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The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

This issue is
dedicated to

*Carol Bongiovi
*John Connors
*Joseph Pacansky
*Walter "Wally"
Peterson Sr.



August 31, 2024 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 33 Issue 11



"The American Pickers" popular TV show visited the home of Al (l) and Shelly Gomolka (c) on July 26th to see Al's huge collections, and recorded for an upcoming show. The star of the show, Mike Wolfe is pictured (r). See more photos on page 3. (Photo submitted)

"The American Pickers" TV Show To Feature Al Gomolka

By Tom Burkard

The SA Times "Poet Laureate" Al Gomolka, who happens to be one of the biggest collectors in the world, welcomed Mike Wolfe, star of the popular History Channel TV show, "The American Pickers" and his large staff to see his many collections, as well as video, rare and valuable items that would be interesting for their viewing audience on a future show.

Al shared this amazing experience with our readers, saying:

"My collecting started out simply as a 4-year old boy sitting on his father's knees, and opening up a 5-cent pack of baseball cards back in 1955. Who would've thought that 69 years later, I would be featured on a TV show, as having one of the greatest personal collections in the United States. The show, "The American Pickers" was at my home on July 26th, taping a 16-hour long day; with the actual airing to be next spring or early summer 2025. The production and direction of a TV show is a lot more intense and in depth than I would have ever imagined. But, in the end, large purchases of baseball cards and comic books were recorded. The stars Mike Wolfe

and Diamond Dave Rowe, legendary experts in the field of collecting, agreed they had witnessed a collection of epic proportions, and considered it a privilege and honor to purchase just a tiny portion of it.

I believe the time was right to share the objects and joys of my years of collecting, with them, and with the public through their very popular TV show. I am truly blessed." During the duration and history of the show, there was only approximately 400 of the country's greatest collectors were featured, and Al was the first to be featured for baseball cards and comic books! Congratulations Al, on this most well-deserved honor!

NOTE: To find out much more on Al's countless collections, go to The SA Times Archives at our website: www.thesatimes.com and search for the in-depth interview by Tom Burkard which was titled "The World's Biggest Collector? Al Gomolka Jr., Who Else?" You can find it by going to the July 28, 2012 issue of The South Amboy-Sayreville Times, starts on page 14 and continues on page 17. The collections mentioned are unbelievable, so check it out!

Calling All SWMHS Class of '75 Alumni

Be sure to update your current - email / phone number / mailing address so we are able to inform you about our upcoming 50th Year Reunion Celebration in 2025. Please send your current information to: SWMHS1975@gmail.com. You can also join our Facebook page, 'Sayreville War Memorial High School Class of 1975', for up-to-date information as it becomes available.

Thank You

Independence Engine & Hose #1 would like to thank Mayor Fred Henry and the city council for letting us have our 24 annual car show. We would also like to thank the businesses for sponsoring all the trophies. In addition, a big thank you to all cars and car clubs for coming out. Next year #25. It will be a blast!

Congratulations



Congratulations to South Amboy Public Works Dept. dedicated employees, who have recently retired, Mark Wahler (l) (37 years), and Darren Gorczyca (c) (42 years). Andy Pipala (r) will retire in October after (27 years). Great going guys, and a big THANK YOU! May you enjoy your well-deserved retirement, and God Bless! See additional photo on page 4.

Kosmoski Receives Service Award

Rich Kosmoski of Sayreville completed 50 years of active service last June with the Sayreville Fire Dept., and has responded to over 10,000 fire alarm calls! He was honored in June at the New Jersey Exempt Firefighters meeting, and was presented with their 2024 Annual Service Award. He was selected out of all the firefighters in the state! The award was based on the many accomplishments throughout his career beginning with his

time in the U.S. Navy during Vietnam, 40 years active membership in the American Legion, 30 years as President of New Jersey Volunteer Fire Chiefs Association, and as a Fire Instructor at the Fire Academy, with special attention to helping students with learning difficulties.

Congratulations Rich on your tremendous achievement, and big thank you for all you do for our local communities.

Hoffman High School Multi-Year Reunion is Back!

All alumni of Hoffman HS are invited to join us at our multi-year reunion. This nostalgic event will take place on Sunday, Oct 13th from 1-5pm at the Enterprise Snorkel Co. Fire Station, 107 George St, So. Amboy. The cost is \$60 per person in advance or \$75 at the door, (based on availability). Your ticket includes a delicious buffet, beer, wine, and sangria. Please send your check payable to

Bill Croddick, 130 S Stevens Ave, So. Amboy. The deadline to purchase tickets is Sept 20th. Don't miss out on your chance to see old friends! Questions? Contact Helenmae Stader Bilder (hbilder1@gmail.com) or stop one of the other committee members, Edward Szatkowski, Grace Hoffman Spencer, Kathy Koerner O'Leary, or Roy Dragotta.

SEPTEMBER 11TH MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Borough of Sayreville will be hosting the 23rd Annual Memorial Service to remember the victims of September 11, 2001. The Memorial Service will be held at 1:00pm, Sunday, September 8th, 2024 rain or shine at the Sayreville Borough 9/11 Memorial in Burke's Park, Washington Road. Those wishing to attend are asked to arrive by 12:30pm. For more information, contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at 732-390-5187.

FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL MASS

When: Saturday October 12th, 2024

Time: 4:00pm

Location: Church of The Sacred Heart 531 Washington Avenue, South Amboy, NJ Attendees are asked to assemble in front of the church by 3:30pm in Class A uniform. Apparatus will park on Washington Avenue in front of the church.

PLEASE RSVP 732-570-7183 by 10/1/2024 or call for additional information.



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Next Issue September 28th -- Deadlines September 15th

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KodyThe Horse Visits The Dowdell Library



On August 5th Kody the Horse visited the Dowdell Library. There was a Celebrity Story time with author Terri Abbatiello reading her book Kody's Capers with a projected video. There was also a Book Launch Party with refreshments and more. Kody's Capers books and stuffed animals were available for purchase. Everyone in attendance had a great time! Pictured with Kody are author Terri Abbatiello (l), Library Director Elaine Gaber next to Terri and a group of happy children along with Kody's handler. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

Happenings at the South Amboy Elks!

Saturday September 7th is our Polish night dinner. 5:30 to 7:30.
 Thursday September 12th 5:30-7:30 Roast Beef Dinner. \$20. Pp 17. Pp for seniors. All proceeds benefit the Peer Leadership Program.
 All you can eat Breakfast on Sunday September 15th from 9-11:30 am.
 A book swap and tea with dessert will be held on Sunday the 22nd from 2-4pm \$5.00 p.p.
 And finally our afternoon with Barbara Lee. Barbara is an evidential psychic medium. \$55. p.p., doors open at 12:30. Lunch is included at the break. Make sure you bring a picture of your loved one.
 For more Information call 732-727-7170. The Elks is Located at 601 Washington Ave. South Amboy.

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

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 -M.G.

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

Pleasant Little TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

1. President of St. Bernadette's Holy Name Society in 2012?
a. John Melanchick b. Tom O'Leary c. Abdul Nikumbo
2. Principal of South Amboy HS in '12?
a. Dr. Patrick McCabe b. Dr. Joyce Talbot c. Mr. Lawrence Rowe
3. Top vote-getter in the 2019 Sayreville Board of Education election?
a. John Walsh b. James Bello c. Lucille Bloom
4. Valedictorian of South Amboy HS in 2012?
a. Josephine Castronova b. Tyler Simko c. Roberta Jones
5. St. Stan's honored this person as Veteran of the Year in '19?
a. Rich Kosmoski b. Ed Strek c. Ken Kelly Jr.
6. South Amboy Fire Chief in 1994?
a. Jerry McCracken b. Rich Johnson c. Larry Parsons
7. In 2019 this Barber Shop was located next to Route 9 Cash for Gold in Sayreville?
a. Cool Cuts b. Terry's c. 9 South
8. Popular South Amboy seafood establishment in 2014?
a. Broadway Seafood b. Big Fish & More c. Raritan Bay Seafood
9. Received the most votes in the '14 Borough of Sayreville Council election?
a. Mary Novak b. Lisa Eicher c. Victoria Kilpatrick
10. Selected Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the South Amboy Lions Club in '82?
a. Michael DeLucia b. William "Doc" O'Leary c. Elizabeth Leveille
11. South Amboy Fire Chief in 2017?
a. Brett Coyle b. John Kelly c. Steve Szatkowski

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

FROM THE DESK OF TOM REILLY

Allow me to begin by expressing my sincere hope that all of you have had a joyful and relaxing summer. The weather has not always been perfect, but I hope you have had time to get out in the (occasional) sunshine, take some time off from work or school to see friends and family, and enjoy some recreation time at your favorite summer hangout.

The autumn chill that soon will be in the air can be sobering for many of us. The beaches close, our kids go back to school, and many of us adults go back to reality. Perhaps now is a good time to remind ourselves of the value of hard work, hope, and community, as well as the fact that, for every summer that ends, a new one always will come.

September of course also brings with it the anniversary of one of our country's darkest days. It is beyond any of our capacity to set forth in words the indelible impression September 11, 2001 has left on our national character, particularly for those of us who live just across the water from Manhattan. Rather than focus on the tragedy, which we all know well and for which we will have many moments of solemn silence in the days ahead, allow me to provide you a story of hope, remembrance, and community.

In 2002, local resident and volunteer fireman Phil English applied for a piece of the World Trade Center. The World Trade Center Commission replied seven months later, informing him that one piece remained -- the stabilizer for one of the six arms supporting the North Tower antenna. With the help of several local businesses and residents, Phil retrieved the piece from LaGuardia Airport, took it back to South Amboy, and labored to transform the piece of rubble into a monument of remembrance within our City. It is a reminder for all of us that, with some determination, the right mindset, and the help of a community, an artifact of tragedy can become a symbol



of hope and remembrance.

The monument currently sits near our train station. The City will conduct a ceremony at the train plaza on September 11 at 6:00 p.m. For those who wish to join us, you will see that the monument includes a backdrop of the New York skyline as well as engraved bricks which were sold to raise money for the monument's maintenance. If you are interested in purchasing a brick, please call Phil English at 732-688-7956. You can also stop by Independence Fire House and pick up a form.

Finally, let us not forget the value of hard work. With Labor Day approaching, I hope all of us will remember the hard-working men and women on whose backs this country was built. Common men and women from all walks of life have made immeasurable contributions to our national prosperity: steelworkers, ironworkers, auto industry workers, laborers, miners, and many others. Many of them, their names lost to history, worked hard to establish the workplace rights we often take for granted today. If you've ever taken PTO time, received overtime, or even just taken a lunch break, remember that many people strived and sacrificed for decades to make these now common comforts a reality.

Best wishes to all South Amboy students, teachers, and staff as they begin a brand-new school year!

Respectfully

Tom Reilly
2nd Ward Councilman
City of South Amboy

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"The American Pickers" Continued from page 1 (Photos Submitted)



Left: Mike Wolfe (l) star of "The American Pickers" TV show is pictured with Al Gomolka during a break from the filming of an upcoming episode at Al's home.



"The American Pickers" cameraman is pictured recording (l-r) Wolfe, Gomolka and Rowe.



Gomolka (c) shows a small portion of his fine collectibles to Diamond Dave Rowe (l) and Wolfe (r).

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Frank has continued the family tradition with his daughters Amber and Minki, and his wife Francine all working together with one goal in mind: building a long-lasting relationship with the community. We here at Medina Tire & Auto Center understand where you bring your vehicle and your family's vehicles to be serviced is a major decision, and we do not take that trust for granted. We want to thank all our customers for their patronage over the years and welcome new customers to try us out!

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Yearbook-St. Mary's 1974

By Tom Burkard

In early September 1973, when St. Mary's High School senior class of 1974 began its first day of school, "Brother Louie" by The Stories was the top hit in the U.S.A. Sister Mariann Mahon was principal, and was honored by the students who dedicated the yearbook to her. Some of the fine teaching staff included Ann Warnock, Joan Yanik, Corinne Ragusa, Craig Martin, William Cahill, Sr. M. Rose Burghardt, Susan Russo, Fred Olsen, Sr. Laurita O'Shea, John Knarr, Sr. Marlene Fritz, Sara Munizaga, Robert Decker, Janet Mastrangelo, Margaret Zrebiec, Frank Redino, Christine Leahy, Sr. Helen O'Donnell. Michael Heil was Student Council President, and Erin O'Brien was the Secretary. . . John Coakley was Senior Class President. . . Kathryn Szraga was Editor-In-Chief of the yearbook. . . Co-Editors-In-Chief of the year book were Luanne Cleary and Kathy Szraga. Co-Editors of "The Crown" school newspaper were Erin O'Brien and Karen Suchciki. Some of the large senior class selected randomly include; Vincent Anatucci, Kenneth Bagala, Ann Bell, Mary Belmonte, Rosemarie Bird, Susan Bellia, Jane Bronne, Walter Bruckner, Robert Bukovec, Mary Bulman, Kathy Burns, Maureen Bush, Angelina Cassidy, Steve Conlon, Agnes Connors, Veronica Chaney, Patrice Degnan, John DeLucia, Kathleen DeLucia, Robert Di Cosmo, Garrett Doherty, Karen Eshleman, Terri Fizer, Teri Floerisch, Thomas Fox, Vicky Gadomski, Richard Garcia, Greg Gergits, Michael Giunta, Carol Goerke, Christopher Gundrum, Mike Haviland, Kathleen Hewins, Diane Howarth, Madeline Howarth, Joanne Hudak, Matt Jadacki, Bob Jankowitz, Ronald Jannos, Lynn Jefferys, Jennifer Jones, Sheran Kanca, Tom Kane, Lorraine Kennedy, John Kenny, Bernadette Kimball, Michelle Kilcomons, Julia Knoll, Randall Kolb, David Kosmoski, Mary Ann Kruszewski, Michelle Kusic, Amy Lasko, Robert Latham, Yolanda Lentz, Gary Linderoth, Bob Lovely, Gerri Lupo, Mark McCarron, Lucinda McCloud, Kathy McMahan, Ellen MacFadyen, Peggy MacKay, Eileen Maine, Marilee Maliszewski, Michael Marrone, Kathleen Meehan, Jim Mulligan, Joanne Murphy, Debbie Musica, Wallace Nebus, Robert Nugent, Eileen

O'Connor, Dolores O'Connor, Eileen O'Malley, Gregory Ostrowski, Karen Patella, Debbie Partington, Kathy Petricek, Laurie Phillips, Rose Marie Pinho, Cindy Polinski, Edward Popielarski, Sandy Prasnal, Edward Pudlo, Julie Pudlow, Kristine Ranberg, Mike Reilly, Jeanne Rogers, Mary Rogers, Debra Roxbury, Sam Sirna, Tony Skarzynski, Dawn Stecky, Lee Steiner, Norajane Straub, Karen Sucheiki, Bob Sumski, Carol Thomas, Sue Tice, Ellen Toomey, Debbie Woj, Joe Zaczek, Thomas Zebrowski, John Zientek, Patricia Durski, Michelle Zalewski. In the '74 headlines throughout the world: Richard Nixon became the first President of the U.S. to resign. . . Patricia Hearst was kidnapped. . . The Exorcist was a big movie hit. . . Hank Aaron broke Babe Ruth's home run record of 714. . . Daredevil Evel Knievel failed while trying to rocket over Snake River Canyon. While at St. Mary's, the social scene was in full swing, with the sports teams, various clubs, the school play "Little Me," the Christmas Ball with "The Spirit of Christmas" theme, and Prince Gerard Bergin and Princess Heather McLaughlin. The seniors had many talented athletes including William Becker, James Berger, Dennis Carey, Lawrence Carter, Mark Clark, Kathy Connolly, Debbie Cox, Michael Deitche (re tired State Police Lieutenant), Mike Dempsey, Paul Donovan, Catherine Durnien, Patrick Fitzgerald, Diane Frable, Jim Frenier, Donald Fuller, Terry Geant, Pam Halperin, Michael Heil, Michael Klimchak, Michael Lee, Kathy Liptak, James McSorley, Francis Norek, Daniel Wilusz, Eileen MacNeil, Philip Vass, Nancy Murray, Kathy O'Connor, Bob Quinn, Frank Repsha, John D. O'Toole, Mary Ruane, Cindy Sciallo, Raymond Scupp, Jeffrey Sprague (Law Enforcement Officer), Kathryn Szraga, Steven Tranotti. "A long, long time ago, on graduation day" 1974, "Band On The Run" by Paul McCartney & Wings ruled the airwaves, as the truly outstanding Class of '74 bid adieu to St. Mary's High School.

Prayer to St. Jude

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



The South Amboy Dept. of Public Works retirees and others got together to celebrate the recent retirements of Darren Gorczyca and Mark Wahler, and also Andy Pipala, who will retire in October. Pictured bottom row (l-r) Darren Gorczyca, Jerry McGee, Rich Johnson, Mike McCabe. Top row (l-r) Anthony Olivieri, Mark Wahler, Jack Lukie, and Andy Pipala. (Photo/info submitted)

Flea Market

The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville will be having their annual Flea Market on Saturday September 14, 2024 from 8am to 2pm., at 172 Main Street, Sayreville, directly across from the Borough Hall. Rain date is September 21, 2024. Come out and see if you find your treasures. Aside from individual, personal vendors, the Church has a large variety of wares for sale, including exercise equipment, house wares, clothes, books, videos and more. Hamburgers, hot

dogs and beverages will also be sold. So check out the various vendors, have a good meal and just enjoy the day.

There are still some spaces available for vendors. If you are interested either call the church office at 732-257-6353 or email to churchoffice172@optimum.net. Spaces are @20.00 or 2 for \$30.00. A parking space is provided and a table may be provided for an additional \$8.00 depending on availability.

We would love
to hear from
you!



OR



OR



Dowdell Library News

Fall back into your school time routine this autumn by visiting the Dowdell Library!

The whimsical bronze sculpture by Seward Johnson, "After Lunch," will be exhibited at the Dowdell Library through February 2025. This special loan from the Seward Johnson Atelier was made possible thanks to the generous donation from the Dowdell Library Foundation. For information on how to support the Library Foundation, contact dowdellfoundation.org.

September is Library Card Sign-up Month! Celebrate by visiting the Dowdell Library to sign up for yours. All you need is a driver's license, a State of NJ ID, a current utility bill, or bank statement proving you live in South Amboy. It's that simple and it's free! With a library card you can download Ebooks for free using the Libby app and magazines, music, and more using the Hoopla app. Library card users can also use their card at any of the other libraries in the STELLA Consortium which includes 40+ libraries.

Parents with Toddlers and Kids! Join Ms. Maryanne for Toddler/Kids Thursday Play Dates on Thursdays in September from 1:00 to 2:30 pm for fun stories, games, activities, and crafts.

Kids! Stop by for weekly fun at the After School Fun Club on Wednesday, September 18 and 25 from 3:15 to 4:30 pm including Bingo and Lego Mania.

Teens! Join Ms. Grace for Board Game Frenzy on Friday, September 20 and for Jeopardy! on Friday, September 27 both from 3:30 to 4:30 pm.

Adults! Join us for the Hispanic Heritage Culinary Tasting on Thursday, September 26 from 6:30-7:30 pm. Sample dishes from countries with roots in Spain, Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Spanish-speaking countries of the Caribbean.

The Senior Book Club will meet on Monday, September 30 from 10:30 to 11:30 am.

Dowdell Library, in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and RWJ Barnabas Health, offers online virtual health programs. Please register by emailing communityed@rwjbh.org. Guided Imagery Relaxation Sessions is on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in September at 1:00 pm. Additionally, Stretch it Thursdays occurs all September long at 1:00 pm.

The Knitting Circle will be meeting Mondays September 9, 16, 23, and 30. Bring your supplies, tools, and let's get started!

Join us for Mah Jong Mondays and Card Game Wednesdays every week from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. Bring your own or use our set!

Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit www.dowdell.org, or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or comments@dowdell.org. The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School.

Dowdell Library's hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, from 10am-8pm; Wednesday and Friday from 10am-5pm. Saturday (starting 9/14) from 12pm-4pm. Connect with us on social media.

OLV COLUMBIETTES CHARITY YARD SALE/ VENDOR SALE

SEPT. 21, 2024, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. located at 775 Washington Rd, Parlin in the OLV Knights of Columbus parking lot (across from the Parlin Post Office). Come down and see what treasures you can find among various seller's tables. All proceeds from this event will go to charity. Please call Wendy at 732-266-5924 for more information. *A non-

perishable food donation for our local food pantry would be greatly appreciated. *Rain date: Sept. 28, 2024, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.



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The Smoke Column


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

If you have not yet noticed, there is a proliferation of battery electric vehicles (BEV's) on our roadways. They are the future of highway transportation and laws have already been passed to phase out the production of internal combustion vehicles (ICE's) as we know them by the mid 2030's. So how will the traditional gas station of today look in the future? Traditional gas stations have safety features built into them as the result of many notable events causing deaths and injuries. History shows that as early as 1906, a fire at a gas station in New York City killed eleven people; in 1910 a gas station fire in Los Angeles killed twenty-three people; in 1921 a gas station fire in Chicago killed twenty people; in 1937 an explosion and resulting fire at a gas station in Philadelphia killed twenty-three people; and the list goes on and on. These tragedies resulted in safety measures at all gas refueling stations. In 1950 a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard was adopted that required automatic emergency shutoff switches to be installed. Throughout the years these standards were updated and now all gasoline refueling stations in the United States are required to have emergency shutoff switches. Most firefighters know the procedures to follow when responding to a refueling station fire. It begins with life safety, followed by emergency shutdown of the pumps, suppression, and establishing an adequate water supply. How would the response differ if the vehicle were a BEV and was plugged into an EV charging station? There are three levels of EV charging stations. Levels 1 & 2 chargers use Alternating Current (AC) voltage of 120V or 240V. Level 3 chargers, known as Direct Current Fast Chargers (DCFC) use DC voltages between 400 VDC and 1000 VDC that deliver energy directly to the battery. The DCFC bypasses the vehicle's on-board charging system. The charging speed for a BEV is influenced by the rate of charge available at the Level 3 charger, the vehicle charge acceptance rate, and the vehicle charging curve. The rate of charge relates to the speed capacity of the charging station and is measured in kilowatts (KW's) which can range from 50 KW to 350KW. The higher KW rating results in a faster charge. But not all vehicles can accept 350 KW of energy. Vehicles that have an acceptance rate of 250KW that are connected to a 50KW charge will charge much slower. Conversely, a BEV with a charge limit of 50KW that is connected to a 350 KW charger will not expedite the charging process more than it would if hooked to a 50KW charger. It is a requirement that gasoline refueling stations have emergency shut-off capabilities. Why isn't it mandatory for BEV charging stations to also have some type of emergency shutoff device? The potential for a fire or other emergency incident at a DCFC station represents an extreme hazard. The high voltage energy at these stations is an invisible hazard and is potentially lethal. With the absence of a readily available emergency shutoff device, it places the customers and first responders at significant risk. As of yet, first responders have no tools capable of ensuring that the DC energy hazard has been controlled, unlike the tools available for AC voltages. Although not yet required, some E-Stops (emergency shutoffs) are being installed at the charging device rather than at a safe location away from the hazard area thus placing first responders in the hazard area. The Jobs Act of 2021 calls for the installation of 500,000 Level 3 charging stations by 2028. NFPA Electrical Chapter 70 is being re-written at this time but it would not require any of those 500,000 charging stations to install E-Stops. How many injuries or deaths must occur before they become mandatory?

Welcome Back, Stan!



Former South Amboy/Parlin resident Stan Grzes recently made a surprise visit to his sister's home in Sayreville, and also visited many other old friends and family members during his stay in NJ. Stan currently lives in the Chicago area. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



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#1 Pop Hits-Aug. 31

- 2022-As It Was-Harry Styles
- 2017-Despacito
-Luis Fonsi feat. Daddy Yankee
- 2008-Disturbia-Rihanna
- 1996-Macarena-Los Del rio
- 1985-The Power Of Love
-Huey Lewis/The News
- 1972-Brandy (You're A Fine Girl)
-The Looking Glass
- 1960-It's Now Or Never-Elvis Presley

One Hit Wonders 10 Years Ago

2014-Ghost-Ella Henderson; Yeah Yeah-Sam Means; Selfie-The Chainsmokers; Stolen Dance-Milky Chance; All About That Bass-Meghan Trainor; Rude-Magic.

#1 Country Hits Aug. 31

- 2021-Fancy Like-Walker Hayes
- 2013-That's My Kind Of Night-Luke Bryan
- 2004-Somebody-Reba McEntire
- 1994-Dreaming With My Eyes Open
-Clay Walker
- 1988-The Wanderer-Eddie Rabbitt
- 1977-Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue
-Crystal Gayle
- 1966-Almost Persuaded-David Houston

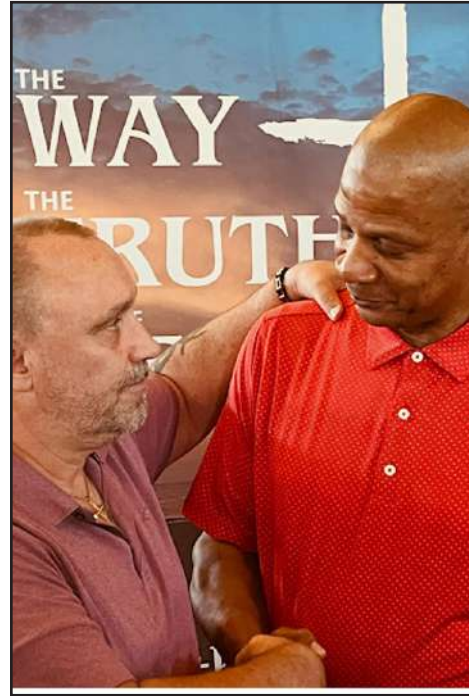


Meeting The Celebs

(Photos/info courtesy of Walter Krzyzkowski)



Former Sayreville resident Walter Krzyzkowski (r) hangs with his friend Rachel Bolan, bassist of the great band "Skid Row." Picture was taken at an All-Star Jam for the 50th Anniversary of The Stone Pony in Asbury Park.



Walter Krzyzkowski (l) congratulates baseball legend Daryl Strawberry after his inspirational speech at The Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove recently. Daryl was at a church service, to speak about his faith and recovery from drug addiction.

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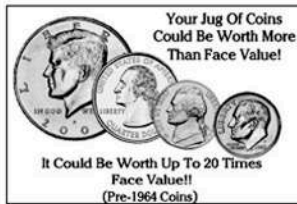
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| 3. All Summer Long | c. The Beach Boys |
| 4. Rockaway Beach | d. Kid Rock |
| 5. A Summer Song | e. John Travolta/Olivia Newton-John |
| 6. Girls On The Beach | f. Seals & Crofts |
| 7. Summer Nights | g. Chad & Jeremy |
| 8. Some Beach | h. Bryan Adams |
| 9. Summer Breeze | i. Sly/The Family Stone |
| 10. One Summer Night | j. Percy Faith Orchestra |
| 11. Summer Of '69 | k. Blue Cheer |
| 12. Hot Fun In The Summertime | l. The Danleers |
| 13. Theme From A Summer Place | m. The Ramones |

Answers

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

Heat Relief



Kudos to the person on Pupek Road in South Amboy, who put this relief box with cold drinks and supplies on the street this summer for delivery people, mail people, DPW, etc. Kindness and caring sure goes a long way, and we're sure it was much appreciated during the long, hot summer. (Photo/Info Submitted)



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Sayreville Stash's Scavenger Hunt

(Photos submitted by Brian Van Dongen)



Sayreville Stash's Scavenger Hunt Winners Announced in Celebration of Parks and Recreation Month

Sayreville Recreation is thrilled to announce the winners of the inaugural Sayreville Stash Scavenger Hunt, an exciting event held in honor of Parks and Recreation Month in July. This community event brought together residents of all ages for a fun-filled adventure across our beautiful parks and recreational spaces.

The scavenger hunt, which ran from July 3 to July 31, 2024, encouraged participants to explore Sayreville's parks, solve clues, answer questions, and discover QR codes hidden at parks. Participants could complete a total of up to 36 different challenges. With the vibrant summer sun overhead and the community's enthusiasm at an all-time high, the event was a resounding success, demonstrating the power of local engagement and the joy of outdoor activities.

Eighty families participated in the scavenger hunt. Congratulations to the Ryan, Naveen, Holthausen, Beinert, Clemente, Krishnakumar, Uveges, Richmore, Badillo, Sobocynski, and Nicholas families for finishing in the top 10. Each family received a Sayreville Recreation picnic basket and blanket.

The scavenger hunt was designed not only to entertain but also to foster a sense

of community and appreciation for the local parks. "We are so grateful to everyone who participated in this event," said Brian VanDongen, Director of Sayreville Recreation. "It's wonderful to see our community come together to celebrate the beauty and value of our parks and recreational spaces. The enthusiasm and energy of the participants made this event a true success."

Sayreville Stash's Scavenger Hunt was named for the mascot voted on by residents at Sayreville Centennial Day in 2021. He is a peregrine falcon, the fastest bird in the world that can dive at speeds up to 248 miles per hour. There are numerous banded peregrine falcons in Sayreville. These birds have recently been removed from the critically endangered list to threatened due to rehab programming.

Sayreville Recreation extends a heartfelt thank you to all participants. Your support and involvement play a crucial role in enhancing our community's recreational offerings and bringing us all closer together.

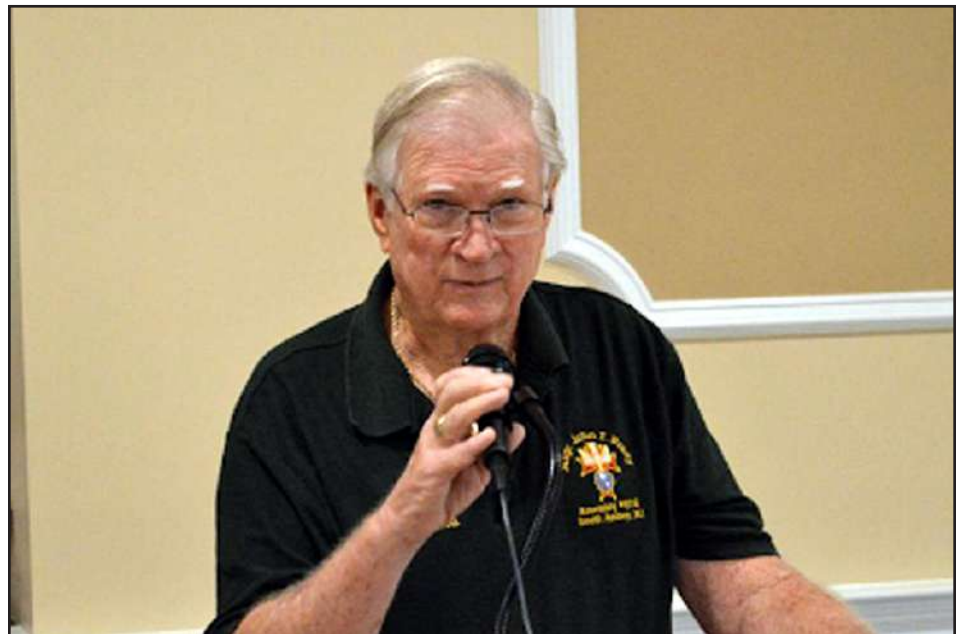
For more information about future events and activities organized by Sayreville Recreation, please visit our website at sayrevillerec.com or follow us on Facebook.

Knights News

(Photos/info by Jordan R. Drevelus)



Chris Duffet (l) was honored by the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426 recently for his 19 years of service as the Knights Faithful Navigator of Assembly #676 of South Amboy. His wife Aida received a beautiful bouquet.



Jan Williams is the new Grand Knight of South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426. Congratulations Jan, and may you have much success in your new position!

Wisdom Spoke

By Al Gomolka Jr.
Times Poet Laureate
c. 1995

Wisdom Spoke
A little boy
sat in a forest
Waiting to hear
wisdom speak
Strength led the way
by an acorn
"One day you'll see,
I'll be a tree,
Grow to be strong
not weak"
Hope came next
by way of a bug
"One day, you'll see,
a butterfly I'll be,
Things change
but still don't tug"
Faith followed next
with a lump of coal
"Someday you'll see,
a diamond that's me,
Darkness will
form into
brilliance-your soul"
Charity came by
the breeze on his face
"Give of yourself
flow free"
The little boy left
his woodland place
Saying,
"Wisdom has
spoken to me."



Volunteer Work



Steve Tarr doing the artwork for the YMCA. He's a volunteer that does the rock that's in front of the YMCA every season. It's a nautical scene with the lighthouse. (Photo/info submitted)

Hardy Mum Sale

The Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women will hold a hardy mum sale the weekend of September 27-29 in front of Memorial Hall, 529 Washington Avenue, South Amboy (across from Sacred Heart Church). Locally grown 8" hardy mums in assorted colors will be available for \$6 each or 3 for \$15. Please come by Friday, September 27, 3-5PM; Saturday, September 28, 12 Noon-5PM; and Sunday, September 29, 7:30AM-1PM, and support our organization's fundraising.



Backpack Giveaway

(Photos by Phyllis Stratton)



On August 8th, the South Amboy YMCA hosted a backpack giveaway sponsored by News 12. It was a wonderful event for young students. Many organizations (the City of South Amboy, the South Amboy Police Department, Bridge of Books Foundation, the South Amboy Library, Carvel, Optimum, WellPoint, and Liberty Dental Plan) were on hand to pass out school supplies to all who attended. See more photos on pages 23 and 24 (only on our website www.thesatimes.com August 2024).



South Amboy Police Officers Chris Norek (l) and Tim Kales (r).



The City of South Amboy handed out school supplies. Pictured seated are two student volunteers, standing (l-r) Katie Rose Walenty, Kathy Kudelka and Mayor Fred Henry.



Dennis Kuhn with a beautiful display from The Dowdell Library.

SPEAKER COUGHLIN'S 15TH ANNUAL "BOWL FOR HUNGER" RAISES \$161,000-PLUS, SETS NEW RECORD FOR 19TH DISTRICT'S FOOD BANKS



Amazon, who donated the largest single gift of \$15,000 in event history for 2nd year in a row

Bowl for Hunger, Inc. released the following statement on Tuesday:

Speaker Craig J. Coughlin in partnership with the Middlesex Water Company, Hackensack Meridian Health and Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce held the 15th Annual "Bowl for Hunger" last night, Monday, July 15, 2024, at Majestic Lanes of Hopelawn. Since the event's inception in 2010, more than \$610,000 has been raised to support Central Jersey food banks.

Speaker Coughlin thanked event participants and sponsors for supporting the fun event and the 19th Legislative District's thirty (30) food banks who help nourish food insecure residents. While all pledges and donations are still forthcoming, the 2024 Bowl for Hunger has raised a record \$161,000.00.

"I am truly grateful to the 500-plus bowlers who attended last night and the scores of sponsors who made last night's event truly memorable and record-setting with over \$161,000 raised. It's heart-warming to see the response of people throughout the

State who are willing to support our seniors, children and working-class families who are adversely impacted by inflation among other economic challenges."

Speaker Coughlin and the Bowl for Hunger Committee thank the combined 105 corporate and individual sponsors, including eleven organizations that donated \$2,500 or more.

In honor of the 13 years at Hopelawn's Majestic Lanes, the bowling alley was officially branded the official home of the Bowl for Hunger. The Hopelawn section of Woodbridge Township sits in the heart of the 19th Legislative District which is comprised of Woodbridge Township, Perth Amboy, Sayreville, Carteret and South Amboy.

This year's event once again featured a sellout double session, 5:00 to 7:00 PM and 8:00 to 10:00 PM, where over 500 bowlers took part on nearly 80 bowling lanes. Interested community members or businesses still wishing to make a donation to the "Bowl for Hunger" should contact the Bowl for Hunger committee at BowlforHunger.com or email BowlForHungerFundraiser@gmail.com. The grand total will be released in the coming weeks.

Troopers Association Picnic



The New Jersey State Police former Troopers Association picnic was held at the German American Club in Hamilton Township on August 16th. St Mary's South Amboy graduates attending were (l-r) Jim McSorley (74) Austin O'Malley (73) Danny Ballance (71) and Mike Deitche (74). (Photo/info submitted)

The Best Of Broadway

On Saturday October 19th from 5 to 8 pm at Sacred Heart Church Memorial Hall, 531 Washington Ave, South Amboy. Enjoy the Best of Broadway Featuring Kristen Pettet-Rickards. Enjoy a beautiful Spaghetti dinner served with Meatballs or Sausage, Salad, Italian Bread, Dessert and Soft Drinks, while listening to the beautiful voice of Kristen!

BYOB, \$20 suggested donation for

tickets in advance, Children 6 and under free. Children 7 to 17 \$10.

Tickets can be purchased through Zelle @ 732-910-8397 or through Sacred Heart Church Office.

For more information call Karen Bebert at 732-910-8397. Proceeds benefit Love Life at Sacred Heart Church, South Amboy.

"Love Your Neighbors"



Sayreville National Night Out

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



Sayreville Police Auxiliary at the Command Post.



Police vehicles looking sharp.



The Sayreville GOP at their stand.



Borough of Sayreville Police officers at their PBA Local stand, where they gave out goodies for all who attended.



Sayreville Police Lieutenant Jim Novak cooked countless delicious Sabrett Hot Dogs during the event for everyone's enjoyment.



Youngsters had lots of fun during the Night Out festivities.

National Night Out South Amboy

(Photos by Brian Stratton)

*See more photos on page 12 and pages 21 and 22 on line only www.thesatimes.com August 2024.



South Amboy Business Administrator David Kales (far right) with City Staff and Volunteers.



Members of the AOH were on hand to cook up some delicious food!



Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62.



South Amboy PTO and South Amboy Schools had a very popular booth with the children.



Dee Jay Johnny B. and wife Cathy provided the music for the night.



South Amboy Councilwoman Zusetta Dato (l) and SA Police Captain Brian McCabe (r).

Blast from the Past Car Show

**Saturday,
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South Amboy Elks

(Photos/Info Submitted)



The Elks on Washington Avenue

(Article submitted)

You know that building on Washington Ave you drive by all the time, maybe you slow down and read the marquee? Well, a lot of wonderful things happen in that building, one being packing up burgers, hot dogs, melons, and more deliciousness into our trailer and hauling it up to Haskell New Jersey followed by a trail of members ready to cook & serve picnic food to all the campers and counselors at Camp Moore. Camp Moore is one of the New Jersey Elks' Major Charity Projects. It provides a week away in a safe fun filled atmosphere for special needs children ages 7-21 years old with trained counselors. Camp Moore accepts 600-700 campers a season. Depending on the child's needs they are partnered one on one, or one on two, counselor to camper ratio, under the supervision of a nurse 24-7 and a full-time camp director. The primary goal at the camp is to further develop the recreational and social skills of each child, in a relaxed and accepting atmosphere. Each camper experiences new adventures, lasting friendships and opportunities that promote independence and greater self-confidence. Everything at Camp Moore is funded by the

Elks Special Needs Committees statewide. Our subcommittee is The New Jersey Elks Miracle Run. This is an annual motorcycle fundraising event that supports our Special needs Children at Camp Moore. The Miracle Run Committee consists of hardworking dedicated Elks from throughout the State of New Jersey who commit their time during the year for this annual event. Due to their efforts, there is no fee for campers to attend. Camp Moore is known and referred to by the parents of these Special Needs Children as MIRACLE ON THE MOUNTAIN. It is a true blessing to be able to put smiles on all those campers' faces. Hence our motto "only you can keep a smile on the face of a special child." To learn more about what the Elks do, or Camp Moore, go to njelks.org or stop by that building at 601 Washington Ave, South Amboy, NJ and ask any member. Come to one of our events and help support what the Elks do best. Give back to the Community. We focus on our Youth, providing Drug Awareness, Leadership and Scholarship Programs, Veteran Programs, Children's special needs and so much more!



Members of the South Amboy Elks.



Exalted Ruler Johnny Leo (l) and Special Children's Committee Chairman, past District Deputy, Frank Glennon.

National Night Out South Amboy

continued from page 10.
(Photos by Brian Stratton)



The dunk tank was a big hit with everyone.



Children lined up for a chance to run through the blow ups.

Save the Dates

SWMHS 'Class of 1975' 50th Reunion Celebration

On Friday, June 27, 2025, Sayreville War Memorial High School 'Class of 1975' will be celebrating their 50th reunion. It will be held at Forsgate Country Club, 375 Forsgate Drive, Monroe Township, NJ 08831. The event will be from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

There is a tour scheduled for Thursday, June 26, 2025 at Sayreville War Memorial High School, 820 Washington Road, Parlin,

NJ 08859, for the class to revisit their Alma Mater and take a walk down memory lane. All are asked to meet in the parking lot no later than 5:15 PM and the tour will start promptly at 5:30 PM for approximately one-hour. After the tour a get-together will immediately follow (location to be determined).

All questions should be directed to the Committee at SWMHS1975@gmail.com



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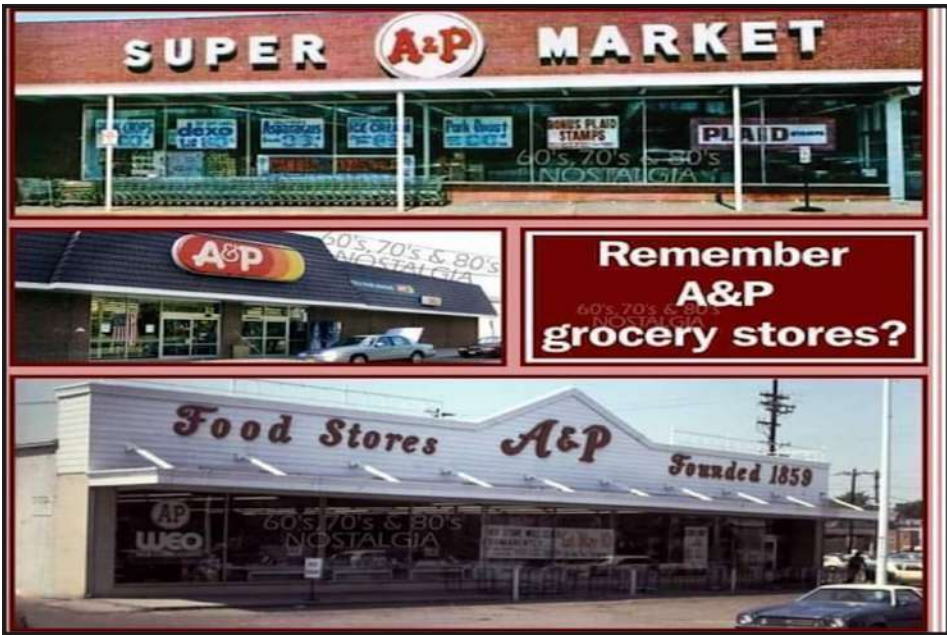


On August 10th city officials commenced with the demolition of the building on Broadway and John St. commonly known by locals as the "Pigeon Palace." The building formerly was the corporate office of the Raritan River Railroad, a police sub-station for both Conrail and NJ Transit Police, and office for a taxi company. The city plans to expand the current parking lot on Broadway between John St. and Henry St. (Photo/Info by Jamie Norek)



The old Raritan River Railroad office is pictured being demolished, while a train comes by in South Amboy. (Photo by Mary Szaro)

Remember When?



A&P, was an American chain of grocery stores that operated from 1859 to 2015.[1] From 1915 through 1975, A&P was the largest grocery retailer in the United States.

Troop 91's Annual Visitors Day



Troop 91 of South Amboy held its annual Visitors Day at its 99th year of camping at Camp Dill on Sunday July 14, 2024. The Court of Honor included an Eagle Ceremony for Aiden Gall (center) who besides being the troop's latest eagle is also its newest leader having just turned 18. He is surrounded by most of Troop 91's leaders and some of its scouts after the ceremony. At the Court of Honor, The Camp Dill Foundation which allows Troop 91 use of the camp was honored by a Proclamation from the 19th District Offices of State Senator Vitale, Assembly Speaker Coughlin and Assemblywoman Lopez in recognition of providing South Amboy and Sayreville youth access to its Hunterdon County campsite. Troop 91's Fall Program begins at 7:30 pm on September 9th at the First Presbyterian Church on Broadway: new scouts between the ages of 11 and 17 are welcomed to join. (Photo/info by Louisa Falk)

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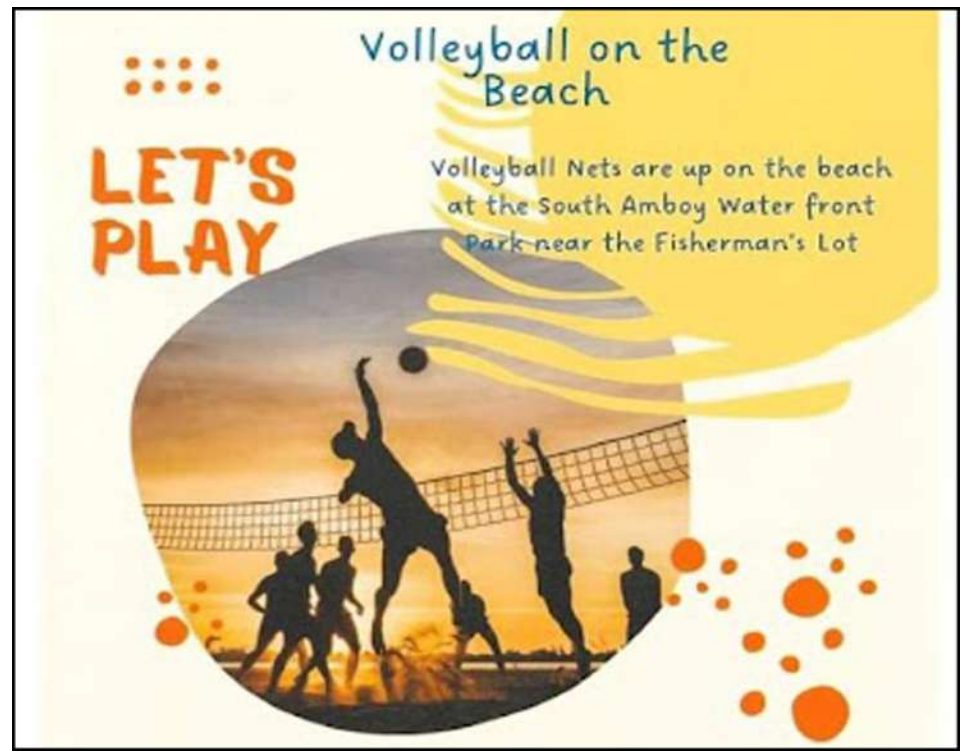
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The voices behind the Flintstones - Alan Reed (Fred), Jean Vander Pyl (Wilma), Gerry Johnson (Betty) and Mel Blanc (Barney)...

Where Is It?



This unique and patriotic structure is located in either South Amboy or Sayreville. Can you tell us what town and street it is located on? Send your answer in to: satimes@aol.com. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



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Fishing Flashes
 By Teo "Weebles" Weber



Salt Water
 Local beach fishing in Raritan Bay is on the slow side with only a few Bluefish here and there. I did not see much action at either Keansburg or Cliffwood beaches. The Perth Amboy fishing pier has Snapper Blues and Spots being caught. Small Croakers and Spots are also being caught off bulkheads and docks in Barnegat Bay in back of Island Beach and LBI. At Barnegat Inlet, Sheepshead, some Triggerfish and an occasional keeper Blackfish have been caught off the rocks. Surf fishing in those areas are good for Fluke. Kingfish are good here along with the usual trash fish such as Dogfish and Skates. Stargazers are also present so you must take precautions when handling them as they can give an electrical shock. Party boats are doing well with Bluefish at the Mud Buoy. Most Bluefish are 3 to 5 -pounds with some Bonito and Chub Mackerel mixed in. Party Boat Fluke fishing is OK. Bigger Fluke are caught but you still have to work hard to meet the 3 fish at 18 inch limit.

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Fresh Water
 Fishing is slow due to rain and hot weather. Hybrid Striped Bass and Pickerel are being caught in Lake Hopatcong. Pike are in the Passaic River around Fairfield and areas above it. Right now, it's "Dog Days" in August. Trout fishing is slow also due to the weather. Largemouth Bass and various Panfish can be found in bodies of water statewide as well as Carp.

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Gone Fishin'
 (Photos/info submitted)

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Chrissy Pluskota holds up her Smallmouth Bass she caught while fishing in Chaumont Bay, NY.

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Who is it?
By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Do you recognise this duo? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by September 15th.

Who Is It?

Last month's fictional characters were Saturday morning favorites Magilla Gorilla and Ogee.

The following got it right! Patti Tengelics, Joe Ballo, Dane Colburn, Edna Pilch, Nanci Deverin, Betty Leveille, Matthew Ferrano, Mark Moniello, JoAnn & John French, Anne & John Erbetta, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Ed English, Sally Stevens, Stephen Laskiewicz, Walter Starzec Jr, Dermot Scales.



July Who is it?
Magilla Gorilla and Ogee

WWW.?



Does this building look familiar to you? It should, it's an easy one to identify. Send your answer to: satimes@aol.com by September 15th. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Last month's WWW.? answer was the Mickey Sedlak Recreation Center in Sayreville.

Winners: Patti Tengelics, Kathleen Kultys, Pat Scully, Gary Feret, Lisa Grankowski, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Joe Ballo, Edna Pilch, Jeff Deverin, Barb Bockus, Betty Leveille, Sonia Iglesias, Don Zrebiec, JoAnn & John French, Paul Conlon, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Adele O'Hara, Ed English, Stephen Laskiewicz, Walter Starzec Jr, Mark Moniello, Lynn Loy, Dermot Scales.

*Last month we missed Mark Moniello who had the correct answer. Sorry.



Mickey Sedlak Recreation Center in Sayreville.

**Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1
24th Annual Car Show**
(Photos by Tom Burkard)



Members of the Independence Engine & Hose Co 1 took a quick break from cooking delicious food at the car show.



Luke A. Lovely Post & Unit 62 American Legion.



Remember When?



Wow! How many readers ever rode in one of these beauties?



Ptl. Max Garcia (I) and Sgt. Steve Clark of the South Amboy Police Dept. on patrol.



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T.H.E. Game
 Year-1968
 Sport-Baseball
 Teams--St. Mary's (8-11) vs. St. Peter's (4-7) in a game played under the lights at Memorial Stadium in New Brunswick.
Recap-The Eagles scored 4 in the first inning, but the Cardinals took a short-lived 5-4 in the bottom of the frame. The Blue & Gold bounced back to capture an exciting 9-7 victory. St. Mary's used timely hitting and a strong relief pitching performance from Joe Noble, to notch the win. Dennis Nardone had 2 hits including a 2-run homer to deep center field. Nick Charmello drove in 3 runs that included a 2-run triple, and John Clark stroked a single and 2-run two bagger. Noble came on to pitch in the first and finished the rest of the game.
Players-of-the-Game-Dennis Nardone, Nick Charmello, John Clark, and Joe Noble.

40 Years Ago
 1984-The South Amboy Little Fellas League featured 9 teams. The team/managers were: Enterprise-Tom Gorman; Modern Transportation-Steve Bodo; Knights of Columbus-Mike Zulin; Lions Club-Harold McLaughlin; Protection-Kevin McCarthy; Daylight Bakery-Russ Zuback; English's-Frank Kaysar; PBA-Carl Nemeth; Progressive-Rich DeBlis.

45 Years Ago
 1979-Guvs Fall In CJ Group 1 Final
 The talented Hoffman Governors (19-2-2) were shocked by South Hunterdon, 6-4 in the CJ Group 1 final. The Purple & Gold offense was paced by Randy Neumann, who drilled 3 hits and had 3 RBI, Tom Mulligan stroked 3 hits, and Frank Kuziemski who got 3 hits and an RBI, while stealing a base. Pitcher Marty Veilleux, who entered the game with a perfect (6-0) record, absorbed the heartbreaking setback.

55 Years Ago
 1969-Lynch Fires No-Hitter
 Sayreville pitcher Kevin Lynch fired a brilliant no-hitter against East Brunswick, as the Bombers won 4-0. He struck out 11 and issued only 2 bases on balls to the Bears. In addition, he went 2-for-3 at the plate. Rick Popowski ripped a 2-run single, Bob Gaspertich an RBI single, and Gary Unkel stroked 2 hits.

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The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

From The Youth League Archives



Circa 1960-Pictured is the talented Connie's team from the Morgan Little League before it became the Little Fellas League. Top row (l-r) Billy McKain, Robert Saunders, Gary Brennan, Nicky DeBiase, Tommy DeBiase, Tommy Beninato. Bottom (l-r) Mike Manion, Charlie Muth, Craig Kierst, Bobby Slovik, Buddy Seibert, Eddie Dooling, Jimmy Seig, Stevie Jannos. In front-Ronnie Jannos. (Photo/names courtesy of Buddy Seibert)

Champions-30 Years Ago



1994-Jacqueline's Florist Team captured the South Amboy Girls Softball Division Championship for the 3rd consecutive year with a standout (11-1) record. Standing (l-r) Coach Vicki Lewis, Tracey Sommers, Amy Blaha, Julie Wallace, Caroline Semeniuk, Marianne Corridon, Jessica Wallace. Kneeling (l-r) Christine Westfall, Melanie Townsend, Christine Corridon, Laura Toye, Allison Babino. Missing from photo: Bonnie Keeter and Coaches Joe Lewis and Dave Wallace.



Brody Tooker, a former South Amboy resident, and son of Barbara and Ryan Tooker, has been recognized as a top senior prospect in the Shore Conference. In a recent poll, Tooker placed second among 101 Shore football candidates with 20.6 percent of the vote. The initial write up on Brody was "Top Prospects 101 standout Class of 2025 Rising Seniors. Brody Tooker - Middletown North. Tooker is a versatile player who lined up all over the place, but has the most upside as a defensive lineman at 6'2" and 220 lbs. He was an All-Division selection as a junior and will be one of the team leaders this fall. Brody's Grandparents Camille and Bob Tooker and Al Ust still live in South Amboy. His Grandmother Joanne is deceased. (Photo/story submitted)



Diamond Dust

1975 South Amboy Little Fellas League Protection 9 First Aid 7-Tom Mulligan blasted an Opening Day home run. Tim Bloodgood ripped 4 hits for First Aid.
Modern Transportation 9 Parkway Fabricators 2-Winning pitcher Frank Wahler hammered 4 hits, and Bill Harvey added 3 hits.
Daylight Bakery 5 Rotary 2-John Inman was the winning pitcher, struck out 14 and got 2 hits.
English Chevron 10 Lions Club 2-Chris Martin notched the victory and struck out 9 in 3 innings.
First Aid 9 Modern Transportation 6-Bob Kelly was victorious on the mound, while Bernie Orszewski belted a homer. Frank Wahler notched 13 K's, and smashed a double and triple.
Enterprise 11 Lions Club 5-Tim Kelly orbited a grand slam homer and had 6 RBI, Mike Noble 4 hits, and Ken Krasowski 3 hits and 5 RBI.

Thomsen Fires No-Hitter

Sayreville Junior Ace pitcher. Tracey Thomsen fired a brilliant O-hitter. as the Lady Bombers trounced Marlboro, 11-0 in 5 innings in the opening round of the CJ Group IV state tournament. Thomsen tanned 6. and was near perfect, allowing only one baserunner. a hit batter in the 2nd inning. Tracey also blasted a 3 bagger to help her cause. Also providing plenty of offensive pop were: Tracy Lasko who rocketed a 3 run homer in the 1 st. Stephanie Allocco who was 2 for 2. Dana Feliz ripped a single and triple, and Vicky Deuel socked a 3-base hit.

Glory Days In Local Sports

1969-The Sayreville Bombers had a huge Opening Day game, plastering Perth Amboy St. Mary's, 17-5. Catcher Ken Lyon blasted a 3-run homer and 2 singles to drive in 5 runs. Joe Gabel, Bob Casazza, and Rich Lerche all laced 2 singles each. Kevin Lynch was the winning pitcher for the Bombers powerhouse team...1978-Hoffman romped over Ranney Prep, 11-3 in baseball action. Frank Kuziemski blasted a double and had 4 RBI, while Marty Carey ripped a triple to support winning pitcher Marty Veilleux...1983-St. Mary's boys baseball

team finished (11-11) under Coach John Morvay, who introduced "Morvay Ball" to the program. Top hitters for the Eagles were: John Kennedy .375 (also had the most RBI-26), Jeff Pacansky .365, John Murphy .327, Joe Blaha .298...1994-Sayreville girls softball team upset state-ranked Edison, 6-3, in a GMCT quarterfinals contest. Tracey Thomsen was the winning pitcher. Amy Kukulya unloaded a bases loaded triple, Dana Feltz and Valerie Bello added an RBI single apiece.

Champions-65 Years Ago



1959-Dupont Photo Products of Parlin was the Middlesex County softball champions. Seated (L-R) John Lazarczuk, Joe Bruno, Charles Tomaso, Jerry Kelly, Sy Sullivan, Bob Kenny, John "Skeets" Skarzynski. Standing (L-R) Steve Piros, John Byrnes, Joe Creed, Freeholder George Burton presenting title trophy to Captain Harry Holtzhausen, Leo Maliszewski, Ross Booker, Jack Crozier.

1959 Freeholders Industrial Softball Champs-DuPont

DuPont Photo Products of Parlin topped Public Service. 7-3 in the Middlesex County Freeholders Industrial Softball championship game. John "Skeets" Skarzynski blasted a 3-run homer in the 4th to put the Photomen

ahead, 5-2. He finished with a perfect 2 for 2 day at the plate. Jack Crozier also crushed a HR, and Jerry Kelly stroked an RBI single. Bob Kenny was the winning pitcher.

60 Years Ago

Beginning Of The Mechanicsville Baseball Dynasty Mechanicsville Fire Co. 1964-65-66 South Amboy Babe Ruth League Champs

In 1964, manager Joe McCarthy and his assistant managers, Frank Jankowski and Joe Kelly (a former minor league pitcher), had a pretty good nucleus of returning players from the '63 team, plus an influx of rookies drafted from the South Amboy Little Fellas League. The seasoned players included Curt Wood, Billy Clayton, Dan Hansell, Leo Dohan, Tony Pelican, Dan Cheeseman, Mark Ellvinger, Tom "Tee" O'Connell, Paul Jankowski, John Ewtushek, John Coan.

A few years ago, the late Dan Cheeseman recalled the '64 season, "It was a magical time for those lucky to be part of Mr. Joe McCarthy's baseball program. His assistant manager Mr. Joe Kelly was a former pro and played minor league ball, who really knew the game, and created an atmosphere of excellence. When we took the field as players, we knew we could win. We expected to win! Everybody came to play. All the kids on the roster could play and carry their weight. We learned how to act like major leaguers. We talked, chatted, set defense, and we hit cutoffs, and everybody contributed. That summer I also learned how to be a coach from Joe McCarthy and Joe Kelly, life lessons that never left me." Mark Ellvinger recalled that

"I was the starting catcher. We had a solid pitching staff. Curt Wood had a wicked curve, Dan Hansell also had good stuff, as did Billy Clayton. I also remember Tom Kelly making basket catches in the outfield along with hitting a few homers."

The crop of first-year youngsters with potential were Tom Kelly, Mark Bratus, Joe Jaskowiak, Ray Leonard, Tom Burkard, Mike Powers, Fran "Cigus" Vanni, Gene Chodkiewicz, Joe DeLucia.

Thanks to outstanding managing, coaching, and fine play throughout the season, Mechanicsville Fire Co. breezed to the league regular season pennant (1st place), and the playoff championship, sweeping Oak View Nursing Home in the title series. In the final game, Curt Wood was the winning pitcher and struck out 11, as Mechanicsville won 9-6. Tony Pelican pounded 4 hits and Tom Kelly 3 for the winners.

In 1966, Mechanicsville Fire Co. became the first and only team in league history to rack up 3 successive pennants and 3 playoff championships in a row in the league's 40+ year history, while compiling an incredible overall record of 50 wins and 5 losses.

Pop Warner Football

1976-The South Amboy Sabres Midgets team slaughtered the South River Little Knights, 26-0. Tom Mulligan raced 60 yards for a touchdown. Ray Kreiger fired a 42-yard touchdown pass to Bernie Orszewski, which was followed by a T. Mulligan extra point conversion. Kreiger then broke loose for a 22-yard TD run on a punt return. Daryl Munck made the extra point conversion. The final score for the Sabres came on an 18-yard TD run by Lambertson.

Pro Baseball Report

Sayreville's Brandon Bielak is pitching for the Las Vegas Aviators, a AAA team, which is the Oakland A's top minor league farm club. He has pitched in 13 games, 52 innings, and has 39 strikeouts. His record is (1-3) with a 6.75 ERA, while opposing batters have a .297 batting average while facing him.



Summer at Dowdell Library

The community enjoyed a fun summer at Dowdell! To start off, a Summer Children and Teen Kickoff Party, was held, which included the promotion of our summer programs, games, food, and more!

After Lunch caught sleeping on the job! The sculpture, "After Lunch" by Seward Johnson, was recently installed and will be on display until February of 2025. In the meantime, he will be catching some Z's. This exhibit was made possible by a grant from the Dowdell Library Foundation.

Participants enjoyed jamming out to their favorite songs played by the Kootz Band, a rock band, in July for a fun-filled musical evening.

The Dowdell Library invited Eyes of the Wild in July to show children and adults alike some unique animals such as a wallaby, a chinchilla, and an armadillo. All 131 participants were able to see the animals up close and had an experience they will never forget.

Kody the Horse visited the library for a meet and greet, story time, and book launch party for the book written about him, "Kody's Capers". More than 100 people had a good time and it is certain everyone made a new friend: Kody!

All summer long Ms. Maryanne has been hosting Children's Crafts on Wednesdays and the kids have been having a blast flying kites, going on scavenger hunts, and so much more. Ms. Maryanne also ran Toddler Play-dates where toddlers could play with all the library's fun toys, enjoy a story time, and

make new friends.

The Children's Summer Reading program was a smashing success with 54 children reading numerous books, and lots of love for reading being spread all around!

Ms. Grace has been hosting teen programs all summer long and teens have had so much fun making smoothies, having an ice cream party and more. Ms. Grace also ran Teen Drop in Video Games that allowed for teens to have fun and unwind while playing their favorite video games.

The Dowdell Library held summer contests including the Win a Scooter contest for children, which had 63 participants and the Win a Bike contest for teens, which had 16 participants. There were also basketball contests for children and teens!

The library offered pottery classes for adults for the first time this summer. Participants got to unleash their creative side and make some stunning clay pieces. Another class will be held this winter.

In addition there were also summer programs for adults including Make your Own Vacation Tile Coasters and A Murder Mystery Board Game. Moreover, MahJong Mondays began.

Program participants could use the library's Mah Jong sets or bring their own. Either way, everyone had fun and enjoyed a much needed game time.

The Weekly Raffles for adults have been a huge hit with 86 participants. Winners have won gardening tools and more fun prizes!

South Amboy Fun



This man on stilts is pictured near the South Amboy Business Association (SABA) table at the South Amboy National Night Out. (Photo by Jorge Gonzalez-Gomez)

Memories

By Robert W. Eginton

Memories are like old pictures
 Snapshots of the mind
 Take them out, dust them off,
 You'll never know what
 You may find.
 So take some time for a while
 To just sit down
 And remember memories
 That once made you smile.
 Then get up,
 go on your merry way
 To make more memories
 For yet another day.

Hayden Frank Nebus

Hayden Frank Nebus, 69, of South Amboy died on Tuesday July 30, 2024 at Care One, Holmdel. Born in Perth Amboy he was previously employed as a truck driver by NJ Transit and Conrail. A Past Exalted Ruler of the Elks Lodge, he was involved with the Handicapped Children's Committee.

Son of the late Frank John and Ruth Esther Justice Nebus he is also predeceased by his sisters Cynthia May Nebus and

Jennifer Nebus St. Hillaire. He is survived by his son Hayden Justice Nebus and his wife Mackenzie Clements; his sisters Esther Mitchell and Joanne Justice Nebus-Horning; his grandchildren Ivy Alicia Nebus and Elsie Justice Nebus and his niece Taylor Nau Mitchell.

Cremation was private under the direction of The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy.

Robert M. Randazzo

Robert M. Randazzo, 71, of South Amboy died on Friday August 9, 2024 at home. Born in Staten Island he moved to South Amboy in 1998. Before retiring in 2016 he was employed by Winter Management, Manhattan. He was an avid fan of the New York Rangers.

Son of the late William and Rose Vigliotti Randazzo he is survived by his wife Denise DiMarco Randazzo; his sons Robert W. Randazzo



and Ronald A. Randazzo and his wife Justine; his sister Debbie Vallese and her husband James; his grandchildren Luca and Avery; his niece Nicole Rosado and his nephew James Vallese.

Funeral services were held on Friday August 16, 2024 at 10:15am from The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by an 11am Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church. Interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

John Francis Connors

John Francis Connors, age 97, of Long Beach Township passed away at his home on Sunday, July 28th, 2024. Born in South Amboy, John was previously from Colts Neck and a summer resident of LBI from the 1970's until moving there permanently five years ago. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II additionally being drafted later for the U.S. Army. John was Senior Vice President of Amerada Hess of NYC where he worked for 50 years. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, a founding member of the Frog Hollow Swim Club, parishioner of St. Mary of South Amboy Church, St. Mary of Colts Neck and St. Francis of Assisi Church of Brant Beach. John was also Councilman for South Amboy.

John was predeceased by his parents John and Clara, and his sister Clarie

Belmonte. John is survived by his wife of 69 years, Agnes, their children Agnes Szatkowski, John Connors and his wife Anna Sanz, Michael Connors, Nancy Connolly and her husband Michael, grandchildren Melissa Matier and her husband James, Kyle Szatkowski and his wife Lindsay, his grandchildren Juiliana, John Francis and Bianca, Nicolette and Katarina Connors, Shayne and Maeve Connolly along with his great-grandchildren Grace, Maddie, Jack Matier, Ava and Addison Szatkowski.

Cremation was private and under the direction of Bugbee-Riggs Funeral Home, Ship Bottom. A Memorial Service will be planned for a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 in John's memory.

Kathryn Toye Brennan

Kathryn Toye Brennan, 78, of Parlin died on Wednesday August 21, 2024 at Spring Hills, Matawan. Born in Woodbridge she was previously employed by Dr. Tyrell in Perth Amboy for 18 years. She was a member of St. Mary's R.C. Church, South Amboy.

Daughter of the late Thomas and Catherine (Cole) Toye she is also predeceased by her brothers Gordon and Thomas Toye. She is survived by her husband John F. Brennan; her son and daughter-in-law John and Gail Brennan; her daughter and son-in-law Kelly Brennan and

Robert Lebron; her brothers Robert Toye and his wife Sharon and Daniel Toye and his wife LuAnn; her sister Barbara Baldwin; her grandchildren Casey, Ryder, Hailey and Hayden; her sisters-in-law Suzanne Conroy and Doris Brennan and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday August 27, 2024 at 9:45am from The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by a 10:30 am Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church. Interment was in New Calvary Cemetery, Parlin.



The SA Times offers complete obituaries (with or without a photo), of your loved ones provided by you or the funeral parlor to The SA Times.



Prices vary depending on the size required. A one-line listing of any local, recently deceased is offered FREE of charge. E-mail your requests to: sasayrtimes@gmail.com or call: 732-360-8773.



In Memory Of/In Memoriam Tribute Remember your dear loved ones who have passed on through the years by placing an In Memory Of / In Memoriam Tribute ad (with or without a photo). Art work (flowers/religious theme) will be included. For pricing contact the above e-mail or phone.

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 -M.L, L.F, C.E.

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY

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

Prayer to St. Therese

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

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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

MIRACULOUS INVOCATION TO ST. THERESA

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

Obituaries

Bednarczyk, Sally A. Krzyzkowski, 99, formerly of South Amboy died on July 29.
 Bongiovi, Carol A., 83, formerly of Sayreville died on July 9.
 Brennan, Kathryn Toye, 78, of Parlin died on Aug. 21.
 Charter, Melissa A. Zrebiec, 43, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 13.
 Connors, John F., 97, formerly of South Amboy died on July 28.
 Dwyer, Barbara J., 55, formerly of Parlin died on July 30.
 Dzioba, Eugene J., 67, Formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 18.
 Ferrigno, Sal "Sally Boy," 61, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 16.
 Festini, Ricardo, 59, of South Amboy died on Aug. 18.
 Fitzgerald, Steven A., 71, formerly of Parlin died on Aug. 14.
 Lochiatto, Sharon L., 57, of South Amboy died on Aug. 4.
 Lounsbury, Donna, 65, of Sayreville died on July 30.
 Manion, Cynthia L. "Cindy," 68, of Laurence Harbor died on Aug. 17.
 McCormick, Ernestine "Ernie," 74, of Parlin died only July 31.

Nebus, Hayden, 69, of South Amboy died on July 30.
 Nicholas, Kathleen A., 64, of Sayreville died on Aug. 21.
 Nowak, Joseph M., 81, formerly of Sayreville died on July 29.
 O'Connor, Agnes F., 91, of Parlin died on Aug. 9.
 O'Pecko, Sharon A., 74, formerly of Parlin died on Aug. 6.
 Pacansky, Joseph "Joey" Jr., 60, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 12.
 Randazzo, Robert M., 71, of South Amboy died on Aug. 9.
 Roberts, Gail E. Beshada, 79, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 19.
 Peterson, Walter "Wally" D. Sr., 72, of South Amboy died on Aug. 6.
 Tanski, Arkadiusz "Arek," 52, of Sayreville died on July 27.
 Traina, Noreen C., 84, of Sayreville died on Aug. 18.
 Uveges, Michelle, 52, of Sayreville died on Aug. 6.
 Waldron, Sister Margaret, 96, formerly of South Amboy died on March 29.

In Memoriam

Sister Margaret Waldron, 96, formerly of South Amboy died on March 29. She was a Sister of Mercy for 74 years, and many locals will remember her when she was Principal at St. Mary's High School. Sister Margaret's lifetime motto was "Love Serves." God Bless her! John Connors, 97, formerly of South Amboy died on July 28. He was a wonderful guy, and always had a kind word for everyone. John affectionately nicknamed "Red" loved sports, and was the talented leadoff hitter and second baseman for St. Mary's baseball squad in 1944. He also played varsity basketball. John worked hard and was very successful in life, becoming Senior Vice President of

Amerada Hess of New York City, where he was employed for 50 years. He also served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and additionally was drafted later for the U.S. Army. John was a founding member of the Frog Hollow Swim Club in South Amboy.
 Ernestine "Ernie" McCormick, 74, of Parlin died on July 31. She was very involved as a volunteer in many church ministries at St. Bernadette Parish, and always helpful to anyone in need. Joseph "Joey" Pacansky Jr., 60, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 12. A great guy, he was a coach in the South Amboy Little Fellas League.

Remembering A Dear Friend

By Surjit "John" Singh,
 John Auto Center Inc.

In loving memory of Stephen "Steve" H. Schmid who passed away May 6, 2024

In the quiet moments of life, some individuals leave an indelible mark on our hearts and minds. Stephen H. Schmid was undeniably one of those people. With a heavy heart, we bid farewell to a great friend, a person of immense respect, and an honorable individual whose presence enriched the lives of all who knew him.

Stephen's life was a testament to his unwavering integrity and kindness. His character was a beacon of light in our community, always ready to lend a helping hand or offer a comforting word. Whether through his professional endeavors or in his relationships, he exemplified what it meant to be a true friend.

As we reflect on his life, it's impossible not to be touched by the countless memories he created. His infectious laughter could brighten even the darkest of days, and his wisdom was a source of guidance for many. Stephen approached every challenge with

grace and determination, inspiring those around him to strive for their best.

Beyond his personal qualities, he was known for his dedication to his principles and his unwavering commitment to fairness and justice. His contributions to our community were substantial, leaving a legacy that will endure for years to come. Stephen's impact on our lives cannot be measured; it lives on in the lessons he taught us and the example he set.

In these moments of sorrow, let us also celebrate his life—a life well-lived, filled with compassion, generosity, and sincerity. His memory will continue to inspire us to be better friends, better neighbors, and better human beings.

To Stephen H. Schmid, our dear friend, and honorable companion: may your spirit find peace, knowing that you will forever hold a cherished place in our hearts.

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



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National Night Out South Amboy

(Photos by Brian Stratton)



Tuesday August 27th

8PM

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FACE PAINTING, FUN & ACTIVITES, RAFFLES

Connect with your neighbors
throughout the nation
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National Night Out South Amboy

(Photos by Brian Stratton)



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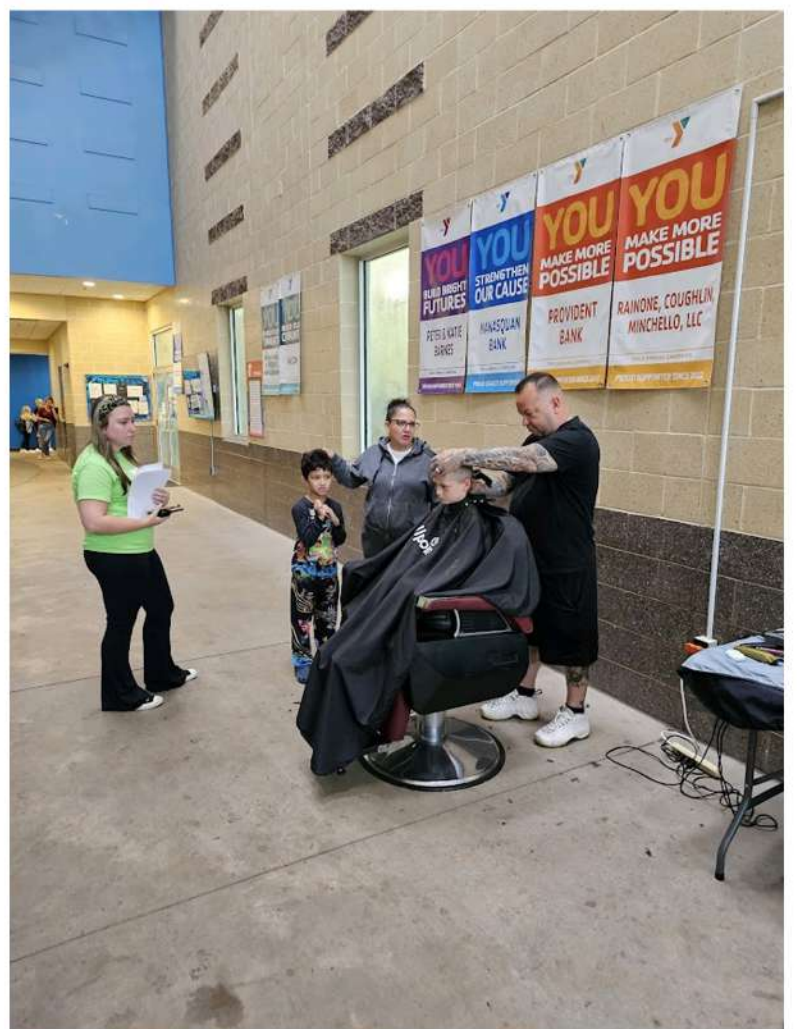
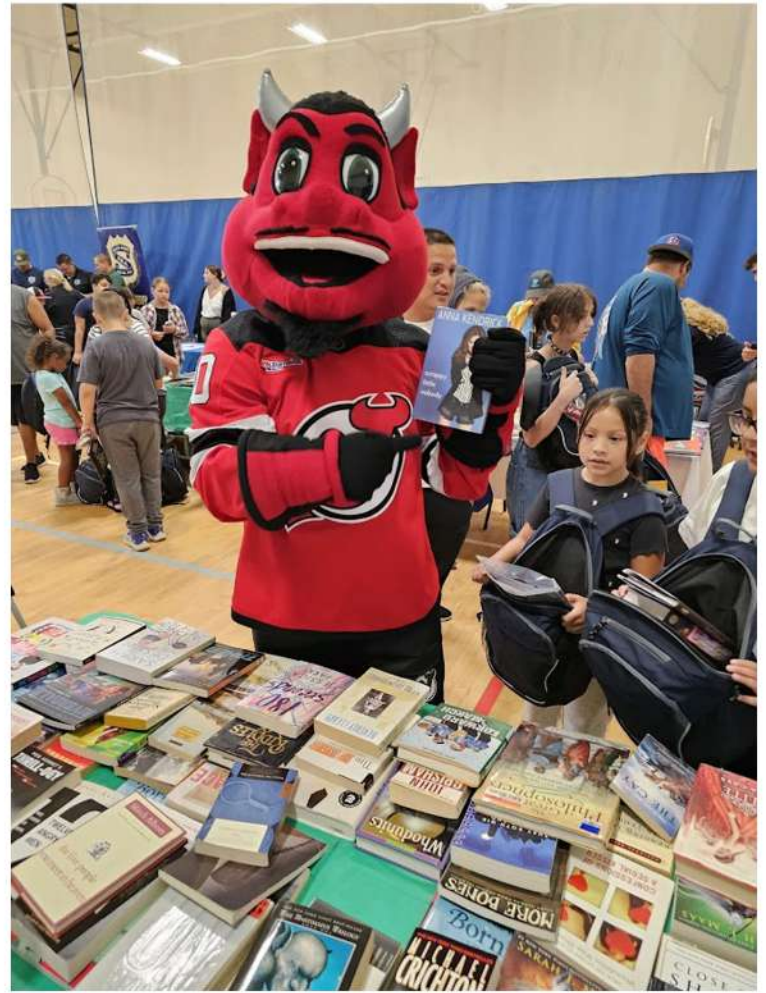
L PARKING LOT
DEFFMAN PLAZA

FOOD, MUSIC
GAMES, RAFFLES

Connect with your
throughout the night
local police department
partnership and



Backpack Giveaway (Photos by Phyllis Stratton)



Backpack Giveaway (Photos by Phyllis Stratton)

