

Date: April 20, 2002

PRICELESS

Vol. 11 Issue 7

Pawlowski, Grobelny Chosen By Sayreville Dems

Former Sayreville Councilman Jeff Pawlowski, and former Zoning Board Chairman Dennis Grobelny were chosen by the Sayreville Democratic Party for the upcoming municipal election.

Pawlowski was a councilman for 3 years, but did not seek election last year. He is the owner of Pride Landscape Supply in South Amboy. Grobelny, retired from DuPont's, is a former Sayreville Fire Chief, and served as Zoning Board Chairman for several years. He is currently employed by Sherwin-Williams in East Brunswick.

Pawlowski and Grobelny will be seeking the two council seats presently held by Republicans Vincent Zarcaro Jr. and Frank Makransky.

Batko Returns To Democrats

Sayreville Councilwoman, Phyllis Batko, who was elected in the 2000 election as a Republican has decided to return to the Democratic Party. She has been in agreement over many important Borough issues with Democrat Councilman, Thomas Marcinczyk. The switch will create an even split between Democrats and Republicans on the six member council.

Benefit Basketball Game April 28

A benefit basketball game between the Sayreville Police Dept. and Sayreville Fire Dept. will be held on Sunday, April 28th at St. Stan's School Gym, 225 MacArthur Ave., Sayreville.

The game is being held to benefit the David Christopher Miller Cerebral Palsy Fund at Methanay. Game time is 3 p.m., and there will also be live music, and prizes to be raffled. Refreshments will be available. Donation is \$5 adult and \$3 child (16 and under). Advance tickets are available by calling Connie Modzelewski 732-651-6391 or the church office 732-254-0212. Tickets will also be sold after masses through April 28, and at the door. Please come out and support this worthy cause that helps many children and adults afflicted with Cerebral Palsy.

Mayor O'Leary Honored

South Amboy Mayor, John T. O'Leary received a "Special Achievement Award" on April 18th at the NJ Conference of Mayors Annual Conference at Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. The prestigious honor was for O'Leary's outstanding efforts in transforming the vacant waterfront area of South Amboy into a busy intermodal transportation hub. Congratulations!



Joseph Castellano Jr., son of former South Amboy residents Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Castellano Sr., and grandson of Allie & Fran Clark of South Amboy recently met Pope John Paul II in Rome, Italy. Joseph, a South River Policeman, went to the Vatican with Father Robert Lyman, Father Manny Rios, and Mark Maher, a cousin.



Aftermath-A huge, wind-swept fire gutted the Sinka home on Wilmont Street in South Amboy on April 1st. For an SA Times photo exclusive and feature story on this tragedy, see "Our Bravest In Action" on page 8. (Photo By Tom Burkard)

21 Years Of Music, Mirth And Mayhem

By Tom Burkard

Baseball's "Iron Man," Cal Ripken retired at the end of the 2001 season. South Amboy native, Henry Conroy Jr., is somewhat an "Iron Man" in his own right. The popular local DJ is celebrating his 21st Anniversary in the entertainment business. He has been flipping records, tapes, and CD's, as well as entertaining pub patrons with his fun-filled and zany antics on the local scene since 1981.

Conroy, who grew up on David St. near Protection Fire House, played in the South Amboy Little League, and also for St. Mary's 8th grade basketball team. While a member of the grammar school team, he traveled to play a game at the shore. "Biff" McKeon came to help our coach, George

Daley, and as we were driving to the game, Little Richard came on the radio singing "Tutti Frutti," and that was it! I've seen him 5 times," said Conroy, recalling how he fell in love with music.

"Henny" was an All-American type of student at St. Mary's High. Always a talented athlete, he was captain of the varsity basketball team, played baseball, and was elected President of the Student Council. "It was an honor. Charlie Schachel (who played baseball only) was the best athlete in the school," he said. "My twin brother was St. Mary's top pitcher in his junior and senior years," recalled Henny.

(Continued on Page 16)



Henry "Henny The DJ" Conroy, Jr. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Samuelson Will Not Seek Re-Election

South Amboy Councilwoman at Large, Beverly Samuelson announced that she will not be seeking re-election this year, but will finish her term which expires on December 31, 2002. In a letter to Tom O'Leary, Chairman of the South Amboy Democratic Organization, she mentioned growing responsibilities on her job as a Purchasing Manager, and expects them to double next year, which would "leave little time to work efficiently as a Councilperson for the city."

Samuelson thanked all the people who supported her over the last 8 years, and said, "I will certainly miss working with the Mayor and Council."

South Amboy First Aid Seeks Members

The South Amboy First Aid & Safety Squad is seeking new members. The training is free! If you are interested, pickup an application today, or call 732-721-1005 for more information.

Memorial Day Parade- May 26th

The South Amboy Veteran's Alliance, which consists of the American Legion Post 62, DAV Chapter 67 and the VFW Post 645, in conjunction with the South Amboy Recreation Department will be co-sponsoring the Annual Memorial Day Parade on Sunday, May 26th.

The parade will step off at 1 p.m. with line-up taking place on North Stevens Avenue, near the Knights of Columbus. Parade route will be Stevens Ave. to John St.; John St. to Broadway; Broadway to the reviewing stand at City Hall.

Anyone interested in participating in the parade should contact the Recreation Department at 732-727-7677.

Budget Wins In Sayreville

The \$55 million Sayreville school budget for 2002-03 was passed by a 1,672-1,272 margin by voters. An average homeowners taxes will increase by \$108.

Re-elected to the Board of Education were top vote-getter, Arthur Rittenhouse Jr. with 1,722 votes, Joseph Bera III 1,663, and Ronald VanTine 1,579. John "Jack" Myatt tallied 1,229 votes.

McCarthy, Kern, Rodriguez Elected In SA

Michael McCarthy, Janet Kern, and newcomer Christie Rodriguez were elected to the South Amboy Board of Education. McCarthy notched the most votes with 378, followed by Kern 346, and Rodriguez 297.

Local voters rejected the \$13.7 million Board of Education budget for 2002-03, by a 462-168 margin. Taxes would have been increased by \$114 for the average homeowner if it was passed.

A plan to purchase 52 computers to use throughout the district at a cost of \$100,000, was defeated, 477-129. Also, a question for restroom renovations at the elementary school for \$250,000 was nixed by a 479-122 margin.

Free Lecture on Gardening

The Friends of the South Amboy Library will host a lecture on gardening, Wednesday evening, May 1st at 7 pm. The free lecture is open to the public and will be held at The Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, Hoffman Plaza.

A Master Gardener from the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Division in New Brunswick will be the guest lecturer.

Some of the topics of discussion will be starting your garden this spring, helpful hints on gardening with water restrictions, and flowers & vegetables that do well in our area. A question and answer period will follow.

NEXT ISSUE

- Memorial Day
- Graduation Day
- Father's Day

MAY 18th

All Deadlines

May 6th

Call 732-727-0398

Talk of The Towns

By Tom Burkard

Bob, "Blanche," Ralph, Dennis Will Be Remembered

Bob Munck, 67, of South Amboy died on March 27. He was the South Amboy Fire Chief in 1971, and also a longtime Little Fellas League and Babe Ruth League baseball coach. Well-known and respected throughout the local communities, he was a lifetime Iron Worker. "Blanche" Erickson, 81 of South Amboy died on March 20. A "Mechanicsville girl," she was loved by everyone. Ralph Vicidomini Sr., 68, of Sayreville died on March 23. He was a past president of the Sayreville Jaycees and JCI Senate. Ralph also coached Little League baseball and Pop Warner football. Dennis Clark, 41, of South Amboy died April 7. A great guy, he worked for the Middlesex County Roads Department for many years and was a former Captain with Progressive Fire Co. They will all be remembered.

Local Authors Near Completion Of Books

Authors, Jerry Smith of South Amboy, and Jim Carney of Parlin are hard at work, completing their new books. Smith's book is a young adult novel about a teenage girl who goes to the Florida Keys to work with relatives at a Dolphin research facility. She gets caught up in the issue of keeping dolphins in captivity.

Carney's book is about his grandchildren. He jokes, "It is due out this fall, and would be out earlier if I didn't have to take time away from writing and run around the house after my grandchildren."

We'll keep you updated on the progress of their books, and when they will be released. Good luck, Jerry and Jim!

Mahoney Taught In South Amboy For 44 Years

Virginia Mahoney 77, formerly of South Amboy died on April 4th. She was a popular teacher in the South Amboy Public Schools for 44 years until her retirement in 1992.

Pleasant Little Trivia

By Tom Burkard

1. In 1987, this jeans factory outlet was located on North Stevens Ave. in South Amboy? a. Jeanie's b. Jeans Plus c. R & J Jeans

2. He was chosen 1973 "Father of The Year" at the South Amboy Senior Citizens Picnic? a. John Davison b. Daniel Carvair c. Michael Clooney

3. South Amboy's City Prosecutor in '70? a. Stan Grabarkiewicz b. John Lucitt c. James Higgins

4. This beauty shop was located in Sayre Woods Shopping Center in '75? a. Hair & Thair b. Carousel c. Sweet Maria's

5. He was Commander of Benyei-Connors DAV in 1962? a. Daniel Boynton b. Burk Lambertson c. James Campbell

6. Melrose Hose Company's Fire Chief in 1963? a. Stanley Mroczkowski b. Francis Gomolka c. Johnny Marzinski

7. This service station was located on N. Stevens Avenue in South Amboy in 1963? a. Bulman's Shell b. Lagoda's c. Ronnie's Shell Service

8. This bicycle shop was located in Parlin in '63? a. Roadrunner b. Wheely's c. Hays

9. President of the Sayreville Girls Softball League in 1980? a. Marge Miara b. Bonnie Clark c. Susan Abramowitz

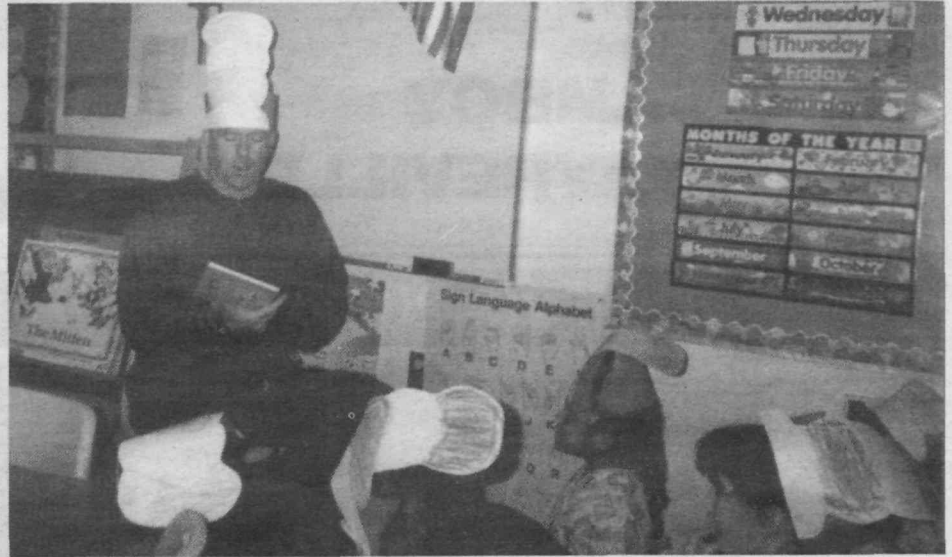
10. President of the Sayreville Tenants Association in '81? a. Phil Koester b. William Waniewicz c. Alex Sabato

11. In 1963, this service station was located on Route 35 North in Melrose? a. Loftus Esso b. Joey's Sunoco c. Melrose Citgo

12. The State Assemblyman in 1987 from Sayreville? a. Alan Karcher b. John Wisniewski c. Eric O'Hallahan

Answers

1c 2a 3b 4b 5b 6b 7c 8c 9a 10a 11a 12a.



Sayreville Mayor, Kennedy O'Brien (L) and Mrs. O'Brien visited the Pre-K class at Our Lady of Victories School to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and "Read Across America." It was also pajama day! Mayor O'Brien read a Dr. Seuss book to the children, and Mrs. O'Brien baked cookies! Everyone had a great time!

Walking Together For The Cure

The 2nd Annual NJ/APDA Chapter Walk-A-Thon is on Sun., May 19 at 10 a.m. at the Jersey Gardens Mall, Exit 13A, NJ Turnpike, Elizabeth NJ. A FREE walk t-shirt for the first 100 to register a \$10 minimum pledge. Comp bagels, muffins, juice, coffee, tea from the Chapter, and Jersey Gardens Mall will be giving out coupon books on-site. Come out and help this fine cause for Parkinson's Disease! For more info call 732-745-7520.

Seniors Bus Trip To Lancaster

The Sacred Heart Seniors have scheduled a day of shopping in the Lancaster area on Wed., June 19th. Stops will be made at the Kitchen Kettle shopping area, and Bird-In-Hand Farmers Market, with a Pennsylvania Dutch hot meal. The trip is open to all. Cost is \$36, and must be paid by May 1. Call Sue 732-721-3361 for info.

ST CLAIRE NOVENA

Ask St. Claire for these favors, 1 business, 2 impossible. Say 9 Hail Mary's for 9 days with lighted candles. Pray whether you believe in it or not. Publish on the 9th day. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored and glorified today and every day. Request will be granted no matter how impossible it may seem. Publication must be promised . . . M.T.

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Memorial Service-May 21

The 2nd Annual Memorial Service, honoring all veterans will be held on May 21, 6:30 p.m. at the South Amboy High School Theater. Last year, over 200 people attended. The event is sponsored by the South Amboy High School History Club. Come out and honor the veterans!

Afternoon Tea/Gift Auction

An Afternoon Tea/Gift Auction will be held at Cardinal McCarrick High School Gym on Sunday, April 21st. Doors open at noon. Tickets are \$10. For information or ticket sales, call 732-721-0748 Ext. 5.

Roast Pork Dinner-April 20

Trinity United Methodist Church will hold a Roast Pork Dinner on Sat., April 20 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at 815 Bordentown Ave., Sayreville/South Amboy. The dinner includes mashed potatoes, vegetables, beverage, dessert. Tickets are \$10 adult, \$5 for children 5-12, and FREE for children under 5. Take out is available. For more info call 732-721-3558.

SOUTH AMBOY

SAYREVILLE TIMES

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Classic Care Car Wash owner, Frank Cariddi puts the finishing touches on another masterpiece at his business at 2085 Route 35 South, South Amboy, across from the Music Box. (Photo By Tom Burkard)

Classic Care Car Wash, located at 2085 Route 35, South Amboy, is one of the finest modern car washes around. Classic Care Car Wash Offers many features including all soft cloth; Hydro System; modern, state-of-the-art equipment; 24 hour self service; vacuums; touchless drying system; hand detailed; detailing specials, and much more.

Owner Frank Cariddi has been in the car wash business for over 9 years, and says, "We give every car a very good car wash that includes scrubbing every wheel, power wash, and hand drying at a really reasonable price." Now celebrating their 1-year anniversary under new ownership, Classic Care Car Wash always offers a \$3 car wash on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and there are also \$3 coupons available. Both build-

ings at Classic Care Car Wash have been completely renovated and upgraded with new, ultra-modern equipment for the customers benefit. Gift certificates and coupon books make great gifts, so why not stop in and purchase them? Watch for the Classic Care Car Wash ad every month in *The SA Times* for other great offers!

Classic Care Car Wash specializes in auto detailing and lease return reconditioning. Customer satisfaction is of the utmost importance to Cariddi. The business motto tells the story, "We treat your car like it is our own." Don't forget, it's spring time, so why not treat your vehicle to a nice wash & wax, and it will come out with a great shine at Classic Care Car Wash, 2085 Route 35, South Amboy (opposite The Music Box), or for more information, call 732-553-9009.

Local Woman Has Vintage Yankee Autographs

By Tom Burkard

South Amboy resident, Lillian Nardone was a huge baseball fan as a youngster. Growing up in Madison, NJ with 7 brothers, it was a natural thing for her to listen to all the New York Yankee games on the radio. "I kept score of every game while listening," she said.

Lillian loved the Yankees, and her oldest brother was supposed to play for them but was seriously injured.

In 1936, she heard about Babe Ruth's All Star team, and filled out a list with her version as to who were the best players. She sent her selections to Joe McCarthy, manager of the Yanks, and he sent back a piece of paper dated June 3, 1936 with autographs of all his players including Yankee legends, Lou Gehrig, rookie Joe DiMaggio, Frank Crosetti, and Red Rolfe to name a few. "Back then, I was ecstatic. I had to show everybody," Lillian said.

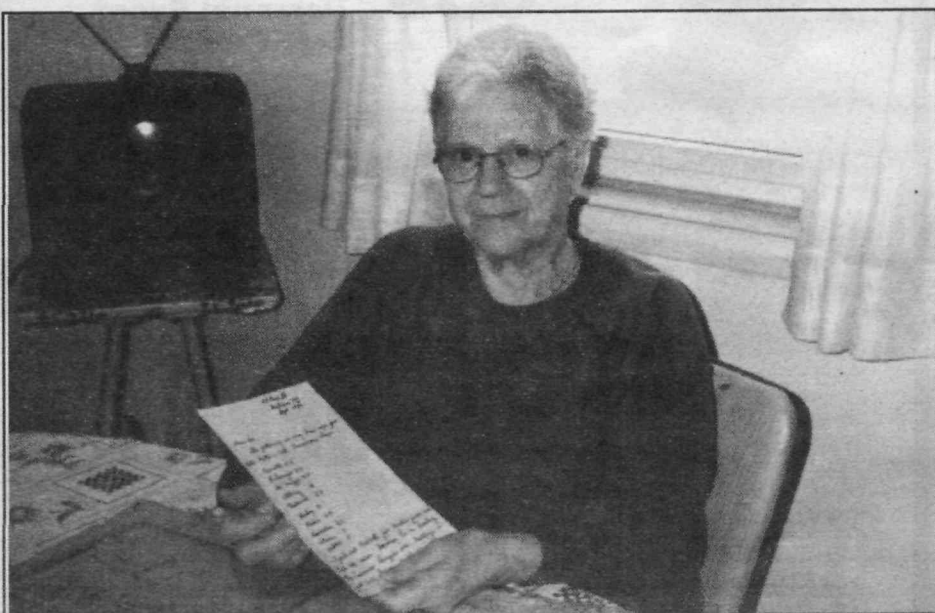
One of her fondest baseball memories is when she was at Yankee Stadium with her brothers when Lou Gehrig gave his

legendary historical speech.

When she got older, she gave the Yankee autographs and letter to her brother Mike. He kept it for years and gave it to his son, who this past Christmas returned it to Nardone. "I was so surprised!" Everyone at dinner had to look at it and read the letter," she said.

Lillian also kept a baseball scrapbook with clippings from the 1930's. It is also in excellent condition. She would like to get her vintage sports memorabilia appraised. Her son, Dennis, who was one of the greatest third basemen in St. Mary's baseball history, was a member of the '69 state championship team, and was selected All-County 1st team and All State, commented on her collectables; "I think it's very historical, especially from the standpoint that it was DiMaggio's rookie season, and Lou Gehrig also signed his autograph.

"Today, I'm a Met fan. I flip the stations," said Lillian.



Lillian Nardone

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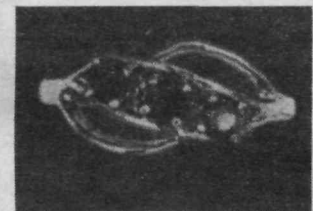
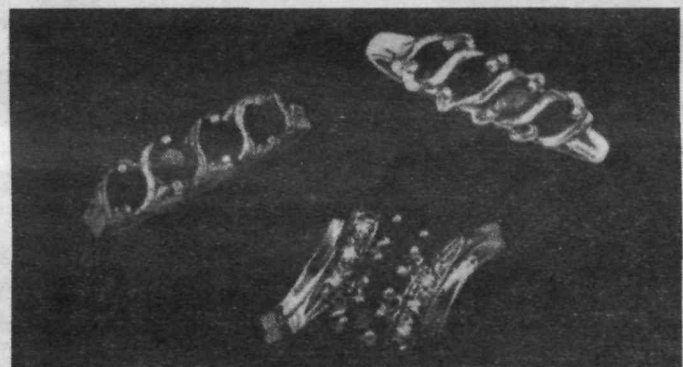
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By Tom Burkard

In early September 1961, Sayreville High School senior Class of '62 returned for their final scholastic year. "Michael" (you know the song that goes Michael rowed the boat ashore alleluia) by the Highwaymen ruled top radio stations on the transistors. . . While at Sayreville High. . . The yearbook, celebrating its 20th year of publication, was dedicated to Alma Mater. Editors-In-Chief were August Oppel and Doris Chudkowski. . . School principal was Margaret Walsh. . . Some fine teachers were Joseph Balaga, Patricia Defort, Laverne Gavron, Lois Jankowski, AD John Gutkowski, Monica Newton, Doris Poplowski, Vincent Modzelewski, Joseph Ziemba. School nurses were Emily Haag and Margaret Lehman. . .

Senior Class Officers were President Raymond Fielek; VP-Joseph Klosek; Sec.-Jacqueline Chrzan; Treas.-Christine Kapler. . . Ronald Zeh was Student Council President and Jean Puchala was Vice-President. . .

Some of the Class of '62 selected randomly included; Helen Beck, Linda Beatty, Gary Beauregard, Marguerite Bentsen, Rosemary Buchanan, Cheryl Burley, Carol Chlebowski, Doris Chudkowski, Roberta Conover, Edward Darbowski, Diane Dill, Harold Dill, Judith Dieker, Dominick DiMattio, Carol Dobrzynski, George Dusko, Beverly Estok, Maud Endres, Donald Gdula, Phyllis Goble, Betty Handville, Veronica Grzyb, Sharon Guscott, Howard Geiger, John Handville, Elke Holley, Grace Holsworth, Arthur Hoover, Carol Kabara, Delia Jones, Janet Hudak, Celest Kaczmarek, Maureen Kehoe, Robert Kauffhold, Diane Kittstein, Robert Kirchner, Richard Korban, Richard Kulesa, Geraldine Krzyzkowski, Anthony Laufnick, George Long, Howard Liegel, James Lynch, Joseph McAllister, Elaine Marchut, Georgiann Mershon, Don McDonald, Jerilyn McCarthy, Ruth Michaels, Judith McNearny, Bruce Miklaszewski, Veronica Modzelewski, Joy Mosinak, Geraldine Mroczkowski,

Rudolph Mueller III, Ronald Nadeau, Mary Murphy, John Rapp, Thomas Pavlik, Arlene Ostrowski, Peter P. O'Such Jr., Peter T. O'Such, Helen Podolak, Joyce Prusik, Wayne Rodney, John Rojewski, Gerald Sabo, Donald Seiser, Carol Shork, Carol Smith, James Smith, Rosemarie Solook, Charlesette Springer, Patricia Stanik, Theresa Suchciki, Michael Turback, Leah Turner, Gerald Unkel, Joan Wilczynski, Joan Witkowski, Marie Zebro, Richard Zdan, Constance Zukowski. . .

Many important events were taking place in the world in 1962, such as John Glenn orbiting the earth 3 times in *Friendship 7*. . . The Seattle World's Fair opened. . . A group of white people financed a busload of black Freedom Riders to New York City. . . Johnny Carson replaced Jack Paar on the "Tonight Show."

Sayreville had many talented senior athletes including Vincent Attardi, Earl Baker, John Barko, Joseph Blaszk, David Boshko, Robert Brown, Richard Conover, William Coward, Joseph Demetski, William Eppinger, Raymond Fielek, Daniel Harvey, David Kane, Edward Kephart, Joseph Klosek, Stephen Longo Jr., Thomas Lewis, Tony Nicorvo, Michael Olszewski, Edward Rock, Robert Sacher, Thomas Snyder, Edward Thalmann, Don Tremel. . . Tri-captains of the football club were William Pogers, Ronald Skwira and Steve Shigas. The team finished 3-6. . . Paul Weiss and Ernest Adell were co-captains of the wrestling squad. . . '62 marked the final year of basketball in the old school gym, and the team had a rough 4-17 record. . . Mary Jane Olsen and Nancy Plewa were co-captains of the cheerleaders. . . Theresa Check was Majorette. . .

At graduation time, "I Can't Stop Loving You" by Ray Charles was the #1 song in the nation. Sayreville's Class of '62 had 155 graduates. Delia Jones was the Valedictorian, Mary Romanski was Salutatorian, and Peter P. O'Such Jr. was Terterian. . .

Sayreville High School's Class of 1962 was a fine all-around group of young adults.

Hoffman Hi-Lites 2002

By Lenn Ambroziak

I had a wonderful conversation with Anne Dowdell Richmond, who is from HHS Class of 1951. She's a retired R.N. who graduated from Monmouth Memorial Medical Center. Her husband Bruce is also a grad of HHS, c/o 1950, and runs Architectural Materials business. Her family recollections in the SA school system spans a century.

The couple's 3 sons, Bruce the oldest is a SA Police Sergeant from c/o '75, Chris is an Aerospace Engineer, and Steven a Ceramic Engineer (Rutgers). All three are Hoffman grads.

Anne & Bruce are also proud grandparents of 8 grandchildren, and two, Kevin & Jennifer are grads of HHS. Jenny is attending the Culinary Institute of America. In addition, three great-grand kids, Matthew & Kimberly are attending SA Elementary School, and Bryan will be entering kindergarten there in Sept. Anne's dad, Raymond graduated in 1919 from the old South Amboy High School, and Sadie Dowdell, the SA Library namesake is Anne's aunt. Her great Aunt Olive was Valedictorian of SAHS Class of 1908, which only had 8 graduates. She said, "Back then only one child in the family went on to high school, while the rest went to work to help support the family."

Anne's five classmates who attended last year's alumni barbecue really enjoyed themselves, and are looking forward to this year's party. Anne also added, "Mr. Szatkowski deserves a lot of credit for organizing these wonderful parties."

Anne & Bruce reside in South Amboy. *Our website has changed to // www.HGHoffmanAlumni.org

ST. JUDE

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude. -A.B.

To Be Sure

By Al Gomolka Jr.
 Times Poet Laureate
 c.2001

Like a sprinkler turned on in the rain
 Or a duel engine pulling a train
 I have tried in my way to be sure
 When showering shampooing hair
 twice

In a gamble I throw loaded dice
 I have made it a need for a cure
 Clowns perform with smiles when
 they are sad

Priests absolve though they too may
 be bad

We may mean to subtract and we find
 that we add

Lovers kiss and makeup even when
 they are mad

Like Goldilocks and the three bears
 Or a homophobe who never dares
 I have tried in my way to be sure
 Second opinions I always explore
 Comparative shopping when at a store
 Why the need if there's trust for a cure
 Things aren't always what they seem
 to be sure.

Leisure Club Seeks Members

If you are a Sayreville, South Amboy, South River, or Perth Amboy resident, you are invited to join The Leisure Club. This small, friendly, senior (62+) club meets the first Thurs. each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Sayreville Senior Center. Lunch is provided and bingo games follow. Dues are \$5 per year. For more info, call Mary Dennis 732-257-7044 or Bob Rolzhausen 732-721-0262.

Spring Dance-April 26

St. Stan's H.S.A. is sponsoring a Spring Dance on Friday, April 26 from 7-10 p.m. at St. Stan's School Gym, 221 MacArthur Ave., Sayreville. The event is limited to 6th-8th graders, and a total of 500 students. Admission is \$5. Refreshments will be sold. Rubber-soled shoes only are permitted. Pre-sale tickets will be sold at all Masses, and the Parish Office, 732-254-0212.


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Fishing Flashes

By Teo "Weebles" Weber

Salt Water

The Fluke (Summer Flounder) regulations for 2002 have been finalized. The season will begin on May 18 and continue to Sept. 24. Bag limit remains at 8 fish, but size limit goes up an inch to 16 inches. Most of the party boats were behind this middle of the line compromise, as pushing the size limit to 17 inches would only give us a few more days to comply with the new formula, as we supposedly over-fished last year's poundage. Beach action for striped bass is good at local SA and Cliffwood Beaches with clams the bait to use. Fish up to 20 pounds have been caught and the bay is loaded with bunkers. Flounder action is good down below, but up here it's just a good pick at best. Offshore, the mackerel stayed here all winter long, so go fishing now, its good and this just might be our spring run. Ling and a few big blackfish continue to be caught and even some whiting-these long lost fish have made a few appearances.

Fresh Water

Opening Day Trout season was April 13th at 8 a.m. Plenty of fish were on hand, so it looks like another good season despite the drought. A very few shad are going up the Delaware River. This year's shad run doesn't look that good overall.

Brass Band To Perform

The Navesink Brass Band will perform at the Senior Center, Main St., Sayreville on Thursday, May 2 starting at 7:30 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Cultural Arts Council of the Borough of Sayreville. Admission is FREE and light refreshments will be available. All ages are welcome!

Obituaries

Bartlinski, Walter, 77, of Sayreville died on March 14.

Campano, Lucille, 47, of Parlin died on April 8.

Carstens, Richard, 73, of Parlin died on April 1.

Clark, Carolyn Knapp, 69, of Sayreville died on March 22.

Clark, Dennis, 41, of South Amboy died on April 7.

Croddick, Eugene F., 81, formerly of South Amboy died on April 2.

Damion, Theresa Straczynski, 67, of South Amboy died on April 2.

Dowling, John "Jinx," 76, formerly of South Amboy died on March 12.

Erickson, Francis, 80, of South Amboy died on March 24.

Erickson, Mary Blanche Freeman, 81, of South Amboy died on March 20.

Fullerton, Madeline Fitzgerald Rufus, 100, of South Amboy died on April 9.

Gawron, Walter F., 92, formerly of Sayreville died on April 13.

Golaszewski, Joseph F., 71, of Sayreville died on April 1.

Goumas, Carmelina "Connie," of Morgan died on March 29.

Jankowski, Nancy, 48, formerly of Sayreville died on March 28.

Kedzierski, Nina, 77 of Parlin died on March 28.

Kelley, Thomas F., 83, formerly of South Amboy died on April 1.

Kelly, Robert, 61, of Parlin died on April 9.

Kern, Dorothy Frischknecht Primka, 93, formerly of South Amboy died on April 1.

Kuhn, Margaret, 72, of Sayreville died on April 8.

Lehocky, Josephine Gadowski, 79, of Parlin died on March 23.

Mahoney, Virginia, 77, formerly of South Amboy died on April 4.

Munck, Robert F., 67, of South Amboy died on March 27.

Palmowski, Joseph, 80, of Sayreville died on April 3.

Rackowski, Anna, 84, of Sayreville died on March 30.

Rasimowicz, Alex J., 87, of Parlin died on April 9.

Saunders, Clarence E., 88, formerly of South Amboy died on March 5.

Spencer, Mary Szafranski, 89, of Morgan died on March 24.

Testa, Anthony N., 69, of Parlin died on April 2.

Vicidomini, Ralph A. Sr., 68, of Sayreville died on March 23.

Walczak, Catherine, 89, of Parlin died on April 2.

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“Our Bravest In Action” Photo Exclusive and Feature Story

By Tom Burkard

Fire Destroys Two-Family Home

At 5:30 p.m. on April 1st, a wind-swept, fast-moving fire swept through a two-family home on Wilmont Street in South Amboy. The entire structure was gutted, and one firefighter said that, “it was the biggest house fire we’ve had in South Amboy in several years.”

Kevin Sinka said he was cleaning the garage with his son, while his sister-in-law

was cooking in the kitchen, and his niece and daughter were on the front porch sewing. There was a lit candle on the porch, and “apparently a window was open, and the curtain blew and caught fire. In 5 minutes, the whole thing was blown apart,” said Sinka. The second floor family of three was not at home when the fire started.

Over 120 local South Amboy and Sayreville firefighters, first aiders, and emergency workers battled the stubborn blaze. According to South Amboy Fire

Chief Larry Parsons, “Firefighter Ted Huff was treated for smoke inhalation.” Sinka said that his sister-in-law suffered facial and hair burns.

In an exclusive interview with *The SA Times*, Sinka noted that “It was a 5 minute fire of destruction. By me kicking the doors open to look for people, it caused a wind draft. It was very windy that day. Our neighbor, Ted Mroczkowski was immediately there with a hose on the porch trying to put out the fire,” he said. Sinka

also stated that after an investigation, “the Fire Marshall closed it as an accident.”

This was the first house fire I ever witnessed close-up, and it was a very sad and scary experience. You never realize how brave and important our local firefighters and first aid members from South Amboy and Sayreville are until it comes this close to home. Their compassion and dedication to helping their fellow human beings is a true blessing. Thank you!



The fire in its early stages, shows the flames and heavy smoke on the front left porch section of the home where the blaze began.



The roof is still engulfed in flames on the left upstairs side of the house.



South Amboy's “Bravest” are shown climbing a ladder to the roof, and battling flames too close for comfort.



The South Amboy Fire Department's Snorkel extinguishes the fire on the upper roof. The firefighters in the “bucket” are Pat McCarthy and Jim Charmello.

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11:00am	11:55am	12:00pm
2:00pm	3:25pm	3:10pm
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**Kierst's To Celebrate
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Adam & Virginia Kierst will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on May 9th. They were married in 1942 at St. Mary's Church Rectory by the Rev. Joseph Keenan. The couple resided in South Amboy for 68 years before moving to Seattle, Washington to be near their grandchildren, and watch them grow up. Virginia was in various activities as a member of the Presbyterian Church, serving as a deacon and teaching Sunday School. She also prepared communion for the Sunday service and visited members in the nursing home and hospital. She also helped on election day in the 4th Ward polling place.

Adam served on the South Amboy First Aid and was secretary for several years. He was the chairman of the 1964 American Red Cross Drive, and is a charter member of the national Republican Committee, a distinction gained for having 30 years of service. He is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign War Post 645 of South Amboy. Congratulations and God Bless You, Adam & Virginia!

**April Is Parkinson's
Disease Awareness
Month**

By Claire Salamon

NJ/APDA Chapter

Do you know someone that has Parkinson's Disease? Do you know what Parkinson's Disease is? Imagine waking up each day with one or more of these symptoms: tremors & stiffness; slowness of movement; difficulty walking; depression; Bradyphrenia—a slowing of the ability to think; slowing of speech; dementia; memory loss. Over 10 million Americans know this challenge! Parkinson's Disease is a progressive disorder of the central nervous system in which certain cells located in the substantia nigra deteriorate for unknown reasons. The cells are important because they produce a substance called dopamine that acts as a chemical messenger in the brain. When 60-80% of a person's dopamine has been depleted, a tremor generally appears.

There are 60,000 new cases diagnosed annually. Parkinson's Disease (PD) crosses all ethnic lines and affects men and women. PD is more common over the age of 50. About 20% of patients are under 50 years old, and the disease is rare under age 30. Shockingly, some children have been diagnosed with PD!

There is no cure yet for PD. Treatment is limited to helping patients maintain their ability to function over time by controlling symptoms. Symptoms are usually mild and treatment may be unnecessary for most early-stage patients. When symptoms have progressed to the point of requiring medical intervention, medications have to be customized to the patient and the disease symptoms. Physicians now have available a variety of drugs to treat PD. They may however, reserve certain drugs types for particular stages of the disease to maximize effectiveness. Quite often, a treatment may include a combination of drugs.

Research continues to seek the cause of and cure for PD. The search for a cure and for continued improvement of medications to control PD symptoms is extremely costly. The APDA is committed to making a positive difference in the lives of those suffering with Parkinson's Disease and their caregivers.

(Portions of this article has been reprinted with permission of The American Parkinson's Disease Association, Inc., Staten Island, NY).

Bet You Didn't Know

By Bill McAndrew

* It is impossible to lick your elbow.
* A crocodile can't stick its tongue out.
* A shrimp's heart is in their head. * People say "Bless you" when you sneeze because when you sneeze, your heart stops for a milli-second. * It's physically impossible for pigs to look up into the sky.



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Sekerak Excelled As Commander



Commander Bob Sekerak

Bob Sekerak recently completed his unprecedented fourth term as Commander of The Luke A. Lovely American Legion Post #62 in South Amboy. He initially headed the Post in 1991, and also 1999, 2000, and 2001. The 4 terms and also 3 consecutive years are believed to be records for the organization.

Bob, who is affectionately known as "Zak" by friends really loves sports and especially basketball. He remembers "spending the whole day on Saturdays at the basketball court at the Bowery by Rosewell Ave. & John St. In the winter, we'd shovel the court so we could play," he said. "Zak" played for St. Mary's 8th grade team, splitting the starting center role with Jerry Carney on a team that featured leading scorer, Leo Dohan, Reggie Carney, Mark Bratus and Jim McCloud. It was around this time that high school superstar, Jay Derent became Bob's hero.

Sekerak made St. Mary's varsity team as a freshman, playing under Luke Lenahan, but played jayvee ball as a soph, averaging 9 points and 10 rebounds a game. He was a reserve on Coach Walt Peto's varsity club as a junior, and sat out his senior

season.

So, when did Bob fall in love with the Navy? "In 6th grade, my cousin who was in the Navy came home and told me about places he'd been, and I decided I'd like to get out and see the world. He certainly did travel! He signed up for the US Navy early in his senior year and left for basic training in July, a month after high school graduation. During his tour of duty with Uncle Sam, he saw a lot of the world, including Jamaica, Cuba, the Mediterranean, Spain, and much more. He was a Boatswain Mate on an aircraft carrier.

Over the past 3 years, the American Legion has accomplished many wonderful things. Sekerak feels that getting the camaraderie back was very important. "I never tell people what to do. I ask them, and they never say no. Our last 3 years have been record years with what we accomplished financially. Also fixing things up that should have been done 15 years ago. We also raised scholarship funds for the high schools. Last year, we donated 6 TV's and 5 radios to the Menlo Park Veterans Home, and we've taken the vets out to Monmouth Race Track and gave them money to bet. Afterwards, we had a picnic for them. We've done quite a bit, but don't publicize it, said Sekerak.

"Zak's" proudest moment is knowing that "the finances of the Post have really excelled. We have struggled in the past, but have done exceptionally well," he stated.

When asked what he liked most about being Commander, he responded, "I can oversee what's happening at the Post and I do have final say if there's a tie in voting. I don't push it though." Bob said the toughest part of the job was picking the right people for key positions. "It's not the commander that does the job, it's the people in key positions. If they do the jobs, it makes me look good, and they get the credit for it. I give them the credit. Everyone does whatever I ask, and that's the key

to our success.

Sekerak has been employed by General Motors for 23 years, but says "the whole second shift will go next month. I just missed the cutoff and I'm out the door. With our contract, I'll be in good shape though for the next couple of years."

Bob and his wife Maureen will celebrate their 29th Wedding Anniversary in September. They have two sons, Rob, a 1996 Hoffman High grad, who scored the last 2 points in history for the boys hoops team, and is in his 5th year of apprenticeship in the Electricians Local 456, and Michael, a 1999 South Amboy High graduate, who is a 3rd Class Operation Specialist in the US Navy, stationed on the guided missile destroyer, John S. McCain in Japan.

"Zak" says that if he could do anything over in life, it would be to hit the

books harder, and get more of an education." He hopes he will one day be remembered as a fun person, good commander, and good father." Congratulations, "Zak" on an exceptional job as commander. The American Legion and you have done so much for so many over the last few years!

"Zak" Facts-Just off the ship, Bob played his first game in the South Amboy Men's Basketball League in 1971 for my Mechanicsville Bombers team. It was a memorable debut, as he was almost perfect, burning the nets for 27 points against Ed Paczkowski's South Amboy A.A. club. . .He became good friends with his high school hero Jay Derent, in the mid-1970's, and Jay ended up playing for Sekerak's basketball team, The Halfway House, in the South Amboy Men's League. . .A talented softball player, he helped his team to several league championships in the Laurence Harbor Softball League. . .

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SeaStreak Expands New Commuter Ferry Service From South Amboy

In an effort to offer commuters more conveniently timed rush-hour ferry service, SeaStreak is expanding its services from their newly opened South Amboy ferry terminal.

According to SeaStreak's General Manager David Stafford, "We are pleased to add a second commuter ferry to the operation that we started in South Amboy a few months ago. We are also now offering commuters 9 weekday departures to Pier 11 and East 34th Street in Manhattan. This means from South Amboy, SeaStreak will provide commuters with different options to better fit their busy schedules and lives. On weekday mornings, we will have ferries leaving for New York at 6,7,7:50,8, and 9:50. The key is 3 departures before 8 a.m.

Commuters can enjoy a 45-minute ride

from Central Jersey into Manhattan on SeaStreak's state-of-the-art, high-speed catamarans. The vessels, each with a capacity of 300 passengers, feature indoor and outdoor seating, a full bar with soft drinks, spirits and snacks, and several restrooms.

SeaStreak's South Amboy service is located at 135 Lower Main St. (site of the Reliant Energy Building), is the first commuter ferry service to New York City from Middlesex County. SeaStreak also offers afternoon, evening and weekend departures. The South Amboy Ferry Terminal is part of the city's new redeveloped waterfront. The ticket window is open weekdays from 5:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sat. and Sun. between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. For more information, call 1-800 BOATRIDE or visit www.seastreakusa.com.



South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 Grand Knight, Steve Schmid (l) presents a generous gift certificate from the Council to Kevin Sinka (2nd from left), and his family, who lost their home in an April 1st fire. (Photo By Tom Burkard)

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

(Never known to fail) Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. You must publish it and it will be granted to you. Thank you. M.M.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

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Happy 3rd Birthday Reese David

Love,
Mommy, A.J.
& Grandma

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 magazine, TV picture, or receive roses, also can get a strange scent of roses in home even if no roses present. Must promise publication. - M.T.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

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ST. JUDE

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude. -R.F.M.

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Animal Care

By Virginia Stillwagon

For all the animals out there that cannot speak for themselves, I am typing to do just that. I ask you to please say NO to the following; 1.A fur coat-forget the myths about the "glamour," think about the 60 or more animals it took to make that coat. They suffered excruciating pain in steel jaw leg-hold traps for hours or even days. They chew off their own feet to escape the pain. Those "ranchd" or bred for wearable fur are kept in tiny, dirty cages for months, then electrocuted, poisoned, suffocated and possibly skinned alive. No matter how nice that fur looks, you should see where it's been. 2.veal-calves (babies) are tethered by the neck in crates 2 ft. wide. Unable to exercise, turn around, or even lie down comfortably. This confinement is intended to make the calves' meat "tender." Their diet is severely limited, and all liquid milk substitute (causes severe diarrhea) purposely deficient in iron and fiber, causing anemia and the pale colored flesh. These are babies, please stop buying veal. 3.premarin-mares 4 months pregnant are put in stalls & fitted with catheters and "pee bags." These are strapped to mares haunches and often chafe their legs. These pregnant mares spend the next 7 months in these stalls. They receive 5 gallons water daily, 1/3 their normal intake, so the urine will be highly concentrated. After giving birth, just around now, they are allowed 2 months with their foals to wean them. Most of the foals are sold for slaughter (more than 65,000 annually). By October, the mares are pregnant again an back in the stall. This goes on for 10 years or more and then the mares are sold to slaughter. Estrogen can now be manufactured inexpensively, so why torture these poor animals where there is a hidden ingredient-cruelty! I now ask you to say YES to spay/neuter your pet. Call me if I can help 732-727-6904.

Learn More About Parkinson's Disease

The 15th Annual Parkinson's Disease Patient & Family Symposium will be held on Sat., April 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Holiday Inn, 195 Davidson Ave., Somerset, NJ. "Looking Ahead in Parkinson's" is an annual 1 day conference helping people with Parkinson's, care partners, families, friends, and health care professionals better understand the many aspects of PD care.

A Continental breakfast will be served at registration, and a hot luncheon at noon. There is limited seating, so reservations must be made. Cost is \$25 p/p. For more info call NJ/APDA Parkinson's Disease Information & Referral Center 732-745-7520.

Sno-Globes Display

The Dowdell Library of South Amboy will have a collection of Sno-globes on display for the month of April, courtesy of Nicole Steigler. All are welcome to visit the library to view this wonderful collection.

NOVENA TO ST. ANTHONY

Oh Holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and charity for his creatures made you worthy when on earth to possess miraculous powers. Miracles waited on your word, which you were ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety. (Make request). The answer to my prayer may require a miracle. O gentle and loving St. Anthony whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the sweet infant Jesus who loved to be folded in your arms and the gratitude of my heart will be yours. This novena has never been known to fail. Say Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be. B.T.S.



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OLV Knights of Columbus Present Awards At Dinner



Our Lady of Victories Knights of Columbus #2061 of Sayreville recently selected Joe Campbell (l) as their "Irishman of The Year." John Cronin (r), co-chairman of the annual St. Patrick's Dinner and Dance presents him with an authentic walking stick from Ireland's almost extinct Blackthorn Bush.

ST. JUDE

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude. -M.T.

Our Lady of Victories Knights of Columbus #2061 of Sayreville held its annual St. Patrick's Dinner & Dance on March 16th. The Council honored Joe Campbell as "Irishman of The Year," and Peggy Woods as "Irishwoman of The Year."

John Cronin Co-Chairman, presented Campbell with an authentic walking stick from Ireland's almost extinct Blackthorn Bush. Woods received her award from Sayreville Mayor, Kennedy O'Brien.

Chairmen for the Dinner & Dance were; John Cronin, Joe Crisafi, Larry Doyle, and Fred Fingerlin. Great job, guys!

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

(To be said when problems arise or when one seems to be deprived of all visible help, or 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. M.T.



The Easter Bunny brought smiles and happiness for everyone who attended the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426's First Annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. The event was a smashing success, as over 120 people attended! (Photo By Tom Burkard)

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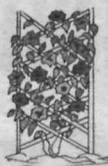
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Miss Amsoil, Sasha Delgado(R), representing Malik Racing, presents John Munck(L) of Accurate Concrete, South Amboy a token of appreciation for supporting Malik Racing for the upcoming 2002 Race Season. Malik Racing is owned and operated by John, Pat, and Ed Malik. The car is driven by George Chevalier, nephew of the late Bill Chevalier, a well-known race driver from Sayreville.

THE SPINAL COLUMN

By DR. JOHN MISIEWICZ

Spring Is In The Air: So Put Your Fat On The Run

After a winter of sloth and over-eating, you may be facing a tough road to get into shape. And now with spring coming on fast, summer and swimsuit season, you might be feeling a sense of panic as you stand before the mirror. But before you drop that remote and spring into exercise overdrive, a word of advice: EASE INTO IT.

If stemming that southward migration of flab is your top priority, Nick DiNubile, M.D. warns against crash dieting. Defined as any weight loss program in which you lose more than about a pound a week. Chances are if you're losing more than that, a lot of it is water, which will come back, and muscle which you don't want to have lost at all, because muscles help you burn calories.

If you've been relatively sedentary this winter, it means you're now out of shape, which means weaker muscles and tendons that are far more vulnerable to sprains and strains than when you were in top shape last fall. Avoid over training injuries by working into fitness.

If you would like to start a walking or running program, for example, start off by walking 1-mile at an easy pace before increasing the speed. As a rule of thumb, never increase the amount of exercise you do by more than 10% a week. This rule applies equally to the number of repetitions or amount of weight you lift.

As you rehabilitate your outdoor activity program, don't forget about your skin. Dig out that bottle of sunscreen and dust off that hat before heading back out in the sun. Also remember to increase your fluid intake in warmer weather.

You should not exercise if you're sick or injured, but keep to a regular schedule of physical activity. 30 minutes of exercise, three times a week is a good goal. If you miss a session, don't try to make it up with an extra hard workout. Just pick up where you left off.

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.T.

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St. Mary Elementary School children attended Catholic Schools Week Mass at St. Francis Cathedral in Metuchen. Back (l-r) Jennifer Fulham, Sister Esther, Brittany Biesiada. Front (l-r) Dakota Reese, Nicholas Biesiada.

Vendors Wanted

The First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy is sponsoring its annual Spring Flea Market and Food Sale on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 150 Broadway, South Amboy. Tables are available for \$10. Deadline is April 30. For more information call 732-721-9257.

NOVENA TO ST. ANTHONY

Oh Holy St. Anthony, gentlest of Saints, your love for God and charity for his creatures made you worthy when on earth to possess miraculous powers. Miracles waited on your word, which you were ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety. (Make request). The answer to my prayer may require a miracle. O gentle and loving St. Anthony whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the sweet infant Jesus who loved to be folded in your arms and the gratitude of my heart will be yours. This novena has never been known to fail. Say Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be. M.T.

LETTERS

Hi Tom,

It's always a wonderful experience receiving your ever-improving publication and getting caught up on all that's happening in the Pleasant Little City.

Judging by the latest issues, a lot has changed: the ferry service to New York, the massive upgrading of various elements of the infrastructure as well as the development of the train station, waterfront and Broadway areas.

Your reporting of area ties to the major leagues is outstanding, the music and area high school updates are the heart and core of your fine newspaper. And the focus of the many "walks down memory lane" stir interesting emotions: I recall fondly so many of those moments you capture so nicely with the various stories and features.

Enclosed is my check to cover the cost for the next 12 issues of the most "priceless" publication I receive. I would not want to miss a single issue.

Thank you, my friend,
Ron Kukulski,
Florida

*Note: Ron is a South Amboy native, who is the former Sports Editor of the old *South Amboy Citizen*, and also *The News Tribune*, which was the predecessor to the current *Home News Tribune*. Ron currently is Publisher of *Florida New Homes Guide*, a publication of *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, Florida's largest daily newspaper.

Dear Editor,

I'm very happy to renew my subscription to *The SA Times* for another year! My daughter and I enjoy reading your paper from cover to cover!

Ruth White
(formerly of South Amboy)
Maryland

Dear Editor,

Please renew my subscription for *The SA Times*. I really enjoy your publication! I just wish that it came out weekly. It's so well done!

Marcella Krasnitski

South Amboy High Had Great Season In Bowling

South Amboy High School's boys and girls bowling teams showed tremendous improvement this past year. The girls were formidable foes for some of the area's bigger schools. The girls squad consisted of; Jennifer Keesing, Amber Witham, Jennifer Kurtz, Jennifer Mundy, Brianne Gonsalves and Gloriann Rutkowski.

The boys team proved that they would be a contender. Led by Bill Oppenheimer, who for the 2nd year in a row won the prestigious Joe Romer Bowling Tournament by bowling a 254, 233, 242. His 729 set took 1st place by 1 pin. Right behind Bill was Jared Gonsalves averaging 191. Other Governors on the club included; Randy Fallon, Dan and Mike Rowley, Nick Blum, Kevin Kassing. Strong team bowling enabled SA to defeat Bishop Ahr, South Plainfield, Carter, and other top clubs.

One of the more popular programs at the Middle/High School is Intramural Bowling for 7-12 graders. With over 40 participants this year, the varsity is assured to have a talented pool of boys and girls to choose from.

Guvs Shoot For Big Year In Tennis

Coach Tony Gonsalves is expecting big things this season from his boys tennis club. The group has been the same since the sport was reborn in the Spring of 2000. Leading this senior team is the new #1 player for the South Amboy Guvs, Chris Glomski. He replaces the aggressive Dan Nuzzie, who began this year as #2 but is constantly challenging for the top spot. At 3rd single is Chris Delucca, who has improved and should up his winning record from last year.

The new #1 doubles is veteran Randy Fallon and his new partner, Jon Bouchard. Tenacious, they are expected to win a few overall matches for the team. Second doubles will be on a rotation basis, with duties being split by Tim Ricablanca, Jay Ziola, and Janusz Kmiecik. Two alternates who show promise for the future are Pablo Penagos and Jon Ahedo.

Coach Gonsalves said, "We are extremely happy that the mayor has been able to secure land on Rosewell St. to build 5 new tennis courts. This area will rapidly become a hotbed of youth tennis for the entire area. The U.S. Tennis Association has already agreed to come in and help us set up a program in our schools. The future looks good!"

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South Amboy's Teresa O'Connor proudly displays singer Bobby Vinton's straw hat, which he threw into the audience, and she caught while at Branson, Missouri. The 1960's singing superstar later autographed the hat for her. (Photo By Tom Burkard)

South Amboy Woman Has Visited 50 States And 19 Countries

By Tom Burkard

Teresa O'Connor of South Amboy had a most interesting goal. She wanted to visit all 50 states in the U.S.A. By visiting she meant spending some time there, not just driving or flying through. In August 2001, she achieved her goal by traveling to Oregon and Montana, which was the magical number 50.

Teresa started traveling with her late husband, Bernie. "I love traveling," she said, and that's an understatement. She has also visited 19 foreign countries, and one day hopes to go to Japan.

Some of her most memorable traveling experiences in the U.S. include visits to Branson, Missouri, Mt. Rushmore, Yellowstone National Park, Jackson Hole, Wyoming, San Francisco, Alcatraz, The Grand Canyon, and Pearl Harbor. Teresa said that the kindest people are down South in South Carolina and Georgia. "The Oregon coast is beautiful, but in Portland in the center of town, there are homeless everywhere. Many are runaways. They take care of them there," said O'Connor.

Music is Teresa's biggest hobby, and she had a wonderful time at Branson, Missouri, where she met country music stars Ray Stevens, Mickey Gilley, Boxcar Willie, and the great Bobby Vinton. "Bobby threw his hat off the stage, and I caught it, and he signed it," she proudly recalled.

On a trip to Savannah, Georgia, she saw the bench that was used in the "Forest Gump" movie. On another trip to Montana, she saw the bridge from the same movie. "In Tennessee, I saw where country music star Alan Jackson lived. We saw his white horse."

Teresa buys Christmas items from all the countries and states she visits. "I have 4 trees at Christmas, she said. On a trip to the Grand Canyon years ago with her late husband Bernie, the roads were very narrow, and it was tough for two cars to pass each other, but Bernie, a huge Notre Dame football fan spotted Johnny Lujack, who won the Heisman Trophy when he played for "The Fighting Irish."

O'Connor noted a big difference in the social classes when she visited St. Petersburg, Russia. "I bought a hat there for \$100, and if I never wear it, I feel I donated the money. I felt sorry for the poor over there." Her favorite foreign countries are "Ireland, the country is beautiful, and the scenery gorgeous, also Italy, Turkey, and Poland."

On the refrigerator in her kitchen is a magnet map of the United States. She would buy a magnet to bring home from each new state she visited, and place it in its proper place. Montana was the last state she went to, with her son Kevin, and she couldn't find a magnet anywhere, so they asked a man in a store, and he said they sold them at a gas station where he worked on the other side of the park. Kevin said, "We thought it was close, but it was an 1 1/2 hour drive."

Incidentally, Kevin needs only 4 more states, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, and Kentucky to duplicate his mother's incredible feat, and he's really looking forward to it.

Teresa also writes a history of her trips in the dozen or so photo albums she has accumulated over the years. She says, "I like all the states. I could go back to all of them. There was something good in every one."

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. -B.T.S.

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21 Years Of Music — *continued from page 1*

Conroy attended Belmont Abby College, where he hoped to play basketball, but they had no freshmen or JV teams. The legendary Al McGuire was the coach, and they went to the Final 4. After college graduation, he began teaching at his alma mater, St. Mary's High, and also became the JV basketball coach. In '67 after 3 years at the school, he went into the US Army and was a drill sergeant at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. Following his 2-year hitch with Uncle Sam, he returned to the educational field in the Woodbridge Schools system, where he also coached the 9th grade Avenel basketball team from 1972-81. He retired from the teaching profession in September 2001 after 32 years in Woodbridge.

Back in the early 1970's, "Henny" was looking for something to do during summer vacation, so he ventured into the hot dog business and started Hot Dog City, a push-cart-type hot dog stand which featured delicious Sabrett hot dogs, and the coldest soda around. Located in front of Ploskonka's Shoemakers and across the street from Madura's Pharmacy, on Broadway, Hot Dog City quickly became a big hit with local shoppers and townfolk. Conroy has many fond memories of those days. "Gary Lange, to this day holds the record for eating the most hot dogs 6, and drinking the most sodas," he said.

In 1979, the versatile and talented Conroy, who could play "a little guitar and piano" was asked by the principal of Avenel Junior High to be the DJ at a semi-formal. This was a major moment in "Henny's" life, as it started him on the road to his DJ career which he loves so much. "He gave me money to buy music, so I bought those big 45's that had disco on one side and rock on the other. I really enjoyed it," said Conroy. So did the students. He continued performing at the junior high dances for 3 years.

"Henny The DJ" went big-time in May 1981, when he did his first "official" bar gig at English's Pub (presently Harbor Lights). He remembers one person who made him feel accepted, "Johnny Dragotta came over and asked how I was doing, and said I sounded good. He bought me a beer and calmed me down. That meant a lot to me. We've been friends for a long time."

Conroy has had a phenomenal run as the headlining DJ in local bars. Talk about a streak, try this one on for size. On May 18th, "Henny The DJ" will mark his 18th Anniversary for playing in the same bar. The Landmark. That's 18 consecutive years, (or 936 shows), every weekend without missing! What a feat! Talk about dedication! The same weekend, is the 21st Anniversary of Dee Jay-ing in bars in the same town-South Amboy. He has performed every single weekend for 21 years, (1,092 shows), and the streak was only temporarily halted for a week when the Lions Den burned down!

His accomplishments as a DJ have not gone unnoticed. In 1994, he had a photo and feature story about him in "Nightclub & Bar," a national magazine, and his "Iron Man" streaks are being considered by *The Guinness World Book of Records*.

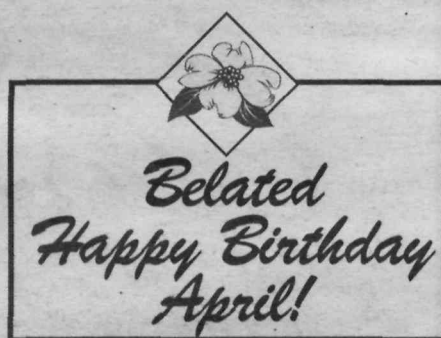
"Henny The DJ" attributes many rea-

sons for his success. "I've discovered Zydeco music (New Orleans accordion), wear lots of costumes, I do gimmicks, Seinfeld and Rock 'N' Roll trivia, a limbo contest, but most importantly it's getting to know people and being accessible. Also, not being afraid to have a good time and do stupid things yourself. You have to learn to be yourself, and that's not easy," he said. Henny's assistant, "The Tambourine Lady," Jay Osinski does an excellent job singing and dancing. "She really gets people involved," said Conroy.

"Henny" is a most entertaining performer, who hopes to one day be remembered as, "Somebody that tried to help people have a good time." "Henny The DJ" has certainly done that and so much more for locals over the years. "I thank God everyday for the health of my wife and daughter," said the veteran DJ.

Henny Facts & Trivia-He truly loves South Amboy people, whom he calls "the greatest in the world. I've done a lot of events for the fireman over the years, and they are the very best," he said. .2 bars that he worked in burned down. Lions Den in South Amboy (the last song he played the night before the fire was "Burning Down The House," "no lie," said Henny. The Main Street Tavern in Keansburg also burned...He once got fired in the middle of a gig in a Perth Amboy bar because he couldn't agree to work there on St. Patrick's Day...He worked a girl's wedding shower where there were 100 women, and he was the only man...Worked at The French Quarter Hotel pool parties in Ocean City, Maryland...Worked at the following SA bars; Lions Den, English's Pub, Landmark, The Dugout, The Bottle Stop, and the South Amboy Pub before it was the South Amboy Pub...Henny actually deejayed in the Bottle Stop in '75 for about 3 months before he started for real in 1981...His biggest thrill as a DJ was performing at a wedding with The Lynch Boys, a shore group he idolized...In the early '90's, Conroy once worked on St. Patrick's Day at O'Hara's, 2 blocks from the World Trade Center. It was destroyed in the terrorist attack on 9-11...He will be working in Canada this summer with professional wrestlers...Henny affectionately calls people "Holmes," an expression he got from local hoops legend, Jerry Drill. "I could never beat him in 1-on-1 in basketball," said Conroy...Reading is one of his favorite hobbies.

Don't miss Henny's big anniversary celebration at the Landmark, May 18.



#1 Hits On April 20

1996-Because You Loved Me-Celine Dion
1982-I Love Rock 'N' Roll-Joan Jett & The Blackhearts
1975-Philadelphia Freedom-The Elton John Band
1960-The Theme From "A Summer Place"-Percy Faith
1953-Doggie In The Window
1944-I Love You
1939-Deep Purple

This Day In Music-April 20

1951-Singer Luther Vandross was born.
1959-13-year old Dolly Parton released her first single, "Puppy Love."
1966-The Beatles recorded vocals for "Eleanor Rigby." The song was originally called "Daisy Hawkins."

Sayreville War Memorial High School Theatre Society-"Crazy For You"

By P. Rainone

R & R Music DJ's 732-316-9447

A Depression Era (circa 1920's), play featuring the music of the Gershwins, finds a struggling actor Bobby Childs (W. Hernandez Jr.), trying to impress Broadway producer Bela Zangler (Patsy Palma). Despite a rich, domineering mother (Amanda Figueroa), and pushy fiancé (Helen Vassallo), Bobby heads West for the purpose of foreclosing on a run-down theatre, and winds up helping save the theatre and falls in love with the owner's (Keith Crane) daughter (Christina Vargas).

Lots of laughs (Tim Norek as Moose, yuks it up throughout the show), and plot twists (Bobby impersonates Bella to con the entire troop to come out West and put on a show), kept the show strong and energized!

The funky mix of cowboys and showgirls with their obvious differences added to the zany plot. In fact, the whole ensemble (actors, crew & pit band), made you feel the moment. Among the many highlights was the uplifting tap dancing routine. If Broadway had a farm team, then this theatre group would be triple A!

Chuckles

By Bill McAndrew

*Man who run in front of car get tired.
*Man who run in back of car get exhausted.
*He who drives like hell bound to get there.
*Man with one chop stick go hungry.
*If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends.
*I drive way too fast to worry about cholesterol.
*Honk if you love peace and quiet.

ST. JUDE

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude. -E.P.

Rumbles From The Rock 'N' Roll Reunion

By Clem Skarzynski

Hello to all...Word has it that The Paul Dehnz Band is just about ready to release their first CD...In the rhythm track stages at this writing, Paul tells me its sounding real good with Mark Dehnz and Keith Kozak doing the mix and engineering. They're looking for a late Spring release of the CD, doing the band's favorite cover songs...

Monroe drummer, Frank Dennis and Clifton, NJ bassist & guitarist Rick Jackson will be making their debut at Connie's Lounge on Friday, May 10th, along with 2 other "locals," with "Just 4 Kicks." Playing 50's stuff along with 60's-70's Rock, R & B, and Funk-come on up and see 'em-you'll know the other 2 locals when you see 'em too!

"Rockdaddys" goin' strong-Cambridge Inn on the 20th, Connie's on the 27th. Our website www.rockdaddys.com has been updated by our PR and Publicist, Ms. Holly Nieminski, the site's guru! Holly, thanks again!

Our friends "Collage" are non-stop with their 2002 schedule.

www.collageonline.net will tell 'ya where they're at! Or call Gerry Mokar 732-721-4978, and ask him if he's "havin' fun yet!"

SA Times Publisher, Tom Burkard is circulating a well-studied and put together "Music Survey." Did a lot of homework on this one...Good job, Tom! Rock on...Till next time, be well...

New Music

By P. Rainone

R & R Music DJ's 732-316-9447

NOW 9 Universal

20 mainstream artists from pop, rock and hip-hop, featuring some hot radio remixes by Pink, City High, and Petey Pablo that add a fresh feel to the originals. Premiering in '98, this series has grown in popularity. Here, they also include hard to find current radio singles. Songs you probably know by heart, all on 1 disc!

Ultimate After-hours with DJ Escape Vol 2 Groovielicious Music

The 2nd volume contains a bevy of mad beats, just like the 1st vol! Once again behind the turntables, DJ Escape mixes a seamless non-stop party. It features songs by Kim English, Darude and many of today's hottest & up and coming club artists. The songs are familiar (Can't Stop Dancing, "Burning Up," etc.), yet he takes the music into uncharted territory, giving them a fresh spin. Lot's of groovy tunes here!

Traffic Welcome to the Canteen Island/Universal

Digitally remastered from its '71 release, the line up includes all original members plus Jim Gordon (Derek & the Dominos), and Rick Grech (Blind Faith). They only played 6 live shows together, but created some fiery renditions on "Dear Mr. Fantasy," "Shouldn't Have Took More Than You Gave," "Gimme Some Lovin," etc. Good long jams, but they should have added more live cuts.

Don't forget the Skate & Surf Fest this weekend in Asbury Park featuring local bands Catch 22, The Youth Ahead, etc. & This Summers Warped Tour with Reel Big Fish & The Mighty Mighty Bosstones.

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Fri. 4/27 - ROCKDADDYS

Sat. 5/3 - STARFLEET

Fri. 5/4 - COLLAGE

Sat. 5/10 - JUST 4 KICKS

Fri. 5/11 - CITY SOUNDS

Sat. 5/17 - THE CHARACTERS



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High School Sports (as of April 10)

By Tom Burkard

Baseball

South Amboy (1-1) Coach Rich Malik's Guvs are off to a quick start thanks to the super pitching of Brian Idyk and hitting of Brian Hyslop.

Sayreville (1-3) Rookie Coach, Mike Novak's Bombers should have a good season. Big hitters so far have been Jeff Toth, Ryan McCarty, Ed Goodell, Dan Louis and Dan Gulick. Dennis Ryan fired a 5 inning, 1-hitter in the 15-1 romp over Colonia.

Cardinal McCarrick (1-4) Tim Pizzillo and Ed Fulham are pitching well. Joe Sciortino Ariel Nunez and Mark Morris are showing some punch at the plate for Coach Jim Kazanjian's Kids.

Softball

South Amboy (3-1) Karen Rosenberger has both wins, and is really slugging the ball. The "Two Melissas" Melissa Poulsen and Melissa Rainone have provided offensive pop to Coach Rich Klein's lineup. Freshman Lauren Idyk and Danielle Ball are also stinging the softball.

Cardinal McCarrick (2-2) Kate Kurzawa has been awesome at the plate, and is always

Kwok Chosen For All-Area

Super Sayreville swimmer, Derek Kwok, a senior was a 1st team All-Area Boys Swimming selection in *Home News Tribune* for the 50 freestyle. Congratulations!

McCarthy Scholarship Fund Golf Outing-May 6

The Jack & Sean McCarthy Scholarship Fund Annual Golf Outing will be held on Monday, May 6 at Bunker Hill Golf Course, Princeton. Donation is \$85. Hole sponsors-\$50. First Tee time is 8 a.m. For more information contact Ray 732-721-7212 or Chud 732-525-9262, or sign up at Chud's Subs, 132 S. Pine Ave. South Amboy.

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. -B.T.S.

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OLV Girls Win 2 Championships

The OLV varsity girls basketball team (grades 7-8) captured 1st place in the St. Matthew's of Edison Playoff Championship with a big victory over St. Peter's of New Brunswick. OLV finished the regular season at St. Matthews and tourney play with a perfect 15-0 record! Lorraine Miklaszewski won MVP of the Playoffs.

The girls also brought home the championship trophy by winning the St. Catherine's Tournament by defeating St.

a tough out. Also belting the ball are Rae Anne Kukulski and Jessica Fiore. Nicole Cicerale looks tough on the mound, for rookie Coach Joe Loennecker.

Sayreville (2-3) Coach Janet Ryan is in her 25th season, and this should be another good one. Julianne Switzer, Lynn Olender, Jessica Small, Gina Makowski, and Shantai Dixon have been the top batters, while Lauren Karbowski and Small anchor the pitching staff. Congratulations Coach Ryan!

Golf

Cardinal McCarrick (1-1) The Eagles top golfers appear to be Bryan Hoffman, Herman Serrano and Chris Oswik.

Sayreville (1-2) Top golfers are Chris Proudman, Tony Cha, Brian McDonald, Kevin Neus, Ed Mount.

Tennis

South Amboy (0-2); Sayreville (0-2).

Boys Track

Sayreville (1-0)

Girls Track

Sayreville (1-0)

Katko, Sanu Picked For All-Middlesex

Cardinal McCarrick's all-time leading scorer in basketball, Kaitlyn Katko was chosen to *The Star Ledger's* All-Middlesex County Girls 1st team. She was the county scoring champion, averaging 22.1 ppg., and also ripped 7.6 rebounds per game, had 6.8 steals, and 5.1 assists per outing. Kaitlyn finished her brilliant career with 1,641 points.

Sayreville star, Samir Sanu was picked for *The Star Ledger's* All-Middlesex County Boys 1st team. He averaged 15.3 points, 7 rebounds, and shot 70% on the free throw line. Congratulations, Kaitlyn and Samir!

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Happy 13th Birthday Brittany Biesiada April 18th

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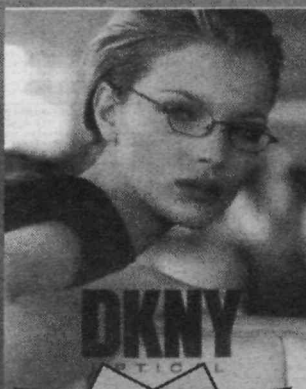
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Our Lady of Victories Basketball Champions



St. Mary's Gold 7th & 8th grade girls basketball team recently won 3rd place in the South Amboy Raritan Bay League. Coaches-Walter Younghans, Bridget O'Connor and Tom O'Connor (missing from photo). Players-Lauren Puk, Brittany Biesada, Kelsey Smith, Valerie Wagner, Danielle Lieberman, Shannon Fiorillo, Lauren O'Connor, Whitney Younghans, Jackie Nelson, and Catie Rose (missing from photo).

Sayreville Little League Celebrates 50th Anniversary

By Rose Ann Laughery,
League President

The Sayreville Little League, Inc. celebrated its 50th Anniversary on April 13th, Opening Day 2002. The complex located on the corner of Washington Road and Margaret Street in Parlin, was established in 1952 by Robert Buchanan and Mickey Sedlak. At that time, the league consisted of six teams and one baseball diamond.

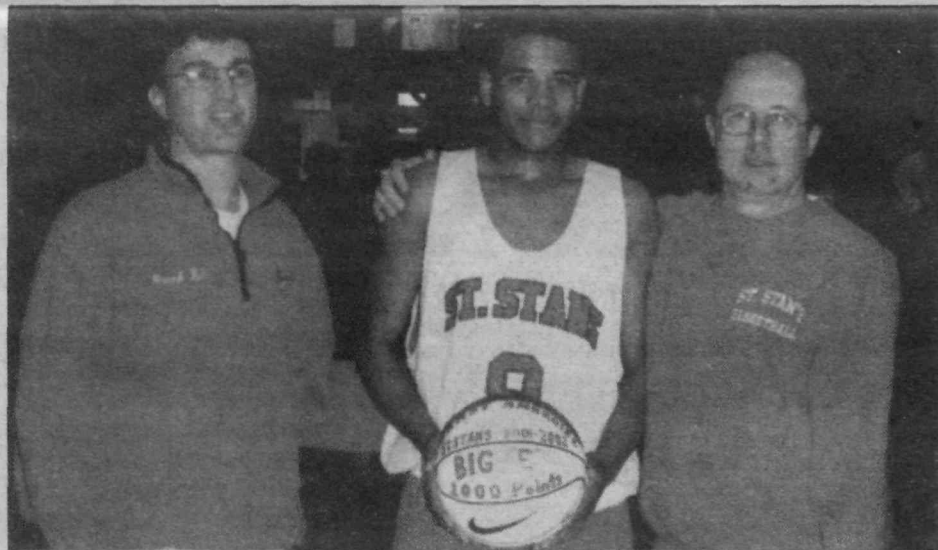
In the late 1950's or early 60's, a second field was added and a few years after that, the third field. . . In 1961, Sayreville's 12-year old tournament team, led by Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Davis, won the state championship. . . In 1982, under the direction of then President Robert Vermeal, and again in 1998, under present President Rose Ann Laughery, Sayreville Little League had the honor of hosting the Little League Division State Tournament games. . .

Today, besides the three fields at the complex, there is a concession stand. . . 50 years later, the League consists of 40 teams, with almost 500 children participating. Ages range from 5-16. . . 13-16 year olds play at

Boro Hall fields off MacArthur Ave. . .

There have been 17 presidents over the past 50 years; 1952-Artie Bossong; 1953-Joseph Kupsch; 1954-John Puchalski; 1955-Fred McCarthy; 1956-Thomas Kuberski; 1957-Warren Lemerek; 1958-Robert Buchanan; 1959-Robert Mazerwaski; 1960-Robert Krotty; 1961-James Mackay; 1962-1978-Don Bryant; 1979-Bill Brugnoli; 1980-Pete Hamma; 1981-1987-Robert Vermeal; 1988-Leroy Mullican; 1989-1994-Robert Vermeal; 1995-1997-Mike Burns; 1998-Present-Rose Ann Laughery. . . The current Board of Directors consists of 21 members, and Women's Auxiliary has 16 members. . .

Thanks to all of the men and women who devoted themselves to the task of building the Sayreville Little League and making it what it is today, and to all the sponsors, who have so generously supported us over the past 50 years. Also, thanks to Mickey Sedlak, Linda Diffin, and Jackie Miglore of the Sayreville Recreation Dept. for all your help.



St. Stanislaus Kostka School's superstar eight grade basketball player, Ernst Ambrose (c), recently scored his 1000th point. Presenting Ernst with the commemorative ball are St. Stan's 7th & 8th grade coach, Ron Madiera (l) and St. Stan's 7th & 8th grade assistant coach, Bob Merski. The photo was taken at The St. Stan's Tournament in February.

Ambrose Joins 1000 Point Club

Ernst Ambrose of St. Stanislaus Kostka School in Sayreville recently reached a major milestone by going over the 1000 point mark for his career. Ernst is an eighth grade student who is an altar server and also a boy scout.

In the St. Matthew's Edison Tournament championship game, he sank two crucial foul shots with no time left on the clock, to lead St. Stan's to a thrilling one-point victory.



Sayreville Councilman Tom Marcinczyk (r) donated a beautiful memorial plaque to Sayreville War Memorial High School in memory of the late Patrick O'Connor, who was a star baseball player. Pictured (l-r) are Patrick's parents, Nancy McCarthy, Pat McCarthy, Bombers baseball coach, Mike Novak, and Councilman Marcinczyk.



Glory Days In Local Sports

By Tom Burkard

1947-Bill Kennedy was St. Mary's top scorer for the basketball season with 211 points. He was followed by Johnny O'Brien who tossed in 169 points as a junior. . . 1951-Rumson nipped Hoffman, 3-2 in diamond play. Jim Inman and Henry Gross had sacrifice flies, and John Kovalski stole 2 bases for the Guvs. . . 1965-Roger Feltz went 3 for 3 with a grand slam homer to lead Sayreville to a 7-3 victory over Metuchen. Winning pitcher, Glenn Lemerich fired a 5-hitter, fanned 7, and also blasted a 3-run homer. . . 1973-Hoffman nipped St. Thomas Aquinas, 3-2 in baseball. Mike Downs' 2-run triple in the 7th tied the game, and Mike Kelly drove in Tom Szatkowski with a big, game-winning base hit. . . 1983-Green Brook threw a 2-hit shutout over St. Mary's, 3-0 in baseball action. Jeff Pacansky stroked both hits for the Eagles. . . 1995-Sayreville girls softball squad hammered North Brunswick, 10-2. Dana Feltz had a monster game, going 3 for 4 with a grand slam home run, and also a solo shot. Valerie Bello knocked in 2 runs, and Tracy Lasko belted an rbi triple. Tracey Thomsen was the winning pitcher. . .

T.H.E. Game

By Tom Burkard

Year-1961

Sport-Baseball

Teams-Hoffman (0-6) vs. St. Mary's (3-0) in the first game of the City Series Lineups-Hoffman-Bob Poetsch 1b John Jarusiewicz cf Manny Formoso c Pete Inman ss Paul Nagy p-3b Ken Wahler lf Reick rf Nemeth 2b Ron Jurski p; reserves Frank Jankowski lf Drill rf.

St. Mary's-Pat Marotta ss Jack Seaman p-lf Jim Heffernan 3b Joe Jankowski 1b Frank Ruszala lf Joe Pohl cf Tom Fitzmorris rf Lou Nanna c Allie Ust 2b; reserves Joe Sulkowski p.

Recap-Jack Seaman blasted a long homer over the left-center field fence at Veterans Field, and also a single, to lead the Eagles to an 11-6 romp. Joe Jankowski and Tom Fitzmorris each banged a single and triple for the Saints. John Jarusiewicz crashed a homer and double, and Pete Inman was a perfect 3 for 3 for the Governors. Joe Sulkowski picked up the win in relief of Seaman.

MVP's-Jack Seaman, Joe Sulkowski, Tom Fitzmorris.

Diamond Dust

By Tom Burkard

1965-South Amboy Little Fellas League-Rotary 9 Lions 5. Winning pitcher, Gary Lange whiffed 11, Mike Colucci belted a home run, and Joe Vigilante drilled 2 hits. . . 1977-SA Little Fellas League-K of C 6 Parkway Fabricators 4. Larry Stratton crunched a home run for the winners. . . SA Midget League-Cards 4 Pirates 2. Tom Murphy blasted a triple for the Cards. . . SA Girls Softball League-Pirates 5 Yanks 3. Patty Dooling paved the way by blasting 2 home runs. . .

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"Jinx" Dies At 76

By Tom Burkard

Former South Amboy resident, John "Jinx" Dowling, 76, of North Haledon, NJ, died on March 12. Dowling was a fine all-around athlete at St. Mary's High School from 1941-44, and a key member of the 1942 legendary basketball championship team.

I never had the opportunity to meet him in person, but spoke with him on the phone, and he sounded like a very nice, good-natured man. Reports from locals who knew "Jinx" say that you couldn't find a nicer person. God Bless, "Jinx."

Croddick, Will Be Remembered

By Tom Burkard

Former South Amboy resident, Gene Croddick recently passed away. Croddick, 81, was a member of Hoffman High School's vintage 1939 state basketball championship club. His brother Jim, an excellent athlete in the 1940's, was principal of Hoffman High School in the 1960's, and coached the boys basketball team to the state title in '63. God Bless him!

25 Years Ago In Local Sports

By Tom Burkard

1977-The talented Sacred Heart C.Y.O. basketball team was coached by Bob Short, and his assistants Gary Shereyka and Greg Wyzykowski. Dan DiPoalo was the captain and MVP. Ted Picchini was chosen Rookie-of-the Year. Other big contributors were Vince Iuzzolino, Adam Lovely, (who won the Sportsmanship Trophy), Joe Silva, Robert Ladzinski, Keith Wreb, John Kopko, Joe Weber, Rick Rysinski, Dan Doherty. The team's ball boy was young Dave Sabo, who later became a rock legend with Skid Row.

The Cheerleaders were coached by Coach Eileen Woodford. Carol Witkowski, Diane Garnett, and Alice Kowalewski were co-captains. Other key members were Lynette Jaremba, Jackie Iuzzolino, Patti Woodford, and Daisy Jacobi. . .

30 Years Ago In Local Sports. . .

By Tom Burkard

1972-In a rare, early season baseball double header, Coach Tom Otto's St. Mary's Eagles swept CBA, 4-1 and 9-3. Jim Shannon was the winning pitcher in the opener, striking out 5 Colts. Dave Keenan blasted a single and triple, John D. O'Toole and Frank "Skipper" Minnick ripped 2 hits apiece for the Blue & Gold.

Jeff St. Amour notched the victory in game 2. Blue & Gold bats erupted for four, 5th inning doubles from Minnick, O'Toole, Tom Boychuk and St. Amour. O'Toole went 3 for 4, Minnick had 2 hits, and Keenan was 2 for 3.

Top offensive performers for the double header were O'Toole, who went 5 for 8, Minnick and Keenan, who both were 4 for 7.

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South Amboy Women's Bowling League Standings

(as of March 28)

Lagoda Saloon 117.5-85.5; Costa Verde 113-90; K. and L. Partners 111-92; Ram's Head Tavern 109-94; Bands Dental 102-101; Teddy's Bar 100.5-102.5; Monaghan House 97.5-105.5; Gundrum Service 92-111; Mac's Ladies 90.5-112.5; Chud's Subs 82-121.

Mar. 7-Karen Brown 265-589; Bobbi Jo Bratsano 523; Marianne Seyfried 521; Mary Chris Moskal 518; Joyce Tomaszewski 504; Barbara Brodnyak 501; Linda Pavao 205; Barbara Boylan 201.

March 14-Tomaszewski 211-579;

Brown 207-571; Judy Smith 200-570; Diane Toye 534; Marianne Seyfried 517; Joyce Cancilla 510; Fayth Kaminsky 506; Boylan 208.

March 21-J. Smith 220-583; Brown 214-576; Cheryl Kuhlthau 220-572; June O'Leary 217-569; Kaminsky 201-565; Teresita Lazaro 502; Penny Smith 502; Moskal 500.

March 28-Toye 228-563; Bratsano 562; Kaminsky 201-551; J. Smith 536; Rae Anne Hermes 535; Brown 201-529; Tomaszewski 519; Patty Januszewski 203-516; Madeline Szatkowski 512; Ann Quinn 506; Lazaro 213; Chris Shereyka 208.

New Station Remains On Track

By Steve Schmid

Planning continues for the new South Amboy train station project. Plans call for high-level platforms, a 1000 car parking deck and a plaza connecting Broadway to the station.

The new plaza will include an elevator system and a new stairway allowing pedestrians to cross over the tracks. The project is funded by a \$2.5 million grant from the federal Transportation Equity Act. Eventually, the access way will connect to a high level platform, the final piece of NJ Transit's \$18 million train station renovation.

Alongside the plaza, a 10,000 square foot office building is planned.

NJ Transit officials say the plaza, pedestrian overpass and high-level platforms are still being designed. The overpass will be built first probably this summer. The new station is designed with architectural features circa 1900 to blend with South Amboy's downtown. The first phase of the station upgrade was finished last year when an old rail yard was converted into a 244 space parking lot.

South Amboy K of C 426 To Celebrate Building's 50th Anniversary

By Tom Burkard

The South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 recently will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of its present building on Fourth Street and Stevens Avenue. A fun-filled 50's Dance will be held on May 17th to commemorate this big date in Knights history.

The event will feature a buffet dinner, music by DJ Tony G, tap beer, wine and soda. Tickets are \$25. For tickets or further information call 732-727-1707 or 732-721-2025.

The land for the council's current site was purchased from the City of South Amboy in 1951. The building was completed and dedicated in 1952.

Story Time At Dowdell Library

The children's department of the Dowdell Library will hold story time for 3 & 4 year olds on Tues., April 23 at 11:30 a.m. On April 24, story time will be held at 3:30 p.m. for children 5 years & up. In person registration begins April 15. For more info call 732-721-6060.

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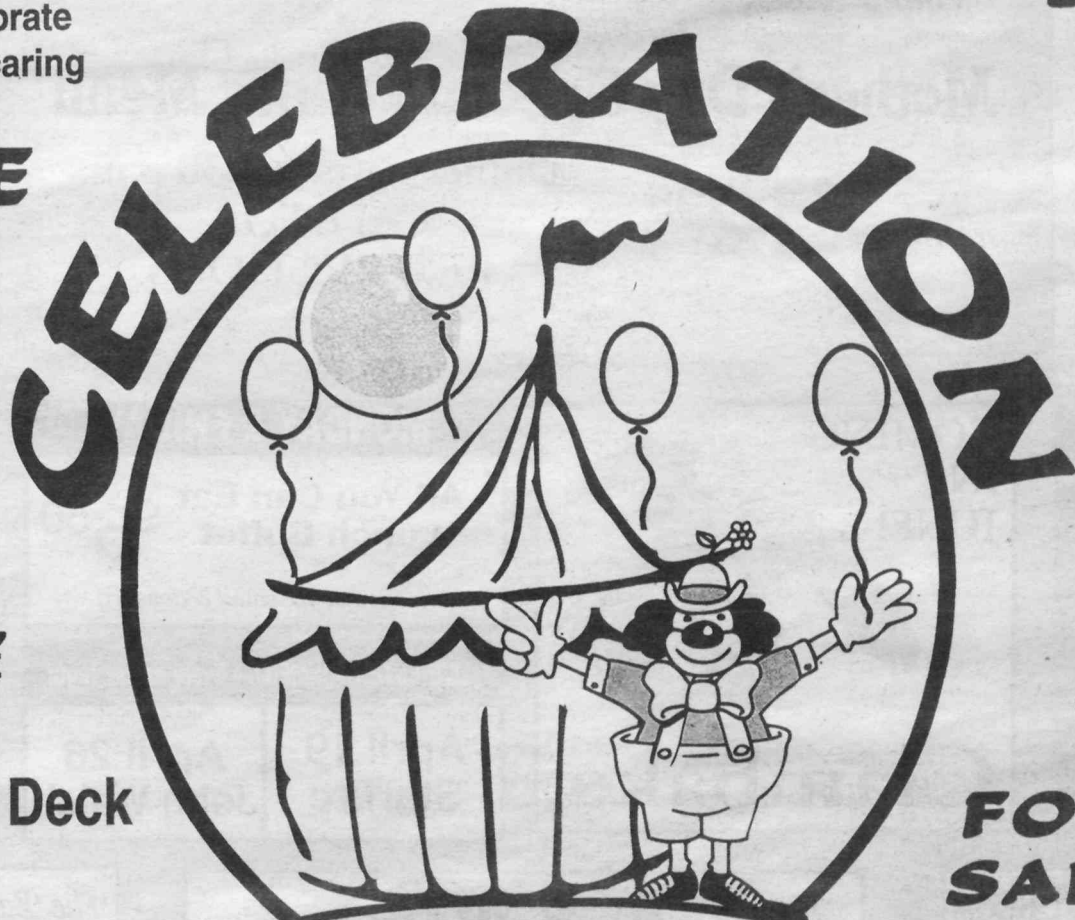
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