kreiger, Cathy Krzyzkowski, Margaret Kurtz, Frances Kusic, Paul Kusic, Veronica Manhattan, John Margaretta, Jeanne Munn, Patricia Nebus, Nancy Newcomb, Eileen Norek, David O'Connor, Richard O'Connor (Educator), Ralph Pohl, John Potthoff, Ruth Ragula, Robert "Smokey" Ryan, Philip Render, Eileen Soden, Brian Splan, Ken Stolte, Patty Stramback, John Toris, George Zdanowicz, Christine Zebro, Ed Ziegler, Alice Zrebiec, Jim Zrebiec. Please take a moment of silence to remember Geneva Lucovitz and Tom Hoover, and anyone else from the Class of '65 who may have passed away.

St. Mary's Class of 1965 had so many bright and shining stars, who have all made this world a better place!

**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.

**The Miraculous Prayer**

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

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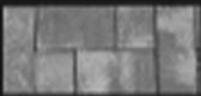
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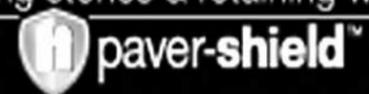
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American Legion Luke A. Lovely Post #62, South Amboy made their last Memorial Day stop at the Post Headquarters on David St., South Amboy. It was the end of a busy day of remembrance. Pictured is Commander Bob "Zak" Sekerak (4th from left), members, and also Linda Henry (r), her husband Mayor Fred Henry (2nd from right), Assemblyman Craig Coughlin (3rd from right), and Councilman Tom Reilly (4th from right). (Photo/info by Joe Lotkowitz)

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### Richmond Receives Masters Degree

Matthew Richmond, son of Steven Richmond and the late Donna Krotosek Richmond, received a Masters Degree in Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering from Rutgers University. Matthew is now employed at Orbital HTK in the Integration and Test Dept. Space Systems Group in Virginia. Congratulations and best of luck, Matthew!

### Windows 8 for Beginners

For everyone who still remains befuddled by Windows 8, come down to Sayreville Public Library on Monday, July 6 from 6:00 to 8:00PM. Bring your own device if you are able, so that you can walk away with a better understanding of this system.

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

**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. -E.P.

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

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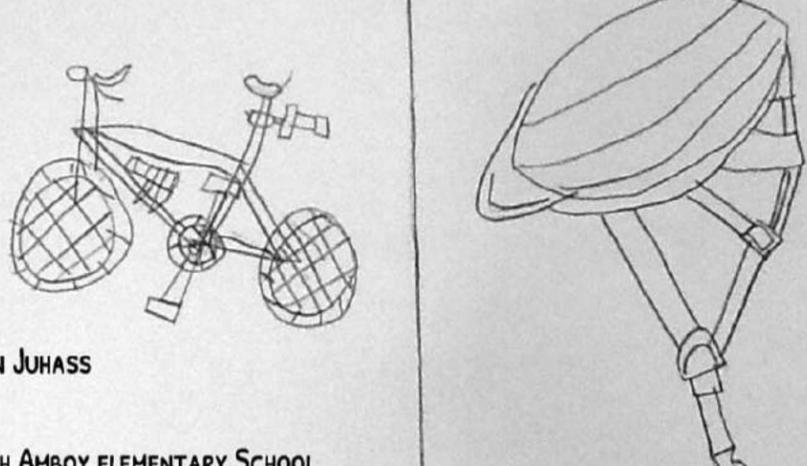
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Two 4th grade students at South Amboy Elementary School were winners in the Middlesex County Sheriff Dept. Bicycle and Personal Safety Art Contest. Jillian Juhass (l) and Tiffany Wen's (r) drawings were chosen from over 1,200 entries, and the students were honored by Sheriff Mildred Scott. (Photos/Info Submitted)

**Riding a bike keeps you active,  
but wearing a helmet keeps you safe**



JILLIAN JUHASS  
GR. 4  
SOUTH AMBOY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# South Amboy Knights of Columbus #426 Classic Car Cruise Night

Photos by Tom Burkard



This blue beauty is from the 1950's. Can anyone identify it?



South Amboy Knight Jan Williams of Sayreville (c) who owns this beautiful '57 Chevy, poses with the 50/50 ladies, Debbie Carling (l) and Sandy Lewis (r) both of Sayreville.



This is another very special car from the early 60's. Do you know the year and make?



The gentlemen who served on the committee for the Classic Car Cruise Night, did a fabulous job.

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**FREE  
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 Inspection**





Director of the Division of Law for the State of NJ, Jeffrey Jacobson (l) swears in Ashley Gagnon (r) of South Amboy, while her brother Randy holds the Bible. Ashley will be primarily involved in defending personal injury litigations filed against the State of New Jersey, for its officials and employees. She is also involved providing representation to the NJ Dept. of Corrections. (Photo/info submitted by Joe Lotkowitz)



Back in March, a group of 24 people from South Amboy/Sayreville are pictured cheering the Colonel D.B. Kelly Pipes & Drums in the St. Patrick's Day Parade at Savannah, Georgia. (Photo/info courtesy of Joan Ogorek)

### Talk Of The Towns

(Continued from page 2)

HS for the Sayreville Board of Education for 18 years. Barbara Birmingham, 90, of Sayreville died on May 28. She taught CCD at Sacred Heart Church, and later at Our Lady of Victories Church. Barbara was also a founding member of Animal Rescue Force, NJ. Henry Wojciechowski, 95, of South Amboy died on June 1. A 1937 Hoffman High School graduate, he was a supervisor at National Lead Industries in Sayreville from 1947-80. He joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and served from 1938-39. In World War II, he was with the U.S. Army Air Corps and 94th Bomb Squad, and was a Prisoner of War (POW) at Stalag 17, and later received a Purple Heart for being wounded in action. Henry was a well-respected Mechanicsville (section of South Amboy) neighbor and will be missed by all. Carol Springard Torres, 71, of South Amboy died on June 1. She was president of her own caretaking business in the South Amboy/Perth Amboy area for many years.

May they always be remembered for their wonderful works and kindness to others.



Pictured is the South Amboy/Sayreville group that trekked down south to see the Col. D.B. Kelly Pipes & Drums participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Savannah, Georgia. The group is shown at the Omni Resort in Hilton Head. (Photo/info courtesy of Joan Ogorek)



Hoffman High School Class of 1989 held its 25th year class reunion at The VFW banquet hall on Jernee Mill Road on May 2, 2015. Students and some former teachers attended. (Photo Submitted)

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Thursday, July 2nd, 2015

Rain Date: Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

Raritan Bay Waterfront Park

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Free Concert Starting at 6pm

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- ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PERMITTED
  - State Law prohibits the use of personal fireworks.  
This law will be STRICTLY ENFORCED..
- Pets are STRONGLY DISCOURAGED from being present during the fireworks performance. This is for both their safety and the safety of the general public.

# Frank's Automotive Service





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### Torch Run 2015



South Amboy Police Chief Darren LaVigne (3rd from right) is pictured prior to leading the fine South Amboy police officers in the 2015 Torch Run to raise money for the unfortunate children of New Jersey. (Photo/info by Joe Lotkowitz)



Pictured receiving the annual torch handoff from Police Officer Rob Bruce of Sayreville is South Amboy Police Chief Darren LaVigne. The Torch Run is an annual event in which local police departments from all over the state of NJ participate in to raise money for all the less fortunate children of New Jersey. (Photo courtesy of Susan Lasko/info by Joe Lotkowitz)



The Catholic War Veterans Post 578 of Sacred Heart Church along with Father Stan, held their annual Veterans Memorial Day services at the Sacred Heart Cemetery on Johnson Lane in Parlin. There was a large crowd in attendance for the touching ceremony. Pictured (l-r) Alex Dobrinsky, Ralph Szeszko, Father Stanley Gromadzki, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church, and Frank Sullivan. (Photo/story by Joe Lotkowitz)

### HOOKED TO THE BOX

By Elaine Holton Scott

“Why pay to watch television when we’re watching it for free?” That’s what a lot of us had thought over three and a half decades ago after the cable company got the right-of-way to lay their cable wires through our properties. Tempted by their advertised commercial-free broadcasting and tons of channels, all of us eventually got hooked to the box anyway. I remember it was in the early ‘80’s when I did, with the monthly cable bill starting at \$10.95. I really do mean “starting,” as very quickly that amount was increased by a buck, and, through time, many, many more bucks. In return for our money, we have seemingly countless stations but little to nothing worthwhile to watch. Ironically, there are now more commercials than we would have ever believed possible.

From the ‘50s through the ‘70s, commercials aired at certain times, like intermissions did at the movie theaters. All of us had known there was just enough time to do something like grab a bag of curlers to roll our hair, pack lunches, get a snack, empty the dish drainer, fill the percolator for the next day’s morning coffee, get the sewing box to darn a sock, set up the ironing board or put it away, get ready for bed, etc. We had those programming breaks down to a science since we all had known exactly when they’d come on and how long they’d last. That was back when television viewing was free, with all the programming costs being paid by commercials. With the fees based on Nielsen ratings for the shows, the higher the rating, the higher the charge to advertise. So, there was a continuous competition between ABC, CBS, and NBC

to get the most viewers by offering quality entertainment. Then, in the ‘80’s, all that would begin to change.

It seems like whenever I “surf” the many channels searching for something worth watching, I’ll find commercials airing...one after the other, after the other. Unlike in the past, commercials of today appear at all different times and seem to be relentless in their eagerness to sell their product. Ironically, we, who pay a monthly fee to view the mostly cheap “entertainment” being offered, are also paying for the unwanted ads too...all on what was supposed to have been “commercial-free TV.”

Recently on the internet, I found an independent report regarding the length of television commercials through the years. Based on 30-minute shows, in 1950, it was 10% or 3 minutes. Two years later in 1952, it was 12% or 4 minutes. During the 1960’s, it averaged 18% to 20% or 5.4 to 5.5 minutes. In the 1970’s, it averaged at 18%; it was the same in 1981. Then...when most of us “got hooked,” commercials became more prolific. 1990 averaged at 22% or 6.6 minutes; 1991 increased to 24% or 7.20 minutes. 2001 had an average of 30% or 9 minutes; 2010 increased to 32% or 9.60 minutes; and in 2012, it was 33% or 9.90 minutes. Since then, commercial lengths not surprisingly have increased even more. Personally, I’m of the opinion that getting hooked to the box has come to mean being rooked by the box.

\*\*\*Remember complaining about reruns years ago? That’s when a program’s season of new shows equaled 26 new episodes. Now, it’s around 10! What a gyp!!!



Members of American Legion Lenape Post No. 211 placed over 300 flags on the graves of all the veterans buried at St. Stanislaus Cemetery on May 20th, for Memorial Day. Pictured front row (l-r) Jaime Ayala, Commander Larry Bishop, Arlene Strek. Back row (l-r) Edward T. Strek, Larry Lios, Robert Puchala, Ann Pedersen, Ed Pedersen, Artie Valentino. (Photo/info submitted)

# Sayreville American Legion Lenape Post #211 Flag Retirement Service

(Photos/info by Joe Lotkowitz)



Sayreville American Legion Lenape Post #211 held its annual Flag Retirement Service on June 14th. American Legion member Ed Streck (r) receives worn flag after being inspected for retirement by Rich Kosmoski.



Approximately 2,500 worn and damaged American flags were retired. The number of flags retired this year is up 25% from last year. American Legion Lenape Post #211 members are doing the honors of making sure the flags are disposed in a proper manner.

Congratulations  
& Best Wishes  
To The Graduates!

Happy  
4<sup>th</sup> of July

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# Sayreville Sparkles 2015!

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LIVE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT 6:00-9:30  
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Info & Contest Rules - Call 732-390-7092 / 7096

[www.Sayreville.com](http://www.Sayreville.com)

(click on Independence Day Celebration)

## “Ginger” Quirk Remembered

By Tom Burkard



“Ginger” Quirk

Virginia Quirk, 66 years old of Sayreville, was affectionately known as “Ginger” by many local people, who knew and loved her. This very popular and well-known lady went home to be with the Lord on June 6. Ginger had a wonderful personality, always smiling and happy, with a greeting and kind word for anyone she ran into in South Amboy or Sayreville. She was especially in her element many years ago when she was a school crossing guard for the City of South Amboy, or when she ran bus trips to Atlantic City through the years. Ginger did an excellent job as a school crossing guard, and genuinely cared for the safety of each child that passed by her corner on their way to school. People who took her trips to AC always raved about how much fun they were, and how they really enjoyed them, and would tell others to go on Ginger’s next trip.

Ginger was an active member in many wonderful local organizations, and was most involved as a dedicated, hard-working volunteer with St. Mary’s Food Pantry, a cause that was very close to her heart. Helping others was something this caring

lady did routinely without thinking twice. She was all about bringing happiness and the well-being to others in this world.

During Christmastime at Foodtown, she brought many happy smiles to youngsters and adults alike, as she portrayed Mrs. Claus, with her son Michael Quirk, who excelled in his role as Santa Claus. Ginger always seemed to have a positive and upbeat attitude, and if you happened to run into her, and were having a bad day, that would quickly change. She was also well-known for her great yard sales, and really enjoyed running them and chatting with all of her customers.

One of Ginger’s closest friends, Cathy Charmello shared a beautiful remembrance speech about her, at the repass which was held at Camillo’s Restaurant in Sayreville. The following quotes are excerpted from Cathy’s wonderful and heartfelt tribute to Ginger.

“She loved everyone with her whole heart and soul, and they in turn loved her. When there was a job to be done, Ginger was the first to volunteer. She was always there for everyone. Ginger loved life, and had a great sense of humor. She loved parties, bingos, garage sales, “Days of Our Lives,” Atlantic City, but most importantly she loved people. When we remember Ginger, we will remember her big smile, infectious laugh, and overwhelming friendliness.”

Ginger is survived by her husband of 50 years, Michael John “Johnny” Quirk; her son Michael Quirk and his wife Lauren of Los Angeles, CA.; her daughter Kim Marie Zebrowski and her husband, Sayreville Police Chief John Zebrowski of Sayreville; her sister Sharon Borkowski of Hartsfield, GA; 3 grandchildren Matthew, Jonathan and Jessica, and many nieces and nephews. Funeral services were conducted by The Gundrum Service “Home for Funerals.”

If you were blessed to know or have met “Ginger” Quirk, just once, you would never forget her. She was a very special lady, who touched so many lives in a positive manner along the way, and made this world a truly better place. Ginger Quirk will be sadly missed, but never forgotten. Thank you Ginger, and God Bless you!



Knight of Columbus member and the Sayreville Police and Fire Departments march during the Flag Day Ceremony at St. Stanislaus Kostka School on Saturday, June 13th. (Photo by Magdalene Florczak)

## Organizing 101

If you feel hopeless about sorting your piles of papers or bins of photos, then this workshop is for you! Learn a simple one-step filing method for papers and finally figure out which papers to keep and for how long. Forget filing cabinets – our presenter will demonstrate how to store paperwork so you can retrieve what you need. Junk mail, important documents, magazine clippings, and other papers will also be discussed.

Then, see how to sort those bins, bags and boxes of photos so you can protect and enjoy the memories. Learn how to simplify these projects so they are not so overwhelming. If you’ve been procrastinating about getting started you won’t want to miss this Sayreville Public Library event!

Join Jamie Novak, an organizing specialist and author of *Keep This Toss That* as seen on HGTV and QVC, on Tuesday, July 21 from 6:30 to 8:00PM. Jamie is most recently a home blogger for Martha Stewart Whole Living. Find out more about her at her website [www.JamieNovak.com](http://www.JamieNovak.com).

To register, contact Alaina at [alainad@lmax.org](mailto:alainad@lmax.org) or call 732-727-0212 ex. 25. You may also register online at [www.sayrevillelibrary.org](http://www.sayrevillelibrary.org).

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This probably all seems too good to be true, but all you need is a Sayreville Library card for access and to setup a Zinio account! Come learn about this amazing product that the Library has purchased for the community and see if you can benefit from it on Wednesday, July 29 from 6:30 to 8:00PM! Whether you want to access magazines for work or leisure, this product is for you!

To register, contact Alaina at [alainad@lmax.org](mailto:alainad@lmax.org) or call 732-727-0212 ex. 25. You may also register online at [www.sayrevillelibrary.org](http://www.sayrevillelibrary.org).

## Deacon Steve Feeds The Needy

By Steve Schmid

The opportunity to feed needy people is something St. Mary’s Deacon Steve Laskowski is very proud of. Deacon Steve is part of the Deacons’ Table Initiative which is held every Wednesday night at Good Shepherd Parish in Perth Amboy. Several deacons from the Metuchen diocese participate. The soup kitchen recently celebrated its first anniversary. During the last year about 3,600 people were served. Approximately 575 pounds of pasta were utilized along with 1,920 individual meatballs, 480 loaves of bread, 384 cakes, and 240 pies. Deacon Steve said it is very gratifying to work with other deacons to cook and distribute food to the needy.

## 45 Years Ago

1970-The South Amboy Police Reserves consisted of Herman, Boychuk, Housman, Frank DeFillipo, Sabion, Szatmary, Dragotta, James Holovacko Sr., Parrish, Christina, Houlihan, Conlon, Osanski, Polak. Note: Most first names were not available from our source of research.

**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

## Early South Amboy Tidbits

By Fran Fitzmorris

The past five years of writing articles for the South Amboy Times have been very enjoyable for me. While I researched, I became a collector of facts. My next few articles will be written with little or no connection to each other but rather, will be a set of informative tidbits about the early years of South Amboy.

I ended my last story, back in April, with the St. Mary’s juniors being crowned Middlesex County High School basketball champs with a 19-2 record. Incredibly, the juniors also won the county baseball championship in 1919 with an 18-3 record, which was an amazing feat for the times and quite an accomplishment for such young players.

The first football game that was played by a South Amboy team against another team was with Hightstown, on Thanksgiving Day in 1894. South Amboy lost 40-0.

The year was 1936 and St. Mary’s varsity defeated St. James 83-3. It isn’t a misprint. Years later St. James became Red Bank Catholic.

This tidbit has interested me as a curiosity for a long time. It concerns horse racing in South Amboy. The town’s business center was growing by leaps and bounds and racing was still popular with the farmers living on the outskirts of town. Most races were probably held on Sundays. The most popular spot was Stevens Avenue to Bordentown Avenue. Racing, for some reason, was against the law. If the Constable/Police caught the participants, they had to pay a \$1.00 fine. They were proud of their horses and found that a dollar was worth the fine. I’m guessing that racing ended when Stevens Avenue was totally paved.

The last official South Amboy – St. Mary’s football game took place sometime in the early 1930’s. I believe that football faded

because of the financial constraints forced on them by the depression. Football was never sanctioned again by the schools. However, from the late forties to about 1970, the students of the schools revived the “game”. This would be played on Columbus Day every year. The games were very competitive but I believe St. Mary’s held a slight series edge when the last game was played.

During the course of my research, I found that the town once had three miniature golf courses. I had no idea of the location and I didn’t think I would find the answer. I was wrong. My friend, Mary Nappi, knew where two out of the three were located during the late 1930’s and 1940’s. One was located by the St. Mary’s tennis court. The other was located on the corner of Feltus Street and Washington Avenue. It’s possible that the third one was nearer the downtown area. Any ideas?

One of the more interesting stories concerns why South Amboy/Hoffman and St. Mary’s stopped playing each other from 1933-1939. The leaders of the public school believed the Saints had a significant competitive edge because the school had been granted prep school status that allowed their players an extra fifth year, which included another year of basketball eligibility. There were other reasons but none as huge as this one. The impasse was finally ended in December, 1939. This made all of the fans, on both teams, deliriously happy. That happiness reached a pinnacle in front of a standing room only crowd at St. Mary’s hall. The game became a classic. Hoffman rallied with a 16-8 advantage in the fourth quarter to shock St. Mary’s 41-40. The high scorer for St. Mary’s was Joe Conroy with sixteen points. Sprague had twelve for Hoffman.

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# Sayreville Memorial Day Parade

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



Sayreville Police Sergeant John Bartlinski drives the Police Department's motorcycle.



Assemblyman John Wisniewski waves to the crowd on Washington Rd., while marching with other local politicians.



The Catholic Daughters of America proudly hold their American flags.



Old Glory waves proudly in the breeze for everyone to admire during the parade.



The cheerleaders float was beautifully decorated in red, white and blue for Memorial Day.

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**Our Flag**-Richard Kosmoski of the American Legion Lenape Post #211 Honor Guard, who is also a feature writer for The South Amboy-Sayreville Times newspaper, is pictured explaining to the children of Truman School about the American flag. In his talk, he mentioned all the turmoil it's been through since our country became an icon of democracy. Rich explained how all the brave American men and women fought and died under our flag in all parts of the world, and for the freedom it stands for. The story of our flag, whether you call it "Old Glory," "Stars and Stripes," or the "Star Spangled Banner," shall fly forever, and always represent and symbolize our freedom. (Photo/story by Joe Lotkowitz)

## Commander Higgins: An Amazing Military Career

By Tom Burkard

Commander John J. "Jack" Higgins, 83, a former South Amboy resident and St. Mary's HS Class of 1949 graduate died on April 23, 2015. Jack attended the University of Pennsylvania, and completed his studies at Georgetown University in the summer of '55. He then entered the Naval Officer Candidate program at Pensacola, Florida. He was awarded his Naval Aviator wings in 1957.

His naval career was filled with a number of interesting assignments, and military awards. From 1958-60, he flew the largest airplane the Navy had, the Super Constellation with Squadrons VW-15 and VW-13. He then moved to Patrol Squadron 5 in Jacksonville, FL, flying the Lockheed P2V-5. In 1962, he took part in the Cuban Missile Crisis while flying from Puerto Rico. In '63, he came back to Washington, DC to the Bureau of Personnel to run the Navy's Sports program, 1963-64. Jack then went to Vietnam in Special Operations. His exemplary military continued, as he was then posted to the U.S Air Force, First Flight Detachment, where he flew with Air Commando Crews and personnel from Squadron 6622 of the Chinese Nationalist Air Force from 1965-67. His next assignment was with Vietnamese Air Force Squadrons 156 and 159, flying the Douglas A-1 Sky Raider attack aircraft from 1967-68. While with the First Flight Detachment, he served as C.O. for 4 months. After his time in Vietnam, he moved to Patrol Squadron 6 in Hawaii, and flew the Lockheed P-3. A few months later, back in 1969-70, he returned to Washington, DC for assignment to the Chief of Special "Non-Navy" billets. After a short Washington tour, he went back to Vietnam as the

Officer-in-Charge of the Fleet Air Unit at the Air Force Base on Da Nang in 1971-72. He again flew with the Air Force in the OV-10 aircraft in '72. When the U.S. involvement in Vietnam closed out, he was assigned as XO/CO of Training Squadron 28 at NAS Corpus Christi, TX from 1973-1975. Cmdr. Higgins then became the XO of the Human Resource Center at NAS Alameda CA. During this time, he completed his Master's Degree in Human Resource Management, and began work on a Doctoral Degree in Organizational Behavior. In 1978, he went back to Corpus Christi as the Chief of Staff of Training Wing 4. The same year, he returned to Washington for duty as the XO of the Human Resource Center. He completed here and retired in 1982.

He received numerous US and Vietnamese personal decorations over the course of his career, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, Purple Heart (2), Air Medal (43), and the Navy Commendation Medal (5) and several Air Force, and Army decorations. From the Republic of Vietnam, he received the VN Distinguished Service Order, VN Medal of Honor, VN Cross of Gallantry (3), VN Air Force Cross of Gallantry (3), Navy Cross of Gallantry, and several lesser awards.

Jack was also a member of the Military Order of Foreign Wars, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the Naval Order of the U.S. After leaving active service, Jack worked for some time in International Business and Management Consulting.

\*Note the information in this story is taken from Cmdr. John J. "Jack" Higgins self-written obituary, which was shared with us by Vince Higgins.

## Military Memories

By Francis J. Dooling

In April 1945, I was 18 years old and an Ordinary Seaman on the Liberty ship SS Harold A. Jordan steaming north off the east coast of the U.S.A. (unescorted). An Able Body Seaman and I were "rigging" booms aloft, getting ready to dock in New York, load deck cargo (P-51 Mustang Fighters), and then join a convoy bound for Britain. When off the coast of North Carolina, we saw a merchant ship that had been torpedoed and was sinking. We shouted to the bridge to alert them. The torpedoed ship was the SS

Belgian Airman loaded with cotton, out of Galveston, Texas. Our ship stopped to pick up the crew of Belgian seamen and British officer, and we saved all of them, except for one seaman, who was crushed between the sinking ship and a lifeboat. The only possessions the crew had taken with them was cigarettes and whiskey! The Belgian Airman was one of the last ships sunk by German submarines in World War II.

\*Have any military memories to share? Send them in to: satimes@aol.com.

## First Air Mail In New Jersey Commemorated



On July 4, 1912, Oliver G. Simmons, piloting a pontoon equipped Wright Brother's Flyer, carried 18 pounds of mail and Mayor Ferd Garretson of Perth Amboy across Raritan Bay from South Amboy to Perth Amboy.

On June 6, 2015 the Historical Society of South Amboy placed a permanent marker on the site of the South Amboy Post Office in 1912. That site is now Broadway Bagels.



A large crowd gathered for the ceremony.

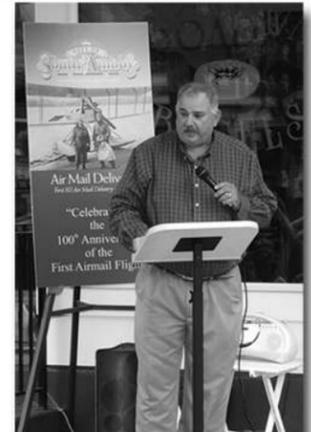
Members of the Historical Society present Steve Brancaccio Co-Owner of Broadway Bagels with a certificate of appreciation.



The beautiful plaque is unveiled.



Assemblyman Craig Coughlin presented a Proclamation.



Former SA Police Chief Jerry Pizzillo kicked off the program.



Photos by Brian Stratton



Mayor Fred Henry addresses the crowd.



The Middlesex County College Alumni Association recently held its annual dinner meeting. Pictured (l-r) Alumni Association President Dorothy Bitetto, Alumna of the Year Kim Silva-Martinez, Middlesex County College President Dr. Joann La Perla-Morales, Alumni Association Vice-President/Committee Chairman-AI Gomolka Jr. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



**South Amboy Boys HS Team Held Another Successful Fundraiser**  
Coach Dan Poulsen said ' This was the second year holding the event Crew Cuts for a Cause fundraiser , and it was a huge success this year as we opened up donations to local businesses to add to the generous donations we receive from our family and friends. Last year in 2014 we were able to raise \$2000 dollars for St. Jude's Children's Hospital, and with the dedication from our baseball family we were able to double that amount for 2015 and donated a check for \$4000 dollars. I am honored to call myself the coach of these young men who raised the funds for such a large donation. We surpassed our goal for the year substantially with the help of the local businesses and friends'. (Photo/Info Submitted)

## Free Summer Concerts At Raritan Bay Waterfront Park

The Middlesex County Freeholders free summer concerts will be held in four County parks. On the home front at Raritan Bay Waterfront Park, located at the South Amboy/Sayreville Beachfront, O'Leary Blvd., South Amboy, the schedule is loaded with popular acts including:

### July

1-Sandy Sasso's Swingin' Big Band-past singer with the Dorsey, Goodman & Riddle Big Bands; 8-Walt Wagner & The Serenaders; 15-Zydeco-A-Go-Go-New Orleans style Rhythm & Blues, and 40's Jazz & Swing; 22-The Cameos; 29-Bernie Goydish's Jersey Polka Stars-Polka and Variety Music.

### August

5-Tim Gillis Band (The Greatest in Country Music); 12-Irish Night featuring The Perry Brothers Irish Band; 19-Danny V's 52nd Street Band-Atribute to Billy Joel; 26-The Robert Murdock Band (A Classic Rock Tribute to the 60's 70's & 80's;

In case of inclement weather, you will be directed by road signage to the South Amboy Middle HS Auditorium. Shuttle bus service will be available every week in the parking lot of the concert venue courtesy of Middlesex County Area Transit.

The concerts will be a great evening out for the entire family, as you enjoy the best in music near the beautiful Raritan Bay!



Main Liquor and Wines celebrated its 25th Anniversary recently, and owner Harshay Patel (2nd from right) and his fine staff held a terrific barbecue with food and soft drinks for everyone in appreciation for their patronage through the years. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## VENETIAN Care & Rehabilitation Center



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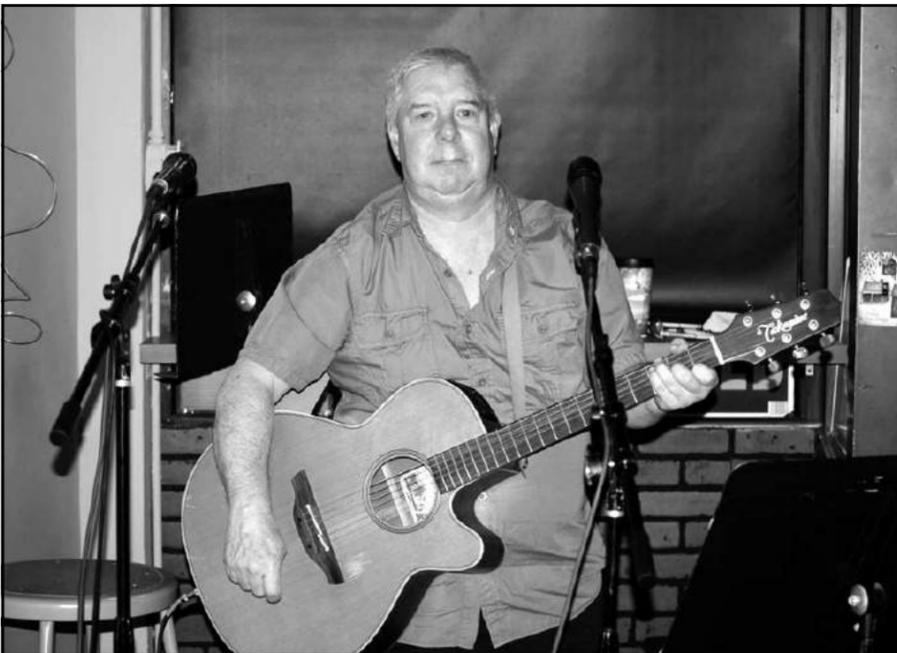
1965-The top rock 'n' roll band, up to this point that featured all St. Mary's students, was The Austin 4. Not only were they the top group at St. Mary's, but in all of South Amboy, and played at many St. Mary's and other local dances and parties. The Austin 4 was easily the most popular group around, prior to the arrival of The Profit\$. The Austin 4 pictured (l-r) Tom J. Kelly, John Klimkiewicz, John Constantine, Rick Jarusiewicz, affectionately by fans as "Ricky J."

### #1 Pop Hits-June 27

- 2008-Take A Bow-Rihanna
- 1996-The Crossroads-Bones thugs-n-harmony
- 1980-Funkytown-Lipps, Inc.
- 1972-The Candy Man-Sammy Davis Jr.
- 1961-Quarter To Three-U.S. Bonds

### #1 Country Hits-June 27

- 2000-Yes!-Chad Brock
- 1995-Texas Tornado-Tracy Lawrence
- 1988-He's Back And I'm Blue-The Desert Rose Band
- 1976-El Paso City-Marty Robbins
- 1969-Running Bear-Sonny James



South Amboy singer/songwriter Jerry Smith is pictured after a fine performance at Espresso Joe's in Keyport, where he has been a mainstay for many years at Open Mic. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

### One Hit Wonders 50 Years Ago

1965-The following entertainers had only one hit in their careers to make the elusive Billboard Top 40.

\*The song appears first, followed by the performer. The Jerk-The Larks; Twine Time-Alvin Cash & The Crawlers; The Boy From New York City-The Ad Libs; The Birds And The Bees-Jewel Akens; Goldfinger-Shirley Bassey; Baby The Rain Must Fall-Glenn Yarbrough; A Walk In The

Black Forest-Horst Jankowski; You Turn Me On-Ian Whitcomb & Bluesville; Eve Of Destruction-Barry McGuire; Laugh At Me-Sonny; Liar, Liar-The Castaways; Keep On Dancing-The Gentrys; Everyone's Gone To The Moon-Jonathan King; You've Got To Hide Your Love Away-Silkie; May The Bird Of Paradise Fly Up Your Nose-"Little" Jimmy Dickens; Don't Think Twice-The Wonder Who?



The Happenings are shown in concert at PNC Bank Arts Center performing their biggest hit "See You In September" which reached #3 on the Billboard chart in 1966. Other groups that appeared at the sold out show were The Coasters, The Knockouts, The Capris, The Thymes, and The Brooklyn Reunion that featured The Classics, The Passions, and The Excellents. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

### You Tube-In

2015-The fabulous Jax from East Brunswick has her first single out, titled "Forcefield." Jax is the talented young lady who finished third on the past season of "American Idol" TV show... In 2000, Sisqu took his song "Incomplete" to the number 1 spot on the Billboard Top 40 chart.

1990's-In 1993, Bryan Adams, Rod Stewart, and Sting topped the pop charts with "All For Love" from the movie "The Three Musketeers"... Britney Spears first Top 40, "Baby One More Time," went to #1 in 1998.

1980's-The late, popular actor, Patrick Swayze hit #3 on the Billboard Top 40 list with "She's Like The Wind." Wendy Fraser also sang with him on the song, which was also a #1 Adult Contemporary hit for 2 weeks. It was featured in the movie "Dirty Dancing" which starred Swayze and Jennifer Gray...

1970's-"Change It (Children)" was performed by Steel Mill on Jan. 18, 1971 at D'Scene on Rt. 9 North in Sayreville. Steel Mill was fronted by a very young and talented Bruce Springsteen... Ten Years After had only one Top 40 hit, "I'd Love To Change The World," which reached #40 in '71...

1960's-A few early recordings by The Castiles, who were one of Springsteen's first bands: "Baby I;" "That's What You Get," "Downbound Train..." "Time Won't Let Me" by The Outsiders reached #5 in 1966.

Country-"The Dance" by Garth Brooks is one of the most beautiful country songs ever performed. It reached #1 for Garth in 1990...

### Did You Know?

One of Bruce Springsteen's earliest and most popular bands was "Steel Mill?" This talented group played its last scheduled gig before disbanding, at D'Scene on Rt. 9 South, Sayreville (South Amboy mailing address) on Jan. 18, 1971. They also followed this show up with a pair of farewell performances at The Upstage on Jan. 21-22, 1971.

### Class Of 1979 Reunion

St. Mary's HS class of 1979 will be having its annual reunion at Bar A, Lake Cuomo, on Sat Aug. 15th, from 3pm-8pm. Contact Bob at 732-721-2766 for more info.



G. R. Spiecker's third and final book is now available to his readers.

"When We Meet Again" is a diverse change from George's first two publications, Jill and The Wayward Wind. This book depicts the struggles of two indistinct people and encompasses some unsavory factions and government agencies in our society that we hope to avoid. Adam, an accomplished violinist, is coerced into becoming a participant in a stealthy CIA operation fighting terrorism while Lisa, a devoted daughter, unknowingly marries an underworld figure who may be the person involved in her father's mysterious death.

The book is available at Amazon.com or by calling 877-BUY-BOOKS or by accessing the website www.bbotw.com. The cost is \$11.95 plus shipping. To avoid shipping costs the book can be purchased locally at The Irish Gift Shop, 130N Broadway. (Closed Sun & Mon.)



Asbury Jukes leader John Lyon (r) aka Southside Johnny stopped by Associate Publisher Brian Stratton's house on Bordentown Ave during South Amboy's City Wide yard sale. You can catch him and the Jukes at the Stone Pony on July 3rd. (Photo by Samantha Stratton)

### Music Trivia Fourth of July Special America/U.S.A.

By Tom Burkard

- |                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. __ America                | a. Estelle with Kanye West       |
| 2. __ Living In America      | b. Don McLean                    |
| 3. __ American Woman         | c. Jay & The Americans           |
| 4. __ Surfin' U.S.A.         | d. Neil Diamond                  |
| 5. __ Born In The USA        | e. Bob Seger                     |
| 6. __ American Girl          | f. The Dirt Band                 |
| 7. __ American Pie           | g. Mickey Newbury                |
| 8. __ R.O.C.K. In The U.S.A. | h. Byron MacGregor               |
| 9. __ American Life          | i. Survivor                      |
| 10. __ Only In America       | j. Dave Matthews Band            |
| 11. __ Made In America       | k. Bruce Springsteen             |
| 12. __ American Tune         | l. The Pointer Sisters           |
| 13. __ Americans             | m. James Brown                   |
| 14. __ American Baby         | n. Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers |
| 15. __ American Dream        | o. The Guess Who                 |
| 16. __ American Storm        | p. Kanye West & Jay Z            |
| 17. __ American Heartbeat    | q. Madonna                       |
| 18. __ American Trilogy      | r. The Beach Boys                |
| 19. __ American Music        | s. John Cougar Mellencamp        |
| 20. __ American Boy          | t. Paul Simon                    |

Answers

1d 2m 3o 4r 5k 6n 7b 8s 9q 10c 11p 12t 13h 14j 15f 16e 17i 18g 19l 20a.

\*Happy 4th of July!\*

# School Sports

By Tom Burkard

## GMCT Champs

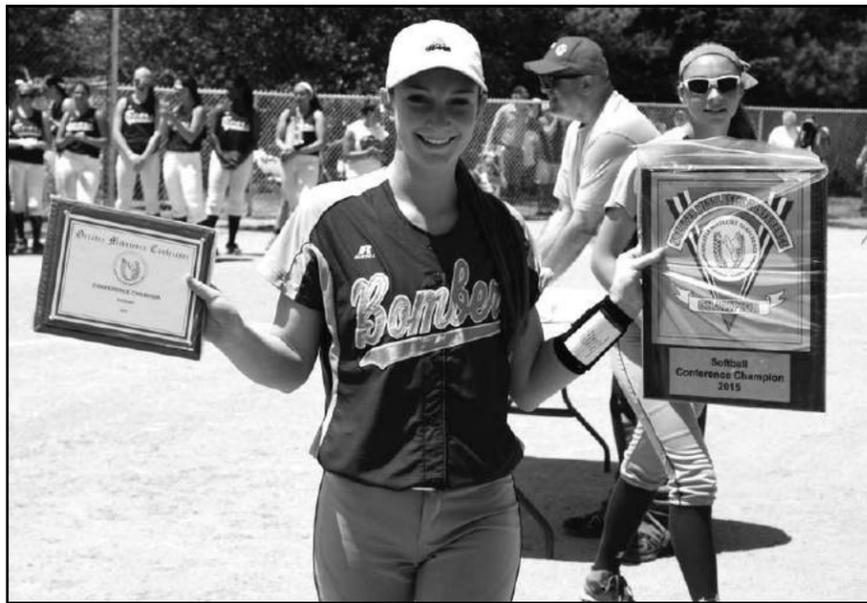
(Photos by Tom Burkard)



Erin Fitzsimmons fires a fastball by another East Brunswick batter in the GMCT finals.



The happy Bombers leave the playing field after becoming the second girls' softball team in school history to capture the GMCT crown.



A very happy and proud Erin Fitzsimmons shows her championship plaque and GMCT Most Valuable Player award. Erin was phenomenal throughout the season, and overpowering in the final against East Brunswick.

## Mater Dei Picks Up McCarrick Basketball Coach And Players

By Steve Schmid

The closing of Cardinal McCarrick High School in South Amboy has turned into an opportunity for Mater Dei Prep in Middletown to boost enrollment and help fight off closure. McCarrick head basketball coach Ben Gamble has agreed to become the head basketball coach at Mater Dei. Gamble rebuilt the roster and led McCarrick to a 21-5 season. He recruited several transfers and most of the key players are underclassmen. Gamble takes over for Bob

Klatt who coached Mater Dei to a 243-213 record over 18 years. Gamble was a former assistant at national power St. Anthony of Jersey City and learned his trade from Hall of Fame coach Bob Hurley -. McCarrick Athletic Director Gil Pritchard said at least eight to ten members of the Eagles basketball team will be transferring to Mater Dei. He added some kids are transferring to Bishop Ahr and Mother Seton but a lot seem headed to Mater Dei.

## Lady Eagles Final Game In School History

Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's girls' softball dropped its final game in the school's rich sports history, by bowing to Gill St. Bernard, 4-1, in the Public South B quarter-finals. The Lady Eagles lone run came with 2 out in the top of the 7th, when Jackie Riley drilled a single to score Samantha Napoli,

who walked, stole second, and took third on an error.

Coach Rich Geisheimer, who has coached the Blue & Gold for many years, was pleased to see many faculty members come out for the final game.

### Baseball

South Amboy (15-6) The Guvs had another excellent season under Coach Dan Poulsen. The team leaders were as follows: Batting Avg.- Keith Warzecha .468 Tim Kales .435 Jayson Olivares .409 Chris McCabe .387 Riley Rone .379 Julian Munoz .308; Runs- Olivares 34 Warzecha 31; Hits-Kales 30 Warzecha 29 Olivares 27 Rone 25 J. Munoz 20; RBI-Kales 26 Rone 15 Warzecha 15; Doubles-T.J. Moskal 9 Kales 8 Rone 7 Olivares 7; Triples-Rone 2 Max Garcia 2 Warzecha 2; Home Runs- Garcia 3 Warzecha 1 Munoz 1; Stolen Bases-Warzecha 27 Olivares 22; Won-Lost- Olivares 8-1 Kales 6-5 Moskal 1-0; ERA-Olivares 1.33 Kales 1.73; Innings Pitched-Kales 64.2 Olivares 58; Strikeouts-Olivares 70 Kales 62; Batting avg. against-Olivares .171 Kales .256.

Sayreville (17-11)-Coach Mike Novak engineered an amazing turnaround for the Bombers, as they improved greatly after finishing 3 games under the .500 mark in 2014. Final team leaders were: Batting Avg.-Nolan Rivera .400 Josh Guarnera .390 Chris Hauber .379 Jayson DeMild .360 Chris Eveigan .339 Brett Dzamba .338 Sean McDonnell .333 Connor Johnson .306; Runs-Guarnera 18 Rivera 16 Hauber 13; Hits-Rivera 24 Guarnera 23 Dzamba 22; RBI-Jayson DeMild 23 Dzamba 18 Hauber 15; Doubles-Eveigan 8 Rivera 5 Dzamba 4 McDonnell 4; Triples-four tied with 1 each; Home Runs-Jayson DeMild 2 Rivera 2 Eveigan 1 Johnson 1; Stolen Bases- ; Won-Lost-Pete Soporowski 5-2 Ryan Shereyka 5-3 Johnson 3-1 Jay DeMild 2-0 Hauber 1-0; Innings Pitched-Soporowski 54.2 Shereyka 44 Johnson 30.1; Strikeouts-Soporowski 61 Shereyka 42 Johnson 19.

Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's (6-13) The Eagles final baseball campaign in the school's history was a tough one, but they always gave 100% throughout. Team leaders were: Batting Avg.-Kyle Chaney .500 Tim Wiemer .426 Dudley Engram .304; Runs-Chaney 13 Wiemer 13 Matt Lopez 12; Hits-Chaney 27 Wiemer 23 Engram 17; RBI-Chaney 16 Engram 12 Nick DeKolf 8 ; Doubles-Chaney 7 Engram 3; Triples-Wiemer 3 Engram 3; Stolen Bases-Wiemer 14 Lopez 9; Won-Lost- DeKolf 5-3 Chaney 1-3 Engram 0-1 Wiemer 0-6; Innings Pitched-DeKolf 52 Wiemer 18.1; Strikeouts-DeKolf 64 Wiemer 17 Chaney 17.

### Softball

Sayreville (18-6)-Coach Krista DeLu-

cia's talented Bombers turned in a "dream season" as they captured the GMCT championship for the first time since 1978. Pitcher Erin Fitzsimmons (16-4), allowed only 15 earned runs all season, and turned in one of the greatest seasons in the history of Bombers softball. She had plenty of support both offensively and defensively.

The offensive team leaders were Batting Average-Emily Cabrera .416 Rebecca Wehrle .364 Christina Misiur .342 Kelly Duffy .328 Ryanne Brush .312; Runs-Cabrera 27 Brush 18 Brianna Parisio 17; Hits-Cabrera 25 Misiur 25 Wehrle 24; RBI-Misiur 21 Brush 20; Doubles-Cabrera 9 Mary Kate Kersting 8 Misiur 8; Triples-Cabrera 2 Kayla Stvan 2; Home Runs-Brush 7 Duffy 3 Misiur 1 Parisio 1; Stolen Bases-Cabrera 4 Brush 3 Wehrle 3; Won-Lost-Erin Fitzsimmons 16-4 Duffy 1-1; Innings Pitched-Fitzsimmons 132.1; Strikeouts Fitzsimmons 164.

South Amboy (14-6) The Lady Governors turned in another strong season. Team leaders were as follows: Batting average-Alissa Bikowski .471 Vicky Reilly .429 Samantha Rios .421 Jenna Makar .408 Ashley Mandala .407 Shannon Tran .372 Cheyenne Moskal .356 (Emily Trzeciak was hitting a lofty .500, but injuries kept her out of the lineup and limited her to only 26 at bats); Runs-Rios 30 Makar 22 Bikowski 21; Hits-Bikowski 32 Mandala 24 Rios 24; RBI-Mandala 39 Makar 20 Reilly 18 Bikowski 17; Doubles-Bikowski 6 Mandala 4 Makar 3 Moskal 3; Triples-Bikowski 3 Makar 2; Home Runs-Mandala 5 Kaleigh Keegan 2 Makar 2 Bikowski 1; Stolen Bases-Bikowski 47 Rios 40 Reilly 21 Trzeciak 19; Won-Lost-Keegan 8-3 Erica Policastro 4-3; Innings Pitched-Keegan 59 Policastro 49; Strikeouts-Keegan 48 Policastro 43.

Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's (11-8) The Lady Eagles turned in a pretty decent final season under longtime coach Rich Geisheimer. Team leaders included: Batting Avg.-Jackie Reilly .635 Samantha Napoli .403 Melissa Adams .382 Victoria Zayas .344 Amarillis Rodriguez .333 Alyssa Pipitone .322; Runs-Napoli 27 Riley 20 Pipitone 15; Hits-Riley 33 Adams 26 Napoli 25; RBI-Riley 29 Adams 13 Zayas 12 Napoli 11; Doubles-Riley 4 Napoli 4 Zayas 4; Triples-Riley 3 Zayas 2; Home Runs-Riley 4 Napoli 1; Stolen Bases-Napoli 19 Riley 6; Won-Lost-Riley 10-7 Kelsey Edwards 1-1; Innings Pitched-Riley 104; Strikeouts-Riley 175.

## Bombers Boys Golf Had Super Season

The Sayreville Bombers boys' golf team, under the fine guidance of Coach Tom McCloskey turned in an outstanding season with one of the best records in school history, The talented Blue & Gray was led by James Pasko, Andrew Surgent, Tyler Jones, and Nick Behr. Others who have contributed throughout the season were captain Dan DeLucia, and David Sivilli. Congratulations Coach McCloskey and Bombers!

## Herdman Rookie Of The Year

South Amboy's Steven Herdman received the Rookie of the Year Award for his outstanding play on the FDU Devils this past season. Herdman, a talented guard, who joined the 1,000 point scoring club at South Amboy HS in 2014, received the prestigious award at the university's banquet recently. Congratulations Steven from your family, friends and of course all of your fans at The SA Times!



This Harley Davidson Motorcycle was caught in the torrential downpour on May 31st that caused flash flooding on Broadway in South Amboy. (Photo by Rachel Wolf)

# The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

## From The Sports Archives



1962-St. Mary's senior baseball players gathered in the gym for this classic photo. Pictured (standing top left) Joe Sulkowski. Others (l-r) Lou Nanna, Al Ust, Joe Jankowski, Ray Riddell, Bill Tibbitt, George Keenan, Bill Subjack, Ray Creed, Tom Fitzmorris, Frank Ruszala.

## NJSIAA State Tourney Softball

### CJ Group IV Quarterfinals

Sayreville 4 East Brunswick 0- The #4 seeded Bombers defeated the #5 Bears for the first time since 2007, thanks to the standout performances of winning pitcher Erin Fitzsimmons, who fired a brilliant 2-hitter and struck out 10, and Ryane Brush, who blasted a 2-run homer and a solo round tripper to provide some super pop to the Blue & Gray attack.

### Championship Game

Hunterdon Central 6 Sayreville 2- With powerful Hunterdon Central (23-4) leading 2-1, a grand slam home run in the bottom of the 5th inning broke the game wide open, and ended an amazing run and dream season for the Sayreville Bombers. Sayreville was held to a leadoff single in the top of the first by Emily Cabrera, until the 5th when Brianna Parisio singled, went to second on a sacrifice bunt by Erin Fitzsimmons, and scored on a single by Kayla Stvan, to cut the lead to 2-1. Stvan advanced to second on a throwing error on the play, and Cabrera got an infield single to put runners on first and third, but Rebecca Wehrle lined out to end the threat. In the top of the 6th, power-hitting Ryane Brush blasted a solo home run to center for the final score of the game. Coach Krista DeLucia and her great team (18-6) had a truly amazing season, one they will always remember! Congratulations Coach DeLucia and the Sayreville Bombers!

### Public South B Quarterfinals

Gill St. Bernard 4 Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's 1-Jackie Riley singled in Samantha Napoli in the 7th inning for the Lady Eagles only run in the team's final game.

### CJ Group I Quarterfinals

South River 13 South Amboy 3 (6 innings)-Ashley Mandala orbited a 2-run homer for the Lady Guvs.

### GMCT

#### 1st Round

Sayreville 9 Colonia 1- Winning pitcher Erin Fitzsimmons hurled a beautiful 2-hitter and fanned 9 batters. Kelly Duffy drilled 2 hits and drove in 3 runs, while Mary Kate Kersting went a perfect 3-for-3 with 2 RBI. The Bombers were seeded #6, and Colonia #11.

#### Quarterfinals

Sayreville 3 J.P. Stevens 1- Erin Fitzsimmons fired a 4-hitter and struck out 10. Mary Kate Kersting ripped the go-ahead RBI single in the 5th inning. Brianna Parisio added an RBI single, while Rebecca Wehrle

stroked 2 hits.

#### Semifinals

Sayreville 7 Monroe 2- The Bombers advanced to their second final in 3 years with the victory over Monroe. Kelly Duffy and Brianna Parisio each blasted a single and solo home run. Junior third baseman Christina Misiur went 3-for-4 with 2 doubles and an RBI for the #6 Sayreville squad. Winning pitcher Erin Fitzsimmons fired a 6-hitter and did not allow an earned run. Monroe, seeded #2 saw its huge 16-game winning streak snapped by the inspired Bombers.

#### Baseball

#### GMC Tournament

#### Championship Game

Monroe 1 Sayreville 0- In an amazing pitchers duel that featured two of the finest left-handers in Middlesex County, the Falcons got to Bombers' ace Pete Soporowski for a run to take the GMCT championship. In the bottom of the 8th, Soporowski retired the first Monroe batter, but 2 singles and a fielder's choice loaded the bases. Coach Mike Novak moved the Blue & Gary infield and outfield in to cut off the game-winning run, but Matt Sorrento belted a single over the drawn in right fielder's head to win the game, while breaking the Bombers hearts and ending their season.

Monroe pitcher Eric Heatter was superb, pitching the entire extra inning contest, while striking out 11, and allowing only 3 hits, 2 from shortstop Josh Guarnera. Soporowski also turned in a stellar performance, but Monroe put it all together in the bottom of the 8th.

#### NJSIAA State Tournament

#### CJ Group IV First Round

Old Bridge 6 Sayreville 1.

#### Geisheimer Selects

#### All-Cardinal McCarrick Team

Rich Geisheimer, Cardinal McCarrick's/St. Mary's girls softball coach for the past 12 years, selected his All-Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's team during his tenure at the helm. Geisheimer, who won his 100th career game this season picked the following: 1. Jennifer Sheryka ss 2. Sam Napoli 3b 3. Jackie Riley p 4. Jamie Williams c 5. Amy Pacansky rf 6. Brittany Clayton 2b 7. Melissa Adams 1b 8. Katelynn Wiemer lf 9. 9. Jessica Costa cf. Reserves- 1. Jessica Hartland 2. Brooke Biloholowski 3. Rosaly Diaz 4. Jessica Nadalin 5. Kelsey Edwards 6. Amanda Bowsky.

## Glory Days In Local Sports

1953-Rutgers Prep stopped Sayreville's baseball team, 9-5. Stan Kojkowski pounded 3 hits, Chmielewski a single and triple, and catcher Frank Burdak added 2 hits. 1965-St. Mary's blasted St. Peter's, 6-1 in baseball, as lefty ace, Fran Fitzmorris fired a masterful 4-hitter and also belted a double to help his cause. Jim Fritz had the best game of his career by hammering a double, and 3-run homer to drive in 5 for the Blue & Gold. 1976-Sayreville nipped Carteret, 7-6 in baseball action. Mark Tyler picked up the win and got lots of support from Tolihrom with 3 RBI, while Dave Constantineau ripped an RBI triple, and Jim Wojcik added an RBI. 1983-Hoffman topped St. Pius, 5-1 in diamond play. Winning pitcher John "Skeets" Skarzynski twirled a 5-hitter and struck out 8. Mike Buczynski knocked in 2 runs, Joe Przybylski drilled 3 hits, while Kevin Gorczyca and Scott Gumprecht stroked 2 hits apiece. 1999-South Amboy girls' softball team annihilated East Brunswick Tech, 20-0. Winning pitcher Lily Munoz tossed a 5-inning no-hitter, and allowed only 1 walk. She struck out 6, while ripping 2 singles and a two-bagger. Kristen English had a perfect 3-for-3 with 2 doubles and 4 RBI, while Melissa Poulsen drove in 3 runs. 2002-Cardinal McCarrick mauled McCarrick, 11-1 in softball. Lindsay Tone had a huge game with 3 hits including 2 home runs, and drove in 6 runs for the Lady Eagles.

## 30 Years Ago

1985-The Sayreville Bombers fielded their first girls' soccer team under coaches Joe Abruscato and Kris Correll. The Blue & Gray finished (3-5-1).

## Champions 55 Years Ago

1960-The Sacred Heart CYO baseball team captured the South Amboy Babe Ruth League championship by defeating Independence Fire Co. in a best of three series. Ed "Lefty" Zebro was the head coach, his brother Frank "Box" Zebro was assistant coach, Art O'Donnell Sr., assistant coach, and Ed Jarusiewicz also an assistant coach. The roster was loaded with future high school stars, and included Frank Jankowski, Frank Pauloski, Rich Barglowski, James Vida, Ed Suchcicki, Tom Trenta, Rich Ambroziak, Billy Garaffa, Wayne Olsen, Art Kowalewski, Art O'Donnell, Tom Vona, Ted Wallace, Bob Kukulski, Joe Pohl, Pete Inman, Larry Zamorski, George Jankowski.

At least 9 of these highly-talented players went on to play varsity ball in high school and 4 or 5 were All-State selections. Six others played varsity basketball.

## Diamond Dust 1997

Home News & Tribune Senior Baseball League

Sayreville 4 Monroe 2-Joe Vigilante went 2-for 3 with an RBI, and Matt Rubio, Gabe Rocco and Sean Sanders each knocked in a run.

Home News & Tribune Junior Baseball League

Sayreville 9 JFK 3-John Morris and Ryan Telle each went 2-for-3 with 2 RBI to lead unbeaten Sayreville to its 6th victory. Ed Behnen blasted a two-bagger for the locals.

#### American Legion

Sayreville 15 South Plainfield 11

Pat Gers and Nick Sas collected 2 hits and 3 RBI apiece to lead Sayreville. Ed Zurawski and Dave Santiago added 3 hits and 2 RBI apiece.

## 85 Years Ago

1930-St. Mary's baseball powerhouse pounded Phillipsburg Parochial (As they were called back then), 13-3. Ace hurler Lou Lagoda notched the victory, and laced an RBI single. Joe McGonigle led the way with 2 singles and a double, good for 3 RBI, Frank "Hank" Bulman added 2 hits and 2 RBI, Popowski stroked 3 hits.

## T.H.E. Game

Year-1957

Sport-Baseball

Teams-St. Mary's

(1-3) vs. Sayreville (2-1)

Recap-Sayreville's ace pitcher Ed Paprota fired a brilliant 0-hitter, and struck out 9, as the Bombers topped the Saints, 2-0 in a tremendous pitcher duel. St. Mary's Tom Pristavec also threw one of the best games of his life, allowing only a first inning triple to Ron Kuran. The Blue & Gray scored a run in the first inning on an error, and another in the second on a squeeze bunt.

Player-of-the-Game-Ed Paprota, Sayreville

## All-State Baseball-1963

The following South Amboy baseball players were selected to the All-State teams: All-State, All-Groups-Joe Pohl, outfielder, St. Mary's; Group I-1st Team-Pete Inman, shortstop, Hoffman; Dennis Wood, pitcher, Hoffman; 2nd Team-Ken Wahler, outfielder, Hoffman; Manny Formoso, catcher, Hoffman; Parochial & Private-1st Team-Joe Pohl, outfielder, St. Mary's; Art O'Donnell, catcher, St. Mary's.



Sayreville Bombers ace left-handed pitcher Pete Soporowski was an All-State selection by The Star Ledger. Congratulations, Pete! (Photo by Tom Burkard)

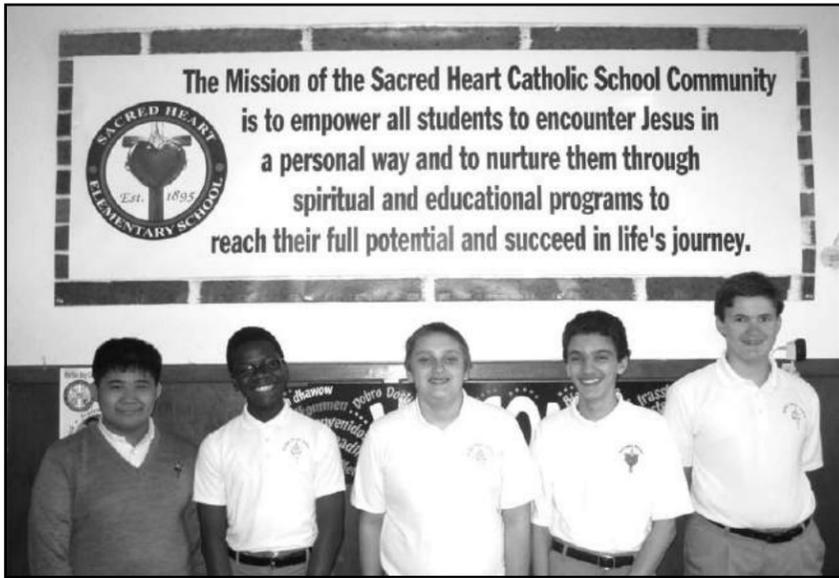
**Don't Miss The Fireworks!**  
 Sayreville - June 28th at Kennedy Park  
 South Amboy - July 2nd at Waterfront Park

## Sacred Heart Wins Award For Book

Scholastic Book Fairs sponsored a national contest, Kids are Authors, for students in Kindergarten through Eighth grade. The competition was open to public and parochial schools across the United States, including U.S. territories. Over 800 books were submitted for review. Students were asked to develop, write and illustrate their own picture books. A panel of illustrators, writers, publishers and educators judged the books. Two Grand Prizes were awarded and 25 Honorable Mentions.

As part of the their Language Arts program, the middle school students in

6th, 7th and 8th grade, at Sacred Heart Elementary School in South Amboy, participated in the contest and submitted nine books for consideration. Students worked in groups of three to five. The challenge of writing these books taught the children goal setting, teamwork, compromise, time management and creative expression. Through the process of completing each book, the students gained skills that will be invaluable as they move through their academic journey in middle school to high school and beyond. The project took tremendous dedication and perseverance.



Sacred Heart School's 8th grade team of J.T. Abeleda, Dominic Afriyie, Patrick Deegan, Cameron Marietta and Zachary O'Connor were awarded an Honorable Mention for their book, A Dog's Best Friend. Along with a Merit Certificate for each of the students, Sacred Heart School received \$500 in Scholastic dollars to be used for the purchase of classroom books. The complete list of winners may be viewed on the Scholastic website (Scholastic.com/kidsareauthors). Receiving a national honor has made the school extremely proud of the students' accomplishment. The students are already talking about next year and what they will create!

Pictured (l-r) J.T. Abeleda, Dominic Afriyie, Patrick Deegan, Cameron Marietta and Zachary O'Connor. (Photo/Info Submitted)

## OLV Senior Group Trip to Myrtle Beach

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Myrtle Beach from September 20-26 2015. The seven day - six night trip includes lodging, bus transportation, 5 breakfasts, 4 full course dinners and three shows. In addition

there will be a Charleston harbor Cruise with a visit to Fort Sumter and time to stroll through the Historic Charleston Market. For further information or to make a reservation please contact Carmen at 732-254-9425.

## DVD and Recorded Media Drive

Your spring cleaning is done and you're wondering what to do with all of those unwanted dvds, cds, and video games. How about donating them to South Amboy's Sadie Pope Dowdell Library? The Library Foundation DVD and Media drive is on-going, with collection boxes at Madura Pharmacy, and the library.

This is an on-going program and your generous contributions enable the library to increase its resources for the residents of South Amboy. All donations are fully tax deductible and the Dowdell Library Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Please call (732)721-6060 for library hours. To schedule a pick-up for larger collections, please contact Grace at 732-721-6592. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## Lodzinski Fall Trial Scheduled

By Steve Schmid

Former South Amboy resident Michelle Lodzinski is scheduled to face trial this fall on charges of killing her 5 year old son 23 years ago. Middlesex County Superior Court Judge Dennia Nieves sitting in New Brunswick, plans to begin jury selection October 27. Lodzinski told police Timothy disappeared from a weekend carnival in Sayreville May 25, 1991. The boy's skeletal remains were found April 1992 in swampland by Raritan Center Edison near where Lodzinski used to work. Lodzinski remains lodged in the Middlesex County Adult Correction Center in North Brunswick in lieu of \$2 million bail. She was arrested last summer in Florida and was returned to New Jersey to face charges.



St. Mary's High School Class of 1969 held its 46-year reunion on May 2nd at the White Sands in Point Pleasant. Over 60 attended, and as you can see, everyone had a really terrific time! (Photo by Paul Kusic)

## Cheesequake State Park Celebrates 75th Anniversary



Assemblyman John Wisniewski (r) presented a resolution from the State of New Jersey to David Donnelly, Superintendent of Cheesequake State Park in honor of the park's 75th Anniversary, during a gala celebration recently.



Cheesequake State Park Superintendent David Donnelly (r) presents a "special" gift to Al Gomolka Jr., who preceded him as the park's Superintendent. (Photos by Tom Burkard)



Youngsters had a great time with Timothy O'Donovan, Chief of Staff for Assemblyman John Wisniewski, reading to them at Sadie Pope Dowdell Library in South Amboy recently. Timothy is pictured in the back on the left, and Elaine Gaber, Library Director is on the right. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## Congratulations



To Christine Olender on your recent induction into the Sayreville War Memorial High School Hall of Fame.

Congratulations also extended to the other inductees: Michael Thompson, Robert Crowe and Michael Janela.

Tom Burkard & The SA Times Staff

**WWW.?**



If you're from South Amboy or Sayreville, this mystery photo should be an easy one for you. Send your answers to: [thesatimes@aol.com](mailto:thesatimes@aol.com). (Photo by Tom Burkard)

**May Winners**

The correct answer to last month's Mystery Photo was Eddie's Friendly Service Station, which was located on Bordentown (right across the street from Carmine's Barber Shop, and next to the gazebo). The business was owned and operated by the late "Friendly" Eddie Brown, and his business was known by several different names. Any of the following answers were acceptable: Eddie's Friendly Service Station, Friendly Eddie's Gas, Eddie's Service Station, Eddie's Mobil, Eddie's Mobil Gas Station, Eddie's Friendly Service Gas Station, and last, but not least it became Theo's Gas Station.

The very observant winners who correctly identified the building were W. Tom Kross, Dennis McCloud, Chuck Pickard, Nancy Berry, Bob Letts, Kelly Heinz, Gerry

Sherry, Jim Holovacko, Pat & Bill Scully, Joan Gorczyca, Jack Piskorski, Joe Prusik, Dennis Quinlan, Joan Fulham, Bill "Biff" McKeon, Nonnie Nonnemacher, Don Zrebiec, Lisa Grankowski, Mary Agnes Morris, Cheryl Hayes (Brick, NJ) Eleanore Krygier Munck (South River), Bruce Wood, T.J. Albanese, Lynn Loy, who said that, "My son worked there when he was in high school, and for lunch and breaks, it was a short walk across the street to the great Raritan Diner. The good times in our small town."

There were only 2 incorrect answers: Shorty's Garage on the corner of Washington & Jernee Mill Rd., and another answer that simply said, "Old Mobil Station." All contestant know you have to give a name and location of the structure to be correct.



The Historical Society of South Amboy is pictured prior to its Walking Tour of Broadway recently. The tour was lots of fun and very informative about the many historical buildings in "The Pleasant Little City." (Photo by Tom Burkard)



Johnson "Ed" Snover, is pictured near his car by his home on Charles St. back around 1960. Does anyone know what kind of vintage automobile this was, and what year? How about the other car in the background? Please let us know at: [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com). (Photo/info courtesy of Mary A. Snover)

Hi Tom,  
Keep up the good work! You are doing a fine job!

Lynn Loy  
Morgan

Dear Editor,  
I, as I know many others, enjoy your newspaper so much! It's always filled with many memories.

Yours Truly,  
Rita Marczak Ferenci  
(Formerly of South Amboy)  
Sayreville

Dear John Phillips,  
Enjoyed your article "Growing Up in South Amboy" in the May 23, 2015 issue of "TIMES". Read your prior article "Pleasant Little City" too. You do have an excellent memory.

I also came from "below the tracks" living on David St. until 1955. If your mom's name was Josie, we lived across the street from you. My mom was Sophie Toth. I still visit the "old" homestead every time I take a ride to So. Amboy.

Thanks for the great articles. Hope life has been good to you.  
Alice Hnat

**To all of our friends**

The Paczkowski family is devastated over the loss of our store, South Amboy Foodtown as a result of the fire on April 13, 2015. My father started the business as Frank's Meat Market on October 28, 1928 and to lose the store so abruptly is unthinkable. Even though the last three (3) years were tough on the business and Hurricane Sandy forced our Family to close the business after 84 years, we were trying to reestablish an operating food store in its place. The store to our family was more than a building; it was more like part of our family. It was filled with memories, which nothing in a million years can replace. As a 4 year old boy, I can remember going with my father to check the store when it was closed on Sunday and as a 12 year old going to work at the store just like my elder brothers. I am sure my brothers and sister would share my sentiments. I can remember my elder brother's friends having jobs at Frank's market and then my friends working there as well. My other siblings, my uncles and cousins also worked at the store. When the business grew and became Foodtown, so many people found employment for which we are very proud.

There are many rumors going around about what is going to happen at the old store site, such as a liquor store, bakery, etc. These rumors are untrue. Cleaning all of the debris is first priority, once the insurance company gives the approval. The next step is satisfying all of our debts and after that, if financially possible, we would like to rebuild.

Thank you for all of your support and kind words over the past few months. It has really helped our family through these trying times.

Sincerely,  
The Ed Paczkowski Family.

**Tom Kelly Times 3 At St. Mary's**

Back in 1965, St. Mary's HS had three students named Tom Kelly. Two members of the Class of '65 wore the name, Thomas Joseph Kelly, who was a fine baseball player, and also a guitar player/singer with the fabulous Austin Four rock 'n' roll band, and his fellow classmate was Thomas Dennis Kelly. That same year, a freshman, who would go on to worldwide fame, entered St. Mary's by the name of Thomas Kelly. His real name is Jay Thomas Kelly, but was always known as Thomas or Tom Kelly. Tom became famous as a Major League Baseball manager with the Minnesota Twins, winning two World Series championships in 1987, and 1991, as well as being selected American League Manager of the Year.

**Where Have They Gone?**

Does anyone know where these people have gone? They were either from South Amboy or Sayreville and attended any of the three local high schools. Let us know if you know where they are and if they are doing well, by dropping us a line at: [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com). If you happen to be one of the people mentioned, feel free to get in touch and say hello if you wish. We would love to hear from you, and hope that you're well. The people we are wondering about are Tom Dowd (St. Mary's HS '68), Rich Beyer, Bill Holtz (St. Mary's HS '69), Steve Skarzynski (St. Mary's '69), Bill Beyer, Richard Pine, Jim Fritz, Tom J. Kelly, Catherine Krzyzkowski, Charles Marzullo, Ed Suchcicki, Joe Vail, Tom Zalewski, Harry White, Dianne Boretzky, Arlene Kreiger, Jim Heffernan, John Ellvinger, Richard Devlin, Ron Creed, John Quigley, Walt Carroll, Mike Coveney, the Riley Brothers (who played on Lions Club in the South Amboy Little Fellas League in the early 1960's), Jim Buckler (St. Mary's CYO basketball star in 1968-69).

**My new name is Faith**

By Rev Rhea Carol

I trust all that is, I am Faith.  
And then came the day that it did not work.  
I hoped and hoped that it all would be exactly what I needed.  
I forgot my new name, Faith.  
I begged God to help me before things got worse.  
I saw the sky, the green grass and felt the wind caressing me;  
Children were running and laughing.  
I drove to the ocean and saw the magnificent waves on a dreary day.  
I walked through the fog and couldn't see my hand.  
I saw the babbling brook with stones on the bottom.  
I was still... and then I remembered my new name, Faith.  
I know that I have exactly what I desire,  
My name is Faith.  
God is good all the time,  
My name is Faith.  
I say: "Good morning Sky, good morning Tree and good morning to God in me."  
I know the wind caressing me is God's gentle hugs and kisses.  
Children are running and laughing, just happy to be.  
I saw the Power of the waves and know I am part of the ocean and the ocean part of me; I am ONE.  
I walked in the fog and knew God was there, always, even when I did not see (it is in me and as me).  
I saw the babbling brook with diamonds sparkling in the sun,  
My new name is Faith.  
I trust all that is, I am Faith .  
I trust my intuition, my gut feeling, I am Faith.  
I trust in the Essence of the Universe, I am Faith.

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## American Legion Luke A. Lovely Post #62, South Amboy Flag Retirement Service

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



South Amboy native and former Major League Baseball Manager Jack McKeon (3rd from right) is pictured with other renowned baseball people, following their induction into the Irish Baseball Hall of Fame at Foley's NY Pub & Restaurant in New York City. (Photo/info courtesy of John Mooney)

### McKeon Inducted Into Irish American Baseball Hall Of Fame

By Tom Burkard

South Amboy native, and one of Major League Baseball's greatest managers in history, Jack McKeon, was inducted into the Irish Baseball Hall of Fame at Foley's NY Pub & Restaurant in New York City on May 26. Voters included past inductees and a distinguished panel of baseball historians.

McKeon, famous for his brilliant managing throughout his career, in which he won two National League Manager of the Year awards, also is the only manager in the history of professional baseball to win over 1,000 games in the major leagues, and also the minor leagues. In 2003, he led the Florida Marlins to one of the biggest upsets in World Series history by defeating the heavily-favored New York Yankees to capture the World Series Championship.

The Irish American Baseball Hall of

Fame was created by Shaun Clancy, an amateur baseball historian, after learning about the rich heritage of Irish Americans during the sport's infancy. He decided to celebrate his roots and those who helped make the game great by creating a shrine to Irish Americans in baseball in 2008.

In addition to McKeon, others who were inducted were Mike Sweeney (Former Player); Dave O'Brien (Broadcaster); Shannon Forde (Executive); Bill Murray (Executive), who is also known as a comedic actor and Saturday Night Live alumnus, and currently an owner of minor league teams.

Congratulations to Jack McKeon on yet another wonderful accomplishment in your phenomenal career!

\*A special thank you to John Mooney for all of your help.



Sacred Heart Boy Scout Troop 95 leader tosses worn flag into the fire during retirement ceremony at the South Amboy Boat Ramp.



Following the Flag Retirement Service, members of American Legion Luke A. Lovely Post #62, South Amboy, Sacred Heart Boy Scout Troop 95, and Girl Scouts of America Troop 0503, posed for this photo.



St. Stanislaus Kostka School third grade student, Emilia Dolinski was awarded first place in the age 8-11, New Jersey State Council Knights of Columbus Alcohol Awareness Abuse Poster Contest. Presenting the award (left to right) was Mr. Rich McCaig, Council 2061 Grand Knight, Rev. Kenneth Murphy, Pastor of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, and Mr. Andrew Gnapp, Poster Chairman for Council 2061. (Photo/Info by Magdalene Florczak)



South Amboy Boys Tennis Coach Tony Gonsalves (r) is pictured with Freshman Vahid Drazanin (l) who is the team's number one singles player. Vahid had an outstanding year his record was, 14-1 division and 14-3 Overall. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

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## Growing Up in South Amboy

By John Phillips  
 (After the Explosion)

The summer after the May 1950 explosion was a rough time for South Amboy, especially for those of us who lived below the tracks and close to the explosion site. There wasn't a home that did not have significant damage. But as long as we had food to eat, a place to sleep and a place to play we were OK! However, there was some danger in the area as land mines kept being found and the Army had to come to disarm them. But, all things considered we had a good summer.

I remember we went to more than a few baseball games in New York City. The Yankees, Dodgers and Giants (my team) gave us free tickets. We mostly sat in the upper deck. But on at least one occasion we had seats behind home plate for a Giant game against the St. Louis Cardinals. We had hot dogs and some kind of orange drink and plenty of peanuts. I also remember Stan Musial came over and talked to us along with several of the Giant players. And, we were able to go on the field after the game. I think a couple of guys got to keep a few broken bats that were going to be thrown away. After all, all you had to do was tape them up and they were as good as new, for us anyway.

We were also invited to a picnic in Yonkers, New York. They sent a bus down to take us to the picnic. I remember as we passed through the Bronx and up to Yonkers they had a car lead the way with a loud speaker telling everyone that the bus contained children from the most impacted area of the South Amboy explosion. The surprise was that it was a kosher picnic. There were no hot dogs or hamburgers or birch beer. They grilled something that looked like salami and the only drink was lemonade. But, there was plenty of ice cream, and the food wasn't bad after all. Once we got comfortable we had a lot of ball games with the kids that were part of the picnic. I had a good time. Then on the way home that same car led the way again telling everyone to make way for the tired children from South Amboy. They did this until we crossed the George Washington Bridge. We laughed and laughed, poor kids from South Amboy? We were having a ball.

South Amboy also had a lot of activities to keep us busy. I think we even went to Palisades Park a couple of times. All in all it was an interesting and enjoyable summer. However, our parents did not have an easy time. My dad's plant was next to the explosion, but I don't remember what he did that summer. He probably collected unemployment but I don't remember. My mom worked in a ladies garment factory every close to the explosion (about a half mile) and it was devastated. I remember she had to car pool it to Englishtown where the owner, Harry Finkelstein, set up a temporary shop. I remember Mr. Finkelstein very well. When my mom worked nights during the Second World War to meet government contracts he let my brother Joey and me come to the factory and hang out until our mom was done work. He even opened the old fashioned coke machine for us. He was a nice man.

To be continued.

## How to Use Google & Google Products

Many people are familiar with Google as a way to search for information easily and quickly, but did you know that Google has over 100 products that can make your life easier? Come explore and learn how to use some of the more popular tools in this new class at Sayreville Public Library on Monday, July 20 from 6:00 to 8:00PM.

Register with Alaina by phone at 732-727-0212 ex. 25, email alainad@lmxac.org, or online at www.sayrevillibrary.org!



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## OLV Senior Trip to Hunterdon Hills

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Hunterdon Hills Twist and Shout show on Thursday, July 25, 2015 for the matinee performance. The price of the ticket is \$90.00. The price includes the show, a delicious lunch, bus transportation, bus driver gratuity, and a snack on the way home. The bus will leave the OLV lower parking lot at 10AM and return approximately 6 PM. For further information or to make a reservation please contact Teri at 732-742-1320.

## Music Icon KENNY ROGERS

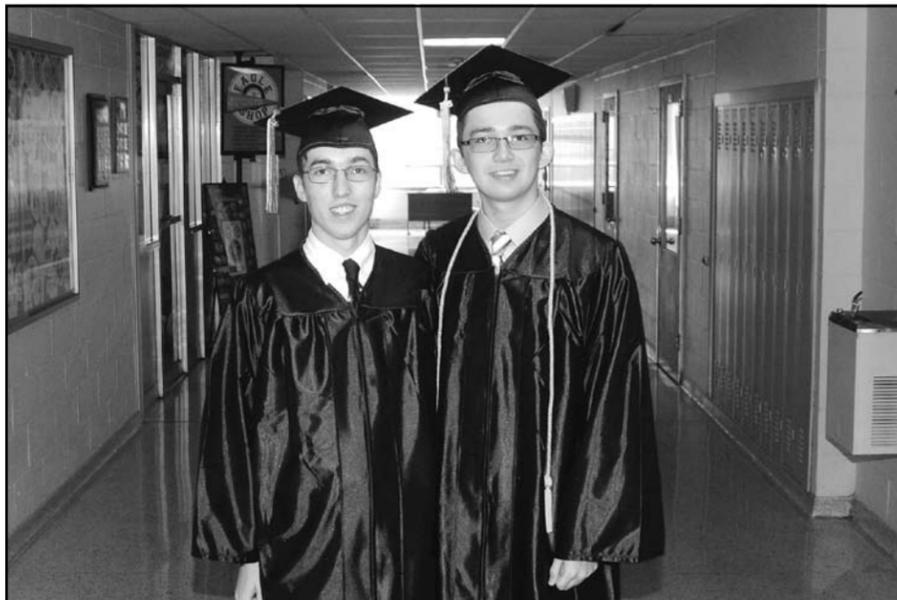
On Saturday evening July 18 at 8 pm GRAMMY Award-winning superstar and music icon Kenny Rogers brings his distinctive voice and special blend of country music and romantic ballads to the Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove, New Jersey.

Tickets are \$60/\$55 reserved and \$50 general admission. Order online at [www.oceangrove.org](http://www.oceangrove.org) call 800-590-4064. The Great Auditorium is located at Pilgrim and Ocean Pathways in Ocean Grove. All facilities are handicapped accessible.

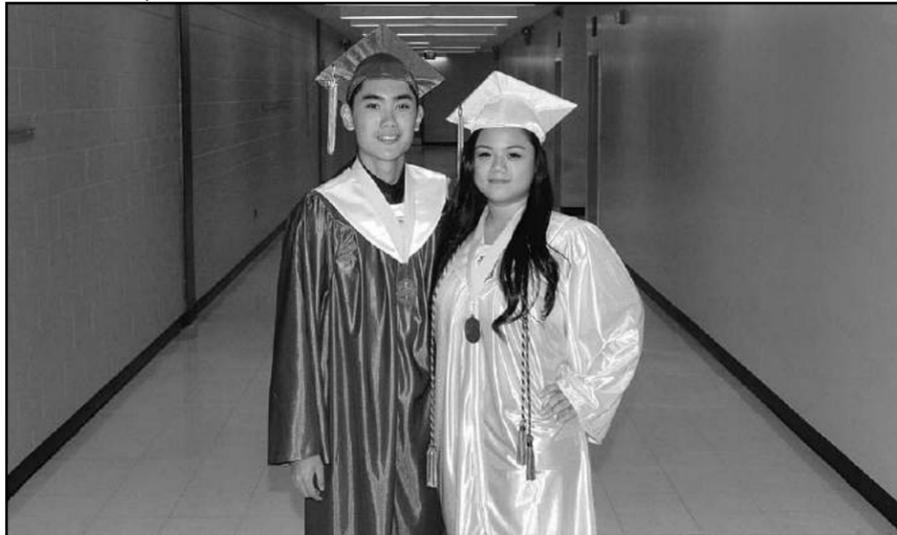
## A Really Living Earth

By Al Gomolka Jr.  
Times Poet Laureate  
c. 2010

Mother Earth and its unisphere  
Is a mighty living entity:  
The waves to its shore its heartbeat  
The patterned winds its breath  
Blood flow thru the hydrogen cycle  
With the same spirit-of God  
Rain its tears  
Muscle aches in thunder  
Migraine headaches with lightning  
Anger and sadness thru storms  
Happiness and peace in sunny calm days  
Disease like war, urban sprawl,  
Clearcutting, strip mining, destruction  
Heart attacks in earthquakes  
Strokes with volcanoes  
Parasites with its people  
Cancer thru human pollution  
Cells with its animals and plants  
Bleeding thru floods  
Fevers in fire  
Substance via the food chain  
Strength by atomic particles in action  
Old age wrinkles in its mountains and valleys  
Legacy in its fossils, oil and diamonds  
Worth its weight in gold  
Its beauty in its beauty  
All life as it dies is its daily meal  
As a really living earth...



Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's High School held their final Graduation on May 30, 2015, Pictured are Valedictorian Mark Farrell (l) and Salutatorian Jonathan Perez (r). (Photo by Brian Stratton)



South Amboy High School's 2015 Valedictorian Issiah Lozano (l) and Salutatorian Ofelia Javelosa. (Photo by Brian Stratton)



The Historical Society of South Amboy is pictured prior to its very informative and fun walking tour of Broadway recently. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



## Design a Bookmark Contest Winners announced

In honor of National Library Week the Friends of the Dowdell Library of South Amboy held a Design a Bookmark Contest for all children from 1st to 8th grade. The contest took place at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library of South Amboy during the months of March-June. The Friends of the Library together with the Library Director, Elaine Gaber, judged and decided on the following winners:

- Grades 1-2 Meaghan Keegan
- Grades 3-4 Claudia Hanarz
- Grades 5-6 Ariana White
- Grades 7-8 Jelissa Carabello

All winners were presented with a framed copy of their winning bookmark

and a \$25 Walmart gift card. Their winning bookmarks were copied and are now available at the library. A framed copy of all of the winning bookmarks was also presented to the library for everyone to enjoy!

The Friends of the Dowdell Library are your neighbors. We give tangible support to the library's services, programs and facilities. Members of the Friends of the Library deliver library materials to home-bound residents of South Amboy. We also hold fundraising programs which provide ongoing financial support for the library. Meetings are held at the library every other month. New members are always welcome. For more information please visit the library's website at [www.](http://www.)

## Parlin Dentist Rewarded 17-year-old Youth for Doing Good Deeds

South Amboy Parlin dentist, Dr. Mariana Blagoev rewarded a local youth for good deeds performed.

Blagoev has been running a contest to reward local youths for a few years. She called this the "Good Deed" contest.

"When we hear of some bad actions done by people, we tend to think there are bad people in our community. But what if we can hear more about the positive deeds done in our local community?" says Dr. Blagoev.

Dr. Blagoev launched the Do A Good Deed Contest with a hope to give youths a chance to look at their actions. "No one can tell you what a good deed is and what you wish to do. You are the judge of it." said Blagoev.

The essay contest was open to any youth 18 years of age and under to inspire youths to perform good deeds and submit an essay about what they have accomplished.

This time, the winning essay went to 17-year-old Jacqueline Taggart, who will be awarded the grand prize – a brand new laptop.

Taggart, from South Amboy, was asked by her former history teacher to do volunteer

work at the Elks Lodge. She served dinner to the veterans while keeping the veterans company. At the end of the night she said, "I wanted to do something without expecting a return, yet I did get something back, the satisfaction of knowing I made someone happy by simply being there, helping and talking to people who helped protect our country."

The awarding ceremony was on Wednesday June 17 at 4pm and took place at Dr. Blagoev's dental office located at 1145 Bordentown Avenue Suite 7, Parlin, NJ 08859.

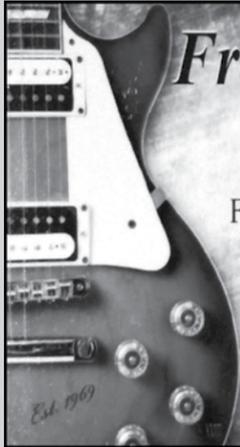
South Amboy mayor Fred Henry was honored at the prize-giving event as a guest VIP.

Blagoev said, "The lessons we can impart to our future generation can be a lot more than simply getting good grades or taking care of oneself. The lessons of caring for another person are precious to learn just by themselves!"

Details of Dr. Blagoev's community events can be found at: <http://brightsmiles-dental.com/index.php/category/community/>



Dr. Mariana Blagoev, DDS (r) presents a new computer to Jacqueline Taggart for winning the contest for caring. Pictured (l-r) South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry, Paula Taggart (Jacqueline's Mother), Jacqueline, and Dr. Blagoev. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



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## Students Named to Dean's List at Middlesex County College

A total of 1,053 students were named to the Dean's List at Middlesex County College for the spring 2015 semester.

South Amboy

Ryan P Appleby, Kayla N Cardona, Anthony L Concepcion, Jeremiah Sean Crowley, Orr Ori Dayan, Natalie M Ghigliotti, Jessica L. Gulick, Carina Joy John Klein, Melissa M Kurtz, Oleh Lahoda, Katelyn A Latham, Shaggad Mannan, Victoria M Mastrella, Julia K Mikolajczyk, Ryan Nicholas Parisen, Nicollette Martins Pinto, Marsha Virginia Platon, Amelia H Reilly, Josue R. Rivera, Danielle Alyssa Ruggiero, Lisa M. Savarese

Angela Mary Schnell, Thomas Michael Schnell, Irina Tmenova, Shekiba Wadid, Amy Christine Walczak Katelyn Marie Walczak, Samiyah L Winfield.

Sayreville

Josephine Wiafe Akenten, Matthew J Batko, Michael Jason Bernstein, Sandra Z Beshay, Joseph Boateng, James Fasulo, Carly Galasso, Krishna Sandip Gandhi, Huma Hussain-Abidi, Prabhakar KC, Austin J Leibowitz, Michael Daniel Marcinczyk, Megan R McCarthy, Remon M Nan, Daniel J Ofori, Keri Allena Pentek, Lesly D Perez, Janessa Pierce, Sahaj Sanjaykumar Shah, Tojleeya M Shuler, Salem Ismail Sukkar, Christopher Mark Tabaczynski, John Paul Tsaptinos, Vanessa Visaga, Jerrell Corey Williams, Tori E Yates.



By DR. JOHN MISIEWICZ

### Traveling With Back Pain

Whether for business or pleasure, traveling is hard on your back. You spend time in uncomfortable seats and unfamiliar beds and carry heavy suitcases through airports and hotel lobbies. It's time to give your back a vacation by learning how to travel with back pain.

1. Lighten your luggage load. Resist the temptation to pack everything in one carry-on suitcase or garment bag. If you want to avoid checking luggage, pack only what you can carry comfortably. If you carry a garment bag or suitcase with straps, remember to balance the load by alternating shoulders. Carrying two suitcases of approximately equal weight is an even better solution.

Be aware of proper body mechanics while carrying your luggage. Imagine an invisible line that starts at your ear and continues past your shoulder to your hip. When the line is straight, you back is in proper balance

Use luggage carts. Push the cart with both arms and keep your elbows tucked in close to your body to avoid over-reaching.

The next time you buy luggage, look for lightweight suitcases with built-in rollers. Make sure the handle allows you to stand up straight while pulling or pushing the suitcases. Rubber wheels are recommended for protection against slips and skids.

2. Beat back pain. Airline seats are not designed for comfort. From first class to economy, all passengers have the same complaints. Fortunately, you can make a few simple adjustments to protect your back. For lumbar support, place an airline pillow or a folded blanket in the small of your back. Be conscious of your posture, especially if you want to nap. Use a pillow or folded blanket to support your neck.

Gentle stretching exercises can help relieve the stress of a long trip. Try to stand in the aisle and walk a little at least once every hour.

3. Making your back count. Learn to make choices that will protect your back from stress and strain. Leave a little extra time to get to the airport. Let the redcap handle your luggage.

By including these choices in your travel plans, you'll have a more relaxing and pain free trip!

## The Private Eye of the Letter "I" and Why of "Y": a Handwriting Analysis Event

Attendees have a unique opportunity to do some self-revelation in this special handwriting analysis event by Terry Antoniewicz. The audience will focus on personal traits and relationship connections revealed through several styles of key letters in the alphabet.

The Private Eye of the Letter "I" works with the unique personal pronoun in the English language in handwritten form. Revelations tell the writer about his/her self-image, needs, and values as formed by

the influence of their parents. The Why of "Y" tells the writer about his/her self-image, needs, values, and self-importance and how it relates to all the people in their life. These revelations can be helpful in making relationships work better or it can simply be for personal fun!

This Sayreville Public Library session will be led by Terry Antoniewicz, a calligrapher with over 40 years of experience in analyzing handwriting to update and repair historical documents, on Tuesday, July 7,

from 6:30 to 8:00PM. Terry got her start with lettering right here in Sayreville and her experience and travels have provided speaking engagements throughout Canada and the USA.

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

## South Amboy Town-Wide Yard Sale

Photos by Tom Burkard



This car promotes a great day of fun and bargains for everyone who came out and participated in this great annual event.



There were plenty of great sales throughout "The Pleasant Little City" including this one on Bordentown Ave.

## The Smoke Column

By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski

Recently in the news we have read or heard about the train wreck in North Philadelphia where 8 people were killed and over 200 sent to area hospitals. This is referred to as a mass casualty incident (MCI) due to the many deaths and injuries that occurred. A mass casualty incident can occur at a variety of accidents, some of which may include: multi-motor vehicle crashes; plane crash; train wreck; hazardous materials incident; mass shooting; building collapse; terrorist attack; earthquakes; bus roll-over; explosion; severe weather occurrences; etc.

Can any of these incidents occur in our area and are we prepared? All of these incidents have occurred in New Jersey, some more recently than others. Our most recent incident of severe weather was that of Hurricane Sandy. A hurricane that caused massive damages and death throughout our entire state. Were we prepared for this storm? Probably not as much as we should or could have been prepared. When we lost our most basic service, electricity, a utility that is needed for almost everything we do, we were in a state of panic. Losing electricity can be frightening but not knowing when it will be restored makes it even worse.

With major highways traversing our communities, there is the potential for a hazardous materials incident at any time. After midnight any night of the week, keep an eye on Routes 35 & 9 and count the amount of gasoline tankers heading south with their deliveries, you will be astonished on the amount of tankers that you'll see.

The North Jersey Coast trains run through our communities everyday carrying commuters from the shore to their places of employment. Do you think that those trains are so safe that they couldn't roll over and crash? How difficult would it be for our emergency responders to rescue

hundreds of victims if the train rolled over along the shoreline between South Amboy and Morgan? Supposed the train rolled into the water? How would emergency vehicles get to this outlying area?

Very few of us remember the horrific events following the South Amboy explosion of 1950. Not knowing what happened or if it will happen again placed fear in every resident that evening in early May. Those explosions were caused by ammunition barges docked in the bay. But in that same area today, how many tankers steam up and down the Raritan daily to the refineries along the Arthur Kill and what is the possibility of any one of them experiencing a fiery explosion and spilling millions of gallons of a burning hazardous material into the bay and against our shores?

How do our emergency responders prepare for one of these mass casualty incidents if it should occur? The Incident Command System is designed for an all-hazards approach and will be used for the command structure. Our emergency first responders train and practice for various types of mass casualty incidents. It is just a matter of which resources will be needed for a specific incident. Training, knowledge, and experience will be needed by everyone involved in the incident. Many of the same strategies and tactics can be used for a variety of incidents. It is difficult at times to get all the players together in the initial planning stages where more time is spent planning and organizing the drill then there is in the actual drill itself.

Now that you are aware that a mass casualty incident can happen anywhere, you may look at those trains, planes, buses, and ships differently! If you see something out of the ordinary or suspicious, say something.



Bill Currie said, "my hometown of South Amboy was known as "The Pleasant Little City." I spent most of my life living in the Mechanicsville section of town, and worked at DuPont Photo. I went to Sacred Heart Grammar School, and then St. Mary's High. It was a town where you knew almost everybody, not by name, but by looks. I came across this picture and can identify some of the guys, but can't remember some others, and I hope somebody can remember.

This was taken back when the city hired buses to take kids to Coney Island or to Yankee Stadium to see Allie Clark. I remember my first haircut was by Albert Jerome in Mechanicsville." Pictured standing (l-r) ?, ?, Marty Dohaney, Bill Currie, ?, Mike Wagner, Bob Leslie, ?. Seated (l-r) Ray Pohl, Tom Dohaney. (Photo/story courtesy of Bill Currie)

## South Amboy Memories

By Rita Marczak Ferenci

As I was reading the article on Henry the Barber, it brought back many memories. I am the baby of ten, born to Catherine and Adam Marczak by a midwife (Mrs. Czesnowska) on March 14, 1932 at 115 North Feltus St. in South Amboy.

My parents built our home probably around the early 1920's on the corner of Feltus and Augusta St. They previously had a tavern on Augusta St. across from St. Mary's School. The picture shows the right side of the building which would become a grocery store, a center entrance, and on the other side was an identical store front, and there was our tavern, Adam's Café, and he only served Ballantine Beer.

The Halasiewicz family, who owned the White Eagle Tavern, lived across from us. We called them "bakers" because they had ovens in the backyard. My parents had horses (before I can remember) that were used by DuPont and other companies for deliveries, etc. When I was a child, we had chickens, rabbits, dogs and a goat "Daisy," who was

my brother Alf's pet. My parents stopped having the grocery store around 1944, and it became a barber shop which they rented out. The first barbers were Joe Giraldi and someone named Dominick. When I was about 13 or 14 years old, I cleaned the shop on a Wednesday when it was closed. We had our kitchen, dining room and parlor downstairs. Upstairs there were 7 large rooms, 2 full baths and a solarium across the front with large windows. These and the 2 storefront windows were eventually closed in by a later owner. Two rooms and bath was an apartment.

My parents sold the tavern and building around 1954 to Spud and his wife Lucy, and the bar's name became Spud's. It was probably around then that Henry rented the barber shop. I was married at Sacred Heart Church November 3, 1951, and we still lived in the tavern.

I hope everyone enjoyed reading this little bit of history.



This photo taken in the early 1920's, shows the Marczak home being built on the corner of Feltus & Augusta St. The large building also was the site of a grocery store, several different bars, and a barber shop, most notably Henry's Barber Shop. (Photo courtesy of Rita Marczak Ferenci)

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**Obituaries**

Arsenault, Walter P., 84, of South Amboy died on May 28.

Bauer, Michael, 82, of Parlin died on May 31.

Birmingham, Barbara F., 90, of Sayreville died on May 28.

Brehun, Alexis M. "Lexi," 48, of South Amboy died on June 2.

Bringman, Arnold J. Jr., 70, of South Amboy died on June 8.

Buckley, Ellen B. Garrabrant, 80, of Morgan died on May 21.

Clayton, Rita, 87, of Morgan died on May 19.

Dovidauskas, Thomas, 60, of Sayreville died on June 10.

Fedor, Steve, 86, formerly of Sayreville died on June 14.

Gelsinon, Frank, 69, formerly of South Amboy died on May 16.

Genus, Florence T. "Flo," 90, formerly of Sayreville died on June 3.

Kane, Dorothy, 54, of Parlin died on May 22.

Kwiatkowski, Ed, 88, of Sayreville died on May 25.

Litwinski, Carol A., Nietlopp, 55, formerly of South Amboy died on June 10.

Marsicano, Dorothy M., 84, of Sayreville died on May 30.

Nolan, Michael "Mickey," 74, of Sayreville died on June 10.

O'Neill, Elizabeth, 83, of Parlin died on May 25.

Pantano, Paul A., 51, of Sayreville died on May 30.

Quabeck, Gina, 48, of Sayreville died on June 1.

Quirk, Virginia A. "Ginger," 66, of Sayreville died on June 6.

Schneider, Arnold A., 85, of Sayreville died on June 4.

Torres, Carol Springard, 71, of South Amboy died on June 1.

Vona, Mary J., 93, formerly of South Amboy died on May 24.

Wahler, John A., Jr., 85, of South Amboy died on May 28.

Whitaker, Marjorie, 68, of Sayreville died on May 13.

Witkowski, Estelle, of Parlin died on May 9.

Wojciechowski, Henry F., 95, of South Amboy died on June 1.

**Tea & the Mad Hatter: a Tea Party to Celebrate "Alice in Wonderland" & the Victorian Era**

Join us at Sayreville Public Library on Tuesday, July 14, from 2:00 to 4:00PM as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first publication of Alice's Adventure in Wonderland! Travel down the rabbit hole with Alice to attend this Mad Hatter's Tea Party!

When Lewis Carroll wrote his Alice books in the 1860s, tea gatherings were very popular. At this time in England, there was a wide gap between the poor working class and the well-to-do upper class. Carroll makes many references to this as well as the absurd etiquette of the times in his works. Join us today as we talk about the history and importance of tea, as well as the etiquette of Victorian England. We will also learn what is meant by Afternoon Tea, High Tea, Royal Tea, and Cream Tea.

And of course, we will snack on Alice-themed desserts as we sip on tea and pay tribute to the famous tea party portrayed in Carroll's classic. Guests are welcome to wear their most fabulous hat to tea!

Very limited availability, so please register early. Adults only, please. For more information or to register, contact Alaina at alainad@lmxac.org or call 732-727-0212 ex. 25. You may also register online at www.sayrevillelibrary.org!



Here is a photo of the performers from The Brian O'Connor School of Music Annual Jam Fest Concert held on Sunday May 31st at the Senior Citizens Building on Stevens Ave in So. Amboy. The concert was a huge success with well over 150 people in attendance. The audience got to enjoy Brian and many of his students performing some great classic rock from Jimmy Buffett, Stevie Ray Vaughan, ELO to The Beatles. The hour and a half show is always a huge hit that keeps everyone jumping in their seats!

The following performers are (Front Row L - R) Kyle O'Connor, George Giovenco, Brian O'Connor, D.J. Crocker, Stephanie Bufalini, Anthony Pesch, Aaryan Mehta, Aayush Mehta, and Caitlin Autunnale. (Second Row) Tyler McCormack, Lance Kennedy, Wayne Edmundson, Brendan O'Keefe, Christopher Bufalini, Giovanni Spataro, Michael Autunnale, and Shayna O'Connor. (Third Row) Anthony Cabahug, Steven Steele, Richard Steele, Nick Zonak, Kyle Bielinski, Bryan Batista, and Kevin O'Connor. (Photo/Info Submitted)

## Dowdell Library News

Thinking of going digital? The Dowdell Library has free eBooks and eAudio available. Residents can visit the library once to get a card for online access. Additionally, South Amboy cardholders are eligible for free eBook help every Thursday from 6 - 8 pm, so take advantage of this opportunity! To enable the community to have access to the latest eBook bestsellers with shorter wait times, the library offers the Advantage Program to give priority to South Amboy cardholders. Check it out today or contact the library to find out how you could take advantage of this FREE eBook program.

New! The Dowdell Library and the South Amboy YMCA is partnering to present the South Amboy Community Book Club, which will get together 7 pm on the first Thursday of each month at the YMCA. The first South Amboy Community Book Club meeting will be Thursday, July 2 and you don't have to be a member to join. Drop in to the library or YMCA to register! For more information, contact Janet at the library at 732.721.6060 or Cindy at the YMCA at 732.553.9622.

Join the Dowdell Library for something new this summer. Learn to solder! Learn safety, and make a project! Registration and safety training is required. Workshops will be held Monday, July 13 (6:30 pm) and Friday, August 14 (3:30 pm). Classes are limited to 8 adults.

Keyboard Kontest: Drop in on Monday, July 20 for Dowdell Library's first Keyboard Kontest. Play any melody using only one hand to win an iTunes Gift Card! Competition hours: 1-7:30 pm. All ages!

Code4Fun: On Tuesday, July 28 (6:30 pm) and Monday, August 24 (1 pm) learn how to create projects with Scratch, an easy programming language and online

community developed by MIT Media Lab. Create characters & simulations. Experiment and play with new ideas. What will you create?

Not for kids only! A live Turtle Show will take place on Wednesday, July 15 (1:45 pm). See a variety of live Turtles and Tortoises from around the world. Each child will receive a Ninja Turtle Mask! Check out the new summer programs for ages 3-5: the Little Scientists program (every Friday at 1 pm), where children use Play-Doh to conduct electricity with lighting up LED lights. Also, Lego Toddler 2's is a special Mommy and Me program to create and build Lego's (every Monday afternoon at 2 pm).

Additionally, the library's "celebrity" storytelling Summer Beach Day will take place on Wednesday, July 22 (2:45 pm). Hear a Story told by Mayor Henry. Refreshments! Other children's programs include learning how to make Superhero jewelry and special buttons as well as learning how to make healthy Smoothies with the library's Summer Smoothies. Children could also enjoy Interactive KINDLE Story Time followed by interactive MiY Sadie Studio Kits. Find out more at [www.dowdell.org](http://www.dowdell.org)

Teens, free Minecraft computer games are available. Just drop in!

Adults and teens are welcome to join the Knitting Club, which meets the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Free, drop-in eBook help is available every Thursday from 6 - 8 pm.

Additional Adult Code4Fun programs have been scheduled.

For more information, contact the library at 732-721-6060 or [comments@dowdell.org](mailto:comments@dowdell.org). The library is adjacent to the South Amboy High School on O'Leary Boulevard.

## Ocean Grove Celebrates Independence Day, Saturday, July 4, 2015

10:30 AM - Ocean Grove's Annual Independence Day Parade - "Best Fourth of July Parade in America"

12 Noon - "Holiday Pipes and Pedals" Free Organ Recital

8 PM - "Happy Birthday America" - Ocean Grove Summer Band - Free Concert

With marching bands, floats, community groups, civic organizations, local politicians, businesses and thousands of onlookers, Ocean Grove's annual Independence Day Parade will kick off at 10:30 am on Saturday, July 4, 2015.

The parade begins on Whitefield Avenue and turns east along Main Avenue to Central Avenue; then turns north towards Ocean Pathway, then east again ending along Ocean Avenue.

Among this year's musical participants are: the Monmouth County Police and Fire Pipes and Drums, Pipes and Drums of the Atlantic Watch, the Ocean Grove Summer Band, the Neptune High School Marching Band, and the Clown Band.

The 2015 parade Grand Marshal is Harry D. Eichhorn, the long-time Director of the Ocean Grove Summer Band.

The Ocean Grove Parade has been

recognized by the Asbury Park Press as "one of the best parades in the Garden State." The Star Ledger says the annual Independence Day parade "remains a civic extravaganza of fire trucks, marching bands and volunteer group floats. It has an official motto - "The Best Fourth of July parade in America" - and is the daytime star of the weekend. The evening star is the Great Auditorium concert.

On Thursday, July 2, the Ocean Grove Great Auditorium will kick off the holiday week with its "Summer Stars" classical music series featuring the Imperial Brass with special guest Phil Smith (former Principal Trumpet, New York Philharmonic) at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$16. Order tickets by phone at 800-590-4064 or online at [www.oceangrove.org](http://www.oceangrove.org).

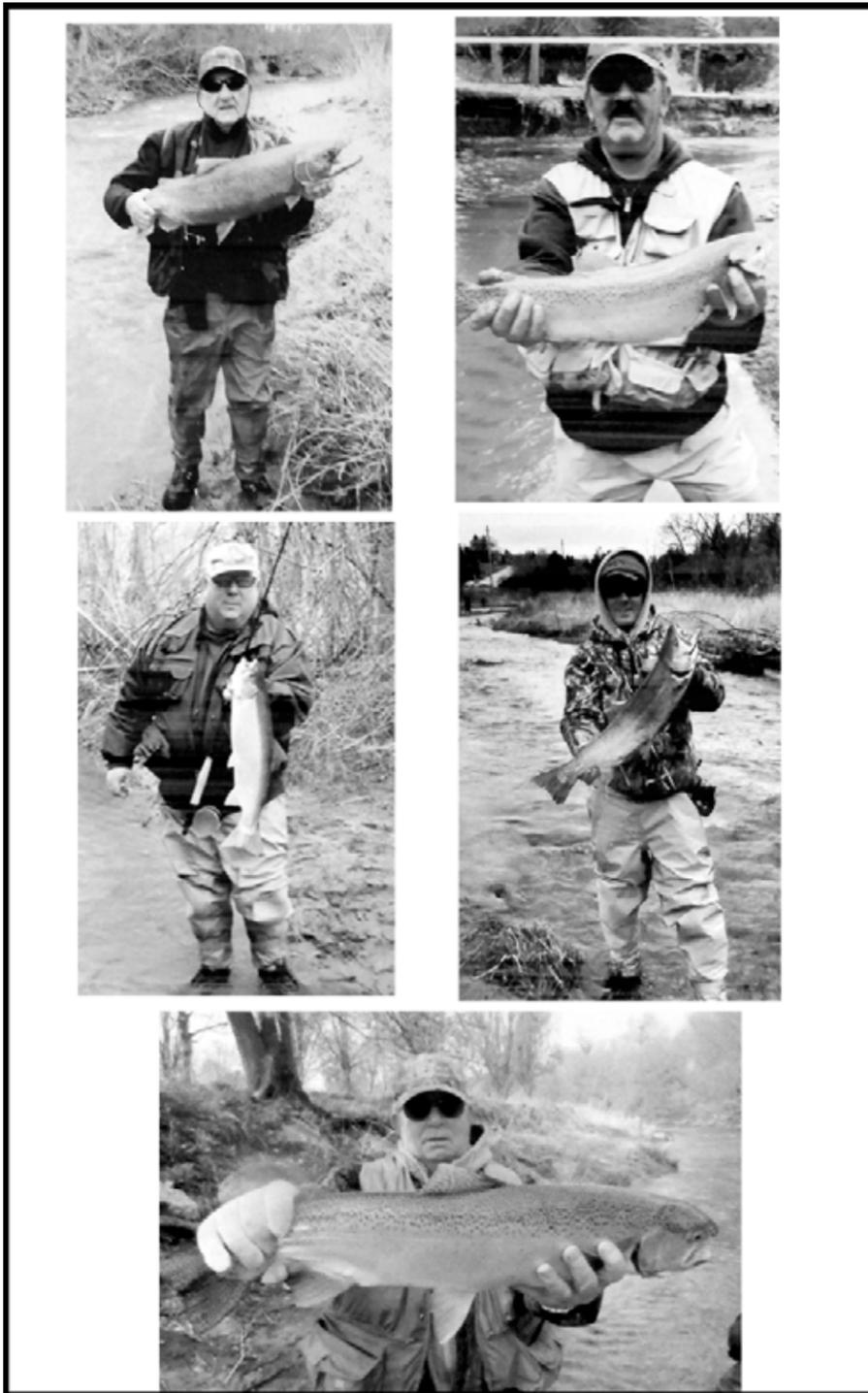
On Saturday, July 4 (12 Noon), organist-in-resident Gordon Turk will perform a FREE Independence Day concert on the Great Auditorium Pipe Organ entitled "Holiday Pipes and Pedals."

The Ocean Grove Summer Band will cap off the evening with a FREE patriotic concert, "Happy Birthday, America" at 8 pm in the Great Auditorium, located at Pilgrim and Ocean Pathways.



The Franklin D. English Scholarship drawing once again took place at the Dowdell Library of South Amboy; Director Elaine R. Gaber drew the ticket. Congratulations to Timothy Kales for winning! He was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship by the South Amboy Lion's Club. The 2016 applications will be accepted starting May 2016. Photo: Bob Pawley, Library Director Elaine R. Gaber and Robert Downs. (left to right)

## Gone Fishin'



The fishermen from South Amboy had another good season of fishing for Rainbow and Steelhead Trout at Coburn and Port Hope Ontario Canada. Pictured with their jumbo catches top (l-r) Leon Letts, Mark Wahler. Middle (l-r) Tom Jukus, Jay Ziola. Bottom-George Leitinger. (Photos/info submitted by Joe Lotkowitz)

## Fishing Flashes

By Teo "Weebles" Weber

### Salt Water

Fluke Fishing in Raritan Bay has gotten off to a pretty good start. Some big fish in the 7 to 9 pound range. One big 14 pound Fluke was caught on the Atlantic Star on the first day of the season. Right now it's fair with a few nice keepers and some shorts. There are some Striped Bass around but Bluefish have taken over. Many of the Bluefish are 5 to 10 pound fish. I saw a few big ones caught at Cliffwood Beach. Shore fishing in the Bay is sometimes good-sometimes it isn't. Party Boat jig fishing for Blues is much the same situation. An odd catch on the Jamaica II was a 56 pound Black Drum caught on a jig with a green tail. Party Boats that are bottom fishing are catching Sea Bass, Ling and a

few Blackfish. There have been a few Cod mixed in too. Surf fishing at Island Beach and LBI has mostly been Bluefish. More junk fish such as Skates and smooth Dog fish have been showing up. Not too many Sea Robins around at this time.

### Fresh Water

My wife and I fished the last day of Trout stocking on Memorial Day weekend in the afternoon. We caught 2 Rainbows, one each in low water conditions. The Shad run in the Delaware is ending. Most of the Shad are well up river but there are a few still coming up. Large and Smallmouth Bass season opens June Fifteenth. Expect normal summer fishing from all bodies of fresh water statewide.

## St. Stan's 100th Anniversary Commemoration

St. Stan's 100th Anniversary Commemoration books and greeting cards will be available weekdays at the parish office (732-254-0212). Books are hard-cover (10"x10"), glossy paper, 80 pages, full color. Chapters 1-5 include an introduction to the parish, information on its patron saint, the founding of the parish, pastor biographies as well as the church's art and architecture. The next five chapters cover religious vocations from the parish, parish organizations, devotional life through the years, St. Stan's School and Cemetery. The final five chapters deal with parish charity work, the Athletic Association, the parish's 75th anniversary, social gatherings and events, customs and traditions. Initial reviews of the book have been extraordinarily positive. Books are \$50 and greeting card packages of 12 are \$15.



60 Pound Drum caught on Going Deep Fishing Charter out of Raritan Marina in Morgan on May 17th....Captain Kevin Gorczyca from South Amboy. (Photo/Info Submitted)

# Renny Travisano: 50 Years A Firefighter And Much, Much More...

By Tom Burkard



Raniero "Renny" Travisano, of the Morgan Hose & Chemical Co. No. 1, recently celebrated his 50th Anniversary as a volunteer firefighter. Congratulations and Thank You, Renny! (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Renny Travisano is celebrating his 50th Anniversary as a volunteer firefighter with the Morgan Hose & Chemical Co. He joined the company back in 1965, and has enjoyed every minute of being an active member. Renny, who has been an Exempt Fireman since 1973, served as President for 5 years, and is now House Committee Chairman. He was selected Firefighter of the Year in 2004, and received the Shield Award, and honor which he says was his "most gratifying award."

Travisano has seen many changes in the fire company since he began in '65, and now, and he noted that, "There is a lot of different equipment today. Equipment was unsafe back at that time, but now the gear and cost is unbelievable. It's also a different type of firefighting today than it was then. The county and state offers training today, and it's great. We used to fight fires from the outside-in, but now they fight them from the inside-out. Our kids today are so well trained, and I'm proud of them all. That's why I stay down here. I listen to them tell war stories of going to fires, and they watch over me. Everything has changed 100% in how you fight fires today. The equipment is the main thing. Also, the youth has changed. When I came in, the average age of firemen was about 55. Today, it's got to be about 25-30. Our firefighters today get trained, and come down here to train others and share."

Renny has countless memories of fire calls he was on through his 50 years, but three seem to stand out, and he shared them with The SA Times. "The biggest fire I ever went to was across from Washington School, where I taught. I went into the house and three of our students died. I couldn't go to school the next day. There was a brush fire once that started at the Morgan Plant and went all the way down to where Kennedy Park is now located, and we fought it for 2 1/2 days. It was back in the 60's, and we only got some help from maybe South Amboy and South

River. However, the most dangerous fire I ever fought was the Hercules fire."

He added that, "My best memory of growing up in Morgan was when I joined the Fire Dept. in 1965. This is my 50th year and I'm very proud of that. Morgan has always been my home, and we moved here from Newark in '43, and been here ever since. I enjoy being here."

There is so much more to the Renny Travisano story, a most intriguing one in which he has spent his life serving so many people, not only through his firefighting, but as a teacher, politician, county clerk, and so much more. The following will trace his wonderful life of determination, dedication, and hard work.

Raniero "Renny" Travisano graduated from Sayreville HS in 1954, and lettered in baseball, football and track. He said "I loved playing football for Coach Vince Abbatiello. He was an excellent coach and fantastic man." He served in the U.S Army, worked at DuPont, went on to Monmouth College, and the Kean College. "I worked at DuPont until I graduated from college, and went into teaching. Vince Abbatiello hired me as a 5th grade teacher at Washington School, where Catherine Nielsen, a fantastic lady was the principal. I then got a leave of absence, and was appointed by Tom Molyneaux to the position of Deputy County Clerk, and was in charge of deeds, mortgages. I also worked with Jerry Boylan who was in charge of courts. Tom got sick, and I took over as Acting County Clerk, until I was elected, and served from 1984 to 1990, when I was beat in the election. Following that, I went to the Turnpike, where I was in charge of the Purchasing Dept. for 9 years, and retired in '99, gave up all of that, and I'm still with the Fire Dept., my first love."

He taught 5th and 6th grades at Washington School, and when the Junior High School opened up in 1967, he taught science until he was appointed guidance counselor, a post he held from 1970-83, when he went

to work for the county. "I enjoyed teaching because I was effecting kids' minds and helping them. I still have letters from kids thanking me. When I meet kids I taught, and they remember me, it's a great feeling!"

At one time, this energetic gentleman worked at DuPont, taught school, co-owner of Broadway Cab in South Amboy with his brother Tony, where he also found time to drive a cab at night. In addition, Renny earned his Masters Degree at Kean College in only 1 1/2 years while going to school in the summers.

Renny served the Borough of Sayreville as a councilman for 12 years. He said two of his many great accomplishments at this time were when he was in charge of the Transportation and Police, when the safety isle on Rt. 9 near Peter Pank Diner was closed. Also, he was very proud of being involved with the building of the new Police Complex. He was also in charge of Police & Fire, as well as Buildings & Grounds.

As a councilman, he recalled that "I had a good rapport with the public. I got along well with all, even until today. I'm proud that I was able to talk to anybody." He said his Democratic running mate was Felix Wisniewski, and other fellow Dems during his 12 years in office were Mayor John Czernikowski, Ken Buchanan, Al Jolly, "Chubby" Keenan, Pete Bailey, Tom Kuberski, and Bill Jackson.

He was and still is a member of countless organizations, many of which he held offices in. Just to mention several of his important posts that included: Past chairman of Sayreville Juvenile Conference Committee back in '64; Summer Camp Director for Sayreville BIC, a job he held for 13 years during the summer, when school was out; while on the Borough Council, he served on the Transportation Committee, and was also a representative of the Borough to the county for their transportation needs, etc.; Past Vice-President and Treasurer of Sayreville Education Association, and a member of many more associations; attended John Rice and Ed Rommel School of Umpiring; umpired in Korea and Japan; a member of the NJ Federation of Umpires for over 50 years, and a life member of NJ Baseball Association, Mickey Sedlak Division; was elected to the Sayreville HS Hall of Fame in 2006, in the 2nd Class, and Renny calls this "another highlight" to his amazing life; chairman of the Middlesex County Clerks;

Director of Firefighters Helping Firefighters, an organization helping brother and sister firefighters in need of help; A member of Elks Lodge 784; a member of Sayreville K of C 2061; member of many, more organizations, etc.

Still very active today in borough-related groups, Renny served on the Economic & Redevelopment Committee "since it was instituted by Mayor James Zagata," and had been the Chairman for several years. "I am in my 18th years, and I am still serving. It's a 5-year term," said Travisano.

He also served as Chairman of the Community Block Grant Committee. Renny said, "We get grants for senior citizens, federal money, plus we can do projects, fix up parks, roads, anything in low-income areas."

Renny has also been an usher at St. Mary's Church for over 50 years, and says, "Again, it's a service to the public. I enjoy working with people. I enjoy helping and being a service to somebody."

When asked what advice he would give to youngsters who hope to become firefighters one day, Travisano said, "If you want to devote your life to helping and saving people, this is the place to be, teaching or firefighting. Firefighting can be very dangerous, but it's a worthwhile profession. If you don't mind putting a lot of time in training and schooling, and possibly being injured, I would recommend being a firefighter."

Renny said that "Vince Abbatiello was my greatest inspiration. He was the reason I went into teaching. He was a football coach, athletic director, superintendent of schools, and a friend. He lived here in Morgan, and I delivered newspapers. He invited me in his house to talk, even when I got older and went to college, to ask him for his advice. My dad always told me to go see the Coach. He helped me get my first job."

Renny and his wife the former Joan Zoll, will celebrate their 48th Wedding Anniversary on July 1st.

"My father was my hero when I was growing up. He made sure that we, as a family did everything together. I remember him saying when I got into politics, 'don't ruin the family name,' and I made sure I kept my nose above board. I always thought of my father."

I asked Raniero "Renny" Travisano how he would like to be remembered some day? He said, "As a person who helped others. I had a good run," said Renny.



1986-Raniero "Renny" Travisano (r) takes the oath of office for Middlesex County Clerk. His wife Joan Travisano holds the Bible, while Judge Herman Breitkopf administers the oath. (Photo courtesy of Renny Travisano)

Central Jersey All-School Snapple Bowl

Cardinal McCarrick

Sabrina Leff

Middlesex County All-Star

Snapple Bowl Bound

Sabrina Leff from the CMHS/St. Mary's Eagles Varsity Cheerleading team was nominated and selected to participate with Middlesex Cheer/Dance Team for the Snapple Bowl 2015 the 22nd Annual All-Star Football Classic Union vs. Middlesex on July 16, 2015 @ Kean University 7pm kickoff...www.TheSnappleBowl.com or call 732-763-1302 for tickets... Proceeds to benefit The Childrens Specialized Hospital in Mountainside and The New Jersey Institute for Disabilities.

## VENETIAN CARE AND REHABILITATION CENTER HOSTS HOUSEWARMING AT ITS GRAND OPENING

New short- and long-term care home in South Amboy combines the best in modern design and progressive elder care.

Windsor Healthcare Communities has combined modern design and beautiful surroundings with a progressive approach to elder care in the Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center, which celebrated its grand opening today with a housewarming party that included tours and a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Hyman Jacobs, CEO of Windsor Healthcare, welcomed local officials and community leaders, members of the medical community, Venetian residents and staff, family members and other guests to the new, state-of-the-art skilled nursing and short-term rehabilitation center.

"This is a very special day for the Windsor Healthcare family," said Jacobs. "In the Venetian we've built the home we would want our own parents to have, and we are thrilled to be part of the South Amboy community."

The staff, known as "care partners" at the Venetian, practice person-directed care, a forward-thinking approach to nursing home life based on the idea that the later stages of one's life are just as valuable and meaningful as any of the earlier ones.

Person-directed care stresses choice, autonomy and growth, tailoring daily life and activities to individual needs and preferences under the guidance of a consistent, interdisciplinary team of care partners.

"At the Venetian we do things like we would do them at home. You can get a snack when you want, and you can choose your bath time and your bedtime. Because care partners remain the same for individual residents, you're always going to be around people you know," said Batsheva Katz, vice president at Windsor Healthcare.

"With ten homes across the state, Windsor Healthcare has really put its stamp on the entire New Jersey community, paving the way for a new day in short- and long term-care," said another guest, N.J. Assemblyman John Wisniewski.

The new home replaces the existing Briarwood Care & Rehabilitation Center, also located in South Amboy about five miles away from the new Venetian. Jacobs said that while Briarwood was always known for its excellent care, the 1960's building architecture fell short of current thinking on how building design can actually enable best practices and improve quality of life for residents.

"I'm very pleased to see the combination of the best in care with the awesome new building," said N.J. Assemblyman Craig Coughlin.

Housewarming guests who toured the building saw how the E-shaped floorplan allows for more light and connectedness within the living spaces, which are called neighborhoods, each with a name and unique interior decoration. Tour guides described

each neighborhood as "a home within the home," pointing out the kitchen stocked with fresh food, a lounge area for socializing and rooms with large windows and scenic views.

They also saw the Venetian's rehabilitation gym, managed by highly regarded Kessler.Core, and its RehabPark™, which is both a tranquil setting for relaxation and a physical therapy course for residents transitioning from hospital to home after illness or surgery.

The Venetian is part the South Amboy waterfront neighborhood close to the YMCA and within walking distance of downtown, the train station and two parks on the waterfront promenade, all providing opportunities for residents of the home to take in entertainment and participate in the community.

"We value the Venetian not only because of the home's contribution to the economics of the city but also because they are so committed to serving the community, both in the home and out," said South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry.

"When you look at the state of skilled nursing care in our country, it's clear we can do better, so it's refreshing to see homes like the Venetian taking a leadership role with their focus on evidence-based care practices and quality of life," said N.J. Senator Joseph Vitale in a written statement.

### About Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center:

The new Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center is a cutting edge rehabilitation and long term care center that embraces person-directed care, modern design and technology near the South Amboy waterfront. It replaces the 1960s-era Briarwood Care & Rehabilitation Center in Sayreville and is one of 10 Windsor Healthcare Communities located throughout New Jersey. The home accommodates 60 short-term residents and another 120 nursing home residents. It is within walking distance of downtown South Amboy, the train station and two parks on the waterfront promenade, which offers scenic views and lots of entertainment. Venetian's immediate neighbors are the South Amboy YMCA, Frog Hollow Swim and Tennis Club, and new townhomes to be built by Woodmont Properties.

### About Windsor Healthcare Communities:

Windsor Healthcare Communities provides clinically sophisticated post-hospital medical care and rehabilitation, as well as comprehensive skilled nursing care throughout New Jersey. A family owned and operated organization, Windsor is a recognized pioneer in promoting person-directed care that cherishes, honors and loves our Elders. We are committed to medical excellence and well-being for all that we serve.

Please visit [www.windsorhealthcare.org](http://www.windsorhealthcare.org) for more information.



Julia and Kami Pelliccia decorate their bikes at the Bike Fun Fest hosted by Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center in South Amboy on Sunday, May 30, with the help of their grandmother, Debbie Kurzawa, who serves as the Venetian's external case manager. The girls' father, Patrick Pelliccia, works on another bike. Photo by Cabbar Komek.

## BIKE FUN FEST HOSTED BY THE VENETIAN

Festivities included fun activities staffed by seniors and bike safety education from experts

Today the generations mingled during the first annual Bike Fun Fest at the newly-opened Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center as kids learned to ride bikes safely with help from transportation safety experts, elders at the Venetian and volunteers from the community. The event was hosted by the Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center, South Amboy's cutting-edge short- and long-term care center, in partnership with local organizations providing the festivities.

"One of the things we want to keep constant for our residents at the Venetian when they transition into long term-care is connection with the community," said Joshua Jacobs, vice president of Windsor Healthcare Communities, the parent company of Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center. "Today they worked with the community to help make sure children from Middlesex County ride safely this summer."

Community events are part of the Venetian's person-directed care approach, which focuses on giving residents personalized care and opportunities to participate in neighborhood activities outside the home. At the Bike Fun Fest, elders staffed or assisted with family entertainment that included a bike decorating contest, a moon bounce, sand art, crafts and a fire truck tour.

Bike safety checks and hands-on activities to practice safe riding were provided by Keep Middlesex Moving, Middlesex County's nonprofit transportation management association, with additional staffing from NJ Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center's "Ambassadors in Motion," of the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center of Rutgers University. Staff from Xtremz Bike Shop of 108 Main St., Woodbridge, performed maintenance on participating children's bikes.

The Venetian gave away four new bikes at the event and provided free bike helmets to the first 75 attendees.



Elected and appointed officials gather to cut the ribbon in celebration of the Venetian Care & Rehabilitation Center's grand opening in South Amboy. Pictured left to right are: Michael Jacobs, vice president of Windsor Healthcare Communities; Fred Henry, mayor of South Amboy; Walter Unangst, senior vice president of healthcare at First Niagara Bank; John Wisniewski, N.J. assemblyman; Hyman Jacobs, president and CEO of Windsor Healthcare Communities; Batsheva Katz, vice president of Windsor Healthcare Communities; Mickey Gross, councilman at large, City of South Amboy; Zusette Dato, councilwoman, City of South Amboy; John Krenzel, mayor of South River. (Photo by Brian Stratton)



Assemblyman John Wisniewski takes tour of the Venetian.

## Gov. Harold G. Hoffman

By Joyce Elyea

On June 4, 1954 at about 4:00, Harold Hoffman was found dead of a heart attack in his living quarters at the Circus Saints & Sinners office in New York City. His physician stated he had been dead at least 8 hours before being discovered by the maid. He was 58 years old, and left a wife and two married daughters. At his funeral, it was estimated that more than 10,000 people were in attendance. Services were held at the Harold G. Hoffman High School. Since the auditorium was filled to capacity, there were crowds outside listening to loudspeakers provided. Among the mourners were U.S. State Senators, Governor Meyner, former New Jersey governors, military officials of high rank, and a number of stage, motion picture, radio and television personalities. Many schoolmates had traveled great distances to be there. The crowds that poured into the city, called for outside police as well as state troopers to help with traffic control.

The eulogy compared him to Abraham Lincoln because of his love for the common people. The Luke A. Lovely Post, American Legion, V.F.W., D.A.V., and Catholic War Veterans performed their memorial rituals. As the procession moved slowly from the school to Christ Church Cemetery, crowds of people lined the streets. The ex-servicemen marched along the hearse as honor guard. At the cemetery, the Fort Monmouth detail firing squad shot volleys of salute over the grave while a bugler played "Taps."

Who was this man? We all have heard many stories about him.

While attending South Amboy HS, Hoffman organized their first school literary society, was the editor of the first school newspaper, a basketball player, center on the football team, and catcher on the baseball team. He became a correspondent for "The Citizen," then wrote for the "New Brunswick Home News," and "Perth Amboy Evening News," and shortly became sports editor. After leaving the newspaper, he worked as

a lab technician at DuPont until the start of World War I. He enlisted as a private in the National Guard, and soon became mess sergeant and then captain with a battlefield promotion. At the end of the war, he was a member of the Army Reserves, earning the rank of major. During World War II, he re-entered active duty and became a Lieutenant Colonel in the transport division.

In 1919, when the South Amboy Trust Company was organized, he was treasurer. In 1926, he was vice-president, and then president. He served as president of the Hoffman-Lehrer Real Estate Corp., president of the Mid-State Title Guarantee & Mortgage Co., treasurer of the National Realty & Investment Corp., and director of the Investor Building & Loan Association. He became mayor of South Amboy in 1926, and was named State Commissioner to Motor Vehicles in 1931. He headed the NJ Employment Security Division and the Unemployment Compensation Division from 1938 to his death in 1954, minus the 3 1/2 years serving in WW II. He belonged to a huge list of organizations, his favorite being the American Legion.

In 1926, Hoffman was elected to the House of Representatives, and served until 1931. In '31 he was appointed Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, and was an early opponent of drunk driving. In 1934, he was elected Governor, and served through 1938, and resigned as Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in 1935. This was during the Depression, and there was an estimated 650,000 NJ residents depending on state and local government for relief. There was no Welfare, and the weight of the problem fell directly on the state and local governments. Hoffman asked for a state sales tax to offset the burden. The opposition by both political parties was deafening and a month later, he signed a repeal bill in red ink symbolizing an "unbalanced budget and hungry people."



### TROOP 95 TAKES FIRST PLACE

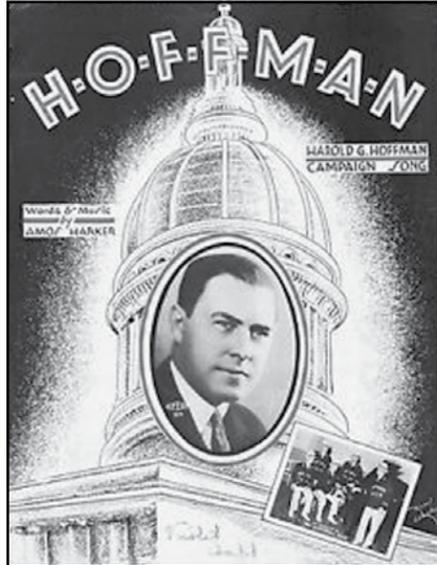
Over the recent May 1st thru 3rd 2015 weekend, South Amboy Troop 95 competed against more than 20 other Boy Scout Troops from around New Jersey for the prestigious 52nd Annual SNUFFY HOLLOW Invitational Camporee at Thompson Park in Jamesburg. In only their 3rd attempt, the RAT PATROL managed to edge past intense competition, bringing in a well rounded effort in many skill areas. The boys and their parents would like to give a big thank you to their leaders; Assistant Scout Masters Ed Peterson, Kevin Scupp, and John Bellanich

for helping them BE PREPARED! A Big THANK YOU also goes to the Snuffy Hollow Committee and all the volunteers who continue to make it one of the most exciting and well run events year after year.

Pictured in front of the first place RIFLE trophy are; Front row/Kneeling: Gabe King, Brian Eberle, Lance Pierce, Seth Mathias Back row: John Paul Bellanich, Matt Coyle, Eddie Peterson, Patrick Scupp, Bobby Bialkowski, Mitch Hall. (Photo/Info Submitted)



Harold G. Hoffman



The Hoffman Family. (PHOTO COURTESY OF THE JOSEPH BILBY COLLECTION)



1997-St. Mary's High School students enter the gym for the day they've been waiting for.



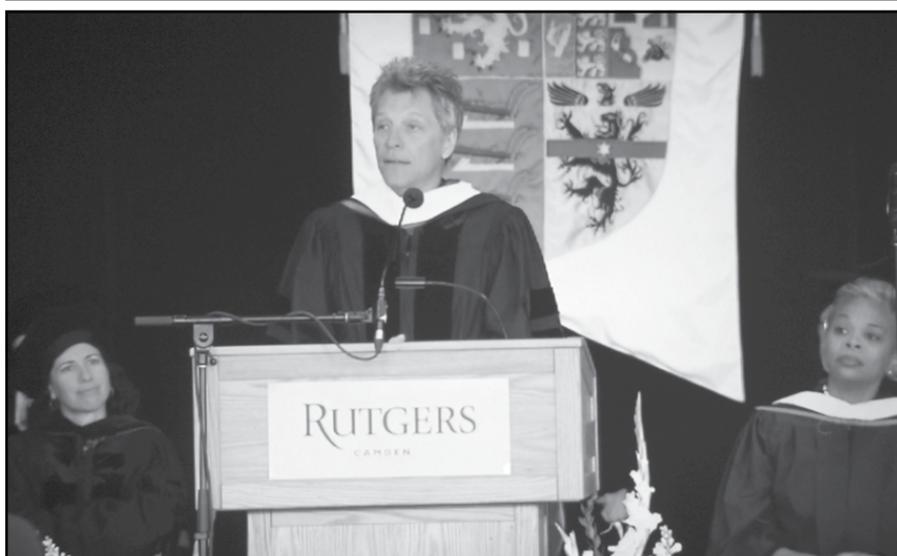
1997-Senior Class President Erin Gardner gives a memorable speech to the graduating class.



1937-Hoffman High School graduate Florence Harris Timm had this graduation photo taken in a neighbor's backyard. (Photo courtesy of Anna Harris Friberg)



1938-Anna Harris Friberg, a local historian who writes for The South Amboy-Sayreville Times is pictured in her graduation cap and gown. (Photo courtesy of Anna Harris Friberg)



Former Sayreville resident and rock superstar Jon Bon Jovi served as the keynote speaker at the Rutgers University, Camden graduation exercises.

**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. -M.M.



## St. Mary's/Cardinal McCarrick High School Memories Of Alumni, Others

By Tom Burkard



The graduation class of 2015 at Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's High School walks down Stevens Ave. to the school's gym for the final graduation ceremony in the school's history. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

Jeanne Polinski (Class of 1951, St. Mary's Grammar School Teacher 1960-69, St. Mary's/Cardinal McCarrick High School Teacher, Counselor, Director of Guidance, Assistant Principal 1970-2010) "St. Mary's/Cardinal McCarrick always provided a warm, caring atmosphere, and an excellent education for all of its students. Congratulations for a job well-done to all of the faculty and graduates. The school will be greatly missed!!!"

Monica Mendoza (Director of Enrollment and Marketing) for 7 years and prior to that worked as Associate Director of Advancement for 3 years, shared some of her favorite memories of the school. "I'll always remember the car parade on the last day of school. Also, my son was in the Class of 2009, and for the "Senior Prank," the seniors took over the parking lot. They took out grills at 4 a.m. and began cooking at 6 a.m. They wouldn't let the unpopular teachers in. Everyone of the 109 seniors participated." Monica and secretary Peggy Blache (whose son was also a senior) were worried about their sons getting into trouble, but "the seniors were so nice, classy and dignified," said Mendoza. She summed up her feelings saying that "I will miss the faculty and staff because we're all so close."

South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry ('68 SMHS graduate/SM Grammar School teacher/SMHS varsity baseball coach) has many great memories of St. Mary's, and said that some of the fondest ones are, "The Class of '68; Having a baseball practice at 8 a.m. in March because of being on double sessions with the grammar school because of the fire; the Christmas Festivals, and when I sang "White Christmas" as a solo; Singing with the high school Glee Club at Midnight Mass on Christmas; Saturday CYO bowling at Hill Lanes; the baseball and basketball games with Hoffman High School; making some lifelong friends."

George Spiecker, who was a star athlete/all-state baseball player at St. Mary's said that "It's unfortunate. It holds a lot of fond memories. I met my wife, who was my high school sweetheart when I attended the school, and we've been married for 60 years."

Al Ust (Class of 1962) remembered that "In my senior year at St. Mary's High, while training a nun for her driving test, she drove through a red light unknowingly, and I had to admonish her even though she was my English IV teacher. I also worked as a janitor through high school, and one time when I was mopping a floor in the old high school, JFK was making his Cuban Missile speech saying that he was going to attack the Soviet Union in the event Cuba launched missiles against the U.S. I just dropped my mop and thought we were going to have a nuclear war."

Jerry Smith (Class of 1970) said, "I can recall class trips, sports, plays, and the academic successes and difficulties, but my most enduring memory of St. Mary's HS is the friendships I developed there. The fact that many of those friendships continue some 40-odd years later is the strongest legacy of all."

Mike Reilly (Class of 1974) went so far as to list his Top 10 remembrances of St. Mary's HS, saying, "The Top 10 things I remember about good old St. Mary's HS are: 1. Being amazed at how big the biology lab was...and Mike Fabiszewski's Christmas test; 2. The Little Theater...and

the amazing acoustics there. (plus skipping class and hiding there); 3. Sister Madeline saying "So pho mores;" 4. Cruising every day after school in the "Mafia Staff Car;" 5. Locking Jesus in the bathroom...don't ask!; 6. Charles Nuziale. A good teacher and a good friend; 7. Friday night religion...later changed to Monday night religion, because no one showed up on Friday; 8. Having a locker that was nowhere near my classes for 4 years!; 9. Making lifelong friends-Walter, Sammy, Joey, Stinky, just to name a few; 10. Not being able to wait to graduate...then so sad after my 4 years there were over."

Al Gomolka Jr. (Class of 1969, SA Times Poet Laureate) "I remember being the first class to graduate in the new high school, and the wonderful friends I made with the Class of '69."

Ray Andrejewski (Class of 1961) "I remember bringing my record player to the cafeteria to play music over the PA for dances. That was fun! I also recall having a good feeling when watching the older guys playing the pinball machines at Astarita's up the street before class started."

Bill "Biff" McKeon (Class of 1950) "In the late 1940's over the winter, our group that was made up of the O'Briens, McKeons, Ray Stockton, Ace Hennessey, Buddy Larkin, Jerry Connors etc. played a lot of basketball, especially after we came up with a plan that one member of the group would get detention each week on a Friday. Detention was held in a second floor classroom, near the gym, with a fire escape door, and the one who had detention would leave the door unlocked, so on Saturday and Sunday, we could sneak in and play basketball. We would draw the black World War II curtains so the lights wouldn't show, and move the chairs, etc. and play all day long. When we finished, we would put everything back the way it was prior to our entry. We did this for several years, all the time thinking that we outsmarted Fritz McLaughlin, the janitor, who later said he and the good father (priest) knew we were playing basketball, however we didn't break anything, so they allowed us to break some rule and get detention."

Mary Snover (Class of 1980) "I will be forever grateful to two hard-working parents, who sacrificed in order to put me through 12 years at St. Mary's, and for the strong foundation that that education, academically and spiritually has given me."

Janice Reilly (Class of 1985) "I have so many good memories, almost all sports related. Great times!"

Jim Vail (Class of 1969) "My favorite memories are of the great games of pool we played at Don's Rec, and also the St. Mary's-Hoffman basketball games, and the huge crowds that packed our gym."

Charlotte Sadowski (Class of 1968) "I enjoyed my 4 years there from 1964-68, and I'm so glad I attended St. Mary's."

David Keenan (Class of 1972) "As the youngest of 4 boys and 1 girl, all St. Mary's grads, my dearest memory is at the start of each year, teachers I had never met before, telling me, 'I'm keeping my eyes on you, Keenan.' Doomed from the start. (LOL)"

Skip House (Hoffman HS Class of 1955) "As the school burned in the early 1950's, I recall Richard Hanson from upper Bordentown Ave. near the bus turn-around with tears in his eyes, and he said he had so many great memories and was 'too upset not to cry.'"

## Mr. Mager Recalls Teaching At St. Mary's High

Richard Mager, who was a popular English/Reading teacher at St. Mary's High School from 1965-1969 was so kind to share his memories of his days at the Augusta Street school.

"St. Mary's provided me with the opportunity to be a master teacher. And if I could have afforded it, I would have remained there for my entire career. Highlights of my career at SMH manifested itself in my interacting with my students such as Tom Burkard, Mary McCarthy, George & Victoria Gilbert, Joe Hogan, etc. and faculty members such as Steve Nestinger, Jim Dowd, Charles Nuziale, Sister Katrina and Sister Dominic, etc. Fond memories abound that include coping with the school day utilizing split sessions during the construction of the new building, faculty meetings run by Sister Mary Madeline, student reactions to Mr. Walling, directing a school play, "Great Expectations"

for an assembly program that featured my Sophomore English students, attending the annual Christmas Pageant, traveling to Forensic Club Public speaking events in a Ford Mustang, enjoying the daily grind of my first year of teaching five English classes and one Religion class with 35 to 40 pupils, and eventually being assigned Reading Improvement classes which led me to earn a Master's Degree as Reading Specialist. My successful teaching career can be attributed to my time spent at St. Mary's High School. What St. Mary's offered to all who attended was an experience filled with joy that transcends time. It was indeed an educational institution that offered an incomparable religious/spiritual education that made life worth living. Sadness pervades its passing. What is being done to commemorate St. Mary's High School?"

## Teachers, Coaches Share Memories

By Tom Burkard

So many people have been affected by the closing of Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's HS. Teachers and coaches, past and present have been kind enough to share their favorite memories of the school.

Bill Garnett (Coached St. Mary's Lady Eagles softball team from 1992-1998) "There will always be a special place in my heart from my days of coaching girls' softball at St. Mary's. From the players, fellow coaches, Dan and Mike, parents, administration, and staff, there are so many great memories that no one will ever be able to take away from me."

One of Bill's fondest memories was "When we were playing Highland Park for the Division title in 1996. The game was

previously rained out twice, and we were playing it in early June. The temperature was in the 90's, and we put a tarp over the dugout, and I let the girls run through the lawn sprinkler at the firehouse to cool off. When Highland Park arrived, they were fighting with their coach because he would not let them wear shorts. I looked at Mike and Dan (my coaches), and I said, "This game is over." Final score: St. Mary's 11 Highland Park 0."

Christine Altland (Boys/Girls varsity track & field coach) "I enjoyed the freshman barbecues because I got to meet a lot of incoming freshmen, and also got to eat lots of hot dogs."

## DJ Henry St. Mary's Memories

By Henry "Henny" Conroy

My involvement with Saint Mary's was probably more intense than anyone's. I was a kindergarten to 12th grade student there, of course, but also captain of the basketball team and president of the student council, 1960, and I taught high school English and coached basketball there from 1964 till 1967.

As a student my fondest memory is that of having Sister Helaine as an English teacher my senior year. This was a teacher who gave up her lunch hour every day for a month to help prep us for the SAT's. It is not accident that I spent 35 years of my life being a high school English teacher because of her influence.

As a basketball player in a basketball crazy town and school, it hurts not to have been on a winning team, but Saint Mary's gave me the opportunity to make 13 for 13 foul shots in one half in a game against our cross town rival Hoffman High School, so I take solace in that feat every time I start to feel down about not being a "winner" or see a pro player throw up a "brick" from the foul line.

As a teacher I tried to be a positive influence on the students that I was entrusted with, but honestly being a new teacher I'm

sure I made all the mistakes a rookie makes and hope that any student I did have there benefited some way in spending time in a class with me as their teacher.

Finally, by far my greatest coaching memory was a game in which the late Mike Krotsek, an unlikely hero since he had not been a starting player, led us to a victory over our hated Perth Amboy St. Mary's rivals. That team had a tall player named Beanie Brooks who predicted that we could not stop him and we turned to Mike, our best defensive player in our hour of need and said, "Mike you have to shut him down."

And shut him down he did. And so with two young players who were destined to become all time great Eagles, Jimmy McCloud and Mark Bratus playing in their first varsity game, on a Sunday afternoon before a packed house on Stevens Avenue...we beat a team better than us because of Mike's valor.

When he died young and unexpectedly, I knelt at his casket at Kurzawa's Funeral Home and I could still see the smile on his face that I saw in the locker room when we all jumped around Mike and gave him our love after he had given us all he had.

## Alumni Share Thoughts

By Steve Schmid

The closure of Cardinal McCarrick High School has left alumni deeply hurt and disappointed. The school opened in 1885 as St. Mary's High School until 2001 when the Metuchen diocese changed its name to Cardinal McCarrick. The Metuchen diocese announced the closure was necessary due to declining enrollment with only 210 students registered for the 2015-16 school year. At one time over 500 students attended. Gerry Sherry of South Amboy graduated from St. Mary's in 1948. "I went there, my children and grandkids went there. It's a shame its closing. We enjoyed the nuns, they were fun and set us straight," she said. Bob Krzyzowski of South Amboy is a 1958 graduate. "It's a shame that a school with that kind of history is closing. I'm disappointed the diocese is closing all these schools," he said. Judy Paczkowski of South Amboy

said her children went to St. Mary's and her husband Ed graduated in 1955. She is also disappointed. "I'm glad my husband and all my children were afforded the opportunity to have a good Catholic education and I'm sorry to see it fold." Doris Ruszczyk of South Amboy graduated in 1943 and also had fond memories. "I got a good education from the nuns. I had 12 years in the school and I'm sorry future generations of kids will never experience Catholic education in their home town." Former South Amboy resident Rick O' Connor, a 1965 graduate, went to St. Mary's with his future wife Judy. His parents and children also attended. He said St. Mary's has been an important part of his life. "Those of who went there got a very good Catholic education and it has carried over into my whole life, no matter what we'll always be Eagles."

# Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's High School



# Congratulations!

To the **GRADUATING CLASS** of 2015

Daniel Abril - Melissa Rose Adams - Veronica Arcelay - Eddie Rey Ayllon - Jiawei Bao -  
 Hodari Bazemore - Maricruz Cedeno - Kyle Chaney - Bowen Chen - Briana Collado -  
 William J. Corman - Jaylen Jesus Correa - Brian J. DaCosta - Nicholas Dekolf -  
 Michelle Sophia Del Monaco - Santiago Dervishaj - Mark E. Farrell - Marc Andrew Galiano -  
 Mallory A. Green - Randy Haber - Seoyeon Kim - Brandon Koziatek - Austin Lasko - AnnaMarie Leon -  
 Jose Alberto Lopez - Ryan Austin Lorenzo - Yonghwa Lu - Mark Keenan Maldonado - Ralph Menar -  
 Changyong Mun - John Arthur Murga - Danielle Nosek - Gabrielle Nosek - Patrick O'Leary -  
 Ziwei Ouyang - Jonathan A. Perez - Haofeng Qiao - Jacqueline Theresa Riley - Gregory Roque - Jr. -  
 Bria Roskowski - Clinton Daniel Rowe - Cristian Salado - Yoanni Santana - Cristian Manuel Serrano -  
 Jinchun Shi - Anthony Charles Spitery - Kimberly Marie Szilagyi - Sicong Tang - Jamila Torres -  
 Savannah Valentin - Feng Wang - Timothy Wiemer - John Wilson - Naomi Victoria Zebro



**CARDINAL MCCARRICK  
HIGH SCHOOL**

BACCALAUREATE MASS  
5 29 7 PM

GRADUATION CEREMONY  
5 30 10 AM

goodbye aloha  
 au revoir rub rakha  
 arrivederci  
 zai jian adios  
 do svidanya chao  
 ja ne auf wiedersehen  
 do zobaczenia

