



THREE MAKE ALL-STATE IN 2010

Peterstown has spawned three high school student athletes who earned first-team all-state honors for New Jersey in the same year. Christina Caravano achieved it for softball and Nico Steriti and Brandon Vitabile were named to the football squad. The achievement is so special the fact that there were three in one year is amazing.

The three high school seniors join a very elite group, the best of the best, drawn from thousands of others trying to achieve the same goal. The first-team all-state is a virtual team with players picked from across the state to fill the limited number of positions. The criteria of being selected goes beyond talent, it includes commitment, work ethic and attitude. The honor is not arbitrary; a resume of statistics and achievements can easily substantiate the praise.

The achievement is a source of pride for the athlete and his or her family but it also goes beyond. The student's school, and coaches, teammates and classmates all share in the glory. Even the player's opponents can boast that they competed against such an athlete improving their own credentials.

The close-knit community of Peterstown is proud when anyone of its children succeed. There is a unique bond between the families from the Elizabeth, NJ neighborhood that make the community feel like one big family every child is everyone's child. The feeling still exists even though a few generations have spread the branches beyond the physical boundaries of the streets and of the personal contact that was once prevalent. The bond still stems from the Italian American experience dating back one hundred years when the neighborhood was first settled by Italian immigrants.

Brandon Vitabile is the great grandson of Calogera and Emmanuel Vitabile, who lived on John Street, his grandfather is Steve and father is Pete. Brandon lives in Edison and attended Bishop Ahr High School. Brandon is 6'3" and just weighs 295 lbs. He's an offensive center with exceptional speed and strength. He also plays with an intensity that cannot be ignored. Brandon was also a defensive lineman. With a 4.4 GPA and National Honor Society member, many universities would have loved to have him but he will be going to Northwestern University in Chicago in the fall.

Nico Steriti is the son of Vito and Josephine Steriti, both with roots in Peterstown. Josephine's maiden name is Sorce. Nico attends Toms River East where he plays tailback. At 6 feet, 200 lbs he is not only hard to tackle but hard to catch. He ran for 1,625 yards while breaking the school record for most career touchdowns with 46. He tied the season mark at 28. Five of the TDs came from receptions, he had 20 of those on the season for an additional 285 yards. Nico was an effective cornerback on defense.

Cristina Caravano grew up in Peterstown on Palmer Street. After moving she played softball at Hunterdon Central Regional High School in Flemington, NJ where she rewrote the season record book by hitting 10 home runs, and registering 56 RBIs while maintaining a .650 batting average. On defense, Cristina was credited with 147 put-outs playing first and third base. Her accomplishments earned her Player-of-the-Year honors from the Courier News and Star Ledger newspapers. Her story becomes more remarkable when one considers that she tore her labrum at the end of the previous season and could not play through the summer and fall while rehabbing from surgery.

Peterstown celebrated when Anthony Candelino made first-team all-state in Baseball in 1985, while playing for Elizabeth High School. His accomplishment was noteworthy because his brother Benny also was part of that elite club as a baseball player in 1970.

Students raised by Peterstown families are consistently a source of pride for the community, scholastically, artistically and even through altruism. This year Brandon, Nico and Cristina showed what comes from dedication and hard work. They credit their parents for teaching them the values needed in being the best they can be. They will use these traits in college, in their careers and in raising their own families. Everyone in Peterstown will secretly be taking some of the credit. 🇺🇸



(above, l-r) Brandon Vitabile is presented with a scholarship from Peter Agliata, President of the Ribera Italian American Cultural Center located in Peterstown.



(left, l-r) Cristina Caravano with her dad, Manny.

Around About Peterstown is published by Joe Renna. Fifteen thousand newspapers are printed and distributed bi-monthly, free throughout the County of Union and parts unknown and by subscription across the country.

Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Around About Peterstown assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

Around About Peterstown welcomes the comments and concerns of its readers put into writing and sent to:

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President's Message



We said farewell to Rev. Pat Diver at a dinner Monday night, June 21st. He has been our pastor at St. Anthony's Church for six years and is so well liked by the parishioners and the Peterstown community. He will surely be missed.

Father Pat made a lasting impression on the seniors as well as the children. He had so many fine qualities and was a good leader, both in managing the church and inspiring the congregation spiritually.

Personally I enjoyed working with him and, like many others, consider him a true friend. He gave of himself generously and did so much good for so many people. Everyone was so appreciative that we even overlooked him cheering for the Boston Red Sox.

We wish Father Pat well at his next assignment. Our loss is someone's gain. Thank you and God bless.

John Sacco
 John Sacco, President
 Sons of Peterstown Sports Club

PRESS RELEASES

Press Releases that benefit the community of Peterstown are offered free of charge. Every effort will be made to accommodate appropriate articles when time and space allows. Send any info in early.

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Letters to the Editor



Dear Joe;

I have been receiving your paper for many years now and wait with baited breath until the next issue comes. It makes me long for the old days when I was happy and secure in my family and community.

I just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed reading your tribute to your Mom in the April/May 2010 issue. I commend you for your courage and sincerity to unburden yourself of all those little guilty feelings that we all have. I must admit that I was not too kind at times to my Mom, who passed away at 59 years old. I did all I could for the last two years of her life to keep her with us; but her death was inevitable, considering the type of cancer she had.

I have carried tremendous guilt with me for the last 32 years. I was never mean or cruel to my Mother, but I did take advantage of her love and devotion to me. As long as we can still recall the love we received and, hopefully, the love we gave our Moms, I think we can be better parents.

I am a grandmother now and I feel my children and their children suffer a great loss not having their grandparents generation around. My Dad passed away at 59 years old also.

I grew up at 29 Palmer Street. My uncles are Tony and Bippy Di Bella. My best wishes to you and thank you for that lovely tribute. It will stay with me forever.

Sincerely,
 Dot Daley Chillemi
 Lakewood, NJ

Hello Joe,

It has been a long time since you have heard from me but I just wanted to let you know that Ed Skarbek who named our school garden "Frog Hollow" sadly passed away.

Ed will be missed by friends and staff at the Esten School. His beautiful garden courtyard will be a constant reminder of his work and love for his Esten School Family.

I just wanted you to know and again thank you for your wonderful article, in your October 2008 issue, about my friend in Massachusetts from Elizabeth "Frog Hollow" New Jersey.

Chris Smith
 Rockland, Ma

LETTER POLICY

Around About Peterstown welcomes Letters to the Editor at our postal, fax or e-mail addresses.

Letters must include sender's name, address and phone number (only name and town will be printed).

Letters should be typed. Letters appear as space permits. We reserve the right not to print a letter without notifying sender.

Battin and Jefferson High Schools classes of 1971,

We are planning a reunion joint Battin and Jeff classes of 1971. Information is available on Facebook web page Battin/Jeff 71. We are planning a reunion dinner and a reunion cruise.

We need to find all the alumni and get their contact info. Please help us out. I grew up on South St. between Second and Third Avenues, as did my mom and her sisters. I have great memories of all the good times I had there with my friends from the Burg.

For information about the reunion email me at cherylficarro@att.net.

Cheryl Davis Ficarro
 Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

BATTIN/JEFF CLASS OF '71 REUNION DINNER

The dinner is March 19, 2011

6:00pm - 11:00pm

at the Crowne Plaza in Somerset and the Reunion Cruise

leaves Bayonne for Bermuda (7days) May 15, 2011.

Buffet Dinner (\$85 per person) with open bar (two hours) cocktail hour preceding, one hour passed hors d'oeuvres. Dinner buffet with cash bar (3 hours), DJ, and dancing. Overnight rooms at group rate of \$99 which includes 2 breakfast buffets. Use of all hotel facilities: indoor pool, sauna/whirlpool, exercise room.

The cruise prices range from \$889 to whatever depending on the accomodations you choose. Diamond Travel is handling the cruise details.

Cheryl Davis Ficarro and Ina Klasko are coordinating.

Information is available on Facebook web page: Battin/Jeff reunion

5 MILE RUN/WALK FOR WOUNDED VETERANS

Dear Friends & Family,

It's that time of year again for the Hope & Possibility 5M! I am hoping I can count on your support to raise money for the Achilles Freedom Team of Wounded Veterans. Please make a donation by visiting my Firstgiving page: <http://www.firstgiving.com/supportoursoldiers>

When I lost my brother Louie, I called Mary Bryant VP of Achilles and committed myself to participating in the Hope & Possibility 5M for five years and I promised her I would donate five chairs. It fills my heart with pride to say that in the last two and a half years we have raised over \$50,000.00 and endowed a fleet of handcrank wheelchairs to the Freedom Team! I thank you all for your support and encouragement; I couldn't do this without any of you!

Team S.O.S. is growing everyday and I am very happy to have many of my repeat walkers and runners this year along with some new faces!

A very special welcome to the family of Sgt. Ronald Kubik KIA in Afghanistan on April 23, 2010 and we welcome back the family of LCPL Brian Parrello KIA in Iraq on January 1, 2005.

You can donate online with a credit card. All donations are secure and sent directly to Achilles Track Club by Firstgiving, who will email you a printable record of your donation.

You can also send a donation by check payable to: Achilles International and kindly mail to: Enza Jacobowitz 477 S. Cooks Bridge Road, Jackson NJ 08527.

Please send my page on to anyone who might like to donate!

All My Best,
 Enza Jacobowitz
 Jackson NJ 08527



Cpl. Luigi Marciante Jr.



SPECIAL THANKS TO VILLANI BUS COMPANY

The Villani Bus Company has generously donated the use of a bus to and from the race in Central Park this year. Pick-up and drop-off from the Elizabeth Police Department. Also a thank you goes to the Elizabeth PBA and Sgt Jim Sacca for graciously donating a police escort to the race and breakfast!

Team S.O.S. participates in the Hope & Possibility 5M in Central Park NYC in honor of Cpl. Luigi Marciante Jr. who lost his life on September 20th, 2007 in Muqdadiah, Iraq. Louie is one of many to give the ultimate sacrifice for his country. His sister Enza organized the team to raise awareness for wounded and disabled veterans. The event is June 27, 2010 and is the third year that the team participated.

Editor's Opinion

everybody has one - this is mine - by Joe Renna

The Valletese Club located on the corner of High Street and Fourth Avenue in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ has been re-energized in recent years by a new generation of members taking on the leadership roles. The new programs introduced by the club has promoted the Italian American culture that Peterstown has been known for.

Though the neighborhood is more ethnically mixed than previous decades, the Italian influence is still a dominant characteristic. The Valletese Club has worked to enhance that and has taken up the charge to preserve the traditions and introduce them to their next generation of Peterstown descendents.

For the last six months the club has been having a get-together that showcases the great aspects of growing up in the neighborhood. A majority of the people do not live in Elizabeth but do return to attend the events. What is most commendable is that the party is open to anyone, not just members of the club. So past residents are encouraged to attend and bring their friends and children along. Between 150 to 200 guests attend.

The evening features a DJ playing Italian music, dancing, and more food than can be consumed. All the labor and cooking is done by volunteers. The deserts are prepared by the Valletese Lady's Club and different people step up to cook an ever changing menu of Italian entrees and sides. A small charge of \$10 is imposed to cover expenses.

Conversations tend to turn towards reminiscing and sharing news of what is happening with each other's families. The youngsters in attendance get to hear some

interesting stories of their parents growing up in the Burg. They are always entertaining but more importantly they are educational. The event actually serves in passing down of the oral history that may otherwise be lost.

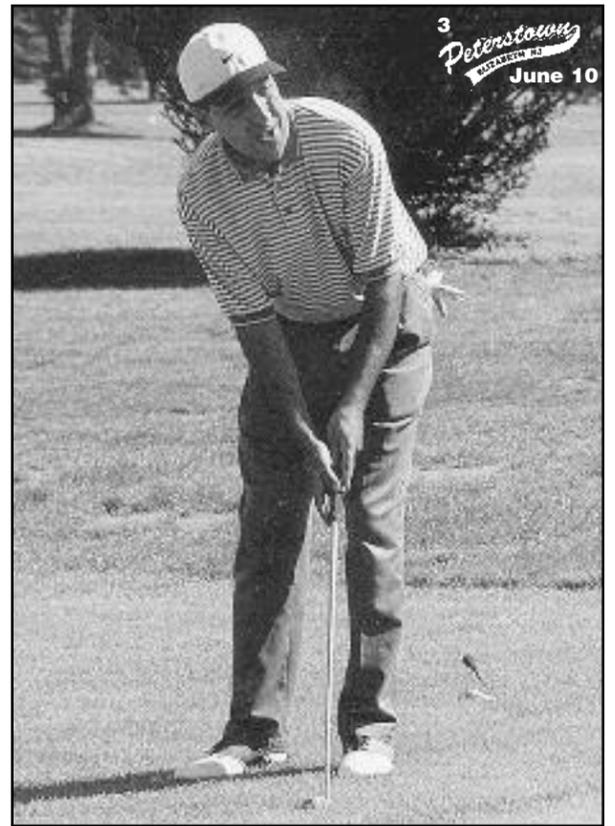
Some of the old timers still share stories of my grandfather that I am hearing for the first time. His photo from a hundred years ago hangs on the wall with those of hundreds of men and women who have shaped my life.

I want my daughters to know how I derived the system of values and ethics that I try to instill in them. These Vallatese events give me that opportunity. 🐶



Not for Nothing But...

real estate ads in Spanish newspapers refer to Peterstown as "Barrio Italiano".



(above) Steve Mirando putting on hole 18 at Oak Ridge Golf Course in Clark in 1998.

STEVE MIRANDO WAS HAPPIEST PLAYING GOLF

At just 53 years old, a dear friend to so many, Steve Mirando, died on Friday, June 4, 2010, after a long illness. Steve battled physical pain that doctors could never squelch. Even so he stood strong and lived his life to the fullest, raising a beautiful family, running a successful business, enjoying the company of lifelong friends and playing golf.

Born in New Zealand, Steve came to the United States as an infant and settled in Elizabeth with his family. He married the love of his life, Linda, in 1984, and the couple moved to Roselle Park, N.J., and finally to Clark, N.J., where they raised their two sons, Stephan, 22, and Thomas, 21. Steve owned and managed his own business, Leathercraft Sportswear, Inc. of Elizabeth, N.J., which flourished under his leadership and currently employs many loyal and dedicated employees. Steve was an avid golfer, never passing up an opportunity to play. A testament to the type of man Steve was can be found in his circle of friends...people he entered kindergarten with that still remained close after many years. In fact, family and friends were the core of his life. A devoted husband, father, son and brother, he is survived by his loving wife of 26 years, Linda (nee Zignauskas) Mirando; devoted sons, Stephan and Thomas Mirando; parents, Michael and Mary Mirando of Toms River, N.J.; brother, Michael Mirando of Virginia; sisters, Kathleen Seaman of Toms River, and Rosanna Poscillo and her husband, Carmine, of Old Bridge, N.J.; several in-laws, nieces, nephews and many longtime friends and clients, and not to be forgotten, his beloved dog, Scruffy. 🐶



(above) Members of the Valletese Ladies Club, president Jo Piga (sixth from left) and the Valletese Society of Elizabeth, NJ, President Felice Tanga (eighth from left).

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ADVERTISERS' INDEX

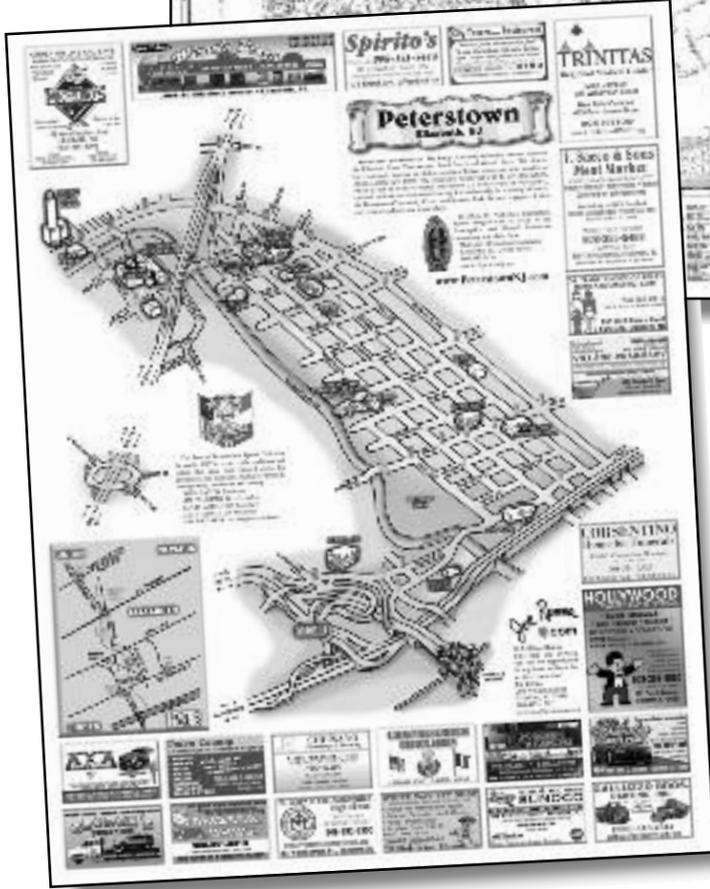
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(right) Street map of the entire city of Elizabeth is backed up by an illustration of the Peterstown neighborhood (below).



FREE street maps of the City of Elizabeth are available at businesses who advertised on the map and by mail.

Advertisers appear in bold face and are marked with an "M" in the index of newspaper advertisers to the right. They have been supplied with maps for distribution.

Current subscribers to the newspaper will receive maps along with their June 2010 issue. New subscribers will receive maps with their August 2010 issue.

Maps can also be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed regular #10 business envelope to:

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OLGA FASHIONISTAS

Students of Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy strutted down the cat-walk in the school's cafeteria modeling clothes and accessories from event sponsors from Lord & Taylor, Justice, Gymboree, Old Navy, Lia Sophia and PartyLite. The event, held on June 5, 2010, was a fund raiser for the school and a lot of fun for the students and families in attendance. 📷



(above, l-r) Vogueing are Jennifer Lawson, Isabella Carvajal, Cristina Gomes, Julia Santiago, Rebecca Garcia & Emily Brito.



(above, l-r) Joshua Santiago holding Sarah Santiago, Mikayla Singleton and Jordan Oviedo. (front) Gabriela Rivera.



(right) Sophia Buenano and Michael Firetto.

FAREWELL TO FATHER PAT DIVER

Fr. Pat has spent his last six years as pastor of St. Anthony's Church in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ. He experienced a warm welcome and even a warmer farewell at a dinner held in Costa's Restaurant in Roselle Park.

He said he had a wonderful time working and meeting with all the wonderful people of the parish and becoming part of the St. Anthony's family, that his priestly vocation has been enhanced, his personal well being heightened and his future brightened.

Each and every one in the community will remain in his heart and prayers. 📷



(left, l-r) Bishop Dominic Marconi gave the invocation at the dinner for Fr. Pat. Speakers included Mayor Christian Bollwage and John Sacco.



(above) Boston native Fr. Pat Diver holds one of his parting gifts at his farewell dinner, which had Tessie Posyc in attendance (seated to left).

.....
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Tessie Posyc says in 12 years that I never put her picture in the paper.

.....

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MEMORIES OF THE MALGIERI FAMILY AND LIFE ON FOURTH AVE

Submitted by Lois Mollozzi Tomelevage, Deerfield Beach, Florida

My Grandfather Alfred Malgieri came to America at the age of 14 from Vallata Italy in 1905. My Grandmother Raffela Esposito, from Foggia Italy, arrived when she was two. Grandpapa's parents were Luigi Malgieri and Philomena (Cornacchio) Malgieri. Grandma's parents were Ronald Esposito and Nuniata Lavano. They bore 8 children named Louie, Minnie, Josie, Nancy, Rocky, Rose and Alfred Junior., one other passed away early in life.

My mother was Josie who married my dad Angelo Mollozzi. They lived at 612 Fourth Avenue when I was born. The four family house was owned by the Malgieri, Piga and Veltre families. It was so much fun having such a big family around. The hallway doors were always open for friends and families to come and go. The building was warm and loving, someone was always there to talk to and share laughs with.

In the back yard, Dizi Pete Piga and grandpop had a

vegetable garden, chicken and pigeon coupe which was located under an old blueberry tree. There were fig and grape trellis's, and a well with a hand pump that was used to water everything in the garden!

Above all, "The Garage" was the place to be. The family turned the Garage into the greatest Italian kitchen that had a basketball court and a swimming pool beside it. So many fond memories were made in that garage. Family, friends, neighbors would gather there for the coffee, Petrillo's bread, great food, bingo, card games, singing, dancing, laughing and some passionate discussions.

The garage was the place to be, young and old. Even long after the youngsters grew up, got married and moved away, they would regularly meet at The Garage.

The generations that followed did not experience this type of comradery, and that's unfortunate. Instead of all their family members and friends being just ear shot away, they need to hop in a car and take a drive to go visiting or send an email. 📧



(above) The Malgieri clan at my grandparents 40th wedding anniversary at the old Vallatese Hall in 1954. (top two rows, l-r by couple) Rocky and Josie Malgieri, John and Rose Mariano, Cappy and Nancy Caprino, Josie Mollozzi (my mother) Victor and Minnie Martin, Louie and Gussy Malgieri, (seated, l-r) Uncle Junior, Grandmom, Grandpop, Mamaina (Great Grandmother Philemena) and to the left back corner is myself, Lois Mollozzi.



Not for Nothing But...

If walls could talk "The Garage" would have novels to write.



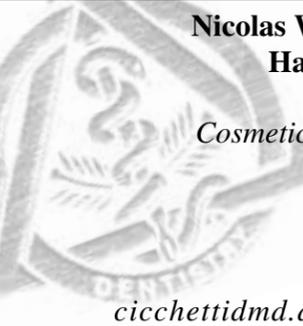
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FOURTH AVENUE MEAT MARKET

Submitted by Marie Guida, Whiting, NJ

My maternal grandfather, Aurelio Sciscione, 19, left his home in a small town just south of Rome, Italy. Along with his brother Salvatore, they made their way to Naples. There, the two brothers boarded the U.S.S. Virginia and sailed to New York, USA.

Salvatore would become a cobbler, Aurelio a butcher. Eventually, Sal settled in the Philadelphia area. Aurelio settled in Elizabeth, NJ. There, Aurelio met a first generation Italian American named Theresa Cantello. They married and, over the next sixty-plus years, their union would produce 9 children (6 girls, 3 boys), 31 grandchildren and numerous great and great-great grandchildren.

Theresa's father loaned the newlyweds money to purchase a small parcel of land in Elizabeth. On that land, at 613 Fourth Avenue, the couple constructed a building which had a butcher shop on the first floor and living quarters on the upper level.

On the windows were letters stenciled in gold and outlined in red that read "Fourth Avenue Meat Market".

I was born in 1950, so most of my memories were from when I was 4 to 12 years old. By that time, my Uncle Bill had joined Pop in the running of the shop.

Customers were always greeted as they entered the shop, some in English, others in Italian. Frequently, Grandma would walk down the stairs and find a place to sit and chat. Grandma always amazed me by her ability to switch back and forth between Italian and English.

The customers were like an extension of our family. That was the magic of the shop, and of the neighborhood.

This was not unusual in Elizabeth, NJ during that time. There were Italian, Polish, Ukrainian, German, Irish and Jewish neighborhoods. Each section had its own cultural delicacies. I remember going with my father many times to the Jewish or German stores for "real rye bread" or the Swedish Delicatessen for potato

salad.

During the Depression many customers were short on cash. Pop would still fill their orders. He would tell them to pay when they were able. He told my grandmother that he could not bear to withhold food from neighbors who had children.

Pop's kindness and generosity were rewarded many times over. As the economy improved neighbors came in and paid him back. Each one kept a record of what was owed. Moreover, these families told their children about the kind butcher, Mr. Sciscione.

As the years passed, those children grew up and had their own families. Even if they moved out of the

neighborhood, they would return to the Fourth Avenue Meat Market to shop.

Pop retired and turned the shop over to my uncle Bill, his eldest son. People began moving to the suburbs and eventually, my uncle closed the shop. The building still stands, but no remnants of the shop are apparent.

Today the neighborhood is ethnically varied. Supermarkets swallowed up the mom and pop stores. It is rare, and precious, to find a traditional butcher shop.

He didn't have monetary wealth, but was rich in the things he valued most, family and friends. I think back and I realize that Pop truly lived the American dream. He came to this country, started his own business, owned property and saw his family prosper. 🐾



(above) Aurelio Sciscione behind the counter of Fourth Avenue Meat Market in 1925.

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SALUTE TO CURRENT MILITARY SOLDIERS FROM ELIZABETH



Carmen Julia Ruiz is the mother of a soldier, Specialist David Maldonado, Jr. She coordinated a ceremony to honor those men and women, from Elizabeth, currently serving in the military. Carmen lives on Palmer Street in the Peterstown section of the city.

She deems it an honor to be able to organize the event to show her appreciation to those men and women. Carmen knows through her son the hardship and sacrifice that they are making when a soldier decides to join, as well as the sacrifice that their loved ones make.

As the soldiers risk their lives fighting for our nation, their families are home hoping and praying for their safe

return. Carmen's life will not be normal until her son is home safe.

The Formation Ceremony was held on May 22, 2010 at the Vietnam Monument site in Winfield Scott Park across from Elizabeth's High School, in which many of the soldiers were once students.

The ceremony recognized nineteen brave Americans serving their country and also payed tribute to their families. The ceremony also acknowledge two soldiers from Elizabeth who made the ultimate sacrifice, who were killed in action, Corporal Luigi Marchiante, Jr. and Sergeant Jorge Leon Alcivar. 🇺🇸

(left, r-l) Carmen Ruiz and her son David Maldonado.

Photos of this event can be found on www.peterstownnj.com

(below left, l-r) John Gratacos, Vietnam Vets of America, Chapter 779 served as Master of ceremony with his wife Irene assisting.

(below right, l-r) Gold Star parents Of Luigi Marchiante, Jr., Maria and Luigi, stand next to a banner honoring "Our City's Heros".



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LCPL Juan Pablo Medina



Sergeant Emily Caraballo



Corporal Rafael Miranda



Lance Corporal Jonathan Reguinho



Sergeant Mauricio Acosta



Sergeant Axel A. Ortiz



Petty Officer William Perez



Petty Officer Diego Jimenez



Petty Officer Osiris Rodriguez



(above) Elizabeth High School ROTC members stand in formation at ceremony.

(left) Page from the Formation Ceremony program depicts the nineteen soldiers from Elizabeth.

FROM CARMEN'S HEART

An excerpt from Carmen Ruiz's address to the soldiers

I live in the land of the free and I know it's because you and many others like you have made personal sacrifices for us. I want you to know how very much I appreciate the work you've done. I thank you for your unselfish dedication to our Country and the time you've taken away from your own families, so I can share time with mine. I want you to know I do not take for granted the sacrifices you have made. You might not know it but I appreciate you and I keep you in my prayers as I ask God to always keep you safe and to protect you as you make this sacrifice to protect our nation. I pray to God to pour blessings on all our soldiers and their families. I ask Him to keep you safe and out of harms way and fill you with His love. My head bows down to you, to all the men and women who have sacrificed to protect our Nation. 🇺🇸

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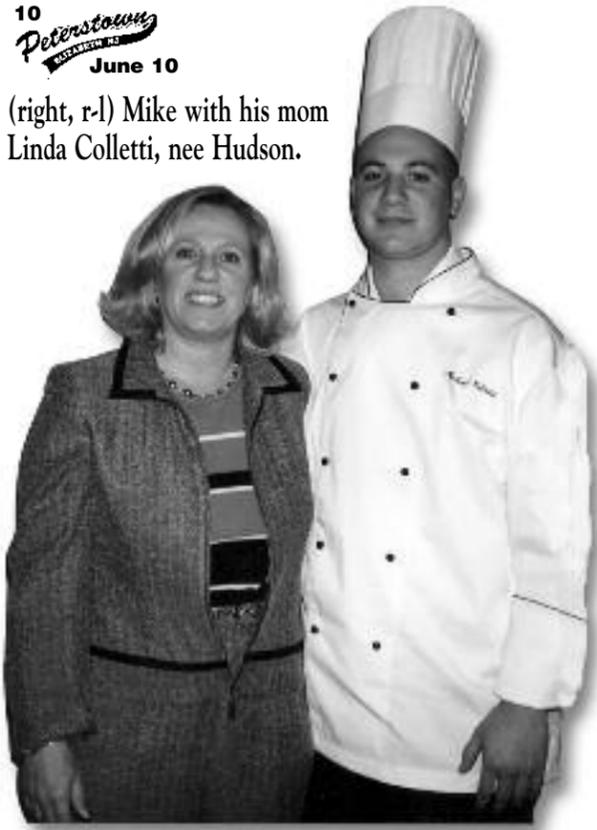
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(right, r-l) Mike with his mom Linda Colletti, nee Hudson.



MIKE COLLETTI BATTLES ON IRON CHEF

The 2010 season of Iron Chef America on the Food Network features Peterstown native Michael Colletti teamed with Brian Lacayo and Spike Mendelsohn. Mendelsohn already had experience doing television as a contestant on the fourth season of Top Chef, a show on the Bravo Network hosted by another product of Peterstown, Tom Collicio.

Mike met Spike while working at LeCirque in New York City. They worked well together and when they thought that it was time that they worked for themselves they moved to Washington, D.C. and opened Good Stuff Eatery on Pennsylvania Avenue.

The restaurant has American style fare. It's casual food with a high-end touch in a hip atmosphere at affordable prices.

An appearance on Iron Chef would have been the highlight of any chef's year but Mike collaborated with Spike on the Good Stuff Eatery cookbook also released in 2010. To top that, the pair is planning the grand opening of a new pizzeria next door to Good Stuff, called We The Pizza on July 7.

On June 4, the partners-in-food took part in an event at the White House with 500 fellow chefs to highlight first lady Michelle Obama's latest initiative against childhood obesity. They conducted healthy-food cooking demonstrations for kids on the South Lawn along side the first family. Mike met up with Colichio at the event and reminisced about growing up in Elizabeth, NJ and the Peterstown neighborhood.

Mike attributes his knack for cooking to his paternal grandmother, Maria, who, he says is a great cook. He also gives a special nod to his father, Joe, who passed away in 1999. He also got the cooking gene from his mom, Linda.

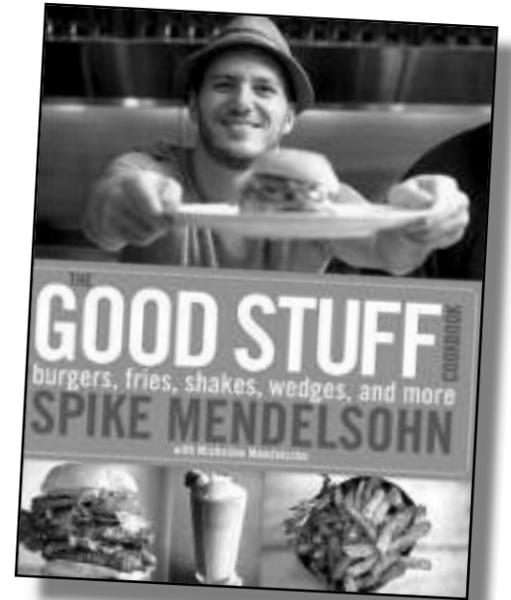
It is exciting to see Mike's star rising. There are other big projects in the works. As great as a year 2010 has been in the first six months, the future looks even bigger. Fans are kept posted at goodstuffeatery.com.



(left, l-r) The Colletti family, Mike, Linda, Justin and Joe in 1998.

(right, l-r) Spike Mendelsohn's Book, Good Stuff, with Colletti's recipe in it can be purchased on Amazon.com.

Mike and Spike are partners in Good Stuff Eatery
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Recipes

Submitted by Mike Colletti - We, The Pizza / Good Stuff Eatery, Washington D.C

Porchetta Sandwich with a Fennel and Mustard Seed Slaw

PORCHETTA INGREDIENTS:

4 Italian sub rolls	5 cloves. Sliced Garlic
5 pounds Boneless Pork Loin	1 cup Olive Oil
½ cup Chopped Rosemary	2 tablespoons. Kosher Salt
½ cup Chopped Thyme	1 tablespoon Black Pepper
½ cup Fennel Seeds	

PREPARATION:

In a dry pan over medium heat place the fennel seeds and toast until its very fragrant, take off the heat and ground in a spice grinder. Make a couple of slits in the pork loin and add some of the sliced garlic. In a small bowl combine the toasted fennel seed, rosemary, thyme, the remaining garlic, black pepper, salt and olive oil to make a paste. Rub all over the pork and marinate for at least 8 hours. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Place on the center rack and cook for 2 hours or when the temperature of the pork reaches 145 degrees. Remove the pork and cover with foil and let it rest for 30 minutes. Slice Very thin.

FENNEL AND MUSTARD SEED SLAW INGREDIENTS:

2 heads Fennel with Fronds	1 tablespoon Sugar
1 Red Onion	2 tablespoons Mayo
½ cup Whole grain mustard	TT Salt
½ cup Olive Oil	TT Pepper
½ cup Sherry Vinegar	

PREPARATION:

Remove fronds from the fennel and reserve. With a mandoline or sharp knife, slice the fennel very thin remove the core. Repeat with the red onion. Place in a bowl with the remaining ingredients and toss to combine, season with salt and pepper refrigerate for 1 hour.

Cut the sub rolls in half and pile the sliced pork on the bottom, add some of the fennel slaw on top, drizzle with some extra virgin olive oil. Ready to eat.

This Porchetta dish will be on the menu at We, The Pizza
305 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Washington, D.C. 20003
www.wethepizza.com

Summer Squash Salad with Fried Squash Blossoms

SQUASH SALAD:

2 Medium Yellow Squash (Cut into ½ moons)	½ cup Basil (Chopped)
2 Medium Green Zucchini (Cut into ½ moons)	1 cup Olive Oil
1 cup Grape Tomatoes (Halved)	1 cup Lemon Juice
1 Red Onion (Sliced)	1 teaspoon Kosher Salt
2 cups Baby Arugula Leaves	½ teaspoon Black Pepper

PREPARATION:

In a bowl whisk together the lemon juice, olive oil, basil, salt and pepper and reserve. In a bowl combine the yellow and green squash, tomatoes, red onion and arugula. Toss with the reserved dressing.

ZUCCHINI FLOWER

12 Squash blossoms	1 pinch Nutmeg
8 oz. Ricotta Cheese	1 teaspoon Kosher Salt
½ cup Parmesan Cheese	1 zest Lemon
½ cup Parsley (Chopped)	1 cup Pine Nuts (Toasted and Crushed)
1 Egg (Beaten)	1 ½ cups Olive Oil

BATTER

1 cup all-purpose flour
½ teaspoon kosher salt
1 cup chilled sparkling water
In a bowl whisk together all the ingredients. Refrigerate.

PREPARATION:

In a bowl combine the ricotta, parmesan cheese, egg, nutmeg, salt, lemon zest, parsley and pinenuts mix until its incorporated and the ricotta is smooth. Gently fill each blossom with about 2 teaspoons of the cheese filling. In a heavy skillet, heat 2 inches of oil to 375 F over medium heat. Carefully dip a stuffed blossom into the batter, covering the entire flower, and ease into the hot oil. Brown on one side, then turn to brown the other. Cook only a few at a time so they are not crowded. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels. Repeat with remaining stuffed squash blossoms. Season with salt and pepper.

Serve 2 squash blossoms with a spoon full of the salad, sprinkle with parmesan cheese and serve.

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Photo of Vallata by John Zamorra



NICHOLAS E. NETTA

Nicholas E. Netta, 59 passed away on Monday, April 19, 2010. Born in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, Nicholas lived there before moving to Iselin eight years ago. He owned and operated the Victoria Florist in Cranford for 14 years. Prior to that, he worked with Bristol-Myers in Hillside and Hartz Mountain in Harrison. Mr. Netta served in the Air Force National Guard and was a member of the N.J. Chamber of Commerce, Cranford chapter, and performed as a drummer with the Shangri-La's and New Image bands. Surviving are his wife, MaryLee A. (Chokov) Netta; his three children, Danielle M. Netta, Nicholas A. Netta and Leah Victoria Netta; his mother-in-law, Lee Chokov, and many brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, cousins, nieces and nephews.

EDITH NIGRO D'ANTICO - A BEAUTIFUL LIFE

Mrs. Edith (nee Nigro) D'Antico, 94, died on Thursday, May 27, 2010. Edith was a lifelong resident of Elizabeth, NJ. She was a former bus attendant with the Elizabeth Board of Education. Previously, she was a seamstress with the former Elizabeth Shirt Factory. Edith was a member of the Ladies Vallatese Society of Elizabeth, a member of St. Ann's Rosary Society of St. Anthony's Church, and a member of the Retired Men's and Ladies Club in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth.

Edith had a large family and many friends who loved her because she had a loving heart large enough to love them all. She was predeceased by her husband, Nicholas;

a son, Russell D'Antico; her parents, Frank and Anna Nigro; a sister, Mary DePalma, and three brothers, Michael, Americo and Frank Nigro. Surviving are a daughter, Margaret Ecobichon and her husband, Alec; five grandchildren, Christopher Ecobichon and his wife, Lynn, Jeffrey Ecobichon, Margaret Garriel and her late husband, Kevin, Donna Durelli and her husband, Frank, and Nicholas D'Antico; five great-grandchildren, Brittany and Kevin Garriel, Matthew Durelli, Mia D'Antico, and Lucas Ecobichon; two sisters, Angelina Gallaso and Ann Harris, and two brothers, Joseph and Angelo Nigro.



(above, standing, l-r) Russ and Edith's sister Ann Harris, Kay and her brother Angelo Nigro. (seated, l-r) Her sister Angie Gallaso, her brother Joe Nigro and Edith.

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On September 30, 2009 Donna's life was forever changed. Sadly she was shot by her husband who then turned the gun on himself. With the help of John Sacco and the Sons of Peterstown, her family and friends arranged a fund raising event to assist Donna in her time

of need. She not only received generous financial donations but an outpouring of love from family, friends and strangers. Donna was afraid she will fall short of expressing the appreciation she feels. She wrote the following in an attempt to do so. 

MY LOVE GOES OUT TO ALL OF YOU

I made it through this undescrivable tragedy thanks to the strength I had inside me. I knew I would be missed if I left this earth. I thank God for giving me a second chance, for giving my daughter her mother, my parents their child and my siblings their sister. I knew in my heart that it was not my time to leave on that tragic day. I had a little person who needed me - I'm all she had.

- John Sacco, president of the Sons of Peterstown, and his family for all their hard work and dedication.
- The members of the Sons of Peterstown Sports Club
- Around About Peterstown newspaper
- Another John Sacco, who I call "Johnny Coldcuts". He has been an angel in disguise and has been so good to my dad, to me and my family.
- Those who did not even know me, who went above and beyond to help.
- My family who loves me unconditionally.
- My daughter Gabriella who has unbelievable strength. She has been through so much that words can not describe. She made me who I am.

- My amazing dad who needs to hear my voice everyday.
- My mom who worries about me every minute of her day.
- My brother Tony and my sister Patricia who do not want to even imagine life without me. They continue to pick up the pieces when I mess up.
- Janeen and Rudy for being so understanding when my brother and sister drop everything that they are doing to help me.
- My awesome stepparents Bonnie and Will, who love me no matter how much I drive them crazy.
- Jenny and Brian
- John and Mikey Gregus
- My aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews for loving me and for making me love life.
- To all my friends who have been with me throughout the years.
- Last, but not least, my neighbors. If it wasn't for their help on that day that changed my life, I would not have a life to change.



(right, l-r)
Donna and
daughter
Gabriella.



(above, l-r) Johnny Coldcuts and Frank Spirito.



(left, l-r) Donna's
Aunt Alicia Vitka,
Donna, Gabriella,
Donna's mom
Christine, and
cousin Leighanne.

(below, l-r) Mike Gregus, Donna and John Gregus.



(above) Donna's sister Patricia Gaydos.



(above, l-r) Donna's dad Gerry Milius,
brother Anthony and Donna.



(above) Bonnie, Al and Janie.

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2010 RIBERA CLUB SCHOLARSHIP DINNER DANCE COMMITTEE



(above, l-) Ribera Italian American Cultural Center Annual Scholarship Dinner-Dance Committee: Gerry Guarraggi, Enzo Logiudice, Sal Farina, Charlie Marabella, Steve Bongiovi, Jimmy Fodera, Master of Ceremonies John LaBarbera, President Peter Agliata, Man of the Year Dr. Thomas M. Panitch, Salvatore Imbornone, Jr., Jack Marabella, Jake Miceli, and Angelo Di Paola. Scholarship recipients for 2010 were Brandon Vitabile and Anthony Falzone. Event was on April 24 at L'Affaire in Mountainside, NJ.

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RIBERA CLUB DINE TOGETHER ON MONDAY NIGHTS

Members of the Ribera Italian America Cultural Center located on Palmer Street in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ have been getting together every Monday evening to eat dinner and just enjoy their time together.

The informal get together has been going on for about a year and has grown to become a regular happening. The get together is reminiscent of a time when social clubs were the center of night life on a daily basis. A generation ago most members lived in walking distance of the club which was located on the corner of

John Street and Third Avenue. After working hours the men would congregate to play cards or just sit and talk. There was very little mobility out of the neighborhood.

Today, most members live out of town but the Monday evening get together motivates many to travel to Elizabeth to hang out at the club, like the old days even though it is only one night a week.

The club does have regular nightly visitors and the street side cafe that is part of their new building is open to the public. 🍷



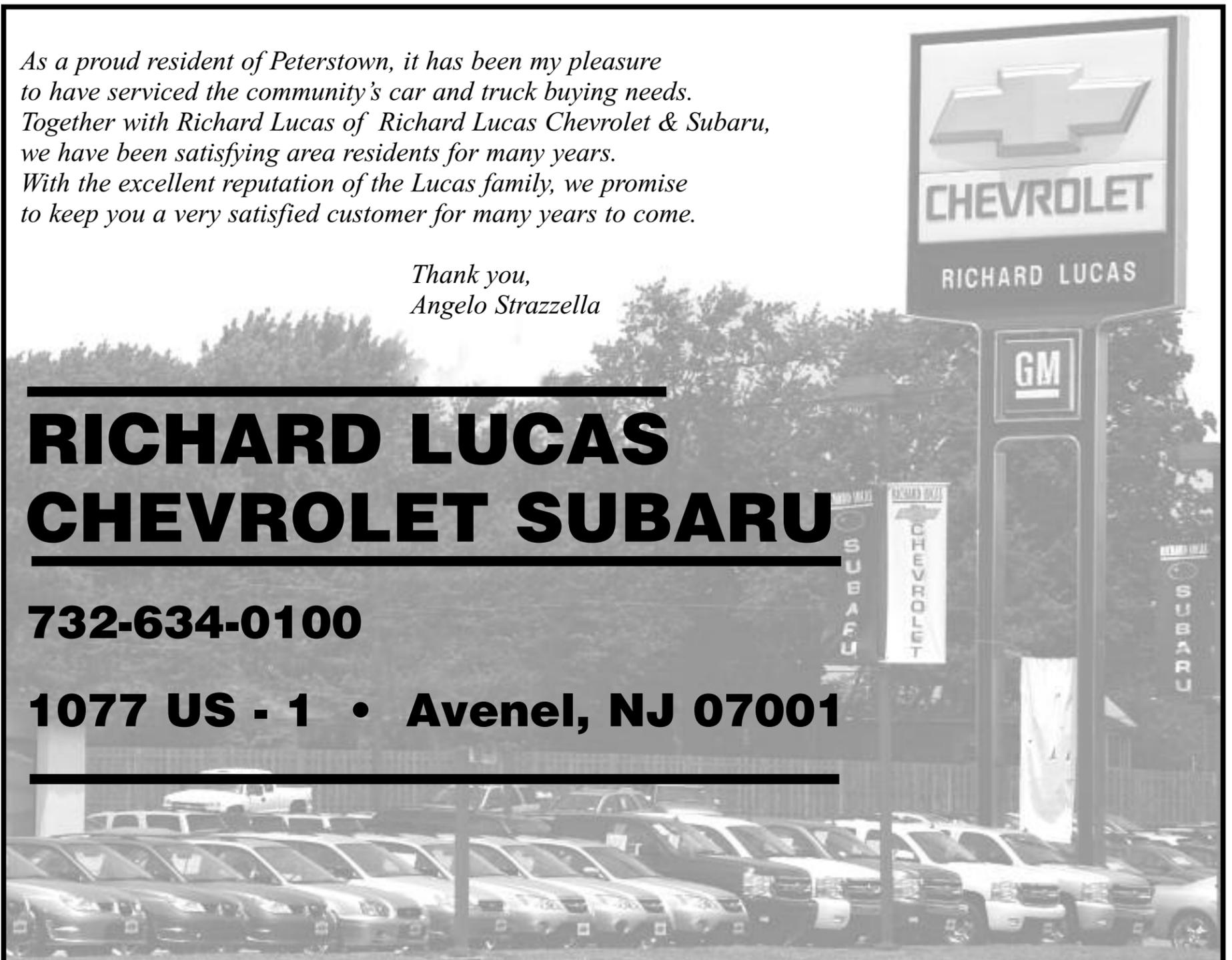
As a proud resident of Peterstown, it has been my pleasure to have serviced the community's car and truck buying needs. Together with Richard Lucas of Richard Lucas Chevrolet & Subaru, we have been satisfying area residents for many years. With the excellent reputation of the Lucas family, we promise to keep you a very satisfied customer for many years to come.

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(above) Santillo's Driver Joe Guzzi and Connie Francis.

CONNIE FRANCES TO SANTILLO'S PIZZA

When Connie Frances flew into New Jersey for a gig she had a craving for pizza. After doing a little research she determined that Santillo's in Elizabeth would be best. Santillo's, located on South Broad Street, has received an avalanche of recognition over the past year from various media outlets and publications. The publicity caught the legendary singer's attention. 🐾

FREE JOB TRAINING

Project Ready will be accepting applications for its free six week job preparedness program on Tuesday, June 29 at 9:30 sharp. Applicants should be prepared to stay until 1:30PM. Basic computer skills will be taught including Microsoft Word, Excel and navigating the internet as well as resume writing and interview techniques. Project Ready is located within St. Joseph Social Service Center at 118 Division St. in Elizabeth. For more information please call (908) 353-1045 or visit

www.stjosephelizabeth.org. 🐾

ST MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

For the first time since its founding in 1934, Saint Mary's High School, Elizabeth, New Jersey now has an official Alumni Association. The graduating class of 2010 will be the first graduates to receive certificates as members of this association.

A small group of graduates of Saint Mary's decided it was long overdue in establishing a Alumni Association and it is now a reality. The purpose of the Alumni Association is to increase the individual alumni and alumni groups with an active interest in the future of the high school; establish mutual beneficial relations between the high school, the alumni and its friends, thus provide the school the support through closer fellowship; to enhance and support the professional development and success of the graduates and association members; to keep alumni advised of the status and plans for the high school and to have meetings and socials to include travel programs to promote better relationships with the

association members.

All graduates of Saint Mary's High School of the class of 2010 and future graduating classes, will upon graduation be members of the association. Graduates of former years are asked to join the Alumni Association along with family members. Included in the membership will be members of the high school faculty and those who are given honorary membership.

The Alumni Association will also activate a formal Alumni Association Room in the lower level of the high school which will be renovated and furnished so that gatherings can take place for both meetings and socials.

The Saint Mary's High School Alumni Association is looking for graduates who would like to serve on the Association Board of Trustees.

An Alumni Association representative can be contacted by calling 908-419-5559 to provide information about the Alumni Association. 🐾

TRIP TO THE VILLA VOSILLA RESORT SPONSORED BY DEBORAH HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

The Resort is located in the Catskill Mountains and the trip is from July 26 to July 30.

Nestled in a lovely spot, high in the "Italian Alps" of the Catskill Mountains will give a vacation a delightful Continental flair. There is the indoor spa, complete with pool, Jacuzzi, saunas, steam baths, exercise room, game room and four fireplaces. Villa Vosilla is also a sports lovers paradise, swim in a spacious outdoor pool, relax at the poolside patio or join the water exercise, jazzercise, aerobics classes at the indoor spa. Try your hand at Bocci, tennis, handball, table tennis, billiards or shuffle-board. There's even a championship golf course across the road and great facilities for bowling, boating and horseback riding nearby. Villa Vosilla has beautiful

dining rooms and outstanding Italian and American cuisine. From the antipasto to espresso each dish is designed to please the most discriminating taste. Nightly entertainment includes singer, comedian and dancing, contest, talent night, bingo cards, pizza party and movies.

Package includes: Three meals per day, coach transportation and gratuity. Cost is \$499, double occupancy and \$565 single occupancy. A \$75 deposit is required. This is a fundraiser for Deborah Hospital. For reservations and more information, call Nina Calavano at (908)233-4533. 🐾

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