



CITY HALL RECORD

140 N. BROADWAY SOUTH AMBOY, N.J. 08879

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In This Issue

- Ferry Service Update
- Mayor Henry's State of the City Address
- Coming Events
- City Projects
- Summer Arts and Crafts Program
- South Amboy Arts District

Exciting things are Happening at the YMCA

Check it out here! www.ymcaofmewsa.org



**YOUR SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON THE WEB
AT WWW.SOUTHAMBOYNJ.GOV**



City of South Amboy
Phone: 732.727.4600
Website: www.southamboynj.gov
Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/cityofsouthamboy>

CITY RECEIVES GO AHEAD TO START FERRY TERMINAL SITE CONSTRUCTION

On June 8th, the City received notification that Federal Highway Administration authorized funding up to an amount of **\$2,054,486.00**, for the South Amboy Intermodal Federal Aid Highway Program project in the City of South Amboy, Middlesex County. This will fund the initial costs of Phase 1 of the construction of the Ferry Terminal, which includes a professional services contract for Licensed Site Remediation Services and the successful bidder on the initial construction phase. Bids will be advertised for the next three weeks in three regional newspapers as required when Federal funds are utilized. Bid opening will be July 6th at 10am. We will soon be advertising for the design of the Ferry Terminal and Parking.



Mayor Henry's 2016 State of the City

Good afternoon. I Thank everyone for being here for my annual State of the City address. I hope you enjoyed the "Taste of South Amboy" luncheon, and you'll look to one of these dining establishments next time you're out and about or just want a break from cooking.

Last year I closed my remarks with the challenge that we as a City pursue a positive path and do the right thing. We set goals that were in the best interests of the citizens of South Amboy and I am here today to relate to you the results of those pursuits.

As you may be aware, the cornerstone of any city is its infrastructure and it is critically important to maintain and improve this City asset. Two years ago we received a grant from the Department of Transportation to defer the cost of repaving the entire length of Pupek Road and that project has been completed. Last year we received a similar grant to defray the cost of repaving the entire length of Barkalow Street and that project will be completed this year. In addition to these two projects, the City of South Amboy Road Improvement Program will include the paving of the 500 block of John Street, the 500 block of Catherine Street, the 500 block of Leffert Street and the lower part of Raritan Street all the way to Main Street.

(continued on pg. 3)



Second Ward News

By Councilman Tom Reilly

Over the past few months we have seen several positive changes in the 2nd Ward. Perhaps the biggest one is the demolition of the “Joe Smokes” building on Broadway. This building stood in disrepair for many years and now the Mayor and City Council were finally successful in having the owner take action and demolish this eyesore. Efforts continue to complete the clearing of the site with the demolition of the rear building which when cleared, will leave a clean parcel of land for the first time in decades.

Although the small business climate remains a challenging one throughout the region, Broadway continues to see financial investment in the form of new business ventures. We have welcomed an attorney, a chiropractor and soon a dry cleaner in the Broadway Business district and we are committed to assisting all of our businesses any way we can. The City is moving forward with our “Shop South Amboy” program where residents can earn property tax credits by shopping in town. Participating Merchants will offer various discounts to residents that will be automatically credited to their property tax bills lessening the amount they will owe. We believe this program will help business and residents alike.

Several homes devastated by Hurricane Sandy have been rebuilt in the waterfront area. There are also several other property owners that are in the process of elevating and rebuilding their structures. The resurgence of these properties is vital to our City and your City Council is committed to bringing the Waterfront area back even better than it was before! Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your 2nd Ward Councilperson.



“IF YOU SEE IT, SAY IT” If you observe anyone breaking the law, please contact 732-721-0111 or dial 911 in emergent situations.



When can I Put My Trash Out??

In an effort to continue improvement in the quality of life for City residents in July 2015 Mayor Henry and the City Council adopted amendments to the garbage collection ordinance.

The current ordinance is designed to keep the roadways free of trash & recycling containers and materials with the exception of your scheduled pickup day. These changes also take into consideration the working schedules of City residents.

When can I put my trash/recycling out?

- **Residents:** No earlier than 6pm the evening prior to your scheduled pick up.
- **Broadway Businesses:** No earlier than 6am the day of scheduled pick up

When do I bring my can in?

- **Residents** must remove their can from curbside no later than 8pm on the day your trash or recycling is picked up.

How heavy can my can be?

- All receptacles and containers should be easily handled by one (1) person and in never exceed 60 pounds in weight. All trash bags must be tightly sealed.

Are there penalties for non-compliance?

- A summons may be issued with penalties ranging from \$75 for a first offense, \$150 for a second offense, and \$200-\$500 for third and subsequent offenses.

We appreciate your cooperation in keeping South Amboy clean and beautiful!

Questions??

Please call Code Enforcement at 732-525-5927.



**South Amboy 9/11 Memorial Pavers
Order forms available at the Broadway
Firehouse**

\$50 per paver

**9/11 Memorial is located at the Train Plaza on
Broadway and is a permanent installation of
remembrance.**



COME JOIN THE CLUB!!

**IN SOUTH AMBOY, ANY RESIDENT WHO IS 60
YEARS OLD IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN OUR SENIOR
CENTER AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL
SERVICES WE PROVIDE. ENJOY SOCIAL
ACTIVITIES AT THE CENTER, COMPUTER ACCESS,
TRIPS TO LOCAL SHOPPING CENTERS AND
PLACES OF INTEREST, PARTICIPATE IN
PRESENTATIONS GIVEN BY VARIOUS GROUPS,
AND OF COURSE, SENIOR BINGO DAYS. ENJOY
PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION WITHIN A 10
MILE RADIUS OF THE CITY. IN ADDITION, THE
CITY HAS ARRANGED "SENIOR SWIM TIME" AT
THE YMCA EVERY WEDNESDAY FOR ANY SENIOR
WHO HAS REGISTERED AS A MEMBER OF THE
SENIOR CENTER. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BELONG
TO THE YMCA TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS
PROGRAM.**

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE
CONTACT KERRY BURKE AT 732.525.5965 OR
EMAIL BURKEK@SOUTHAMBOYNJ.GOV**

(Mayor State of City continued)

It also should be no secret that as a historical town established more than 200 years ago, we have a century-old sewer system that requires continuous service including repairs to lines, man-holes and other vital components. None of these tasks are cheap or glamorous but they are essential and we will continue to be vigilant in servicing and securing our sewers.

Also in the area of Public Works under the direction of Superintendent Len Moffa, we have initiated a three-year capital improvement plan. This included a major overhaul of the public works building, which has been completed, and replacing and installing new signage throughout the city. New street signs and signs directing people to public parking, the library and the water front have been erected and these installations will continue annually until all signage has been replaced. With these improvements and upgrades to our parks and streetscapes we are helping to maintain the sense of pride in our pleasant little city. I would like to thank Len and his team of city workers for the great job they do.

Under the emergency services umbrella, we have purchased an \$850,000 fire truck and we have invested \$1.2 million in our safety replacing an antiquated radio communication system so that fire, police, OEM, and first aid can better communicate with each other and with county services. In addition we have received from the county Freeholders an emergency boat, a trailer, and associated equipment for water related rescues. We will also be purchasing four new SUVs for the Police Department and one SUV for the Fire Department. I would like to thank Police Chief Darren LaVigne and his police force and Fire Chief John Kelly and our volunteer fire department for their continued dedication to the safety and security of our City.

Through the Office of Emergency Management and its coordinator Mark Herdman, South Amboy has been chosen by the County Homeland Security Office to be a pilot City to plan and implement a Citywide Response to a simulated bio-terrorism attack just as we did a short time ago with the simulated train wreck. It is unfortunate that we must do these things but we all know that evil exists in this world and we must prepare. Information about this operation will be coming out in the near future. Many thanks to the efforts of our City and County OEM departments.

As you look around South Amboy you continue to see positive change. The old factory on First Street is now renovated and open with studio apartments. An apartment complex is being constructed on the corner of Augusta and Feltus Streets replacing another old building. Ryan Homes completed their first phase of "for sale" homes at the entrance to the county park. The residential project on Augusta Street will begin shortly which will, through a shared parking agreement, add much needed parking to the Broadway area. The Raritan Pointe project on lower Main Street, a mixed use of commercial/residential, has already been approved and will be breaking ground any day. Recently the Planning Board approved Woodmont's proposal for constructing luxury apartments in the area opposite the Venetian Healthcare facility. I would like to thank Steve Santola of Woodmont Properties, for his cooperation with the City's architectural review committee to ensure that this will be a high-end luxury facility and a new ratable for the City. This project basically completes the Southern Waterfront Redevelopment Plan which runs from Raritan Reach Road to the Woodmont Project and encompasses Lighthouse Bay, Shore Gate, Ryan Homes at the county Park entrance, the YMCA and Venetian Healthcare. This great achievement is the result of hard work, patience, and cooperation of many people and agencies. I would like to thank the Redevelopment Agency and its Executive Director Eric Chubenko, the Planning Board and its former Chairman Mike Wilday and present Chairman Bob Paulukiewicz, and the present and

From the Office of the City Clerk...



If you missed the deadline for the June 7th Primary Elections, please be reminded that you still have time to register to vote for the November 8, 2016 General Elections!! The last day to register to vote for the November 8, 2016 General Election is October 18, 2016. If you have not yet registered to vote please print the voter registration form

<http://www.njelections.org/voting-information.html>. You can mail the form directly to the Middlesex County Commissioner of Registration at the address provided on the registration or you can feel free to drop it off at the Municipal Clerks Office located at 140 North Broadway, South Amboy. You can register to vote if you are a United States Citizen, you will be 18 years of age by the next election, you will be a resident of the State and County 30 days before the election and you are NOT currently serving a sentence, probation or parole because of a felony conviction. Please remember that your vote is your voice and every vote does count.

Frequently Used Telephone Numbers

Animal Control	732-855-0600
Building Department	732-525-5927
Business Adm. Secretary	732-525-5932
Acting City Clerk	732-525-5920
City Engineer	732-605-9440
Code Enforcement	732-525-5936
Construction Official	732-525-5927
Fire Official/Fire Prevention	732-390-7009
Health Department	732-525-5961
Municipal Court Admin.	732-525-5929
Parking Decals	732-525-5928
Planning Board	732-525-5932
Police Front Desk	732-721-0111
Police Records	732-525-5942
Public Works	732-721-8100
Recreation Dept.	732-525-5965
Registrar of Vital Statistics	732-525-5924
Rental Housing	732-525-5936
Senior Center	732-525-5965
Sewer/Deputy Registrar	732-525-5925
Tax Assessor	732-525-5969
Tax Collector	732-525-5924
Zoning Officer	732-636-2121

(Mayor's state of City cont.)

former council members, who continue to stay involved for the good of the citizens of South Amboy. Last but not least, I'd like to thank the developers who believe in South Amboy and commit to our city with their investments.

One other noteworthy and very high profile project is the Manhattan Beach Club located on the former Amboy Aggregates site. There has been a change in builders and I am happy to welcome Matrix Development Group of South Brunswick and its President and Chief Executive Officer Joseph Taylor. Together with the Sherman Financial Group we expect this project to bring a highly positive energizing effect to our City.

Warren Philip Gates once wrote, "Anyone can launch a new company, but it takes patience, hard work and commitment to make any new project a success." If you substitute the word "ferry" for "company" you know where this is going. We have stated many times that the ferry is coming and we know there are still skeptics out there! But we have a committed team of Camille Tooker our BA, Mark Rasimowicz our City Engineer, Ed Bogan and Frank Farrell of Grotto Engineering, and myself who have been attending bi-weekly meetings in Trenton with the Department of Transportation. At this time there are two very important milestones that I'd like to share with you.

First, the Middlesex County Freeholder Board has approved an agreement to assume the project slated to improve Main Street from Broadway to Radford Ferry Road. As this is a county road my office asked for and will receive substantial help as the county will take over that portion of the city project which will put the City in a better position to dedicate the bulk of the City's remaining TEA-21 funding to complete the ferry terminal project. I would like to thank Freeholder Director Ron Rios and the Freeholder Board for their participation and support for this project.

Secondly, the City issued a Request for Qualification and Request for Proposals for the construction engineering and related services associated with remediation work on the former Conrail and Spectraserve sites. After an extensive review and interview process by our committee we selected Potomac Hudson Environmental to complete the work. The remediation of the site will begin this spring and while that is being completed we will prepare the necessary documentation to advance the terminal design and parking.

There is much behind the scenes work being done in this long process. I've said before that the ferry is coming but with stringent regulations dealing with expending federal funds and so many different approvals needed it has been a difficult, and at times frustrating, task but our resolve remains the same. We have been moving forward and we have a very determined committee working to make the ferry service a reality!

Difficult economic times with low disposable incomes are hard on everyone, especially downtown areas, but we continue to see new businesses open on Broadway including the Monmouth Rehab Professionals, a law office, and a new dry cleaner and a kitchen and bath outlet coming soon. To help our downtown businesses and all businesses throughout South Amboy we will be working with the South Amboy Business Association and its President Jorge Gonzalez on a new "Shop South Amboy" program. This initiative, aimed at helping to motivate spending in town, provides consumers with property tax credits for every dollar spent through a specially designed rewards card system. The Redevelopment Agency, City and SABA are showing their support for this program and each have pledged financial backing to help this program get off the ground.

The City is also instituting a new program called "Gov.Pilot" that will make it easier to access information such as zoning, tax, and other vital property statistics as well as select city forms, permits and other applications via the Web that will be beneficial to all homeowners and investors.

"COME WATCH RARITAN BAY EXPLODE WITH EXCITEMENT!"



Join us at "Celebrate the Amboys"

Friday, July 1st, 2016

Rain Date: Saturday, July 2nd, 2016

Raritan Bay Waterfront Park

John T. O'Leary Blvd.

Entertainment Starting at 7pm

9:20PM FIREWORKS DISPLAY

**FOOD VENDORS WILL BE AVAILABLE ALONG
WITH CHILDREN'S RIDES!**

**BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR AND SPEND AN
EVENING UNDER THE STARS ON THE BEAUTIFUL
RARITAN BAY !!**

**FREE PARKING AVAILABLE AT NJ TRANSIT LOTS
BEHIND THE TRAIN STATION!!**

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE
CONTACT EVENTS@SOUTHAMBOYNJ.GOV**

NOTICE FROM THE SOUTH AMBOY POLICE DEPARTMENT

- **ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
PERMITTED**
- **State Law prohibits the use of personal
fireworks.**
This law will be STRICTLY ENFORCED..
- **Pets are STRONGLY DISCOURAGED from
being present during the fireworks
performance. This is for both their safety
and the safety of the general public.**

(Mayors State of City cont.)

We will continue with our recreation programs and free summer programs for our youth. Our senior transportation continues to be the best in the county with trips to doctors, shopping, and other outings. The weekly bingo, monthly birthday celebrations and seasonal events will continue right here in the senior center. We also continue to work with the local YMCA to expand opportunities for all of our residents!

In another cultural/historical event, the Historical Society of South Amboy will hold its fourth annual open house right here on Saturday, April 30th. We will have guest speakers discussing the rail road and its influence on South Amboy over the years. There will be lots of local history, old photos, genealogy, artifacts and more. If anyone has any old photos of South Amboy please bring them. They can be scanned and you will help share your part of the history of South Amboy. This organization has accomplished quite a bit in a short time span including several historical plaques placed around town, graveyard tours, and general interest in keeping local history alive.

This year's Memorial Day parade will take place on Saturday, May 21st. I believe that it is very important that we take the time out of our busy lives to honor those who made the supreme sacrifice for our country. If you are in South Amboy that day please come out and show our service men and women the respect that they earned and deserve. As President John F. Kennedy said, "A nation reveals itself not only by the men it produces, but also the men it remembers." Let us reveal ourselves on May 21st and honor and remember these men and women who have given so much.

As always, we commemorated St. Patrick's Day with our annual parade. I would like to again congratulate the Grand Marshall, Rich Moran, and all the other honorees. I would also like to recognize Council President Mickey Gross and the parade committee for doing such an outstanding job. Mickey also chairs the South Amboy portion of the Independence Day fireworks display which we will again have this year in partnership with Perth Amboy. (*Thank Mayor Wilda Diaz and Barry Rosengarten, Perth Amboy's chairman*). Mickey does a lot of volunteer work in both of these areas and also with Frog Hollow, the South Amboy Library, and the YMCA. At this time I would like to recognize Council President Gross who is being honored on May 4th by the YMCA with the prestigious Peter J. Barnes award for community work and volunteerism. It is a reward well deserved. Congratulations.

As you can see my administration and I are constantly working to expand opportunities for our residents to get more involved in the community. We will continue to have our street fairs, Christmas trolley tours, and many more activities. So please come out and participate in our community events and meet some really great people – your neighbors!

I have mentioned a number of projects today which require spending a lot of money. There are street repairs and repaving, a fire truck, police SUVs, a new radio system, refurbishing public works building, and much more. So you must be wondering about our city budget. Last year Moody's gave us an upgrade in our bond rating and we have had surpluses the last couple of years. The city's net worth has grown by over \$50M showing positive ratable growth which is necessary to stabilize tax rates. These facts, along with our incredibly good fiscal management, cover most of the increases in costs, including more increases in health care costs. As a result this year our tax rate will increase by only 1 cent! At the close of 2015, we showed a surplus of \$1.3 million dollars, which has a positive effect on our bond rating evaluation and our credit rating! Mine is a fiscally responsible administration! But I could not do it without a team which seeks the same goals. I would like to thank Camille Tooker, our Business Administrator, Angel Albanese, our new CFO, and our City council. Last but not least is my secretary and personal GPS, Stacey Kennedy. She is the one who does a great job of keeping me on track and is

(Mayors State of City cont.)

extremely professional in handling her position. Thank you, Stacey.

This is what good government is all about. It is never an easy task to run local government. It is an ongoing challenge with more goals to achieve. But our team is here to work hard for what is right for the citizens of South Amboy. Last year I said that if we work together and if everyone does their job we will get positive results. As John Kennedy said, "Things do not happen. Things are made to happen." We have made things happen and I believe that we are on the right path and we will continue to do what is in the best interest of South Amboy and its residents.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of you for being here today and listening to our many accomplishments. I would like to thank Father Dennis and Father Stan for taking the time out of their busy schedules to be here. I would like to thank my mother Ann, and all my relatives who could make it today: son Fred, Aunt Rose, Aunt Lois, brother Bill, cousins Jim and Gwen from Washington, DC and all those who couldn't make it especially my daughter Kristen and her husband Daniel, my daughter Erin and my stepsons Tom and Mike. I would like to believe that my father, who passed away 10 years ago, has been watching and guiding me along the way and I thank him and my mother for giving me a sense of love for my community and the character to do the right thing.

Finally, there is my wife, Linda. As anyone knows there is a lot of time and effort that goes into doing this job. It is a great comfort knowing that I have her support and encouragement. From the bottom of my heart I thank you and I love you, Mrs. Mayor!



**Sunday, September 25, 2016
12PM to 6PM**

**Raritan Bay Waterfront Park,
1 Keenan Way (Off John T. O'Leary Blvd.)
South Amboy NJ 08879**

Join the City of South Amboy and iRun New Jersey for the return of **BBQ Showdown**, the hottest BBQ festival in Central New Jersey. Held at the beautiful Raritan Bay Waterfront Park.

BBQ Showdown features the best gourmet BBQ food vendors in the area with plenty of retail vendors and exhibitors. There will be live music on stage all day, with local bands. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, family, friends and most of all, your appetite!

Free Admission

For more information visit the Event Website:

www.irunnj.com

BBQ Showdown is an annual event held with the cooperation of the County of Middlesex. Our City would like to thank the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders for their support!



Saturday, June 25th 2016

8am-4pm

Open to all City Residents!

Put Balloons in front of your residence to show participation!



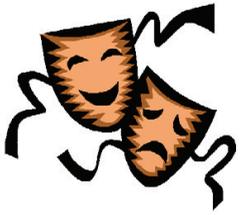
SA Recreation Park Program

Free to All City Residents!

Daily from 9am-12pm

- **Arts and Crafts**
- **Games**
- **Roller Skating and Bus Trips**
- **Special Events**

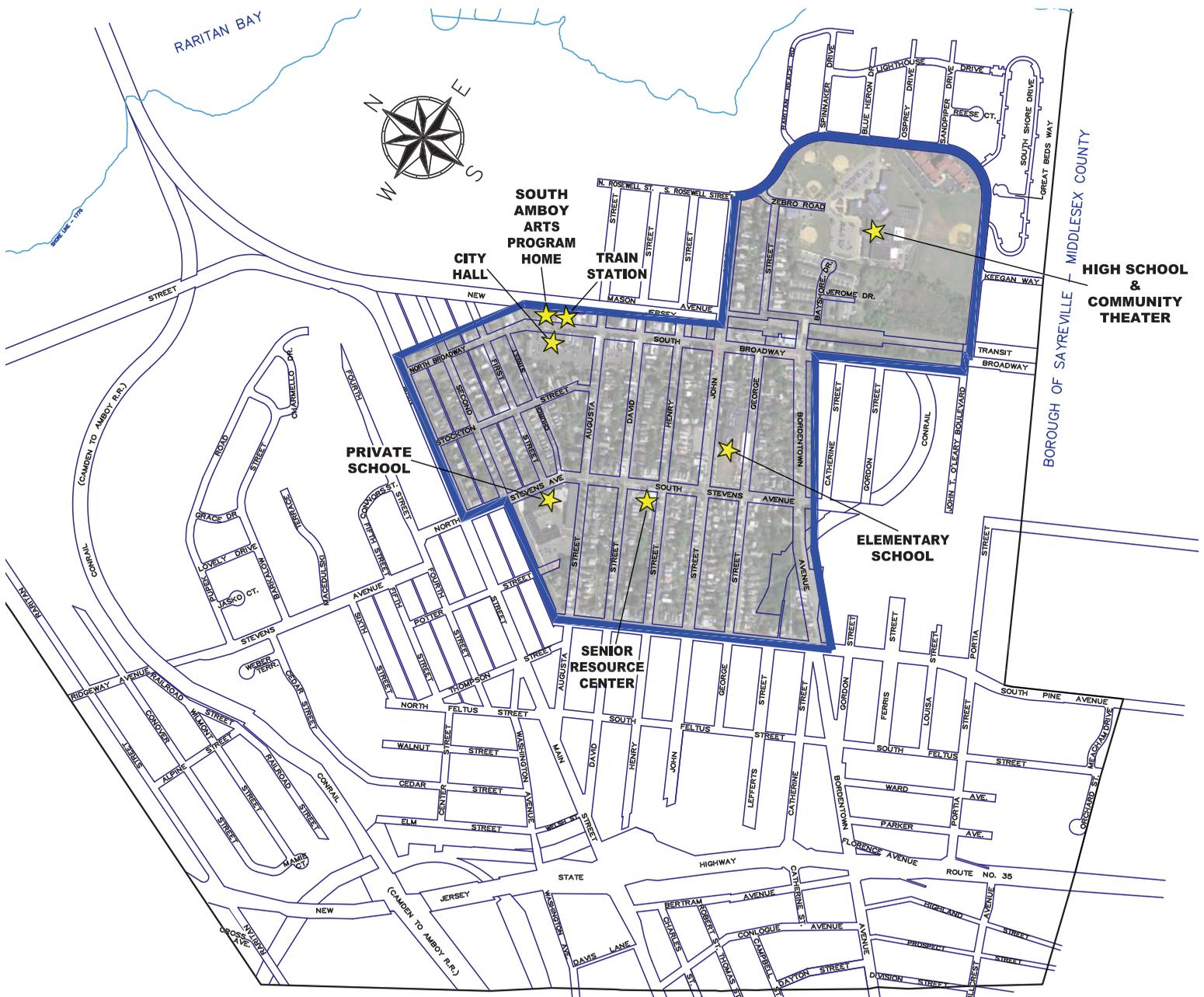
Registration from June 6th to June 30th at the SA Senior and Rec Center 108 S. Stevens Avenue or contact: events@southamboynj.gov



Arts District News



What an exciting time for our City!! Last month our City Council created an Arts District that will be the hub of many different activities including exhibits, performances, learning opportunities and media events! The Media Collective headed by Diana St. John and Susan Pelligrini will be coordinating these events that will promote the Arts and at the same time bring people and educational opportunities to our residents, especially the youth of our Community. This initiative requires an Arts District Committee be formed to participate in the nurturing and planning for this project. If you would like to participate, please contact Laura Kemble at 732.525.5920 or by emailing kalantsisl@southamboynj.gov





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SOUTH AMBOY YMCA
200 John T O'Leary Blvd, South Amboy, NJ 08879
732-553-9622
www.ymcaofmewsa.org

A BETTER YOU MAKES A BETTER US
(Together we can build a better us)

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Opportunities for the whole family to spend quality time together
- State-of-the-Art Facility
- Expansive Wellness Center overlooking Raritan Bay Waterfront Park
- Open Gym & open swim times for families
- Group Exercise classes included with membership
- FREE Child Watch for members while you work out or take a class
- FREE wifi in lobby and Wellness Center

CAMP SAY

(Best Camp Ever)

Join us this summer at Camp SAY for fun, friends and memories to last a lifetime! Daily & weekly activities include themes & special events, arts/crafts, sports, games, swimming, field trips and much more! Camp is open to children grades K-10 from June 20 to September 2. Select your own days and schedule! Camp hours are 8:30am - 4:30pm. Contact Krystyn Gallant with any questions 732-553-9622 or email krystyn.gallant@ymcaofmewsa.org.



HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday to Friday

Facility: 5:00am - 10:00pm

Pool: 5:30am - 9:45pm

Saturday and Sunday

Facility: 7:30am - 6:00pm

Pool: 7:30am - 5:45pm

SWIMMING IS A LIFESAVER

(Learn to be confident in the water)

We offer swim lessons for all ages and levels. Visit our website for class schedule and descriptions. Contact Sue Chanese with any questions 732-553-9622 or email sue.chanese@ymcaofmewsa.org.

Enhance®Fitness

(Free to the community)

COMING SOON IN THE SUMMER OF 2016

Enhance®Fitness is an evidence-based group exercise program for older adults that uses simple, easy to learn movements that motivate individuals (particularly those with arthritis) to stay active throughout their life. Contact the Wellness Director 732-553-9622.



SACC (School Aged Child Care)

(Good fun, in good hands!)

Our program focuses on learning enhancement, health and recreation, and building confidence in children. The program runs September to June from 7:00am-6:30pm (with an option for extended care until 7:00pm). Children are supervised in a structured environment, providing a safe after-school alternative from grades K-6. Contact Krystyn Gallant with any questions 732-553-9622 or email krystyn.gallant@ymcaofmewsa.org.

READY...SET...LEARN

(An introduction to preschool)

Fantastic fun-filled two hour program for children ages 24-48 months. This program offers a wonderful range of activities to keep your child busy, such as music, arts/crafts, story time, and much more. There's always a new adventure around the corner for them! Child does not have to be toilet trained. Contact Krystyn Gallant with any questions 732-553-9622 or email krystyn.gallant@ymcaofmewsa.org.