



Serving The
Bayshore Area
Since 1991

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026

The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

This issue is
dedicated to
*Michael J. Tedesco
*William Tierney Jr.



December 20, 2025 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 35 Issue 3

84th Anniversary Of Pearl Harbor Remembered



Lieutenant Colonel Sarah Bernal (l) and Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62 Commander Joseph Szaro toss the memorial wreath into the Raritan Bay. See more photos on page 12. (Photo by Mary Szaro)

21st Annual Dad- Daughter Dance

The South Amboy-Sayreville Rotary Club will host the 21st annual dad-daughter on Friday, February 6, 2026. It will be held at the VFW on Jernee Mill Road, Sayreville. For more information or to register contact Greg at 732-721-0400 or email greg@customfinancial.org

A Simple Christmas Prayer

By Al Gomolka Jr., Times Poet Laureate
A babe was born on Christmas Day
To save us from our sins
All we have to do is believe
And everybody wins!
Merry Christmas, Christ is with us
And everybody wins.

Thank You!



A HUGE thank you to Madeline Brew who raised \$5,541 for the Hugh Riley Rone Foundation in honor of the beloved Riley Rone! Maddy ran the US Marine Corps Marathon In Washington D.C. on October 26th. The check presentation took place at The Waterfront Park where there is a bench in Hugh Riley Rone's Honor- Pictured (l-r) Darcy Brew, Barbara Rone, Madeline Brew, Hugh Rone, Sean Brew. The proceeds will be used towards scholarships and those in our community in need in memory of Riley. Please check us out on Facebook @ Riley's Touch A Truck for any information! We are always looking for new business sponsors and new ideas and trucks and Machines for our Annual Event! Tentative dates for 2026 are May 3rd, with a rain date of May 17th! See more photos on page 2. (Photo/info Submitted)

Next Issue January 24th
Deadlines January 12th

Catholic Schools Week,
Super Bowl, Valentine's Day

Call 732-360-8773 or
732-841-5249 For Ad Space

Connect
With Us



www.thesatimes.com

Congratulations!



The South Amboy Police Department won the Emergency Vehicle Lights Parade. Pictured in front is Chief Patricia Kanecke and back (l-r) Captain Mike Kelly, Detective Marvin DeAusten, Mayor Fred Henry, Detective Sergeant Tim Kales and Patrolman Robert Garcia. Congratulations! See more photos on page 14. (Photo by Brian Stratton)



NY WATERWAY®

SOUTH AMBOY
FERRY SERVICE

South Amboy - Where Dreams Set Sail

Cruise to NYC
Take the
South Amboy Ferry
Kids Under 12 are Always Free

1.800.53.FERRY

Reliable & Fast
Downtown & Midtown
Clean & Comfortable
Free Local Shuttles

nywaterway.com/SouthAmboy





THANK YOU

for voting us the
Best Bank in Central NJ
for 28 years in a row

Member FDIC

Your Community Bank


Amboy Bank has served individuals, families, and businesses throughout central New Jersey for more than a century with a focused dedication to helping them succeed.

Personal Service. We take the time to listen to our clients and address their individual needs and goals. You'll always speak to a live team member who is responsive, knowledgeable and happy to help.

Everyday Value. Have confidence that you are getting a consistently good rate on your deposits when you bank with Amboy.

Innovative Solutions. Client success fuels our success. We have one-of-a-kind, proprietary products that set us apart from the other banks and facilitate our clients' financial success.

We believe our clients vote every day they choose to bank with Amboy, and we thank our loyal clients for recognizing our superb service. Experience the Best Bank today:



Visit your local branch | 877.22.AMBOY | AmboyBank.com

Sayreville Seafood & Main St. Sub Station/Deli

Open 7 Days
Mon. 6am - 12pm
Tue. & Weds. 5:30am - 6pm
Thurs. & Fri. 5:30am - 7pm
Sat. 6am - 5pm, Sun. 6am - 1pm

141 Main Street
Sayreville NJ 08872
(Next To 4 Seasons Flower Shop)

Celebrating Our 42nd Anniversary

Breakfast Sandwiches - Home Of The Famous "Belly Buster"
Hot and Cold Subs - Homemade Soups - Homemade Salads

Fried Chicken
20 Piece Min.
2 Day Notice

DECEMBER HOLIDAY HOURS
Sun. Dec. 21st 6am-3pm
Mon. Dec. 22nd 6am-6pm
Tue. Dec. 23rd 6am-6pm
Wed. Dec. 24th 6am-7pm
CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
Tue. Dec. 30th 6am-3pm
Wed. Dec. 31st 6am-4pm
CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY

Fish Fry
Thurs, Fri, Sat & Sun

Stop In For Our Boar's Head Lunch Meat Specials

MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR

- Shrimp Party Platters
- Lobster Tails (Must Pre-Order)
- Fried Fish by the Pound
- Smoked Whiting
- Stuffed Mushrooms
- Homemade Salads
- Clams - King Crab Legs
- Scallops

732-254-2116 OR 732-238-2388

THE TIMES

The South Amboy/ Sayreville Serving The Bayshore Area

• The "Good News" Newspaper •

P.O. BOX 3027 • SOUTH AMBOY N.J. 08879

Tel: 732-360-8773
email: satimes@aol.com
website: thesatimes.com

email web site

Publisher
Tom Burkard

Feature Writers
Teo Weber
Clem Skarzynski
Jordan R. Drevelus

Associate Publisher
Brian Stratton

Layout Design
Phyllis Stratton

Photographer
Jamie Norek

Poet Laureate
Albert Gomolka Jr.

The South Amboy/Sayreville Times (SAT) is published monthly and distributed to businesses, schools, banks, restaurants and churches. SAT reserves the right to refuse any advertising, editorial or other information. SAT is not responsible for typos or factual errors in advertising or editorial. Reader letters, articles and artwork are welcomed. SAT © 2016 no matter herein may not be reproduced without the written permission of the publishers. opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the publishers.

Sayreville Historical Society Event

The Sayreville Historical Society is proud to announce that local author John Schneider will be at the Sayreville Historical Museum at 425 Main Street on December 16 and 18, from 6 to 8 pm. The Museum and the Sayreville Historical Society are putting together a fantastic event—A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM – with all kinds of items you can pick up as last-minute Christmas gifts, such as ornaments, books, crafts, local history memorabilia, even historic bricks from the Sayre & Fisher Brick Factory, and more.

Schneider will be bringing a selection of his historical books — including the brand-new, nearly 300-page edition of The Story of Sayreville, packed with about 300 photos

and illustrations. It may or may not arrive in time for the event, but you'll still be able to purchase it at a special discount, and he will personally guarantee that you receive your autographed copy at home within the week. In fact, the first 10 people who buy it may be able to walk away with the book that night.

Schneider will also have all his other history books with him—covering the Raritan Bay, Sandy Hook, Highlands, and more — all discounted for the event, benefiting the Historical Society and autographed by him.

So please do come out, say hello, look around, and explore some of the history that makes Sayreville such a remarkable place.





Left Photo, Madeline Brew running in the US Marine Corps Marathon In Washington D.C. on October 26th she raised \$5,541 for the Hugh Riley Rone Foundation in honor of the beloved Riley Rone! Right Photo Madeline poses in front of the US Marine Corps Memorial. (Photos Submitted)

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 heaven 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., M.S., S.P., N.P.

Hit The Brick Results


On October 4, 70 runners and walkers participated in Sayreville Recreation's Hit the Bricks 5k trail run/walk on what turned out to be a perfect day for a run. The course starts and ends at the Jerry Ust Recreation Complex with the bulk of the mileage winding through the Capik Nature Preserve. Proceeds from the event benefit the Sayreville BIC.

Male Open

1. Ron Zastocki (22:13)
2. Jacob Stanley (23:50)
3. Tommasi Moccia (24:14)

Female Open

1. Alysa Perez (28:14)
2. Katherine Epstein (33:40)
3. Fawzia Khan (34:29)



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.

HALL RENTAL

SOUTH AMBOY COLUMBIAN CLUB #426

Caterers Available

2 Rooms

* Weddings Available

- Showers - Parties - Repast Meals

Call Us For A Tour Of Our Hall

 Have A Very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

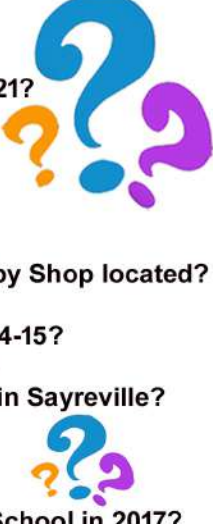
308 Fourth St. South Amboy
Call 732-721-2025

Pleasant Little TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

1. President of AOH D.B. Kelly in 2025?
a. James Riehl b. Edward O'Connor c. John McQuade
2. St. Stan's Veteran of the Year winner in 1999
a. Edwin Michalik b. Ed Kolodziej c. Marcus Jones
3. Commander of Luke A. Lovely American Legion in 2021?
a. Joe Szaro b. Bob Sekerak c. Tom Noble
4. President of OLV Senior Group in '25?
a. Carmen Delikat b. Teri Yetsko c. Patricia Mancini
5. South Amboy Fire Chief in 1999?
a. Drew Newcomb b. Kevin Zebro c. Paul Mundy
6. At Christmastime 1999, where was the Sayreville Hobby Shop located?
a. Main St. b. Rt. 9 South c. Washington Rd.
7. Elected President of the South Amboy Seniors for 2014-15?
a. Gretchen Evigan b. Ed Smith c. Mary Ann Matarangolo
8. In '06, where was Ciro's Italian-American Deli located in Sayreville?
a. MacArthur Ave. b. South Pine Ave. c. Washington Rd.
9. South Amboy HS Homecoming Queen in 1999?
a. Marlene Green b. Jane Kurtz c. Charlene Cruz
10. Appointed new principal of Eisenhower Elementary School in 2017?
a. Victor Jamison b. Scott Nurnberger c. Alisha Randolph

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





Fine Wine & Grill





Fine Wine & Grill owner Jay Patel and his wife Anita are pictured at their popular business located at 717 Bordentown Ave. in South Amboy. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Jay Patel, owner of Fine Wine & Grill in South Amboy is a true success story in the business world. Back in 1997, he started working as a stock boy at Krauszer's on Broadway in South Amboy across from Amboy Bank. Fast forward to 2003, after hard work, determination, and dedication, Patel purchased the former Tarallo's building on Bordentown Ave. in South Amboy, which is now Fine Wine & Grill. Not only did he bring plenty of experience in all phases of the business, but a certain finesse that has enabled him to become one of the most-liked and highly-respected business leaders in the City of South Amboy. Jay really loves the South Amboy community, and said that "We, at Fine Wine & Grill, are always ready to support and help the community, with almost all organizations and charities. We appreciate this community." Fine Wine & Grill also sponsors sports teams for the youth of South Amboy. So many people have noticed Jay's commitment to helping within the City, and he received

a beautiful Appreciation Award from the South Amboy Police Department. Fine Wine & Grill features a huge deli, liquors, beer, and a large selection of Bourbon and Wines. In addition, they offer excellent selections of delicious sandwiches and also a tasty breakfast. While you're in the store, don't forget your lottery tickets. The staff has plenty of experience, and is friendly, courteous, and very helpful to all patrons. Jay said "South Amboy is very helpful from the mayor, council and everyone. This community has given me lots of friends and some are now like my own family." Jay Patel has a great philosophy and said, "Just do your own thing. Don't expect anything in return. God is always watching us." Stop in and say hello to Jay and his outstanding staff at 717 Bordentown Ave., South Amboy.

*Note: See the Fine Wine & Grill's beautiful Christmas/New Year's advertisement on page 28, offering many great bargains for the holiday season.

The Gundrum Service

"Home For Funerals"

Serving the community since 1919

732-727-0666

HUGH G. RONE
Manager
NJ License No. 3328

RYAN A. RONE MORAN
Director
NJ License No. 4850

MICHAEL A. KURTZ
Director
NJ License No. 5126

www.TheGundrumService.com

237 BORDENTOWN AVE.
South Amboy, NJ 08879





Paying Too Much for Your Insurance?



Flood, Car, Motorcycle, Boat, Home, Condo, Renters, Commercial Auto, Business Liability, Employee Liability, Term or Permanent Life, Disability Income, Long Term Care



Tom Schreiner
LUTCF, CLTC
Allstate Agency Owner
Deutscher Club Member Since 2008



Allstate

You're in good hands.

236 Ernston Rd. Ste. 1, Parlin
732-353-5658
TSchreiner@Allstate.com

Dowdell Library News

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

Toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for Toddler Thursday Play Dates in January from 12:00 to 3:30 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 January from 3:15 to 4:30 pm. Drop in to make some Winter Crafts on Wednesday, January 14 from 1:00-2:30pm.

Kids and Teens! Don't miss out on the Game On! Basketball Contest happening all January long. Stop in the library for a chance to win an NBA basketball. Don't miss Drop in Club this January from 3:15 to 4:30 pm on Tuesdays for Board Games and from 2:30 to 4:30 pm on Fridays for Video Games. Ages 11+.

Tweens and Teens! Stop by to register for the January Test Kitchen on Monday, January 12 for ages 10 to 12 and Tuesday, January 13 for ages 13+ at 3:00pm! Learn how to make different treats and snacks!

Seniors! Senior Tech Time will be held on Monday, January 5 at 10:30am. Come learn about a new technology topic. Snow date Wednesday, January 7.

The Senior Book Club will meet on Monday, January 26 from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Ask about joining! The city can provide transportation if needed. Snow date Wednesday, January 28.

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 are on Tuesday, January 13 and 27 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 at no cost to ensure an easy-to-use and enjoyable experience. This 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, 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.

The library will be closed Thursday, January 1 for New Year's Day.

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

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.H..

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, M.S., K.H., S.S..

We would love to hear from you!

EMAIL or MAIL or Guestbook



Frank's Automotive Service





Merry Christmas & Happy New Year To All Our Patrons

Our Service Work Includes:

- Brake Service • Oil Changes
- Tune Ups • Water Pumps
- Cooling System Service • Exhaust

All Work Can Be Performed On Most Makes & Models & Light Trucks



7072 State Hwy. 35
(Must enter off Oak St.)



Sayreville, NJ (Melrose Section)

For Appointments Or More Info Call 732-721-8844



WISNIEWSKI & ASSOCIATES, LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

- CRIMINAL LAW
- DIVORCE & FAMILY LAW
- DEBT COLLECTION
- DWI, DUI, & TRAFFIC LAW
- PERSONAL INJURY
- PROPERTY DAMAGE
- MUNICIPAL COURT
- REAL ESTATE LAW
- CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP & BUSINESS LAW
- WILLS, ESTATES & TRUSTS
- ZONING & PLANNING

732-651-0040

EVENING HOURS ARE AVAILABLE

17 Main Street
Sayreville, NJ 08872-1559
E-mail info@wisniewskilaw.com

VISA

MasterCard

DISCOVER

AMERICAN EXPRESS



Surprisingly great rates right around the corner.

John Pepe Jr., Agent
3D Parlin Drive
Parlin, NJ 08859
Bus: 732-238-9800
john.pepe.poa0@statefarm.com

I'm your one-stop shop for the service you deserve at a price you want. Call me for surprisingly great rates and Good Neighbor service right in your neighborhood.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®


Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm® underwriting requirements.

State Farm


Bloomington, IL

2001878





Gomolka's Collectables Give Away!



AI Gomolka
As seen on
American Pickers

(Images are for example and not the actual items)

Super collector AI Gomolka in conjunction with The SA Times will offer a new contest in each upcoming issue Gomolka's Collectables Give Away. AI 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 AI's collectables for FREE! The winner will be notified via e-mail before the next newspaper comes out.


AI's next Free Give-A-Way for Jan. 2026 will be

A lot of readers entered the December Christmas contest for toys and gifts. Thank you to all who participated. January's Giveaway is going to be a "BIGGIE"--General Antiques featuring many kinds of antiques and collectables, some over 100 years old and earlier! Included will be glassware, toys, tools, furniture, country store, knick-knacks, etc. They could be your treasures! Happy New Year!

Last Month's winner was:
Jim Sissick

The winner must pick up the winning prize in person at a certain location in South Amboy or Sayreville. *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
Put Gomolka's Contest in the subject line
By January 6th
GOOD LUCK!
Must enter each month
Staff of The SA Times and their family members are not eligible to enter. One entry per household. Must be 18 years or older to enter.

Yearbook-South Amboy 2015

By Tom Burkard

"A Story To Be Told" was the title of this yearbook, and it sure was an interesting school year and story...The yearbook was dedicated to Mrs. Doherty and Mrs. Vona... The school Administration/Staff consisted of: Supt.-Robert Sheedy; Principal-Dr. Patrick McCabe; Vice Principal-Ken Blekeski; Dean of Students-Fred Henry...The Faculty/Staff selected randomly: Hope Affriol, Greg Castello, Erin Chadwick, Bob Dougherty, George Gundrum, Jennifer McQuade, Cathy Housman, Charlotte Kierst, Gary Kuhn, Tracey Reilly, John Schnyderite, Wendy Sherman, Phyllis Stratton, Maureen Strzykalski...

Some of the great Class of '15 randomly selected include a mix of students and student/athletes; Jenna Anderson, John Bauer, Kyle Bielinski, Audrey Breen, Brandy Charmello, Anthony Conrad, Kevin Dzioba, Pablo Fernandez, Robert Garcia, Stephanie Gay, Jeanine Gonzalez, Edward Grabowski, Tim Kales, Amanda Killmer, Du-Ho Kim, Elizabeth Kudelka, Kyra Kuhn, Sukhdeep Kular, Amanda LaVigne, Nicole Leveille, Thomas Lukie, James McGee, Cheyenne Moskal, Alexis Ortiz-Albino, Kanghyo Park,

Kamil Pawelec, Douglas Peterson, Jake Piazzolla, Bryan Richmond, Hugh Rone, Tara Sinka, Leilani Soto, Steven Steele, Jaime Switzer, Leah Szatkowski, Emily Trzeciak, Thomas Van Fossen, Jennifer Van Horn, Amanda Vella, Keith Warzecha, Faith Wyluda.

Class Officers were: President-Kerenn Irias; VP-Jenna Anderson; Secretary-Amberlynn Carey; Treasurer-Tim Kales... Some fun activities were the Christmas Concert; Senior Spirit Week-the banner was won by The Senior Savages for the overall week. The competitions were the Tug-of-War; Wagon Race, and the seniors also had permission to wear their PJ's to school; The South Amboy High School Players presented the play "Seussical" which was very successful...Many clubs were offered to the students including Student Council, National Honor Society, National Art Society, Yearbook, Safety Ambassadors, Science League, Gay Straight Alliance, Band Chorus, Anti-HIB. At graduation time in '15, the #1 Pop song was "See You Again" by Wiz Khalifa, the top Country hit was "Don't It" by Billy Currington.



Far left: Patrolman Alexander Miranda of South Amboy; former South Amboy Police Chief Darren LaVigne; former Police Captain Brian McCabe; Surjit Singh, owner of John Auto Center; and Karandeep Singh, owner of Gary Heating and Air Conditioning. (Photo/info submitted)

South Amboy Representatives Honored at NYPD Indian Society Event

(Article submitted)

The NYPD Indian Society hosted a special recognition event at Pearl Banquet Hall, Hicksville, NY on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, honoring several distinguished guests from South Amboy for their longstanding service and dedication to community partnership.

Among those acknowledged were former South Amboy Police Chief Darren Lavigne, former Police Captain Brian McCabe, Ptl. Miranda Alexander, Surjit Singh, owner of John Auto Center, and Karandeep Singh, owner of Gary Heating and Air-Conditioning.

Members of the NYPD Indian Society expressed their gratitude to all attendees, emphasizing the value of cross-agency collaboration and strong ties with community leaders.

Indian Officers Society President Manish Sharmah and P.O. Inderjit Singh, speaking on behalf of the organization, offered heartfelt remarks of appreciation.

"It was our honor to have the former police chief, captain, and current patrolman Miranda at the event," P.O. Singh said. "We are very grateful for their presence and for the continued support they show to our community."

The evening highlighted the growing partnership between South Amboy law enforcement, local business owners, and the NYPD Indian Society—celebrating cooperation, public service, and cultural unity.

Troop 96 News

Sayreville Scouting America (BSA) Troop 96 chartered to First Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Sayreville had their Court of Honor on Dec. 4, 2025. Numerous merit badges were earned by several scouts and two Scouts will have earned their Eagle Scout rank on Dec. 11. The first Eagle Scout candidate Joseph O, cleaned and restored a dilapidated Veterans Section at Chestnut Hill Cemetery, East Brunswick. The local Veterans organizations are pleased with the results. The second Eagle Scout candidate, Charlie R., worked on improving the playground at Truman School. The students are enjoying the improvements. Great job Scouts!

We invite fellow boys ages 11 and up, who enjoy the outdoors to join our troop. We meet on Thursday at 7pm in the church basement. For more information, contact sayrevilletroop96@gmail.com.

Sayreville Troop 777 of Scouting America, one of the largest girls-only troops in the Council and chartered to the First Presbyterian Church, meets on Tuesday at 7pm. The Scouts are working hard on earning merit badges and rank advancements for their upcoming Court of Honor. They have several Scouts working on their Eagle Projects. For further information contact sayrevilletroop777@gmail.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 -R.S., A.S., L.P., H.S., L.S., E.P., I.P.

PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY
Oholy 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. - M.L.

FROM THE DESK OF
TOM REILLY

As the holiday season arrives, our homes fill with familiar and comforting images: glowing lights, gatherings of family and friends, and a spirit of giving and kinship. In our modern world, though, “giving” often means holiday shopping. Many of us I am sure have become a bit jaded, if not cynical, regarding certain aspects of holiday shopping. Standing in a long line at a large multi-national store does not help the matter.

I would like to offer a potential solution: shop small and patronize local and family-owned businesses. Small businesses are far more than just “stores.” They often are family-owned shops that have served generations of customers in our community. They are artisans, crafters, chefs, collectors, and merchants whose work is stitched into the fabric of our community. Many of them sponsor youth sports teams, donate to fundraisers, and show up when our community needs them most. You likely know many of these business owners by name. You might even have known them when you were young, or got to know them when your children began going to school with their children. You might remember when their parents owned the business before them. They are our friends, neighbors, and an indelible part of our community.

And when you shop small, your dollar does more than pay for gifts for loved ones. Money spent at small businesses circulates within our community. That means your holiday gifts help pay local workers, support local suppliers, generate local tax revenue, increase property values, and drive additional consumers to our community. It is the ultimate win-win.

I think you will also come to find it to be an immensely enjoyable experience. Shopping small transcends mere commercialized consumerism. Walking into a local shop brings the simple joy of slowing down and enjoying the experience. You may find unique items (and perfect gifts) you could not find anywhere else. Local restaurants often provide locally-sourced food in a charming atmosphere. With local shopping



also comes the serendipity of meeting new people from your community, finding things you did not expect to find, and enjoying holiday ambiance that cannot be replicated through online shopping or larger chains. And by enjoying that experience yourself, you also will help your friends, neighbors, and community.

Our city has always appreciated the importance of this local commerce. This past November 17, the city hosted a business summit for all our local businesses. A panel of speakers from the Office of Business Engagement offered valuable insights to help our local businesses succeed. A few of the topics included grants and loans, free technical assistance, business mentorships, and government contracts.

Representatives from over 25 South Amboy businesses attended. Many of these representatives engaged with panelists after the meeting to continue the discussion and to exchange ideas on how our local businesses can thrive. We hope to build on this summit, continue to help grow our local businesses, and to attract a variety of new businesses to our downtown.

To assist in that effort, and to assist with your own holiday shopping needs, I hope you will join me in shopping small this holiday season and supporting your friends, neighbors, and all those who help build our local economy.

Finally, I hope you find joy, comfort, and peace this holiday season. May the days ahead be filled with warmth, gratitude, and time spent with the people who matter most.

Happy holidays.
Respectfully
Tom Reilly
2nd Ward Councilman
City of South Amboy

Priscilla Jewelry
Est. 1996
3225 Washington Road
Parlin, NJ 08859
(Across from Arleth Elementary School)
732-952-5977
priscillajewelrny@gmail.com

Find All Your Jewelry Needs!
Complete Service & All Repairs
priscillajewelry.shop

Open: Mon. - Fri. 10:00am - 4:45pm
Sat. 10:00am - 2:00pm Closed: Sun.
Available For Appointments

Priscilla Jewelry
For All Your
Holiday Gifts!

Visit our website:
priscillajewelry.shop
Be Sure To
Subscribe For
Exclusive
Online Sales!

Happy
Holidays

BOSSA
Massages & Wellness
LOCATED AT
801 WASHINGTON RD. / SUITE 1A
PARLIN, NJ

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

*MASSAGE	*FACIALS
*SAUNA	*WAXING
*CRYO TANK	*RED LIGHT
*ENDOSPHERE	*EMSCULPT
*CRYO SLIM	*LASER LIPO
*CRYO FACIAL	
*LYMPHATIC DRAINAGE	
*ENDOSPHERE FACIAL	

BOOK TODAY AT BOSSAMASSAGES.COM
OR CALL 732-416-6120

Parlin DuPont
Employees Federal Credit Union

**The Board and Staff of
the Parlin DuPont Credit Union
would like to wish you all
a Very Merry Christmas,
Happy Holidays and
a Prosperous New Year.**

Find out how you can become a member of Parlin DuPont Credit Union and ask about our no fee checking and low rate personal loans, as well as new and used vehicle loans and lease buyouts.

**The Parlin DuPont Credit Union is open to
employees and family members of**

Parlin DuPont, Sardo & Sons, Inc,
Sayreville Education Association,
Borough of Sayreville
(including all police, fire, first aid and library)
Madison Park First Aid,
M&L Power Systems, Inc., Chemours,
South Amboy Board of Education students and staff
City of South Amboy Employees

NCUA
National Credit Union Administration, U.S. Government Agency

**389 Washington Road, Office 2,
Sayreville, NJ 08872**
PHONE (732) 254-7573
FAX (732) 254-0860
www.ParlinDuPontEFCU.com

Serving our members since 1937

Christmas Long, Long Ago



1940's-Pictured at Christmastime, during World War II, are South Amboy's Postmaster Thomas Downs (r) presenting a U.S. War Bond to John Andrejewski Sr., Commander of the Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post 62 in South Amboy. The bond was purchased by the Legion from the United States Post Office. While Commander, Andrejewski built an observation tower at no cost to the City of South Amboy during World War II. The tower was manned 24-hours a day by members of the American Legion and local volunteers. (Photo/info submitted)

Will Planning & Probate Seminar At
Sayreville

A Planning & Probate Seminar will be held on January 7, 2026 10am, at the Sayreville Senior Center 423 Main Street Sayreville NJ 08872. Open to the public.

Wills & Estate Administration-Protect Your Family and Make Planning Easy. Free program in person open to the public, you do not need to be a Township resident to attend.

There will be many important and main topics, in addition to complimentary materials-brochures on wills and much more.

Speaker: Kenneth Vercammen, Esq.

Edison, NJ (Author-Wills and Estate Administration by the ABA)

Free to Register. Pre-registration is required. Call 732-390-7058 to reserve your spot!

Sample materials: Hand-outs on Wills, Living Wills/Medical Advance Directive, Power of Attorney, Probate and Administration of an Estate, Real Estate, Working with your Attorney, Consumers Guide to New Jersey Laws, and Senior Citizen Rights.

The Staff and Management at John Auto Center

272 North Stevens Ave. South Amboy

732-727-8500

Wish Everyone A

Merry Christmas,

Happy Hanukkah &

A Happy New Year!



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

From The
Officers & Members Of
South Amboy
Knights Of Columbus
#426



"Keep Christ In Christmas"

New Members Welcome!
Join Today!

Call 732-721-2025

*We would like to thank all of you who
have visited the hall in the last year.*

*We hope to see you again next year
and also want to wish you, your family,
first responders and essential workers
a very Merry Christmas and a Happy
Healthy and Safe New Year.*

Councilman John's Monthly Minute

Did you know that Sayreville's own Recreation Director, Brian Van Dongen, was recently named Professional of the Year by the New Jersey Recreation & Park Association (NJRPA)? That's right — the same team that plans our summer camps, community events, and sports programs is being recognized across the entire state. Brian earned this award for his leadership, creativity, and dedication to making recreation fun, accessible, and meaningful for everyone in our borough. He also serves on the NJRPA Board of Trustees, where he helps shape programs and ideas that benefit communities all across New Jersey.

Earlier this year, the Sayreville Recreation Department received the Excellence in Special Events Programming Award from the NJRPA for Camp Kindness Day — a special event that focused on compassion, inclusion, and, of course, kindness. If you've ever seen the campers and families at Kennedy Park during this event, you know it's something special. The energy, teamwork, and community spirit on display make it easy to see why Sayreville continues to be recognized at the state level.

Most people think of youth sports when they hear "recreation," but our department's offerings go well beyond that. From youth camps in basketball, flag football, lacrosse, softball, volleyball, soccer, and field hockey, to many other seasonal and specialized sports activities, there's something for every age and interest. The department also runs creative and wellness programs such as "Little Kids Playtime @ Kennedy Park" for preschoolers and "Be Active Get Healthy!" sessions for adults. These activities help residents stay active, build connections, and enjoy the best of community life. Looking ahead, the team is exploring ways to expand programs for residents with special needs and to introduce new, unexpected activities — the kinds of experiences that make people say, "I didn't know we had that in Sayreville!"

In addition to the department's award-winning programs, Sayreville residents can look forward to another exciting enhancement — the expansion of the Jerry Ust Recreation Complex. The project includes a new turf baseball field, made possible through grant funding, and is expected to be completed within about 180 days. It's another example of how our



borough continues to invest in recreation and quality of life.

If you're looking for something fun to do this winter, the Recreation Department has plenty of great options to help you stay active and connected. From indoor youth basketball clinics and winter fitness classes to family fun nights, there's something for everyone. You can find details and registration information for all upcoming programs by visiting the Borough's Recreation page at sayrevillenj.myrec.com or through the Borough website at www.sayreville.com.

Programs like these bring people together. They give kids safe, positive spaces to grow, help adults stay active, and keep our community connected. So next time you're looking for something new to do, check out the Recreation Department's page — you might find a program that's perfect for you, or one you didn't even know existed. And once again, congratulations to Brian Van Dongen and his entire team for their leadership, creativity, and commitment to making Sayreville a place where recreation truly brings people together. I also want to extend my sincere thanks to the many volunteers on the Recreation Advisory Board, whose passion for activities designed for our children provides the creative, in-person support to ensure that all our programs are safe, inclusive, and accessible — and ultimately successful.

As the year comes to a close, I want to personally wish everyone in Sayreville and South Amboy — and all of our loyal readers of The South Amboy-Sayreville Times (thesatimes.com) — a safe, healthy, and blessed holiday season, and a very Happy New Year. Thank you for making our communities such wonderful places to live, work, and play.

With gratitude and pride,
John Zebrowski
Sayreville Councilman

Christmas Eve Prayer

Loving Father, Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Another Year

By Al Gomolka Jr.
Times Poet Laureate
c. 1995

**Another year
comes and goes,
And what have we
now to show?**

**Another year older and
wiser some say,
Or more crime, more pollution,
and more bills to pay
Unless you've won the lottery
— oh what joy —
Me, personally,
I've a new baby boy!
We regret the losses,
but praise the gains
And work towards another
year with what remains
Forgetting the old,
with high hopes for the new
Resolutions abound,
but will they hold true
Here's a prayer for this New
Year
"Help us cope with our woes"
For soon we'll be saying
Another year
comes and goes**



"Stay Calm, Call Tom"

TOM EHRLICH Esq.

Attorney At Law

732-223-8480





Pictured: (l-r) Matthew Mercurio, Old Bridge Parks and Recreation Director; Leah Marke, Food Bank Coordinator; Eleanor Walker, Mayor of Old Bridge; Greg Scharpf, Amboy Bank President and CEO; Anahita Feltz, Business Administrator; Kristin Agunabiade, Food Bank Manager. (Photo/Article submitted)

Amboy Bank Celebrates Another Successful Annual Food Drive Strengthening Local Community Support

Manager Amboy Bank is proud to announce the successful completion of its annual Food Drive, which once again brought together customers, employees, and neighbors in support of local families facing food insecurity. Throughout November, Amboy's 22 branches across Monmouth and Middlesex counties, along with its Old Bridge administrative headquarters, collected non-perishable food items and grocery store gift cards for distribution to the Old Bridge Food Bank. Each year, the Old Bridge Food Bank picks up donations directly from Amboy Bank, helping ensure resources reach the community quickly and efficiently. Food Bank Coordinator Leah Marke noted the appreciation for a wide variety of donated items to offer families, including often overlooked personal care items, which can provide tremendous relief and immediate flexibility during difficult times. The bank encourages future donors

to consider the growing range of nutritious shelf-stable foods as well as personal hygiene items, helping families maintain both choice and dignity in their daily lives. While a greater focus for donations often occurs during the holiday season, the community is reminded that a dip commonly occurs during the summer months, when many families have an even greater need because children are not in school. "Every year, we are grateful for the generosity of our customers and employees," said Greg Scharpf, Amboy Bank's President and CEO. "Their support makes a meaningful difference, and is one more way we hope to encourage the shared spirit of community. Our branches and staff remain deeply committed to helping local families in need." For more information on Amboy Bank's ongoing community efforts or its partnership with local food banks, please visit AmboyBank.com or stop by any branch.



Former South Amboy resident Gene Chodkiewicz (r) stopped by Protection Firehouse, and chatted with his firefighter friend Sean O'Connor. Gene, a well-respected local businessman, was the owner of Who's Subs?...and More in South Amboy for several years. Firefighters in the background prepare their world famous Barbecued Spare Ribs. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



You've Tried the Rest, Now Try the Best!

Delio's Pizza

120 N Broadway - South Amboy
732-721-9440

Come on in and try our delicious..

- * Grandma Pizza * Chicken Parm Pizza * Hawaiian Pizza
- * Vodka Pizza * Lasagna * Stuffed Shells * Manicotti
- * Sausage Rolls and Much More..



Holiday Hours

Christmas Eve - Open
Christmas Day - Closed
New Year's Eve - Open
New Year's Day - Open

Hours

Mon.-Sat.
11:00am-9:00pm



LIKE US ON facebook

Visit our website: www.deliospizza.com



Dad's ROYAL



BAKERY

Merry Christmas Wesolych Swiat

(732) 721-9825
3290 Washington Rd.

NOW SELLING

- A Variety of Pierogi
- Mr. Dees Chili



REGULAR HOURS

TUES.- FRI. 6AM-5PM
SAT. 7AM-4PM
SUNDAY 7AM-1:30PM
MONDAY CLOSED

Closed
Christmas & New Year's Day



FIREWOOD

PERFECT FOR WOOD STOVES
FIREPLACES & CAMPFIRE

BUNDLE BAG \$15
RACK (1/3 CORD) \$100
HALF CORD \$150
FULL CORD DELIVERED \$275
HIGH-QUALITY HARDWOODS
DELIVERY OR PICKUP AVAILABLE



732-234-3731
www.gkbgardencenters.com

HALL FOR RENT



South Amboy Elks 784

Hall Capacity 120
Bring Your Own Caterer
Beverage Packages Available
Handicap Accessible

Call 732-558-5260
For An Appointment
To View The Hall

601 Washington Ave
South Amboy

KEEP YOUR CAR SAFE AND DEPENDABLE





732-572-2060

900 Raritan Ave · Rt 27 · Highland Park, NJ 08904
www.schwartzandnagle.com



TIRE SPECIAL ON BACK



South Amboy, Sayreville & Old Bridge Residents

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

We Can Pick Your
Vehicle Up For
Service And Return
Back To You.





CARS, VANS,
SUVS, TRUCKS
REAR DUAL WHEEL
VEHICLES
(up to 1800 GVW)

OIL CHANGE SPECIAL

\$10 OFF
Synthetic Blend Oil & Filter
OR
\$15 OFF
Full Synthetic Oil Change

Up to 5 Qts of oil (most cars). Additional charge for filter may apply. Shop supplies and oil disposal extra. Most vehicles with this Money Mailer® coupon. Cannot be combined. Exp. 2/28/2026

BIG TICKET SAVINGS

\$75 OFF
ANY SERVICE
OVER \$500

Not valid on tire purchase. Most vehicles with this Money Mailer® coupon. Cannot be combined. Exp. 2/28/2026

INSTANT REBATE

\$10 OFF
ANY BATTERY

Most vehicles with this Money Mailer® coupon. Cannot be combined. Exp. 2/28/2026

10% Off WHEEL ALIGNMENT

Most vehicles with this Money Mailer® coupon. Cannot be combined. Exp. 2/28/2026

COOPERTIRE

GET UP TO **\$75** BACK + GET UP TO **\$75** MORE

SEE TERMS. BY ONLINE OR MAIL-IN REBATE ON A SET OF 4 QUALIFYING COOPER® TIRES AND PAID BY PREPAID CARD OR VIRTUAL CARD FOR PURCHASES MADE.

NOVEMBER 30, 2025 - DECEMBER 31, 2025

Rumbles from the Rock and Roll Reunion

“Reflections from a Musicians Thoughts”

And so, another year is just another memory for all of us, we as individuals look back on. Events that took place during the past year and sometimes, depending on our age, events of YEARS past! So ,from a musicians point of view, I’d like to look back, uh,let’s say around 62 years and give you a glimpse of what drew us musicians together, and why. My love and interest in “music”started at an early age..Listening to the songs on my dad’s car radio, able to beat out the rhythm with my hands, and sing along with all the chord and note changes, and listening to my “big sister” Patty Ann’s records...Several years later, at age13,The Beatles! The girls were going crazy over them..Wow,just think, hey, we could do that! So,best friend Tommy”Smitty”Smith talked me into “taking up the guitar,” and he’ll try the drums... along with Mike Fabisiewski, It was all fame and fortune from there! (Well at least in our minds)..That’s how it began for all us musicians ..FRIENDS WITH FRIENDS.. Wow, how we taught and learned from each other, and yeah, the “chicks” had a lot to do with it too! What fun becoming “superstars” in our basements, garages, and if we were lucky, the school dance! We knew each other from school, other friends, we jumped from band to band, playing music with each other..trying to “outdo” each other’s bands, yet staying close friends..Some of us had more talent than the next, but we shared our knowledge... We were the “Cover Band Heroes!”

Whether it was my basement, someone’s garage, or a school dance, it was our “Madison Square Garden” stage! And, it’s been that way to this day, every time we have the chance to

play music together. I can’t explain the feeling I get every time I get to be onstage...play the music I love, and most importantly make people smile, sing along with the words, and dance. A gift and blessing we, as musicians, have gotten from God! A feeling beyond any explanation..And that feeling goes with whoever is onstage with you, making your band’s sound unique, because you, as a band, are just that, “A BAND”...I’m sure you’ve picked out the “theme” I was putting forth in the column..”FRIENDS”..All through life, we get each other through everything it throws at us...the past several months have been a sad reminder on how much those ‘friends’ meant to us, so, I've learned to keep your friends close..stay in touch..the years go by so fast..I know I’ve themed this column to us “Musicians,”but the same thoughts go for our families, and friends!

My basement, and the patience of my wonderfully understanding wife Kathy for over 40 years, has been the meeting place of countless musicians and guitar players needing repairs on their guitars..I've lost count on the “Jams” that have blessed my studio! From beginners to professionals..cover bands, tribute bands, soloists, weekend warriors! Yes, just a reflection of my life as a musician, and the blessings it has given me! Keep your BFF’S close to your hearts..always! You’ll be amazed on how they shape your life...it’s amazing what can happen! Remember! ”MUSIC, THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE,THE HARMONIC CONNECTION BETWEEN ALL! Wishing you all a Blessed New Year! Live it well! Hey, become a musician..and become a rockstar!!

Acoustic Friday, January 16, 2026

South Amboy Arts Alliance will kick off its 2026 Acoustic Friday series on January 16, 2026 with performances by Eric Ginsberg and Jackie June. Both performers present their songs on many popular music platforms.

Singer/musician Eric Ginsberg swirls elation and heartbreak into powerfully relatable, cleverly crafted, catchy songs, which alternate from sweeping anthems to compelling laments. Eric’s songs are upbeat and personal/pop/folk, which are rife with storytelling, hand claps, and sing-alongs. His latest release is entitled Texas is for Lovers - Side A, which includes a song by the same title.

Jackie June is a locally based alternative pop singer/songwriter. Her music offers

catchy tunes combined with deeply personal story telling. “Falling Apart” and “Afterglow” are just two of her song titles. Jackie June performed on the SA Arts stage on South Amboy Day 2025, and SA Arts is pleased to welcome her to the Acoustic Friday lineup.

SA Arts is located at 141 N. Broadway, South Amboy, NJ. Doors open at 6:30 pm, and the show runs from 7 to 9 pm. Admission is \$5.00, and complementary light refreshments will be offered. The Alliance seeks interested acoustic-oriented performers of any genre for future shows. For additional information, contact SA Arts at 732-727-4600, extension 5971 or by email at SAarts141@gmail.com. Watch for updates on the South Amboy Arts Alliance Facebook page.



The crowd at The Blue Moon in South Amboy was recently treated to the vocal stylings of Tony G! Tony performed favorites from the American Song Book! (Photo by Zusette Dato)



- #1 Pop Hits-
December 20
- 2020-Mood-24kGoldn
2013-The Monster-Eminem
2003-Hey Ya!-OutKast
1996-Un-Break My Heart-Toni Braxton
1981-Physical-Olivia Newton-John
1977-How Deep Is Your Love-The Bee Gees
1963-Dominique-The Singing Nun
1950-Tennessee Waltz-Patti Page
- #1 Country Hits
- 2023-Last Night-Morgan Wallen
2015-Die A Happy Man-Thomas Rhett
2006-Want To-Sugarland
1990-Come Next Monday-K.T. Oslin
1983-Black Sheep-John Anderson
1975-Convoy-C.W. McCall
1967-Turn The World Around-Eddy Arnold
1956-Singing The Blues-Marty Robbins

- One Hit Wonders
60 Years Ago
- 1965-Leader of the Laundromat-The Detergents; Goldfinger-Shirley Bassey; Land of 1,000 Dances-Cannibal/The Headhunters; Baby The Rain Must Fall-Glenn Yarborough; The Mouse-Soupy Sales; Concrete & Clay-Unit Four Plus Two; Here Comes The Night-Them; Yes, I’m Ready-Barbara Mason; Dawn of Correction-The Spokesmen; Treat Her Right-Roy Head; Keep On Dancing-The Gentrys; Liar Liar-The Castaways; Everyone’s Gone To the Moon-Jonathan King; You’ve Got To Hide Your Love Away-The Silkie; Harlem Nocturne-The Viscounts.



Bruce Springsteen with Santa Claus (AKA Big Joe Henry) years ago.



The late and great Kenny Rogers at a Christmas spectacular a long time ago.

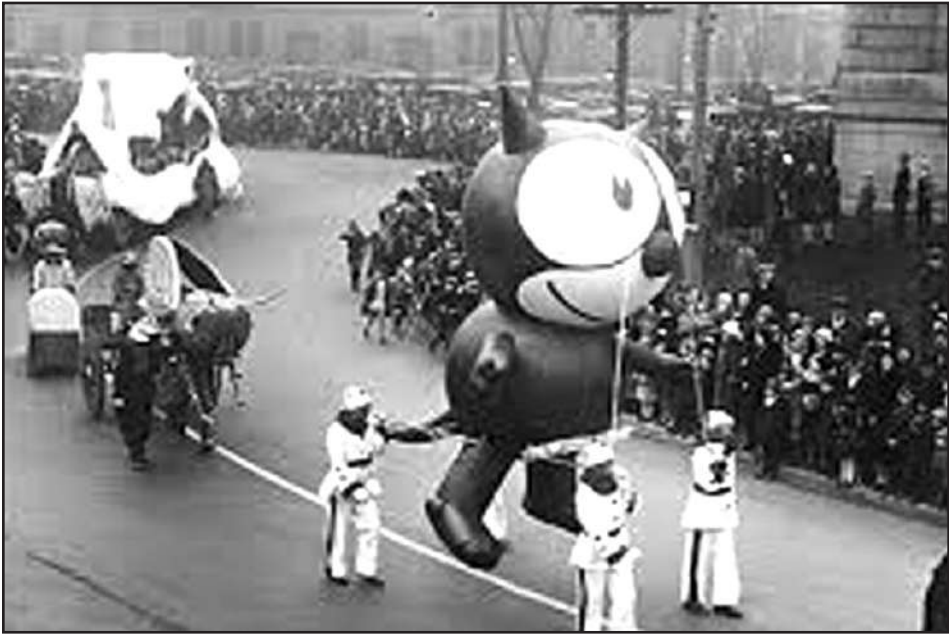


Pictured (l-r) Southside Johnny Lyon, leader of Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes, Jon Bon Jovi, and Santa (Big Joe Henry).



“The Boss” Bruce Springsteen has Santa (Big Joe Henry) having a rockin’ good time at a Holiday show many years ago.

Did You Know?



While the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade started in 1924, it wasn't until 1927 that balloons were included and Felix the Cat was the very first!

Classic Holiday Songs

Here's a list! You better check it twice, and see how many of these legendary holiday songs you know. If you're not too musically inclined, maybe you could still hum a few bars to get in the holiday spirit. Adeste Fidelis; All I Want For Christ mas; Angels We Have Heard On High; Away In A Manger; Bells of St. Mary's; Deck The Halls; Do You Hear What I Hear?; Frosty The Snowman; God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen; Good King Wenceslas; Hark The Herald Angels Sing; Have A Holly, Jolly Christmas; Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas; Here Comes Santa Claus; Here We Come A Wassailing; Home For The Holidays; I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus; I Saw Three Ships; I'll Be Home For Christmas; I'm Get

ting Nuttin' For Christmas; It Came Upon A Midnight Clear; It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas; Jingle Bells; Jolly Old St. Nicholas; Joy To The World; Let It Snow; Most Wonderful Time of The Year; O' Christmas Tree; O' Come All Ye Faithful; O' Come, O' Come Emmanuel; O Holy Night; O Little Town of Bethlehem; Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer; Santa Claus Is Coming To Town; Silent Night; Silver Bells; Sleigh Ride; The Christmas Song; The First Noel; The Little Drummer Boy; The Twelve Days of Christmas; Up On The Housetop; We Need A Little Christmas; We Three Kings; We Wish You A Merry Christmas; What Child Is This?; White Christmas; Winter Wonderland.

Christmas In 1968

Electric Guitars with Amplifier and Case

Save \$10.07
Regular \$69.95 **59⁸⁸**

Carrying case also includes amplifier for your convenience. Tuning keys on one side of guitar for ease of tuning. One tone, one volume control. Comes with instruction record, book and pick.

Sears 3-in-1 Electric Guitar Combinations

Save \$20.07
Regular \$119.95 **99⁸⁸**

Combination includes: solid-body guitar with two pickups, and 21-fret fingerboard. Amplifier with large 8-in. speaker is built into carrying case for one package carrying convenience.

December 19, 1968

If We Could Turn Back Time!
Remember the Sears Christmas Wish Book? Most likely with Beatalmaia hitting America in the early 60's a lot of kids had these guitars on their Wish List!

MUSIC TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

1.Jesus Christ Superstar

2.God Only Knows

3.My Sweet Lord

4.Blessed Is The Rain

5.Holly Holy

6.I Say A Little Prayer

7.Knockin' On Heaven's Door

8.Jesus Is Just Alright

9.Thank God I'm A Country Boy

10.Bless The Beasts & Children

11.Livin' On A Prayer

12.Stairway To Heaven

13.Jesus Take The Wheel

14.My Prayer

15.Heaven Knows

16.Unanswered Prayers

17.Tears In Heaven

18.Heaven

Jesus, God, Lord, Blessed Holy, Prayer, Heaven

a.The Doobie Bros.

b.Bob Dylan

c.Carrie Underwood

d.Bon Jovi

e.John Denver

f.Neil Diamond

g.Aretha Franklin

h.The Beach Boys

i.Garth Brooks

j.Murray Head, & others

k.George Harrison

l.The Brooklyn Bridge

m.The Carpenters

n.Led Zeppelin

o.The Platters

p.The Grass Roots

q.The Rascals

r.Eric Clapton

Answers

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

NEED HEALTH INSURANCE

- Let an Independent LOCAL Agent Shop For You.
- Medicare Supplement Plans
- Get Covered NJ Plans

Gregory Wyzykowski
Has Been Serving The Area Since 1987

FREE CONSULTATION

By Phone, Zoom Or In Person

Ask About Dental, Vision & Hearing Benefits

Custom Financial Strategies

3145 Bordentown Ave, Parlin NJ 08859

732-721-0400

greg@customfinancial.org

You Are Cordially Invited to The
Sayreville VFW's 80th Anniversary Gala
Celebrating 80 Years of Service, Sacrifice, and Brotherhood

Saturday, January 17th, 2026 at 5:00pm
Sayreville VFW Post 4699
575 Jernee Mill Road
Sayreville, NJ 08872

An Evening to Remember
Cocktail Hour
Gourmet Dinner
Live Music and Entertainment
Open Bar

Attire: Black Tie or Military (Honor Guard) Dress Uniform

Tickets: Price \$100.00

Join us as we honor the past, celebrate the present, and toast to the future of our proud VFW community.

RSVP by January 9th, 2026
Please contact: Katie at 732-672-0401

LETTERS

Brian & Tom
I recently read the latest edition of the Times and as usual enjoyed it. Keep up the good work.
Hope you are both doing well.
Maureen Kemble

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM

Senator Joseph F. Vitale
Speaker Craig J. Coughlin
Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez



May your holidays be filled with warmth, laughter, and cherished moments with loved ones.

Paid for by the election funds of Joe Vitale, Craig Coughlin, and Yvonne Lopez



Pictured, (l-r), are seniors Grace Kelly of Metuchen, Meghan Dwyer of New Providence, Aashrita Banerjee of Short Hills, and Madilyn Zatorski of North Brunswick collecting money during lunch from freshmen Mikee Modina of Sayreville (standing) and Elizabeth Manuel of Edison (seated). (Photo/info Submitted)

Mount Saint Mary Academy Raises \$1,500 for Hurricane Relief in Jamaica

When the news broke that Hurricane Melissa was due to make landfall on October 28, 2025, and forecasted to devastate the lives of those in its path, particularly in Jamaica where many of the Mercy Education schools are located, students from Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung sprung immediately into action. Within only a few days, members

of the Academy’s Student Council, Peer Ministry, and Peer Facilitators collected approximately \$1,500 during lunch periods and through envelope collections held in classrooms to send to Mercy Education which distributed the funds to those who needed immediate assistance.

God’s Love

By Philip

The years have given us memories,
That we somehow never forget.
Many we lived that made us happy,
And some we lived to regret.
But through it all, thick and thin,
One thing has stayed the same.
God’s love has been our anchor,
When we’ve called upon His name.
Don’t give up and don’t give in
When the clouds are dark above.
Remember the good, forget the bad,
And rejoice in our Savior’s love.
He welcomes us with open arms,
And He’ll never turn us away.
He lived and died for each of us,
To be with Him someday.

Original Antique Christmas/New Year Postcards

1907

1909

1907

1907

The Smoke Column

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

What is or isn't the Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)? RIT is a valuable response for firefighters at the scene of any incident. Their one and only purpose is to rescue down and trapped firefighters who find themselves in life threatening situations. RIT is there when that firefighter calls a "MAYDAY". The RIT does rescue civilians who are in distress during an incident, which is the responsibility of the firefighter search crews. I have noticed throughout the early years of RIT being established that many firefighters despised being assigned to a RIT. Every firefighter wanted to be on the attack hoseline and go after the fire, rather than being outside standing-by for something to happen. RIT is the most important resource to those firefighters working in hazardous locations. Most RIT teams consist of 3-4 members which in most cases is not enough to rescue a firefighter who has three-quarters of his body trapped in a hole-through-the floor and fire below attacking his lower torso. Think about the amount of work needed to pull a firefighter, loaded with all his gear, back out of a plywood floor that has all the broken/burned plywood sheathing forcing against this action. Most of the time, this will not end well! I have seen the example where only three firefighters are available for the RIT but during a LODD funeral six firefighters are available to carry our brother.

When a major city encounters a working structure fire, they more than likely have more than enough resources to handle the situation. They have enough manpower to establish as many RIT's as necessary. In most of our volunteer fire department communities it becomes difficult to establish a RIT early on at the incident due to a lack of responders. It is usually necessary to call for mutual aid from surrounding departments and use their

resources as the initial RIT, but this takes valuable time that the first responders may not have if they are attempting an interior attack with a possible rescue. Firefighters should always have a plan before entering a burning structure and consider who will come to their aid if a disaster or MAYDAY occurs. A proactive RIT begins with a company officer who is well trained in RIT operations. He needs to size up the structure and determine the location where firefighters are attacking the fire. He needs to plan how the RIT will enter the building and which tools will be necessary for them to perform their duties. Each member of the RIT should be well trained in the equipment they will use because someone's life may be in danger. They should also be monitoring the radios and anticipating their needs immediately upon hearing a call for help. One of the biggest problems firefighters have during a personal emergency is waiting too long to call a MAYDAY. By the time they wait, it may be too late for rescue to arrive. Many firefighters felt embarrassed to call a MAYDAY thinking they would be ridiculed by others. Today, that thinking should be long gone and firefighters are being trained to call a MAYDAY as soon as they think they will be in trouble or anticipate being in trouble. It is easy enough to return to the RIT team when not needed. All company officers should know not to place a RIT together with members who have a lack of RIT training just so you can say "we have a RIT". If I am in need of a RIT because I called a MAYDAY, I want the best possible team of rescuers that is available because my life is on the line. Now that you understand the purpose of RIT, you are now aware of how important this source is at a fire scene!

Wishing everyone a Very Safe and Merry Christmas!

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. C.P.



AUTOTEAM

CAR RENTAL

Happy Holidays

341 Amboy Ave.
Metuchen,
NJ 08840
USA

2017 Highway 35
South Amboy,
NJ 08879
USA



www.autoteam.com

732-727-7272

FREE SUBSCRIPTION

To

THE TIMES

The South Amboy / Sayreville

Read the area's #1 "Good News Newspaper" on your electronic device!



Just send an email to satimes@aol.com requesting an electronic subscription and we will alert you each month via email when the latest issue is on our website!

We do not offer hardcopy subscriptions but you can still pickup the Times at your favorite news stand.

Merry Christmas And Happy New Year To All
From
Mayor Fred A. & Linda Henry and Family



The OLV Senior Group
Would Like To Wish
Everyone A Very
Merry Christmas
&
A Happy and Holy
New Year



President -Teri Yetsko
Vice President - Finita Shicoff
Secretary - Patricia Mancini
Treasurer - Carmen Delikat

Pearl Harbor Remembered in South Amboy
(Photos by Mary Szaro)



Jan Williams, far right leads the group of Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post 62 of South Amboy with a prayer.



There was a very nice turnout to honor those who gave their lives on December 7, 1941.



Seasons Greetings from the City of South Amboy

MICHAEL GROSS
Council President
ANTHONY CONRAD
Councilman-At-Large
LARRY LENAHAN
Councilman
THOMAS REILLY
Councilman
ZUSETTE DATO
Councilwoman
ELAINE GABER
Library Director
KELLY WOLFF
Court Administrator
JOANNE KATKO
Tax Collector



Fred A. Henry
Mayor



RAFAEL ALBARRAN
Fire Chief

DAVID KALES
Business Administrator
DAN BALKA
CFO
PATRICIA KANECKE
Chief of Police
FRANCIS WOMACK
Director of Law
MARK RASIMOWICZ
Engineer
KATIE ROSE WALENTY
Acting City Clerk
KENNETH KRASS
Acting Superintendent
of Public Works



American Legion Christmas



Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62 and Auxiliary Unit #62 celebrating Christmas together. (Photos Submitted)



SOUTH SIDE 35 DINER

Open Christmas Eve 7am-4pm
Closed on Christmas Day.

HOLIDAY BREAKFAST SPECIALS

SNOWFLAKE WAFFLE
Belgian Waffle dusted with powdered sugar, topped with blueberry compote & whipped cream

SANTA'S BREAKFAST SKILLET
Scrambled eggs, homefries, sautéed peppers, onions, bacon, sausage and cheddar topped with a dollop of sour cream and chives

HOT CHOCOLATE FRENCH TOAST
Thick Challah bread dipped in a cocoa butter, grilled and finished with peppermint whipped cream and a chocolate drizzle

CINNAMON ROLL PANCAKES
Swirled cinnamon bun pancakes topped with vanilla icing and a warm cinnamon glaze

NORTH POLE BREAKFAST BURRITO
Eggs, chorizo, cheddar, crispy potatoes and chipotle aioli wrapped in a warm tortilla. Served over homefries with salsa verde.

BREAKFAST With Santa

DELICIOUS FOOD | GOODY BAGS | PHOTO WITH SANTA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2025 | 9AM - 12PM

JOIN US IN OUR FIFTH ANNUAL BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!

10% OF ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.

South Side 35 Diner

SouthSide35Diner.com

1803 ROUTE 35 SOUTH, SOUTH AMBOY, NJ

732-313-7979

WWW.SOUTHSIDE35DINER.COM



Central Jersey Medical Center



Central Jersey Dental Center





Our Services Include

- Adult Medicine
- Pediatric Medicine
- OB/GYN
- Behavioral Health
- Dental
- Podiatry
- Endocrinology
- Substance Use Disorder
- Same Day Sick Visits

CALL TODAY FOR AN APPOINTMENT

We accept all Medicaid HMOs, Medicare and most private insurances.
You may qualify for our sliding fee discount.
Additional services available.

PERTH AMBOY - 275 HOBART STREET, PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861
CARTERET - 1540 ROOSEVELT AVENUE, CARTERET, NJ 07008
LOCATIONS IN NEWARK

WWW.CJMC.US

732-376-9333

South Amboy Tree Lighting

(Photos by Brian Stratton)



The tree in all it's glory!



Mayor Henry welcomed the huge crowd.



Santa arrived on a Fire Truck!



Winners of the
Emergency Vehicle
Light Parade
South Amboy
Police Department!
Great Job.



A visit with Santa.



The Girl Scouts



Crafting in the Arts Gallery.



The Grinch isn't Scary!



South Amboy Middle/High School Chorus.



A Block Off Broadway Theatre Group.





More prizes...



Prizes filled the room.



Santa was on hand to greet all.



Face painting was a lot of fun!!



The food area was very crowded!



The craft room was very popular.



Take a chance to win a beautiful poinsettia or delicious baked goods.



Merry Christmas.

COME SEE MAUREEN “THE GOLD LADY”

Route 9

CASH for GOLD

IN THE SAYREVILLE PLAZA BEHIND BURGER KING & MCDONALDS NEXT TO THE FARMERS MARKET & POSH CAR WASH

Local Family Owned & Operated!
For Over 16 Years!

SELL WITH CONFIDENCE!! TRUST MAUREEN!!

Turn in your Old Broken or Tangled, Unwanted Gold and Silver Jewelry, Estate Jewelry and Coins

MAKE CASH!!

Always “FREE EVALUATION” of your Jewelry

Your Jug Of Coins Could Be Worth **MORE THAN FACE VALUE**
It Could Be Worth Up To **20 TIMES FACE VALUE!**

With This Ad
10% EXTRA PAID WITH THIS AD
Not Valid With Any Other Offers.
Not Valid On Coins.

960 RT. 9 SOUTH
SAYREVILLE/SOUTH AMBOY, NJ 08879
WWW.RT9CASH4GOLD.COM

732-727-GOLD (4653)

Easy Access Parking
Handicapped Accessible

It's the Gold Store you can feel safe to bring Mom and Grandma to

Our Lady Of Victories
Christmas Shoppe
(Photos by Brian Stratton)



Beuatiful magnets made on the spot!



Santa was on hand to meet with everyone.



Local author Terri Abbatiello had nice display of her books and plushes.



A huge selection of hand made flags.



Lynn had many festive Gnomes for sale.



This group provided excellent entertainment!



Young Isabella and her Mom got to meet Mr. Grinch. Isabella thinks he is the best! (Photo by Phyllis Stratton)



Former Sayreville resident Sharon Marcinczyk and her granddaughter Olivia had a wonderful time at St. Stan's Christmas bazaar. (Photo by Sandy Lewis)

Congratulations!



Jamie Norek (r), part of Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 22, out of Station Sandy Hook, was promoted to the officer position of Flotilla Vice-Commander for the coming year. (Photo Submitted)

Congratulations



Jim Riehl (l) was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by AOH President Ed O'Connor, (r) who also presented a plaque dedicated to the original members from the late 1800's of the South Amboy Ancient Order of Hibernian's, who were also honored with the Middleton salute. Congratulations Jim! (Photo/info Submitted)

55th Reunion



St. Mary's High School Class of 1970 held their 55th reunion last month. A good time was had by all. (Photo/info submitted)

Sayreville Library News

Art Drawings and Fundamentals for Adults
Monday, 1/5 @5:30PM

Follow along as you paint in a relaxed setting while traditional painting techniques are demonstrated firsthand. Learn how to paint with confidence and to really develop an understanding of how to create a painting from beginning to end. Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Cozy Winter Soups with Vanessa (Virtual)
Tuesday, 1/13 @3PM

Who doesn't love a nice hot soup on a cold winter day? Join Vanessa from Thirsty Radish for this demonstration and learn a few new recipes for nice soothing winter meals that will warm the body and soul. This is a virtual session. Registration required to get the zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112. Patrons must provide a valid email address.

Movie Matinee
Tuesday 1/20 @1PM

Join us for our monthly movie matinee. This month: Intern: Starring Robert De Niro and Anne Hathaway. Rated PG 1 hr 38

Mins Refreshments provided. Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Trivia with Dan
Monday, 1/26 @6:30PM

Think you are good at trivia? Want to try and win some prizes? Dan Vetrano, Sayreville Library's own Adult Librarian and longtime trivia enthusiast will be cooking up questions for this fun and exciting game. Play solo or join up with a team. Prizes offered to the winners. Open to teens and adults. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112 No more than 4 per team please. All team members must register.

Linkedin and Employment Opportunities (Virtual)
Tuesday 1/27 @6:30PM

Join us for this interactive seminar on the ins and out of using Linkedin. Learn how to use the site to network and attract attention from recruiters and hiring managers. This is a virtual session, registration required to get the zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112. Patrons must provide a valid email address.

Memorial Blue Christmas Tree Lighting.



On Thursday December 4th members of South Amboy PBA 63 along with South Amboy Fire Department, South Amboy First Aid, city officials and family and friends held the annual Memorial Blue Christmas tree lighting. The tree, adorned with blue lights and ornaments, is done in memory of law enforcement officers that died in the line of duty throughout the United States. (Photos/story by Jamie Norek)



Christmas Prayer
Lord, we give you all the praise for this significant season where we celebrate your birth. We thank you as we reflect on your joy, peace and grace. May you give us wisdom and the opportunity to give back this Christmas and be a blessing to each other Amen. .

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., P.S..

The Better Half
By Robert W. Eginton
When life gets you down
I will always be around
To pick up the pieces
As they fall
to the ground.
And I will put
you back together
And we will both
rise up forever
Because a love worth having
Is a love worth found.
I care that's what I do,
Because the better
half of me
Is you!

That Is A Merry Christmas
By Dennis O'Leary
Oh give me a happy
Christmas Day
Where the kitchen's
warm and the kids can play
And there's nothing to do
but eat all day
And that is a
Merry Christmas
Oh give me a home that's
full of cheer
Where the smiles are
real and the love's sincere
And the memories we
make will last all year
And that is a
Merry Christmas.



BEAST OF THE NOR'EAST

WHEN A NOR'EASTER ROARS IN, YOU NEED A BEAST OF A SNOW BLOWER TO ROAR BACK.



AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE SNOW BLOWER BRAND

PRIDE LANDSCAPE SUPPLY

350 ERNSTON ROAD, PARLIN, NJ 08859

732-721-0554



South Amboy Community Donate Coats to Local Children

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Lady Hibernians and Friends of South Amboy have made a meaningful impact by donating 30 brand-new winter coats to children in the South Amboy YMCA’s School Age Child Care program. The coats were presented to YMCA staff on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, ensuring that local children will stay warm throughout the colder months ahead. The donation supports YMCA families

facing financial hardship and reflects the spirit of community partnerships that define the organization’s mission. “We are so grateful to our community partners for their incredible generosity,” said Alexis Korsak, Director of Operations at the South Amboy YMCA. “Their generosity reflects exactly what the Y stands for—neighbors supporting neighbors.”

Vitale Statement on CDC Vote to Roll Back Hepatitis B Protection for Children

Senator Joe Vitale (D-Middlesex) issued the following statement:

“The CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) decision to eliminate the Hepatitis B vaccination requirement is a serious step backward for public health. Hepatitis B is a preventable but potentially life-threatening disease, and vaccination remains one of the most effective tools we have to protect children and communities.

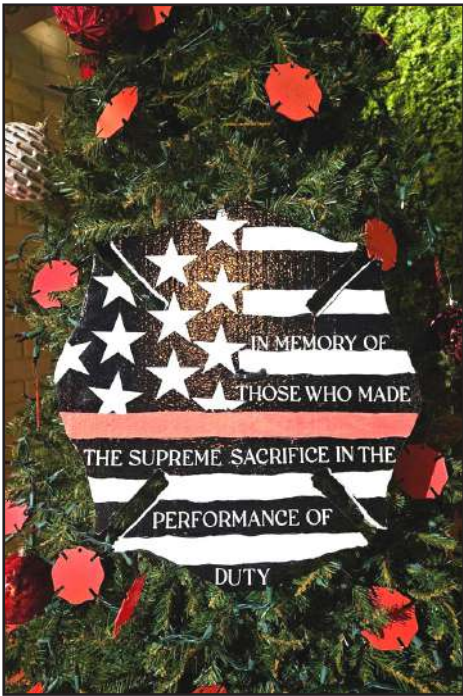
What is especially striking is that concern about this vote was bipartisan. Even a Republican senator publicly criticized the process and raised questions about the wisdom of moving forward. When lawmakers from both sides of the aisle express alarm, it should serve as a clear signal that something is wrong.

New Jersey has long recognized the value of strong, evidence-based immunization policies. I remain committed to ensuring that our state continues to follow the best available medical guidance so that families, schools, and healthcare providers can keep our residents safe.”

Firefighters Memorial Christmas Tree



On December 12th members of Protection Engine Co. SAFD, gathered in front of the firehouse to light the Firefighters Memorial Christmas Tree. The tree adorned in red lights and ornaments represents the 74 line of duty firefighter deaths within the United States in 2025 including from New Jersey. Special thanks to Fr. Stanley Gromadzki Fire Dept Chaplin for the invocation and blessing of the tree. Jess Honimar and John Fedorka for properly decorating the tree and stand. (Photos by Jess Honimar)



Jamie Norek (l) and Fr. Stanley Gromadzki (r) by the Firefighters Memorial Tree.



*Merry Christmas from
South Amboy American Legion
Luke A. Lovely Post #62*



At this time of the year when we are safely at home spending time with our families let us remember those who do not have that luxury since they are away fighting to keep America safe. Even with the letters, care packages and the occasional phone call that our men and women in the Armed Forces receive they will be especially lonely and will miss their families more now than at any other time of the year. Please keep them and their families in your hearts and prayers during this holiday season! If you know of a family that will be celebrating without a loved one please reach out to them to see if there is anything that you can do to help make their Christmas brighter. In order to show your appreciation to the Veterans at home shake their hand and thank them for serving this great Country that we live in when you see them on the street or while out shopping.



40th Wedding Anniversary!



On November 16, 1985, Jack and Sarah Conlon were wed with the blessings of George and Catherine Conlon and LeRoy and Rosemary Kurtz. 40 years later we were honored to celebrate the marriage once again. Happy 40th Anniversary! We Love You, your family. (Photos Submitted)

Thank you



Thank you Friends of South Amboy for sponsoring a wonderful breakfast for our veterans and their families. Thank you to the South Amboy AOH for hosting and cooking this terrific breakfast! And a special shout out to Tom Reilly (2nd from left) for organizing this event. (Photo/info submitted)

A TALE OF CHRISTMAS PAST

By HENNY THE DJ (From The Times Archives)

Remember the great last scene in Jean Shepard’s now “must see” film about Christmas, “Christmas Story” ‘No, Ralphie, you can’t have a BB gun, you’ll shoot your eye out’ when the Bumpus’s dogs stole the turkey off the kitchen table and they all had to eat their Christmas dinner at a Chinese restaurant? “Deck the hall with boughs of Horry, Fa ra ra ra ra ra, ra ra ra ra; ‘tis the season to be Jorry, Fa ra ra ra ra ra, ra ra ra ra.” Notice it wasn’t the perfect Christmas that he remembered with such clarity, it was the Christmas of chaos, disappointment and “folly”. But I think that should be ‘forry’ keeping in the spirit of Jean Shepherd’s restaurant carolers. Maybe the happiest Christmases we remember are the ones when our kids were young and we got to experience that deep, deep feeling of family on that wonderful Christmas morning when the rugs were all filled with broken Christmas balls, tinsel falling down, lights that stopped working, wrapping paper, plastic and cardboard boxes, and Duracell batteries, but when it comes to our own personal childhood Christmases we remember the ones with “warts” more deeply than the storybook ones. At least I do. And it’s easy for me because I almost became the Grinch that stole Christmas from my family and they never even knew it until now. This particular Christmas Eve, we’re talking here about Christmas of ’57, my mother, father, brothers John and Eddie walked in the snow down David street and over to Augusta to go to Midnight Mass at St Mary’s, and I was left at home to baby sit my two year old sister, Nancy, because at 15 years old I was considered responsible enough to watch her in a safe and secure manner. And, of course, I took it very seriously, but as we all know with children, especially toddlers, anything can happen. Because of the hubbub of Christmas or because it was a part of fate, who knows, soon after they all left, Nancy woke up and let it be known that she wanted to come out into the parlor. So, of course, since it was Christmas Eve I

obliged her and placed her in her rocker that with a curved railing at the bottom looked very appropriately like a miniature sleigh. Now I’ve got the TV on and I’m probably hypnotized by the Yule Log on Channel 11, and Nancy is wildly rocking back and forth excitedly eyeballing the tree and the presents and the Yule Log: the whole scene. When all of a sudden after one especially energetic rock she catapults herself out of the rocker and after almost a complete flip slams right into the Christmas Tree knocking the whole deal on a 45 degree angle leaning back into the corner of the room. I thought she was really hurt. She was sobbing and sobbing and sobbing as I gingerly picked her up and held her up to my shoulder telling her I was so sorry. I was so sorry. However it was just the shock of the somersault that had her crying so much, and she soon quieted down and was well enough to sit on the couch with me as together we both looked forlornly at a Christmas tree that looked more like a Leaning Tower of Pisa! Finally, she fell back asleep and I put her back in her bed. I went out to the parlor and, starting from the ground up, righted the tree, picked up the broken tree items, and replaced the dented packages in a manner that would keep the evidence of the catastrophe from being discovered. And it worked. They came home. Nancy seemed OK, and like the cleaning lady on the stairs in Alistair Sim’s “A Christmas Carol” I “kept me mouth shut!” Now every Christmas as well as every time I see one of the great acrobats fly through the air in “Cirque du Soleil” I think of that particular Christmas and my airborne sister and I crying together on a cold Christmas Eve

NOVENA TO ST. JUDE

O, Holy St. Jude, Apostle and martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles near kinsman of Jesus Christ, Faithful Intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present urgent position, in return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Say 3 Our Fathers, Hail Marys and Glories. Publication must be promised. St. Jude pray for us all who invoke your aid Amen. Thank you St. Jude. - S.P.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Lockwood Boat Works, Inc.
Celebrating over 79 Years!
1946-2025
“Everything in Boating!”
Fully Stocked Ships Chandlery!

- Summer & Winter Storage
- Awlgrip Refinishing
- Boat Hauling
- Bottom and Topside Painting
- Bow Thruster Installation
- Brokerage
- Carpentry Work
- Complete Engine Service
- Custom Stainless Fabrication
- Electronic Sales and Installation
- Fiberglass Repairs
- Rigging

Crusader, Chrysler, Kohler, Mercruiser,
Universal, Volvo, Westerbeke, Yamaha, Yanmar



Lockwood Boat Works, Inc.
1825 Hwy 35 • South Amboy
732-721-1605 • Fax 732-525-8209
www.lockwoodboatworks.com

ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA
221 MacArthur Ave, Sayreville, NJ

SPECIAL
New Year's Day
BINGO
JANUARY 1st, 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON
GAMES START AT 1:30 PM

KITCHEN WILL BE OPEN

Roast turkey dinner, roast pork loin dinner, chicken dinner, beef dinner, polish platter, and ribs are on the menu

For Information Please
Call the Parish Office
732 - 254 - 0212



Front Page News At Christmas Time

2020-Sayreville Democrats won two council seats. Mary Novak received 10,874 votes, and Vincent Conti 10,261...In South Amboy, Democrat Tom Reilly defeated Republican challenger Robert Mickiewicz, 711-447 for a council seat. Brian H. McLaughlin and Zusette Dato ran opposed in their wards, and notched 904 and 1,030 votes respectively...Three winners in the Sayreville Board of Education election were Alison Napolitano, Eloy Fernandez, and Eileen Pabon.

2015-The 1988-89 Hoffman HS girls basketball state championship team was inducted into the prestigious NJSIAA Bollinger Hall of Fame, with the ceremony taking place at the Pines Restaurant in Edison...Sayreville native Patrick O'Brien won an Audience Award at Tribeca for his film "TransFatty Lives," a documentary offering a complete look at ALS and his struggle to cope with limitations and a terminal sentence.

2010-Longtime South Amboy Mayor John T. O'Leary, who was finishing his final term in office, reflected on his 24 years as Mayor in an exclusive interview with SA Times Publisher Tom Burkard...Enterprise Snorkel won the best-decorated truck at the annual South Amboy Fire/Rescue Parade.

2005-Jack O'Leary, owner/operator of Dooling Electric Inc. was selected the South Amboy Business Leader of the Year, and John Albert, President/CEO of Progressive Maintenance & Real Estate Services Inc. was chosen for the Sayreville Business Leader of the Year by the Old Bridge-Sayreville South Amboy Chamber of Commerce... Assemblyman John Wisniewski was named Grand Marshal of the 67th Annual Pulaski Day Parade...American Legion Luke A. Lovely Post 62 of South Amboy member Marty Ziola tossed the commemorative wreath for Pearl Harbor Day into the Raritan Bay. 1965-Protection Engine Co. held a selection of officers for 1966. Chosen were President-Martin Keays; Vice-President Joseph Carroll; Secretary-John D. Leonard; Treasurer-Arthur Draper; Chief of the South Amboy Fire Dept.-Anthony Charmello.

1950-South Amboy Police Dept. promotions made by Mayor John D. Leonard were: Sgt. John Gleason to Captain, filling a vacancy created by the death of Capt. John B. McCormack; Walter Rogers to Lieutenant to fill a vacancy created by the death of Lieutenant Anton Maliszewski. Leon Walczak and Raymond Mundy were both promoted from Patrolmen to Sergeant. In addition, 5 new policemen were named by Mayor Leonard: Leroy Kurtz, Anthony Tarallo, Edwin Orzulski, John Duggan, and Charles Travinski...On Dec. 21, DuPont Photo Products workers returned to their jobs after a 15 day strike.

1940-The Hoffman High School Library became the first high school library in the state to have daylight lighting...Funds for \$290,000 were approved for a high level bridge to be built over the Cheesequake Creek at Morgan.

*Advancing policy aligned with anti-poverty and workforce development efforts to address the root causes of hunger

*Speaker Coughlin also sponsored legislation in 2021 that created the Office of the Food Security Advocate (OFSA)—the first and only cabinet-level position in the nation dedicated solely to food security.

"Speaker Coughlin has never wavered in sharing the belief that by all of us, in every sector working collaboratively, can end hunger and build up our communities by making true food security a reality," said Mark Dinglasan, Executive Director of the NJ Office of the Food Security Advocate. "Under the Speaker's bold leadership, our state has shown the rest of the nation how to leverage the power of people and policy to help families and individuals avoid being swept into everyday emergencies, and how to collaborate with local community organizations, farmers and growers so no one has to compromise their dignity to nourish their family. New Jersey has already received international recognition for embracing a holistic framework for our collective efforts, and we're only getting started."

The Birth of That Little Baby Boy

By Al Gomolka, Jr. Times Poet Laureate

He is the reason for this season of Christmas
He is the reason for this season of joy
There'd be no Santa,
there'd be no presents.
Without His presence...
And the birth of that little baby boy,
There are silver bells and candy canes Christmas trees
with railroad trains
There are carols piped thru shopping malls
Colored lights to deck the halls
There are Christmas cards and flowers red
Cookies made of gingerbread
There are hopes of
snow with stockings hung
Toasts of cheer and party fun
He is the reason for this season of Christmas
He is the reason for this season of joy
There'd be no Santa, there'd be no presents,
Without His presence...
And the birth of that little baby boy.
Hearts are tickled, eyes aglow
Everywhere this magic flows
All due to one Nativity
And none the wiser it should be
He is the reason for this season of Christmas
He is the reason for this season of joy
There'd be no Santa, there'd be no presents,
Without his presence...
And the birth of that little baby boy.
Happy Birthday, Jesus...

Speaker Coughlin Launches Ending Hunger NJ.com Ahead of Holiday Season

New website will connect residents with food resources across New Jersey

As families across New Jersey prepare for the upcoming holiday season, Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin today announced the launch of EndingHungerNJ.com, a new online resource that helps residents find, and contribute to, food resources in their communities.

The launch comes during Food Pantry Donation Month in New Jersey, amid rising grocery costs, work furloughs, and recent federal disruptions to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that have made it harder for families to put food on the table.

"As we approach the holiday season, we are reminded that while many of us are preparing to share meals with the people we love, far too many families are still unsure of how they will put food on the table. That is not acceptable to me, it is not acceptable in New Jersey, and it is the reason why we've taken the position that hunger is not inevitable. It's a problem we can solve when government, nonprofits, businesses, and neighbors all pull in the same direction," said Speaker Coughlin. "Simply put, New Jersey refuses to let families fall through the cracks and EndingHungerNJ.com is another step in making that a reality. Whether it's through impactful legislation, creating partnerships with food banks, or simply lending a helping

hand, we're committed to doing everything we can to make sure every resident has the dignity and the peace of mind that comes with a full plate."

A One-Stop Resource for New Jersey Families

*EndingHungerNJ.com provides a comprehensive, user-friendly directory of food assistance across the state, including:

*County-by-county listings of food pantries and community food resources

*A directory of statewide advocates working to end hunger

*Information on legislation and State initiatives strengthening food security

A Record of Leadership in the Fight Against Hunger

Speaker Coughlin has made food security a defining priority of his tenure, advancing innovative policy, strengthening local partnerships, and securing historic investments to support families, students, and seniors. His work includes:

*Securing record state investments in food assistance and nutrition programs

*Expanding free school meals, ensuring more children begin the school day ready to learn

*Supporting local food initiatives such as the Food Navigator Program, Good Food Bucks, and community-based food hubs and farms

*Establishing "Bowl for Hunger," a local initiative that has raised just over \$850,000 in 16 years for the 19th District's 30 food banks



City of South Amboy Department of Public Works
2026 Holiday Garbage Pickup Schedule
Schedule is subject to weather-related adjustments

<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>DAY OF THE WEEK</u>	<u>HOLIDAY PICKUP</u>
New Year's Day	Thursday	January 1 st will be picked up December 31 st
Martin Luther King Day	Monday	January 19 th will be picked up January 21 st
Lincoln's Birthday	Thursday	February 12 th will be picked up February 11 th
President's Day	Monday	February 16 th will be picked up February 18 th
Good Friday	Friday	April 3 rd will be picked up April 1 st
Memorial Day	Monday	May 25 th will be picked up May 27 th
Independence Day	Saturday	July 3 rd will be picked up on July 1 st
Labor Day	Monday	September 7 th will be picked up on September 9 th
Columbus Day	Monday	October 12 th will be picked up on October 14 th
Election Day	Tuesday	November 3 rd will be picked up on November 4 th
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 26 th will be picked up on November 25 th
Day After Thanksgiving	Friday	November 27 th will be picked up on that day
Christmas	Friday	December 25 th will be picked up on December 23 rd

2026 Bulk Pickup Schedule

NO MORE THAN 10 ITEMS

Items must be bundled, bagged or canned

NO CONSTRUCTION/HAZMAT MATERIALS OR TIRES

BOXSPRING MATTRESSES MUST BE BAGGED OR THEY WILL NOT BE PICKED UP

If your trash pick up is Monday - your bulk pick up days are Wednesday: January 7th March 4th May 6th July 8th September 2nd November 4th	If your trash pick up is Tuesday (Broadway included) - your bulk pick up days are Wednesday (with the exception of Veterans Day): January 14th March 11th May 13th July 15th September 16th November 10th	If your trash pick up is Thursday - your bulk pick up days are Wednesday: January 21st March 18th May 20th July 22nd September 23rd November 18th	If your trash pick up is Friday - your bulk pick up days are Wednesday: January 28th March 25th May 27th July 29th September 30th November 25th
--	--	--	--

2026 Bulk Drop Off

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 9AM-12PM (Exluding Holidays)
&
EVERY 3rd SATURDAY OF THE MONTH: 7AM-11AM

January 17th	April 18th	July 18th	October 17th
February 21st	May 16th	August 15th	November 21st
March 21st	June 20th	September 19th	December 19th

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER AND UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES



YP Home

Services LLC


Senior Citizen Discount 10% OFF
(Over 67 Years Old)

- Painting Interior & Exterior
- Roofing -Siding
- Carpentry -Windows -Doors
- Concrete -Driveways -Sidewalks
- Patios -Bathrooms -Kitchens
- Decks -Waterproofing Basements -Fences -Floors
- All Types Of Cleanouts

All Types of Home Maintenance


732-207-4006

Lic.# 13VH02433500



117 Main Street.
Woodbridge, NJ 07095

732.634.9100 ext.2232
732.634.8437
eileenb21@aol.com
jjelekrealty.com
JJElekRealty



Eileen & Frank Brylinski
908.510.0656
Realtor Associate®

The B's
Bee Home
Put our 35 Years Experience
To work for YOU



ANGELO PALMA & SON

Tile & Marble Contractor
FULLY INSURED · FREE ESTIMATES
"47 Years Of Experience"
Lic. #13VH022521700

PARLIN, NJ Col. 3:23 BLOOMFIELD, NJ
732-727-2840 732-580-6866

CENTRAL JERSEY STARTER & ALTERNATOR, INC.

1809 Rt. 35, Morgan, NJ

732-727-4486

AUTO & MARINE ELECTRICAL SPECIALISTS
Rebuilt Starters & Alternators - Wiring - Shorts



For All Your Home Improvement Needs

- Roofing
- Siding
- Kitchens Remodeled
- Finished Basements
- Bathrooms
- Painting
- Ceramic Tiling

- Replacement Windows/Doors
- Boilers
- Generac Stand By Generators Installed
- Flooring
- Additions
- Decks
- Stucco

Serving The Community For Over 50 Years!

- Drywall

License Number 13VH03835400

732-727-6719

South Amboy, NJ

BETTER....."BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE"

School Sports

(As of Dec. 1)
By Tom Burkard

2025 Sayreville Bombers Final Football Leaders

Coach Mark Poore (9-2)

Offense
Total Yards Passing-Tyler Butka 801;Touchdown Passes-Butka 7,(completed 45 of 78 passes); Pass Receiving-Shaun Jackson 332, Andrew Provenza 185, Ryan Sanfiorenzo 127; Rushing-Jackson 1,977, Dion Osae 534, Sherwin Appiah 401; Touchdowns-Jackson 29, Appiah 9.
Kickoff Returns Total Yards-Provenza 178, Carson Martin 115, Osae 114.
Field Goals-Barnes 4 (4-6); Extra Points-Barnes 23 (23-31); Punting Yards-Barnes 344 (11 punts).

Defense
Total Tackles-Chase Barnes 81, Adrian Ciesla 44, Joseph Curbelo 35; Total Solo Tackles-Barnes 32, Ciesla 23; Interceptions-Curbelo 1; Fumble Recoveries-Brian Zangrillo 2, Christian Woodard 2.

Boys Soccer
2025 Final Leaders Sayreville
Coach Nick Cifelli (9-9-2)
Goals-Eugene Zebrowski 10, Christian Wozny 6, Timur Lubka 5; Assists-Edgar Perez Ceballos 5, Wozny 4; Points-Zebrowski 22, Wozny 16, Lubka 11; Saves-Braydon Paczkowski 141.

South Amboy (6-8)
Coach Tony Gonsalves
*No Final Statistics Available.


Girls Soccer
2025 Final Leaders Sayreville (12-9)
Coach Alison Riccio
Goals-Emma Halmo 15, Isabelle Deoliveira 8, Jayda Roque 6; Assists-Karina Cardoso 5, Halmo 4, Roque 4; Points-Halmo 34, Roque 18, Deoliveira 18; Saves-Laura Onochie 81.

South Amboy (4-11-2)
Coach Gina Martinez
*No Final Statistics Available


Field Hockey
2025 Final Leaders Sayreville (6-11)
Coach Mary Charmello
Goals-Gabrielle Jones 6, Lucy Logan 6, Cayley Pinto 6; Assists-Logan 7, Savannah Parse 4, Pinto 3; Points-Logan 19, Pinto 15, Jones 14; Saves-Kaylee Roldan 107.

Local Wildlife

(Photos by Tom Burkard)




Two rare black Squirrels were spotted recently in the Borough of Sayreville. The one on the bottom is shown leaping over a pile of leaves.



Christmas Town U.S.A.

By Tom Burkard
c.2022

When December rolls around
And snow starts falling
To the ground
Seems the world awakens
To the Christmas sounds
At Christmas Town U.S.A.
Where people are happy
And love is all around
It's so cool, it's so fine
In this hometown of mine
Everything's OK
At Christmas Town U.S.A.
Wishing Christmas
was everyday
At Christmas Town U.S.A.
Watching Christmas classics on TV
Seeing good old
Christmas shows
Like they still should be
And Christmas music
is everywhere you go
You just can't help it
If you get caught
in the flow
Of so much spirit
and Christmas cheer
It's such a happy place
This time of year At
Christmas Town U.S.A.
It's so cool, it's so fine
In this hometown of mine
Everything's OK
At Christmas Town U.S.A.
Wishing Christmas
was everyday
At Christmas Town U.S.A.



The Tinsel And The Straw

(Author unknown)

THERE IN THE STABLE
SILENCE WAS DEEP
THE YOUNG
MOTHER WATCHING
HER BABY ASLEEP
NO GILDED CRADLE
FOR THE SMALL STRANGER
ONLY THE BRIGHT STRAW
THERE IN THE MANGER.
IT WAS SO SIMPLE
ALL WAS SO PLAIN
NO BRILLIANT TRAPPINGS
NO TINSEL SKEIN
YET ALL WAS FITTING
ALL WITHOUT FLAW
MAN MAKES THE TINSEL,
GOD MADE THE STRAW.



The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

From The Sports Archives



1965 Champions-St. Mary's Grammar School talented 8th Grade basketball team is pictured after finishing with an (11-1) record and winning the Raritan Bay Grammar School Championship trophy. In photo standing (l-r) George Beck, Jim McCloud, Gary George, Mike Powers (Hidden), Mark Bratus (Holding Trophy), Brian Kreiger, Father Brembos, Moderator, Ken Lyons, Marty O'Connor, Bob Howarth, Pat Gorman, Coach Zegan. Kneeling (l-r) Ray Downs, Jim Croddick, Nick Charmello, John Ammon, Doug Sprague. (Photo submitted)

Glory Days In Local Sports

2024-South Amboy girls basketball team blasted East Brunswick Magnet, 40-11. Olivia Gulick led the way with 12 points and 12 rebounds, and Emma Kalantis added 9 points and 7 rebounds...**2011**-Cardinal McCarrick hammered Middlesex, 38-20 in football action. David Whitfield scored on 3 TD runs of 49, 81, and 56 yards, and also fired a 42-yard TD strike to Muhammad Ali. Kevin Savoia raced for a 72-yard touchdown on a fumble recovery. Jose Cruz added a 56-yard TD run. Whitfield finished his huge game with 214 yards rushing on 14 carries...**2004**-Sayreville girls soccer club shutout Perth Amboy, 4-0 on a 5-save masterpiece by Keeper Jessica DaRold. Meghan Watters notched a goal and an assist, while the Bombers got a goal apiece from Cailleigh Giovenco, Lynn Mayer, and Nikki Christensen...**1997**-Sayreville boys basketball team nipped powerful Piscataway, 68-67. The Chiefs were ranked #14 in the state, but the Bombers used some great

3-point shooting, and set a county record by connecting on 14. Soph sensation Marcin Ziobron topped the winners with 27 points and 7 treys, while Leland Norris had 23 points, and Rafi Hargrove added 8 assists and 7 steals...**1980**-Sayreville boys belted Carteret, 59-40 in basketball play. Ralph Novak fired in 26 points, Rich Garbowski 12, and John Tarnacki 11...**1979**-Hoffman girls basketball squad destroyed Perth Amboy St. Mary's, 74-36. Jamie White led the way with 21 points, followed by Carol Akerman 15, and Sue Check 13...**1963**-St. Mary's girls basketball team downed Perth Amboy St. Mary's, 35-25, as Carol Surman turned in an outstanding performance with 17 points...**1959**-St. Mary's boys basketball club routed Rutgers Prep, 50-37. John Paczkowski scored 12 points, and Len Lawson 11...**1949**-Hoffman nipped Woodbridge, 51-49 in boys basketball action. Charlie Koerner paced the Guvs with 16 points, John Kovalski added 13, and John "Skeets" Skarzynski tossed in 11.

65 Years Ago

1960-Dennis White hit a jumper at the buzzer to give Hoffman a thrilling 46-44 victory over St. Mary's in Game 1 of the City Series. George Reick copped game scoring honors with 17 points, and White had 11 for the Guvs. Lenny Lawson scored 14, and Henry "Henny" Conroy 10 for the Saints.

60 Years Ago

1965-Hoffman downed Raritan Twp., 69-56 to capture the consolation game in the Msgr. Sullivan Christmas Tournament. Top scorers for the Purple & Gold were Curt Wood 18 points, Billy Clayton 17, Edwin Witkowski 14, and Greg Havlusch 12.

20 Years Ago

2005-South Amboy girls basketball team pounded Piscataway, 50-35. Nicole Scarillo pumped in 13, and freshman standout Katie Charmello scored 12.

15 Years Ago

2010-Sayreville annihilated Old Bridge, 41-7 in football action. Delon Stephenson raced for 3 touchdowns to pave the way, and Alex Yanuzzelli, Davon Jackson, and Zeke Perkinson broke loose for one touchdown apiece.

T.H.E. Game

Sport-Boys Basketball
Year-1981

Teams-St. Mary's (8-8) vs. Sayreville (10-6)
Recap-The Saints led 32-29 at halftime, but the Bombers took a 53-52 lead after three. With 5:00 left in the game and the Eagles ahead 58-57, they ran off 8 unanswered points to secure the 76-69 win. Dan Kudelka and Brian Gorczynski topped St. Mary's with 20 points apiece, and Bernie Orszewski scored 15. Sayreville was led by Dan Osborne who took scoring honors with a career-high 38 points, and Mike Tevis tossed in 20.
Co-Players of the Game-Dan Kudelka and Brian Gorczynski.

1-Year Ago

2024-South Amboy boys basketball team beat East Brunswick Magnet, 65-56. Gavin Pelkey topped the Guvs with 27 points and 9 rebounds. Freshman John Kelly pumped in 21 points and ripped 10 rebounds...Sayreville boys hoops squad walloped Woodbridge, 78-64. Keithan Shuler scorched the nets for 24 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. Sam Jones had 20 points and 9 rebounds, while Chudi Chukwurah scored 13 and had 8 rebounds.

Christmas Calling Again

By Tom Burkard
C. 2023

It's Christmas calling again
For a world filled with peace
Where everyone can be friends
It's Christmas calling again
Where families come together
And make their lives
So much better
It's Christmas calling again
When the old can feel young again
And remember the good times
Way back when
It's Christmas calling again
There's holiday songs on the radio
Pretty decorations
Everywhere you go
It's Christmas calling again
Telephone calls
and Christmas cards
From far away
Always seem to pour in every day
It's Christmas calling again
There's a white Christmas treat
As snow falls to the ground
Everyone is so happy
So much love all around
It's Christmas calling again.



Ho, Ho, Ho, I played Chris Kringle in a famous movie, who am I? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by Jan. 12th.

Who is it?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Bjorn Borg and Andre Agassi

Last month our mystery duo was tennis greats Bjorn Borg (l) and a very young Andre Agassi. Between the two of them they won a total of 19 Grand Slam Titles! The following know their tennis players: Ted Krzyzanowski, Billy Loux, Ralph Jurkiewicz, Edna Pilch, JoAnn & John French, Elaine & Rich Angerstein, Chelle Martin, Gary Feret, Walter Starzec Jr, Ed English.



WWW.?



Do you know where and what this structure is? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by Jan. 12th. (Photo by Phyllis Stratton)



WWW? Letter
Messiah Lutheran Church, Bordentown Ave.

The little Church with a big heart! All are welcome to Sunday service at 9:00 am. Our food pantry serves over 100 families. Open to the public on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 6-8 pm, and the 3rd Saturday, 12-2 pm. Donation day is the last Saturday from 12-2 pm. We also have a Blessing Box in our front parking lot: non-perishable food available 24-7. Besides food, our pantry gives away clothing, toys, household products, etc. Thanks to all who donate!

Edna Pilch



Messiah Lutheran Church

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

O Holy Spirit, thou who art all knowing - Who brightens every path that I may reach my ideal - Thou givest me the divine gift of forgiving and forgetting wrongs done unto me and who in every instant of my life art with me. I'd like in this short dialogue to affirm my gratitude for all your blessings and reaffirm once again that I never want to part from thee though illusions of material things abound. My desire is to be with thee and all my loved ones in perpetual grace. Thank you for our mercy on me and mine. Persons should pray 3 consecutive days without revealing petition. Within 3 days grace will be obtained regardless of how difficult the petition may be. Publish this prayer once the petition has been attained. Thank you Holy Spirit. -P.S..



Java Dave's
Coffee

110 N. BROADWAY
SOUTH AMBOY, NJ
732 707 4141

Peggy Yanuzzelli
Broker-Salesperson

732.925.5945 mobile

www.RealtorPeggy.com

CENTURY 21
Charles Smith Agency, Inc.
732.721.9000 ext. 1222
Each office is independently owned and operated



Selling Your Home?
Call Peggy





Fishing Flashes
By Teo "Weebles" Weber



Salt Water
Striped Bass fishing in Raritan Bay picked up but it's mostly from boats as shore fishing at our local beaches remains slow. I checked local beaches at Cliffwood and Keansburg and spoke to fisherman but not much was going on. I did see two nice Stripers plus some Blackfish on a private boat docked in Perth Amboy. I didn't see anything at local SA beach on the times I checked there. Surf fishing at Island Beach and LBI are still producing some nice Striped Bass at times. Party boat fishing for Stripers is on and off with some days better than others. Some of the boats will stop running at season's end and upcoming winter's bad weather. Those boats that fish for Blackfish are catching well. Some big ones are around with one fish over 13 pounds. Striped Bass regulations for 2026 will not change at this time.

Fresh Water
Winter Trout stocking in lakes and ponds statewide has been completed. My wife and I tried Spring Lake the day after stocking at the end of November and fished for a few hours but we didn't get any bites. I didn't see many other people there catch or have any fish at the time we were there. The boat launch ramp area at Round Valley Reservoir may be worth a try as Trout regularly cruise the shore in this area.

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.

Let An Independent Agent Shop For You

- Life Insurance: (Term, Whole Life, Universal Life, Guaranteed Issued Life)
- Medicare Supplement Insurance
- Guaranteed Lifetime Income Solutions
- Dental Insurance
- Long Term Insurance Protection Solutions
- College Financial Aid Solutions

Ask how some solutions can be solved without spending ONE additional penny
Licensed with multiple companies offering many different products/solutions

Custom Financial Strategies

Gregory Wyzykowski has been an independent agent since 1987.

3145 Bordentown Ave, Parlin, NJ
732-721-0400
greg@customfinancial.org

All consultations and quotes are provided for FREE



Your Ad Here

Call Brian - 732-841-5249

R.K. ELECTRIC, INC.
Three Generations of Service!
Since 1941

RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL

KEN KURCZESKI
Owner/Master Electrician

(732) 672-4674
rkelectricnj@gmail.com

Sayreville, NJ
NJ Lic. #10017



JOSEPH J. MADURA, D.M.D.

Over 42 Years Serving The Local Communities

360 Main Street
South Amboy, NJ 08879

(732) 721-1166

HEMOCARE REHAB, LLC
DR. EDWARD R. MARION, PT, DPT, MA
PHYSICAL THERAPIST



OUTPATIENT HOUSE CALLS & REHABILITATION SERVICES
PHONE 732-610-2528
FAX 732-416-6142
www.HomecareRehab.org
Serving South Amboy & Sayreville And Middlesex County

Mid Jersey Medical Supplies
Fittings by Sheila

Thank You to All Health Care Professionals and First Responders

Breast Forms • Bra's • Hair Prosthesis (wigs & extensions)
Stair lifts • Wheelchairs • Hospital Beds • Air Mattress
Oxygen • CPAPs • BiPAPs • Nebulizers • Walkers • Commodes
Bath Chairs • Support Hosiery • Diabetic & Orthopedic Shoes
Incontinence Supplies (diapers) • Recliners • & More!

Sales • Rentals • Repairs

106 North Broadway • South Amboy • NJ • 08879
(732)721-0028 • (732)721-9364 • (732)721-0008fax

908-753-4222 (Fax) 908-753-4763



PENYAK ROOFING CO.
Since 1960

www.penyakroofing.com

3571 KENNEDY ROAD SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080



RICHIUSA
Mason & Concrete Work
Sidewalks • Patios • Driveways
Steps • Pavers • Wallstones, etc...

CALL FRANK 732-727-0467
Serving Middlesex County for Over 40 Years



JOHN AUTO CENTER, INC.
Complete Automotive Repairs
Foreign & Domestic
272 North Stevens Ave. South Amboy, NJ 08879
732-727-8500
5% OFF ALL REPAIRS WITH THIS AD

The Staff and Management of John Auto Center wish all of you, your family, first responders a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Now Available
NJ State Inspection

All Repairs
100%
Guaranteed

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.C..

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..

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..

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..

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..

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.

Obituaries

Adu-Brempong, Agnes, 79, of Parlin died on Nov. 11.

Blust, Florence, 91, of Parlin died on Dec. 4.

Borg, Horatio V. “Jerry,” 82, of Sayreville died on Nov. 21.

Carroll, Marianne C., 63, of South Amboy died on Nov. 22.

Dexter, Shawn, 41, of South Amboy died on Dec. 5.

Kocinski, Barbara, 92, of Sayreville died on Nov. 22.

Malinowski, Gary, 64, of Sayreville died on Dec. 4.

Myslinski, Virginia “Ginny,” 86, of South Amboy died on Nov. 30.

Reilly, Betty J., 86, of South Amboy died on Dec.1.

Switzer, James J., 69, formerly of Morgan died on Dec. 7.

Tedesco, Michael J., 76, formerly of South Amboy died on Dec. 5.

Tierney, William J. “Bill” Jr., 82, of South Amboy died on Dec. 5.

Sucheicki, Chester Jr., 83, formerly of South Amboy/Sayreville died on Dec. 2.

Vega, Virginia, of Sayreville died on Nov. 22.

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. JJ.

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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

In Memoriam

William Tierney Jr., 82, of South Amboy died on Dec. 5. He served as Grand Marshal of South Amboy St. Patrick’s Day Parade in 1999, and was active in many local organizations. He was a terrific guy and always had a kind word and smile for everyone. He was a Customer Service Agent for United Airlines in Newark working there 33 years until retiring. Michael Tedesco, 76, formerly of South Amboy died on Dec. 5. Mike was employed by FPL Sayreville Energy Plant for over 30 years prior to retirement. Mike was always a great guy and popular with everyone in South Amboy, and will be missed, but never forgotten.

Betty Jean Reilly

Betty Jean Reilly, 86, of South Amboy died on Monday December 1, 2025 at Reformed Church Home, Old Bridge. Born in Neptune she grew up in Harrison before settling in South Amboy over 50 years ago. She was very generous, donating to many charities and was very active with the Food Pantry at the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy and with school backpack donations. She enjoyed reading and walking.

Daughter of the late William and Jean Hellings Reilly she is survived by her sister Margaret Reilly; her cousins Barbara Story, Marty Bernitter and his wife Karen and John Bernitter and his wife Cheryl; her cats Molly, Gidget, Spidey and Natches and many extended family members and friends.

Cremation was private under the direction of The Gundrum Service “Home For Funerals” 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

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..

Kurzawa Funeral Home
338 Main Street
South Amboy, NJ 08879
732-721-0475 www.kurzawafh.com
Rocco M. Cuoco, Manager
N.J. Lic. No. 4605



Honoring the families of
South Amboy and Sayreville with
respectful services since 1933



We provide a dignified funeral experience designed to meet the unique needs of every family, in an environment of peace and comfort. Our facility is fully handicap-accessible and offers ample street parking, along with optional valet services for added convenience. Families may also select from a range of package options and guaranteed pre-funding plans, ensuring peace of mind and the ability to honor loved ones with respect and care.

Christmas IN HEAVEN,

WHAT DO THEY DO?

THEY COME DOWN TO

earth TO SPEND TIME

WITH YOU.

SO SAVE THEM A SEAT, JUST ONE

EMPTY ★ chair.

YOU MAY NOT SEE THEM,

but they
will be
there.



We have chairs saved for our beloved staff:
Ruth Connors, Beverly Kovacs, Dr. John Misiewicz,
Joe Lotkowicz, Elaine Holton Scott, Fran Fitzmorris.
DJ Henny Conroy, Jerry Pizzillo and Steve Schmid.
Always in our thoughts, Tom, Brian and The Times Staff



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.

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



E-mail your requests to:
sasayrtimes@gmail.com
or call: **732-360-8773.**



Christmas Quotes

Benjamin Franklin - *“A good conscience is a continual Christmas.*
Acts 20:35 - *“Is is more blessed to give than to receive.”*
Charles Dickens - *“It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas time, when its mighty founder was a child Himself.”*
Loretta Bauer Buckley - *“The twinkling lights on Christmas trees are time’s bright treasured memories.”*
Horace Wilson - *“Great is the spirit of Christmas that brings to every heart peace, good will toward all mankind.”*
Josepha Emms - *“There is love at Christmas because Christmas was born of love. Let us, each one, keep alive this spirit of love and glorify God.”*
George Hodges - *“And thus was kept the first Christmas, the Christmas in the year one, with carols by the choir of heaven, and God’s own Son, the Savior of the world, coming as a Christmas gift for all mankind.”*

A Prayer At Christmas

(Author Unknown)
Written circa 1959

Give us the faith of innocent children, that we may look forward with hope in our hearts, to the dawn of tomorrows. Reawaken the thought that our most cherished desires will be realized, the things closest to our hearts--that we may come to an appreciation of the limitless joys and bountiful rewards of patience, charity and sacrifice. Above all, endow us with the spirit of courage, that we may face the perplexities of a troubled world without flinching, imbued with the child-like faith which envisions the beautiful and inspiring things of life...and restore the happy hours and experiences so many of us foolishly believe are lost forever.

Give us faith in ourselves and faith in our fellow man...then then, the treasures and beauties of life that make man happy will spring from an inexhaustible source. And at Christmas, when the hearts of the world swell in joyous celebration, let us cast aside the pretense of sturdy men and live, if only for a day, in the hope and joy we knew as children.

The Best Time Of All

(Author Unknown)
Written circa 1961

Little tiny snowflakes
Dancing in the flue;
Old Mr. Santa Claus,
What is keeping you?
Twilight and firelight
Shadows come and go;
Merry chime of sleigh-bells
Twinkling through the snow.
Mother’s knitting stockings,
Kitty’s got the ball.
Don’t you think that Christmas
Is the best of all?

The Best Things At Christmas

The three best things
At Christmas time
Are family, friends and memories
They’re so important
And mean the world to me
Family, Friends and memories

Christmas Time

It’s Christmas time
So don’t feel down
Santa Claus is comin’ to town
It’s hard to believe
It’s the end of the year
Now it’s time to spread
Some Christmas cheer.



Jesus In The Manger

By Sofia Hoenle

As the Star shines so bright little Jesus lays
in the manger at night.
When Mary takes care of him in the stable
Ohhh this is not a fable!
When the Kings come and give him gifts
Jesus smiles with glee
And they pray to him on knee.

Stuck In The Chimney

By Tom Burkard
c. 2014

Where’s Santa
He may not show
He’s stuck in the chimney
Guess you didn’t know
He’s gotta get out
Or the kids will pout
Christmas won’t be the same without
It just won’t be the same this year
But, hey kids have no fear
The fire truck is here
And if that won’t work
They’ll get a crane
Yes, it may seem a bit insane
Santa’s stuck in the chimney
Who’s gonna bring the gift
For you and me
Let’s get him out
Get Santa Claus free.

A Gift Card For Christmas

By Tom Burkard
c. 2010

If you’re Christmas shopping
And don’t know what to get
Give a gift card
It’s the easiest thing yet
Christmas shopping is not so hard
When you buy friends and loved ones
The perfect gift card
It saves lots of time and stress
If you’re not sure what to get
And on Christmas Day
Your loved one will confess
That the gift card you gave them
Is their best gift yet.

The Christmas Countdown

By Tom Burkard
c. 2010

It’s the Christmas countdown
As the big day draws near
The Christmas countdown
The happiest time of the year
Shoppers scurry all around
As large snowflakes
Fall to the ground
Kids are waiting
For that special sight
Of the man in red
With a beard snowy white
Just watching the calendar everyday
‘Til December 25th comes our way
It’s the Christmas countdown.

A Christmas Wish

If I could have
Just one Christmas wish
It would not be for me
I’d ask for the world
For just one day
To live in peace and harmony

The Christmas Scene

By Tom Burkard
c. 2015

Let’s go downtown
And do some shoppin’
Downtown where
Everyone’s all around
On Broadway
The stores look so nice
All decorated in red and green
Christmas trees all in lights
It’s the Christmas scene downtown
And everyone’s all around
Christmas music is playin’
In every store
It’s Christmas time
Who could ask for more?
And sidewalk Santa
Is doin’ his thing
While young carolers
Go door to door
And sing
It’s the Christmas scene

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CEREMONY

Submitted by Rich Kosmoski, Photos by Jamie Norek



The South Amboy/Sayreville Rotary Club sponsored the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony on Saturday, December 13, 2025, at the Sacred Heart Cemetery. This year there were over 250 wreaths placed on the graves of America’s Heroes, our Veterans. Jeff Pawlowski (South Amboy/Sayreville Rotary Club), Sayreville American Legion Lenape Post 211 Honor Guard veterans, and many volunteers took part in the ceremony. The ceremony began at exactly 12:00 noon as there were over two-thousand similar ceremonies conducted at the same time across America. During the service, each branch of the military was honored as a veteran from that branch placed a memorial wreath on the Veteran’s Monument. The American Legion Honor Guard fired a volley of rifle rounds in honor of our fallen Veterans followed by the playing of TAPS. Veterans and volunteers from the community gathered the donated wreaths and went throughout the cemetery placing them on Veterans’ graves. The only requirement is that they mention the Veteran’s name as they place the wreath on the Veteran’s grave they were honoring. The South Amboy/Sayreville Rotary Club, along with other donors, provided these wreaths, which were delivered from Harrington, Maine in refrigerated tractor trailers. These trailers then continued their way to Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, to honor hundreds of thousands of American Veterans. At noon today, more than four million Wreaths Across America were placed on Veterans’ graves throughout the United States.



American Legion Post 211 Past Commander Rich Kosmoski and son Bobby places a wreath on his dad’s grave, a World War II Veteran.



John Leo Fedorka places a wreath on the grave of an American Hero.



Boy Scout Troop 91 assisted in the Wreaths Across America ceremony.



Novena Prayer to St. Anthony of Padua
O Holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and charity for His creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Miracles waited on your word, which you were ever ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety. Encouraged by this thought, I import you to obtain for me (request). The answer to my prayer may require a miracle. Even so, you are the Saint of Miracles. O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of Sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. Amen. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be. -P.S., B.S..



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. - P.S., B.S..

Sayreville's Parade Of Lights

(Photos by Phyllis Stratton)



SWMHS Marching Band.



Sayreville Historical Society.



Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived in style!



Just like a post card ready to meet the children.



The Grinch not to outdone by Santa also arrived in style!



It was a very colorful parade.



Bombers Beyond Cafe.



Ryan Yuhas entertains the large crowd.



Patsy Palma (c) is joined on stage by Santa and Mrs. Claus.



Top Rated Wine Special
For All Occasions

**BAILEY'S
IRISH CREAM
GIFT PACK**



**750ML
\$27.71**

**MAKER'S
MARK
WHISKEY**



**750ML
\$29.99**

**BASIL
HAYDEN**



**1.75L
\$71.17**

**JACK DANIELS
BLACKBERRY**



**750ML
\$28.71**

**QUERIDO
TEQUILLA**

All Types



**750ML
\$12.99**

**OCHO
TEQUILLA
PLATA**



**1L
\$46.71**

**GREY
GOOSE
VODKA**



**1.75L
\$40.71**

**TITO'S
VODKA**



**1.75L
\$31.99**

**OLD BARDS
TOWN
BOURBON**



**1-L
\$22.99**

**BAETENURA
MOSCATO**



**750ML
\$11.99**

**TURNING
LEAF
CHARD.**



**1.5L
\$9.99**

**JOSH
All Types**



**750ML
\$15.71**

**CAVIT
PINOT
GRIGIO**



**1.5L
\$17.17**

**ROSCATO
SWEET RED**



**1.5L
\$23.71**

**J LOHR
CAB**



**1.5L
\$27.17**



717 Bordentown Ave. South Amboy
Phone: 732-721-3636 Fax: 732-721-0434
www.finewinegrill.com

*We reserve the right to limit quantities. Not responsible for typographical errors. In the case of an error the lowest price allowed by NJ State law will apply. Products are available while supplies last. Artwork does not necessarily represent items on sale. Prices subject to change.