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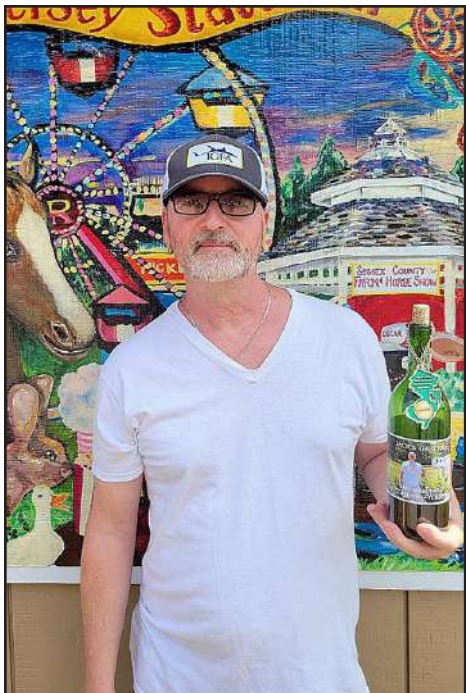
# The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

This issue is  
dedicated to  
\*Kathleen Burns  
\*Irene Krzyzanowski Lotito  
\*John Mackiel  
\*Mary Jean Smith  
\*Arlene Streck



**August 30, 2025 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 34 Issue 11**

## Roberts Wins Medal



Sayreville resident JD Roberts recently won a bronze medal in the Garden State Wine Challenge at the NJ State Fair on August 2. He entered his homemade Jack's Garden San Marzano Tomato Wine as a tribute to his father Jack Roberts who passed away last year. (Photo/Info Submitted)

## New Eagle Scouts



Troop 91's two new Eagle Scouts Jesse Bender (l) and Gavin Oshman(r). South Amboy Troop 91's Court of Honor on July 13th at Camp Dill in High Bridge, New Jersey a ceremony was held in recognition of its two newest Eagle Scouts: Jesse Bender and Gavin Oshman. Both are holding certificates with American flags presented to them from the South Amboy's Elks. The ceremony also recognized 100 years (1925-2025) of Troop 91's use of Camp Dill. Both scouts reflect the long tradition and history of Scouting with Troop 91 where Jesse's father Brian was also an Eagle Scout and Gavin's grandfather, the late Gary Cottrell, and late great-grandfather Tom Cottrell both served as Scoutmasters. Jesse attends Old Bridge High School where he will be a sophomore this Fall. Gavin, having just turned 18 years of age, is Troop 91's latest assistant leader: he will be attending Ramapo University this Fall. From September to early July Troop 91 meets at 7:30pm on Monday nights at the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy and is open to boys 11 through 18: contact Kevin Manion at 732-791-3024 for further information. (Photo/Info Submitted)

## Historical Marker Unveiled



Pictured at the Historical Marker and Unveiling/Dedication Ceremony for Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1 are (l-r) Car Show Committee Chairman-Mike Toth, Firefighter-Ken Kokoszka, Historical Society of South Amboy President-Mary Szaro, Historical Society Member-George Franczy, South Amboy Councilman Tom Reilly. (Photo by Tom Burkard) See more photos on page 5.

## Independence Car Show A Big Success!



There were thousands of people and over 200 cars all across Broadway in South Amboy during the 25th Annual Car Show which was hosted by Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1. Great job Mike Toth, committee members, firefighters and everyone who helped make this a wonderful and highly-successful summer event! See more photos on page 12. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## South Amboy Knights of Columbus 2025-26 Officers

The South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 have elected their new officers for the 2025-26 Columbian year. Ed Vassallo (Grand Knight), Bob O'Connor, (Deputy Grand Knight), Jack Mieczkowski, (Financial Secretary), Steve Szabo, (Chancellor), Bruce Grankowski, (Recorder), Ken Smetana, (Treasurer), Ray Suchcicki, (Advocate), Brian Bolla, (Warden), Ramon Sierra, (Inside Guard) Kevin Magliaro and Gary Mangiaracina, (Outside Guards) Jan Williams, (1yr Trustee) Jordan Drevelus, (2yr Trustee) Gary Lattanzi. (3yr Trustee). Also appointed, (Chaplain) Fr. Stanley Gromadzki and (Lecturer) Deacon Rich O'Brien. Congratulations to all the officers !



## Quinlan Receives Law Degree



Former South Amboy resident Billy Quinlan, graduated from the University of Tennessee College of Law with Highest Honors (top 5% of the graduating class). He previously earned a Masters of Public Administration from University of South Carolina and a B.S. from East Tennessee State University. He has accepted a position with Kirkland & Ellis LLP's New York City office. Billy is the son of former South Amboy residents Dennis and Carolyn Quinlan, and the nephew of Pat and Barbara Quinlan. Congratulations and success to you always Billy! (Photo Submitted)

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Deadlines September 15th**

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## A Block Off Broadway Production Was "AMAZING"



Audiences were dazzled by A Block Off Broadway's spirited production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," presented July 31 - August 2, 2025 at St. Thomas Auditorium in Old Bridge. [www.abobproductions.org](http://www.abobproductions.org) (Photo by Kyle DeLuca)

  
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**Poet Laureate**  
Albert Gomolka Jr.

**South Amboy MHS Valedictorian**



Mary Thomas was the Valedictorian for the class of 2025 at South Amboy Middle/High School. She will be attending Lehigh University to study chemical engineering. Congratulations Mary and best of luck at Lehigh. (Photo Submitted)

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



**St. Mary's Class Of 1975 50th Reunion Alert**

St. Mary's HS class of 1975 will be holding their **50th reunion on Friday, October 10, 2025 at The Shore Club**, located at 700 Rt 71, in Spring Lake, NJ from 6pm to 10pm. The cost per person is \$70. A buffet dinner, with music and a cash bar will be served.

Anyone interested in attending is asked to contact Dario Valdivia at [djdariov@gmail.com](mailto:djdariov@gmail.com). Please provide your name, email address and phone number. If you have access to facebook, you can also join our Classmates of SMHS of 1975 group to get up to date information.

**We look forward to seeing you there!**



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**Talk Of The Towns**

By Tom Burkard

**Gomolka Made His Mark On "The American Pickers"**

Former Morgan resident and The SA Times Poet Laureate Al Gomolka was a huge hit with everyone who saw him on "The American Pickers" TV Show, July 9th. If you missed it, you can still see it on youtube.com by going to American Pickers Season 27 Episode 2. Al is definitely a man of many collections, way more than what was actually shown on TV. If you'd like to read more about his unique and diversified collections go to The SA Times website: [www.thesatimes.com](http://www.thesatimes.com), and click on the July 28, 2012 issue and see my feature story titled "The World's Biggest Collector? Al Gomolka Jr., Who Else?" It starts on page 14 and continues on page 17. Check this out if you get a chance. You will be amazed!

**Order of Christian Initiation for Adults**

If you (or someone you know) are interested in becoming Catholic, or have not been baptized, or were baptized Catholic as a child, but have not received the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation, St. Mary Star of the Sea Church is taking registration (must be over the age of seventeen) for O.C.I.A. Sessions will be held on Sunday mornings at 10 - 11:30 a.m. To register, please contact John Kobiernicki at 732-313-6857 or by email at [johnkobiernicki@yahoo.com](mailto:johnkobiernicki@yahoo.com).

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

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


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**Pleasant Little TRIVIA**

By Tom Burkard

- The Captain of the South Amboy First Aid Squad in 1978?  
a. James Ryan b. Chuck Pawlowski c. Betty Leveille
- Elected chairman of the Sayreville GOP in 2015?  
a. Arthur Rittenhouse b. David Lewis c. Ken Kreisner
- This pro baseball player from South Amboy was pictured with teammates on the cover of Life magazine in the late 1940's?  
a. Allie Clark b. Johnny O'Brien c. Walt Rogers
- Grand Knight of Sayreville K of C Council #2061 in 2015?  
a. Rich McCraig b. Andrew Gnapp c. Hector Alvarez
- Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's HS final Valedictorian in the class of 2015?  
a. Jonathan Perez b. Mark Farrell c. Susan McElroy
- Elected Grand Knight of OLV Council #2061 K of C for 2000-01?  
a. Anthony Garbino b. Fred Morrow c. Michael Yetko
- This pro baseball player or manager from South Amboy was once featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated magazine?  
a. Jack McKeon b. Tom Kelly c. Eddie O'Brien
- What year was the Sayreville Exempt Fireman's Association memorial statue dedicated?  
a. 2000 b. 2003 c. 2015
- Valedictorian of South Amboy HS in '15?  
a. Ofelia Javelosa b. Issiah Lozan c. Hakeem Mawanda
- This deli was located on South Pine Ave. in 2003?  
a. All American b. Pine Ave. Deli c. All-Star

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





## South Amboy Day & Arts Fest Returns

Saturday, September 27

The City of South Amboy is pleased to officially announce its annual South Amboy Day & Arts Fest, taking place Saturday, September 27, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM at the picturesque Raritan Bay Waterfront Park, located at 201 John T. O’Leary Blvd. South Amboy Day is a hallmark event in the City’s calendar, celebrating local artistic talent, community camaraderie, and waterfront charm. A highlight of the arts season, this festival brings together craft-makers, performers, families, and civic organizations in a day-long celebration held annually at the Raritan Bay Waterfront Park. This community celebration offers a vibrant array of live entertainment, artisan vendors, food trucks, and fun-filled activities for all ages. Produced in partnership with the South Amboy Arts Alliance, the event merges the city’s proud waterfront setting with a showcase of local creative talents in music, crafts, and performance.

### Festival Highlights

- **Live Music & Performances:** Throughout the day there will be Zumba Dancing and Fitness demonstrations provided by the South Amboy YMCA as well as performances by local talent including Whiskey Time Machine, Local Honey, Vinyl Madness and more. Young and old will delight in the Clyde Riddlesbodd Theatre Company’s interactive theatrical "Trunk Show Bully Dragon" while the strolling Grand Falloons jugglers and stilt walkers entertain visitors. Local bands and performing arts groups will entertain throughout the day.
- **Artist & Craft Market:** Original works from regional creators, including paintings, pottery, handmade jewelry, and more. We are proud to once again present the South Amboy Arts Gallery in the Park which will offer a chance to meet the exhibiting artists and crafters and cast a vote for the People’s Choice Art Awards. Here is your chance to relax and create your

own art piece at the SA Arts Gallery Craft Station & Workshops while listening to Acoustic Musicians.

- **Food & Beverage:** A curated selection of local food trucks—featuring favorite staples and flavor-packed treats.
- **Kids’ Zone & Family Activities:** Face painting, interactive games including a Ninja challenge course and rock-climbing wall, a gaming truck, arts workshops, and fun for children of all ages. “We invite residents and visitors alike to celebrate the best of South Amboy,” said Fred A. Henry, Mayor of South Amboy. “South Amboy Day brings neighbors together in a day of creativity, community, and fun along the waterfront.”

### Event Details

**Date & Time:** Saturday, September 27, 2025, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

**Location:** Raritan Bay Waterfront Park, 201 John T. O’Leary Blvd., South Amboy, NJ Parking Parking will be available at the South Amboy Middle High School

**Admission:** Free and open to the public The waterfront venue is easily accessible via NJ Transit. Parking is available nearby, but attendees are strongly encouraged to carpool or take public transit when possible. Outdoor art and children’s activities are laid out across the park’s open lawns.

**Rain date:** is scheduled for Sunday September 28, 2025 Sponsors & Support

Generous support from local businesses, community organizations, and city resources helps keep this event free to attendees.

### Vendors

Those interested in becoming a vendor at the festival are asked to contact Mr. Jay Elliot at [Elliotj@southamboynj.gov](mailto:Elliotj@southamboynj.gov) for information regarding vendor registration and additional vendor information related to the South Amboy Day festivities. Vendor registration will be open through September 15. This event is proudly sponsored by the City of South Amboy, Mayor Fred A. Henry, South Amboy City Council, and the South Amboy Parade Committee.

## Annual Hoffman High School Multi-Year Reunion

All alumni of Hoffman HS are invited to join us at our multi-year reunion. This nostalgic event will take place on Sunday, Oct 12th from 1-5pm at the Enterprise Snorkel Co. Fire Station, 107 George St, So. Amboy. The cost is \$60 per person, and tickets MUST be purchased in advance. Unfortunately, no walk-ins will be accommodated, as food/beverages are purchased based on ticket sales. Your ticket includes a delicious buffet, as well as beer, wine, and sangria. Please send your check payable to Bill Croddick, 130 So Stevens Ave., So. Amboy. The deadline to purchase tickets is Sept 30th. Don't miss out on your chance to see old friends! Questions? Contact Helenmae Stader Bilder at ([hbilder1@gmail.com](mailto: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 24nd Annual Memorial Service to remember the victims of September 11, 2001.

The Memorial Service will be held at 1:00pm, Sunday, September 7th, 2025 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.



## Congratulations to Mr. Michael “Mickey” Gross on His Retirement

By Surgit Singh

It is with great respect, admiration, and heartfelt gratitude that I congratulate Mr. Michael “Micky” Gross on his well-deserved retirement.

Mr. Mickey Gross is one of the most humble, helpful, and honorable individuals I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. From the very beginning of our relationship, he has shown kindness, respect, and genuine care not only to me but to everyone around him. Knowing him has truly been an honor.

I still remember when I first opened John Auto Center Inc. back in January 2008. Mickey was one of my very first customers. More than that, he was the first to introduce himself to me and my family, welcoming us warmly into the community. That moment has stayed with me ever since, and I have remained deeply grateful for his support and friendship throughout the years.

Mickey, your integrity, generosity, and humble nature have left a lasting impression on everyone fortunate enough to know you. You have touched many lives with your kindness, and your presence will be missed—but never forgotten.

On behalf of myself, my family, and the entire John Auto Center family, I wish you a retirement filled with happiness, good health, and all the joy you so richly deserve. May this new chapter bring you endless peace and fulfillment.

Congratulations, Mickey, and thank you for everything.



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## Congratulations to Mickey Gross on your retirement from the Middlesex County Public Health Dept. after over 44 years of service and dedication! Enjoy your retirement and God Bless You!

**Best wishes from:**  
**Tom Burkard, Brian Stratton and the SA Times staff.**

### All About That Bass!

Former Sayreville residents Tony Miklaszewski and his wife Arlene have done some great fishing in South Carolina. They are pictured with their 2 and 3 pound Largemouth Bass they caught at Plantation Lakes in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, 2 minutes from their home. Tony said, “We usually catch 6-8 fish when we go out. We use live bait off a bobber.”



Arlene Miklaszewski



Tony Miklaszewski

## Yearbook-Hoffman 1995

By Tom Burkard

Carol Galley was Acting Superintendent of Schools, and Robert Bloodgood was Principal. Some of the fine roster of teachers included Lynn Davis, Bob Daugherty, Dave Inman, Sheila Inman, Carol McDonnell, Rich Klein, Ray Tomaszewski, Tony Gonsalves, Octavia Zampella. The yearbook was dedicated to Barbara Russell and William Beattie. Kevin Manion was Senior Class President. Some of the members of the Class of '95 selected randomly are: Monique Cancel, Jonathan Christie, Tara DePasquale, Joseph Evanski, Dave Hetzel, Heather Jankowski, Kelly Krass, Sheryl Krieger, Nancy Kurtiak, John Lawrence, Kathleen Lucovitz, Peter Margl, Amy Martin, Lisa Moglia, Sean Moran, Lydia Nicewicz, Kristin Pasquale, Michael Quirk, Marie Ramer, Erin Senape, Jamie Skierski, Denise Sunderman, Melinda Thomson, Allison Toth, Adrienne Walczak, Edward Welsh, Michael Felice. Please take a moment to remember two really great guys and members of the Class of '95, who passed away, Robert Kovacs and Edward Szatkowski. Hoffman HS had plenty of extracurricular activities including the Homecoming Dance that featured the King & Queen, Kevin Manion and Denise Sunderman; The Fall Musical, “Aladdin,” the Halloween Happening; the trip to Medieval Times; Spirit Week; National Honor Society Tapping; “Gypsy;” Rocket Shooting, and of course many clubs. The Governors featured many talented senior athletes: Cheryl Christensen, Joy Ingstrup, Jamie Keeter, Eileen Krutul, Kevin Manion, Karen McNerny, Jennifer Mercado, Jolynn Olszewski, Kristy Parfianowicz, Melissa Paul, Colleen Pearson, Michael Russo, Stephanie Schultz, Thomas Simeone, Mary Skrynka, Edward Szatkowski, Barbara Ust, Walter Mueller, Patrick Bielak, Martin Domaradzki, Kristen Henry, Steven Honimar, Edward Kern, Raymond Royce, Michael Flaherty. Hoffman High School Class of 1995 was an amazing group of interesting and very talented individuals, who were ready to make their mark on the world.

## Dowdell Library News

Come sign up for a Dowdell library card this September and unlock endless possibilities!

This September, Dowdell Library invites you to celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month and discover how a single card can open the door to endless opportunities. 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 do more than check out books. From museum passes, cultural events, a maker space, or streaming media with Hoopla and Freegal Music, today's libraries connect communities to information, inspiration, and each other.

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

South Amboy Residents! Get free tickets to the Intrepid Museum! Contact the library at 732-721-6060 or [comments@dowdell.org](mailto:comments@dowdell.org) for more information.

Come visit the Dowdell Library on South Amboy Day! Stop by on Saturday, September 27 from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Raritan Bay Waterfront!

Come see the 9/11 exhibition on display throughout September.

Toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for Toddler Thursday Play Dates in September from 1:00 to 2:30 pm for games, activities, crafts, and a fun story time. Meet other parents and make new friends!

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

Kids and Teens! Don't miss Drop in Club this September from 2:30 to 4:30 pm on Tuesdays for Board Games and from 2:45 to 4:30 pm on Fridays for Video Games. Ages 11+.

Seniors! The VIP Senior Library Tour will take place on Monday, September 8 from

10:30 to 11:30 am. Sign-up for a library card and check out what is happening. The city can provide transportation if needed.

Senior Tech Time will be held on Monday, September 15 at 10:30am. Come learn about a new technology topic.

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

Dowdell Library, in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and RWJ Barnabas Health, offers online virtual health programs. Please register by emailing [communityed@rwjbh.org](mailto:communityed@rwjbh.org). Guided Imagery Relaxation Sessions are on Tuesday, September 9 and 23 at 1:00 pm. Additionally, Stretch it Thursdays occurs all month long at 1:00 pm.

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

New! The Freegal Music+ Service allows you to access a collection of over 18 million songs from more than 93,000 music labels. Freegal Music+ also offers a mobile app and website which utilizes modern application practices to ensure an easy-to-use and enjoyable experience. The free application is available for library cardholders and can be downloaded in the Apple® App Store and Google® Play store.

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

Dowdell Library's hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, from 10am-8pm; Wednesday and Friday from 10am-5pm. Saturday from 12pm-4pm. Connect on social media!

## ST. MARY'S "CLASS OF 70" REUNION PARTY

**COME ONE, COME ALL! WE ARE DOING IT AGAIN!**

**DATE:** Saturday October 25, 2025  
**PLACE:** Friendly Sons of Shillelagh (same place as 2022) 815 16th Avenue, Belmar, NJ 07719  
**TIME:** 2pm – 7pm  
Good Food, Music, Dancing, Door Prizes? Cash Bar.  
**COST:** \$50 – 3 ways to pay - Ann U'Halie is treasurer.

1) Send a check to: "Ann D UHalie" with note "Class 70 reunion".  
Ann U'Halie - 4013 Kara Court - Hermitage, PA 16148

2) Venmo account is [auhalie@gmail.com](mailto:auhalie@gmail.com)

3) PayPal account is [ann\\_jerseygirl@yahoo.com](mailto:ann_jerseygirl@yahoo.com)

Please make reservations by Oct 1, 2025.





The Historical Society of South Amboy President Mary Szaro and her son Ken Kokoszka unveil the new plaque for Independence Engine and Hose Co. #1. (Photos submitted)

FROM THE DESK OF  
TOM REILLY

I recently had the pleasure of speaking at the dedication ceremony for Independence Fire House. As many of you know, the City now recognizes it as a historical landmark. I must say that, beyond its history and status as one of the cornerstones of our city’s commitment to public service -- both functionally and symbolically -- the firehouse holds a very special place in my heart. I have been a member of the Department for over 40 years. Even before that, I have fond memories of being at Independence back in the days when my father was the chief. That was in 1972. I think it’s fair to say that a lot has changed since 1972, but the ideals that the building stands for have not: volunteerism; tradition; comradery and fraternal spirit; and a commitment to selflessly serving the community. To be certain, we can never repay some of the sacrifices our firefighters have made over the years, but we can and should preserve places that have served as pillars of our community for over a century.

Though I certainly appreciate its historical importance, I also hope that our volunteer fire departments are not relegated merely to a symbolic and quaint vestige of our past. The risk is real. The number of volunteer firefighters has steadily declined over the past few decades, beginning with a significant drop in the 1980s. Correspondingly, the average age of volunteer firefighters continues to increase. Simply put, there are not enough young people filling the ranks of our volunteer fire departments.

The importance of fire departments is of course self-evident. Fire prevention, extinguishment, and rescue is one of the oldest and most fundamental civil services a community can provide. What you may not know is that volunteer fire departments save municipalities (and taxpayers) roughly \$139.8 billion per year in firefighting costs, according to a 2014 report from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The smallest communities -- such as our own -- are almost always served by volunteer departments, according to NFPA. For most places, including South Amboy,



fire department services are provided almost exclusively with free labor.

As participation has decreased, fire and related emergencies have increased -- as much as 300% by some estimates. If the trend continues, we will reach a point of no return, and volunteer fire departments may give way to subsidized and expensive services provided either by the State or, even worse, by for-profit private companies.

But I have good news: it is within our power to change this trend. And as I often write in this column, a good deed for the community is a good deed for the self. I cannot promise that public service will cure all ills societal and personal, but I do believe this: providing a much-needed service to your community, and doing so as part of a team, is one of the most fulfilling and satisfying endeavors a person can undertake. Volunteer fire departments in particular are built on fraternal bonds, team spirit, and trust. I have no doubt that any young person who gives their time to our volunteer fire departments will find that it opens doors to new and lifelong friendships, learned expertise, and invaluable opportunities. Your colleagues will love you, your community will appreciate you, and your families, of course, will be very proud. You will be joining a centuries-old tradition, and I think you will experience a great deal of personal growth and enjoyment along the way.

Anyone interested in learning more is welcome to contact the South Amboy Fire Department at [SAFD@southamboynj.gov](mailto:SAFD@southamboynj.gov). We hope to see many of you soon!

Respectfully

Tom Reilly  
2nd Ward Councilman  
City of South Amboy

SWMHS CLASS OF 70 & 71  
CELEBRATES 55 YEARS!

Sayreville War Memorial High School Classes of 1970-71 are planning a 55th reunion on Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 1-5 pm. The barbecue will be held at the Knights of Columbus Picnic Grove, 755 Washington Road, Parlin, NJ. The cost is \$55 a person and includes classic picnic fare and an open bar. No tickets will be sold at the door. To RSVP, please send your check payable

to Debbie Weck at 249 Morgan Ave., South Amboy, NJ 08879. Include your maiden name if applicable, class year, and contact information. For more information contact Debbie Cuddihy Weck, [debbieweck@aol.com](mailto:debbieweck@aol.com) or Jacque Kimball Unkel, [jacque.unkel@gmail.com](mailto:jacque.unkel@gmail.com). For accommodations, contact Susan Boyle – [sjboyle4@yahoo.com](mailto:sjboyle4@yahoo.com). Please pass the word!

Wind Creek Casino Trip

The South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 are hosting a Bus Trip to Wind Creek Casino

Bethlehem PA on Thursday, August 28th, 2025. The bus departs council parking lot 9:00 am at 308 4th Street South Amboy

N.J. 08879. Cost is \$40 per person w/\$25 back in slot play. Must be 21 years old and have proper ID.

Contact Ray at 732-721-2025 to reserve your seat. Snacks included on the bus. All proceeds to benefit local charities.

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Tim Arbrecht (r) and his son Adam are pictured enjoying their summer morning coffee in front of Java Dave's Coffee in South Amboy. The fellows bring their own table and chairs and when done, pack up and place them back in their cars. (Photo/ info courtesy of Al Ust)

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..

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.

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

**Vendors Wanted**  
We are looking for vendors for the annual Flea Market at the First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville. Our Flea Market will be held on September 13, 2025. The time is 8am to 2pm. The rain date is September 20, 2025. We are located at 172 Main Street, Sayreville- directly across from the Borough Hall. Spaces are available for \$20.00 for one space, \$30.00 for two. There are a limited number of tables to rent for an additional \$8.00. No food vendors please. For information please leave a message on the church answering machine at 732-257-6353 or e-mail us at churchoffice172@optimum.net.

**SWMHS Class of '73 turns 70!**  
The Sayreville War Memorial High School Class of 1973 is planning a group 70th birthday party/52nd Reunion on October 11, from 3:00-7:00 p.m. This double celebration will be held at the Old Bridge Elks Lodge, 67 Old Amboy Road, Old Bridge. The cost is \$45 a person and includes continuous gourmet tapas and fun surprises; there will be a cash bar. Please send a check payable to Michael Comerford, 30 Cori St., Parlin, NJ 08859 and write on the memo line "70th Birthday Event". Deadline for payment is September 15. For more information contact Edna Mazur Pilch at edna.pilch@gmail.com, or call or text Edna at 908-208-2358.

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

**Hardy Mum Sale**  
The Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women will hold a hardy mum sale the weekend of September 26-28th in front of Memorial Hall, 529 Washington Avenue, South Amboy NJ (across from Sacred Heart Church). Locally grown 8" hardy mums in assorted colors will be available for purchase. Please come by Friday, September 26, 2-5PM; Saturday, September 27, 12 Noon-5PM; and Sunday, September 28, 7:30AM-2PM, and support our organization's fundraising.

**SAYREVILLE FEEDS**  
Hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville And The Sayreville Police Department  
The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville and The Sayreville Police Department are pleased to announce that our first Sayreville Feeds Dinners of the fall will be on September 27, 2025 from 5:30-8:00pm. All are welcome regardless of ability to pay. There will be no bills, but any donations are greatly appreciated. All donations collected will go toward our food pantry and to serve the community with future dinners. There are no reservations needed. For more information contact us at 732-257-6353 or email at churchoffice172@optimum.net.

**Flea Market**  
The First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville will be having their annual Flea Market on Saturday September 13, 2025 from 8am to 2pm. We are located at 172 Main Street, Sayreville, directly across from the Borough Hall. Our rain date is September 20, 2025. 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. We also have hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages for sale. So check out our various vendors, have a good meal and just enjoy the day. There is ample parking across the street at the Borough Hall.


**"The Pleasant Little City"**  
By Al Gomolka  
Times Poet Laureate  
c.1998  
The pleasant little city by the bay  
May God bless it so forever it may stay  
That grows today just as its yesterdays  
This pleasant little city by the bay.  
Over 200 years ago Amboy began  
Settled upon the banks of the Raritan  
The people knew since its original plan  
This was a very special piece of land.  
And the years brought history and fame  
From a governor, coal, and first rail train  
To weapons, ammunitions,  
and explosions of the same  
A fact in Mr. Ripley's book,  
and the Major League game.  
But, it's the people of the town  
That yields its royal cordial crown  
Caring, hard-working, lovers and clowns  
Where neighbors, friends, and family abound.  
The pleasant little city by the bay  
If born, raised or worked, you'll know the way  
"It's home" may we be all so proud to say  
Of the pleasant little city by the bay.

**A Brand New Day**  
By Robert W. Eginton  
Pull up the shades and  
let the sun shine in  
It's a brand new day,  
so let it begin.  
The birds are chirping,  
the sun is bright  
So pull up the shade and  
let in its light.  
Don't let anything  
get in your way,  
Think positive, it's a brand new day.  
Push negativity out of the way.  
And when the sun goes down  
To darken the night,  
Just stay positive,  
and turn on a light.

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The Smoke Column

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

Now that we are still experiencing warm weather, it may seem like a weird time to check and clean out your chimney. More than likely, it won't be used again until the fall season arrives with chilly nights so NOW would be the best time to have it serviced and ready when the cooler temperatures arrive. Gas and wood fireplaces are common in most newer homes. According to the Chimney Safety Institute of America, there is an average of 22,000 chimney-related fires annually in the United States. If caught in time, a true chimney fire stays in the chimney. There are three chimney fire signs: loud crackling noise coming from the chimney; flames or embers flying out of the chimney top; thick smoke rising from the top of the chimney or leaking back into the fireplace. Even if a chimney fire occurs and doesn't spread to the home, the chimney must be inspected before it is used again. The heat from the fire most likely damaged the chimney structure. Traditional chimney fires are usually the result of ignited creosote deposits that have accumulated in the smoke chamber or chimney flue. These deposits typically form when you burn unseasoned sappy or green wood or by dampening down the flu, which causes the fire to simmer at a lower heat than the fire was designed for. Most chimney fires can be prevented by regularly having a certified professional clean and inspect the entire unit. Chimneys are typically built using masonry or prefabricated metal double-wall chimney stove pipes. Sometimes, a masonry chimney has a metal liner installed inside the pipe. Causes of a chimney fire may be the result of improper burning of products or products that should not be burned in a fireplace because of the dangers they cause. Fire, heat, and sparks can

be escaping from the prefabricated chimney or flue due to the following: age and rust of the flue; improper installation; a clogged chimney and shoddy construction methods used. If sparks do escape from the chimney, they may get trapped between the chimney and the wood framing thus causing the wood framing of the house to catch fire which at that time might be hidden and unable for anyone to see. Attacking and extinguishing chimney fires is not unlike most other fires. However, the difficult part is gaining access to the actual fire. If the fire has expanded to the top of the chimney, the chimney cap or crown must be removed. Inspecting the roofline and interior walls, followed by opening ceilings and walls to check for fire spread, may be necessary. Some of the investigation can be performed by using the thermal imaging camera [TIC]. Having a working fire inside the chimney will cause the masonry to become very hot. Hitting the fire and masonry in the chimney with cold-water from a fire hoseline can cause the masonry to crack and the mortar to deteriorate thus having to replace the entire chimney. A chimney fire can have many challenges as to how far inside the interior of the home must be inspected for fire travel. In one case, shoddy construction left wooden spacer strips inside the interior mortar joints as a way of leveling the masonry. After a week of continuous use of the fireplace, the strips started to slowly smolder under the long-term intense heat in the fireplace. An almost impossible fire to locate as it gave the odor of burning wood and had to be found. The fireplace had to be literally destroyed to find them. Heed the warning to have your fireplace serviced before you use it again. This service should be done yearly if you have an active fireplace.

Flashback 1968



The new United Methodist Church of South Amboy on Frank Avenue in Sayreville (off Bordentown Ave.) was consecrated on February 15, 1968. Rev. Eldrich C. Campbell (2nd from right) was the Pastor at the time.

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Sayreville Cultural Arts  
Music In The Park  
(Photos by Tom Burkard)



Kenny K. & The Way band, led by Kenny Kurczeski (l) of Sayreville turned in an awesome performance.



Special guest singer Walter Krzyzkowski (r), formerly of Sayreville joined Kenny K. & The Way for a hard rockin' Doors tune "Roadhouse Blues."



Kenny K. & The Way following their excellent show.



Mikell's Plot, a popular local group, led by founder Michael O'Connor (2nd from left) of Sayreville, also gave a standout show, and had the crowd rockin' to their cool tunes.



Old Friends from Sayreville War Memorial HS Walter Krzyzkowski (l) and Walter Starzec Jr. shared some old memories while watching a fellow alumnus, Kenny K perform.

Friday Music on Broadway



The Emily Grace Lucas Band performed Jazz, Soul and R&B. (Photo Submitted)



Almost Average performed hits from the 70's, 80's and 90's.(Photo by Diane Smocovich)

Top 10 One Hit  
Wonders Of The 60's

Eve of Destruction-Barry McGuire;  
Black Pearl-Sonny Charles; In The Year  
2525-Zaeger/Evans; Wipe Out-The Surfaris;  
Green Tambourine-The Lemon Pipers; Get  
Together-The Youngbloods; Teen Angel-  
Mark Dinning; Winchester Cathedral-The  
New Vaudeville Band; Hey Baby-Bruce  
Channel; Dominique-The Singing Nun.

#1 Pop Hits-Aug. 30

2023-Rich Men North Of Richmond  
-Oliver Anthony Music  
2013-Blurred Lines-Robin Thicke  
2006-London Bridge-Fergie  
1991-(Everything I Do) I Do It For You  
-Bryan Adams  
1983-Every Breath You Take-The Police  
1975-Get Down Tonight  
-KC/The Sunshine Band  
1966-Sunny-Bobby Hebb

#1 Country Hits  
Aug. 30

2020-7 Summers-Morgan Wallen  
2016-H.O.L.Y.-Florida Georgia Line  
2007-Never Wanted Nothing More  
-Kenny Chesney  
1994-Be My Baby Tonight  
-John Michael Montgomery  
1985-Highway Man  
-W.Jennings/W.Nelson/  
K.Kristofferson/J.Cash  
1970-All For The Love Of Sunshine  
-Hank Williams Jr.  
1963-Ring Of Fire-Johnny Cash

Elvis Tribute Artist In  
Sayreville



Top Elvis Tribute Artist (ETA) Richie Santa of Sayreville gave another fine performance, as he entertained the crowd at Kennedy Park in Sayreville at the Sayreville Cultural Arts Music In The Park summer program. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Children's Faith  
Formation  
Registration

The St. Mary Star of the Sea Religious  
Education Program is now accepting  
registrations for the  
2025 / 2026 school year. Classes begin  
on Tuesday, September 30th. To register,  
please contact John Kobiernicki at 732-  
313-6857 or by email at johnkobiernicki@  
yahoo.com.

Flea Market

St.Thomas the Apostle 4th Annual Flea  
Market will be held on Sept. 13th from 8-2.  
Get ready for a fun-filled day at our upcoming  
Flea Market! Browse through a variety of  
unique finds, from vintage treasures and  
handcrafted goods to tasty snacks. Whether  
you're hunting for a bargain, looking for  
one-of-a-kind home décor, or just enjoying  
a day out, there's something for everyone.  
Bring your friends and family and discover  
the hidden gems waiting for you! Location  
is 333 Rt 18 North,Old Bridge, NJ 08857.



MUSIC  
TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

RUN

- 1.Born To Run
- 2.Runaway
- 3.Running On Empty
- 4.Running With The Night
- 5.You Better Run
- 6.Run Through The Jungle
- 7.Running With The Devil
- 8.Take The Money And Run
- 9.The Long Run
- 10.Run For Your Life
- 11.Take It On The Run
- 12.Band On The Run
- 13.Run To You
- 14.Runnin' Down A Dream
- 15.Run Around
- 16.Nowhere To Run

- a.The Eagles
- b.REO Speedwagon
- c.Tom Petty/The Heartbreakers
- d.Creedence Clearwater Revival
- e.Jackson Browne
- f.Bruce Springsteen
- g.Blues Traveler
- h.Bon Jovi
- i.Van Halen
- j.The Beatles
- k.Paul McCartney/Wings
- l.The Steve Miller Band
- m.The Young Rascals
- n.Martha/The Vandellas
- o.Bryan Adams
- p.Lionel Richie

Answers

1f 2h 3e 4p 5m 6d 7i 8l 9a10j 11b 12k 13o 14c 15g 16n.







# SOUTH AMBOY DAY

Sponsored by the City of South Amboy and SA Parade Committee

September 27, 2025

Rain Date: September 28th, 2025


11 AM TO 6 PM

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- South Amboy Alumni Soccer Game
- The Clyde Riddlesbrood Theatre Company
- YMCA Zumba Dancing and Fitness
- The Grand Falloons

## Arts Fest 25'



Meet and greet our artists and crafters Vote for the  
People's Choice Art Award



Food and Craft Vendors Must register by September 15, 2025

Contact: [Elliotj@southamboynj.gov](mailto:Elliotj@southamboynj.gov)





Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1  
25th Annual Car Show  
Photos by Tom Burkard



The Independence Engine & Hose Co. #1 members were kept busy cooking up delicious food for those who attended the car show. Congratulations to Mike Toth, the Firefighters, and all who once again helped to make this an outstanding event!



57' Chevy.



Pictured (l-r) Commander Joe Szaro, Tom Noble, Gary Poland and Bob Moglia.



Former South Amboy resident Paul Ust (l) and SA Times Poet Laureate Al Gomolka saw each other for the first time in many years. They were teammates on the South Amboy Slow Pitch Softball team, the legendary Mechanicsville A.C. back in '73.



Classic Ford.



Former South Amboy resident Bill Moglia proudly stands by his beautiful car.



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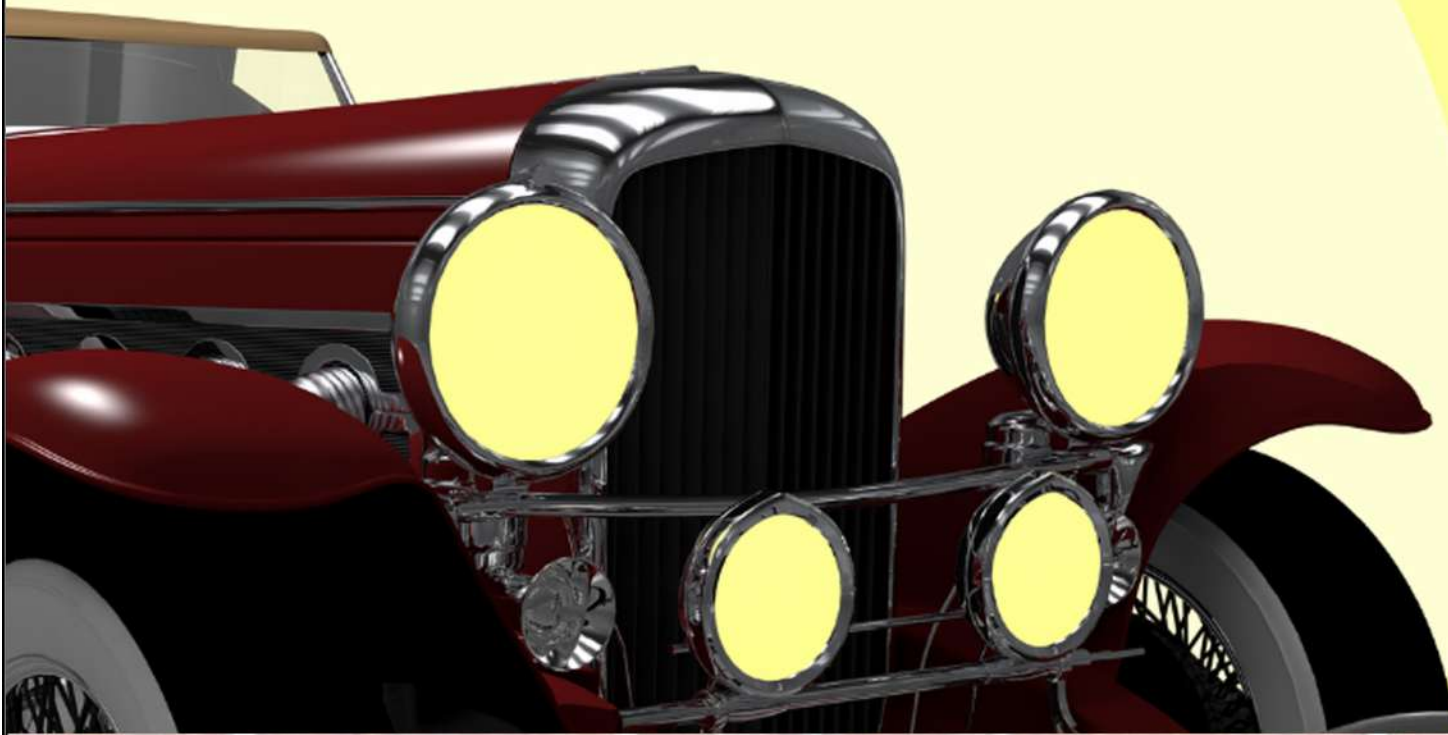
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# SAYREVILLE DAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

12 -4 PM | KENNEDY PARK



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DELICIOUS  
FOOD COURT



LOCAL VENDORS  
& CRAFTS

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South Amboy First Aid Squad Training



New members of South Amboy First Aid Squad recently received training in CPR and Basic First Aid to allow them to answer emergency calls prior to attending EMT school. (Photos/caption by Jamie Norek)

100 YEARS AT CAMP DILL

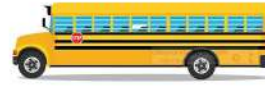


This July Scouts and leaders of Troop 91 of South Amboy gathered for their annual summer camp which represents 100 years (1925-2025) of camping at Camp Dill in High Bridge, New Jersey. The State registered Youth Camp is owned and operated by the Camp Dill Foundation that was established in 1937. Troop 91, established in 1916, is one of the nation's oldest continuously registered Scout Troops. From September to early July Troop 91 meets at 7:30pm on Monday nights at the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy and is open to boys 11 through 18: contact Kevin Manion at 732-791-3024 for further information.

Congratulations!



Jesse Bender of Boy Scout Troop 91, South Amboy has received his Eagle Scout Award. This is the highest achievement in scouting. The award ceremony was at Camp Dill. He received proclamations and certificates from city, state and Federal agencies. (Photo/info submitted)



# COME SEE MAUREEN "THE GOLD LADY"

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

## 10 Years Ago 2015-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 Cardinal McCarrick High School in 2001 by Bishop Vincent Breen, in honor of Bishop Theodore McCarrick, the first bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen.

## After 68 Years, A Fond Farewell From Bob's Barber Shop

(Submitted by Bob Stary Jr.)



The Stary family would like to extend our deepest thanks to all of Bob's Barber Shop's customers, their families, and the entire South Amboy community for 68 wonderful years of support, stories, and friendship.

My father, Bob, opened his barber shop in South Amboy in 1957 at just 23 years old. Now 91, he would love nothing more than to continue doing what he loves — cutting hair and connecting with people — but after losing his lease, he's had to close the doors to the shop that meant so much to him and so many others.

Over the decades, Bob has had the incredible honor of cutting the hair of multiple generations — from fathers and sons to

grandsons and great-grandsons. Seeing entire families return to his chair year after year, decade after decade, has been the greatest privilege of his career. He is especially grateful for the friendships formed and the countless conversations shared.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you to everyone who made Bob's Barber Shop part of your lives. Your loyalty, kindness, and community spirit have meant the world to our family. South Amboy will always hold a special place in our hearts.

With sincere gratitude,  
The Stary Family

## Sayreville Library News

### Mindful Yoga

**Tuesdays in Sept @6:30PM**

Come & join us for a relaxing evening of yoga. This basic yoga class is open to all levels of experience. This class is designed for stress relief. Participants should be able to get down to the floor easily. Either a Yoga Mat or a towel is required. Masks are optional. Please wear comfortable clothing.

\*Please note: young children cannot be left in the children's room unattended while an adult patron is in yoga class.\* Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112

**Apple Season Recipes with Vanessa (Virtual) Wed, Sept 3 @3PM**

With apple season in full swing, discover how to infuse flavors from the orchard throughout your cooking. Join Vanessa Young from Thirsty Radish and learn a variety of recipes that incorporate apples including fluffy Dutch baby pancakes, a beautiful harvest salad, and more ideas for breakfast thru dessert. This is a virtual session. Registration is required to get the zoom link.

Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112. Patrons must provide a valid email address.

**Computer Classes For Seniors  
Thursdays @10AM**

The Sayreville Library will present a 4 week course on basic computer skills. Registration for each session is separate, so

you may attend any or all based on your needs.

**Session 1: The Basics of Using a Mouse**

**Session 2: The Basics of Using a Keyboard**

**Session 3: Drives and File Management**

**Session 4: Screen Interaction (Scrolling, Tabs, and Fields)**

**Planning For Life's "What-If's"**

**Monday, Sept 15 @ 6PM**

Life is full of unexpected "What-If's." Join Kimberly Stratton from marg Financial, for this informative session on how to better prepare for them. From disability insurance, to Medicare, and long-term care, get a better grip on preparing for the unexpected. Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112

**Movie Matinee**

**Tuesday, Sept 16 @1PM**

Join us for our monthly movie matinee. This month: Love Again-Starring Celine Dion and Priyanka Jonas. Rated PG-13 1 hr 44 Mins, Refreshments provided. Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

**Memoir Writing: Life's Little Stories  
Saturday, Sept 20 @3PM**

Join us for this interactive workshop on how to write about life's little stories. With the use of a few prompts and instructions, you will be able to make a small story about the little events of your lives. Registration required. Register online or call 732-72-0212 Ext 112.

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**Gomolka's Collectables Give Away!**

Al Gomolka  
As seen on  
American Pickers

(Images are for example nd not the actual items)

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

**All one has to do is to e-mail to: satimes@aol.com for the Gomolka's Collectables Give Away, and a winner will be selected via a random drawing to receive box fulls of Al's collectables for FREE!**

**The winner will be notified via e-mail before the next newspaper comes out. The winner must pick up the winning prize in person at a certain location in South Amboy or Sayreville to receive valuable memorabilia from a world renown collector who wants to share the love.**

**Baseball cards, comics, records, postcards, antiques, etc. will be yours free, if you are the lucky one chosen.**

**The prize collection for the Sept. issue will be sports cards and collectables from the 1950's-2000. This contest is open to all ages.**

**\*The winner must be available to pick up the prize at a predetermined location and time, or the prize will be forfeited.**

**\*No prizes will be mailed, and must be picked up in person.**

**Email your name to:  
satimes@aol.com  
By September 15th**

**GOOD LUCK!**



# The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

## From The Sports Archives



2006 - New York Yankee legend Allie Clark (front and center) was on hand for Cardinal McCarrick's Opening Day game against East Brunswick Tech. In a scene reminiscent of the Major League All Star Game several years ago, when players came onto the field and surrounded Ted Williams in respect and admiration, the Eagles came out and gathered around Allie, a St. Mary's/Cardinal McCarrick Hall-Of-Famer. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## Flashback: Circa 1950's



The greatest Youth League photo ever taken! This picture of the Rotary team in the South Amboy Little League was taken in the early 1950's at the old St. Mary's Field. Top row (l-r) ?, ?, Jack Massing. Second row (l-r) Lou Eskra, Minnick, Al Pietraszka, Jerry Krzyzkowski, Bob Zera, ?, Al Smith. Bottom row (l-r) Gorczyca, ?, ?, Ed Zera, Bob Krzyzkowski, ? Frank Kurzawa. The boy in the stretcher is Bobby Creed, who broke his leg sliding into home. Does anyone know the ?'s (Photo courtesy of Ken Sumski)



Back in 2015, track standout Patrick Walsh (r) of South Amboy High School became the school's first individual athlete to win a state championship by capturing the 3,200. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

## 10 Years Ago Walsh Makes History For South Amboy HS

2015-South Amboy HS sophomore track sensation, Patrick Walsh became the first Governor athlete in histry 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.

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 -A.G.

15 Years Ago  
Beselinoff : All Area First Team  
2010-Sayreville Bombers talented golfer, Joe Beselinoff was a 1st Team All-Area selection by Home News Tribune. He was easily the Blue & Gray's best golfer all season long, and won team MVP for the second straight year. The senior standout shot a 78 in the GMC Tournament to finish in a tie for 8th place.

15 Years Ago  
Locals Picked To All-State  
2010-The Star Ledger chose the following local athletes to All-State teams: South Amboy-Boys Tennis First Singles-Kevin Kotsak, 3rd Team All Group 1; Sayreville Boys Track Triple Jump-Emeka Eze, 3rd Team All Group 4; Cardinal McCarrick Boys Track 100-Taylor Clark, 2nd Team All-Non-Public; Cardinal McCarrick-Boys Track High Jump-Morice Isaac.

## Flashback: Jo-Tom's Wins Title

1972-Jo-Tom's (Collingwood) defeated Modern Transportation 2 games to none in the South Amboy Little Fellas League championship series. Game #1 turned out to be the longest championship game in SA Little Fellas history, as Jo-Tom's prevailed in 10 innings, 4-2. Tim Mulcahy doubled in the top of the 10th, and scored the winning run following singles from Bob Clayton and Ed Dill. Clayton was the winning pitcher and struck out 16. Losing pitcher for Trans, John

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

## Glory Days In Local Sports

2023-In the first round of CJ Group 1 baseball action, South Amboy defeated South Hunterdon, 2-0. Winning pitcher Steven Evanski fired a brilliant 4-hit shutout. Benjamin Hernandez ripped an RBI single, and Gabriel Albarran also had a single, as the Guvs were held to 2 hits...2014-Sayreville girls softball topped Colonia, 6-3. Erin Stvan drove in 2 and blasted a home run. Winning pitcher Erin Fitzsimmons struck out 5...2004-Cardinal McCarrick (5-12) upset South Amboy (14-3), 2-1. Winning pitcher Pat Hackett tossed a 6-hitter, and Kevin Sartain blasted a three-bagger...1997-South Amboy downed St. Mary's 8-3 in baseball play. Nick Sas paved the way with a single

## T.H.E. Game

Year-2014  
Sport-Girls Softball  
Teams-Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's vs. South Amboy  
Recap-Winning pitcher Jackie Riley allowed 1 hit and struck out 10 in 4.2 innings, and also hammered a single and double to drive in 3 runs as the Lady Eagles won 7-4. Kelsey Edwards stroked 3 hits, Victoria Zayas hit a single and double, good for an RBI, and sophomore Brinn Hemingway was a perfect 2-for-2. The Lady Guvs were led by freshman phenom Alissa Bikowski who belted a single and 2 doubles.

Player of the Game-Jackie Riley.

## 15 Years Ago

2010-South Amboy boys top singles tennis player was freshman Vahid Drazanin who had an outstanding record of (14-1) in division play, and (14-3) overall.

## 60 Years Ago Mechanicsville Wins Second Straight Title

1965-It was a real hot summer in South Amboy, and a most memorable one for the Mechanicsville Fire Co. Babe Ruth League baseball team as they captured their second consecutive league pennant and playoff championship titles. Despite losing 8 key players from the '64 champs, and what looked like a rebuilding year, Coach Joe McCarthy's firemen defied all odds, and took league honors once again. The roster consisted of Curt Wood, Tom Kelly, Leo Dohan, Mark Bratus, Joe Jaskowiak, Ray Leonard, Tom Burkard, Mike Powers, Fran Vanni, Joe DeLucia, Jim Tingle and Tom Ruszala.

In the 3-game playoff championship series, Mechanicsville won the first game 3-0, but Oak View blasted their way to a 12-4 victory in game 2. In the thrilling finale, behind a brilliant 3-hit, 11-strikeout performance by Curt Wood, Mechanicsville brought it home, 1-0. In the last inning Wood broke up an Ed Jenkins no-hitter with a double, and Fran Vanni delivered the biggest hit of his career by singling him in with the game winner and the championship.

## 55 Years Ago

1970-St. Mary's boys varsity soccer team won their first game in history, beating Hoffman, 3-1. Bob Zlotnick scored all 3 goals and had an assist for the Eagles in this historic victory.

Pyonteck pitched no-hit ball for 8 innings. In the final game, Jo-Tom's won a nail-biter, 7-6, to take the title. Mulcahy collected 2 hits and drove in 4 runs, and Kevin Pillar scored the winning run. Players on the championship team were: Bob Aucone, Mike Attardi, Don Applegate, Roger Pillar, Joe Puccio, Warren Pillar, Mark Gonsalves, Al Polanski, Jim Bright, Jack McCabe, Rich Aucone, Joe Carney, Ed Dill, Tim Mulcahy, Bob Clayton, Kevin Pillar.

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 -K.B..

and double to drive in 4. Art Laudien had 2 RBI, as Brian Moy notched the win with a 4-hitter...1983-Soph standout Vanessa Carney blasted a game-winning grand slam homer to give the Bombers a thrilling 10-6 victory over Woodbridge in 8 innings...1973-The top hitters for the Sayreville baseball team were

Glenn Pearson .400, Bill D'Amico .381, Matt Walsh .325, Steve Makwinski .300... St. Mary's pounded St. James of Red Bank, 10-2 in baseball action. Ray Riddell fired a 1-hitter and struck out 15. Art O'Donnell ripped 4 hits including a double and triple, Joe Pohl added 3 hits, and Tom Fitzmorris went 3-for-3 with 2 doubles.

## Diamond Dust 1976 South Amboy Little Fellas Baseball League

Enterprise 9 Rotary 6-Daryl Ball drilled 4 hits, and Tom Levandoski 3, hits and blasted a home run for Rotary. Progressive 5 Jo-Tom's 1-Bill Paffrath got 2 hits. Rotary 7 Protection 6-Mark Dudley laced 3 hits, and John Mulligan unloaded a homer for Protection. Rotary 11 Lions 10-Mike Benson ripped 3 hits with 4 RBI and a home run.

## 1976 South Amboy Babe Ruth Baseball League

Raritan River Railroad 8 Mechanicsville Fire Co.5- John Inman was the winning pitcher. Komar's 6 South Amboy Trust 3-Winning pitcher John Pyonteck fired a 3-hitter. Independence 12 Boat Club 2-Gerard Marrone was the winning pitcher.

## 1976 South Amboy Girls Softball League

Yanks 17 Mets 9-Norma Wehrle got 3 hits and 4 RBI  
Braves 10 Yanks 0-Patty McCabe belted 3 hits in playoff action.

## 1976 South Amboy Midget Baseball League

Mets 9 Orioles 0-Mike Toth belted 3 hits including a home run.

## 1970 Morgan AA Midget League

Matty's Auto Parts 6 Sayreville Esso 5-Winning pitcher Ken Spiecker had 2 hits and 2 RBI.  
Harrison Realty 5 Morgan Pharmacy 0-Charlie DeCarlo notched the victory, and Barry Marcinczyk got 2 hits.

## South Amboy Men's Senior Slow Pitch League

Mike's Corner 8 Roddy's Tavern 6-Tom Magielnicki was the winning pitcher and Rich Klein supported him by blasting a long home run.

## South Amboy Slow Pitch Teams

1970-There were 8 teams in the South Amboy Men's Senior Slow Pitch League including: English Chevron, Roddy's Tavern, Miller's Deli, J & B Truckin, Bottle Stop, Mike's Corner, Enterprise Fire Co., Fritz's Tavern.

## 1964 Sayreville Little League Champs

Zagata's swept the Sayreville Little League playoff championship series over Riverside, 5-4 in Game 1 and 4-2 in the finale.

In Game 1. Joe Gabel was the winning pitcher, while Stan Przybylski blasted a 2-run homer for Riverside. Gabel was also outstanding in the title clinching contest, picking up another victory by firing a 4-hitter and striking out 11. He also drilled a single and double. Stanley Straszewski unloaded a solo home run for Riverside.

## Pepia Wins Silver Medal

Toni Pepia of South Amboy captured a silver medal at the 2025 U.S. Judo championships at 52 kg. Toni hopes to compete at the '28 Olympics in Los Angeles, California. Congratulations Toni and Best of Luck!





2015 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)

## 10 Years Ago 2015-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.



Former Sayreville resident Brian Miklaszewski was recently promoted to general manager of the Dunes Golf and Beach Club in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. He is a 2005 graduate of Sayreville War Memorial HS, where he was captain of the basketball team. Congratulations Brian, and may you have continued success in the future! (Photo courtesy of Joe Wedra)



## Historical Society Gets Vehicle

Sayreville Historical Society (SHS) was given use of a Ford SUV for their society events and other historical uses.

The vehicle is a 2010 Ford Explorer, in great condition. The vehicle is funded, maintained, owned and operated privately by a SHS volunteer who is proud of Sayreville and the great history that makes us proud, that's this little town. It was not donated.

The anonymous member loves his town's history so much he wanted to find a way to reach Sayreville residents and talk about history and hear historical stories and possibly pick up an artifact here and there.

The owner says that at Sayreville's National Night Out on August 5th one resident from just up the street did not know Sayreville had a museum, she does now and plans to visit with her children. Everyone in Sayreville should know that we have a museum, free admission and that there are some very cool

historical items.

Other uses include transporting SHS items to events such as Middlesex County History Day, Sayreville Day and other events SHS participates in. Will be used to pick up donated items and deliver items to residents such as books to those who can't come to the museum.

History is becoming the 'In Thing' as seen in many social media platforms.

Membership and Volunteer drives, we all know volunteers are getting difficult to find, hopefully we can get peoples attention.

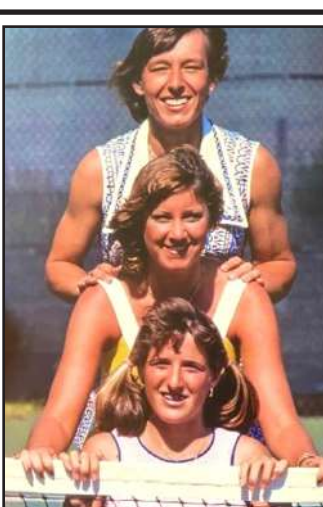
The vehicle was wrapped by Sig-A-Lize from Sayreville and received many comments about bricks on the lower part of the doors.

It's important to save history, otherwise how do we move forward with knowing where we came from. (Photo by Tom Burkard), (Story submitted).

## Celebrate South Amboy Day With The Knights

Help celebrate "South Amboy Day" on Saturday Sept. 27th, 2025 with the Knights of Columbus council #426. We will be there

selling "Push Cart" style hotdogs with all the fixins', chips, and ice cold water. Stop by and say hello !



Can you identify these three young ladies? I bet you would LOVE too. We need all three names. Send your answers to [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com) By September 15th.



## Who is it? By Brian and Phyllis Stratton

### Who Is It?

Last month's clue: I bet you think you know this one..don't you, don't you, helped several of our readers identify our mystery person. That clue came from the lyrics of the hit song 'You're So Vain' by none other than Carly Simon! The following got it right: Laura Onifer, Patti Tengelics, Dan Owens, Pawl Borgen, Pam and Mark DePazza, Jessica Lopez, JoAnn & John French, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Elaine & Rich Angerstein, Edna Pilch, Val Olszewski, Dane Colburn, Ed English, Gary Feret, Joe Hansell, Walter Starzek Jr., Laurie & Gary Loftus.



July Who is it? Carly Simon

## WWW.?



Do you know what this place is, and where it's located in South Amboy or Sayreville? Send your answers in to: [thesatimes@aol.com](mailto:thesatimes@aol.com) by September 15th. Good luck, it's a toughie! (Photo by Tom Burkard)

### July WWW.? Winners

Last Month's WWW.? was the South Amboy Arts Alliance/Historical Society of South Amboy.

July Winners: Dennis Quinlan, Peggy Yanuzzelli, JoAnn & John French, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Mary Agnes Morris, Edna Pilch, Don Zrebiec, Dane Colburn, Ed English, Steve Laskiewicz, Gary Feret, Betty Leveille, Barb Bockus, Lisa Grankowski, Walter Starzek, K Jr., Laurie & Gary Loftus.

\*Last month we missed Lisa Grankowski, very sorry.



South Amboy Arts Alliance/Historical Society of South Amboy.

## Everything You Wanted To Know About Dolls But Were Afraid To Ask

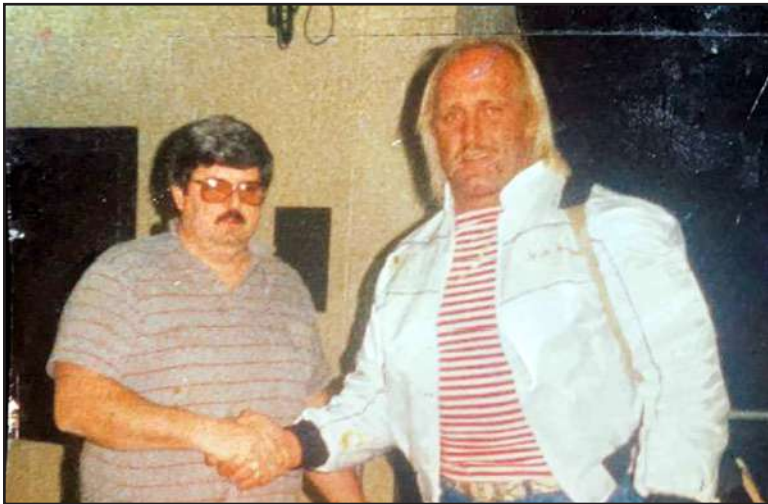
Finding a new home for your cherished doll collection can be a daunting task. Whether you're downsizing, moving, or simply looking to share your passion, it's important to explore the various avenues available for rehoming these precious treasures. Stuart Holbrook, President of the International Auction House, Theriault's, may be the answer to your prayer. Mr. Holbrook is a renowned authority on antique dolls and automata. He will be giving a talk on this subject, as well as answer all of your questions about downsizing your cherished doll collection, at the Woman's Club of

Matawan, 199 Jackson Street in Matawan, NJ on October 11, 2025 from 10:15-11:45AM. The presentation is open to the public and registration starts promptly at 10:00AM. If interested, please RSVP to Kim Molteg by October 4th at [kmolteg@gmail.com](mailto:kmolteg@gmail.com). There will be limited seating. Light refreshments will be served.

If interested in sharing your love for dolls with others, consider joining the Young at Heart Doll Club. For additional information regarding the club, contact Carol Kenjorski at [ckenjorski@comcast.net](mailto:ckenjorski@comcast.net).

We hope to see you there!

## Goodbye Hulk Hogan



Wrestling great Hulk Hogan died on July 24. His passing saddened the millions of Hulkster fans around the world. Local resident Larry Kurzawa (l) had the opportunity of a lifetime to meet and talk with the champion back in 1989. (Photo/info submitted). Editor's Note: Larry was one of the finest athletes in Hoffman HS history and was an All-State selection in baseball, and was very close to scoring 1,000 points in basketball during his high school career. He was also voted as one of the All-Time Greatest Slow-Pitch Softball players in South Amboy history.





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By Teo "Weebles" Weber



**Salt Water**  
Our beach fishing close to home is still in a mid-Summer slump. The times I checked Cliffwood and South Amboy all I saw was a few Sand Sharks and not much else. Fluke fishing in Raritan Bay is still the usual summer pattern-mostly shorts and a few keepers. Surf fishing at Island Beach and LBI are producing some nice Fluke plus a few Bluefish. Party Boats out for Bluefish are doing well with 2 to 6 pound Bluefish and some bigger. Benito and Spanish Mackerel are mixed with Chub Mackerel. Those party boats that fish for Fluke in the ocean are getting some nice keepers plus Ling and Sea Bass. Barnegat Bay features Blackfish and some Weakfish. There are a few Striped Bass around, mostly spotted at night in the inlet. The rocks there are producing some Sheepshead, a few Triggerfish plus many undersize Sea Bass, Spots and Silver Perch are there and off docks in the back bay areas.

**Fresh Water**  
Summer heat has taken its toll. Most fishing is slow all over. Large Mouth Bass are biting in the early morning and evening hours. Catfish, both Bullhead and Channel Catfish are being caught statewide. If you want Carp, the Delaware River is the place to go. Hybrid Striped Bass are in Lake Hopatcong and Spruce Run Reservoir.

**Catch Any Fish Lately?**

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

**Gone Fishin'**



Devyn Delgado caught these two Largemouth Bass recently in Sayreville, at Kennedy Park, and also at Bailey's Pond. (Photos submitted)



Obituaries

Adase, Lucille, 85, of South Amboy died on Aug. 17.

Andrejewski, Edward J., 69, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 15.

Balzamo, Matthew, 39, of Sayreville died on Aug. 8.

Bauer, Laverne F. Gawron, 87, of Sayreville died on July 4.

Belardo-Lopez, Nydia, 83, of Parlin died on July 31.

Brembor, Cheryl L., 68, of South Amboy died on July 26.

Burns, Kathleen Conroy, 97, of South Amboy died on July 29.

Craig, James J. Sr., 79, of Parlin died on Aug. 2.

DeRusso, Gary J., 65, of Sayreville died on July 29.

Haber, Stanley J., 93, of Sayreville died on June 28.

Hubka, Barbara L., 73, of Parlin died on July 2.

Larsen, Norman L. Sr., 96, formerly of Morgan died on Aug. 18.

Lotito, Irene Krzyzanowski, 93, of South Amboy died on Aug. 7.

Mackiel, John "Jack," 72, of South Amboy died on July 30.

Mahalick, Betty, 90, of Parlin died on Aug. 9.

Marek, Keith Sr., 75, of South Amboy died on Aug. 7.

Mussaro, Wanda L., 95, of Sayreville died on June 22.

Pagnotta, Barbara, 76, of South Amboy died on July 21.

Pisaneo, Meredith L., 44, of East Brunswick died on July 25.

Pizzillo, Adeline, 104, formerly of South Amboy died on July 28.

Quinlan, David Sr., 82, of South Amboy died on Aug. 16.

Smith, Mary Jean, 82, of South Amboy died on Aug. 11.

Strek, Arlene, 83, of Sayreville died on Aug. 2.

Woods, Matthew J., 80, of Parlin died on July 23.

Susan Hoffman

Susan Hoffman, age 76, of East Brunswick, New Jersey, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, August 6, 2025. Born in South Amboy, Susan spent much of her life in South Amboy and Matawan, where she built a life defined by compassion, intellect, and generosity. She attended St. Mary's High School in South Amboy, Loretto Heights College in Denver, and Loyola University in Chicago After earning a degree in nursing, Susan worked at Loyola Medical Center, where she was known for her gentle care and genuine dedication to her patients.



late Dr. Charles W. Hoffman and Kitty Ruth Hoffman. She was predeceased by her siblings: Joseph C. Hoffman (2009), Frances Hoffman Desmond (2008), Christine Hoffman Watt (2023), and her niece Fern Desmond (2017). She is survived by her sister Mary Fern Szatkowski, who remained a close and loving presence in her life. Susan also leaves behind a large and loving extended family, including her nieces and nephews Mary Goggans, Amy Larsen, Kimberly Jones, Jennifer Watt, Laurie Sziklas, Thomas Hoffman, Joseph Hoffman, Bryan Hoffman, Scott Kennedy, and Daniel Szatkowski, all of whom will cherish her memory.

An avid reader, Susan spent her later years working at Barnes & Noble. She took great joy in discovering new books and gifting them to friends and family. She deeply appreciated art and nature, often finding beauty and peace through her daily walks in Cheesapeake State Park. Susan was a devoted Catholic and longtime member of St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church. She lived modestly, always seeking to help those less fortunate and care for those in need. Susan delighted in spending time with her young nieces and nephews and, more recently, with their children. Whether it was proudly attending sports or school programs, tossing a ball in the yard, or engaging in a game of chess, Susan was a constant source of comfort and joy in their lives. A proud grand-aunt, Susan held her family dear and especially enjoyed spending time with her many great-nieces and great-nephews.

Susan was the beloved daughter of the

We would like to thank the staff of Care One Assisted Living—East Brunswick for their loving care of both Susan and the extended family.

Cremation was private. A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy, on Thursday August 28, 2025 at 10:00am followed by interment in St. Mary's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church. Arrangements are under the direction of The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy.

Affectionately known as "Aunt Sue the Great," Susan will be deeply missed. Her kind heart, generous spirit, and thoughtful nature will live on in the hearts of her family and friends.

Irene A. Krzyzanowski-Lotito

Irene A. Krzyzanowski-Lotito, 93, of South Amboy died on Thursday August 7, 2025 at Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Center, New Brunswick. Born in Malynsk, Poland she lived in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida for over 40 years before returning to South Amboy. While in Florida she enjoyed volunteering at the local Catholic school and VA Hospital. She enjoyed bowling, traveling, going on cruises and belonged to the Palm Beach Metal Detecting Club.



siblings Mary Russo, Diane Burke, Ted Sliwinski and his wife Phyllis and Theresa McEwan and her husband Donald; her grandchildren Gregg Krzyzanowski and his wife Christina, Garret Krzyzanowski, Christine Lisi and her husband Tom, Melissa Natalewicz and her husband Steven, Colin Krzyzanowski and his wife Amanda and Kyle Krzyzanowski and his wife Natalie; her great-grandchildren Cole, Ryan, Audriana, Charlotte, Addison, Olivia and Ivy; her son-in-law Bill Smith and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Daughter of the late Stanley and Helen Kolcz she is also predeceased by her husbands Stanley Krzyzanowski and Thomas Lotito and her brother John. She is survived by her children Thaddeus Krzyzanowski and his wife Joanne, George Krzyzanowski and his wife Linda and Carol Krzyzanowski-Smith; her

Funeral services were held on Wednesday August 13, 2025 at 5:30pm at The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy. Cremation was private. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Alzheimer's NJ.

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



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## Carol Sullivan Lukie

Carol Sullivan Lukie, 84, of South Amboy died on Sunday August 10, 2025 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy. Born in South Amboy she lived there all her life and was previously employed as an aide with the Board of Education. A member of St. Mary's R.C. Church, South Amboy she enjoyed attending basketball games and following her grandchildren's sports and activities.

Daughter of the late Philip J. and Clare Eggers Sullivan she is also predeceased by her twin Clare Bouchard in 2010. She is survived by her husband John F. Lukie; her son John Lukie; her daughter and son-in-law Caryn and Jim Brown; her sister Eileen Canniff; her grandchildren Tommy, Jack, Sara, Chrissy and her husband Oscar, Mark and his wife Danielle and Catherine and her great-grandchildren Leilani, Valentina, Julianna, Maggie and Peyton.

Cremation was private. Memorial visitation will be on Wednesday August 27, 2025 from 9 to 10am at The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by a 10:30am Memorial Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church. Interment will be in St. Mary's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Mary's Church, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879.

## In Memoriam

Stanley Haber, 93, of Sayreville died on June 28. He worked for USPS, and was Assistant Postmaster before retiring. Barbara Hubka, 73, of Parlin died on July 2. She was a Clerk at the Sayreville Public Library. Meredith Pisaneo, 44, of East Brunswick died on July 25. She was employed for over 22 years with the Sayreville Board of Education as a Special Ed and Elementary School Teacher at Arleth and also Truman schools. John "Jack" Mackiel, 72, of South Amboy died on July 30. He graduated from Hoffman High School Class of '71, and was a firefighter for 54 years with Protection Fire Co. in South Amboy.

## Kathleen Conroy Burns

Kathleen Conroy Burns, 97, of South Amboy died on Tuesday July 29, 2025 at Roosevelt Care Center, Old Bridge. Born in Elizabeth she was employed as Director of Risk Management at South Amboy Hospital until retiring. Kathleen was instrumental in starting the residency training program for new doctors, and was on the forefront of instituting Risk Management programs at the hospital. A Registered Nurse, she was a member of the Women's Army Nursing Cadets in World War II. A member of St. Mary's R.C. Church, South Amboy she was also a member of the Senior Citizens and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. She was proud of her Irish heritage and enjoyed traveling around the world, including several trips to Ireland, and was very involved in genealogical research of her family, having ancestry articles published in genealogy magazines in Ireland and New Jersey. She was a proud and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.



Daughter of the late Joseph, Sr. and Margaret O'Neill Conroy she is also predeceased by her husband of 50 years Hilary S. Burns, Jr. in 2001 and her brothers and sisters-in-law Joseph, Jr. and Patricia, Leo and Shirley and William and Marion Conroy. She is survived by her children Rose McDade and her husband Lawrence, Michael Burns and his wife Cynthia, Patrick Burns and his wife Mary, Kathleen Burns and Elizabeth "Betsy" Tiazkun and her husband Timothy; her grandchildren Brian Burns and his wife Jaclyn, Kevin Burns and his wife Sandra, Colleen Noden and her husband Sean, Erin Brendel and her husband Christopher and Timothy, Hillary and Kelsey Tiazkun and; her great-grandchildren Sean, Kate, Emma, Abby, Brea, Michael, Colton, Cael, Cain, McKenna and Christopher and many cousins, niece, nephews and friends. The family would especially like to thank Dr. Harold McKenna for 50 years of friendship and care.

Kathleen loved hosting big holiday family gatherings, and occasional trips to Atlantic City. As a young girl in Point Pleasant and Manasquan, to many years in Atlantic Highlands with her tribe of five, to the past fifteen years in Ocean City, Kathleen loved the sand under her feet and the warm ocean breezes. She inherited her father's passion for solving daily crossword puzzles, was an avid reader, and was an expert at jigsaw puzzles. Her most ardent hobby was tracing her family and extended family's genealogy.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday August 5, 2025 at 10:45am from The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy followed by an 11:30am Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Church. Interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Convent of the Sisters of St. Joseph, 9701 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118 or the St. Mary Food Pantry, 256 Augusta Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879.

The Miraculous Prayer

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

## Thank You

The Spezzi family would like to thank Mayor O'Brien, the borough council Glen Scarzynski, the shade tree commission and Clinton monument Company for making the Arboretum dedication to Carmen Sr, a beautiful and meaningful event. We would like to give special thanks to Richie and his crew from the Parks Department for the light they showed on a gloomy evening. The effort and planning of so many involved translated into a long lasting memory of a devoted and loving husband, father and papa. That memory will be loved and appreciated for generations to come.

## 5th Anniversary In Heaven



5 years  
since you have left us.  
We continue to  
celebrate your life  
and all the joy you had  
brought into ours.  
Love always,  
your family

Estelle Burkard Pluskota  
Feb. 2, 1941 - Aug. 17, 2020



**Sayreville National Night Out**  
Photos by Tom Burkard



Sayreville PBA Local 98 had a tent set up at the event, and answered many questions from anyone who attended the night out event.



Sayreville Police Officer and his son pose for a great photo.



Sayreville's Auxiliary Police Chief Kelan Magee (2nd from right) and officers at the Command Post.



Sayreville GOP council candidate Anthony Esposito (l) is pictured with Councilman Stash Synarski. Council President Donna Roberts was not present for photo.



Sayreville Recreation Director Brian VanDongen (r), and Parks Supervisor Rich Poplowski are pictured near the Recreation Dept. stand.



Pictured (l-r) Sayreville Councilwoman Mary Novak, council candidate Herve Blemurr, council candidate Alberto Rios, Committee Chairman Bill Henry.



The Sayreville Historical Society President Frank Terzino Sr., (r) and members had many interesting items on display.

**South Amboy National Night Out**  
Photos by Tom Burkard



South Amboy Police Dept. received two new motorcycles, and displayed them at the event. Pictured near a new vehicle are (l-r) Acting Capt. Daniel Holovacko, Acting Capt. Michael Kelly, Police Chief Patricia Kanecke, and Business Administrator David Kales.



City of South Amboy employees had a great time!



South Amboy Firefighters were on hand with plenty of information.



South Amboy Police Chief Patricia Kanecke addresses the crowd. Note the two new South Amboy Police motorcycles on display.



A.O.H., Div. 1, South Amboy President Ed O'Connor (l) and members take a break from preparing countless, delicious hamburgers, cheeseburgers and hot dogs for everyone who attended this great night out.



Dowdell Library Director Elaine Gaber (c) is pictured with her Library Assistants.





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