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# The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

This issue is  
dedicated to  
\*\*James "Jimmy" Carey  
\*Michael Fabiszewski  
\*Stanley Griffin



September 27, 2025 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 34 Issue 12

## SAFD/SAFA Bring Home Trophies

By Jamie Norek



Chief Rafael Albarran (l) and 2nd Asst. Chief Charle Honimar with the trophies.

On September 13th South Amboy Fire Dept. and South Amboy First Aid Squad participated in the annual New Jersey State Firemen's Convention parade in Wildwood NJ. Fire Department members marched up New Jersey Ave. with the Bonsal Blues marching band. Several department apparatus followed, displaying their sparkling and well maintained equipment.

Several trophies were won and awarded to SAFD and SAFA:

**1st place**  
**Best Marching Unit under 20 members**  
**1st place**  
**Best Appearing Fire Dept. with music**  
**1st place-Marching Band**  
**Bonsal Blues Band**



Holding the Judge's Award are longtime fire department members Larry Parsons (l) and Charlie Hetzel. (Photos and story by Jamie Norek)

**2nd place**  
**Best Appearing Fire Dept. Color Guard**  
**1st place**  
**Best Appearing Pumper 0-6 yrs. old**  
**Mechanicsville Engine 10**  
**1st place**  
**Best Appearing Air/Light unit**  
**Progressive Truck 11**

**1st place**  
**EMS Ambulance - SAFA unit 602**  
**Special Judge's Award**  
**For a fire department appearing in 48 of**  
**50 NJSF Convention parades in Wildwood**  
**Congratulations to all!**

## 9/11 Remembered



Members of the South Amboy Fire Department stand at attention during the city's 9/11 Memorial Service. (Photo by Brian Stratton) See more photos on page 10 and 12.

## SOUTH AMBOY-SAYREVILLE FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL MASS

When: Saturday October 11, 2025

Time: 4:00pm

Location: Church of The Sacred Heart 531 Washington Avenue, So. Amboy, NJ



## Roberts and Esposito Lead Efforts to Preserve Sayreville's Open Space

Announce a Plan to Preserve 300 Additional Acres by 2030

Council President Donna Roberts and Council Candidate Anthony Esposito today announced a Plan to protect and expand Sayreville's open space and natural resources, pledging to preserve 300 more acres by 2030. Sayreville already has over 700 acres of preserved land, which contribute to the Borough's recreational activity and storm resiliency. Looking ahead, Roberts and Esposito support a plan to preserve 300 more acres by 2030, while prioritizing Borough-owned land and working with professionals to identify high-value parcels for protection. The proposal includes creating a Preservation "Action Plan" in 120 days to identify potential sites for preservation.

"Our progress proves that Sayreville can grow while protecting what makes our community special," said Council President Donna Roberts. "Preserving open space means cleaner air, safer neighborhoods, and a better quality of life for families." "Now is the time to build on this momentum," said Council Candidate Anthony Esposito. "I am committed to safeguarding more land, expanding recreation, and ensuring Sayreville remains a place we're proud to call home." Together, Roberts and Esposito are working to strike the right balance between growth and preservation; protecting Sayreville today while planning smartly to protect and enhance Sayreville's quality of life. (Article submitted)

### Thank You

On behalf of Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62, I would like to thank the Munckee Bar's owner Johnny Munck and its manager Jay for allowing us to have a fundraiser there. It was a HUGE success! Also, I want to thank everyone that came out to the event to support our cause. This is what makes South Amboy great! Big shout outs to Mary, Joyce, Kenny, Amy & Kelly for working the event! I look forward to seeing everyone again in the future.

Thank you,  
Joseph Szaro, Commander - Post #62

**Next Issue October 31st**  
**Deadlines October 19th**

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American Legion Post 211 Present Donations



American Legion Post 211 former Honor Guard Officers LT. Frank Sullivan, Lt. Rich Kosmoski, and Captain Ed Strek, present donations to Veterans and staff members of the Veterans Home in Menlo Park.



LT. Frank Sullivan, Captain Ed Strek, and Lt. Rich Kosmoski, former officers of the American Legion Post 211 Honor Guard present donations to the staff members of the Veterans Home in Menlo Park.

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**Talk Of The Towns**  
By Tom Burkard

Thomas Reilly was recognized in the 2026 edition of Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America, for appellate practice and labor and employment management and litigation. In addition, Tom is currently a professor at Seton Hall law school teaching appellate advocacy. He is the son of Tom and Monica Reilly of South Amboy. Congratulations Tom!

**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.

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

**The South Amboy/ Sayreville Times**  
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**Pleasant Little TRIVIA**  
By Tom Burkard

1. South Amboy's new Superintendent of Schools in 1992?  
a. Robert Bloodgood b. John Doolittle c. Anthony Novembre

2. St. Stan's new Principal in '92?  
a. Judith Dolan b. Sister Amelia c. Marcus Johnson

3. This carpet and upholstery business was located in South Amboy in 1992?  
a. Cleen Sweep b. The Magic Wand c. South Amboy Carpet & Upholstery

4. This tanning salon was located on Rarita St., Sayreville in 2007?  
a. Summer Breeze b. Tahiti Sun c. Time To Tan

5. In '92, where was All Car Tech located in South Amboy?  
a. South Broadway b. South Pine Ave. c. North Stevens Ave.

6. President of the Sayreville Lady Dems in 2009?  
a. Shirley Dill b. Samantha Eckland c. Edna Everitt

7. Organized South Amboy's 1st City Wide Yard Sale in '94?  
a. Vince Poulsen b. Jack Breen c. Mary Polanski

8. Sayreville Police Chief in 2010?  
a. Michael Burns b. John Zebrowski c. Garbowski

9. Grand Marshal of South Amboy's St. Patrick's Day Parade in 2002?  
a. James Ryan b. Elizabeth Leveille c. John T. O'Leary

10. Top vote-getter for Sayreville Council in 1998?  
a. George Semoneit b. Paul DeSarno c. Jeff Pawlowski

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



## FROM THE DESK OF TOM REILLY

Autumn is upon us again. I am sure many of us feel that the fall brings on a kind of somber melancholy. Summer is over, children are back in school, and many adults are back from vacation. The creeping chill in the air this time of year can be sobering, if not saddening.

Of course, as many enthusiasts know, autumn also is a time of opportunity and new horizons (quite literally, in the latter case). For as much as the changing seasons take away, they also give. The beach and boardwalk may be out of season, but now there are pumpkin patches and firepits. You might not be in the mood for ice cream, but you might find yourself craving hot chocolate or pumpkin pie. The changes allow us to put things in perspective, and to appreciate what we have lost and what we have gained. And though changes often are uninvited, I find that they rarely are unneeded.

With change also comes necessary growth. Few times of the year are as suitable for growing as autumn -- whether it is the autumn harvest in the fields, or a new school year, the season inspires positive development. To that end, the City Council continues to work to grow our community. The City recently passed two ordinances in support of that effort. The first ordinance is designed to make South Amboy a more friendly veteran municipality. Its terms include reserving three municipal parking spaces for veterans, endeavoring to achieve a minimum of 5% veteran workforce, and to proactively notify veteran-owned businesses registered with the state of each public bid opportunity. We often thank our veterans with mere words. With this ordinance, we hope to show our gratitude and appreciation for our veterans not just with words, but with committed action. The second ordinance, South Amboy's new TNR (trap, neuter, release) ordinance establishes and regulates the humane management of feral and stray cat populations. The benefits of this program



include humane population control, improvements to individual cat health by preventing disease and reducing aggression, and decreasing the number of cats in shelters. The ordinance results not just from the City Council's action, but from the hard work and commitment of numerous activists who have advocated for the program's adoption in South Amboy. I am sure I am not alone among the City Council members in admiring the dedication of these activists to a cause for which they care deeply.

Finally, the City continues to host programs for seniors. For several years, the City has organized a successful lunch and learn program for senior citizens. The program explores a wide variety of topics, including consumer fraud, Medicare, and aging sensitivity. All sessions are held at the Senior Center and include complimentary refreshments. Residents must register to attend. For more information, please call 732-525-5960. Also, the City provides yoga sessions every Thursday at the Senior Center from 9:45 to 11:00 am. The instructor is Nancy Kelly. You must be 60 years of age or older and a registered member with the South Amboy Senior Center to attend. Please call 732-525-5960 to register and for more information.

Best wishes to all of you as we enter the fall season. And to all of our students, best wishes for a happy and healthy school year.

Respectfully  
Tom Reilly  
2nd Ward Councilman  
City of South Amboy

## South Amboy: Free Services At Sadie Pope Dowdell Library

"Your library card is your ticket to opportunity," said Elaine Gaber, Director. "What other card gives you free access to books - both print and downloadable, podcasts and downloadable audio recordings, the latest magazines, Freegal streaming music, DVD movies, video games, as well as other resources that can change your life - or just make it a little more fun?" In addition, free Wi-Fi, wireless printing, 3D printing, culinary programs for kids and adults, live animal programs, art exhibitions, music programs, pottery classes, a weekly knitting circle, a senior book and technology club, toddler play dates, after school clubs, and teen video gaming are available. Last year, more than 24,450 people logged onto dowdell.org!

What better time than now to get a free library card? With school back in session, students can use their library cards to get homework help, research their papers or find a title for their next book report. It's no wonder that studies show that children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning. From health to history, from cookbooks to choosing a college, obtaining test and career prep help,

small business assistance, whether online or in print, you can find it @ your library. The Dowdell Library is a member of the Stella Consortium, so if they don't have what you need, it can be delivered from one of their member libraries. Additionally, free museum passes are available to South Amboy residents. A library card is your ticket to a world of opportunity and no doubt the smartest card you can own.

Moreover, access to information has never been more crucial to the functioning of our democratic society, and the library is the perfect place for providing information of local, state and national importance. Need food stamps or help with other social work services? Referrals are available. So, stop in on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday from 10 am - 8 pm, Wednesday and Friday from 10 am - 5 pm or Saturday from 12 noon to 4 pm!

Considering a tax deductible donation? Contact Mary Rager, President of the Dowdell Library Foundation.

The Dowdell Library has been around for 111 years and can be reached 24/7 via in person or online. Contact them at comments@dowdell.org, 732.721.6060, or visit them at dowdell.org.

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

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

DATE: Saturday October 25, 2025

PLACE: Friendly Sons of Shillelagh (same place as 2022) 815 16th Avenue, Belmar, NJ 07719

TIME: 2pm - 7pm

Good Food, Music, Dancing, Door Prizes? Cash Bar.

COST: \$50 - 3 ways to pay - Ann U'Halie is treasurer.

1) Send a check to:

"Ann D U'Halie" with note "Class 70 reunion".

Ann U'Halie - 4013 Kara Court - Hermitage, PA 16148

2) Venmo account is <auhalie@gmail.com>

3) PayPal account is <ann\_jerseygirl@yahoo.com>

Please make reservations by Oct 1, 2025.



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## Gomolka's Collectables Give Away!



(Images are for example and not the actual items)

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

**All one has to do is to e-mail to: [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com) for the Gomolka's Collectables Give Away, and a winner will be selected via a random drawing to receive box fulls of Al's collectables for FREE! The winner will be notified via e-mail before the next newspaper comes out.**

**For the October issue, Al Gomolka will be giving away boxes of record albums, 45's, and 78 RPM's. Subject matter will vary from Rock 'n' Roll to Easy Listening, Popular, etc., from the 1950's thru 1980's. Good luck to all of you old record and music lovers!**

Last Month's winner was:  

# Caileigh Fazzini

The winner must pick up the winning prize in person at a certain location in South Amboy or Sayreville. \*The winner must be available to pick up the prize at a predetermined location and time, or the prize will be forfeited. \*No prizes will be mailed, and must be picked up in person.



Email your name to:  
**[satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com)**  
Put Gomolka's Contest in the subject line  
**By October 12th**  
**GOOD LUCK!**  
**Must enter each month**  
Staff of The SA Times and their family members are not eligible to enter. One entry per household. Must be 18 years or older to enter.

## Yearbook-Cardinal McCarrick 2010

By Tom Burkard

Jean Kline was principal at Cardinal McCarrick HS, and some of her fine faculty staff included Carol Moskwa, Armando Mendoza, Matt Pawlowski, Edward Zurawski, Sister M. Karolyn Nunes, Stanley Drwal, Nancy Fedor, Sister M. Benedicta Bourke. The yearbook was dedicated to Mr. Zurawski. There were many wonderful activities at McCarrick such as Senior Retreat, Fall Pep Rally, Spring Musical-"High School Musical," Senior Trip to Orlando, FL, Homecoming Dance, Book Club, Peer Tutoring, Eagles Nest, Ping Pong Club, Science Club, National Catholic Forensic League, Catholic Schools Week, and the Fall Play, "Clue." The Student Council

was made up of President-Allison Smith, Vice-President-Mariela Batista-Moulton, Secretary-Bernadette Poerio, Treasurer-Haleigh Simon, Publicist-Alexa Tsaptsimos. Some of the seniors selected randomly: Kara Albrecht, Vincent Bath, Rebecca Bowsky, Amanda Botnick, Brianna Brush, Jamie Buckalew, Amber Cerasani, Erin Conlon, Allison Dougherty, Kelli Eberle, Michael Farrell, Thomas Holovacko, Rebecka Guarino, Nicole Heil, Melanie Horvath, Brian Howarth, Kayla Jarry, Maureen Kenny, Sheri Malkiewicz, Jennifer McAndrew, Kyle Swisher, Andrew Zrebiec.

## Annual Hoffman High School Multi-Year Reunion

All alumni of Hoffman HS are invited to join us at our multi-year reunion. This nostalgic event will take place on Sunday, Oct 12th from 1-5pm at the Enterprise Snorkel Co. Fire Station, 107 George St, So. Amboy. The cost is \$60 per person, and tickets MUST be purchased in advance. Unfortunately, no walk-ins will be accommodated, as food/beverages are purchased based on ticket sales. Your ticket includes a delicious buffet,

as well as beer, wine, and sangria. Please send your check payable to Bill Croddick, 130 So Stevens Ave., So. Amboy. The deadline to purchase tickets is Sept 30th. Don't miss out on your chance to see old friends! Questions? Contact Helenmae Stader Bilder at ([hbilder1@gmail.com](mailto:hbilder1@gmail.com)) or stop one of the other committee members, Edward Szatkowski, Grace Hoffman Spencer, Kathy Koerner O'Leary, or Roy Dragotta.

### Save the Date!

St. Stan's HSA presents 12th Annual Coach Bingo & Tricky Tray on Friday, October 17th. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., calling begins at 7:00 p.m. Admission cost is \$30 per person and includes 12 games of Bingo (3 boards per game), coffee, tea, and dessert.

For tickets or more information, please text Shaka at 908-370-1798, or Purchase directly from the Parish Office/

Don't miss an evening of fun, prizes, and community spirit!



At the September 8, 2025, Sayreville Borough Council meeting, South Amboy/Sayreville Rotary Club President Eloy Fernandez presented the Stars & Stripes Veterans Center of South Amboy with a generous donation from the proceeds of the recent car show for the construction of their new building. The project, led by American Legion Post 62 in South Amboy, will include 5 residential units for at-risk veterans and a new meeting hall. (Photos/Info Submitted)

## Contest Winner



Last month's winner of the Al Gomolka Giveaway Contest was Caileigh Fazzini (r) she is pictured with her nephew Joey on her knee and collector and sponsor of the contest Al Gomolka. Also pictured are the many baseball related prizes that Caleigh won! (Photo by Brian Stratton)

## Family-Friendly Wellness Day

Date: October 11th

Time: 11am to 1pm

Address: 811 Washington Rd,  
Parlin, NJ 08859

Come join us for a family-friendly wellness day focused on preventative care, health screenings, and education hosted by Bridge to Life, Bossa Massages, Potash Chiropractic, and Gabbing Together Speech



## Councilman John's Monthly Minute

A New Chapter for Bailey Park: A Celebration of Progress, Inclusion, and Community Spirit

As a lifelong resident and your Councilman, I take immense pride in the places and people that define the Borough of Sayreville. Today, I'm incredibly proud to share some exciting news about one of our town's most historic and beloved spaces—Bailey Park—which is set to undergo a long-awaited and visionary transformation.

Before diving into the details, I want to take a moment to thank the staff of the South Amboy Sayreville Times for giving me the opportunity to launch this first edition of my new monthly column. Through this platform, I'll be sharing stories, updates, events, and insights from around the Borough. I'm excited to use this space to highlight the people, places, and progress that make Sayreville so special.

Our beloved Bailey Park was once affectionately known as "Duck's Nest." The name came from the unique shape of its spring-fed pond, which over time became a defining landmark in town. Historically, this area served as a municipal swimming facility and a favored location for community picnics, outdoor recreation, and gathering with neighbors.

Adding to its cultural significance, the park even made a mark on the silver screen: during the Silent Film era, a staged train crash was filmed on-site for the classic serial "The Perils of Pauline." This moment in early cinema history remains one of the park's most unique contributions to both local and national storytelling.

Some longtime residents recall tales of fishing and swimming in the pond—warm memories passed down through generations. These stories remain cherished parts of our community's shared memory—personal glimpses into a time when Bailey Park was woven into everyday life.

What makes this upcoming transformation of Bailey Park so special is its emphasis on accessibility and inclusion, particularly for individuals with special needs. The revitalization will introduce ADA-compliant features, sensory-friendly play spaces, and programming designed to ensure every resident—regardless of ability—can fully enjoy the park.

This initiative reflects Sayreville's core values of community, compassion, and equity. It's not just about beautifying the park—it's about creating an environment



where every child can play, every family can gather, and every person can feel welcome and safe.

Much of that inclusive spirit has been shaped by the remarkable work of local organizations that have long championed accessibility and support for individuals with special needs. One of the most impactful is the Sayreville Association for Brain Injured Children (BIC), whose legacy of compassion and volunteerism continues to influence how we think about creating spaces that serve everyone in our community.

Since its founding in 1968, the Sayreville Association for Brain Injured Children (BIC) has provided essential summer camps and year-round recreational programs for children with special needs. Beginning in 1969, BIC utilized the Hercules Powder Company's pool, located on property adjacent to Bailey Park, as its longtime summer camp site.

Most importantly, BIC is powered entirely by volunteer leadership and staff. The selfless dedication of Mary Ann Gordon and the exceptionally committed volunteer team has been a true inspiration, helping to shape the values of inclusion and accessibility that are now guiding the transformation of Bailey Park.

The transformation of Bailey Park marks a new chapter—not only in the story of this beloved space but in the story of Sayreville itself. This is a park where history and progress meet, where the echoes of Duck's Nest harmonize with the promise of a more inclusive future.

I hope you'll join me in celebrating this investment in our community, in honoring the legacy of Bailey Park, and in embracing what lies ahead. Together, we are building a Borough that not only remembers where it came from—but also envisions where it can go.

With gratitude and pride,  
John Zebrowski  
Sayreville Councilman

## Mayor O'Brien and Council Members Endorse Roberts and Esposito's Plans to Expand Sayreville's Open Space

Mayor Kennedy O'Brien and Council Members John Zebrowski, Michael Colaci, and Stanley Synarski today announced their strong support for Council President Donna Roberts and Council Candidate Anthony Esposito's plan to expand Sayreville's open space.

The plan builds on the Borough's record of preserving over 700 acres of land and commits to protecting an additional 300 acres by 2030. It also calls for the creation of a Preservation Action Plan within 120 days to identify and prioritize the most valuable parcels for protection, including Borough-owned land.

"This plan is about protecting Sayreville's future," said Mayor Kennedy O'Brien. "Donna Roberts and Anthony Esposito have put forward a smart, responsible approach to land preservation that strengthens our community, safeguards the environment, and ensures Sayreville remains a great place to live."

Council Members Zebrowski, Colaci, and Synarski released a joint statement:

"As a Council, we are proud to stand with Roberts and Esposito on this initiative. Preserving open space is critical

to Sayreville's long-term safety, stability, and quality of life. This plan provides the clear path forward that our community needs."

### Local Wildlife (Photo By Tom Burkard)



This beautiful Egret was hanging out at a nearby local dock recently.

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# Dowdell Library News

## Join Dowdell Library for a fun packed October!

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

Bring an item to be appraised at the What's It Worth? Antique Road Show on Thursday, October 30 at 6:30 pm. Don't miss Michael Ivankovich from WCB 1490 AM. One free appraisal per person, plus buying and selling tips.

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

Families! Come play Family Bingo on Saturday October 4 and 25 at 1:00 pm.

Compete at Family Sports Day on Tuesday, October 7 from 3:30 to 7:00 pm. Snacks, games, and prizes! Basketball, ping pong, corn hole, and more!

Join Dowdell Library for Celebrity Storytime for Hispanic Heritage Month on Wednesday, October 15 with Councilman Anthony Conrad at 3:00 pm. Enjoy churro sundaes!

Dress up for the Halloween Costume Contest on Thursday, October 23 starting at 3:15 pm. Judging starts at 3:45 pm.

Toddlers! Join Ms. Maryanne for Toddler Thursday Play Dates in October from 12:00 to 3:30 pm for games, activities, crafts, and a fun story time. Meet other parents and make new friends!

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

Kids and Teens! Don't miss Drop in Club this October from 3:15 to 4:30 pm on Tuesdays for Board Games and from 2:30 to 4:30 pm on Fridays for Video Games. Ages 11+.

Teens! Come solve a Murder Mystery on Tuesday, October 21 and 28 at 3:00 pm.

Must sign up for both sessions.

Seniors! Senior Tech Time will be held on Monday, October 6 at 10:30am. Come learn about a new technology topic the first Monday of each month.

The Senior Book Club will meet on Monday, October 27 from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Ask about joining! The city can provide transportation if needed.

Dowdell Library, in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and RWJ Barnabas Health, offers online virtual health programs. Please register by emailing communityed@rwjbh.org. Guided Imagery Relaxation Sessions are on Tuesday, October 14 and 28 at 1:00 pm. Additionally, Stretch it Thursdays occurs all month long at 1:00 pm.

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

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

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

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

# The Wyo W.E.S.T. Warrior Foundation's "The Best Weekend Ever"



Sayreville resident Julianne Perry and her children, Lena, 14, and Gavin, 13, recently participated in The Wyo W.E.S.T. (Warriors Empowered Standing Together) Warrior Foundation's unique event, called The Best Weekend Ever, held every Labor Day weekend in Sheridan, Wyoming.

Each year, up to 40 veterans participate, embarking on a journey of healing, camaraderie, and lasting friendships. They create an environment where the healing process naturally occurs for Veterans, Warriors, First Responders, and Gold Star Families. The Perrys were invited because SSG John W. Perry, their husband/father, was killed by a suicide bomber in Afghanistan in 2016.

The Perry family participated in various activities, including chopper shooting, a pistol range, long-distance shooting, trap shooting, rappelling, and the Redneck Olympics, at The Little Wolf Ranch. Participants also enjoyed a day at Eaton's Ranch, the oldest dude ranch in America, filled with trail rides, fishing, and a fantastic lunch. Sunday culminated with attending Don King Days, the only fenceless rodeo in the world.

When asked what their favorite part of the weekend was, Lena, a freshman at SWMHS, said, "I liked shooting the 308 at 600 yards, and the ending campfire, where we all told stories about ourselves." Gavin, an 8th grader at Sayreville Middle School, liked fishing best, and he caught a largemouth bass. Julianne was just happy to see her kids experience new adventures with brave warriors who were dealing with life-changing injuries. She is grateful to the Foundation for honoring and supporting those who have sacrificed for our safety and freedom.

## Where Is It? School Days, School Days 75 Years Ago



This nearly 75-year-old structure is well-known to many people of the South Amboy-Sayreville area, but it is not in Middlesex County. Can you name its location? (The location answer has several levels of precision.) Also, what is its nickname? Send your answers to [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com) by Oct. 19th.



1950-St. Mary's H.S. seniors returned for their last year at the Augusta St. school. The late Alfie O'Connor is pictured on the right in the top row. Can anyone identify the other three? Let us know at: [satimes@aol.com](mailto:satimes@aol.com).

## LETTERS



**Brian & Tom**  
Hi there!

This is Bill Parsons. I just saw the latest edition of The SA Times honoring Bob the Barber and I just want to share a picture of Bob, myself and my two sons. If you could add it to an issue, I would just like to show my appreciation and thanks to Bob for cutting our hair, especially my sons for close to four decades.

**Bill Parsons**  
**South Amboy**

~~~~~

**Brian & Tom**  
Thank You!

Thanks for the photo of me and Walter Krzyzkowski, who along with Kenny K. are my long time friends.

Also many thanks to Bob the Barber. He surely will be missed by the community, and we wish him only the best. God Bless him and his family. R.I.P. \$8 haircuts, and I'm afraid they are gone forever.

**Walter Starzec Jr.**  
**Sayreville**

## Are We Really Different?

By Robert W. Eginton

Everyone is different  
No one is the same.  
I might like the sunshine  
You might like the rain.  
Your favorite color  
may be green  
And mine might be blue  
That's what makes  
us different  
We and you.  
You might like the flatlands  
I might like the hills  
I might like the roses  
And you the daffodils.  
And though I might  
like the sunshine  
And you might like the rain  
We might be different  
But yet can be the same.  
We all have hearts  
that throb  
We all can feel pain  
Yes, we can be different  
But we can also be the same.  
If everyone could realize this  
How much better this  
world might be  
And wouldn't it be  
nice to know  
That everyone could knock  
On each other's door...  
Just to say hello.



We would love  
to hear from  
you!



or



or





# The Smoke Column

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

The 1947 Texas City disaster was an industrial accident that occurred on April 16, 1947, in the port of Texas City, Texas, located in Galveston Bay. The accident was a result of an explosion that was triggered by a mid-morning fire onboard the French registered vessel, SS Grandcamp, which detonated her cargo of 2,300 tons of Ammonium Nitrate (AN). Many people in the fire service are aware of AN and the disastrous results it can have when used improperly. AN can be used as an effective fertilizer and as an explosive when mixed with clay, petroleum, rosin, and paraffin wax. AN, when mixed with fuel oil, produces ANFO, a deadly explosive device that was used to blow up the Alfred Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City that killed 163 people on April 19, 1995. The SS Grandcamp was a re-activated 437-foot-long Liberty ship that was used in World War II. The ship was currently being managed by a French shipper who used the ship to carry cargo back to France to help re-build the county after the war. Along with the AN, a quite common cargo on the high seas, she was carrying small arms ammunition, machinery, and bales of sisal twine stored on the deck. Another ship docked nearby was also loaded with AN, as was an adjacent warehouse. AN was packaged in paper sacks then transported and stored at higher temperatures which unfortunately, increased its chemical activity. It was reported that these sacks were warm to the touch as they were being loaded onto the ships. On Wednesday, April 16th, 1947, around 8:00am, smoke was spotted coming from the cargo hold of the SS Grandcamp. Dock workers used a gallon jug of water and two fire extinguishers in an attempt to extinguish the fire but to no avail and were

ordered to leave the ship. The captain of the ship prohibited the use of any more water as it would ruin his cargo. He ordered all hatches closed and had the hold filled with steam in an attempt to smother the fire but it was ineffective. At approximately 8:30am, the pressure from the steam being pumped into the holds blew the hatches off. The Texas City fire/explosion on the SS Grandcamp started a chain reaction of fire and explosions aboard other ships nearby and at nearby oil storage facilities. At 9:12am, the ship exploded causing utter destruction within two thousand feet. Over 1,000 buildings were leveled as was the Monsanto Chemical Company plant. Galveston City, located ten miles away from the blast, had half its buildings' windows shattered. The ship's two-ton anchor was blown more than 1.6 miles from the ship. All but one member of the Texas City Volunteer Fire Department was killed. The initial explosion caused a nearby ship to catch fire which exploded, adding to the disaster. Witnesses compared the Texas City disaster scene to the recent images of the atom bomb that destroyed Nagasaki. It was reported that 581 people were killed but it was possible that this number could be much higher because there may have been visitors to the area who may have been unaccounted for in addition to many bodies that were unable to be recovered with some being blown into the bay. More than five thousand people were injured, with 1784 admitted to twenty-one different area hospitals. More than five hundred homes were destroyed and hundreds more damaged, leaving thousands of people homeless. Over 1100 automobiles were destroyed as were 363 freight cars parked along the railroad tracks. The Texas City seaport was totally destroyed.

## Middlesex College invites the Community to 2025 HarvestFest on October 16

Celebrate the fall season on our beautiful Edison campus with an evening of fun for all.

**WHAT:** Middlesex College's annual HarvestFest welcomes the community to celebrate this season of cooler air, colorful foliage, and apple cider. There will be plenty to enjoy – hayrides, music, inflatable games, food trucks, a classic car show, and a pumpkin patch where you can choose your own pumpkin (while supplies last).

Explore all that Middlesex College has to offer, including our credit and noncredit degree and certificate programs, as well as our student clubs.

**WHEN:** October 16, 5–8 p.m., Rain date: October 17

**WHERE:** Middlesex College Edison Campus, 2600 Woodbridge Avenue | Edison, NJ 08818

**TICKETS:** Free and open to all. Visit [middlesexcollege.edu/harvestfest/](http://middlesexcollege.edu/harvestfest/) for more information.

Tickets for the October 16 performance of Haunting Melodies are specially priced at \$5 for adults during HarvestFest. Purchase tickets at the door with cash only. More information at [middlesexcollege.edu/performances/](http://middlesexcollege.edu/performances/).

## Statement from Assembly Speaker Coughlin on Health Care Benefit Savings Agreement with Public Sector Unions

"We have always believed that the best way to make public health benefits affordable for taxpayers and public employees is by working collaboratively with workers and their unions. We are pleased that the agreement includes ideas which have been

advanced legislatively. We look forward to reviewing the agreement and continuing our efforts to protect taxpayers from rising costs while providing affordable healthcare options to public workers."

We would love to hear from you!

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## One Hit Wonders

**1976-Play That Funky Music-Wild Cherry; Love Hurts-Nazareth; Let Your Love Flow-The Bellamy Bros.; Welcome Back-John Sebastian; Fooled Around & Fell In Love-Elvin Bishop; Shannon-Henry Gross; Happy Days-Pratt & McClain with Brother Love; Afternoon Delight-The Starland Vocal Band; More, More, More-Andrea True Connection; The Boys Are Back In Town-Thin Lizzy; I'm Easy-Keith Carradine; Moonlight Feels Right-Starbuck; Disco Duck-Rick Dees & His Cast Of Idiots.**

## #1 Pop Hits-Sept. 27

**2022**-As It Was-Harry Styles  
**2012**-One More Night-Maroon 5  
**2005**-Gold Digger-Kanye West  
**1993**-Dreamlover-Mariah Carey  
**1981**-Arthur's Theme-Christopher Cross  
**1974**-Rock Me Gently-Andy Kim  
**1965**-Hang On Sloopy-The McCoys

# #1 Country Hits

## Sept. 27

**2024**-Ain't No Love In Oklahoma  
-Luke Combs

**2014**-Burnin' It Down-Jason Aldean

**2003**-What Was I Thinkin'-Dierks Bentley

**1991**-Where Are You Now-Clint Black

**1984**-Turning Away-Crystal Gayle

**1971**-Easy Loving-Freddie Hart

**1967**-Tall Dark Stranger-Buck Owens

# Everything You Wanted to Know About Dolls but Were Afraid to Ask

Finding a new home for your cherished doll collection can be a daunting task. Whether you're downsizing, moving, or simply looking to share your passion, it's important to explore the various avenues available for rehoming these precious treasures. Stuart Holbrook, President of the international auction house, Theriault's, may be the answer to your prayer. Mr. Holbrook is a renown authority on antique dolls and automata. He will be giving a talk on this subject, as well as answer all of your questions about downsizing your cherished doll collection, at the Woman's Club of Matawan, 199 Jackson Street in Matawan, NJ on October 11, 2025 from 10:15 AM-12:15 PM. The presentation is open to the public and registration starts promptly at 10:00AM. If interested, please RSVP to Kim Molteb by October 4th at [kmolteb@gmail.com](mailto:kmolteb@gmail.com). There will be limited seating. Light refreshments will be served.

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

We hope to see you there!

# Young Violinist Launches “Arturo Healing Hearts” to Bring Live Music and Emotional Healing to Hospital Patients

## High School Sophomore's Mission Turns Personal Act of Kindness into a Statewide Nonprofit Movement

In an age where most teenagers are planning their next TikTok, one high schooler is quietly transforming hospital hallways with the sound of a single violin. Rising sophomore Ava Silva Costa has launched Arturo Healing Hearts, a student-led nonprofit that brings live instrumental music into hospitals—offering moments of peace, dignity, and emotional healing to patients undergoing treatment.

The organization's newly launched website, [www.arturohealinghearts.org](http://www.arturohealinghearts.org), invites other young musicians to join the mission and hospitals to partner in this growing movement.

Named after her beloved violin, “Arturo,” Ava created the initiative after witnessing how music could soften the clinical edge of a hospital room and bring comfort to people at their most vulnerable.

“Music can reach places words can’t,” Ava said. “I’ve seen patients close their eyes, relax, and even smile after days of struggle. I knew then I wanted to build something that could offer more of those moments—not just from me, but from others, too.”

Arturo Healing Hearts launched quietly through Ava's solo performances in infusion centers, cancer wings, and waiting rooms across RWJBarnabas Health and Monmouth Medical Center—but has quickly gained traction. The initiative has been:

Featured in TapInto Long Branch  
Spotlighted by RWJBarnabas Health and  
Monmouth Medical Center on social media:

In a recent statement from Rutgers Cancer Institute, one patient shared that “the highlight of his day is listening to Ava play when he comes in. It’s a sentiment shared by many.”

“If they could figure out how to clone Ava and have her play every day,” one

administrator added, “they would.”

With her new website, Ava hopes to build a statewide network of young instrumentalists—musicians in grades 9–12 who are willing to use their time and talent to support patients in hospital settings.

The website includes:

- A clear mission statement and founder's story
- Volunteer sign-up and guidelines for high school musicians
- A "Volunteer Spotlight" page featuring student stories
- A contact form for hospitals interested in partnering with Arturo Healing Hearts

While Ava continues to lead the organization as founder and president, she sees this as a movement far greater than herself.

“This isn’t just about community service,” Ava said. “It’s about growing our empathy, showing up with heart, and realizing that even the smallest gesture can change someone’s day—or even their spirit.”

Arturo Healing Hearts is currently building partnerships across the RWJBarnabas Health system and expects to expand to additional hospitals in the coming months.

For press inquiries, volunteer interest, or hospital partnerships, please visit [www.arturohealinghearts.org](http://www.arturohealinghearts.org) or contact [arturohealinghearts@gmail.com](mailto:arturohealinghearts@gmail.com)

## Fall Concerts At PNC

Monday Sept. 29-An Afternoon of Music  
& Memories starts at 1:30 p.m.

Friday Oct. 3-Cousin Brucie Presents The Rascals 60th Anniversary Fan Appreciation Show, and Gary Lewis & The Playboys starts at 7:30 p.m.

## From The Concert Archives



From 2010 during their performance at the Count Basie Theatre, Styx rocked the crowd! Pictured is Tommy Shaw who joined the band in 1975 striking a chord during their hit "Miss America". Domo Arigato Mr. Roboto!! (Photo by Brian Stratton)

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## Walk/Walking

By Tom Burkard

- 1.Walk Away Renee
- 2.Walk Don't Run
- 3.Walk On The Wild Side
- 4.Walk Of Life
- 5.These Boots Are Made For Walkin'
- 6.Walk On By
- 7.I Walk The Line
- 8.Walk Like An Egyptian
- 9.Walk This Way
- 10.Walking To New Orleans


- a.Aerosmith
- b.The Ventures
- c.The Left Banke
- d.Dire Straits
- e.Johnny Cash
- f.Nancy Sinatra
- g.Lou Reed
- h.Fats Domino
- i.The Bangles
- j.Dionne Warwick

**Answers**

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





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### South Amboy 9/11 Memorial Service

(Photos by Brian Stratton)



Members of the Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62 salute the flag during the National Anthem.



Members of South Amboy Elks Lodge BPOE #784





South Amboy Elks Exalted Ruler John Leo addresses the crowd at the Memorial Service.



Dennis Kopik Elks District Deputy recounts his experiences on 9/11 having been in one of the twin towers during the attacks.



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Dreams Do Come True  
By Tina James Fedorka



1974 Mack Fire Truck (l) and 2000 Current Protection Fire Company Truck. (Photos by Tina James Fedorka)

When I first met my husband, he told me his dream was to own a fire truck. Not just any fire truck—the 1974 Mack from Protection Engine Company, the one that was in service when he started.

After it was retired and privately sold, he kept track of it for years. He wanted to preserve this small, but important piece of his Fire Department’s history.

Two years ago, we had the chance to rescue it from a pawn shop in Mississippi. We had it shipped back to NJ, and this winter the real work began. It spent about 4-5 months in a shop. Then for the last two months, it’s been parked at our house while he poured his time and energy into getting it parade-ready.

The goal was always Wildwood. And this weekend—it happened!!! He drove it down, it rolled through the parade, it went out for some joy rides, we made a bunch of new friends, and today it

stood proud in the muster. And it also made it home.

Yes, it was amazing to see it in the parade. Yes, it was amazing to see all the attention it received. But even more remarkable is watching someone achieve a lifelong dream.

Thank you to everyone—known and unknown—who had a hand in bringing this piece of history back to life. It was a remarkable weekend to see it all come together.



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SATURDAY, OCT. 4

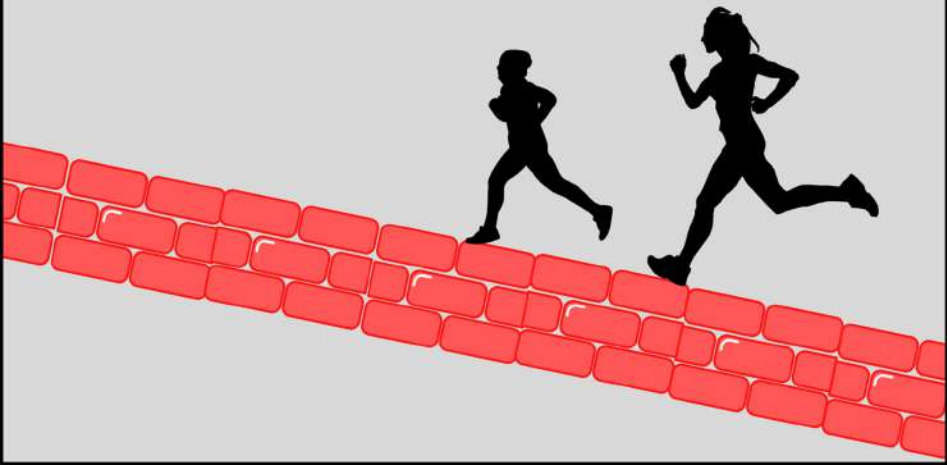
REGISTRATION: 8:00AM

RUN BEGINS: 9:30AM

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For This Country To Become Great.  
God Bless Charlie Kirk And His Family.



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South Amboy 9/11 Memorial Service  
(Photos by Brian Stratton)



South Amboy Chief Rafael Albarran  
begins the Memorial Service.



Father Lukas Blicharski from Sacred Heart  
Church delivers the opening prayer.



Frank Norek did outstanding renditions of  
The Lord's Prayer and God Bless America.



South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry  
gave a heartfelt and inspirational  
speech at the Memorial Service.



### St. Stans's School

(Photos/Info Submitted)

Back in action!  
The faculty and students of St. Stan's School  
were flaunting big smiles as school resumed on  
Wednesday, September 3rd. From veteran  
teachers, to our youngest learners, there's  
nothing but positivity as St. Stan's takes on a  
new school year!











The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

Champions



Late 1970's-Dooling Electric was a real powerhouse in the short-lived South Amboy Women's Slow Pitch Softball League, and won at least 2 championships out of the 4-5 years the league existed from approximately 1976-1980. Pictured is the legendary team with its top-notch players/ coaches. Top row (l-r) Coach Joe Crowe, Coach Bill O'Leary, Patty Dooling, Debbie McClung, Lori Policastro, Coach Jack O'Leary, Coach Bernie Mackiel. Bottom row (l-r) Kathy Barclay, Mary Ellen Donnelly, Norine Croddick, Patty Flynn, Donna Reich, Grace Hoffman. (Photo by James Tedesco, courtesy of Joanne Katko)

From The Sports Archives



1980's-The talented South Amboy Pirates baseball team is pictured top row (l-r) Asst. Mgr. Jim Holovacko, Tim Bloodgood, Mark Thompson, John Mulligan, Eric Krauss, ?, Tim Moskal, Mike Buczynski, ?, John Skarzynski, Mgr. Bruce Ramer. Bottom row (l-r) Andy Pipala, Pat Kelly, Joe Szaro, Ray Kelly, Bill Bright, Jim Beshada, Tom O'Leary, Glenn Vona. (Photo courtesy of Joanne Katko, and a special thank you to Joe Szaro who helped with the names.)

Opening Day Football Games

2005

Hillsborough 14 Sayreville 9-Mike Velardi 2 yd. touchdown run, Bobby Woods booted a 29 yd. field goal. Monroe55 Cardinal McCarrick6-Quarterback Jordan Manley raced for a 61-yard TD.

2008

Sayreville 28 East Brunswick 7-Javon Hodges scored 2 TD's on runs of 2 and 67 yards. Quarterback Mike McLafferty scored on a 57-yard TD run, and finished with 108 yards rushing on 6 carries. He also was 5-for-6 passing for 76 yards. Curtis Davison added a 22-yard TD run, and Daryl Stephenson was 4-for-4 in extra point attempts. Highland Park 34 Cardinal McCarrick 18-Brenton Widgeon broke loose for TD runs of 46 and 52 yards, and totaled 157 yards rushing on 23 carries. Taylor Clark fired a 67 yard touchdown pass to John Radich.

2010

Sayreville 16 Toms River East0-Quarterback Joe Geiger fired a 50-yard aerial TD bomb to Delon Stephenson, who also ran for a 10-yard touchdown. Cardinal McCarrick 12 Mater Dei 0-Jose Cruz scored on a 4-yard touchdown run, and rushed for a total of 146 yards on 22 carries. Calvin Peebles added a12 yard TD run, and John Appiah excelled on defense with 12 unassisted tackles, 2 sacks and a fumble recovery for the Eagles.

70 Years Ago

1955-St. Mary's nipped Hoffman, 1-0 in City Series action. Hal Thalman was the winning hurler who fired a cool 1-hitter, struck out 9 and allowed no walks. Marty Metzger singled in Joe Bucko with the only run in the 5th inning.

80 Years Ago

1945-Rudy Neumann's daring steal of home plate gave Hoffman a thrilling 9-8 victory over Atlantic Highlands in baseball action. Ed Kowaleski unloaded a double and homer, while Jim Croddick blasted 2 doubles.

T.H.E. Game Year-2005

Sport-Boys Soccer Teams-Cardinal McCarrick vs. South Amboy in the season opener. Recap-In a tight 2-2 game, Eagles star Conrad Symber blasted in his second goal of the game, which was the game-winner as the Blue & Gold won 3-2. Miguel Ferreira also scored for CM. Tom Szatkowski and Diego Cuello scored a goal apiece for the Guvs. Player-Of-The-Game-Conrad Symber, Cardinal McCarrick.

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 4, 2025 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 \$18.00 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. 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.

Glory Days In Local Sports

2014-South Amboy HS freshman catcher Alissa Bikowski set 2 single game softball records for the Lady Guvs by blasting an incredible 4 home runs and driving in 13 as South Amboy outslugged East Brunswick Tech, 31-27...2012-The Sayreville boys baseball team, under Coach Mike Novak set a school record by winning 25 games and finishing with a stellar (25-3, .893) record...2011-The Cardinal McCarrick baseball squad played on a professional minor league field at Richmond Bank Ball Park, home of the Staten Island Yankees. The Eagles romped to a 10-1 victory over MSIT out of the PSAL-NYC League. Winning pitcher Kevin Pacansky pitched 2 perfect innings and struck out 3, while also ripping 2 hits to drive in 2 runs. Ryan Smith belted a double and triple, and Eric Pacansky blasted a long ground rule double...2004-Sayreville nipped Metuchen, 6-5 in 1st round play of the GMCT Baseball Tournament. David Donner drilled a single and double to drive in 3 runs, Dan Louis hammered a triple. Rob Arvanites hit a game tying single in the 7th inning, and

the winning run scored on an error. Brandon Aich pitched 3 ½ innings of superb relief, and was the winning pitcher... 1983-Hoffman HS blasted Spotswood, 10-0 in baseball play. John "Skeets" Skarzynski was the winning pitcher, tossing a masterful shutout. Kevin Gorczyca ripped 2 hits and knocked in 2 runs... 1974-The Sayreville Bombers baseball team set a new school record for victories under Coach Norbert Smith, by finishing with 24 wins, (24-8-1)... 1961-St. Mary's stopped St. Rose, 7-1 in baseball play. Joe Sulkowski was the winning pitcher and fired a 4-hitter while striking out 4. Jim Heffernan unloaded a solo homer, Pat Marotta and Tom Fitzmorris stroked 2 hits apiece...1969-Hoffman stopped St. Patrick's of Elizabeth 4-2 behind winning pitcher Jim Tingle, who fired a brilliant 3-hitter and struck out 14. Ken Blaha drilled an RBI single...1957-Charlie Conroy was the winning pitcher as St. Mary's edged Red Bank Catholic, 3-2. Tom Pristavec blasted a 3-run inside the park home run, and John Graber laced 2 hits for the Eagles.

15 Years Ago Sayreville Little League 9U All Stars Champions of the Hazlet Tournament



2010 - Top(l-r)-Coach Mark Mastorio, Manager Jeff Campbell, Coach Jon Holmes, Coach Bill Curry, Coach Vinny Marra. Middle - Trevor Mastorio, Zach Honimar, RJ Fischer, Ryan Casano, Connor Holmes, Tyler Barreiro, Cameron Carey, Jacari Carter. Front Info- Vito Dorio, Anthony Gambardella, Brian Marra, Dawson Cuthbert, Thomas Kerns. (Photo Submitted)

15 Years Ago



2010-Coaches Corner-Three South Amboy coaching greats met at a Cardinal McCarrick H.S. football game at Waterfront Park. Pictured (l-r) Lynn Ust- coach of the Lady Eagles girls basketball and girls cross country teams, Joe Lewis-coach of the Eagles boys basketball team, and Bill Lewis-longtime Sacred Heart boys basketball coach. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Pohl Won Batting Title

1962-St. Mary's star pitcher/hitter Joe Pohl captured the Middlesex County batting championship by hitting a lofty .469 for the year. Joe Eppa of Middlesex finished 2nd with a .420 avg. Other locals with an excellent offensive year were: Tom Fitzmorris, St. Mary's .400 (4th in county); Art O'Donnell, St. Mary's .365 (10th in

county); Manny Formoso, Hoffman, .333; Tom Vona, St. Mary's .327; Lou Nanna, St. Mary's .317; Jerry Drill, Hoffman .303, Ray Drill, Hoffman .302; Paul Nagy, Hoffman .300. Selected to All-State Group 1 were: 2nd Team-Jerry Drill-of; 3rd Team-Manny Formoso-of; Paul Nagy-p; Parochial All-State-2nd Team-Joe Pohl-p.



# Local Author Uses Horror to Honor The Sayre-Fisher Brick Company

Local author George Giovenco Jr. is set to launch his debut horror novella, *The Headless Brickman*, on Saturday, September 20th, 2025, at the Sayreville Public Library in sponsorship of the Sayreville Historical Society. The launch of *The Headless Brickman* coincides with the 175th Anniversary of the Sayre Fisher Brick Company.

Giovenco was inspired when writing his book by his love for telling scary stories. As per his author bio, *The Headless Brickman* was inspired by the foundation of Giovenco, his family. Giovenco explained in an interview that when he was growing up in the South Amboy/ Sayreville area, he would frequently visit his then-girlfriend's (Eileen Downs-Giovenco) uncles, who lived along Main Street and worked at the Sayre Fisher Brickyard. Hearing all of their stories of the brickyard inspired him to learn more about the history of Sayreville and how his community was built one brick at a time.

Giovenco started writing *The Headless Brickman* shortly after his retirement from the United States Parcel Service, where he worked for over 38 years. He explained that writing the book was just something he always wanted to do, and now his nephews, who’ve heard this story throughout their childhood, can have it [the story] forever.

*The Headless Brickman* examines not just the foundation of Sayreville, but the influx of immigrants arriving in the South Amboy/Sayreville area during WWI, looking for work to support their families. In the novella, the reader is introduced to multiple different families and workers, such as Jaisu, Tommy, and Sean, who tragically lose their lives in the Brickyard due to the lack of due diligence in safety protocols and precautions in the workplace. In many instances in the novella, it is discussed that the workers are

“just trying to put food on the table for their families,” which was very common in the 1800s.

Former President of the Sayreville Historical Society and Society Trustee, Art Rittenhouse, explained that the Sayre Fisher Brick Company was the foundation of Sayreville from its inception in 1851. He explained that “knowing the history of Sayreville is important because it constantly changes, you can learn something from that kind of history.” He went on to mention that every year, the Sayreville School District plans all of its 4th-grade classes to visit the Sayreville Historical Society Museum, which is located at 425 Main Street in Sayreville, to continue to honor the legacy of the Sayre Fisher Brick Company and the enriched history of Sayreville.

According to the Sayreville Historical Society website, “The Historical Society prides itself on its ability to educate, inform, and entertain the public both through our museum, a brick schoolhouse built in 1885 that houses over five thousand artifacts, and community outreach” (sayrevillehistory.com). Residents are encouraged to contact the historical society if they have anything they’d like to donate to the museum. Their collection of thousands of DVDs, books, and memorabilia is single-handedly donated by the residents of Sayreville. Rittenhouse explained that throughout the year, the historical society hosts events that honor specific moments in Sayreville’s history, as well as participates in local events such as National Night Out. With the upcoming 250th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War, the Sayreville Historical Society will be hosting multiple events throughout 2026. If interested, follow their Facebook Page at Sayreville Historical Society.

Many Sayreville residents like Giovenco

## Ramblings of a Former South Amboyan

By Bob Olenczak (Olin)

A recent photo in the SA Times prompted my memory of when I was just a young lad. Other than delivering the Perth Amboy News and working as a soda jerk in Arky’s Pharmacy, my first job out of high school (1950) was hauling bales of clothing at the Chatham Garment Company from the bottom floor to the top floor to get sewn. We hauled the cut fabric on an elevator that was run by muscle power. The elevator had a large rope that you had to pull to make it go to the second floor. I really don’t remember how we got down, but I assume it was the same way. Muscle power.

It was dusty, dusty, dusty, from the cloth. I do remember the workers drawing patterns on the cloth and cutting it with a large saw. I used to walk from upper Feltus Street to work every day.

For some reason I left that job and became a spot welder at Metaline Products on the corner of Feltus and Augusta Streets. I am not sure if it is still there. At the time I was employed there, they were making wire racks for magazines etc. What a boring job. I used to measure the time of day by looking at the light pole outside the window and watching the shadow it cast. Not sure how much I made per hour but I am sure it wasn’t much compared to today.

Does anyone remember that in the same location there was a cigar factory? I remember because my mother worked there for a while during the Depression. She was fortunate to have some income. My father was also fortunate to have a job at DuPont in Parlin where he stayed until he retired. I’m sure he was there for at least 40 years.

I graduated from Sacred Heart Grammar School (1946) and also Hoffman High (1950). We were the class that was blown out of school instead of graduating. We did not have any final exams, but did have a graduation. The school windows were completely blown out and we did not go back after the explosion. Speaking of the explosion, I had been working at Arky’s during that time and fortunately I was off that day. Why fortunately? Because the front window blew in, which was right next

to the soda fountain where I would have been standing.

When I was younger, we lived at 509 John Street. Outdoor plumbing, Saturday night bath in a wooden tub from water heated on the coal stove was part of our life. No central heating, only the stove and a vent in the ceiling to let some heat come up into the second floor from the stove below. Not much heat came through. We ate a lot of duck because we all had a Peřina better known as feather quilts. They must have been about two feet high. The warmest things you could ever imagine during the winter months. Heated bricks wrapped in towels for our feet kept them warm.

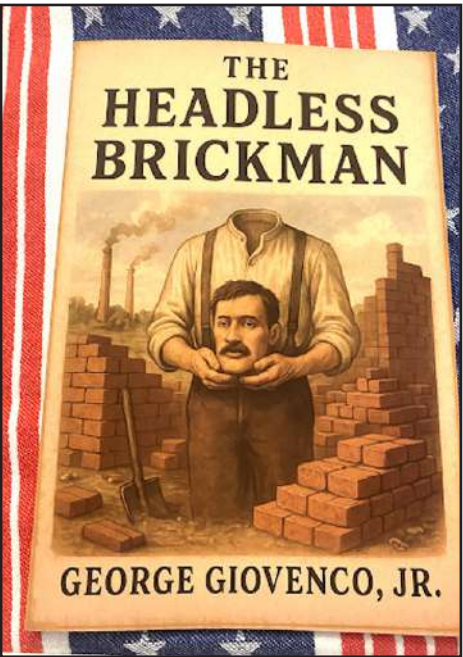
At night during bedtime, a pail was in the hall in the event you needed a bathroom break and did not want to go outside, even in the summer. Those were the good old days. We eventually did get a bathroom with a bath tub inside with hot water and a gas furnace.

The street outside the house was dirt, the sand mixer up the block roared, the steam trains sounded their whistle coming close to our back yard. 509 John Street was at the end of the block right by the tracks where the trains came by to go or come from the round house. Occasionally we picked some coal that was dropped on the tracks to put into our stove.

Speaking of coal, I remember the coal deliveries with men carrying coal on their back in canvas bags, if you did not have a way for them to put a slide into a window and shovel the coal into your coal bin right off the truck.

You had to put out the sign to get ice for your ice box. 15 cents a block. They cut it with their ice pick and hauled it in the house on their shoulder after putting a piece of canvas on to protect their shoulder from the cold and wet ice. They could also carry it in with ice tongs. I think my wife still has a pair.

I remember a man with a home made board with wheels and old fashion irons in his hands for moving his home made vehicle and singing so you could contribute money in order to earn a living. I remember



are also contributing to the legacy of Sayre-Fisher Brick Company’s history by using creative mediums. During 2020, NJ Skateshop owners Steve Lenardo, Troy Jankowski, and Nieratko of Washington Road in Sayreville, collaborated with skateboard company Vans in a Sayre-Fisher brick shoe design. A pair of S & F Brick Vans is on display under a glass case at the museum. Rittenhouse proudly explained that when the shoes were available for purchase, they were sold out in an hour. Each pair of shoes included a small information card about the Sayre-Fisher Brick Company.

There is no doubt that residents of Sayreville are proud of their history. Like the characters in Giovenco’s novella who believed in loyalty not only to their town but their community, James F. Sayre and Peter Fisher, too, saw the potential of this town and how it could evolve over time through storytelling and creative innovation, building the future success of this community one brick at a time.

photographers coming around taking pictures for very little money at that time. That is the only picture I have when I was young, about 8 years old. So I am happy they came around. I had nothing earlier.

The Sewer pipe in the field in the back of our house was an exciting and daring place to visit and try to go to the end which came out on Feltus street. Feltus street from Bordentown Avenue was the best sleigh riding in the world. Girls had to watch out or we would belly flop right behind you and spin you around.

The hill at the hospital also provided a great but shorter ride. Some of their most dangerous and exciting rides were through the woods at the end of John Street. When the ice formed you went, what I think, was about 45 miles an hour on the paths.

Playing in the gorge near the woods, particularly with all the clay was a messy day. In the summer cardboard sliding down the hill below the infamous circle by Route 35 and Highway 9 was both fun and sometimes dangerous.

Did I mention the stick ball we played under the railroad bridge at the bottom of Feltus Street. It was great fun and simple entertainment. We would talk about our day at the corner of John and Feltus Street by Zaleski’s store. Most likely only those who lived nearby would remember that memory.

Do you know anyone who sold pretzels on the highway in the summer to people going down the shore? You would wave a brown bag with pretzels in it and wait for a car to stop and buy a bag. There was a sign well down the highway warning motorists that the pretzels were coming.

Some great times during high school are the bus rides to the basketball games. Singing of course 99 bottles of beer or maybe coke on the wall. The most memorable trip had to be to Matawan High School where the ceiling was so low you had to angle a set shot almost in a straight line. Do you remember things called set shots in basketball? It took two hands. The only time you see it now may be during a foul shot.

Ten cent (.10) movies at the Empire

# Sayreville Library News

Wholesome and Cozy Fall dishes with Vanessa (Virtual) Wednesday, Oct 1 @3PM

Welcome the fall season with some wholesome recipes to make you feel cozy at home. Join Vanessa from Thirsty Radish and learn how to make a tasty roast chicken dinner, fresh vegetable side dishes, and more to really enjoy the season. This is a virtual session. Registration required to get the zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112. Patrons must provide a valid email address.

Medicare 101  
Saturday, Oct 4 @11AM

Medicare can be daunting. Thankfully there is help. Join us for this informative seminar, and learn the ins and outs of the system and choose the best plans available. Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

How to be your own Professional organizer with Jamie Novak (Virtual)  
Tuesday, Oct 7 @6:30PM

Ever wondered how an expert would organize your home? Get some insider secrets from an expert in the industry. Join Jamie Novak, Best selling author and humorist, and learn the tricks of the trade. She'll show you how to make fast progress to organize your home. This is a virtual session. Registration required to get the zoom link. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112. Patrons must provide a valid email address.

Mindful Yoga  
Tuesdays in Oct @6:30PM

Come & join us for a relaxing evening of yoga. This basic yoga class is open to all levels of experience.

This class is designed for stress relief. Participants should be able to get down to the floor easily. Either a Yoga Mat or a towel is required. Masks are optional. Please wear comfortable clothing.

\*Please note: young children cannot be left in the children's room unattended while an adult patron is in yoga class.\*

Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112

Movie Matinee - Tuesday, Oct 21 @1PM

Join us for our monthly movie matinee. This month: **Quartet**: Starring Billy Connolly, Michael Gambon, Maggie Smith, and directed by Dustin Hoffman. Rated PG-13 1 hr 38 Mins. Refreshments provided. Registration required. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Resumes and Cover Letters (Virtual)  
Monday, Oct 27 @6:30PM

Learn how to create eye-catching resumes and cover letters in this interactive seminar. Learn how to use the right words and language to catch the eye of potential employers. This is a virtual session. Registration is required to get the Zoom link. Patrons must provide a valid email address. Register online or call 732-727-0212 Ext 112.

Theater downtown. Flash Gordon and other serials. You had to come back next week to find out what happened to the hero who was put in harm’s way.

Net fishing at the Point and the Minnie Ditch. Men would take row boats and put the beginning of a large net on the shore, row or motor out in the Raritan Bay way out and come back and put the other end on the shore. Then they started dragging it towards shore. Lots of fish, some crabs and the infamous horseshoe crab that was thrown back or left on the beach.

I remember digging for tape worms at the Minnie Ditch and selling them by the quart to the local bait shops. We made some good money but it was hard work. We also dug many long neck clams to steam and make clam chowder. Manhattan of course.

These are just some of things I never thought about until today and it was prompted by the picture of the building that once housed the Chatham Garment Company.

I think everyone should start to write down the things they remember doing when they were young so their children can have a bit of history about their parents. Include that with any genealogy you know regarding your family. Don’t wait because people you may want to talk with, may not be here when you want them.









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**Fishing Flashes**  
By Teo "Weebles" Weber



**Salt Water**

Local beach fishing is still slow. I rechecked some of the local beaches on the Bay. I talked to several anglers and they said they haven't had many results. I didn't see anything caught either. Surf fishing coast wise was good with Fluke and Bluefish but the recent bad storm had its effect creating discolored high surf conditions. I heard of some Pompano caught at Island Beach before the storm. I gave it a try the 2nd week of this month at LBI, but encountered rough, discolored surf conditions and lost a rig to a snag. I finished off at the 2nd Street dock in Beach Haven but got only a few small Seabass and a Snapper Blue. Party boats that go out for Bluefish are doing well with fish up to 10 pounds with a few Bonito and False Albacore and some Spanish Mackerel. Fluke fishing from the surf and boats remains good with more bigger fish available. Ling and Porgies are caught from boats that are fishing for them.

**Fresh Water**

The recent bad storm and rain have slowed everything up but there is some recovery. Pickerel and Panfish are available in Farrington Lake. Hybrid Striped Bass can be found at Spruce Run and Lake Hopatcong. Fall Trout stocking will take place statewide after Columbus Day.

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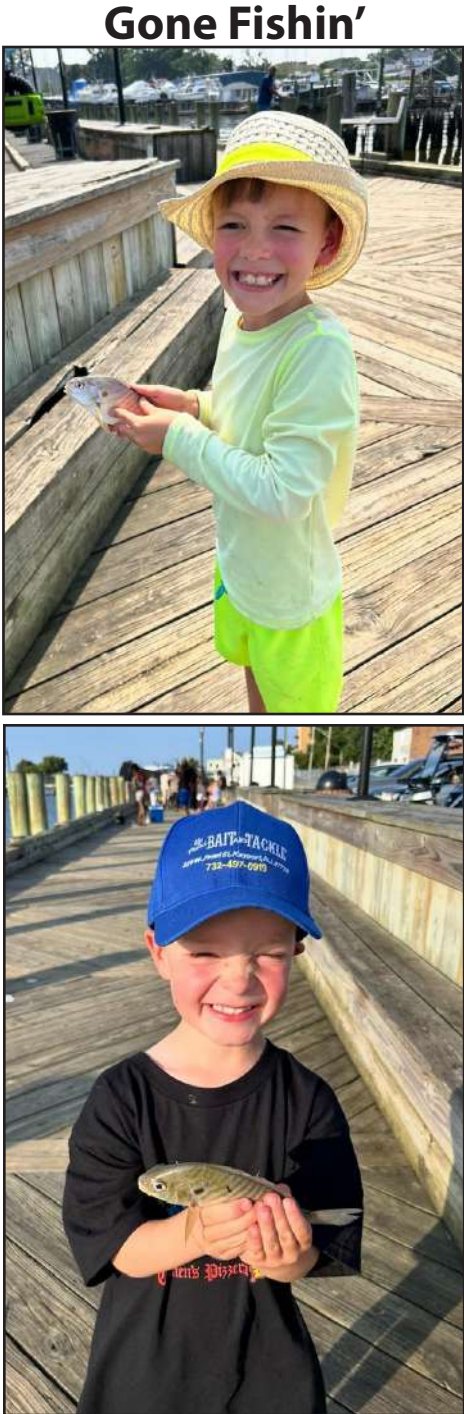
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Jim Ziola was fishing recently with his grandsons Gavin and Austin Mazuc in Keyport catching Spot.



School Sports

By Tom Burkard

Bombers Win First 3 Games

The Sayreville Bombers football team under Head Coach Mark Poore are off to an outstanding (3-0) start. The victories and recaps are as follows: •Sayreville 26 Colonia 18-In the season opener, Shaun Jackson broke loose for all 4 of Sayreville’s touchdowns, and rushed for 150 yards to pave the way. •Sayreville 28 Linden 14-Jackson scored a TD and ran for 106 yards on 14 attempts. Dion Osae and Sherwin Appiah also scored touchdowns for the Bombers. Andrew Provenza had 3 receptions for 53 yards and a TD. •Sayreville 46 Edison 14-Jackson scored 2 more touchdowns and rushed for 154 yards and also had 35 yards on pass receptions. Osae scored a TD and raced for 114 yards. Quarterback Tyler Butka was 4-for-6 with 92 yards passing and a 33-yard touchdown pass to Provenza. Butka also ran for a TD. On defense, Chase Barnes led the total tackles with 7, Christian Woodward 6, and Brian Zangrillo 6.

Team Leaders

Passing Yards-Butka 274; TD Passes-Butka 2; Receiving Yards-Jackson 97; Rushing Yards-Jackson 498, Osae 182; Touchdowns-Jackson 6, Osae 2, Provenza 2. Defense-Total Tackles-Barnes 21, Zangrillo 19, Ryan Sanfiorenzo 16.

Boys Soccer

South Amboy-Coach Tony Gonsalves (3-2) Team Leaders-Goals-Dilin Crespo 5; Points-Crespo 10, Manny Souza 3, Jeshua Vicuna 3. Sayreville-Coach Nick Cifelli (2-4)

Team Leaders

Goals-Christian Wozny 2; Points-Wozny 4, Timothy Lubka 3, Alan Sadlocha 3.

Girls Soccer

Sayreville-Coach Alison Riccion (2-4) Team Leaders-Goals-Emma Halmo 3, Karin Cardoso 2, Leah Eskolsky 2; Assists-Amelia Kawalec 2; Points-Halmo 6, Cardoso 5. South Amboy-Coach Gina Martinez (1-4) Team Leaders-No individual statistics available.

Guv's Win Opener

The South Amboy Governors under Head Coach Tony Gonsalves opened their 2025 season with a 6-1 romp over Woodbridge Magnet. Six Purple & Gold players scored a goal for the winners: Sebastian Roessele, Helmi Khalil, Ralphie Lengyel, Manny Souza, Jeshua Vicuna, and Dilin Crespo.

Sayreville Nips Metuchen

The Sayreville girls soccer team squeaked by Metuchen on 2 second half goals by Jayden Roque and Emma Halmo. Goalie Laura Onochie had 8 saves for Coach Alison Riccion’s club.



Advocates Praise Speaker Coughlin, Sampson Bill on Vehicle Recalls Now Signed Into Law

The new law improves consumer safety notifications and ensures fairness for dealerships and vehicle technicians

In an effort to curb the risks posed by vehicle recalls and ensure fairness for New Jersey’s auto dealerships and workers, Governor Phil Murphy signed Bill A4380, the Motor Vehicle Open Recall Notice and Fair Compensation Act, into law last week. Sponsored by Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin and Assemblyman William Sampson, the bill strengthens recall notification requirements for drivers and ensures dealerships and technicians are properly compensated.

“I’m proud to see this legislation signed into law because it delivers real protections for drivers in New Jersey, making sure they receive clear notice when a recall puts their safety at risk,” said Assembly Speaker Coughlin (D-Middlesex). “At the same time, our neighborhood dealerships and their highly skilled technicians deserve fair compensation for the work they perform. This is about keeping our roads safe, standing up for working people, and ensuring fairness across the board.”

The law directs the Motor Vehicle Commission to review the federal recall database before issuing registrations and to notify owners in writing if their vehicle has an open recall. That notice must describe the recall and make clear that repairs can

be completed at no cost to the owner by an authorized dealer.

“This law is a welcome step forward for both consumers and workers alike,” said Assemblyman Sampson (D-Hudson), Chair of the Assembly Consumer Affairs Committee. “Drivers deserve to be notified right away when their car has a safety recall so they can get it fixed without delay and our local dealers, and their technicians, deserve to be paid fairly for their time and skill.”

Under the law, dealership technicians will be fairly compensated for work related to recalls, including diagnostic services, ensuring that highly skilled mechanics are paid what they deserve for their labor. As a result, dealerships will be able to continue to provide high-quality services at a reasonable cost to the consumer. In the past, manufacturers commonly reimbursed dealerships at rates below retail costs, forcing these local businesses to shoulder the burden themselves.

“This legislation represents a critical step forward in protecting consumers, leveling the playing field for locally owned dealerships, and ensuring that automakers fairly compensate those who fix their mistakes,” said Laura Perrotta, President of New Jersey Coalition of Automotive

Retailers. “On behalf of our dealer members across the state, I want to thank Governor Murphy, Senate President Nicholas Scutari, and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin for their leadership on this important issue.”

“Mechanics impacted by this law will finally see a significant increase in pay and will no longer have to work under a quota system that often resulted in unpaid overtime,” said New Jersey State AFL-CIO President Charles Wowkanech. “These workers are highly skilled, and this law will ensure that they are properly compensated.”

"United Service Workers Union (USWU) applauds Speaker Coughlin for being a champion and sponsor of this crucial legislation. For too long auto manufacturers have exploited hard working auto technicians and this bill being signed into law has put that to an end and requires technicians be compensated fairly. This bill helps the labor movement, small businesses and the consumer. USWU is proud to stand with Speaker Coughlin, Senate President Scutari, Governor Murphy and all the legislators who helped pass these protections into law." said Connor Shaw, Political Director, United Service Workers Union.

“I thank Governor Murphy and the General Assembly for the support on this very

important piece of pro-worker legislation now signed into law. The Motor Vehicle Open Recall Notice and Fair Compensation Act is about fairness for the hardworking men and women who keep New Jersey’s cars and trucks safely on the road. Auto technicians deserve to be paid equally for their skills and labor, whether the work is under warranty or not,” said IAM Union District 15 Area Director Cristino Vilorio, who also serves as the IAM’s New Jersey State Council President.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE  
(To be said when problems arise or when one seems to be deprived of all visible help, on far cases almost despaired of). Most holy Apostle St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the church honors and invokes you universally as the patron of hopeless cases, of things almost despaired of, pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Make use I implore you of that particular privilege given to you, to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, and that I may praise God with you and all the elect forever. I promise O Blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor, to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen. Thank You St. Jude. -K.H.

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

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## Obituaries

Anthony, Michael “Mike,” 58, of Sayreville died on Sept. 11.

Braun, Keith D., 72, of Parlin died on Aug. 22.

Burke, James V., 84, of Sayreville died on Aug. 26.

Carey, James “Jimmy,” 59, of South Amboy died on Aug. 27.

Cuneo, Joseph “Joe” E. 81, formerly of Sayreville died on Aug. 26.

Fabiszewski, Michael, 77, of Sayreville died on Sept. 11.

Fulmer, Joan D., 92, of Sayreville died on Aug. 27.

Griffin, Stanley, 87, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 25.

Hoffman, Susan, 76, formerly of South Amboy died on Aug. 6.

Jacobus, Cheryl, 55, of Morgan died on Sept. 5.

Lasko, Robert A., 88, of Sayreville died on Aug. 27.

Lukie, Carol Sullivan, 84, of South Amboy died on Aug. 10.

Matagrano, Joseph F., 84, of Sayreville died on Aug. 23.

Messina, Angelo “Eddie,” 82, of Sayreville died on Sept. 9.

Moore, Carol A., 82, of Sayreville died on Sept. 16.

Pennyfeather, Wayne, 75, of Perth Amboy died on Aug. 8.

Pritchard, Bernadette, 96, of Parlin died on Sept. 4.

**Prayer to St. Jude**

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

## In Memoriam

Keith Braun, 72, of Parlin died on Aug. 22. Before his retirement, he worked for the MCUA. He was a life member and past President of the Sayreville Emergency Squad. James Burke, 84, of Sayreville died on Aug. 26. He was proud to serve as Democrat Committeeman in Sayreville. James “Jimmy” Carey, 59, of South Amboy died on Aug. 27. He worked for USPS until retiring in 2013. He was one of the really good guys who had a friendly greeting to people he would see at Waterfront Park when walking his two prize poodles. Michael Fabiszewski, 77, of Sayreville died on Sept. 11. He was a Biology teacher at St. Mary’s HS.

### James “Jimmy” Carey

January 9, 1966 – August 27, 2025

James “Jimmy” Carey, 59, of South Amboy, passed away on August 27, 2025, at the Venetian Care Center. A lifelong resident of South Amboy, Jimmy was born on January 9, 1966. Jimmy worked for the United States Postal Service until his retirement in 2013. He enjoyed spending time with his two poodles, Willow and Guinness.

He was predeceased by his parents, James and Leona Carey, and brothers, Dennis and Martin Carey. Surviving are his sisters, Eileen Ust, Jane Stolte and her husband Dave, and Ellen Carey, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Services were private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Mary’s Star of the Sea Food Pantry in his memory.

**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.

**MIRACULOUS INVOCATION TO ST. THERESA**  
O Glorious St. Theresa, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind, I invite your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you in obtaining every need of body and soul, our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a “prodigy of miracles, the greatest Saint of modern times.” Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and carry out your promise of doing good upon earth of letting fall from heaven a shower of roses, henceforth, Dear Little Flower, I will fulfill your plea to be made known everywhere and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.

Say prayer every day for 9 days. By the 4th day ask for a sign, if prayer is to be answered between 4th and 9th day you will see a rose in a magazine, tv, picture or receive roses. Must promise publication. C.P.

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

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