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MEMORIAL DAY

# The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

This issue is  
dedicated to  
\*Robert Blakeslee  
\*Theresa "Terry" Eckenroth  
\*Joseph Fusco Sr.  
\*Lorraine Henry  
\*Thomas Holovacko  
\*Marguerite "Marge" Moskwa  
\*Edwin "Slick" Orzulski

May 26, 2025

• The "Good News" Newspaper •

Vol. 34 Issue 8



## South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry South Amboy State Of The City

Mayor Fred Henry gave a very encouraging and positive speech at the annual State of the City address, which was held on April 29th at the South Amboy Senior Center. He discussed many important projects and initiatives for the year, including creating a student resource officer position; the ongoing construction of the New York Waterway ferry terminal; the replacement of the antiquated Raritan Street pumping station; and improvement for business district parking.

He said, "On April 2nd, South Amboy made history with the swearing in of the first female police chief not only in South Amboy,

*Continued on page 6*

## National Police Memorial Week



On May 11th South Amboy Police Dept and South Amboy PBA 63 held their annual memorial service in honor of National Police Memorial Week. This year the memorial wreath was placed in front of the police monument by Keith and Michael Tedesco, sons of the late Capt James Tedesco. Fr. Stanley Gromadzki said the opening prayer. Mayor Fred Henry, Chief Patricia Kanecke and PBA President Marvin Deausen addressed the guests. Pipe Master John McCarthy (Ret NYPD) performed the bagpipes. Francis Norek Jr. sang God Bless America and the Lord's Prayer. Sgt. Dennis McQuade and Ptl. Marcus Nunez raised the National Police Memorial flag. (Photo/story by Jamie Norek)

Next Issue June 28th  
Deadlines June 16th

4th Of July

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## Former South Amboy Fire Chief Timothy Gay Honored



On April 25th members of Progressive Fire Co. held a Testimonial dinner at the Sayreville Knights of Columbus honoring former South Amboy Fire Chief Timothy Gay. A 39 year member of the South Amboy Fire Dept, Tim served as company Lieutenant and Captain and currently the Progressive Company president. Serving as department Assistant Chief in 2022-2023 then Chief of the Department in 2024. Mayor Fred Henry presented Gay with a NJ Assembly Resolution, a Mayoral/City Council Proclamation and the traditional Ex-Chief badge. (Photo by Jamie Norek)

## SWMHS Hall Of Fame Inductees



The Sayreville War Memorial HS Hall of Fame recent inductees are (l-r) Louis Hoffman (Class of 1969): "Green Beret" U.S. Army Special Forces; FBI Certificate for Exceptional Service in the Public Interest. Margaret Kimmell Miller (Class of 1979): Master Sergeant, U.S. Army (retired) 1983-2003; Set Guinness World Record for Most Softball Pitches in an hour in 2022. Bernie Hogya (Class of 1975): Originator of the iconic "Milk Mustache" campaign; NY Times Bestselling author with an ad on permanent display at the Smithsonian. Scott Jenkins (his daughter Kelli Puzio in photo) Posthumous Award (Class of 1974): Founding member of the NJSP Cargo Theft & Robbery Unit; NJ bipartisan law, named "Lt. Scott Jenkins Law" by Governor Chris Christie. John Tyszkiewicz (Class of 1964): Teacher & Coach for 41 years at Sayreville War Memorial HS; Member of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Hall of Fame 2017 (Football); All-State at SWMHS, All-American at Chattanooga, and Drafted by the Houston Oilers in 1969. (Photo by Danny McDonnell)

## SAPD Promotions



On Wednesday April 23 Mayor Fred Henry and City Council held a promotion ceremony at City Hall for members of the South Amboy Police Dept. Promoted to Lieutenant were Brian Noble and Jacob Murray. Promoted to Sergeants were Walter "Nick" Fuentes and Timothy Kales. Noble has 28 years of service. Murray has 18 years of service. Kales has 8 years of service and Fuentes has 7 years of service. Congratulations and good luck to all. (Photo/story by Jamie Norek)

  
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South Amboy Business Administrator David Kales (r) swears his son Timothy in as Police Sergeant, as family and friends proudly look on. (Photo by Jamie Norek)

South Amboy Native Graduates From The U.S. Naval Academy

Gil Anthony Sahagun III of South Amboy, NJ successfully completed four years of challenging academic, physical, and professional military training, graduating from the United States Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in English and a commission as a 2 nd Lieutenant in the United States Marines. Sahagun is a graduate of Linden High School of Linden, NJ. At the academy, Sahagun was a member of the Filipino Club, the Marathon Team and recently ran the 2025 Boston Marathon with a time of 3:16:52. Founded in 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy today is a prestigious four-year service academy that prepares midshipmen morally, mentally and physically to be professional officers in the naval service. More than 4,400 men and women representing every state in the U.S. and several foreign countries make up the student body, known as the Brigade of Midshipmen. U.S. News and World Reports has recognized the Naval Academy as the 2024 #1 public school and #3 best liberal arts colleges. Midshipmen learn from military and civilian instructors and participate in intercollegiate varsity sports and extracurricular activities. They also study subjects such as leadership, ethics, small arms, drill, seamanship and navigation, tactics, naval engineering and weapons, and military law. Upon graduation, midshipmen earn a Bachelor of Science degree in a choice of 26 different subject majors and go on to serve at least five years of exciting and rewarding service as commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps. The Brigade of Midshipmen comprises approximately 4,400 students from every state in the union. Each year, about 1,200 students are admitted to the Naval Academy's incoming class. The academy's alumni include, one president, 31 members of Congress, five governors, 73 Medal of Honor recipients, two Nobel Prize winners, 55 astronauts, 55 Rhodes Scholars, and over 4,000 admirals and generals.

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

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The South Amboy/ Sayreville Times

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Pleasant Little TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

1. President of South Amboy P.B.A. Local #63 back in '98?  
a. George Kern b. Tom Szatkowski c. Glen Malkiewicz

2. In 1998, this excavating business was located in Sayreville?  
a. Burkshot b. Tangletown c. Josef Kinski's

3. South Amboy Knights of Columbus #426 in 1998?  
a. John Mansfield b. Ray Wesley c. Marty Lampart

4. Parlin Exterminator business in '98?  
a. No More Pests b. J & H c. Bobby The Exterminator

5. South Amboy Fire Marshal in '98?  
a. Ed Szatkowski b. Chester Meinzer c. Timothy Walczak

6. Port-O-John business in Parlin in 1998?  
a. Johnny On The Spot b. Potty Time c. Potty Plus

7. In 1998, the President of the Dowdell Library Board of Trustees?  
a. Catherine Charmello b. Mary Rager c. Kevin Walsh

8. Selected chairman of the Sayreville Republican Party in '98?  
a. Joseh DiBella b. Arthur Rittenhouse c. Edward Rappleyea

9. President of Mechanicsville Hose Co. #1 in '98?  
a. Donald Braun b. Robert Moglia c. Francis Mulvey

10. Owner of the Sayreville Bar in 1998?  
a. Walter Mayer b. Johnny Fulton c. Mary Adamski

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



FROM THE DESK OF  
TOM REILLY

In last month's article I took some time to discuss the end of the Civil War and to look towards Memorial Day. Though every year would be worthy of multiple articles on the subject, this spring -- and the anniversaries and commemorations it brings -- seems particularly fitting for devoting additional space in both words and thoughts to those who lost their lives for our country. In the spring of 1865 -- 160 years ago -- the Civil War ended on the battlefield. So profound were its consequences that some have called it the second American Revolution. Abraham Lincoln himself called it a "revolutionary struggle" that gave the nation a "new birth of freedom." The amendments brought about by the Civil War contain some of the Constitution's most important language, providing several of our most basic and treasured civil rights.

Eighty years ago -- and roughly eighty years after the Civil War ended -- in the spring of 1945, World War II ended in Europe (it would not end in the Pacific until August). Germany's surrender brought about a new era in Europe and for the world. The United States took the lead in fashioning a new global order based on democracy, the rights of peoples everywhere to self-determination, and the resolution of disputes through international consensus and diplomacy, not martial might. The post-war world has not been perfect, but there has not been another global war since, and the last 80 years have been among the most relatively peaceful in many centuries.

Both the Civil War and World War II confirm for us that the sacrifices of those who gave their lives served a greater purpose and created a better world than the one before. As we commemorate the endings of these terrible conflicts, our best act of remembrance is to continue the work of striving towards a better world for



ourselves and for posterity. I encourage all of you to think about the meaning of Memorial Day, the values it represents, and the privileges we enjoy because others have sacrificed their lives.

The City of South Amboy will conduct its Memorial Day services on May 25. I invite you to join the American Legion, led by commander Joe Szaro, and our veterans on their visits to military graveyards and memorials beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Christ Church Cemetery. The visits will conclude with a ceremony at Veterans Plaza on Bordentown Avenue. For those of you who have yet to visit it, the Plaza is a fitting place of remembrance, dedication, and testament to those who died in service of their country. Among its commemorative memorials are the names of each South Amboy resident who died in the nation's service. We are proud to have produced such fine citizens and do their memory well by fondly but solemnly honoring their sacrifice each year.

I want to extend my sincerest thanks to the estate of Lillian Applegate, who was kind enough to donate the site to our city as a place of remembrance and honor. Residents can honor a veteran or a current member of our military with an engraved brick along Bordentown Avenue near Veterans Plaza.

Respectfully  
Tom Reilly  
2nd Ward Councilman  
City of South Amboy

Yearbook-St. Mary's 1985

By Tom Burkard

St. Mary's High School was the place to be, especially in the school year of 1984-85, where numerous extracurricular activities and social events were always happening. Some of the fine faculty consisted of Rose Caubet, Sr. Alicia Callan, Lori Feldman, Nancy Csurbak, Judith Bucher, Sr. Veronica Murray, Carol Reed, Nick Russo, Adele Baluk. The social calendar got underway with "The Fall Ball," and other happenings in '84 were the 2nd Retreat Group going to Jackson Valley Camp in Oxford, NJ in Oct. The Lebanon Retreat featured "What I Did For Love" as its theme. The Christmas Ball was held at the Dorian Manor, and of course St. Mary's held the fun-filled Christmas Party. The Senior Senate was led by President Sean Curtis, Vice-President Jay Mazzella, Secretary-Kim Quirk, and other members: Beth Sharkey, Randy Wilson, Jennifer Coe, and Joe Byrne. Kim Bartkowicz was President of the Spanish Club, and Elaine Sarlo was Editor-In-Chief of the yearbook, which was dedicated to teacher Tom Tice. There were many social activities after the 1985 New Year. The Valentine's Day Ball, sponsored by the freshman class, was held in the cafeteria, and Tracy Tice was chosen Senior Class Queen. Other fun events were the Computer Dating Game; the senior Theology Class' Simulated Marriage course, and later a "Senior Marriage Ceremony." There was

also "Family Feud," The Twomey Spring Classic Ping Pong Tournament, in which Randy Wilson beat Tom Tice for the title; Senior Halfway Week; a play in March called "Broadway Dreams"; a theater production, "Once Upon A Mattress"; Fashion Show of '85; the Senior Prom at Farrington Manor, which had the theme "Still Loving You" as its theme song; and the Senior/Parent dance. Who could forget Brian Nash's great band, ONYXX and their first E.P. record? SADD President was Zofia Milkowski. Monet Burns was Editor of the "Reflections" literary magazine. In '85, some of the biggest names in music combined to record "We Are The World" to benefit the starving people of Ethiopia. Some of St. Mary's Class of '85 members selected randomly are: Kenneth Benson, Theresa Bien, Joanne Brady, George Francy, Susan Hartney, Deidre Kelly, John Kulthau, Robert Noble, Sandra McGowan, James O'Connor, Ann Marie Orlowski, Janice Peters, Ronald Redmond, Mark Roberts, Christine Scupp, Elizabeth Sharkey, David Skarzynski, Roseann Spitaletto, Kurt Sary, Mary Witkowski, Michelle Zaleski, Jim Crossnohere, Tom Dean, Jeff Taylor, John Joffrey, Catherine Savin, Gail Devine, Lisa Rhoades, Renee Korbiak, Howard Harrington. St. Mary's Class of '85 was a most interesting blend of teenagers with bright futures ahead.

Local Mechanic Honored

By Jordan Drevelus

Many local residents of South Amboy and Sayreville know and trust Mattsson Auto Tech with their vehicles. Bill Mattsson, owner, has a longstanding reputation in the local area for his hard work. What might not be known about Bill is his commitment to helping the community beyond his business. For example, for the last couple of years, Bill, Karen Kline, and their team have set up for the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny as

well as the Breakfast with Santa held at the South Amboy Columbian Club. He did so at his own expense and even rented a truck to bring the necessary materials to the hall to do so. For these efforts, as well as the multitude of other good and charitable things that Bill has done, he recently received a community service award from the South Amboy Knights of Columbus.

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On Monday, April 12th some of the Brew Crew from Bombers Beyond Cafe in Sayreville helped honor veterans by placing flags at St. Stans Cemetery. This was a wonderful experience for the Brew Crew as they remember those who served our country. A special THANK YOU to our friends John Halasz "Hopper," Frank Terzino Sr. and Edward Strek for this opportunity! (Photo/Info Submitted)

**Dowdell Library News**

**Jump start your summer with Dowdell Library!**  
New! The Freegal Music+ Service allows you to access a collection of over 18 million songs from more than 93,000 music labels. Freegal Music+ also offers a mobile app and website which utilizes modern application practices to ensure an easy-to-use and enjoyable experience. The free application is available for library cardholders and can be downloaded in the Apple® App Store and Google® Play store.  
Celebrate Juneteenth with Dowdell Library! Drop in from 1:00-7:00pm to participate in numerous activities, including designing your own African mask and sampling some Juneteenth inspired dishes at 6:30pm.  
"After Lunch" by Seward Johnson - caught sleeping on the job! Drop in to the Dowdell Library to visit this special sculpture on loan from the Seward Johnson Atelier. In the meantime, he will be catching some ZZZZs. You're invited! to "Edward's" going away party! Join Dowdell in August to say goodbye! Date to be announced.  
Parents with Toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for Toddler Thursday Play Dates in June from 1:00 to 2:30 pm for games, activities, crafts, and a fun story time. Meet other parents and make new friends!  
Kids! Stop by for weekly fun at the After School Fun Club on Wednesdays in June from 3:15 to 4:30 pm.  
Celebrate the Kids' Summer Kick-Off on Wednesday, June 11 and Thursday, June 12 from 1:00-4:30 pm. Sign up for the Summer Fun Reading Program, learn about summer activities, and get a goodie bag! Enter to win a \$15 Walmart gift card!  
Join the Food Explorers on Friday, July 18 and August 8 at 1:00pm. Registration is required! Call, email, or drop in to sign up! Limited spots available. Ages 5-12  
Kids and Teens! Don't miss Drop in Club this June from 2:45-4:00 pm on Tuesdays for Board Games and Fridays for Video Games. Ages 11+. Watch for new games and programs including Foosball and Shuffleboard @ the Library! Come peruse the new video games and graphic novels available to check out!  
Get excited! For the Eyes of the Wild animal programs this summer! On Tuesday, July 22 at 2:00pm see some reptiles and amphibians! On Tuesday, August 19 at 2:00pm meet some mammals!

Teens! Stop in for the Teen Summer Kick Off on Monday, June 9 from 2:30-4:00PM. Eat some snacks, play some games, sign up for the summer program, and enter to win a \$15 Rita's gift card!  
Sign up for the summer Teen Test Kitchens! Tuesday, July 29 and August 12 at 2:00pm. Registration is required! Call, email, or drop in to sign up! Limited spots available. Ages 13+  
Teens and Adults! Sign up for the June Sewing Session on Thursday, June 26 from 6:00-8:00pm. Brush up on the basics of sewing and walk out with a handmade Koozie!  
Seniors! Senior Tech Time will be on Monday, June 2 from 10:30-11:30 am. Come learn about a new technology topic the first Monday of each month.  
New! The first VIP Senior Library trip will take place on Monday, June 9 at 10:30am. Sign-up for a library card and check out what is happening. The city can provide transportation if needed.  
The Senior Book Club will meet on Monday, June 23 from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Ask about joining! The city can provide transportation if needed.  
Dowdell Library, in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and RWJ Barnabas Health, offers online virtual health programs. Please register by emailing [communityed@rwjbh.org](mailto:communityed@rwjbh.org). Guided Imagery Relaxation Sessions are on Tuesday June 10 and 24 at 1:00 pm. Additionally, Stretch it Thursdays occurs all month long at 1:00 pm.  
The Knitting and Crochet Club meets Mondays from 3:30-5:00 pm and 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.  
Card Game Wednesdays take place every week from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. Bring your own set or use ours!  
Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit [www.dowdell.org](http://www.dowdell.org), or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or [comments@dowdell.org](mailto:comments@dowdell.org). The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School.

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

**The Pete Kenny Association Honors Captain Brian McCabe as Irish Man of the Year**  
By Surjit Singh

The Pete Kenny Association proudly honored Captain Brian McCabe as the Irish Man of the Year, celebrating his outstanding contributions and unwavering dedication to the community. The event, hosted at the lively Munckee Bar, was held on behalf of whose continued support helps make these community celebrations possible.

Captain McCabe was recognized not only for his leadership and service but also for his enduring commitment to the values that the Irish-American community holds dear—family, integrity, and hard work.


In addition to Captain McCabe, the Pete Kenny Association also acknowledged other distinguished recipients who have made meaningful impacts in their own right. Each honoree was celebrated with heartfelt applause and warm congratulations from friends, family, and supporters.

Congratulations to Captain Brian McCabe and all the 2025 honorees!



Surjit Singh (l), owner of John Auto on North Stevens Ave. in South Amboy congratulates retired South Amboy Police Captain Brian McCabe, who was honored by the Pete Kenny Association as Irish Man of the Year. (Photo submitted)

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



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**"WNL"**  
By Al Gomolka  
Times Poet Laureate  
Want you  
Need you  
Love you  
Thank you!



## Memorial Day 2025 Remembering Our First Responders

By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski, MS, U.S. Navy Vietnam War Veteran

On this Memorial Day let us remember those who gave of themselves so we may enjoy the freedom and liberty for which they fought. We can show our respect for our fallen veterans by thanking those still living. It is because of them our lives are free! It is because of them our world is Blessed!

Never forget that these brave men and women risked their lives daily for our country and the world. Show them respect by flying your flag. On Memorial Day pause a minute and pray for all our military personnel stationed across our globe and their families because of what they do each and every day for our freedoms

This Memorial Day is also a time to remember and pay respect to our local first responders. These brave men and women respond to our needs and emergencies twenty-four hours a day.

They risk their lives on a local level just as our veterans do worldwide. As you pass any one of our local cemeteries you will notice the graves decorated with new brightly colored flags. These American flags are provided to each and every fallen veteran and placed on their final resting place by other veterans. There are also Fire Department flags decorating the graves of our fallen first

responders. Some graves will be decorated with both flags. Just imagine how bravely these men & women lived their lives and their devotion to their country and community! Below is a list of our first responders who have answered their final alarm since last Memorial Day.

**WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER AND NEVER FORGET!**

### MEMBERS OF THE SAYREVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

**RUSSELL E. ANDERSON SR.**

Chief Sayreville Fire Department

**JOSEPH A. KILCOMONS**

Morgan Hose & Chemical Co.

**MARK LESCHINSKI**

Morgan Hose & Chemical Co.

**JOHN A. TALTAVAL**

Morgan Hose & Chemical Co.

**FRANK CARR**

Morgan Hose & Chemical Co.

### MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fortunately, this year we are grateful to report that no firefighters from the South Amboy Fire Department have answered their final alarm.

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

## Tea for a Cause

By Jordan Drevelus

Every year, Christ Episcopal Church in South Amboy holds a tea party. It is an event that, on the surface, just appears to be a church fundraiser, but is so much more. The Women with Purpose group of Christ Church, known as the WWP, located at 220 Main St. in South Amboy, held the tea party in order to raise funds for outreach and charitable efforts, especially their scholarship fund. The ladies, led by Mrs. Donna Huggins, have continually helped the poor and disadvantaged in the local community, especially children. The scholarship program is yet another way that the WWP continues their mission. Countless scholarships have been given out since the group's founding. The ladies are always looking for new members and for donations to help their causes. Most recently, the WWP

also held their prom dress drive which helped those who could not afford a dress and/or accessories. The tea party is a yearly affair that takes place in May and tickets are sold in the few months leading up to the event. An educational topic is always discussed. This year, Nurse Ellen Dixon, who works for Hackensack Meridian Health, spoke on the health benefits for tea and which teas were better over others. Many varieties of tea were consumed as well as a large spread of snacks and tea party foods. There were a number of activities and contests to keep all entertained. Those who are looking to join the organization or that have questions can reach President Huggins at christchurchsawwp@gmail.com.

## My Hometown, South Amboy-Part 2

John "Flip" Phillips

There will be more about "Butts," that's what we called him because he always had a cigar in his mouth. He was my first basketball coach in grammar school, and he was funny even back then. Oh, at the age of 80, he was the oldest major league manager since Connie Mack, who was 87. Jack was also a graduate of St Mary's High School and was a teammate of the O'Brien twins on both the school's baseball and basketball teams.

Thomas (Tommy) Kelly was also a St. Mary's graduate. He was an All State baseball player and was signed by the Seattle Pilots. He eventually made the majors with the Minnesota Twins, but his real accomplishments were managing at the major league level. He managed the Twins from 1986 to 2001 and won two World Series, in '87 and '91. He won over 1,000 games in his career with Minnesota, and in 2017, the club dedicated a statue to him near the stadium. In 2012 the Twins retired his uniform number 10, and he is currently a special advisor to the team's general manager. I remember him as a nice kid who lived around the corner from my mother.

Finally, do you remember the Milton Berle show? I think it was on TV every Tuesday night and was called the Texaco Star Theatre. If you do, do you remember the act when Uncle Miltie would yell for makeup and a tubby little guy, dressed in a funny costume, would run out onto the stage and smack him in the face with a large makeup pad? Well, that tubby little guy's name was Marco Marcello and he was from South Amboy. He was a town celebrity and drove around in a big black Buick and always dressed to the nines. He had a favorite tavern on Broadway and sometimes on a Saturday evening you could hear him belt out a lovely Italian song. He had a beautiful tenor voice.

Well, this is the end of "My Hometown

## Because I'm Your Dad

By Robert W. Eginton

*Because I'm your dad  
I want you to know  
You are my pride and joy  
And I love you so  
Because I'm your dad  
I will always see  
The me that's in you  
And the you that's in me  
I'll always be with you  
For good or for bad  
It don't matter to me  
Because I'm your dad  
If life should bring you a  
problem  
No matter how sad  
I will always help you with it  
Because I'm your dad  
At times we may argue  
And tempers will flare  
It just means that I love you  
And that I still care  
And if sometimes  
I may make you angry or sad,  
Please have patience with me,  
Because I'm your dad*



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State Of The City Continued From Page 1



Pictured following Mayor Henry’s address (l-r) Middlesex County Commissioner Director Ronald Rios, Middlesex County Sheriff Mildred Scott, NJ Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Mayor Henry, Commissioner Chanelle Scott-McCullum, Commissioner Shanti Narra and Commissioner Claribel Azcona-Barber. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

but in Middlesex County, Chief Patricia Kanecke.” Mayor Henry said that he was also pleased to announce his promotions in the police department of the following officers: Sgt. Brian Noble to Lieutenant; Sgt. Jacob Murray to Lieutenant; Officer Nick Fuentes to Sgt.; and Officer Tim Kales to Sgt. He then went on to recognize the retirements of Police Chief Joe Matarangolo and Capt. Brian McCabe and thank them for their decades of dedicated service to South Amboy and the police dept.

The mayor announced that South Amboy Police Patrolman Marvin DeAusen was promoted to the position of the first Student Resource Officer (SRO). He also said that “The city will help make the school safe and secure for all.”

Mayor Henry then welcomed and congratulated two new officers, Raymond “RJ” Perez and Douglas Gumprecht. He also spoke about the DARE program, taught by Det. Sgt. Tim Kales, calling it “very successful, and it continues to give students the skills and confidence needed to reject violence, substance use, and gangs.”

In addition, Mayor Henry stated that the ridership on the ferry is at approximately 6,000 per month, and the permanent docking facility and parking lot is nearly 70% complete, and will open later this year.

The city will start replacing the pumping station on Raritan Street, and the \$6.6 million project is mostly funded through a nearly \$5 million grant from the federal Economic Development Administration. Work will begin later this year, and be completed early in 2026.

Henry praised Public Works Superintendent Len Moffa for doing “an extraordinary job keeping South Amboy

clean and in great shape. We have also added 2 new garbage trucks along with other needed equipment in addition to increasing the personnel in this department.” Also work is being done now on Broadway to repave the street, replace sidewalks and curbs where needed, and trees which were removed. Phase 1 from Main St. to Augusta St. is in progress. Phase 2 from Augusta St. to Bordentown Ave. will commence next year. Street signs will also be replaced in the downtown area. In addition, Conologue and South Pine Ave. will be repaved.

The city purchased two lots on Henry & Broadway, and John & Broadway, and the old building was torn down with the cooperation of NJT, which owns the middle lot. A parking lot with an additional 80 spaces to help everyone’s shopping experience in South Amboy, should be finished by the end of the year. Mayor Henry, throughout his outstanding speech praised Business Administrator David Kales on his excellent work ethic and dedication to the City of South Amboy.

The Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, now in its 111th year under Library Director Elaine Gaber, has an endless list of services including music events, art exhibitions, pottery classes, free tax preparations, video games and so much more. You can also download books, audiobooks, magazines, and music. For the History buffs, the library offers historical memorabilia in their archives such as the South Amboy Citizen issues from 1910, and The South Amboy-Sayreville Times from 1991 to present. In addition the library holds a Veterans Day program, after school fun club, and a teen drop-in club. A social worker intern from Adelphi University is now at the library to help the community

connect to various resources and referrals for mental health issues, health care, substance use, housing, food assistance and more. All assistance is confidential and free of charge, according to Mayor Henry.

The Manhattan Beach project is expected to begin soon, and will allow more access to public beach areas, and create a beautiful nature walk, which will be open to all.

There have been improvements made to the Senior Center including resurfaced floors, the walls were painted, the stove, refrigerator and freezer were all replaced. New programs at the center in Arts & Crafts include painting, beading, and origami. Bingo, Lunch & Learn, and Chair Yoga are still very popular. A river cruise is once again planned this summer.

In Recreation, baseball, softball and tennis clinics are planned for the summer, and volleyball on the beach has been added. The city is looking into creating permanent pickleball courts. The parks are getting a facelift, and summer programs have been expanded an extra week.

St. Patrick’s Day Parade is one of the largest and best in the state of NJ, and Mayor Henry thanked this year’s Grand Marshal Mark Herdman for doing a great job. Other celebrations throughout the year include the Halloween Parade, Christmas Trolley to view house decorations, and last December, the first Hanukkah celebration was held in front of City Hall. In addition South Amboy had their first celebration of Black History Month, with special guest, Sheriff Mildred Scott. The Mayor’s Brunches are also very popular.

Henry recognized the Arts program mentioning the creative paintings of the late John Vona, and he also praised Joan Conway for her passion and accomplishments with the Arts in South Amboy.

He also mentioned the Historical Society of South Amboy, and how it provides citizens with incredible historical events. Recently, there was a program on the Lindbergh baby kidnapping of 1932, and on May 18th, an event was held recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Powder Pier Explosion.

Mayor Henry said, “Our first responders continue to donate their time in serving the residents of South Amboy. Last year, we honored Betty Leveille on her 50 years of service, and as the first female squad member.” A new ambulance has arrived, and the city also purchased an automatic stretcher, which will better service their patients and help alleviate some pain in our squad members backs!

He thanked outgoing Fire Chief Tim Gay, and congratulated this year’s Fire Chief Rafael Albarran, First Assistant Chief Mike Kelly, and Second Assistant Chief Charlie Honimar. He also said he was honored to present Jim Larkin with a proclamation for his 50 years of volunteer service for Independence Fire Co. In addition, Tom

Gorman was recently given a proclamation for his 50 years of fire service.

The mayor stated that the city’s budget was reduced by \$161,820 from last year, which lowered municipal taxes by \$78 on an average assessed home of \$275,000! He also said that when he became Mayor in 2011 we had no surplus. Last year it reached \$5,034,000, and this year’s is \$6,200,000! He said, “I believe that this is evidence of a good fiscal government operation.” Last year a list was compiled of the 150 top US hottest markets and 32 New Jersey towns made the list, including South Amboy! In January 2025, Home Stratosphere published the Zillow Home Value Index on coastal real estate in New Jersey. “South Amboy leads the affordable coastal market with its 2024 median home value of \$497,871. The city’s remarkable trajectory reflects its growing appeal as a commuter-friendly waterfront destination. With near-doubling of values since 2015 at 96.3% growth and a robust 47.9% appreciation since 2020, South Amboy exemplifies the strong market dynamics of Northern New Jersey’s coastal communities.” Mayor Henry said, “With accolades like these, we must be doing something right! Government spending is down and services are up! This is progress! This is an efficient, effective government working for the people of South Amboy. It is a collective of several agencies working together for the greater good. It starts with our City Council of President Mickey Gross, Vice-President Zusette Dato, and council members Tom Reilly, Anthony Conrad, and Larry Lenahan. Our great team also includes our city Engineer Mark Rasimowicz, our Law Director Francis Womack, our Redevelopment Agency and its Director Eric Chubenko, our Planning Board and Chairman Jorge Gonzalez-Gomez, our Auditor Gary Higgins, and our CFO Dan Balka. But most of the day-to-day work gets done by our Clerk Debra Brooks, our Management Specialist Kathryn Kudelka, and my Business Administrator David Kales. Dave has used his unique skills to transform our city government into something special.”

He also praised “the unwavering support” of Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez, Senator Joseph Vitale, and Congressman Frank Pallone. “These people have represented South Amboy well, and are responsible for bringing millions of dollars to a variety of projects in our city. And with the support of Director Ronald Rios, the Middlesex County Board of Commissioners has been integral in bringing infrastructure improvements to our city.”

Mayor Fred Henry also thanked Father Stan and Father Guy, in addition to thanking his wife Linda and the entire family.

Pete Kenny Association Awards (Photo/info by Jamie Norek)



On April 27 the Pete Kenny Association held their 40th Anniversary Awards Event at the Munckee Bar Honorees were pictured in no particular order: Irishman of the Year SAPD Brian McCabe, Veteran of the Year US Army Veteran Gary Poland, Officer of the Year SPD John Zebrowski, Troopers of the Year Sgt. Marc Nietubyc and Sgt. Roy Rohel Jr., Citizen of the Year Robert A Cafero CPA, Outstanding Achievement Award Edward T Centnar Port Authority PD, FireFighter of the Year SAFD Ex Chief David Szatkowski.

The Police Unity Tour,



South Amboy Police Ptl Rutkowski joined other officers from around the state as she rode with the Police Unity Tour. Together, they begin a powerful journey—riding in honor of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. The Police Unity Tour, held annually to mark the beginning of National Police Week, is a multi-day bicycle ride to Washington, D.C., dedicated to honoring fallen officers. Riders from eight chapters across the country depart from various East Coast locations and unite at the National Law Enforcement Memorial. (Photo/Story Submitted)





LETTERS

**Dear Friend of Sayreville Public Library:**  
Thank you for being a Member of this important group that supports our wonderful local library! We are currently collecting dues of \$5.00 for 2025. If you have not already paid, please submit as soon as possible (by May 31 please) in one of the following ways:

- Drop off cash or check to the Library Circulation Desk
- Mail a check to: Friends of Sayreville Public Library, 1050 Washington Road, Parlin, NJ 08859

Be sure to include your NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE and EMAIL. Checks should be made out to "Friends of Sayreville Public Library."

Our dedicated volunteers:

Maintain the Everyday Book Store, Provide Museum Passes to Brooklyn Botanical Garden and The Intrepid Museum, Collect food and other staples for local food pantries, Offer a scholarship to a local High School Senior attending college or trade school, Coordinate children's Letters to Santa, Established and maintain the Memorial Garden on Library grounds, Organize book sales for the community, Participate in "Friends Helping Friends" Boscov

fundraiser, Oversee book dedications in memory or honor of loved ones, rganize Mah Jongg lessons at the Library, Host Library staff at Christmas and retirement, Support the Library in other ways as needed Please join us! Meetings are at 10:00 am at the Library usually on the 3rd Saturday of the month (excluding July, August and December). Following are the dates of remaining meetings in 2025: \*June 21\*September 2\*October 1\*November 15. Your support is greatly appreciated! Unable to attend meetings? No problem! Want to volunteer? Let us know your area(s) of interest and availability. Life is too busy right now? We understand and would still love to see you as a member! Do as much or as little as your schedule allows.

Sincerely,  
**Sue Paul – President**  
**Suzanne Naam – Vice President**  
**Ursula VanWart – Vice President**  
**Ron Orlandini – Treasurer**  
**Larry DeToma – Secretary**  
**Jennifer Larsen – Library Liaison**

If you would like your name to be removed from our Membership List, please reply to this email (but we really hope you renew your membership today!)

Afternoon Tea At Christ Church



Sayreville War Memorial High School National Honor Society member, Sofia Muller, lends a helping hand at Christ Church in South Amboy. She assisted in setting-up and decorating for their annual Afternoon Tea, which took place on May 3, 2025. Funds raised will benefit Christ Church scholarship fund and community outreach programs. Pictured: Mrs. Donna Huggins (front row, left), Sofia Muller (middle) and Christ Church Volunteers. (Photos/Info Submitted)

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.

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. - M.L.

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Fishing Derby



Sayreville Recreation hosted their annual Fishing Derby on May 10, 2025 at Kennedy Park. This annual rite of spring was attended by 126 young anglers ages 3 to 15, the most participants since the resumption of recreation activities following the pandemic. Participants tried to catch the biggest fish. Prizes of fishing poles, tackle boxes, and fishing nets were awarded to top finishers in each age group. Sayreville Sportsman donated bait for event.

Also continuing this year was Sayreville Recreation’s partnership with Sayreville Police Department with Officer Fisher and other officers providing assistance to young fisherman who needed a quick tip or two and with the donation of fishing poles for those who needed equipment for the day.

“We’re glad to see such a fantastic turnout at our annual fishing derby this year! It’s always a joy to see our community come together and share in the excitement of the outdoors,” said Brian VanDongen, Director of Sayreville Recreation. “Fishing teaches patience, builds confidence, and encourages a lifelong appreciation for nature. We’re also happy to partner with the Sayreville Police Department at this event for Fishing with Officer Fisher, who assists children who may need a quick fishing lesson and to borrow a fishing pole.” (Photos/story submitted)

RESULTS

Overall Winner

Riley Wisniewski (age 11), 12 ¾” fish

Ages 3-4

Peter Piatek, 7 ¾”  
Charlotte Connor, 7 ¼”  
Harper Porter, 6 ¾”

Ages 5-6

Dylan Letsche, 7 ½”  
Michael Grella, 6 ½”  
Aubree Cameron, 6”

Ages 7-8

Kelly Duchemin, 7 ¼”

Ages 9-10

(tie) Anthony LePore, 6 ¾”  
(tie) Thomas Ricapito, 6 ¾”

Ages 11-12

Isaac Lay, 10 ½”  
Luis Del Rio, 10”

Ages 13-15

1st Henry Borovets, 10 ¾”  
2nd (tie) Sebastian Krahnak, 10 ¼”  
2nd (tie) Gavin Zazzarino, 10 ¼”  
3rd (tie) Anthony Borovets, 10”  
3rd (tie) Tyler Chou, 10”  
(Photo/Story Submitted)



After The Explosion-75 Years Ago



May 19, 1950 is one of South Amboy’s most memorable dates in history. Pictured are three barges that were still burning following the devastating 1950 Explosion in South Amboy on the Raritan Bay.



1950-Following the huge explosion at the South Amboy waterfront area that rocked the whole town as well as surrounding communities, “Oshie” Quinlan (r) is pictured with his friend Ray Downs. (Photo courtesy of Dennis Quinlan)

St. Stan’s School

(Photos/Info Submitted)

Binx Entertainment, with special guest Houdini the Bunny, had the students of St. Stan's captivated with awe and suspense! Thank you to the Rosarian Society for sponsoring an amazing show!



South Amboy PBA Local #63 Community Support Awards

(Photos by Jame Norek)

On May 12th following the annual memorial service South Amboy PBA Local #63 presented three individuals for their support of the locals and the community. Fr. Dennis Weezorak former pastor at St. Mary’s parish and PBA chaplin, resident Ed O’Connor and business owner James Aiello were presented with silver PBA cards in recognition to PBA LOCAL #63.



Fr. Dennis Weezorak



Ed O'Connor



James Aiello

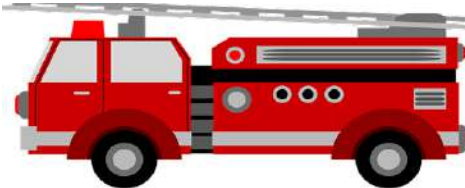


# The Smoke Column

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

Firefighters at a fire scene perform a multitude of duties which all depend on the objectives established by the Incident Commander. One of the critical positions on the fireground is the Driver/Engineer (D/E). So many times, this position is underdeveloped, underutilized, and underappreciated. No one notices the D/E on the scene unless something goes wrong like running out of water, low pump pressures, or the aerial device is improperly positioned. A good D/E must be reliable, proactive, trustworthy, detail-oriented, level-headed, intellectually curious, methodical, and have good habits. An effective D/E understands that driving excited, angry, emotionally distressed, or distracted may place the entire crew at risk even before they arrive at the incident. Research has shown that driving while severely sleep deprived can have the same results as being intoxicated. D/E's must be mathematicians as they must calculate water pressure, water usage, available water supply, and when to adjust the pump if a hoseline fails. Experienced D/E's recognize the different sounds their pump makes when operating and if it is having problems. D/E's should ensure that the on-board water tank is topped off as soon as practical after securing a positive water source. He should also ensure that all other pumpers at the scene are topped off in case their water supply is disrupted or a supply line breaks. A full tank of water may be a life saving measure for those firefighters on the other end of an attack line. Once a water source is established, the D/E can crack open the tank/fill valve and slowly fill the water tank without disrupting the water dedicated to the attack lines. The D/E must constantly monitor all the gauges on the pump panel and adjust, as necessary. The pump temperature has to be within range otherwise the pump will overheat and seize. If attack lines are not flowing water, the D/E may have to open a discharge valve and flow water as a way of keeping the pump temperature within range. If the pump is constantly flowing water at

long duration, pump temperature may not be a concern as a continuous supply of water will flow through the pump. A pump that gets overheated may result in an extremely expensive repair bill for the department. The D/E is the busiest person on the fireground during the first 10 minutes. While the Incident Commander is considering the strategy and tactics to be used to control the incident, the D/E has his own tactical considerations that must be evaluated on the emergency scene. If he does not perform his duties in a proper and systematic order, the incident may be doomed right from the beginning. The process that the D/E follows is pretty similar for each fire: drive safely to the scene; position the apparatus properly; establish a water supply; deploy and charge attack lines; provide scene lighting; supply tools and other necessary equipment; and many other duties as the incident demands. Some of these duties may not be necessary at every incident but the D/E must be prepared for any situation. Once everything is set up, in-place, and operating, he must constantly monitor the situation and anticipate the next step, always being prepared for any emergency that may arise. Once the emergency is under control or completed, it is the D/E's responsibility to place the apparatus and all its equipment back to a ready and serviceable condition. Everything must be ready for the next response. Now you know that the driver of the apparatus does not just drive but must be knowledgeable of everything that is carried on the apparatus, the location and how it operates.



## South Amboy Police Dept & South Amboy PBA 63 Memorial Service (Photos by Jamie Norek)



Mayor Fred Henry



Chief Patricia Kanecke



Francis Norek Jr. sang God Bless America and the Lord's Prayer.



Sgt. Dennis McQuade and Ptl. Marcus Nunez raised the National Police Memorial flag.



### What is Memorial Day

Memorial Day, which was originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance in honor of America's war dead. Decoration Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1866 by General John Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. It was first observed on May 30, 1868. May 30th was chosen specifically because it was not on the anniversary of a major battle. Federal law recognized the holiday as "Memorial Day" in 1967. In 1971, a law was passed moving the date from May 30 to the last Monday in May.

## Memorial Day Services

Sunday May 25th

Meeting at 9 A.M. at Christ Church Cemetery and continuing to local cemeteries and ending at Veterans Plaza on Bordentown Ave. at 12 noon with placing of the Memorial Wreath.



American Legion Luke A. Lovely Post & Unit 62  
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 62



SUPPORT OUR TROOPS





Meet Jenny Ma (Photo/story submitted)

I am a mixed-media landscape artist, inspired by both my local surroundings and the places I’ve visited. Thirty-seven years ago, I immigrated to the United States from Taiwan. During the empty nest phase, I decided to pursue a dream and passion I had always held in my heart. My adventure in art finally began. I immersed myself in as many art activities as possible, seizing every opportunity to explore various artistic mediums. I attended countless workshops and brought my watercolors with me wherever I traveled, whether domestic or international. I became a member, gallery sitter, and curator at the Art Alliance Gallery in Red Bank. Throughout this journey, I felt a deep need to elevate my work to a higher level.

Eight years ago, I moved to South Amboy and began commuting daily between South Amboy and downtown TriBeCa to study full-time at the New York Academy of Art, the fine arts school founded by Andy Warhol. The formal art courses and training at NYAA helped me further develop my vision and skills, making me a better artist.

Over the years, I have received recognition for my work, including the Art Around the Bay Contest Award in 2018 in Keyport, and first place in the Art Alliance Gallery 35th Annual Juried Exhibition Awards in 2021 in Red Bank. In South Amboy, I’ve exhibited at the public library, participated in various community art festivals, collaborated with high school students and Middlesex Community College,

and assisted in workshops with the South Amboy Art Alliance Team.

I love South Amboy for its convenient location, the Raritan Bay waterfront, and the sweeping paths in the park. I find inspiration in experimenting with textures and mark-making. Painting allows me to express my emotions, affection, and creative ideas. I feel incredibly fortunate to live here and experience the spirituality of creation and the joy of life every day.



South Amboy & Beyond' Exhibition Closing June 6th

Before the exhibition’s closing, Jenny Ma, our local artist, will be conducting a mixed media workshop at the SA Arts Gallery located at 141 N Broadway. The cost per person is \$30 which includes supplies and refreshments.

Contact SA Arts with any questions regarding the exhibition or workshop. The workshop theme is Landscapes. To reserve your space or if you have any questions: Email: SAarts141@gmail.com Or Call: 732-727-4600 x5971. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

SWMHS Class Of 1975 50th Reunion

Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) ‘Class of 1975’ will celebrate its 50th reunion with two evenings of festivities including a dinner at Forsgate Country Club on Friday, June 27, 2025. The class of baby boomers is one of the largest to graduate from Sayreville High School on June 12, 1975, with more than 500 classmates. "The response thus far to this long awaited special occasion has been very gratifying," the reunion committee stated. The committee also reports a growing list of RSVPs from all over the country. The itinerary kicks off on: Thursday, June 26 at 5:15 p.m.: A guided tour of our Alma Mater, Sayreville War Memorial High School. Meet at the office entrance on Washington Road promptly for the starting time. Thursday, June 26, immediately following the tour at approximately 6:30 p.m.: A casual get-together (Dutch-treat) at Sean’s Pub N’ Grub (the Old Deerfield Inn) 50 Deerfield Road, Parlin, NJ 08859. Friday, June 27, Morning/Afternoon: On your own. Free time to visit with friends and family or

enjoy events in the area. Friday, June 27, 6:00-10:00 p.m.: Reunion celebration at Forsgate Country Club, 375 Forsgate Drive, Monroe Township, NJ 08831 (casual business dress). Appetizers, buffet dinner and dancing. Cash bar available. Entertainment provided by DJ - Michael Martino. Cost: \$100 per person, TO BE PAID IN ADVANCE by May 23rd. The committee advises attendees to make all reservations for hotels and events at your earliest convenience. ▪ □ Courtyard by Marriott, Cranbury South Brunswick, 420 Forsgate Drive, Cranbury, NJ 08512. Group rates are available until May 28th. ▪ □ DoubleTree by Hilton, Monroe Township Cranbury, 390 Forsgate Drive, Monroe, NJ 08831. Group rates are available until June 6th or until sold out. For additional details, costs, payment guidelines, accommodations, etc., please refer to our class Facebook page ‘Sayreville War Memorial High School Class of 1975’ or email us at SWMHS1975@gmail.com

Local Youth Honored with Service Scholarships

By Jordan Drevelus

The South Amboy Knights of Columbus have selected their scholarship recipients for the 2024-2025 school year. Four exemplary students stood out among the large number of students that applied. Academics and one’s dutiful commitment to community service as well as an essay were among a number of criteria used to select the winners. It has been the practice of the scholarship committee, when possible, to choose a winner from both South Amboy and Sayreville. A total of \$1,750 will be awarded amongst the following winners:

The Knights awarded Mary Thomas of South Amboy first place. She attends the South Amboy Middle High School where she is valedictorian of her class as of the current standing. Mary is an altar server at

Saint Mary Church in South Amboy and made connections between faith and service in her essay.

Liz Smetana, who came in close second, is from Sayreville Township and attends Sayreville War Memorial High School. She is in the Air Force JROTC program and is part of numerous service organizations including Sacred Heart Youth Group. Liz regularly helps the Knights of Columbus with community service and charity events following in the footsteps of her father and both grandfathers in the Knights of Columbus and mother in the Columbiettes.

Additional scholarships are also being awarded to Bryan Rolzhausen and Sarah McLaughlin for their efforts in community service.



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

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

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

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





**memorial  
DAY**

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**FRANCIS M. WOMACK**  
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**RAFAEL ALBARRAN**  
Fire Chief

**LEONARD MOFFA**  
Public Works Superintendent

**JOANNE KATKO**  
Tax Collector

**ELAINE GABER**  
Library Director




"We the People




Ms. Spinapont's 6th grade honors students from South Amboy Middle/High School placed third in the "We the People" Essay Contest hosted by the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Students were honored at the Clarkson S. Fisher U.S. Courthouse in Trenton on May 5, 2025 and presented certificates by Judge Christine M. Gravelle and Judge Rukhsanah L. Singh. Congratulations! (Photo/Info Submitted)




Bill Mattsson and Karen Kline receive a community service award from South Amboy Knights of Columbus #426 Grand Knight Jan Williams. (Photo/info submitted)





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## Cinco de Mayo Celebration



This Mariachi Band provided entertainment for the crowd.



There was a large crowd on hand at the South Amboy Arts Alliance Gallery to celebrate Cinco de Mayo! (Photos Submitted)

## Flag Day Ceremony

The OLV Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly will hold a Flag Day ceremony on Sat., June 7th at St. Stan's parking lot, 225 MacArthur Ave., Sayreville

beginning at 10:30 a.m. For more information call Andy at 732-416-6959 or the K of C Council Home at 732-257-2061.



*Sayreville's*

# INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

**JUNE 30 - 4:00 - 9:30PM**  
**KENNEDY PARK**

**FIREWORKS - FOOD TRUCKS - INFLATABLES -  
ROCK WALL - FACE PAINTING - FAMILY FUN**



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First 5k In Over Ten Years!



Samantha Pagan (r) competed in the “run for bacon” 5K in Manalapan earlier this month. It was her first 5K in over a decade. She is pictured with her husband Nelson and their three children. Great job! (Photo Submitted)

Flowers For Mary



Mrs Smetana's Level 4 students in CCD at Sacred Heart Church created positive word pots filled with beautiful flowers to honor our Blessed Mother's Day and congratulate our upcoming First Holy Communicants and Confirmation candidates. (Photos/Info Submitted)





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The Brew Crew



The South Amboy Knights of Columbus, Council 426 presented the Brew Crew at the Bombers Beyond Cafe in Sayreville with a donation from the recent 50's Sock Hop. It was a successful and fun event that raised money to benefit local charities. Thanks to all those that helped in the effort. (Photo/Info Submitted)



American Legion Lenape Post 211 Honor Guard celebrating their 35th Anniversary Year as an Honor Guard with a celebration dinner at Camilios Restaurant. (Photo Submitted)

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\*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.



### Stay NJ Property Tax Relief Program

Middlesex County Promotes Stay NJ Property Tax Relief Program to Support Eligible Older Residents. Eligible residents age 65+ are encouraged to apply by October 31, 2025. Middlesex County is raising broad awareness and encouraging eligible homeowners to apply for the Stay NJ property tax relief program—a new State of New Jersey initiative that provides significant financial support to older residents. To ensure that every eligible County resident is aware of this program, the County has recently launched a multi-faceted public service announcement campaign, highlighting the key benefits and criteria. Additionally, for ease of discovery and for helpful tools, the County created a webpage with useful links to more information at [middlesexcountynj.gov/taxrelief](http://middlesexcountynj.gov/taxrelief). This campaign reflects the County’s continued commitment to older residents to enable them to remain in New Jersey by easing the burden of property taxes and promoting the overall well-being of the senior community.

Stay NJ offers a 50% reimbursement on property taxes—up to \$13,000 annually—with a cap of \$6,500 for 2024. The program is available to homeowners who are 65 years of age or older and meet income and residency requirements. The application deadline is October 31, 2025, with payments expected in early 2026. This year, residents can conveniently apply for property tax relief by submitting a single application to claim benefits for Stay NJ, ANCHOR, and Senior Freeze.

“The Stay NJ program will provide meaningful relief to our senior homeowners, helping them remain in the homes they have built and cherished within their community in Middlesex County,” said Middlesex County Commissioner Director Ronald G. Rios. “We know many older residents are facing growing financial pressures, and we urge all who are eligible to take advantage of this opportunity, as it can provide more financial stability.”

“Stay NJ reflects Middlesex County’s

broader mission: ensuring all residents—especially our seniors—have the stability and support they need to thrive,” said Commissioner Claribel A. Azcona-Barber, Chair of the County’s Community Services Committee. “We want our older residents to know that they are not alone. Whether you need help with the application process or need key property details, we’re here to help—every step of the way.”

“Middlesex County is here to assist residents as they apply for the Stay NJ program by making the process more accessible through online tools on our County website,” said Middlesex County Clerk Nancy J. Pinkin. “I encourage residents to use these tools to simplify their application process as their property information is readily available online.”

To aid with the application process, the Office of the County Clerk, along with the Office of Information Technology, offers two web-based tools: the Middlesex County Tax Relief Program Address Lookup and the Middlesex Clerk Records Search Tool, both available on [middlesexcountynj.gov/taxrelief](http://middlesexcountynj.gov/taxrelief). These tools allow residents to search for information about their property, including their block and lot numbers.

The Middlesex County Office of Aging & Disabled Services will conduct outreach efforts county-wide to educate older residents about this vital program and provide support during the application process. As a designated AARP Age-Friendly Community, Middlesex County helps older adults stay engaged with the community through various services and programs offered by the Office of Aging & Disabled Services, including meal services, health and fitness events, fraud prevention and elder abuse conferences, an annual art contest and show, and more.

For more information on programs and services provided by the Office of Aging & Disabled Services, please visit [middlesexcountynj.gov](http://middlesexcountynj.gov).

### LETTERS



Hello, Tom & Brian,

I was delighted to see the old baseball team photo in the newest issue of your paper.

The 2 identified boys - Frank Long (sic) was Frank Edward Lang, born 17 Jul 1893, Sayreville, NJ.. the youngest of 5 sons of Charles and Mary per the NJ 1905 Census and WWI Draft Registration. By WWI draft, he was living in the Bronx, where he remained until he died 7 Sep 1951. Buried Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, NY.

The 2nd boy, John Guilfoyle, was John Guilfoyle, Jr., born 26 Feb 1894, Sayreville, NJ, the 2nd eldest of 7 children of John Sr. and Mary (nee Bagley). His only brother (youngest sibling) was married to my Great-Aunt. John, Jr. was a WWI Veteran and died 26 May 1932, Brooklyn, NY. Buried New Calvary Cemetery, Parlin, NJ.

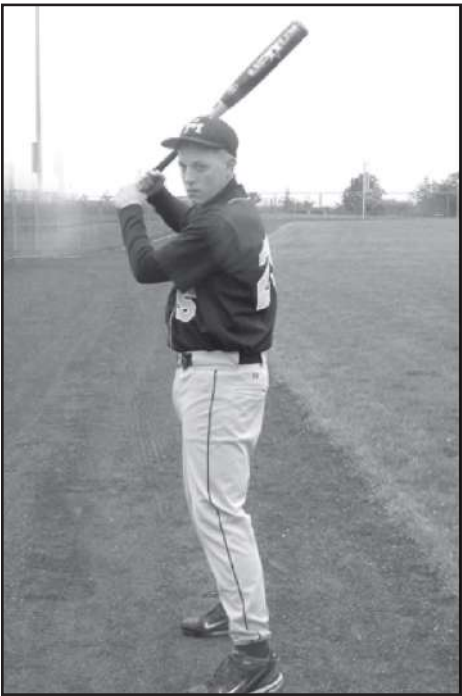
I think the man was probably Edward Breuer, b. 23 Oct 1860, Hungary. He owned a dry goods store and lived on Main St., Sayreville per the US 1900. Census Buried Washington Monumental Cemetery, South River, NJ.

The boys appear to be young teens, so I would date the photo to be before 1910.

Deborah C. Marion  
Member, Sayreville Historical Society



### 20 Years Ago



Brett Romer

### 2005-Romer Sets HR Record For Eagles

Cardinal McCarrick’s junior third baseman, Brett Romer became the first St. Mary’s/Cardinal McCarrick player in history to blast 3 home runs in one game. The record-setting performance carried the Eagles to a 13-11 triumph in 8 innings over Newark Academy in a game played at Livingston. Each of Romer’s dingers were 2-run rockets, including one in the 7th inning that put the Blue & Gold on top, 11-10. The slugger came through with the game winning, 2-run HR in the eighth. He finished with 6 RBI. Mike Harris also showed power by unloading two round-trippers.



June 19 – 20 – 21, 2025

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**Beer Garden ~ BBQ Ribs and Friday Fish Fry with Fried Shrimp!**

**Live Nightly Entertainment**

Thursday – June 19

Chaos 6:00pm-6:30pm  
Magician Tom 7:00pm-8:00pm  
DJ Fereno 8pm-10pm

Friday – June 20

St. Stan's Chorus 5:30pm to 6:30pm  
School of Rock 6:45pm-7:45pm  
Up All Nyte 8:00pm-10:30pm

Saturday – June 21

El Charro de oro y su Mariachi TBD  
ATA Demo & Board Breaking 4:30pm-6:30pm  
Hershey and the Wolf 6:30pm-8:00pm  
Fog 8:30pm-11:00pm

Friday is  
ALUMNI  
NIGHT!



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# A Tribute To The “Godfather of Local Garage Bands” Mr. Roger Johnson

By Clem Skarzynski



The original Hubcaps (l-r) Darryl James, Bobby Spencer, Frankie Joisne, Roger Johnson.

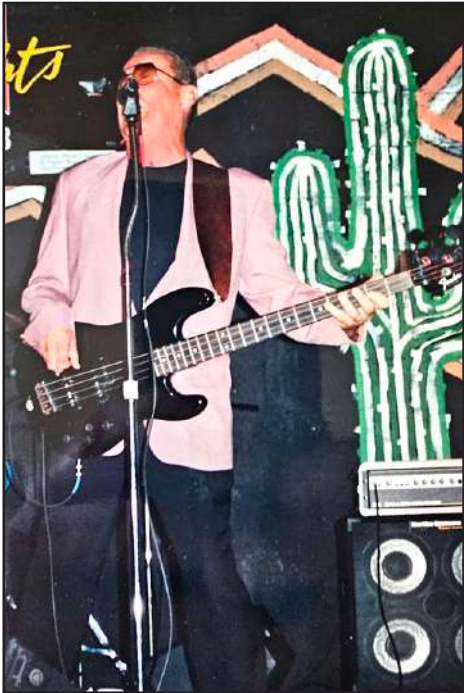
On April 12 the local Rock and Roll Music scene lost our “Patriarch,” our “Innovator,” our “Guiding Light,” and most definitely, our “Inspiration” to plug in an electric guitar, a bass, and grab a pair of drumsticks, find a garage or basement, and play some good rock and roll.”LOUD”! Roger Johnson showed us all the way. In 1955, he was at the Paramount Theater for Alan Freed's Rock and Roll Show..age 14 and seeing Chuck Berry, Bo Diddley, Bill Haley and the Comets! Wow!...2 years later, Roger rounded up two other Morgan musicians, Darryl James and Bobby Spencer, and “The Hubcaps” were born! Roger always paid homage to Fords, N.J. band “Tommy Lucas and The Hound Dogs, for their inspiration, and getting him started in forming a band.. then like all of us who followed..time to play the local school dances, and of course, to impress the girls! And as the years went on, the “Caps” added/replaced members as we all did, and continued their dream. Roger’s presence led to the formation of

many bands for him and other locals. Roger always welcomed new musicians to join his “jams,” and always encouraged all of us to continue our dreams as he was doing. As a youngster, I the writer would sneak in to the dances to listen to the “Caps,” at age 15, I was asked to join one of Roger’s spin off bands “The Misfits” as guitarist, alongside Darryl James, drummer Greg Origo, and bassist Glenn Giles, playing weekends in “The Pink Elephant Lounge”...ME..A 15 YEAR OLD PUNK, onstage with the “pros,” setting up behind the bar, playing music for the local crowd! Roger and his wife Marlene, on drums, soon formed “Third Down,” a 3 piece top 40 band..then in 1998, I was blessed to have “Roger and The Hubcaps at the “Rock and Roll Reunion” Show...there they were onstage...so many years later, still rocking, with Roger showing us all how to “Rock”... It was at that show, when Roger approached me and made me the “Honorary Member” of the band..always pushing me to beyond my playing limits, encouraging me ..but, that



Pictured at The Hubcaps Reunion Jam (l-r) Eddie “Whitey” Dill, Frankie Dill, Roger Johnson, Clem Skarzynski, Frank Joisne.

was Roger...as he was with his “Children” he taught music to at Sacred Heart School... he so inspired them, he had such a natural way to get you to your highest level of playing...always praising your talents, never taking credit for his accomplishments, only his students or fellow musicians ..Roger, Ill always remember you for that, your “open arms” to join you, playing music...”showing off our talents” to others, and always with that smile! What you began here locally, with local bands, was groundbreaking! You taught me how to be a musician and a humble person! How to enjoy having a great bunch of fellow musicians to play rock n roll together! You started it all...although as the years go by, we’ve lost so many of our fellow musician friends..we’ll continue to live by your words and,”just have fun with the Music”! Thank You Roger..as It says on your memory card.. the writing of Miles Davis..”I’ve only gone to rest a little while”...



Roger Johnson on stage at the 1998 Rock ‘N’ Roll Reunion.

## At The Hop!



The South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426 recently had their 3rd annual Sock Hop. Everyone enjoyed their favorite 50's and 60's music performed by the "Cellar Dwellers & Friends". There was plenty of great food and dancing. Even a 50's costume contest. All the proceeds will go to support local charities. (Photos/Info Submitted)



The Gene Simmons (formerly of KISS) band rocked the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank this month! (Photo by Karen Kline)

## #1 Country Hits May 24

- 2023-Last Night-Morgan Wallen
- 2014-Play It Again-Luke Bryan
- 2003-Three Wooden Crosses-Randy Travis
- 1999-You Were Mine-The Dixie Chicks
- 1980-Gideon-Kenny Rogers
- 1978-Every Time Two Fools Collide -Kenny Rogers/Dottie West
- 1964-My Heart Skips A Beat-Buck Owens

## #1 Pop Hits-May 24

- 2024-Beautiful Things-Benson Boone
- 2015-Cheerleader-OMI
- 2003-Get Busy-Sean Paul
- 1994-Nothing Compares 2 U -Sinead O’Connor
- 1987-With or Without You-U2
- 1977-Sir Duke-Stevie Wonder
- 1961-Mother-In-Law-Ernie K-Doe



## Acoustic Friday at SAAA



Acoustic Friday at South Amboy Arts Alliance curtain call: Tom Flynn, Jerry Smith, Barbara Paskin, Diane Doolittle and Paul During (kneeling). )Photo/Info Submitted)



By Tom Burkard

## Key Word: Moon

- 1.Bad Moon Rising
- 2.Blue Moon
- 3.Harvest Moon
- 4.Dancing In The Moonlight
- 5.Moon River
- 6.Man On The Moon
- 7.Bark At The Moon
- 8.Walking On The Moon
- 9.Neon Moon
- 10.Fly Me To The Moon
- 11.Blue Moon Of Kentucky



- a.Neil Young
- b.The Marcells
- c.R.E.M.
- d.The Police
- e.CCR
- f.Ozzy Osbourne
- g.Andy Williams
- h.Brooks & Dunn
- i.Elvis Presley
- j.Frank Sinatra
- k.King Harvest

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



School Sports

(As of May 11)  
By Tom Burkard

Baseball

Sayreville (7-11) Coach Tim Ballard  
Team Leaders

Batting  
Runs-Chase Cannan 11, Michael Robinson 8, Justin Marrero 8; Hits-Robinson 23, Logan Kaufman 17; RBI-Kaufman 14, Robinson 9; Doubles-Robinson 7, Kaufman 4; Batting Avg.-Robinson .383, Kaufman .298.

Pitching  
Innings Pitched-Kaufman 30, James Kehoe 26.1; Strikeouts-Thomas Schlaline 37, Kaufman 32; ERA-Kaufman 2.57, Schlaline 3.41.

South Amboy (5-12) Coach Dan Poulsen  
Team Leaders

Batting  
Runs-Jeremy Vasquez 18, Robert Senape 13, Benjamin Smith 13; Hits-Smith 23, Vasquez 22, Micah Nemeth 17; RBI-Vasquez 15, Smith 15; Doubles-Diego Colon 5, Smith 5; Triples-Vasquez 2; Home Runs-Vasquez 5; Batting Avg.-Smith .426, Vasquez .361, Nemeth .315, Vaughn Pelkey .302, Colon 286.

Pitching  
Innings Pitched-Colon 30, Nemeth 26; Strikeouts-Colon 35, Nemeth 29; ERA-Colon 4.43, Vaughn Pelkey 4.77.

Softball

Sayreville (10-7) Coach Amanda Moken  
Team Leaders

Batting  
Runs-Mya Infante 14, Josephine Vanore 13, Gianna Falto 13; Hits-Falton 19, Kilpatrick 18, Infante 16, Vanore 15; Hits-Hailey Kilpatrick 15; Doubles-Vanore 5; Home Runs-Infante 2, Vanore 1; RBI-Infante 12, Vanore 11; Batting Avg.-Kilpatrick .346, Vanore .340, Falto .333, Infante .309.

Pitching  
Innings Pitched-Vanore 79.2; Strikeouts-Vanore 89, ERA-Vanore 1.67.

South Amboy (6-7) Coach Lindsay Durant  
Team Leaders

Batting  
Runs-Sarah McLaughlin 20, Mia Pina 13; Hits-Sophie Hernandez 23, Emma Kalantis 18, Gwen Kalantis 18; RBI-Hernandez 17, E. Kalantis 15; Doubles-E. Kalantis 4, Pina 3; Triples-Hernandez 4, E. Kalantis 3; Batting Avg.-Hernandez .523, G. Kalantis .514, E. Kalantis .429, Leangeliz DeLeon .389, McLaughlin .364.

Pitching  
Innings Pitched-Hernandez 68; Strikeouts-Hernandez 88; ERA-Hernandez 2.78.

Bombers Beat Colonia

Sayreville girls softball team topped Colonia, 6-2. Mya Infante blasted a 4th inning grand slam home run to power the Bombers. Sara Griffin drilled 2 hits and drove in 2, and Julia Diffin stroked 2 hits for the winners. Justin Vanore hurled the locals to victory.

Sayreville Nips Monroe

The Sayeville Bombers boys baseball team slipped by Monroe, 10-9 in 10 innings. Justin Maher picked up the win in relief, allowing only 2 hits in 2 innings. Michael Robinson drilled 5 hits including a double, Logan Kaufman 2 singles, a double and 3 RBI, Andrew Provenza 2 singles and 3 RBI, Justin Marrero stroked 3 singles.

Sayreville Belts Brearley

The Sayreville girls ripped Brearley, 8-1. Winning pitcher Josephine Vanore tossed a 4-hitter and struck out 6. Gianna Falto laced 3 hits and knocked in a run, while R. Arena hit a 2-run double, and Isabella Swanton had 2 hits and an RBI.

Taylor Sofilkanich Commits To Duke U.

South Amboy’s Taylor Sofilkanich, who is a standout basketball player for St. John Vianney HS, in Holmdel, is ranked the #1 high school girls basketball player in the state of New Jersey. She still has another year with St. John Vianney, and has recently committed to continue her playing career at Duke University. Congrats and best of luck, Taylor!

Ashley Sofilkanich To Transfer

Ashley Sofilkanich of South Amboy, who this season as a sophomore, was the Patriot League Player of the Year for Bucknell University. She has announced that she has transferred to Michigan University, where she will be playing during the upcoming season. Good luck and continued success, Ashley!

Guvs Upset North Plainfield

The Governors of South Amboy upset a strong North Plainfield baseball team, 5-1, as they rode a fine pitching performance by Micah Nemeth to the win. Nemeth tossed a 4-hitter and struck out 13 for the Purple & Gold. Diego Colon, Benjamin Smith, and Robert Conklin each belted an RBI double. Robert Senape drilled an RBI single, while Colon and Ken Kokoszka had a stolen base apiece.

Bus Trip to Citi Field

Knights of Columbus council 426 “Annual Bus Trip to Citi Field” When: Saturday August 2nd 2025 (game starts @4:10pm) Bus leaves the K of C parking lot @12:30pm 308 4th street South Amboy N.J. 08879 Cost: \$160.00 (non-refundable) per person (\$24.00 back in Mets Cash) Snacks for the ride included. Call Ray @ 732 721-2025.



Congratulations Coach Wyzykowski & Baruch College Men's Tennis Team



The Baruch College Men's Tennis Team repeated as Champions again this year. They now have 50 consecutive wins vs conference opponents. The team is coached by South Amboy resident Greg Wyzykowski who once again won Coach Of The Year honors. He will be teaching tennis in July for the South Amboy Recreation Department. Contact SA Rec to register. (Photo/Info Submitted)



1968-St. Mary's High School play “Brigadoon” was a big hit, and featured students in starring roles (l-r) Karen Kennedy, the late Robert “Bob” Blakeslee, and the late Jim Coan.

Remembering Five Good Guys

By Tom Burkard

There are people that you never forget in your lifetime, many who have touched your life in one way or another, whether it be family members, friends, classmates, teammates or whatever. When they pass away, you’d like to always remember them for the impact they had on your life, the good times, no matter how great or how small. Four of the five good guys that I knew passed away over the last couple months, and I just found out about another one who died over 4 years ago. I’d like to share a few thoughts and memories about the “Five Good Guys.”

Bob Blakeslee-(Oct. 10, 2020) It was recently brought to our attention that Bob had died in 2020. He was a St. Mary’s HS Class of ‘69 grad, and was an excellent actor who starred in the ‘68 school play, “Brigadoon.” He also was a teammate of mine on St. Mary’s CYO basketball team under Coach Jim MacKay. Bob went on to serve in the U.S. Navy, and was a male nurse in civilian life.

Joe Bulman (March 27, 2025) Another ‘69 St. Mary’s HS graduate, I was honored to be his classmate for 12 years of school. He was one of the most religious and devout kids you could ever meet, and many other students used to say that he would someday become a priest. However, Joe, who was always brilliant, went on to Notre Dame University, and became an outstanding lawyer, with a practice in South Amboy, although he was living down the shore.

Tom Holovacko (April 24, 2025) He was the leading scorer on St. Mary’s

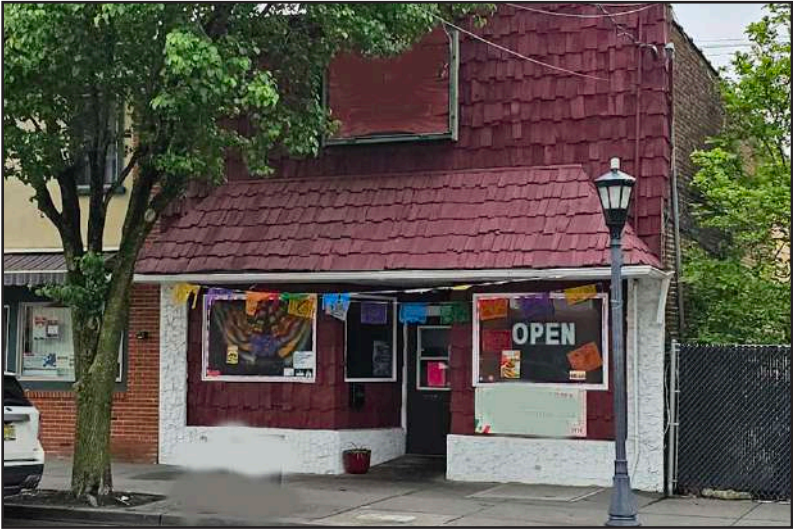
CYO basketball team in 1967-68, and as his teammate, I witnessed his outstanding basketball ability. He then went on to lead the South Amboy Men’s Senior Basketball League in scoring with 268 points, while averaging 19.2 ppg during the 1970-71 season. Tom, who had a beautiful outside jump shot, was without a doubt, one of the greatest players in St. Mary’s CYO history. Also a standout bowler, he was a member of the Professional Bowlers Association. In addition, he was the bowling coach at St. Mary’s HS, and coached Little League baseball.

Ed Schaber (April 2, 2025) Ed only played in the South Amboy Men’s Slow Pitch Softball League for a couple of years, but was respected by opponents for his power to hit the long ball. He was also my assistant coach on the Hawks team, which I managed back in ‘76, when they were one of the first South Amboy Women’s Softball League teams.

Gene Dennen (April 4, 2025) Gene was well-known throughout South Amboy for entertaining crowds with his singing and guitar playing at local establishments including Annabel’s on lower Augusta/Rosewell St., and The Landmark on Broadway. He also loved playing softball, and we were teammates in the South Amboy Men’s Slow Pitch Softball League, playing for Coach Gene Lopez’s Sanitary Fuels.

God Bless the “Five Good Guys” actually, they were Great Guys, may they rest in peace.

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*\*Sonia Iglesias was inadvertently left out for last month’s WWW.? winners. Sorry, Sonia.*



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## Fishing Flashes

By Teo "Weebles" Weber



**Salt Water**

The big news is that Fluke season has opened on May 4th and the fishing is off to a good start. There are a good number of keepers but most of the fish are shorts. Sandy Hook Bay is the best spot right now. Barnegat Bay is also producing Fluke by the inlet. Surf fishing at LBI and Island Beach for Striped Bass has gotten better. Bluefish have shown up all over the place in the surf and also in the Shrewsbury River. I checked our local beaches at South Amboy and Cliffwood but most of the people I talked to didn't get too many bites. I did see a pair of keeper Stripers one night at Cliffwood Beach. Blowfish have been caught in the surf at LBI and also a few Black Drum are present too. Party boats are catching Ling in pretty good numbers. Blackfish season is now over as of May 1st. Flounders are still around in the Shark River but with Fluke arriving, they are on their way out.

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Trout stocking is now full time with rivers and streams getting their fair share, however weather conditions have slowed things at times. I wasn't able to make it for opening day, but my wife and I fished Spring Lake a few days later. She lost a Largemouth Bass about 15 inches and pulled in a Yellow Perch. I fished with lures and did nothing. More Shad are in the Delaware River as they dropped the nets and got fish.

## 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.

**Glory Days In Local Sports** (By Tom Burkard)

1962-St. Mary's annihilated St. James of Newark, 16-2 in baseball action. Ray Ridell fired a 1-hitter and struck out 15 to chalk up the victory. Art O'Donnell belted 4 hits including a double and triple, Tom Fitzmorris ripped 2 doubles and a single, and Joe Pohl laced 3 singles...1979-Hoffman edged Monroe, 5-4 in baseball play. Steve Szatkowski blasted a bases loaded triple, while John Dragotta ripped an RBI double to support winning pitcher Jim Bright...1985-Hoffman boys baseball team nipped Dunellen, 1-0. Winning pitcher Jim McCabe pitched 5 innings, allowed only 2 hits, and struck out 5. Scott Gumprecht pitched hitless ball over the last 2 innings. Andy Moran singled in the first inning, stole second and third, and scored the only run of the game on a wild pitch...1998-St. Mary's beat South Amboy, 3-2 to sweep the City Series baseball title. John Florentino doubled in what proved to be the winning run in the bottom of the 6th. Brian Burns added an RBI single for the security run. Nick Sas was the winning pitcher. Ed Behnen had a sac fly to drive in a run for the Purple & Gold...

2006-Sayreville girls softball team triumphed on Opening Day over Perth Amboy, 19-3. Amanda Olender had a huge game, going a perfect 5-for-5 with 8 RBI. Stephanie Zrebiec drilled 3 hits and knocked in 3, Jessica Nicola blasted a triple, and Michelle Makowski a two-base hit. Megan Mazur was the winning pitcher...2011-Sayreville high jumper, Brandis Fennell captured the Girls GMC championship with a 5-2 showing...2023-In GMCT quarterfinal action, South Amboy girls softball team nipped South River, 6-5. Emma Kalantis hammered out 3 hits including 2 doubles to drive in 4 runs. Soph Brianna Sweatt was the winning pitcher and struck out 6 in 5 innings.



# The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

## From The Sports Archives



1998-South Amboy High's Gold Division softball champs are: Top (l-r) assistant Coach Jessica English, Sue Ann Rowley, Kelly Colfer, Elena Bajkowski, Kim Paterson, Jessica Bartlinski, Gina Rae Miller, Coach Fred Henry. Bottom (left to right) Karen Felice, Rachel Ludlow, Alyson Britt, Kristen English, Erin Henry. Missing from photo - Nicole Magnifico. (Photo by Tom Burkard) *\*This was Coach Fred Henry's first season as softball coach, and he guided the team to a perfect (11-0) record and the Gold Division championship, while finishing with an outstanding overall record of (14-4). He was selected Gold Division Coach of the Year.*

### T.H.E. Game

Year-2010

Sport-Baseball

Teams-South Amboy vs. Cardinal McCarrick (Mayor's Cup Game)

Recap-The Governors blasted the Eagles, 11-1 in a 6-inning mercy rule contest. Winning pitcher Craig Warzecha fired a 2-hitter, struck out 4, and also belted 2 hits and drove in 3 runs. Dylan Brown added 2 hits and 3 RBI, and Christian Geant drilled 2 hits and knocked in a run for the winners. Ryan Smith stroked a single and double for McCarrick's only hits.

Player-of-the-Game-Craig Warzecha, South Amboy.

### 20 Years Ago

2005-Sayreville girls softball team defeated Cranford, 6-2 in 8 innings. Jessica Nicola led off the 7th inning with a home run to tie the game, and soph Amanda Olender won it with a walk-off grand slam homer in the 8th inning. Nicola went 2-for-3...

Cardinal McCarrick golf team downed JFK, 191-203, behind 1st place finisher Frank Greco, and Don Gallant, who came in 2nd place.

### 25 Years Ago

2000-Two Sayreville track stars captured CJ Group 4 state championships: Liam Jones won the boys crown in the 400 meters with a 49.7, and Claire Inskeep copped the girls shot put title with a throw of 38-0.

### 15 Years Ago

2010 Charmello Sets Record

South Amboy's slugging center-fielder, Joe Charmello, led the Purple & Gold to a 19-3, 5-inning triumph over Wardlaw-Hartridge, in an Autism Awareness Day game, by going

3-for-4 with a grand slam homer, double and triple, while driving in 8 runs, which is believed to be a Hoffman/South Amboy school record for RBI in one game.

### Long, Long Ago



Does anyone have any information on this photo of a Sacred Hearts men's baseball team? Our guess is that judging by the old cars in the picture, it may have been taken in the 1940's, and the team possibly played in the South Amboy Men's Baseball League at Veterans Field. If you can identify anyone in the photo, please let us know at: satimes@aol.com.

### 50 Years Ago

Sayreville Wins County Title

1975-The Sayreville Bombers baseball team turned in probably the greatest "Cinderella Story" in Middlesex County history by winning 5 consecutive games to capture their second straight MCBT championship. The Bombers, under first-year Coach Tony Malara had a very slow start out of the gate, and the team's record was just (4-11), when the tournament field was announced, and they drew a #21 seed out of 29 teams. Many of the 11 defeats were lost by only one run, but things were about to change for this determined and fired up team of talented young athletes.

In 1st Round play, Sayreville blasted Middlesex, 7-1, behind senior ace left-handed pitcher, Hank Zaleski, who fired a 3-hitter and struck out 15, while not allowing a walk. He also excelled at the plate, ripping a 2-run single, an RBI single, and also stole a base. Tim Brand belted a single and double, Jeff Georgiana had an RBI single, Mike Cannon a 2-run single, and Scott Kaelin a two-base hit.

In Round 2, the boys from Sayreville faced a tough Edison team (12-5) and seeded #5, but on a brilliant 1-hitter by Zaleski, won a 1-0 battle. Kevin Spiecker, who walked in the first inning, scored the only run of the game on a double by Brand.

In the quarterfinals, the Bombers topped J.P. Stevens (12-6-1), 7-4. Bob Mayhew blasted a double with the bases loaded to account for 3 RBI, Mike McSpadden ripped an RBI triple, and Jim Wojcik added an RBI single. Sophomore Mark Tyler, who pitched 3 scoreless innings in relief, was the winning pitcher.

In the semifinals, Sayreville downed #8 seed, Cedar Ridge, 4-1, as Zaleski was once again brilliant on the mound, firing a 2-hitter and striking out 14. Kevin Spiecker drove in his brother Darryl with a single and also Wojcik, and Zaleski ripped an RBI double.

Championship Game

The championship game featured #21 seed Sayreville (14-14-1) vs. #2 seed South Plainfield (21-7). The Bombers batting order was: Kevin Spiecker cf, Bob Mayhew rf, Tim Brand ss, Mike McSpadden 3b, Mike Cannon lf, Darryl Spiecker 2b, Hank Zaleski p, Jim Wojcik 1b, Rich "Buddy" Shanley c.

Sayreville, behind another outstanding pitching effort by Zaleski captured the MCBT championship, 5-1, as Zaleski captured his 7th consecutive victory on the season, and 4th win in the tournament, by firing a 5-hitter, striking out 9, and allowing only 1 walk. The Bombers scored 3 runs in the 3rd inning, when they pounded out 8 of their total 11 hits. Mayhew unloaded an RBI triple, Brand an RBI single and Cannon also poked an RBI single. Sayreville scored 2 more runs in the 5th, on RBI singles by Zaleski and Wojcik, as Coach Tony Malara's Bombers brought home another county title to Sayreville.

After the game, a jubilant Coach Malara said, "The odds against us must have been 50,000 to 1. I'm just glad it was an open tournament. We just came from the cellar to the championship."

Hank Zaleski, star pitcher who won 4 of the 5 MCCT games, and was selected Middlesex County Player of the Year by The Home News, spoke about the great comeback season and also mentioned Bombers baseball prior to the '75 season.

He said, "In the decades or so prior to 1975, Sayreville had one of the stronger baseball programs in Central Jersey, culminating with maybe the best team ever in 1974. That team, coached by Norbie Smith and led by Steve Makwinski, won the Conference title, County Coaches Tourney, and went to the State Group 4 final, where they lost to the #1 team in the state. They graduated 7 of the 8 starting fielders, and the top 2 pitchers. It was also Norbie's final year as head coach.

So, in 1975, with a new varsity coach in Tony Malara, and only 1 returning fielder and 2 pitchers returning with varsity experience, I think no one was surprised when we had a terrible record halfway through the season, after all those talented seniors graduated from



Sayreville's ace pitcher Hank Zaleski is pictured in action during the Bombers Middlesex County championship season in 1975.

the class of 1974, and we failed to qualify for the state tournament. Lucky for us, the County Coaches Tournament was an open tourney and Coach Malara found a lineup that was able to turn it around, just in time for the second half of the season. He deserves most of the credit for our team's success. As a first year varsity coach, he did not panic. He was patient and found the right mix of players in time for the county tournament. My recollection is that he inserted defensive stalwart Rich Shanley as the catcher at that time, and it seemed to be the final lineup juggle that got us going."

In a recent interview, Coach Malara, who coached the Bombers varsity squad from 1975-78, and was the JV coach for the 4 previous years, said that, "We had a great team in '75, with the greatest comeback ever in Middlesex County. We peaked at the right time."

The '75 championship roster consisted of: Hank Zaleski, Tim Brand, Mike McSpadden, Mike Cannon, Jim Wojcik, Kevin Spiecker, Darryl Spiecker, Bob Mayhew, Rich Shanley, Mark Tyler, Jeff Georgiana, Tom Cassidy, Scott Kaelin.

NOTES: In addition to being selected Middlesex County Player of the Year by The Home News, Hank Zaleski was also selected Sayreville War Memorial High School Scholar Athlete...Hank also was an end and leading scorer on the football team... He pitched for Rutgers University as a soph, but gave up baseball to devote more time to his field of study... Steve Makwinski, who pitched the '74 Bombers to the MCCT championship over Carteret, was also The Home News Player of the Year for 1974.

Zaleski's final statistics for the year: Innings pitched-68, hits-44, ER-13, BB-35, Strikeout-94, ERA-1.23, Won-7 Lost-3.

Other standouts for the '75 champs were Mike McSpadden, who was a 1st team All-County selection after leading the team with a .367 batting avg., and .592 slugging pct., as well as the most RBI with 29. Tim Brand had a fine season with a .355 batting avg., and 15 RBI. Soph pitcher Mark Tyler went (3-2) with a 2.05 ERA...Coach Tony Malara was a teacher in Sayreville for 42 years, and also was a Major League Baseball Scout. He scouted for the Toronto Blue Jays for 4 years, Texas Rangers-2 years, and Chicago Cubs-9 years. While with the Cubs, he was highly-instrumental in getting their number 1 pick and overall 12th round selection Doug Glanville to sign with the MLB team. In addition, he also scouted future big leaguers Mo Vaughn, Craig Biggio, John Valentin, Al Leiter, and Eric Young...Mike Cannon, who went on to star at Middlesex County College was drafted in the 2nd round of the MLB draft in 1978 by the New York Mets, and played in the minors for a couple of years.







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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.

### Judith Anne Knable

Judith Anne Knable, 73, of Surfside Beach, SC, passed away on Sunday, April 27th, 2025. She was born in South Amboy, NJ on September 20, 1951, to the late William and Grace Parisen. Judith is survived by her loving husband Thomas Knable. She was a beloved sister to siblings William Parisen, Beverly Pazur, Sharon Szelag, Carol Bartlinski and Mark Parisen and an amazing aunt to nieces and nephews Vincent Bonanne, Alyssa Manning, Tami Buckley, Kiera Parisen, Judith Vattelana, Jessica Zirillo, Melissa Bartlinski, Christopher Bentley, Joseph Bartlinski, Mark Parisen & Ryan Parisen. Judith served the community and students as a member of South Amboy Middle High School staff for over twenty years. She will be remembered as a generous and loving person who was a central member of her family. Those family and friends whose lives she impacted will miss her dearly.

### Theresa L. "Terry" Eckenroth

Theresa Lynn "Terry" Eckenroth (Nee: Ziola), 68, of South Amboy, NJ, passed away Saturday afternoon, May 10, 2025. She was born May 12, 1956 to parents John, Sr. and Virginia Ziola. Terry grew up in South Amboy and attended Harold G. Hoffman High School, where she graduated in 1974. She had a love for adventure and relocated to Florida when she was married to Roger. After the passing of her husband, she returned to New Jersey to be with her family, and began working for Bio-Shine. She had worked there for 20+ years, where she formed lifelong friendships. Following her retirement, she indulged in her passions, including crafting, woodworking, and being Yia Yia to her



grandsons.

Terry was preceded in death by her parents and husband of 20 years Roger Eckenroth.

Terry is survived by two loving daughters Kali and Staci Eckenroth; her two cherished grandsons, Oliver and Sebastian; and three brothers, Robert Ziola, his wife Carol, James Ziola, his wife Elizabeth, and John Ziola Jr., his wife Lisa. She also leaves behind many other family members and friends who touched her life in meaningful ways, a special mention to her lifelong friend Barbara Mason.

Services were under the direction of Kurzawa Funeral Home. Burial took place at Christ Church Cemetery.

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.

Prayer to St. Jude

Saint Jude Thaddeus, patron saint of impossible causes, walk through my house and take away my worries and any illnesses. Please watch over and heal my family & friends, in the Name of Jesus. Amen. SS, SP, NP, MS, BS, PS...

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.


### Edwin "Slick" Orszulski

It is with great sadness that our family announces the passing of Edwin J Orszulski, 98, of South Amboy, on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, our beloved uncle, retired Police Officer and WWII Veteran.

Uncle Johnny, as our family called him, delighted his nieces and nephews, and always had a soft spot in his heart for people in need, in part due to his strong Faith in God.

The youngest of seven children, Edwin spent his entire life in South Amboy, except for when he served in the US Army as part of the expeditionary force that secured and occupied Japan during WWII. After the war, he became an officer in the South Amboy Police Department where he was known as "Slick the Cop". Edwin was a lifelong member and communicant of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in South Amboy.

Edwin was predeceased by his beloved wife Terrie, and he is survived by his sister, Martha Orlowski. Although he had no



children of his own, he is also survived by his many nieces and nephews, whom he delighted with humorous back n' forth banter around his kitchen table during the Christmas Holidays.

Family and friends honored and remembered Edwin on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at the Kurzawa Funeral Home, 338 Main Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879. A 10 am Funeral Mass was held the following day on Friday, May 2, 2025, at Sacred Heart Church, Washington Road, South Amboy, NJ.

We hope that our uncle will be remembered for his long life, his devotion to his family, his strong Faith in God, and his service to the South Amboy Community. He will live on in the hearts of those whom he touched.

In remembrance of Edwin's life, the family asks that any charitable donations be made to Sacred Heart Church, South Amboy, NJ.

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..



Obituaries

Blakeslee, Robert “Bob,” 69, formerly of Parlin died on Oct. 10, 2020.

Brome, Christine M. Brady, 67, of South Amboy died on May 4.

Dolan, Margaret V., 87, formerly of Parlin died on April 17.

Eckenroth, Theresa L. “Terry” Ziola, 68, of South Amboy died on May 10.

Fusco, Joseph R. Sr., 61, of South Amboy died on May 5.

Gillespie, Aiden, 80, of Parlin, died on April 12.

Grevesen, Chris E., 96, of Sayreville died on May 3.

Henry, Lorraine K., 75, of South Amboy died on April 15.

Holden, Elinor, 94, formerly of Laurence Harbor died on April 15.

Holovacko, Thomas E., 75, of Morgan died on April 24.

Jarock, Wayne A., 60, of South Amboy died on May 6.

Kascin, Ruth A., 67, of Parlin died on April 26.

Kenny, Elizabeth “Betty,” 101, formerly of South Amboy died on April 18.

Knable, Judith A., 73, formerly of South Amboy died on April 27.

Leonard, Alfonsina J. “Funzy,” 86, of South Amboy died on May 12.

Malheiro, Dianne, 81, of Parlin died on May 3.

McMillen, Maja, 94, formerly of Parlin died on April 17.

Monaghan, Veronica “Vera,” 93, formerly of Sayreville died on May 1.

Moskwa, Marguerite “Marge,” 91, of South Amboy died on May 7.

Muniz, Josefina M., 89, of Sayreville died on May 9.

Nawoj, John, 85, of Sayreville died on May 5.

Orszulski, Edwin “Slick,” 98, of South Amboy died on April 29.

Rzepka, Zenon, 78, of Parlin died on April 19.

Snekszek, Carol A., 72, formerly of Parlin died on April 26.

Varma, Asha, 80, of Parlin died on April 14.

Warren, Geraldine Giordano, 68, formerly of Sayreville died on April 23.

In Memoriam

Edwin “Slick” Orszulski, 98, of South Amboy died on April 29. He was a dedicated and highly-respected police officer with the South Amboy Police Dept. for many years up until his retirement. Marguerite “Marge” Moskwa, 91, of South Amboy died on May 7. She was a wonderful lady who worked for the City of South Amboy in the Water/Tax Dept. for 23+ years, and always had a kind word for everyone.

Joseph R Fusco Sr.

Joseph R Fusco Sr. 61 passed away peacefully at his home in South Amboy on Monday, May 5th, 2025 surrounded by his loving family.

He was a loving Husband, cherished Father, devoted Grandfather, and a dear friend to many. He was born in Montclair NJ on April 1st, 1964 to Anthony E Fusco and Angela M Fusco.



Mountains of NY. There he would ride ATV’s, go boating on the beautiful mountain lakes, and enjoy all the beauty of nature. He also loved traveling the country with his wife Chris in their RV. He was well versed in many skills including woodwork, auto mechanics, and was known as the “Joe” of all trades.

He is survived by his loving wife Christine, his children Anthony, Joseph Jr, and Stephen, his granddaughter Aubriana, as well as her mother Ashley, and his two beloved cats Noon and Midnight that he rescued.

Friends paid their respects to the family on Saturday, May 10, 2025 at the Kurzawa Funeral Home 338 Main Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879. There was also a catholic prayer service held. The burial took place at St. Gertrude’s Cemetery, Colonia, NJ.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to the ASPCA. (ASPCA.Org)

Lorraine Karen Henry

Lorraine Karen Henry passed away peacefully surrounded by family on April 15, 2025. She was a loving mother, sister, grandmother, and loyal friend who always brought much laughter into the lives of many.

Born on January 19, 1950, Lorraine grew up in Green Pond, NJ. She enjoyed a childhood spending time outdoors, especially ice skating, and creating fond memories with her family at Green Pond Lake. She graduated from Morris Catholic High School in 1968.



While living in South Amboy, she enjoyed her summers at Frog Hollow Swim Club with her friends and family. You could often find her sharing long conversations over a good meal and a glass of White Zinfandel with ice on the side. She especially loved the holidays and decorating her Christmas tree with ornaments from her favorite artist, Norman Rockwell.

Lorraine is survived by her daughters, Kristen (Daniel) and Erin (RJ), her son, Fred (Anny), granddaughter, Elise, and her brothers, Kenneth and Kevin. She was preceded in death by her parents, Eleanor and Bernard, and her brothers, Thomas and Bernard Jr.

A private celebration of life will be held in the future to remember Lorraine. This intimate gathering will be a time for close family and friends to reflect on the love she brought into our lives. For those wishing to honor Lorraine’s memory, please consider donating to Johns Hopkins Myositis Center.

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



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

Kurzawa Funeral Home



338 Main Street, South Amboy, NJ 08879  
www.kurzawafh.com  
732-721-0475 or 732-607-8221

We offer a dignified funeral experience to meet every family's needs, while creating a comfortable peaceful enviroment with ample street parking and handicap accessible barrier free.

Inquire about our affordable guaranteed pre-funding programs, especially for the Community Senior Groups, Veterans, Firemen & Law Enforcement.

"NO ACT OF KINDNESS IS TOO SMALL. THE GIFT OF KINDNESS MAY START AS A SMALL RIPPLE THAT OVER TIME CAN TURN INTO A TIDAL WAVE AFFECTING THE LIVES OF MANY."

Rocco M. Cuoco, Manager  
N.J. Lic. No. 4605





# Thank you

The Rone Family would like to Thank everyone who participated in the 7th Riley’s Touch A Truck Fundraiser, benefitting the Hugh Riley Rone Scholarship Fund, Especially Coach Dan Poulsen and The South Amboy High School Baseball Team and Softball Team. Whether you made a donation, provided a truck, were a sponsor, volunteered your time or came out for a fun day with your family, it means the world to us. We hope you had fun and look forward to doing it again next year!

- Ace-RX Specialty Pharmacy

Adrienne Cesare

Alex Calsetta

Amano Pizza

Amboy Brew Jays

American Legion Post #62

Amy McLaughlin Photography

Barnyard Petz LLC

Beacon Scrap Metal

Bellos Family Restaurant

Berecksky Family

Blue Moon

Bob Blache & PSEG

Bob Manion

Brandon Koerner

Brandywine Jersey, Inc

Brian Noble

Carrie Chudkowski

Central Jersey Decal

Central Jersey Medical Center

Chief Kanecke

Christine Noble

Danny McCabe

Danny Poulsen & Family

Dave’s Hot Dogs

Debbie Van Fossen

Delio’s Pizza

Diane Harrison

DJ Sydney

Eddie McKeon

Ed Cetnar

Ed and Pam Campbell

E & G Exterminators

Enterprise Snorkel Co. No.1

Fine Wine & Grill

Fire Museum “Mine Hill Fire”

Frank’s Automotive

Garcia Family
- Gary Brown

George Fuller

Gems Bagels

Gillette Enterprises Inc.

Hector's Bistro

Holt Machinery

Independence Fire House

Industrial Welding Supply

In Loving Memory of Kathy Moskal

InStyle Salon

Janet Porter

Jeff Lampart Landscaping

Jeremy Berry

Jessica Honimar

Joanne Noble

Julians Auto

Julie Stilo

Kales Family

Kathleen Therkelsen

Kathy Kesely

Keelyn Leonard

Keith Scheetz

Kelly Gallagher

Kevin Gay

KKM Flooring

Krauszers (Broadway & Main)

Kris & Lisa Lopez Sun & Surf Enterprises

Mayor & Mrs. Fred Henry

Lenahan Chiropractic

Leslie Tighe

Local 825 Operating Engineers

Lori Jepsen

Maciag Builders LLC

Madison Park Firehouse

Madison, Mary Chris, & Morgan Moskal

Main Liquors

Mark Wahler

Maureen’s Cash for Gold
- McKeon Materials

Michael McCabe

Michael Kurtz

Middlesex Fire Academy

Middlesex County Health Department

Middlesex County Sheriffs Officers

Monaghan House

Monica Barnes

Morgan Hose & Chemical Co. #1

Morgan Printing

Mr. & Mrs. Cooney

Mr.& Mrs. Larry Nagle

Mr. & Mrs. Ed O’Connor

Mr. & Mrs. Jack O’Leary

Mr. & Mrs. James Riehl

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Moglia

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Heidelberg

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Stratton

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Sprague

Mr. & Mrs. David McGill

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Jankowski

Munckee Bar

Neumann Construction

NJ-PA CORE

NJ State Police Ken Kokoszka & Amy Kokoszka

NJ Transit Police

Olivieri Family

Peggy Poulson

Perth Amboy PD

Progressive Fire Company

Protection Firehouse #6

Racz’s Towing

Richiusa Mason & Concrete

Riley’s Towing Inc.

Rory Noble

SAHS Softball Team

Sayreville Emergency Squad

Sayreville PBA #98
- Smith Family

South Amboy AOH

South Amboy Board of Education

South Amboy Columbiettes 426

South Amboy Democrats

South Amboy DPW

South Amboy Elks

South Amboy First Aid

South Amboy Knights of Columbus

South Amboy Little League

South Amboy Office of Emergency Mgmt.

South Amboy Parade Committee

South Amboy PBA 63

South Amboy Police Department

South Amboy/SayrevilleTimes

Stilo Disposal

Stonebridge Steel Erectors

Talkin Heads

Tap N Growler Bar & Grill

Teddy’s Bar

TFK Larry McMahon

The City of South Amboy

Tim Gay

Tina James Law

Tommy Bikowski

Trish Reagan Realty

Universal Windows Direct NJ

V & F Auto Body of Keyport

Vinny’s Famous Pizza

Walter Schuck



“The Wall That Heals” is a traveling wall that honors the men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. Charles P. Brown was a South Amboy resident who died in Vietnam, and is remembered on the wall.

## The Wall That Heals

(Photos/info by Joe & Jane Prusakowski

Former South Amboy residents Joe Prusakowski and his wife Jane Newcomb Prusakowski, now living in North Carolina, recently drove to Whiteville, NC to see the “Wall That Heals, a traveling wall that was there for 3 days before moving to another site. There are 58,281 names etched on this wall, honoring the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

One of the names is South Amboy’s own, Charles Paul Brown, who sadly, never made it back home.

The “Wall That Heals” had to be constructed in 2 pieces due to its size. They are

set up strictly by volunteers. Jane Newcomb Prusakowski said, “It’s heartwarming to know the memory of these brave souls will be honored every year with this moving wall.” Her husband Joe Prusakowski said, “I’m glad we visited the wall. It’s both a humbling and inspiring experience.” Jane added that “I would love to know if anyone from town remembers him. I believe he has a sister living in South Amboy.”

*\*To see photos and remembrances of this Charles Paul Brown, go to: THE WALL OF FACES: [www.vvmf.org/wall-of-faces](http://www.vvmf.org/wall-of-faces) Pane #16E Line #43*

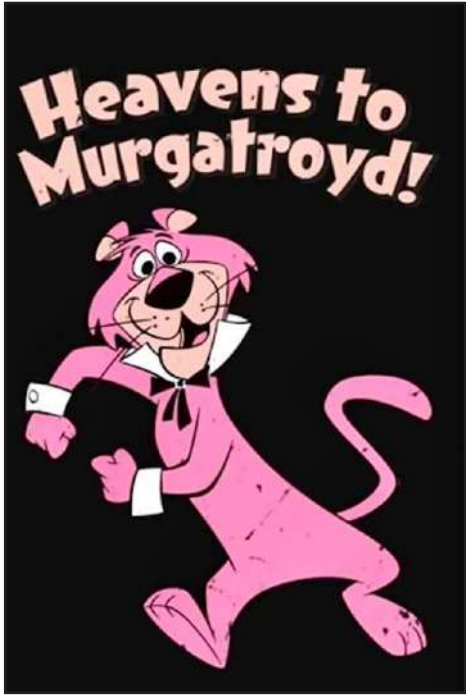
A PRAYER FOR HEALING  
Lord, you invited all who are burdened to come to You. Allow your healing hand to heal me. Touch my soul with Your compassion for others. Touch my heart with Your courage and infinite love for all. Touch my mind with Your wisdom, that my mouth may always proclaim Your praise. Teach 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.

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



## Who is it?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Recognize this Saturday morning icon from the past? Send your answer to [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com) by June 16th.



## Who Is It?

Last month we gave a clue of Gabba, Gabby. That came from a hit song by The Ranione;s and our prom boy was none other than Joey Ramone. The following knew it was him. Chris Mitarotondo, Maryann Elizondo, Edna Pilch, Elaine Angerstein, Artie MacFadyen, Ed Bender, Gary Feret, Laurie & Gary Loftus, Jim & Debbie Sissick, Ed English, Walter Starzec Jr, Dane Colburn.



April Who is it?  
Joey Ramone and his prom date.





**Just a few of the many trucks on hand!**



**The Petting Zoo was a big hit.**



**Very cool Air Boat.**



## Riley's Family.



## Face Painting



**Central Jersey Medical Center's  
Mobile Dental Unit.**



**South Amboy First Aid Squad.**





RE-ELECT DEMOCRATS

COUGHLIN (2A) & LOPEZ (2B)

SPEAKER

Craig J. Coughlin

As Speaker, he has worked to lower costs and bring more resources back home to our district and has dedicated his life to fighting for our families and small businesses.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN

Yvonne Lopez

A true community advocate, she’s fought hard to address the rising costs of housing and to bring state dollars back home. She’ll continue to fight for a better future for our families and children.

- **Lowered Taxes** - Through programs like ANCHOR, Senior Freeze and StayNJ, they have been able to lower taxes and provide record direct property tax relief.
- **Delivering for Our Communities** - They’ve secured millions for open space and local park development throughout the 19th District.
- **Investing in Infrastructure** - They’ve worked to bring state dollars back home to pay for major infrastructure developments for our communities.



VOTE BY MAIL

Return your ballot at any drop box in Middlesex County before 8pm on June 10th, or you can place it in the mail. No postage necessary.



VOTE EARLY IN PERSON

Early in-person voting is available from June 3rd to June 8th, 2025. You can vote at any early voting location in Middlesex County. Locations will be open: Tuesday – Saturday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.



VOTE ON ELECTION DAY

Your last chance to vote is Tuesday, June 10th. Polls will be open 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.



To learn more about Speaker Coughlin and Assemblywoman Lopez, scan the QR code.

BY JUNE 10TH, VOTE TO RE-ELECT COUGHLIN & LOPEZ

