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# The South Amboy/Sayreville **TIMES**

This issue is  
 dedicated to

\*Russell Anderson  
 \*Ann "Laverne" English  
 \*Daniel Newcomer



**October 26, 2024 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 34 Issue 1**

## South Amboy Day

(Photos by Tom Burkard)  
 See more photos on page 12



The South Amboy Police Dept. as always, was very helpful to everyone.



Jean Marie Henry entertained the crowd with her fine vocals and stage presence.



The AOH crew were kept busy cooking delicious treats throughout the day.



## Pisar Salutes Veterans, Law Enforcement & EMT Workers

U.S. Army veteran and GOP Party candidate for Middlesex County Commissioner, Peter "Pedro" Pisar recently released a statement saying, "We are so thankful for people who are standing up to fight for our country, Constitution, and God-given rights."

## ELECTION DAY FISH DINNER

The Camp Dill Foundation and the Old Timers of Troop 91 will be having their annual Election Day Fish Dinner on November 5, 2024 in the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy. The event will be a totally "drive-by" take-out only dinner. The time of the event will be 5:00PM to 6:45PM and the cost is \$17.00 per dinner.

**ALL TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE.** For ticket information, call Dan Sibol at 732-899-6074 or e-mail [djsibol@aol.com](mailto:djsibol@aol.com). Ticket mail orders with payment can be sent to Dan Sibol, 90 Meridian Drive, Brick, NJ 08724.

We thank you for your support as we continue to benefit the youth of the South Amboy / Sayreville area. For more information on the Camp Dill Foundation and its current activities, go to their web-site at <https://www.campdill.org>.

## Congratulations!



On September 26th 2024 The South Amboy Columbiettes and the Knights of Columbus 426 celebrated Past President Vicki Dante Lattanzi at Don Giovanni's Restaurant and Pizza. Vicki served as the Columbiette President from 2020-2024, making the S.A. Columbiettes a staple in the South Amboy community. On behalf of the S.A. Columbiettes, we wish her the best of luck in her next chapter as Chapter Sentinel! Congratulations Vicki on a job well done! (Photos/info submitted by Dexya Doyle)

## South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee Announces 2025 Honorees

The 2025 South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place on Sunday, March 16 at 2pm. Mark Herdman, South Amboy's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Coordinator, has been named as the parade Grand Marshal. In addition, the Reverend Stanley Gromadzki, Pastor of The Church of the Sacred Heart, South Amboy, will serve as Deputy Grand Marshal while Donna Williams, a resident of Parlin and active volunteer within the City of South Amboy has been given the title of Honorary Grand Marshal.

2025 Grand Marshal Mark Herdman's role as the city's OEM coordinator is to provide a comprehensive and integrated emergency management system that coordinates community resources to protect lives, property and the environment through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from all natural and man-made hazards that may impact the city. When informed that he was elected to serve as Grand Marshal Mark responded, "I am both honored and humbled to serve as Grand Marshal of the 2025 parade. I would like to thank the parade committee for considering me for this position."

A resident of South Amboy since 1980 Mark has dedicated countless hours to his community. Having served as the Deputy OEM Coordinator from 2003 through 2013, Mark received the title of OEM Coordinator in 2013 and continues to hold this position. "My role as OEM coordinator requires me to conduct emergency management operations,

*Continued on page 12*

## SWMHS Dedicates Music Center



Sayreville War Memorial High School recently dedicated a section of the school to former Borough resident and rock superstar Jon Bon Jovi, naming it the Jon Bon Jovi Performing Arts Center. (Photo submitted)



**Next Issue November 23rd -- Deadlines November 11th  
 Thanksgiving Special**

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### Route 9 Cash For Gold Buyers LLC

Owner Maureen Herndon (r) and her husband Rob (l) are pictured in front of their popular Route 9 Cash For Gold Buyers LLC business, which is now celebrating 16 years of service to our local communities. (Photo submitted)



Route 9 Cash For Gold Buyers is one of the area's most popular GOLD store businesses, and is located at 960 Route 9 South, (Behind Burger King, and next to Farmer's Market) in Sayreville/South Amboy, NJ. Stop in and make some Ca\$h on the spot. Maureen Herndon, Owner of Rt 9 Cash For Gold, 960 Rt 9 South was born and raised in Sayreville and has lived here her entire life, which prompted her to open their store in town. When customers come to her store they bring all of their old, unwanted gold jewelry in exchange for CASH. Maureen & Rob greet their customers always with a friendly face. All their jewelry is tested and weighed with state certified scales right in front of them. They are then paid out in cash on the spot. Most of the pieces that are seen coming to the store are outdated, jewelry not worn anymore, single earrings, class rings, broken chains, dental gold, silver and platinum. People are VERY surprised when they come, and things they thought were "junk," turn out to be actual gold. Maureen and Rob truly believe in HONESTY, LOYALTY & INTEGRITY, and that's what prompted them into opening their own store. Many people have reported feeling extremely comfortable

and confident when coming to Rt 9 Cash for Gold, and dealing with Maureen "THE GOLD LADY." It puts a smiling face to a business that sometimes people are skeptical about entering. This is definitely the business you would feel comfortable sending your mother or grandmother to because Maureen truly has the "women's touch." Rt 9 Cash For Gold Buyers LLC is conveniently located BEHIND BURGER KING & MCDONALDS in the FARMERS MARKET PLAZA- easily accessible from Rt 9 South, or Bordentown Ave. with lots of parking. Stop by today and turn your OLD, UNWANTED jewelry into holiday gifts. Open late 7 days a week. Route 9 Cash For Gold Buyers, 960 Rt 9 South, Sayreville, NJ 732-727-GOLD (4653).

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### FROM THE DESK OF TOM REILLY



If I were to ask you to name your heroes, what names would come to mind? With football season in full swing and both New York baseball teams making deep runs into the playoffs, many of you might be tempted to pick a professional athlete. Others might name a celebrity or influencer. Still others might say an author, political figure, or intellectual. Regardless of the selection, our heroes sometimes can feel very far away.

But what if I told you there are heroes here, in our community, worthy of similar, if not greater, respect and admiration? At the far end of the Waterfront Park, near the gazebos, there is an eight-foot statue of Army Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Sebban. Sergeant Sebban is one of our own. He grew up in South Amboy, and planned on making a career in the United States Army. He realized that dream, rose quickly through the enlisted ranks, and served in a combat surgical hospital in Germany, among a number of other positions. When he learned that a paratrooper unit was headed to Iraq and needed a volunteer combat medic, he volunteered to go so that others could stay with their families.

In March 2007, thousands of miles from home, Sergeant Sebban watched from a position of relative safety when he saw a truck headed for his unit. He ran out to warn the others of a potential attack. The truck was carrying a bomb, and shrapnel from the blast pierced his abdomen. Though his wounds were severe – and ultimately fatal – Sergeant Sebban continued to help the wounded at the expense of his own injuries until he finally collapsed. He later succumbed to his wounds before help could arrive.

For his heroism, Sergeant Sebban was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart. He also earned the eternal devotion and respect of his home City and

of all those who knew him. Speaking at the newly consecrated Gettysburg Battlefield in November 1863, Abraham Lincoln noted that our words never can describe adequately the selflessness, courage, and honor of those who perish defending others, that it is "above our poor power" to "add or detract" from that sacrifice through words alone. Rather, we honor their memory by committing ourselves to the cause for which they gave "the last full measure of devotion." For Sergeant Sebban then, we honor his memory by committing ourselves to the ideals for which he stood: selflessness, devotion to our friends, family and colleagues; courage; and virtuous and noble acts of service and sacrifice, even when doing so is hard.

I hope you will join me in pondering these ideals, and how we may make them manifest in the world, as Veterans Day approaches. If you have the time, I encourage you to visit Sergeant's Sebban's memorial. Moreover, remember that there are veterans in our community who need our help. Some are homeless, some are hungry, many struggle with anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder. There is perhaps no better way to honor the memory of those who have passed than by helping those in need. I know we are up to the task.

Respectfully  
Tom Reilly  
2nd Ward Councilman  
City of South Amboy

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# Amboy's Annual Food Drive

Amboy will be collecting for local Food Banks to help our neighbors impacted by food insecurity throughout November



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- Gift cards to local grocery stores
- Protein, including canned soup, tuna, meat, peanut butter, nuts, and canned beans
- Canned fruits and vegetables, including juices and tomato sauce
- Carbohydrates, including nutritious breakfast cereals, pasta, and rice
- Crackers, granola bars, and cheese and cracker packages
- Canned stews and chili

Please be sure to check the expiration dates. Food items' Use By or Best if Sold By date should not be over six months old. No glass jars please. Boxed cereals and formula are needed, as long as they are unopened and within date code.



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## Breast Cancer Awareness Month



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. South Amboy Police Dept and PBA Local #63 are pledging their support efforts by wearing pink frontals on their outer vest and selling T-shirts with pink PBA shields. Money collected will be donated to various Breast Cancer awareness programs. Pictured is Sgt. Kurt Miller, Patrol Officers Nick Fuentes, Marvin DeAussen and Lieutenant Mike Kelly. (Photo submitted by PBA#63)

### Talk Of The Towns

By Tom Burkard

#### Congratulations Det. Kales

South Amboy Police Det. Tim Kales recently graduated from DARE Instructional Training. He will now bring valuable skills to the children of South Amboy. Congrats and best of luck Detective!

#### A PRAYER FOR HEALING

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



### Friends Of South Amboy Annual Charity Basketball Games

- Event is on December 21 at South Amboy Middle High School
- 12:00 Noon  
South Amboy girls vs New Brunswick
- 2:00 pm  
South Amboy boys vs Calvary Christian
- 4:00 pm  
Sayreville boys vs CSI McCown Staten Island
- 6:00 pm  
St. Thomas Aquinas boys vs Moore Catholic Staten Island
- 8:00 pm  
St. Joe's Metuchen boys vs Montgomery

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## Pleasant Little TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

- Exalted Ruler of South Amboy Elks Lodge 2555 in 1998?  
a. Daniel Horowitz b. Calvin Pecota c. Joe Damion
- In '94, this fine ice cream/yogurt shop was located at Old Bridge Gateway in Parlin?  
a. Hardy's b. Friendly's c. Carvel
- South Amboy Knights of Columbus Grand Knight in '98?  
a. Gene Chodkiewicz b. Marty Lampart c. Mike Mooney
- A children's clothing consignment shop was located on Raritan St. in Sayreville back in '94?  
a. Sugar Bear Wear b. Mickey Mouse House c. Kids & More
- What year was the Township of South Amboy formed?  
A. 1908 b. 1684 c. 1922
- In 1996, this bar was located on Raritan St., Sayreville next to Rex-Gené?  
a. Shots & Brews b. Down The Hatch c. Jake's Place
- What year was South Amboy Memorial Hospital's name changed to Memorial Medical Center?  
a. 1983 b. 1988 c. 1994
- Stewart's Root Beer stand in Sayreville was never located at?  
a. Rt. 9 North b. Rt. 35 North c. Washington Rd.
- Appointed by South Amboy Board of Education as Director of Pupil Personnel Services/Special Services in '94?  
a. Carol Galley b. Robert Bloodgood c. Dave Inman
- Back in '99, the Sayreville Hobby Shop was located at?  
a. Main St. b. Rt. 9 South c. Washington Rd.



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

# TIMES

The South Amboy/Sayreville Serving The Bayshore Area

The "Good News" Newspaper

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## Yearbook-Sayreville 1974

By Tom Burkard

As the Sayreville War Memorial H.S. Class of '74 returned for its final school year, "Brother Louie," by The Stories, and "Let's Get It On" by Marvin Gaye topped the record charts. Some of the faculty members were: Philip Brushi, Arlene Dusel, Rita Kopec, Barbara Kolojay, Lauretta Miller, Darlene Schwenk, Judith Sforza, Andrew Buydos. Lillie Ashe was Senior Class President, Darlene Spezzi-VP, Jackie Mangan-Treas., Karen Guido-Sec. Peggy Narlewski was Editor-In-Chief of the yearbook. Debbie D'Amico was Student Council President, and Patricia Fleming VP. co-captains of the Drill Team. Beverly Denniston was the Drum Majorette. Linda Cuomo was captain, and Sue Falk co-captain of the Color Guard. Diane Nunes was captain and Bonnie McArthur co-captain of the Twirlers. Patricia Fleming and L. Berke were co-captains of the Cheerleaders. The Spring Musical, "Guys and Dolly" was a smashing success. Activities were plentiful for the Class of '74, and the entire school. "Cactus Flower" was the popular Fall Play in 1973. There was also an evening of one act plays presented by the Ensemble. Darlene Spezzi was Homecoming Queen. Kathy Price and Jean Donella were Some seniors selected randomly include: Thomas Bailey, Veronica Alexander, Joseph Balde, Paul Biancamano, Holly Birkle, Jeff Bobbins, Debbie Bogdanski, Kathy Brennan, Lynn Ann Bringhurst, Ellen Carney, Keith Curtis, Debra DeBiase, Den nis DeRisi, Cindy Derzawiec, Joel Dicker, Becky Dodge, Robert Donatelli, John Fig, Carol Ann Fitting, Martin Fried, Susan Garnett, Rose Gaul, Robert Gray, Sue Ann Greenhaus, Evelyn Grabas, Karen Gulick, Nancy Gulick, Mary Lou Jankowski, Ann Juliano, Denise Klinger,

Raymond Minchew, Colleen O'Brien, Douglas Raba, John Puchalski, Frank Roser, Louise Tier, Arthur Walczak, Patricia Walsh, Mary Ziobro. Sayreville was loaded with super senior athletes in '74. Steve Makwinski, probably the most gifted, all-around athlete in the school's history, was All-Everything in baseball and basketball. The Bombers baseball team finished (24-8-1), winning the Middlesex County title, and also the CJ Group IV crown for Coach Norbert Smith. The girls softball squad was an awesome (18-1) under Coach Pat Willis, also winning the county and state sectional championships. The boys' basketball club finished (17-7), as Makwinski became the school's All-Time leading scorer, easily cracking the 1,000 point barrier. Other big contributors were Wayne Kreiger, who set school records in assists for a year with 137, and career 320, and John Wojcik, who closed out a fine athletic career with 834 points and 241 assists. The Bomberettes as the girls' basketball team was known as back then finished 12-5, and was paced by Nancy Burbank. Other senior athletes were: Bob Gutkowski, Maria Neira, Paula Geletei, Diane Glinsky, Bob Fuentes, Robert Zgorzynski, Jim Needham, Joe Hart, Ray Megill, Walt Majeski, Buddy Haines, Scott Jenkins, Lori Krypel, Nancy Eckstrom, Jack Kerr, Bruce Arden, Dan Slusher, Ray Borup, Lauren Burns, Donna Colella, Kathy Costello, Barbara and Mary Beth Holmes. At graduation time 1974, "Band On The Run" topped the national charts, and you can bet this talented and energetic group of seniors were well prepared for their run in the future before their big day in June of '74. Bonnie MacArthur was Valedictorian, and Donna Raspa, Salutatorian.

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## Firefighters Memorial Mass



A Firefighters Memorial Mass was celebrated at The Church of the Sacred Heart Church on Saturday, October 12, 2024. Pictured (l-r) Ex-Chief Rich Kosmoski Sayreville Fire Department, Chief Tim Gay South Amboy Fire Department, Chaplain Fr. Stan Gromadzki, Assistant Chief Rafael Albarran South Amboy Fire Department, and Ex-Chief Mike Geraltowski.



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Firefighter's gear and memorial bell. (Photos by Jamie Norek)

## Grand Opening At Parlin



Bossa Massages & Wellness is located at 811 Washington Road in Parlin, NJ. The owner, Billy Bossa, has been a licensed massage therapist for the last two years and offers a wide range of modalities at his spa. Billy, along with his husband Will and two children, RJ and Gabby, are excited to bring this into the community in which they reside. Clients can book with Billy and experience therapeutic treatments which can include, hot and cold stones, cupping, manual lymphatic drainage, sports massage and other medical

based massage techniques.

At Bossa Massages & Wellness, clients can also experience a spa like setting that is not offered anywhere else, which includes a sauna, Red Light Therapy, Cryotherapy, an inhouse esthetician who offers facials, waxing, chemical peels and microdermabrasion and Reiki. This spa also offers body sculpting using laser lipo and the incredible EmSculpt machine! Clients can book their sessions at [bossamassages.com](http://bossamassages.com) or by calling 732-416-6120.

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## The Smoke Column

By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski, BA., MS.  
Part 2. The Future of the Fire Services

Many other suggestions are on the NIOSH agenda that we will have to keep an eye on. These changes have been discussed within NIOSH over the past few years. NIOSH has been open to suggestions from any responding agency or organization over the last two years for their considerations on many of these changes. Many fire departments have never heard of NIOSH and the proposed suggestions, the future plans, or completely disregarded what they had heard. Once these NIOSH suggestions become law, we must abide by them or be held accountable if injury or disaster strikes someone on our fire scene. In talking to many fire service leaders, they knew nothing about these NIOSH changes so had no input in making suggestions. Many statewide chief fire service organizations have sent opposition responses to NIOSH which will hopefully be reviewed.

How many local governing bodies are aware of these changes and have expressed their concerns about them? Not many! How would these changes affect the local budgets for the fire departments? If the volunteer fire departments have to make changes and disband for lack of membership, the town would have to hire a career department for protection. The funding of a career fire department would run about the same as funding the police department. Can your local government afford the funding for a career fire department? Where would this funding come from? YOU and your taxes.

Additional changes coming our way may be in our training and credentialing programs. More training is in our future if NIOSH wants to change the various courses necessary to become a firefighter and combine the different functions into one category. The New Jersey Division of Fire Services (DFS) has the overall responsibility of certifications

and training of the New Jersey firefighters. The Division is constantly updating the required courses and training that each firefighter must take and begins when the person starts the initial training to become a firefighter and throughout his career. Back in the 1960's, it took almost no time in training to become a firefighter. In some volunteer fire departments, you joined, the next day you were on the engine with the senior officer telling you what to do. It was called on-the-job-training. In the 1970's, some of our classes were only 24 hours long. If you want to become a firefighter today, you need a minimum of three hundred hours of training as required by the DFS. Going to fire school at night for three nights a week will take you 7 months to complete. How about those firefighters who have been qualified for many years? There is no such required CEU training, but there is other specialized education that is being introduced that is being made mandatory by the DFS. If this training is not completed, you cannot ride the apparatus.

As you survey the future of the volunteer fire services, it does not look like they will be able to hold on for many more years. Volunteers are not knocking down our doors to join the fire service. Many must work two or more jobs just to pay the bills. How do we ask that person to give up three nights a week to become a volunteer? What more can the local municipalities do to help out the volunteer firefighters? When have the local governing bodies looked into these situations? Once the volunteer firefighter is gone, the volunteer fire service will be history. The comments and opinions of these articles are those of the writer and what he has witnessed over the last fifty years in the fire service!

## Dowdell Library News

Give back to your community (and yourself!) this Thanksgiving holiday by visiting the Dowdell Library, a.k.a your local library!

"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. This exhibition was made possible by the Dowdell Library Foundation.

All Patrons! Come out to the library for our annual Veterans Day Program on Monday, November 18 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm to honor our heroes and for a special appearance from the Wounded Warrior Project.

Parents with Toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for Toddler Thursday Play Dates on the first three Thursdays in November 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 November from 1:00 to 2:30 pm (November 6) and from 3:15 to 4:30 pm (November 13 and 20) including a 3D Pen Sculpture Contest.

Teens! Join Ms. Grace for Teen Drop in Video Games on Friday, November 8 from 1:15 to 2:30 pm. Also, don't miss out on Create Your Own Comic Strip on Friday, November 15 from 3:15 to 4:30 pm. Be sure to come to the library for Teen Board Game Frenzy on Friday, November 22 from 1:15 to 2:30 pm.

Kids and Teens! Don't miss out on the Game On Basketball Contest happening all November long. Stop in the library for a

chance to win an NBA basketball.

Adults and Teens! Visit the library for DIY Pottery Part I on Thursday, November 21 and for DIY Pottery Part II on Thursday, December 5 both from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Registration is required. Also, the event is open to new attendees.

The Senior Book Club will meet on Monday, November 25 from 10:30 to 11:30 am.

Dowdell Library, in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and RWJ Barnabas Health, offers online virtual health programs. Please register by emailing communityed@rwjbh.org. Guided Imagery Relaxation Sessions are on Tuesday November 12 and 26 at 1:00 pm. Additionally, Stretch it Thursdays occurs the first 3 Thursdays (7th, 14th, and 21st) at 1:00 pm.

The Knitting Circle will be meeting Mondays in November from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Bring your supplies, tools, and let's get started!

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

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

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

## Trinity United Methodist Church Christmas Bazaar

Trinity Church is once again hosting the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 14 from 9 am to 1 pm. The Church is located at 815 Bordentown Avenue in South Amboy (right next to the Parkway Rest Stop Entrance). We will have crafts, vendors, tricky tray, homemade cookies, Children's

and a Christmas room, and our cafe. The cafe will serve breakfast and lunch throughout the day.

If you are interested in being a vendor, please call Lori at 732-763-6232. The cost of a table is \$20. All proceeds are used for local Church Ministries.

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## Stella Maris Columbarium


**The new Stella Maris Columbarium at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Cemetery on Washington Avenue in South Amboy, is now open and available for those wishing to purchase a niche for cremated remains. Located in front of our mausoleum, we have 96 available niches. If you are interested, please contact the parish office at 732-721-0179 during business hours for pricing. Office hours are Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.**

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## Blessing Of The Pets

Photos/Story By Jordan Drevelus



On October 4th, a number of the local community churches celebrated the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. While nothing more than a daily service or Mass took place on the fourth itself, many churches spent the weekend giving people the opportunity to take part in the longstanding tradition of having one's pets blessed. This religious tradition may seem odd to an outsider, but has been a longstanding part which finds its origin in the very life of Francis of Assisi.

Saint Francis lived a life devoted to his faith and to those around him taking the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Coming out of an environment of luxury, Francis felt called to a life much different; he established a group of friars which went against the luxuries, corruptions, and heresies prevalent at that time. Uniquely, he was also known to love all of creation as a "mirror of God" with special care given to animals. As a result, he is the patron saint of animals and the environment.

It is thus that many in the local community, furry and human, arrived at the doors and courtyards of our local churches for prayers and blessings. The Reverend Magdalena Aders, deacon at Christ Episcopal in South Amboy, expressed her love for all animals finding herself amidst a flurry of dogs. Dcn. Magdalena expressed that, "we remember that the presence and love of animals are a gift of God's creation. The prayers over the pets give us a special



occasion to acknowledge that ... and to be grateful." At Saint Mary Star of the Sea Church, Rev. Fr. Guy Selvester stood on the rectory porch with a crowd of dogs, some cats, and even a bird which were brought for a blessing. The Church of the Sacred Heart took charity a step further: the Columbiettes held a pet food drive for local shelters during their pet blessing to further honor St. Francis. It is clear, by all of this activity, that this tradition, which has been covered by The SA Times in the past, is alive and well in our local community! Be on the lookout next year if you would like to take part.

## Sayreville Library News

### Medicare 101

**Saturday, Nov 16 @11:30AM**

Medicare can be daunting. Thankfully there is help. Join us for this informative seminar and learn the ins and outs of the program. Learn about selecting different plans, prescription coverage costs, the difference between medicare advantage and medigap and more.

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

### Movie Matinee

**Tuesday, Nov 19 @1PM**

Join us for our monthly movie matinee. This month: Instant Family- Starring Mark Wahlberg. Rated PG-13 1 hr 58 mins. Refreshments provided. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

### Resumes and Cover Letters (Virtual)

**Thursday, Nov 21 @6PM**

Learn how to create eye-catching resumes and cover letters in this interactive seminar. Learn how to use the right words and language to really catch the eye of potential employers.

This is a virtual session. Registration required to get the zoom link. Register online

or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

### Estate Planning and Special Needs

#### Trusts with Tina James

**Saturday, Nov 23 @1PM**

Join Tina M. James, local attorney, for an informative overview of why families of children with disabilities need an Estate Plan and how your child's benefits could be jeopardized without one. Also learn about special needs trusts, durable power of attorney, wills, NJ Able accounts and Non-probate assets such as life insurance policies and retirement accounts. Registration required, Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112

#### Trivia with Dan

**Monday, December 2 @6:30PM**

Think you are good at trivia? Want to try and win some prizes? Dan Vetrano, Sayreville Library's own Adult Librarian and long time trivia enthusiast will be cooking up questions for this fun and exciting game.

Play solo or join up with a team. Prizes offered to the winners. Open to teens and adults. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112. No more than 4 per team please. All team members must register.

## Sayreville High School Hall Of Fame Seeking Nominations

The SWMHS Hall of Fame Committee is seeking new nominations for the April 2025 Induction Ceremony. Perhaps you know of a deserving graduate who would be a good candidate for the SWMHS Hall of Fame. The qualified Nominee should be someone who has made significant contributions to his/her profession, career, organization, or community as well as philanthropic endeavors. If you would like to nominate this individual, please send us the following information: year of graduation;

current contact information (including email and phone number); highest level of education; military service; and noteworthy achievements in profession, career, etc. Please use the Hall of Fame Nomination form found on the Sayreville High School website. All nominations are due by November 6, 2024. Mail the information to: SWMHS Hall of Fame Committee, 15 Cheyenne Drive, Parlin, NJ 08859. Emailed nominations and any questions should be sent to: ARTEDE4@MSN.COM





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## NO MORE COLD TOES

Holiday Sock Drive 2024

Many homeless people walk miles per day in order to survive, leaving their socks threadbare and damp. Over the past three years, Trinity United Methodist Church collected a total of 3,400 pairs of socks for our local shelters. In 2023, Steven Wegrzyn received the Recognition Of Lay Ministries Award from the United Methodists of Greater New Jersey for his dedication & commitment for collecting socks for our homeless community. Please consider participating in this year's sock drive. We will be collecting NEW: Men, Women, Children, & Infant Socks as well as monetary donations which will go directly towards the purchase of

supplies for our shelters.

Collection bins will be accessible 24/7 beginning November 1st until December 20th. A few dollars out of your pocket could mean the world to someone with cold feet. Thank you

For more information, Please contact Steven at (732) 309-6616 or TUMCSouthAmboy@gmail.com

## #1 Country Hits Oct. 26

- 2021-My Boy-Elvie Shane
- 2013-That's My Kind Of Night -Thomas Rhett
- 2004-Remember When-Alan Jackson
- 1990-Friends In Low Places-Garth Brooks
- 1988-Gonna Take A Lot Of River -The Oak Ridge Boys
- 1971-How Can I Unlove You-Lynn Anderson
- 1966-Open Up Your Heart-Buck Owens



## #1 Pop Hits-Oct. 26

- 2020-Mood-24k Gold
- 2012-One More Night-Maroon 5
- 2003-Baby Boy-Beyonce
- 1997-Candle In The Wind-Elton John
- 1983-Islands In The Stream-Kenny Rogers
- 1975-Island Girl-Elton John
- 1969-Suspicious Minds-Elvis Presley

## One Hit Wonders-1991

3 A.M. Eternal-The KLF; Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life-Monty Python; Candy-Iggy Pop; Love On A Rooftop-Desmond Child; The One And Only-Chesney Hawkes; With You-Tony Terry; Power Windows-Billy Falcon.



Ryan Yuhas of Sayreville, was a big hit with the crowd as he performed excellent renditions of the legendary Frankie Valli songs at Sayreville Day. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## SIGN UP NOW!

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By Tom Burkard

## Night

1. Give Me The Night
2. The Night Time
3. Long Lonely Nights
4. Night Moves
5. All Day And All Night
6. Night Shift
7. Night Fever
8. A Hard Day's Night
9. Wild Night
10. Sunglasses At Night



- a. Corey Hart
- b. Bob Seger
- c. The Beatles
- d. The Bee Gees
- e. George Benson
- f. The Strangeloves
- g. Van Morrison
- h. The Kinks
- i. Bobby Vinton
- j. Lionel Richie

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



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**ELAINE GABER**

Library Director



The "Dynamic Dancing Duo" of (l-r), Alana Foster and Riley Wisniewski onstage with The Clem and Friends Band for Sayreville's Annual Sayreville Day Celebration. (Photo/info submitted)



"Blast from the Past" Car Show" (l-r) Riley Wisniewski and Alana Foster. (Photo/info submitted)

## Rumbles from the Rock and Roll Reunion

By Clem Skarzynski

"Blast from the Past" 2024... "Sayreville Day" 2024... Thanks to the efforts of Sayreville Rec Dept. Director, Brian VanDongen, with staff members, Jeffery Schnitzer and Cheryl McQuade, once again, was a "Double Dose of Success," this past Sept. 14th and 15th at Sayreville Kennedy Park... Sat. brought out Customs and Hot Rods for our 18th Annual "Blast from the Past" Car Show and Concert! DJ Richie Hart brought out the car clubs, The "Clem and Friends Band" brought the live music from the 50s, 60s, and 70s to add memories of those times when the classic cars cruised the avenues, radios blasting the hits of the times! Sunday, the 15th brought out the residents of the Boro for the Annual "Sayreville Day" festivities... vendors... food trucks... kiddie rides... local talents of dance, song, and music, and friends meeting friends! Perfect weather, perfect atmosphere! And, as always, over the years, Elyse Barone lined up an amazing bunch of local organizations and talent for the Sayreville Day Stage... Vocalist Ryan Yuhas, opened the days activities, "Curtain Call," "Bodies in Motion," Step in Time Ballroom, and Main Street Theater, Dance Groups, and Mr. Patsy Palma, vocalist, to round out the Main Acts. The "Clem and Friends Band" closed the day with an hour of 60s thru the 80s Rock and Roll live music... "Clem and Friends" sincere thanks goes out to the Rec. Depts. Brian VanDongen, Recycle Dir. Elyse Barone, Parks Dept. Supervisor, Richie Popowski and his entire staff for their super assistance and help through the 2 days with our band's equipment and storage, and help moving it!! You guys are the best... Wayne, Rich, Ed, Connor, and Ryan... thank you guys!! Cant forget who really makes these 2 shows a great success... Emerson and Amy Jones, from Basement Audio Sound! Been with us for over 18 years, and making these shows so special, and goes without saying, makes us, the band sound the better than the best we could! Our thanks, AND... THE BEST FOR LAST!! The crowds at the Car Show and Sayreville Day were once again treated to the "Dynamic Dancing Duo" of Ms. Riley Wisniewski and Ms. Alana Foster's astonishing dance moves to "Wooly Bully" and also "Great Balls of Fire." 2 shows, 2

performances. What an unexpected treat for the crowds! Actually, the Sayreville Day Show, the Duo decided to add a couple of more songs to the crowd's delight! What a way to close out the day! Thank you Ladies! You were the hit of the shows! We're looking forward to next year's appearance! A limo will be waiting to get you there! O.K... coming up within the NEXT FEW DAYS... St. Stans 4th Annual Car Show! YUP..IT'S HERE! Sunday the 27th! 11am to 3p.m. D.J. Richie Flash and the "Just us Cruisers" Car Club... Basement Audio Sound, and "The Clem and Friends Band" will be on hand with the St. Stan's Crew.. Cars, Cars, Cars... Hot Rods, Customs.. Bikes, etc... they'll all be there! Central Jersey's largest end of the season show! Getting bigger and better every year! More room this year for more Cars! DJ Richie on the mic... "Clem and Friends Band" onstage with the music to match the atmosphere... 50's 60's 70's good time Rock and Roll! The Tommy Samuel Memorial Trophy... And, DJ Richie and "The Clem and Friends Band" trophy, in memory of our Dear Friend, the late Mr. Jerry Ust will be awarded to the "Best in Show" Rides.. This Year's "Jerry Ust Trophy" winner will be selected and chosen by Jerry's grandson, Mr. Jackson Cook! Who has had quite an experienced eye for the "Best in Show" award winners the past couple of years! And.. Jackson's sister, Ms. Ella Cook, who graced our stage last year with her rendition of "Don and Juan's 50s Oldie, "Whats your Name," will be singing our National Anthem to open this year's show! Be here early for that once in a lifetime event! Her G ma, Eileen Ust tells me "She's been practicing"... Oh, yes.. SHES BEEN PRACTICING!... That sez it all.. don't miss this one! Cars, food, music, friends... Sunday, Oct. 27th.. 11am to 3pm... St. Stan's Church Grounds.. MacArthur Ave. Sayreville.. See you then.. Music... Heals the Soul... the Mind... the Hurt!



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**Children's Games  
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Santa**

**Play  
Games,  
Win  
Prizes,  
Have  
Fun!!!**

## South Amboy Day

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



Kevin McGowan (r) and his grandson Dylan perform an outstanding version of "God Bless The U.S.A." ←

South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry and his wife Linda had an enjoyable time at South Amboy Day. →



The South Amboy K of C Columbiettes are pictured by their tables of tasty sweet treats. ←



South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 sold Sabrett Hot Dogs, soda, water, and more. →



Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post 62 is pictured by their stand. ←

A juggler and lady on stilts performed to the delight of all. →



There were plenty of fun things for the youngsters to do on this beautiful day. ←



Children of all ages had a great time at South Amboy Day. →



## Parade Committee Honorees

Continued from page 1

including alerting, mobilizing, coordination and directing activities which may take me away from my family for hours or even days. I would not be able to accomplish all that I am able to do without the love, support and understanding of my wife Sue and my children Andrea and Steven."

In addition to his OEM responsibilities, Mark became a volunteer fireman in 1982 and rose through the ranks over the years, serving as Fire Chief from 2000-2003 and has been an Honorary Member of the First Aid Squad since 1988.

Mark has spent many years since 1995 coaching girls' and boys' softball, baseball, basketball and football for various local organizations.

During the recent COVID pandemic, Mark worked with a local Food Pantry and the First Aid Squad members to provide food and supplies to families.

Father Stanley Gromadzki (aka Father Stan) has been named the 2025 Deputy Grand Marshal. Father stated " I am ecstatic, honored and humbled that the parade committee would bestow this honor on me. I am truly grateful.

Born in Poland, at the age of 13, Father Stan and his family immigrated to the United States in 1976. The family settled in Perth Amboy where Father Stan graduated from Perth Amboy High School. He attended Seton Hall University where he obtained an undergraduate degree in Psychology before attending St. Mary Mount Seminary, Maryland. Ordained to the Holy Priesthood in May of 1989 he began caring for parishioners at St. Peter the Apostle Community Parish in New Brunswick. On September 8, 1998, he was installed as the tenth pastor of St. Mary of Ostrabrama R. C. Church of South River where he remained for 15 years. Here he set to work making much needed restorations to the school building, refurbishing the school auditorium and restoring the entire lower level of the church. During his tenure, St. Mary's celebrated its Centennial and Father Stan oversaw the planning of the celebration as well as the work needed to ensure the church would shine during this milestone event.

After 15 years at St. Mary's, Father Stan was installed as pastor at Sacred Heart R. C. Church, South Amboy, on June 16, 2013. Following his departure from St. Mary's, the younger brother of Father Stan, Reverend Michael J Gromadzki, was installed as its new pastor. As a result, they are the first two brothers serving the Catholic community within the Diocese of Metuchen.

In 2020, under the direction of Father Stan, Sacred Heart Church began exploring the needs for a Spanish Ministry which is offered to Hispanic communities within South Amboy, Sayreville, Old Bridge and the surrounding area. He is happy to report that the Spanish community was receptive to the idea and their numbers are growing within the parish.

A 35 year member of the Knights of Columbus, Father Stan serves as the Chaplin of the South Amboy council. Father Stan has been active in supporting local organizations

and celebrated a formal mass on May 19, 2024 in honor of the 125th anniversary of the Knight of Columbus Council #426, South Amboy. He also serves as the Chaplin of the N.J. Volunteer Fire Chiefs Association, the Knights of Columbus Council #426, and Middlesex County Sheriff's Department. He is also a member of the South Amboy Fire Department, a position which allows him to be on scene during fires and emergencies to assist victims, family members and others dealing with the trauma of the situation.

A warm, charismatic man, Father Stan cares for and ministers to his congregation and community with humor, honesty and love. An avid fresh and saltwater fisherman, Father Stan fishes the local bays and ocean as well as sites in Lake Charleston, Canada and Islamorada, Florida. When asked where his favorite fishing spot was located, Father Stan replied with a twinkle in his eye, "A good fisherman never reveals his hot spots."

The 2025 Honorary Grand Marshal, Donna Williams, has been nominated due to her active volunteerism throughout the City of South Amboy. Donna willingly donates her time and expertise helping others through her involvement in many charitable organizations.

Raised in Rahway, NJ and a 22-year resident of Parlin, Donna along with her husband Jan, have epitomized the definition of volunteer. With a total of 51 years in the airline industry, Donna held a customer service position with both Eastern and Continental/United Airlines serving travelers at Newark International Airport.

Brought up in a home where volunteering was encouraged, Mrs. Williams is an active member of the South Amboy Columbiettes, a women's auxiliary council affiliated with the South Amboy Knights of Columbus. Donna is a member of the Women's Auxiliary of the Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62, the South Amboy and Rahway Historical Societies, the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee and serves as the President of the Eastern Airlines Retiree Association, NJ Chapter. Donna is a communicant of Sacred Heart R.C. Church, South Amboy. Most recently, Donna volunteered her time at the city's South Amboy Day festival.

During the COVID pandemic, Donna served as a volunteer for the Middlesex County Department of Health at various vaccine clinics assisting and directing individuals waiting to receive their vaccinations.

An avid reader, Donna enjoys walks along the Raritan Bay Waterfront, weekly Sunday dinners with friends and day trips either by car or flying with her husband Jan, a private pilot.

"It is a great honor to be awarded this recognition. Volunteering has allowed me to stay active, build relationships, friendships, and learn more about my community and neighbors. By working with other organizations that I am not actively involved with, I am able to work behind the scene assisting them in various ways. I feel truly blessed that I am able to help others."

## Way, Way Back In 1968



1968-St. Mary's students clown around after playing basketball at the Sorrentino home on First St. in South Amboy. Pictured (l-r) Al Gomolka, Tom Boychuk, Rich Gray, Brian Conlon, Pete McIntyre (partially hidden), Jim Sorrentino. (Photo courtesy of Al Gomolka)



# Vote for the Democrats with Integrity That Will Fight for You and Your Family

Sayreville Republicans care more about giving tax breaks to wealthy developers and silencing constituents during council meetings than about trying to meet the needs of Sayreville families.

## While on council, Mary Novak and Vincent Conti

- Stood against overdevelopment, voting against an unfair tax break that hurt Sayreville families to the benefit of wealthy warehouse developers
- Used County Open Space grants to protect Kennedy Park from privatization and development
- Funded road construction and improved our water infrastructure
- Hired more crossing guards and invested in public safety

**It's time to bring checks and balances back to our council.**

**Remember to also vote YES to preserve Sayreville's History and Save Our Firehouse**

## Three Easy Ways to Vote this November:



### Vote By Mail

Mail in ballots will be mailed to registered voters beginning September 21st.



### Early In Person

Early in-person voting is available October 26th through November 3rd at the Sayreville Senior Center.



### Election Day

Last chance to vote is Tuesday, November 5th! Polls will be open from 6 am to 8pm.



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## Central Jersey Medical Center at Carteret Dedicates Pavilion to Ronald G. Rios



Middlesex County Commissioner Director Ronald G. Rios, center, is pictured with dignitaries during a dedication ceremony for the The Ronald G. Rios Central Jersey Medical Center at Carteret. Pictured from (l-r) are Councilman Randy Krum, Council AJ Johal, Middlesex County Clerk Nancy Pinkin, Councilman Vincent Bellino, Middlesex County Surrogate Claribel Cortes, Central Jersey Medical Center Executive Director Jack O'Leary, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Mayor Daniel J. Reiman and Councilman Jorge Diaz.

The Ronald G. Rios Central Jersey Medical Center at Carteret has been dedicated in honor of Middlesex County Commissioner Director Ronald G. Rios, who has been a resident of the Borough for over 50 years. The West Carteret health care facility was dedicated to the Commissioner Director on Friday, Sept. 27, 2024 with a grand opening celebration and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

A longtime service provider in Central New Jersey, the comprehensive, yet affordable Central Jersey Medical Center recently expanded to Carteret this year.

CJMC CEO Jack O'Leary said he was excited about dedicating the satellite medical center to Director Rios because he's an outstanding leader. "That's what you need in government today," O'Leary said, "someone who understands the people who he serves. That's one thing I can say about Ronnie: he's a good listener, and he gets things done."

NJ State Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin added, "It is truly fitting to have a place named after him while he's still here to be celebrated and hear all of the things that we all have to say. Ron makes a difference. This building and the services it provides will make a difference. I look forward to all the things that CJMC does."

In a letter read by Carteret Mayor Reiman, Senate President Nicholas Scutari said he was grateful for Director Rios' "tireless commitment to this project and the vision you brought to make this a reality here in Carteret for the residents of Middlesex County. I have no doubt that this new medical center will provide much-needed access to health care for your residents and help ensure your community is better equipped to meet its medical needs. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to the people of Carteret, Middlesex County and the State of New Jersey."

Director Rios has served on the Middlesex County Board of Commissioners since 2008. He was appointed Commissioner Director in 2013.

Prior to that tenure, Director Rios served for many years on the Carteret Borough

Council, including as Council President from 2003 to 2008. He also worked for more than 30 years for Conrail, during which time, he held many offices for the Oak Island Local 6965 Transportation Communications International Union AFL-CIO, including as president for 10 years from 1993 to 2003.

"To the board of directors of the Central Jersey Medical Center and the Jewish Renaissance Foundation for this dedication of this brand new state-of-the-art medical center in my beloved hometown of Carteret, I'm truly humbled by this honor," Director Rios said. "If you told me 50 years ago when I first moved to Carteret, there would be a medical center or any building for that matter dedicated in my name, I'd say you're trying to pull a fast one on me, and you're crazy. Today is a dream that my parents could never have imagined for the Rios family name when they moved here from Puerto Rico. It's a dream that I couldn't conceive as a blue-collar worker all of my life and a public servant on the Carteret Borough Council for many years and for the past 16 years on the Board of County Commissioners, a job I dearly love."

Central Jersey Medical Center's services are vast ranging from primary health to dental to preventive services. As a federally qualified health center, CJMC opens its doors to everyone who is in need of medical care whether they can afford it or not, O'Leary said.

"That's the truth of a federally qualified health center," he said. "We don't turn people away. We make sure that they're being taken care of on a medical basis. We consider ourselves a medical home where people not only come here when they're sick but are receiving the care that keeps them healthy each and every year."

In addition to the speakers, dignitaries at the dedication ceremony included councilmen Vincent Bellino, AJ Johal, Jorge Diaz, and Randy Krum, Middlesex County Democratic Chairman Kevin McCabe, County Clerk Nancy Pinkin, County Surrogate Claribel Cortes, and South Amboy Councilwoman Zusette Dato.

### South Amboy Elks Veterans Dinner

The South Amboy Elks are hosting a Family Style Spaghetti, Meatballs and Sausage Dinner on Sunday, November 10 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The cost is \$15 and also includes salad, bread, and dessert. Cash bar is also available.

The proceeds will be donated to the Luke Lovely Stars and Stripes Transitional Housing. Veterans can eat free, and you can donate to purchase a Veteran's Dinner.

Please call 732 727 7170 or text/call 732 763 6232 to reserve tickets or ask any questions. Come support those that have supported us!!!

### Did You Know?

South Amboy Township was established back in 1684 (340 years ago), and at the time it covered an area that now consists of Monroe Twp., Old Bridge Twp., Borough of Sayreville, and the City of South Amboy.

### Where Is It?

Last month we missed Bruce Grankowski's Answer for this special contest. Sorry Bruce.

#### 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 -P.S.

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## Sayreville Athletic Hall Of Fame Inductions

(Photos/info submitted)

The Sayreville High School Class of 2024 Athletic Hall Of Fame recently held their induction ceremony. The following outstanding athletes through the years were honored at the induction.

Stephanie Allocco (1996), Jerry Carney (1968), Kene Eze (2010), Jack Hefelfinger (1964-2003), Steve Makwinski (1974),

Jessica Painchaud (1998), Sherry Popowski (1975), Alex Ratajczyk (2009), Vito Recine (1985), Rhonda Rompola (1978), Ramon Santiago (2009), Judy Sunski (1987), John Tyszkiewicz (1964), Mike Wasko (1982). Congratulations to all the inductees on your outstanding accomplishments throughout the years.



Steve Makwinski, one of Sayreville War Memorial High School's All-Time greatest all-around athletes addresses the crowd during the induction ceremony.



Pictured (l-r) Glenn Kreiger, John Andl, Matt Walsh renewed old friendships at the induction ceremonies.



Sayreville Athletic Hall of Famer, Steve Makwinski is introduced to the crowd at halftime of a Bombers football game.



The Athletic Hall of Fame plaque is unveiled as the inductees look on.



Pictured (l-r) are inductees Mike Wasko, Jerry Carney, John Tyszkiewicz.



1999-The movie "Coyote Ugly" filmed some scenes in South Amboy. Pictured is the building located on the corner of South Broadway and David Street which was rented by the movie company and turned into a pizzeria called Sea Side Pizza. Locals initially believed that a new pizza business had come to South Amboy, and were really surprised that a big-time movie was being shot in "The Pleasant Little City." (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## 25 Years Ago "Coyote Ugly" Came To South Amboy

By Tom Burkard

It's hard to believe, but it's been 25 years since South Amboy was infiltrated with Hollywood types, actors, producers, directors, etc., while parts of the movie, "Coyote Ugly" was being filmed on the corner of South Broadway and David Street. The building which is on the corner, across from Krauszer's Store, served as the setting for the film's SeaSide Pizza. Producer Jerry Bruckheimer's film featured Jersey girl, Piper Perabo, who emerged as the star of the movie. She portrayed a waitress at the pizzeria, with aspirations to become a superstar singer/songwriter. She chased her dreams to New York City, despite concerns of her father, who was portrayed by the world-renowned actor John Goodman. Perabo played the role of Violet Sanford, AKA "Jersey," and landed a job at a NYC bar called Coyote Ugly. While working there, the aspiring young woman came out of her shell, and continued to pursue her dream. Initial reports in the City of South Amboy circulated around town, with people actually thinking there was a new pizza parlor on Broadway. Young and old alike said they were looking forward to trying the pizza at the "new business." Throughout the shoot, local curiosity seekers and stargazers cruised along Broadway in hopes of getting a glimpse of movie stars who had invaded "The Pleasant Little City." Actress Tyra Banks portrayed the role of Zoe, and Johnny Knoxville had a bit part as a College Guy. Two local businesses were offered large sums of money by the movie company to use their stores/shops during the shooting. In addition to the South Amboy shooting location, scenes were also done at Sea Bright, NJ, Atlantic Beach, NY, and New York City. The Coyote Ugly days were pretty exciting ones for local residents, probably reminiscent of back in the early '80's, when Woody Allen's "Purple Rose of Cairo" was

shot at the old Raritan Diner on Bordentown Ave, and the cast members and crew used the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426 as their headquarters during the filming. Mia Farrow starred in that movie with Allen. Notebook: "Coyote Ugly" wasn't released until the following year, July 31, 2000, and in the first weekend, box office returns were \$17,319,282, and worldwide to present, the movie has amassed \$113,916,474, overall a big success...Piper Perabo played the role of the singer, but the actual voice on her songs was that of country star LeAnn Rimes, who also appeared in the movie, playing herself. The soundtrack from "Coyote Ugly," with Rimes singing was certified 4 times platinum, selling over 4 million copies...Piper Perabo grew up in Toms River, NJ, and graduated from Toms River North HS in '94....She has had an outstanding career in acting, having appeared in many movies, TV shows, and even some Broadway productions, and has won numerous awards for her acting skills... Jim Kopystecky, who helped his mother, the late Dot Kopystecky run their business, Dot's Luncheonette at the time, shared his thoughts and memories, saying that "What I remember most was how meticulous the workers were in transforming an empty shell of a building into a Pizza Restaurant." He also mentioned that "The movie company rented our parking lot for 1-day, and also the roof of our store to put up a giant spotlight for the filming. Once the filming began, the section was roped off to the public. In the beginning, they wanted to rent our place, but it was too small for their plans. The filming crew and staff was a nice group of people, and for about a month and a half came in and had breakfast and lunch, which really helped business. I recently heard that actress Tyra Banks was talking about doing a sequel to "Coyote Ugly."



Kenny Kurczeski (l) of Sayreville stopped in to see his good friend, Efrén Castro, owner of Java Dave's Coffee, 110 North Broadway, South Amboy. Kenny is the songwriter/lead singer of the well-known and popular band, Kenny K. & The Way. Be sure to stop in and say hello to Efrén, and try his special Fall drinks. (Photo by Tom Burkard)



Former South Amboy/Sayreville businessman Bill Masterson (l), admires the special ring that his neighbor, former NFL great, Mark Gastineau received as an inductee into the New York Jets Ring of Honor. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

### Grand Opening!



"We are proud to announce the opening of our new Hispanic Unit at The Venetian Care and Rehab! A dedicated unit with Spanish speaking staff, cuisine, decor, and a fully packed activities calendar is ready to welcome new Hispanic patients to our facility. Please reach out if you have any questions or would like to tour. Beds are available today!" (Photos/Info Submitted)



### Local Fire



On October 18th South Amboy Police, Fire and First Aid responded to a structure fire at 200 So. Feltus St. with reported 2 apartments on fire. SAFD extinguished the fire with mutual aid assistance from Sayreville and Hopelawn FD. No injuries reported. Cause of the fire under investigation by Middlesex County Fire Marshal office. (Photos/info submitted)

### LETTERS

**Tom/ Brian**

Thank you both for keeping cherished memories alive for all these years. We are all very grateful for your hard work and dedication to these 2 great towns. Congratulations on your 33 year anniversary.

**Stephen Makwinski**



**Tom and Brian**

Thank you for your continued stories and information relating to the SA area. It is always good to have articles to read about former neighbors and friends and what has been accomplished by them and others in the area I was born and raised. Have a wonderful month.

**Bill Farrekk**



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**Salt Water**  
 Local beach fishing is still slow-only a few small Bluefish with some Snapper Blues and Spots have been caught at the Perth Amboy Pier. Surf fishing, coast wise, has taken a hit due to Stormy weather. Blackfish are being caught at Barnegat Light rocks. There is quite a variety of mixed species of fish in back bay areas. I gave it a try in mid- September at the 2nd St bulkhead in Beach Haven. I caught numerous small hand size Seabass plus a Silver Perch and a short Fluke. I returned to the same spot a week later only catching more of the same plus a small Blowfish, 2 small Sand Sharks, and 3 Pigfish which are a kind of Grunt fish usually found to our south. I returned everything-too small to keep. When the surf calms down, Bluefish and some Kingfish should be available. Party boats are still doing well with Bonito, Bluefish and a few False Albacore. Fluke season is closed so party boats are looking for Sea Bass with a 10 fish limit and bringing in Porgies and Ling.

**Fresh Water**  
 The big news is that due to low water tables in our rivers, the fall Trout stocking has been put off till after the middle of October, if water levels keep dropping it may be pushed further back or even canceled. The Lakes and streams are normal for Fall fishing patterns with Bass, Catfish and Panfish being caught statewide. The Delaware River has lots of Small Mouth Bass but they tend to be small.

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Area resident Steven Tarr (r), and Commander Steven A. Halle is pictured at the commissioning of the new attack submarine New Jersey (SSN 796) on Sept. 14th at the Naval Weapons Station Earle in Leonardo, NJ. (Photos/info submitted)



### Who is it?

By Brian and Phyllis Stratton



Does this friendly face look familiar to you? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by November 11th.



September Who is it?  
Bob May and the Robot (B9)

#### Who Is It?

Last month's mystery duo were actor Bob May and the Robot (B9) from the hit 1960's TV show "Lost in Space". Bob's connection to the Robot is that he provided the voice. "Danger Will Robinson" The following got it right: Ed English, Betty Leveille, Bruce Grankowski, John & JoAnn French, Pat Scully, Mark Moniello, Steve Laskiewicz, Gary Feret, Walter Starzec Jr, Pete McIntyre, Dane Colburn, Laurie & Gary Loftis.

### South Amboy City Wide Yard Sale

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



The sign says it all.



South Amboy had a great day for it's City Wide Yard Sale. The weather was perfect and everyone had a grand time!



If you looked hard enough, you could find almost anything you wanted.



Bargains were everywhere for people of all ages.

### Local Wildlife

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



This beautiful Sulcata Tortoise was recently spotted in the area.

It's that time of the year! Have you seen any Praying Mantis around?



### WWW.?



Can you identify this building? Send your answer to satimes@aol.com by November 11th. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Last month's correct answer was Allie Clark Sports Complex in South Amboy.

Winners: Ed English, Betty Leveille, John Gelson, Paul Conlon, Pat Scully, Steve Laskiewicz, Gary Feret, Lisa Morris, Don Zrebiec, Barb Bockus, Lynn Loy, Mary Agnes Morris, Dane Colburn, Laurie & Gary Loftis, Jim & Debbie Sissick.

\*Last month we missed Mary Agnes Morris

### Trinity United Methodist Church Thrift Shop

The Trinity Treasures Thrift Shop is located at Trinity Church at 815 Bordentown Avenue South Amboy (right by the Parkway Rest Stop Entrance). It is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9 am to 11 pm and the drop off is open 24/7. We have four shops filled with items that sell at very reasonable pricing. We have clothing, toys, housewares and now we have loads of Halloween and Thanksgiving decorations, costumes and whatever your heart desires. In late October, we will be bringing out the Christmas items for sale and we are FULL. The income is used for Church Ministries.

If you have any questions, please call Lori at 732 763 6232.

We would love to hear from you!



or



or



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**School Sports**  
(As of Oct. 15)  
By Tom Burkard

**Girls Soccer**

**Sayreville (5-6-1)**  
Team Leaders  
Goals-Lila Stevenson 12, Isabelle Deoliveira 8, Emma Halmo 5; Assists-Deoliveira 4, Karina Cardoso 4; Points-Stevenson 27, Deoliveira 20, Halmo 12.

**South Amboy (2-9)**  
Team Leaders  
Goals-Ashley Moreira-Burgos 7, Eleny Leonor-Aleman 5; Assists-None; Points-Moreira-Burgos 14, Leonor-Aleman 10.

**Boys Soccer**

**Sayreville (4-8-1)**  
Team Leaders  
Goals-Lloyd Buck 6, Sallu Kabba 6; Assists-Buck 4; Points-Buck 16, Kabba 13.

**South Amboy (4-5)**  
Team Leaders  
Goals-Eryl Gurdak 6, Sebastian Roessele 2; Assists-Eryl Gurdak 1; Points-Eryl Gurdak 13, Roessele 4.

**Field Hockey**

**Sayreville (7-7-1)**  
Team Leaders  
Goals-Danielle Zapoticzny 15, Caroline Astarita 6, Sheridan Markowski 6; Assists-Markowski 10, Savannah Parse 5; Points-Zapoticzny 32, Markowski 22, Astarita 14.

**Sayreville Bombers Football**

**Game #4**  
The Bombers were hammered by a powerful Hillsborough, 35-0. Brian Zangrillo excelled on defense by making 9 total tackles.

**Game #5**  
Sayreville bounced back by pounding North Brunswick, 40-29. Shaun Jackson put on a scoring show by breaking loose for an incredible 6 touchdowns, with the longest run being 65 yards. He also caught a pass for 14 yards. Chase Barnes racked up 9 total tackles, and Zangrillo added 7.

**Game #6**  
Piscataway trounced the Bombers, 42-13, dropping our locals record to (2-4).

**Game #7**  
Sayreville dropped a heartbreaker to Franklin, 22-20. Shaun Jackson continued his outstanding play by racing for 2 TD's and a 2-point conversion, while Devyn McCall scored on a 10-yard TD run. The Bombers are now (2-5).

**Sayreville Football Leaders**

Passing Yards-Nick Nunez 300; Touchdown Passes-Nunez 2; Rushing Yards-Shaun Jackson 758, Devin Krass 185; Touchdowns-S. Jackson 11, Krass 2, Joseph Kurbelo 2; Total Tackles-Bryce Bouchard 63, Chase Barnes 53.

**South Amboy Girls Win First**

The South Amboy girls soccer team won their first game of the season after 7 straight setbacks, as they defeated Carteret, 2-1. Mia McCall blasted in the thrilling game winning goal for the Lady Guvs at the 75:00 mark in the 2nd period. Eleny Leonor-Aleman also scored a goal in the 1st period.

**Bombers Win Soccer For A Cause**

The Sayreville Bombers girls soccer team upset a strong Colonia club, 4-1 to capture the Soccer For A Cause contest. Laila Stevenson blasted in 2 goals, Catherine Barbarosa 1, and Emma Halmo 1 goal. Isabelle Deoliveira contributed 2 assists, and Jayda Roque 1.

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

# The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

## From The Sports Archives



**1999 GOLD DIVISION SOFTBALL CHAMPS - SOUTH AMBOY LADY GUVS:** Top (L-R) Asst. Coach Maryanne Lewis, Lily Munoz, Gina Miller, Elena Bajkowski, Kim Peterson, Stacy Connors, Coach Tom Krill. Bottom (L-R) Kristen Woods, Melissa Rainone, Regan Rone, Kristen English, Nicole Magnifico, Karen Felice, Melissa Poulsen. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## Bomber Softball Teams Raise Money for Camp Quality

by Pat Douglas

Local Senior softball players raised \$3,230 for Camp Quality (A camp for kids with cancer). Congratulations teammates and God Bless you. Your generosity is overwhelming. Thanks for always coming through for the kids! The teams are pictured

with the large Thank You Card that the kids made for them while at their camp.

For more information on Camp Quality and ways to donate go to <https://www.campqualityusa.org/>



Pictured representing The Vintage Bombers are: L-R Coach Pat Douglas, Frank O'Leary, Tom Kutcher, Tom Gleason, Chris Giordano, Jeff Pasewark, Tim Rousseau, Rob Clancy, Bobby Hutcheons, Darren Curran, Frank Bracht, Chuck Prusakowski, Scott Jones, Joe Geletei, Ed Rappleyea, Bill D'Amico, Steve Samra and David Haltli. Missing Todd Pachkowski, Keith Conlon, Bobby Prusakowski and Nick Martini.



Pictured Representing Prime Time Bombers are: L-R Front Row Tom Gleason, Joe Lynch, Bill Schnitzerling. L-R Second Row Bernie McGuire, Bill D'amico, Chris Jones. L-R Third Row Tom Baldowski, Brian Latham, Tim Gandy, Dan Righetti. L-R Back Row Coach Pat Douglas, John Garced, Rick McMahan. Missing are Joe DiFabio, Jim Knobby Nardello, James Jimenez, Joe Minnella, Mike Rzewuski, Tim Walsh, John Mazur, Dwayne Hunt, Don (Fish) Fisher. \*Both Photos by Mary Ivan \*Patrick Douglas is the Manager of the Vintage Bombers Senior League Softball (Over 50), and also the Prime Time Bombers Senior League Softball (Over 60).

## 65 Years Ago Kovalski, Skarzynski Led Guvs

1949-The Hoffman Governors baseball team finished (7-7), but received fine offensive contributions from shortstop John Kovalski, who topped the team with a scorching .408 batting avg., and also was the team leader with 20 hits, and 4 triples. Catcher John "Skeets" Skarzynski was

second in batting avg., and led the club with 3 doubles and 3 home runs. Stan Sumski was the ace pitcher notching a (4-5) record. Kovalski and Skarzynski both went on to play pro baseball in the minors following their outstanding schoolboy careers.

## Glory Days In Local Sports

1969-St. Mary's boys cross country team breezed by St. Pius X, 20-36. Top finishers for the Eagles were: 1-Alan Neidermeyer, 2-Rich Therkelsen, 3-Kevin O'Connor, 6-Jim Shannon, 8-Kevin Bergin...1976-Hoffman trounced Somerset Tech, 18-2 in baseball. Winning pitcher George Bongiorno blasted a triple and had 3 RBI. Ron Stillwagon blasted a triple and knocked in 2 runs, while George Hubbs added 2 RBI, Bob Clayton 2 RBI, and Greg Kardos a three base hit...1976-The Eagles nipped St. Thomas, 2-1 in 8 innings, in the first round of the Parochial B state tourney. Winning pitcher Mike Grimley tossed a 7-hitter, and John Belmonte singled and scored on an error. The Blue & Gold managed to get only 2 hits off future Major Leaguer Ralph Citarella...

1985-Sayreville boys baseball team blasted Bishop Ahr, 9-1 in the MCBT quarterfinals. Winning pitcher Tom Lasko won his 10th consecutive decision by firing a 3-hitter and striking out 11. He also blasted a home run. Cliff Repetti went a perfect 4-for-4 including a 2-run homer. Kevin

Hourahan ripped 3 hits, had 3 RBI and a solo homer. Repetti and Lasko's homers were back-to-back...1995-St. Mary's girls tennis team beat St. Peter's, 3-2. Winners were: Singles-Anne Marie Maslowski; Doubles-Courtney Kierst & McLean; Nicole Daw & Granaghan...2006-South Amboy boys soccer squad won the Mayor's Cup, ripping Cardinal McCarrick, 6-0. Oscar Cuello had a huge game with 4 goals and an assist. Dave Tucka, and Sean Gardren added a goal apiece. Tim Adams turned in a 6-save shutout for the Guvs...2016-Sayreville blasted Brick Memorial 28-0 in football action. Michael Liberti and JaQuae Roberts rushed for 2 touchdowns and over 100 yards apiece...2020-North Brunswick ruined the Sayreville football opener by downing the Bombers, 18-9. The first score of the year came when linebacker Jimmy Johnson tackled the quarterback in the end zone. The only Sayreville TD was on a 1-yard plunge by Jovanni Colon. Santana Fonseca booted the extra point.

## Columbus Day Football Classics

Way back in the day, St. Mary's and Hoffman did not have official football teams, but got together for bragging rights in South Amboy, when they clashed on the gridiron in their only game of the year, which was always played on Columbus Day, October 12th. Below is a recap of some of the very exciting contests through the years.

### 55 Years Ago

1969-Quarterback George Krzyzanowski fired 4 touchdown passes to lead St. Mary's to a 38-8 romp over Hoffman. Nick Charmello racked up 3 touchdowns, 2 on passes from Krzyzanowski, one of which was a 40-yard bomb, and another, which he rushed to paydirt. Bob Duffy also hauled in 2 TD passes from the Saints outstanding quarterback. Duffy, Bernie Mackiel and Andrew McGinn each chalked up 2-point conversions, while Bob McQuade recorded a safety for the Blue & Gold of St. Mary's.

### 60 Years Ago

1964-St. Mary's topped Hoffman, 18-12. Brian George was a standout for the Eagles, scoring 2 touchdowns, including the game winner. Bobby Knight also scored for the Saints. Guvs quarterback Mike Keller found Tom Kennedy on a 20-yard scoring strike early in the first quarter, and later, Pete Ewtushek broke into the end zone for another Purple & Gold score, but the boys from the Augusta Street school won the tight battle.

### 65 Years Ago

1959-The Eagles easily trampled the Governors, 26-0. It was the Steve "Ducky" Flanagan Show, as he scored 2 touchdowns, one on a 2 yard run, and another on a fantastic catch of a 53-yard TD aerial from quarterback Bill Borbely. John Lukie rushed for a 3-yard touchdown, and Joe Coughlin recovered a Hoffman fumble in the end zone for a TD. Flanagan, who also added a 2-point conversion, accounted for 14 of the Blue & Gold points.

### 75 Years Ago

1949-The Saints had an easy 27-0 victory over crosstown rival Hoffman. Quarterback Bob Kenny fired 2 touchdown strikes to Gene Harkins. Ray Scupp broke loose for a 45-yard TD run, and Ray Hajdusek scored on a 5-yard run. Alfie O'Connor scored 2 extra points, and Bill "Biff" McKeon 1 for St. Mary's.

## T.H.E. Game

Sport-Boys Soccer Year-2013

Teams-South Amboy vs. Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's

Recap-The Guvs, led by Jack O'Connor, who blasted in 3 goals, ripped the Eagles, 9-2. Justin Rios had a goal and 2 assists for the Blue & Gold. Daniel Abril scored both goals for the Augusta Street school.

Player-of-the-Game-Jack O'Connor, South Amboy.

### 10 Years Ago

2014-The South Amboy boys soccer team, coached by Regan Rone, breezed by Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's, 5-0. Kenny Vergara led the scoring parade with 2 goals, Conrad Grygoriew, Jake Piazzolla, and Michael Sauls each scored a goal for the Governors.

### 15 Years Ago

2009-Sayreville football stars received many honors including All-State, All-County, and much more. The list includes David Milewski, Daryl Stephenson, Delon Stephenson, Basim Fain...

2009-Cardinal McCarrick football club mauled Mater Dei, 40-21. John Appiah rushed for 143 yards on 11 carries, with touchdown runs of 6, 47, and 39 yards. Jose Ruiz rushed for 91 yards, and had a 55 yard TD; Taylor Clark had a 2-yard TD run, and Elliot Medina broke loose for a 19 yard touchdown jaunt. It was a big win for Eagles Coach Robert Kearns, as the Blue & Gold beat former Cardinal McCarrick Coach Ron Raymond, who was at the helm of the Serpahs.

### 20 Years Ago

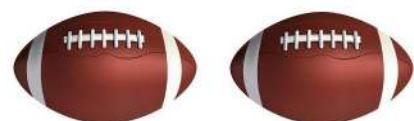
2004-Sayreville girls soccer squad opened the season in fine form, as they shutout Perth Amboy, 4-0. Goalie Jessica DaRold registered the brilliant shutout with 5 saves. Caileigh Giovenco blasted in a goal, Meghan Watters notched a goal and an assist, Lynn Mayer and Nikki Christensen each added a goal for the Bombers.

### 60 Years Ago

1964-Sayreville Bombers football standouts garnered All-State and All-County recognition, and much more. The players who were honored were Ed Gorchinski, John Karlowitz, and Mike Gigliello.

### 95 Years Ago

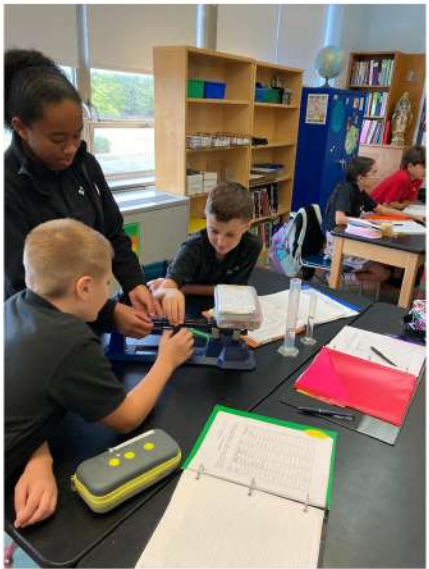
1929-Carteret's football team annihilated South Amboy High, 53-0. Joe "Ducky" Medwick, who went on to baseball superstardom and the Hall of Fame, ran wild against SA with 2 touchdowns and 5 extra points, accounting for 17 points. Some familiar names in the SA lineup were: LE Bill Colucci LT Joe Beshada LG Stanley Steiner C Bob Welden RG Fernandez RT Fred Reese RE Howard Lambertson QB Manuel Applegate LHB Tunis Johnson RHB Red Olsen.



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

## St. Stan's School (Photos/info Submitted)

The students are enjoying some awesome Autumn experiments and activities! It's music to our ears!



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

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

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

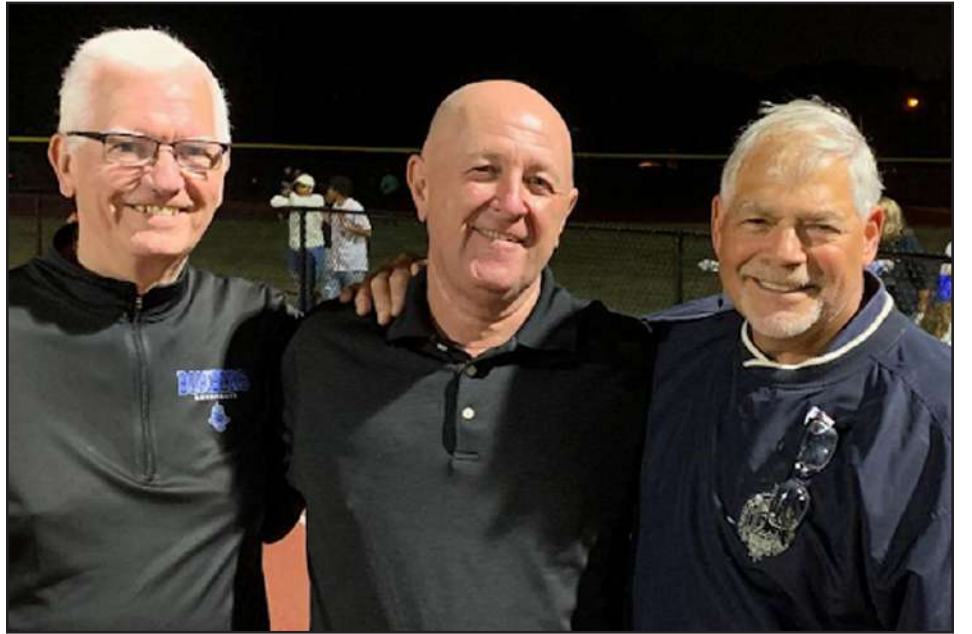
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## First Soccer Team At Hoffman



1968-This team played in the initial soccer season for Hoffman High. The squad is believed to have played on the jayvee level and had a record of (5-5-1) under Head Coach John Kovaleski. The Governors pictured bottom row (l-r) Bob "Ozzie" Levins, Tom Wojciechowski, Coach Kovaleski with Keith, Frank Jonason, Ed Mancini. Middle row (l-r) Mark Kozak, Mark Abbatiello, Doug Buckalew, Joe Connors, Pat Russell. Top row (l-r) Dennis Yanoski, John Maslowski, Roger White, Pete Dobrzynski, Mike Colucci, John Wojciechowski. (Photo/info courtesy of Dennis Yanoski)

## Three Aces



Three of the greatest pitchers in NJ High School history recently ran into each other. Pictured (l-r) Steve Makwinski (Sayreville) Bill Lehman (Edison), and Bill D'Amico (Sayreville). The three aces had a combined high school career record of (60-18). Makwinski (19-4), D'Amico (17-5), Lehman (24-9). (Photo/info submitted)

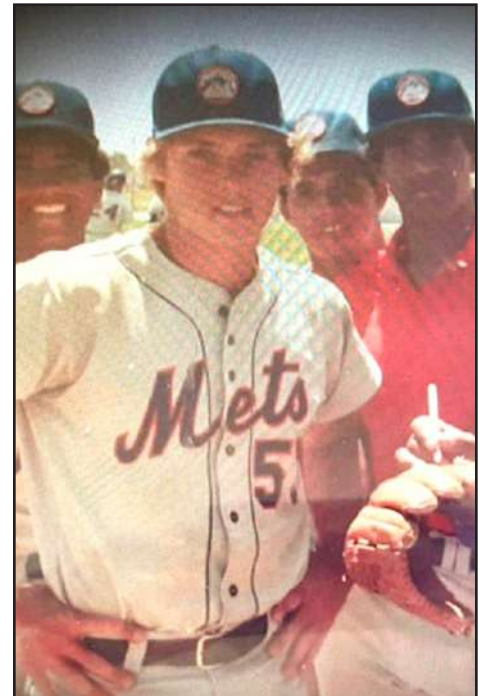
**A PRAYER FOR HEALING**  
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**A PRAYER FOR HEALING**  
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**A PRAYER FOR HEALING**  
Lord, you invited all who are burdened to come to You. Allow your healing hand to heal me. Touch my soul with Your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

**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 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.



Former Sayreville Bombers baseball great, Mike Cannon died recently at the age of 66. He was drafted by the New York Mets baseball team in 1978 following a star-studded career at Middlesex County College, and went on to play 3 years of professional baseball in the minor leagues.

**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..

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



### Obituaries

Anderson, Russell E., 88, of Sayreville died on Oct. 5.  
 Cannon, Michael, 66, formerly of Sayreville died recently.  
 Chodsko, William, 77, of Sayreville died on Sept. 21.  
 Delio, Rose "RoRo," 85, of Parlin died on Sept. 28.  
 English, Ann Laverne, 67, formerly of South Amboy died on Oct. 13.  
 Farrell, Linda J., 74, formerly of Parlin died on Oct. 10.  
 Flannery, William F. Jr. "Sweet Will," 73, of South Amboy died on Sept. 17.  
 Foley, Thomas F., 75, of Sayreville died on Oct. 12.  
 Gallagher, Patrick P. Sr., 82, of Parlin died on Oct. 1.  
 Gimenez, Floro B. "Cacho," 83, of South Amboy died on Oct. 7.

Hayes, Robert Jr., 59, formerly of South Amboy died on Oct. 11.  
 Karns, Elizabeth "Betty," 92, formerly of South Amboy/Morgan died on Oct. 12.  
 Lesniak, Dorota M., 59, of South Amboy died on Sept. 22.  
 Morrissey, Maureen K., 79, formerly of Sayreville/South Amboy died on Oct. 1.  
 Newcomer, Daniel H., 93, formerly of Sayreville died on Sept. 29.  
 O'Connor, Xavier C., 30, of the Parlin section of Sayreville died on Sept. 10.  
 Pavlik, Barbara "Sug," 76, of Parlin died on Sept. 21.  
 Piekarski, Diane M. Albert, 79, of Sayreville died on Oct. 6.  
 Podbelski, Edwin J., 90, of Sayreville died on Oct. 12.  
 Tuohy, David "Dave," 75, of Sayreville died on Sept. 24.

### In Memoriam

Daniel Newcomer, 93, formerly of Sayreville died on Sept. 29. He worked at Sayreville War Memorial HS for over 40 years, and retired as Supervisor of Guidance. He was also a well-known softball umpire, basketball and soccer referee. Russell Anderson, 88, of Sayreville died on Oct. 5. He was a dedicated firefighter with Morgan Hose & Chemical Co. #1 for over 30 years, and rose to Sayreville Fire Chief, a position

he served from 1975-77. Edwin Podbelski, 90, of Sayreville died on Oct. 12. He served in the U.S. Army in the Presidential Honor Guard at Arlington Cemetery in Fort Meyer from 1953-1955. Ann "Laverne" English, 67, formerly of South Amboy died on Oct. 13. She was a former art teacher, who also loved music, played guitar and sang. Laverne was a wonderful, upbeat person who always had a kind word for everyone.

### Elizabeth "Betty" Karns

Elizabeth "Betty" Karns age 92, of Lewes, DE, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, October 12, 2024. Born on April 27, 1932, in South Amboy, NJ, she was the daughter of the late William and Elizabeth Fisler.



loving spirit will be deeply missed.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husbands, Joseph L. O'Brien, Stan Krzyzkowski, and Fred Karns, her daughter, Maureen O'Brien Obit, and her sisters, Marie Durnye, and Eleanor Nemeth. Betty is survived by her daughter, Kathleen O'Brien Hawley (Chris) of Lewes, DE; her grandchildren: Allyson Knox (Dennis) of Hillsborough,

Betty graduated from St. Mary's High School in South Amboy and dedicated her life to being a loving homemaker, nurturing her family with kindness and devotion. Her warm spirit and unwavering support will be fondly remembered by all who knew her.

Throughout her life, Betty enjoyed various hobbies, including bowling, water aerobics, and playing Bunco with her friends. Her zest for life and laughter brought joy to many, creating cherished memories for those around her. Betty's memory will live on in the hearts of her family and friends. Her gentle nature and

NJ, Jeffrey Hawley (Jen) of Honolulu, HI; her great grandchildren: Liam Knox, Amelia Knox of Hillsborough, NJ, Austin Hawley, and Aiden Hawley of Honolulu, HI; her sister, Catherine Wojtaszek of South Amboy, NJ; and her nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, <https://www.stjude.org/donate/> in her honor.

### Patrick Gallagher, Sr.

Patrick Pearse Gallagher passed away peacefully on October 1, 2024, at his home in Parlin, NJ, surrounded by his loving family.

Pearse was born in Ballaghaderreen, County Roscommon, Ireland in 1942. As a young man, he showcased his athletic ability in proudly representing County Mayo in the All-Ireland Senior Football Championship. He was recruited to New York's Sligo Gaelic Football Club to emigrate and play in the Bronx. "Fierce Pearse's" proud remembrance of his sporting glory remained throughout his life.

Pearse worked as a skilled carpenter with Local 608 of the NY District Council of Carpenters and played football on the weekends. At an Irish dance at City Center in Manhattan he met the love of his life, Kathleen. They married in 1970 and welcomed children, Susan Mary Best (Clay), Keara Marie DeMaio (the late Anthony), Patrick Pearse (Maya), and

Julie Ann Doherty (James), throughout the 1970s.

In 1984, he moved his family to New Jersey's Madison Park neighborhood and joined St. Bernadette's parish. In 1991, they welcomed the baby of the family, Kathleen Michelle Liebenberg (Dave). Pearse and Kathleen, who were married for 54 years, delighted in visits from grandchildren Vivienne June, Bridget Madeline, Julia Adele, Michelle Kalina, Jack Patrick, Lila Claire, Karina Marguerite, and baby Sasha Bea. During the period of his most recent infirmity, Kathleen was unfailingly devoted and tireless in her care for him in the family home.

Pearse leaves behind his brothers the Reverend Micheal, Kevin, and Thomas. He was predeceased by his brother, teammate, and workmate Shane, whom he dearly missed, and his beloved son-in-law Anthony DeMaio Jr. May he rest in eternal peace with his late parents Beatrice and James.

### Robert Hayes, Jr.

Robert J. Hayes, Jr., 59, of Bordentown died on Friday October 11, 2024 at Serenity Hospice Care, Hamilton. Born in Jersey City he lived in Wimbledon for a time before returning to New Jersey. He was employed by Amazon, Robbinsville and was formerly a member of the Woodbridge Knights of Columbus.

Son of the late Robert J., Sr. and Frances Rutherford Hayes he is also predeceased

by his daughter Katelyn. He is survived by his wife Kelly Walsh Hayes; his daughter Amanda Rose Hayes; his son Christopher Hayes; his aunt Mame Marron and many cousins.

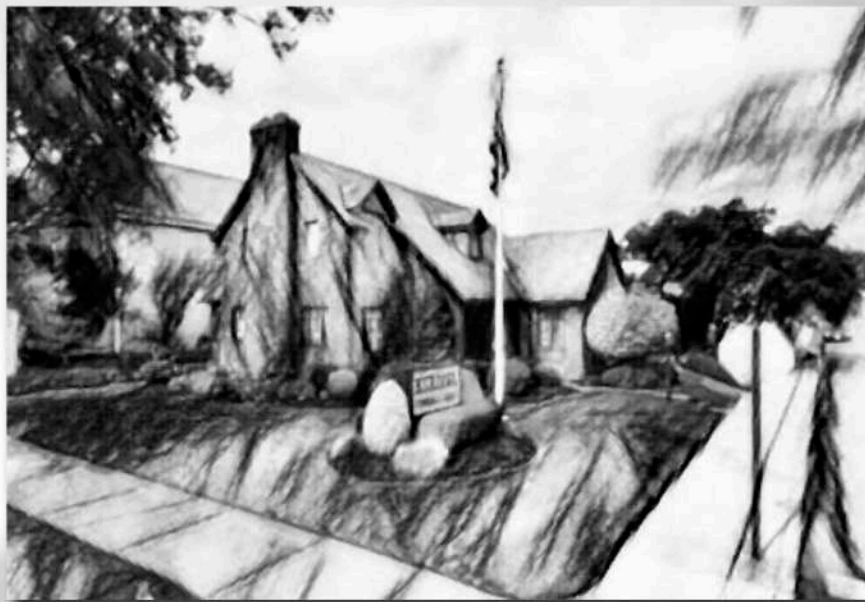
Funeral services were under the direction of The Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" 237 Bordentown Avenue, South Amboy.

*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

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We offer a dignified funeral experience to meet every family's needs, while creating a comfortable peaceful environment 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.



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Congressman Frank Pallone along with State, County and Local dignitaries. (Photo Submitted)

## Pallone Secures Federal Funding for New South Amboy Park and Playground

Congressman Frank Pallone (NJ-06) has secured \$250,000 in federal funding to transform a vacant lot near South Amboy's Middle High School into a safe and engaging playground specifically designed for young children.

"This funding is a significant investment in South Amboy's future," said Pallone. "By creating a safe space where our youngest residents can play and grow, we're not just building a playground — we're fostering a sense of community and well-being. This new park will become a valuable gathering spot for families, encouraging outdoor activity and strengthening neighborhood connections. It's projects like these that truly enhance the quality of life for our residents and ensure that every child has a safe place to play."

"On behalf of the City of South Amboy and especially our young citizens, I would like to thank Congressman Frank Pallone for the \$250,000 appropriation," said South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry. "This generous funding will go a long way in helping to relocate our David Street park to the Allie Clark Sports Complex. With the expansion of the park more opportunities will be provided for our city's children to recreate in

a healthy and safe environment. Congressman Pallone continues to be a great friend and representative to the City of South Amboy."

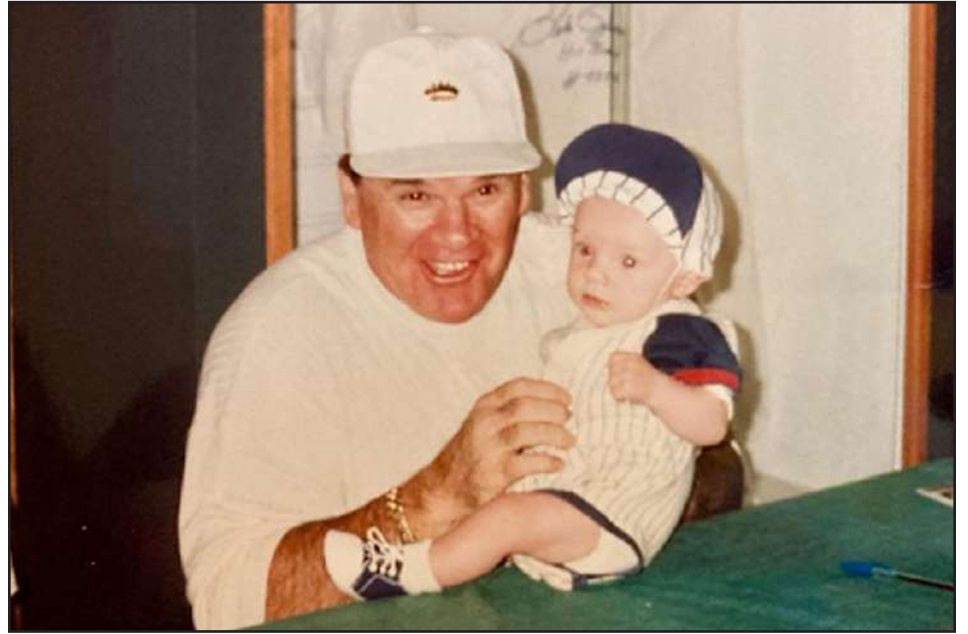
The new preschool play area will feature playground equipment suitable for young children, such as low swings, slides, a sandbox, and play sculptures. This project will not only provide a safe environment for children to play, but also provide healthy outdoor activities.

According to the city, the new funding will create a formal play area of approximately 50' x 50' (2,500 sq ft), capable of accommodating up to 33 children at a time, meeting national childcare standards for outdoor play areas. Landscaping plans include shade-providing trees and native plants to encourage children's interaction with nature. A nearby parking area, which provides easy access for driving parents, will also be repaired and reconfigured to meet safety standards.

The funding for this project was requested by Pallone in the Fiscal Year 2025 annual spending bill. Each year, members of the U.S. House may request community funding projects in their district to direct federal resources toward the biggest needs in their communities.

## In Memoriam

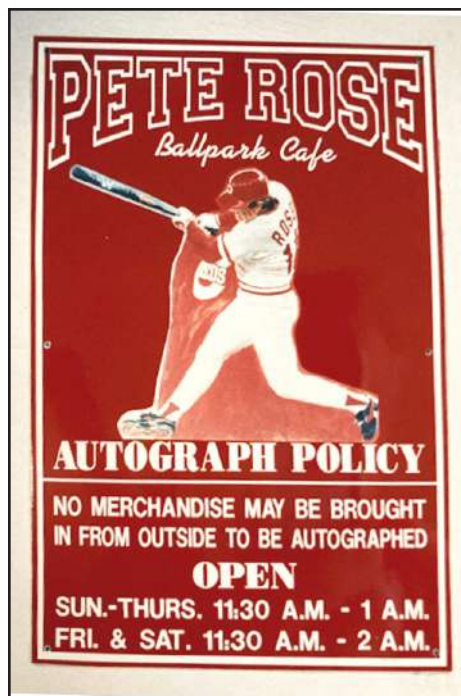
(Photos by Tom Burkard)



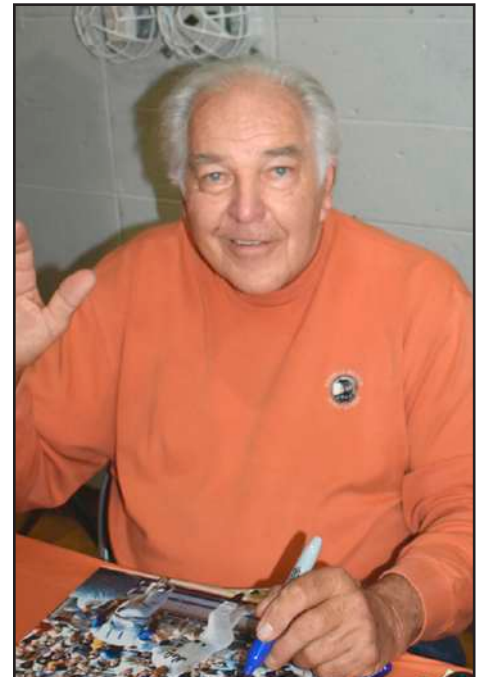
One of Major League Baseball's All-Time greatest players, Pete Rose, 83, died on Sept. 30th. This picture was taken during an autograph signing event at Cooperstown, New York in August, 1997.



Pete Rose, who was known as "The Hit King" had millions of fans from every walk of life. Rose finished with 4,256 hits, the most ever in baseball history, and also held numerous other records. In person, he was friendly, down-to-earth, and a really good guy. This photo was also taken at Cooperstown, NY in August, '97.



This was the sign by the front door of the Pete Rose Ballpark Cafe in Boca Raton, Florida back in March of '97.



Former New York Mets star player, Ed Kranepool, 79, died on Sept. 8. Ed, pictured here in 2019, was a member of the legendary '69 Mets, and hit a home run to help his team to the World Series title over Baltimore.



Singer/Songwriter/Actor Kris Kristofferson, 88, died on Sept. 28th. This photo was taken in May of 2011 at one of his concerts in New Jersey. Who could ever forget him for his great role in the movie "A Star Is Born" which also starred Barbara Streisand.

## The Simple Things

By Robert W. Eginton

As I sit back and relax  
From my busy day,  
To enjoy the simple things  
Like the laughter  
of a child at play.  
The songs of a babbling brook,  
The Bluebird as she sings,  
Or the smile of someone  
that you love  
When they give you  
that special look.  
Yes, the simple things  
in life are free,  
They're there for you,  
they're there for me,  
Don't let them pass you by.  
Hold them deep  
inside your heart,  
To be enjoyed again and again,  
For all eternity.

## My Lord

By Al Gomolka Jr.  
Times Poet Laureate  
c.1977

You are what you are  
I am what I am  
If but I could be  
Part of how you have been  
You are more than my Friend  
You are more than my Idol  
You are more than my Hero  
You are my Lord.  
You speak words of wisdom  
You teach by your way  
You work for a glory  
That I may know someday  
They may call You a prophet  
They may call You a star  
They may call You a king  
But I know who you are  
You are more than my Friend  
You are more than my Idol  
You are more than my Hero  
You are my Lord.  
I yearn for Your love  
I plead Your protection  
I ask more than what's worth  
And there's never rejection  
Shine forward Your light  
That Your path I may find  
I just wish to follow  
To stay close behind  
You are more than my Friend  
You are more than my Idol  
You are more than my Hero  
You are my Lord.



VOTE  
2024

# Vote **COLUMN B** for the future of South Amboy families!



## WARD 1 CANDIDATE **LARRY LENAHAN**

- ✓ Larry is dedicated to protecting South Amboy's small town charm.
- ✓ He's ready to get things done for all Ward 1 residents.
- ✓ Working with the NJ Turnpike Authority for over 30 years, Larry is a proud union member.



## WARD 2 COUNCILMAN **THOMAS REILLY**

- ✓ As a resident of South Amboy for six decades, Thomas is committed to keeping South Amboy a great place to live and raise a family.
- ✓ He's focused on prioritizing the health and well-being of the city and its citizens through his work on the City Council.



## WARD 3 COUNCILWOMAN **ZUSETTE DATO**

- ✓ A lifelong public servant, Zusette cares deeply about the residents of South Amboy and is focused on serving her community.
- ✓ Having served on numerous local boards since first moving to the city in 2002, Zusette has been an active member of the South Amboy community for over two decades.



Have questions about how to vote this year?

Call our office at (732) 906-3680  
[www.MiddlesexCountyNJ.gov/vote](http://www.MiddlesexCountyNJ.gov/vote)

# Support Mayor Kennedy O'Brien's team for Sayreville Borough Council.

Councilman Stanley "Stash" Synarski and Christina Sitaca will work together for a fiscally-conservative, efficient Borough Hall that focuses on an even better Sayreville.



## THE SYNARSKI AND SITACA PLAN

- ✓ **END DEMOCRAT CORRUPTION** that has plagued our town
- ✓ **REVITALIZE** Parks and Recreation
- ✓ **IMPROVE** municipal services for ALL residents



Use QR code to visit **SAYREVILLEGOP.ORG**

### ABOUT SYNARSKI



Stash, a third-generation resident, is finishing his first term on the Borough Council. A proud graduate of St. Stan's School, and then working nearly 40 years as a maintenance superintendent at the Middlesex County Utilities Authority, Stash is committed to Sayreville.

- Member, Middlesex County Advisory Board
- Vocational Schools
- Volunteer, Sayreville Brain Injured Children (BIC)
- Member of the Elks, Knights of Columbus and Moose Lodge
- Stash, and his wife of 34 years, have two grown children




### ABOUT SITACA



Christina, a mother of five and grandmother of seven, is eager to give back to Sayreville. She has spent her entire career as an elementary school educator, focusing on reading.

- Earned two undergraduate college degrees, while raising her children
- While studying for a first graduate degree in reading, she went to Boston University to debate the Constitution – the only elementary school teacher selected for this program
- Earned a second Master's in Supervisory and Administration, while also taking courses in math, science and social studies
- A supporter for organized labor, Christina studied teacher's contracts and assisted with grievances

## THREE WAYS TO VOTE in this crucial election:

-  **1.** REQUEST and RETURN a vote-by-mail ballot
-  **2.** VOTE EARLY IN-PERSON at the Sayreville Active Adult Center
-  **3.** VOTE ON Election Day at your normal polling location

**ELECTION DAY is NOVEMBER 5TH**

**EARLY VOTING WILL BE OCT 26TH THROUGH NOV 3RD**

**AT THE SAYREVILLE ACTIVE ADULT CENTER.**

**★ VOTE COLUMN A ★**

Learn more at **SAYREVILLEGOP.ORG**

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