



WHEN THE HELPING HAND NEEDS A HAND

Sal Coppa made a full-time commitment to community service. Over the years he volunteered for numerous organizations and helped countless causes. His generosity and dedication to the Peterstown community and the City of Elizabeth is unmeasurable. Now, he is the one in need and the community is responding.

Sal Coppa never asked for anything in return and never took credit for all the good that he did. He was never in the lime light. Most people outside the neighborhood, even those that he has helped, don't know who he is or what he looks like. Sal is a low-key individual, quiet and unassuming. His demeanor was one of patience, and measured control. Tense situations do not fluster him. He faces challenges head on and works toward solutions. Many of those challenges were centered on how to help others. This is why it was so shocking to everyone who knew Sal when he suffered a major heart attack at the age of 51.

It happened on the steps of Elizabeth City Hall. The occasion was the raising of the Italian flag commemorating Columbus Day on October 9, 2013, and Sal had just stepped away from the podium after speaking when he fell.

Luckily Sal was surrounded by friends who came quickly to his aid. Steve Rinaldi fetched a public defibrillator from the City Hall lobby and it is attributed with keeping Sal alive until the ambulance arrived. EMT workers said that he red-lined twice while on the steps, meaning he had no pulse. Sal was rushed to Trinitas Hospital, just a few blocks away. News spread of Sal's condition and soon the Hospital lobby was filled with friends and neighbors. Sal's wife Cindy got the call and nervously drove to the hospital from Madison, NJ, about an hour away. She was thinking the worst and praying it wasn't.

One could imagine her shock when she was greeted at the door of the hospital by not only her friends and neighbors but hospital personnel from department heads to the president. You see, Sal touched so many lives with his charity that there was a great desire to give back.

Sal spent weeks in ICU. Infections complicated an already tense situation. A tooth that he swallowed caused an infection and had to be extracted from his lung. Other infections ensued. Sal was not responding. The outlook was bleak and not many people thought that Sal was going to survive. They hinted to Cindy to not get her hopes up. That advice, though, was ignored. If nothing else, Sal and Cindy had faith and they had many people who loved them. A virtual army of people began praying for Sal day and night. Cindy spent a month at his bedside while visitors relayed updates of Sal's condition to waiting friends on Facebook. The news that Sal moved a finger resulted in great joy to many.

And so it was, minute by minute, day by day, another hint of progress was reported. There was a day when his doctor entered the room and Sal looked at him and asked "What's up?" Cindy said the doctor almost fell back like a prat fall in a slap stick comedy. From that point on more people were believing that Sal's recovery was possible, not just the faithful. This put the praying into overdrive, even one of the doctors told Cindy that he was praying for Sal every day.

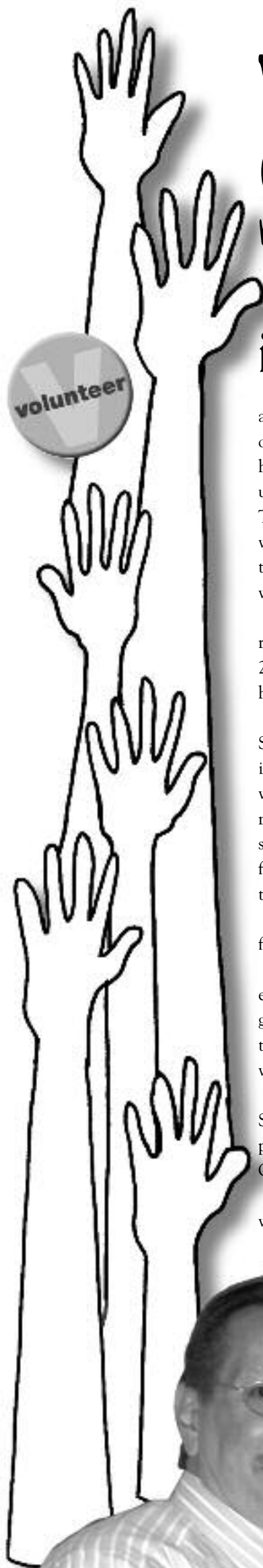
Sal went back and forth between floors in the hospital spending time in different departments depending on what the most urgent need was, surgery, transfusions, ICU, etc.

Over a month has passed and Sal is now in a regular hospital room. He has a caregiver present so Cindy was able to return back to work. Cindy owns and operates a landscaping design business. This allowed Sal to spend most of his day volunteering. The only problem was that Cindy's business could only afford to cover her with health and disability insurance. Sal was not covered.

The ordeal has taken a toll on the Coppa family and it is nowhere near being over. This has led to all those organizations and people that Sal helped wanting to give back. A fundraiser is planned for Saturday, February 8, 2014, to be held in the cafeteria of Our Lady of Guadeloupe Academy on the grounds of St. Anthony's Church. The event is being sponsored by The Sons of Peterstown, Elizabeth Chapter of UNICO National, The Elizabeth PBA Local #4, The Elizabeth FMBA Local #9, Groundwork Elizabeth, Our Lady of Guadalupe School, and Elizabeth Avenue Partnership.

Anyone who would like to find out more about the event or would like to donate can contact Vito Tropeano at 908-884-1000. Donations of gift baskets are being accepted for a Tricky Tray Raffle along with cash donations. Please keep Sal and his family in your prayers as well. 🙏

(left, r-l) Cindy Coppa attributes the power of prayer to her husband Sal's recovery from a heart attack. There has been an outpouring of love and support for the Coppa family. An event in his honor is planned for February 8, 2014.



(above, r-l) Sal Coppa with his fellow Unicans, Joseph Marretta, Rocco DiPaola, Anthony Zengaro, Paul Rinaldi, and Deacon Joe Caporaso during one of UNICO's service days which works on cleanup and beautification projects in Elizabeth.

Photo by Darren Bryden - facebook.com/elizabeth.speaks



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President's Message



We are going to get together two times in February on back-to-back weekends. The first time will be Sunday February 2nd for the Super Bowl. This has consistently been the biggest party of the year. This year the game will be played in the Meadowlands. With all the hype surrounding the game and the mass of people flying into the state, I think the most fun will be had right here at home in St. Anthony's cafeteria.

The following week we will be getting together on Saturday, February 8th, again in the cafeteria. This will be a fund raiser for Sal Coppa who is recovering from a heart attack that he suffered on Columbus Day. The entire community and many organizations are going to turn out to support Sal, who is one of Peterstown's most generous and caring individuals.

I'm treating this as a celebration though he is suffering greatly he is recovering against all prognoses. We are all hoping and praying that by February 8th there will be more progress towards healing for us to be happy about. Please try to attend these events. Reconnect with your friends and neighbors.

God bless,
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**



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.

Dear Tina and Joe,

I received my Cent'Anni book last week and I am amazed at the professional look, stories, Letters to the Editor, Johnny's President messages and all of the articles that I can relate to.

I even envisioned volleyball being played in the pool, the goings on in the playground house and the first little league game played at O'Brien's Field. I still have a long way to go before I read through it the first time but please know your work and dedication to the up keep of the greatest neighborhood that we were fortunate to be a part of reminds all of us how happy and proud we are to say "I grew up in the Burg".

Vinny Malta

Joe,

My pop Frank Mazzearella was born and raised in Elizabeth and is an avid reader of the Peterstown Newspaper. My parents moved to Florida around six years ago to be closer to me and my husband, unfortunately my mom Gloria passed but my dad is the greatest.

He is a WWII Veteran and recently went on an "Honor Flight" from Fort Lauderdale to Washington DC to see the war memorials and Arlington National Cemetery. The organization, HonorFlight.org, transports veterans to visit and reflect at their memorials. This was the first time the service was used from our airport. Vets in every state can call and arrange a trip!

My dad was an engine room mechanic on the USS Roche (DE-197) and was in Tokyo Bay on September 29, 1945 when his ship was struck by a floating mine. He lost some mates and it is an experience he will never forget.

He had a wonderful day. A volunteer picked him up from his home at 5:00 am and stayed by his side as his personal guide for the day, making his plane ride and other transportation run smoothly. He was very impressed with the monuments and the entire day. One of his favorite parts of the trip was the surprise he got when he and his fellow travelers were greeted by 800 people, complete with banners, upon their return to the airport. The welcome home party was unexpected.

Sincerely,
Lisa Mazzearella Kocik
Weston, FL



(above, r-l) Frank Mazzearella and his volunteer guide Ashton Charles from HonorFlight.org

Dear Joe and Tina,

It is with utmost sincerity that I want to thank you for allowing me to spend time with the beautiful families of Peterstown, on November 16th, 2013. It was a day that will always be remembered with my mind, heart, and soul. God was really kind in letting me meet each and every one of you. It was a humbling experience to say the least.

Visiting Peterstown was heavenly for me. It brought up memories of my childhood in Ybor City, which is a part of Tampa, Florida. The people treated me like a loving family that knows how to penetrate the heart and soul in a powerful way; I never felt like an outsider, the entire time. A primary sign indicating how powerful the trip was for me was the sadness I experienced upon leaving all of you.

I felt a genuine presence in every person I met and I carry them within my heart; God was truly present in each person. The authenticity that I tasted was like a shot of adrenaline. I haven't forgotten one single soul. The loyalty that the families have toward each other is phenomenal. I would have given anything to have had the opportunity to grow up in Peterstown; being in that town rejuvenated me in a manner that cannot be measured.

Please know that you are in my prayers. I am so thankful for having Tommy Renna and his family in my life. You all represent what God desires in each and every one of us. May the Lord bless you.

Sincerely,
Michael Gonzalez
Tampa, Florida

Dear Joe,

Thank you so much for putting the book together. My dad will love it for Christmas. He moved in with us two years ago from Elizabeth and really misses it. I have great memories of our home on Fourth Avenue and my years at St. Pat's.

Sincerely,
John Mariano, Jr.
Princeton Junction, NJ



(above, l-r) Frank in front of the New Jersey Column of the WWII Memorial and during the war.

**SONS OF PETERSTOWN
SUPER BOWL
PARTY!**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2014

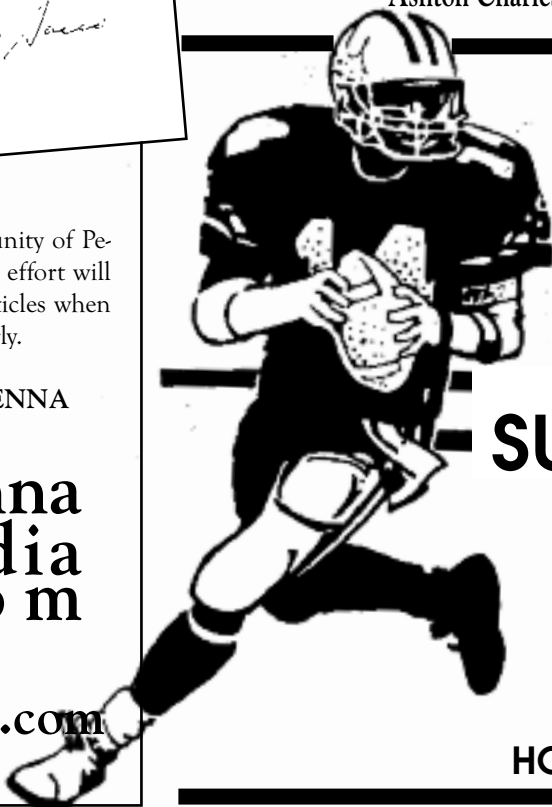
Doors open at 2:00 pm

St. Anthony's Cafeteria

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Editor's Opinion

everybody has one - this is mine - by Joe Renna

The Peterstown Book has some unexpected benefits for me. The greatest being the new and renewed relationships I am forming. Since the launch party held on November 16th I have heard from so many old friends and met new people destined to be friends, even distant relatives who have fun figuring out our connections.

Debbie Carl grew up in Cranford, NJ but her family is from Peterstown. Her mother is Angela Alfano, daughter of Lucy (Ferranti) and Charlie Alfano, originally from Ribera, Sicily. Her cousin is Tom Fowler, who is a fellow member of UNICO with me. Tom is the son of Liboria (Alfano) and Joe Fowler.

Tom mentioned the book to Debbie, who is an associate producer for the Uncle Floyd internet radio station. She in turn mentioned it to Uncle Floyd, who's show is focused on New Jersey culture and people. Unbeknownst to Debbie, Floyd and I had crossed paths a few times over the years and was a fan of the Peterstown Newspaper. He even appears in the book twice. Needless to say, the show arranged an interview with me about the book and can be heard by visiting his website UncleFloydRadio.com. The show was recorded live and will be featured on the home page until December 17.

Visit PeterstownNJ.com to find the clip after the 17th.

So I was able to reconnect with Floyd and now know all about the Alfano clan after chatting to Tom's sister, Joanne. That is a story for another time (the February 2014 issue of the Peterstown newspaper to be exact).



(above, l-r) Photo taken October 2006 at Tom and Maria Fowler's 25th wedding anniversary party, shows three generations of Alfano women: Debbie Carl, her sister Jill Carl, her mom Angela Alfano Carl, her aunt Anne Marie Alfano, and her grandmother Lucy Ferranti Alfano (seated).

FROM THE 6 DEGREES OF SEPARATION FILE YOUR AUNT FRANCES IS MY AUNT FRANCES

Tina and I have an "Open Door" policy at our home office for people dropping by to purchase The Peterstown Book. Marie Styler dropped by one day and ordered a book for her son in Arizona. She asked who my father was and when I told her Pete she said we were kind of related, "Your Aunt Frances is my Aunt Frances." And went on to explain how her mother Lucy (Riggi) Buffa is the sister of Emanuel Riggi who was married to Frances Nufrio, sister of Maria Nigro, my mother's mother. She continued to say how she played with my mom and all her cousins in Peterstown. She shared a lot of fond memories with me. My grandmother lived upstairs from me on the corner of Fourth Avenue and Niles Street so her many visitors would make a pit stop to see my mom on the way up, including Marie.



(above, l-r) Me and Marie in my kitchen.
(left, l-r) Grandma Upstairs and Aunt Frances.

CHECK OUT MY INTERVIEW ON THE UNCLE FLOYD SHOW ON-LINE AT UncleFloydRadio.com

(right, l-r) Ogie and
Uncle Floyd Vivino.

Visit UncleFloydRadio.com
between November 10th and November 17th
to hear his interview with Joe Renna
about The Peterstown Book.

The show is produced by Joe Lemire, who is also the Co-Host. Joe met Floyd when he produced his show on New Jersey 101.5 Radio. The two launched the internet show in January 2013. Joe also runs his own network of shows on the internet at www.dreamstreamradio.com

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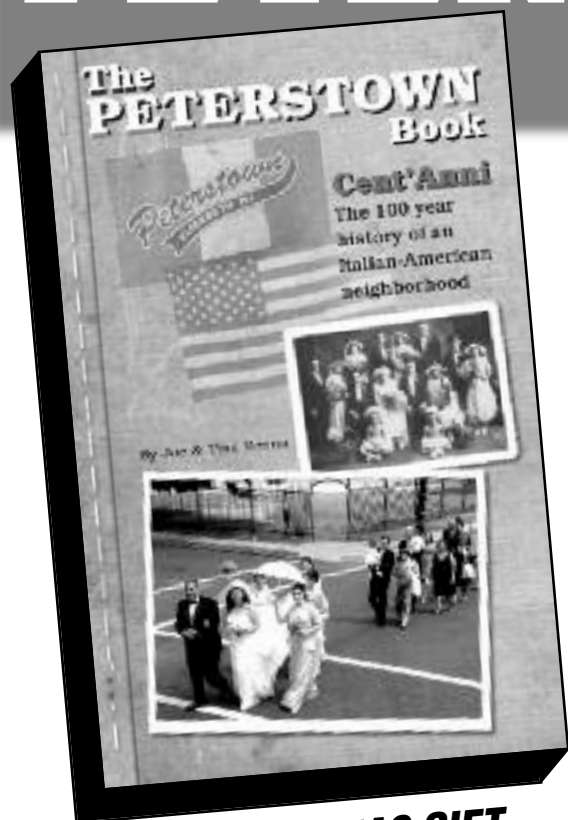
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Advertising starts at \$60 for a business card size ad, up to \$600 for a full page. Anyone interested in placing an ad can contact Tina Renna at (908) 709-0530. 

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OLGA EARLYACT CLUB BENEFITS ST. JOSEPH'S



(above) The Earlyact Club at Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy led the School's annual Thanksgiving food drive. Each grade was responsible for a particular food item and the results were 38 complete Thanksgiving dinners which were delivered to local families and to St. Joseph's Social Service Center on Division Street in Elizabeth.

BOB BELMONT PASSES AT AGE 79




Robert A. "Bob" Belmont, 79, of Elizabeth, N.J., passed away on Sunday, November 24, 2013,

Bob was born in Atlantic City, N.J., and moved to Elizabeth in 1962, where he lived the remainder of his life. He worked for the Petruccelli Funeral Home in Elizabeth from 1962 until 1994, when he became the proprietor with his wife, Marie, and remained so until the present. He was also employed by the Haeberle and Barth Funeral Home in Union, N.J., and formerly of Irvington, N.J., from 1959

through 1984.

Bob was a veteran of the U.S. Army and the U.S. Navy. He was a past member of the Knights of Columbus Council 3310 of Elizabeth. Bob also served as a trustee and usher at St. Anthony's R.C. Church, Elizabeth, and was a member of the church's Holy Name Society. He was also a member of the Retired Men's and Ladies' Club of Elizabeth.

Bob was the beloved husband of Marie Belmont, his wife of 51 years; loving father of Marie E. Belmont Baio, and cherished grandfather of Louis Jr., Peter and Elizabeth 



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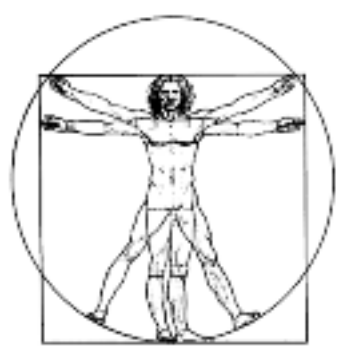
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CATCHING UP ON THE
LAST 40 YEARS

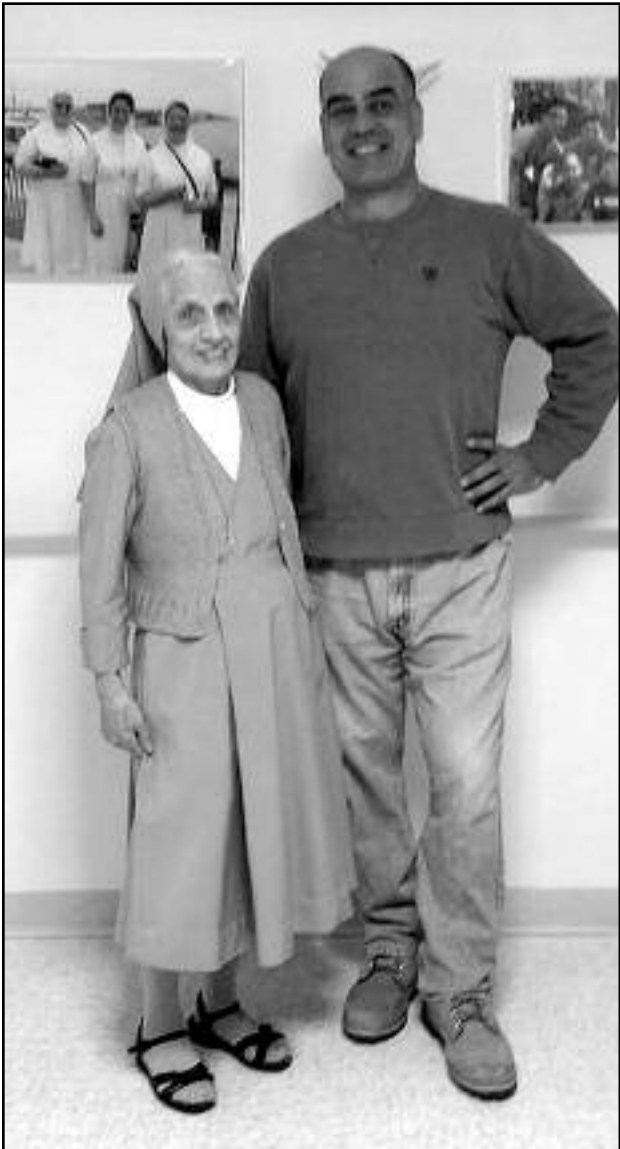
When Tom Renna lived in the Tampa area in Florida in 1994 he reconnected with Fr. Bosio who was assigned to Mary Help of Christians parish in Tampa. The parish was run by the Salesian order of nuns and priests and many Salesians from St. Anthony’s grammar school in Elizabeth, NJ spent some time in Tampa including Fr. Bosio. St. Anthony’s parish was the cornerstone of the Peterstown neighborhood in Elizabeth where Tom grew up and went to school.

It was refreshing for Tommy to see a familiar face after moving to a new state. It was Fr. Bosio who baptized Tommy’s first daughter, Gianna Carmella Renna, on January 16, 1999.

Over 15 years later Tom and family moved back to New Jersey. A close friend of his from Tampa came up for a visit and to attend the release party for The Peterstown Book. While in Jersey, Michael Gonzalez wanted to visit the Salesian residency in North Haledon, NJ to see Sister Juanity who moved there from Tampa. Tommy took Mike and was pleasantly surprised to meet his past grammar school teachers from St. Anthony’s.



(above) Carmela Marano pins a corsage on with Congressman Matthew Rinaldo on the steps of the Capital building in June 1979 during her 8th Grade Class trip to Washington D.C. (l-r) Armando Ruiz, Antonio Giancroce, Patsy D'anna, Sr. Francine, Tom Renna, Mike Camicia, Sal DeMaio, George Lopez, Billy Mellilo, Congressman Rinaldo, Danny Clemente, Rocco Famiglietti, Carmela Marano, Franca Genna, Sr. Antionette, Renee, Karen Lody.



(above, l-r) Sr. Katherine and her ex-kindergarten pupil, Tom Renna, reunited at the Salesian’s Convent in North Haledon where she resides.



(above, l-r) Tommy with Sr. Antionette, also pictured in the photo above as a chaperone for his trip to Washington D.C. when she taught at St. Anthony’s.



(above, l-r) Fr. Bosio and Tom Renna in Tampa at the Christing of his daughter Gianna in 1999.

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Appointments are available on a first-come, first-served basis and are FREE OF CHARGE.

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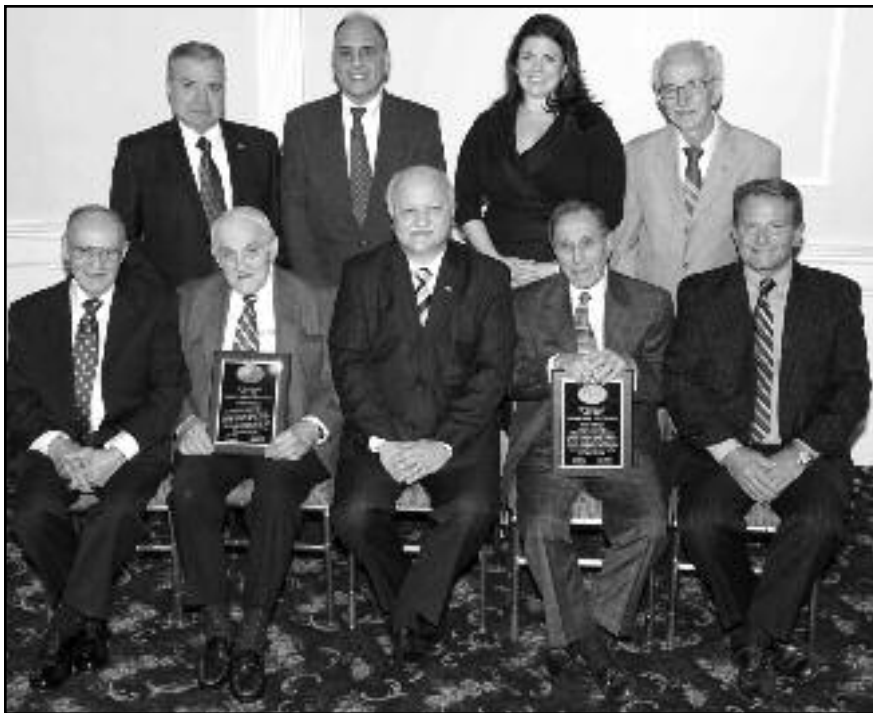
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UNICO CELEBRATES 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The Elizabeth UNICO celebrated its 50th anniversary annual Dinner Dance held on October 19, 2013, at and recognized all the past Citizens of the Year at thier La'Affair Fine Catering in Mountainside. 

"Service Above Self"

UNICO PAST AND PRESENT PRESIDENTS



(standing, l-r) Joseph Marretta (2008-2009), Rocco DiPaola (1995), Courtney Villani (2011-2012), Paul J. Rinaldi (1968, 1992-1993).
(seated, l-r) Joseph F. Sutera (2006-2007), Anthony Di Bella (1965-1966), Louis A. Bani (Current), Mario Di Bella (1967), Luigi Marciante (2002-2005).

UNICO PAST CITIZEN OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS



(standing, l-r) Rocco DiPaola (2000), Livio Mancino (2002), Vito Tropeano (2012), John Sacco (2003), Deacon Joe Caporaso (2004), UNICO-Elizabeth President Lou Bani, Diodato Villani (2005), James LaCorte (2011), George Marretta (1996), Luigi Marciante (1998), Chuck Fatigati (2009) and John Papetti (2010).
(seated, l-r) Jennifer Barrett (2008) and Virginia Navarro (1990).

2013 MEMBERS OF UNICO ELIZABETH



(standing, l-r) Thomas Fowler, Deacon Joseph Caporaso, John Sacco, Charles Fatigati, Pasquale Arena, Louis M J Dileo, Anthony M. Zengaro, Joseph Chiari, Henry Marcantonio, Arnold Ricerca, Joseph Manto, Joseph Marretta, James LaCorte* (UC Surrogate), George Marretta, Joseph Abitante Jr, Rose Rinaldi, Dino Amato, Jennifer Conte Barrett, Anselmo Gabriele, Frances-Jean Conte Burns, Carole Cascio, Vito Tropeano, Dominick Nicatro* (UNICO-National 2nd VP), Susan Campolo-McNeil, Andre Dimino* (UNICO-National Executive Director), Jennifer Dimino*, Courtney Villani, Rocco DiPaola, John Pappetti* (2010 CoY), Nino Quaglia. (kneeling, l-r) Richard Reda, Giacomo Sacca, Joe Renna, Andrew Bani, Steven P. Rinaldi, Louis A. Bani, Lino Siconolfi, Ralph Abbate, Paul Addressa, Thomas Fowler Jr, Christopher Rinaldi. (seated, l-r) Luigi Marciante, Livio Mancino, Linda K Villani, Paul J. Rinaldi, Diodato Villani, Anthony Di Bella, Mario Di Bella, Virginia Navarro* (CoY 1990), Joseph Amato, Joseph F. Sutera, Ann Walko* (UNICO-National 1st VP) * Not a member of UNICO-Elizabeth.

"Friends of Sal Coppa" *Fundraiser*

Saturday, February 8, 2014

Our Lady of Guadeloupe School

227 Center Street, Elizabeth, N.J. 07202

(St. Anthony Church)

4:00 p.m. - ?

Cost \$20.00 per person

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JOE COLLETTI RECEIVES GRETA SHERIDAN MEMORIAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Joseph Nugent Sr. Association of Union County held its 80th annual dance on Saturday, November 16 at the Kenilworth Veterans Center located at 33 South 21st Street in Kenilworth , NJ. This year's recipient of the Greta Sheridan Memorial Community Service Award is Joe Colletti, Past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Council 253 in Elizabeth.

The Joseph Nugent, Sr. Association is the oldest independent Irish-American Association in the state of NJ. It was founded in 1933 by Joseph & Nora Nugent, proprietors of Nugent's Tavern on Newark Avenue in Elizabeth. The Association is noted for its charitable endeavors and each year sponsors an Irish picnic for the benefit of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. It has also made contributions to the Center for Hope Hospice and the Deborah Hospital. They work continuously to "Keep the Tradition Alive".

Some of the traditions that the Nugent Association wants to maintain is based in Irish culture. Dancing is an important part of the events and celebrations in the Irish community and the unique style has been passed down for generations. The Nugent Association wanted to make sure that tradition continued.

Greta Sheridan volunteered for the many charitable events that the association held throughout the year. Her passion and talent lay in Irish Dance. She spent countless hours teaching the craft to a new crop of girls year after year.

Greta was certified by the Irish Dancing Council in Ireland and soon many organizations were asking for her assistance. She never refused to help, and most time she donated her time, especially if the purpose of the dance was to help a non-profit organization or a person in serious medical trouble.

Greta started to feel sick during a dance competition in 1997. It was eventually revealed that she had lung cancer. She battled her illness for two years until she passed away on September 28, 1999.

Her generosity and her record of community service was notable and inspirational. So much so that the Nugent Association has named an award in her honor. Tha Greta Sheridan Memorial Community Service Award is given out at the groups annual dinner dance to a person who has proved to have excelled in community service, though volunteering and generosity. The 2013 recipient Joe Colletti has a long history of helping those in need in his personal life and as a member of the Knights of Columbus. 🇮🇪



7
Peterstown
Dec 13

(above, l-r) Joseph Nugent Sr. Association President, Kevin Dowling presenting Joe Colletti with the Greta Sheridan Memorial Community Service Award.



(left) Greta Sheridan

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COLLETTI'S A TROVE OF MEMORABILIA

At 85 years old Sebastian Colletti can tell stories of his years growing up in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth New Jersey with detail and insight. He has kept photo and newspaper clippings going back seventy years. He is a real font of history and an enjoyable story teller.

Nutsy, as he was commonly called, was the son of Joseph and Concetta. His parents owned a deli on the corner of Third Avenue and Palmer Street, before it became Parinella's in the mid-1930s.

He is one of eight siblings. It was a second marriage for both his parents and each brought two children in to the union. They then had four more children together.

Nutsy worked at the Union County courthouse in the Juvenile Detention Center for 22 years under Sherriffs Oriscello and Froehlich. He retired in 1990. He also

worked 10 years for Simmons Mattress Company, and did a 5-year work stint with Universal Valve.

His local sports clippings are packed in with family photos, his both loves. 📷



(above, l-r) Concetta, Joann, Lucy and Al Gottman.

(right, l-r) Ann (Colletti) Samiuk, Lucy, Ann's daughter Joann, Sebastian and Willie. These photos were taken in a hospital while Joann was being treated for Polio.



(left)
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(above) Sebastian Colletti in 2013 at age 85.

(left) Nutsy at age 17.



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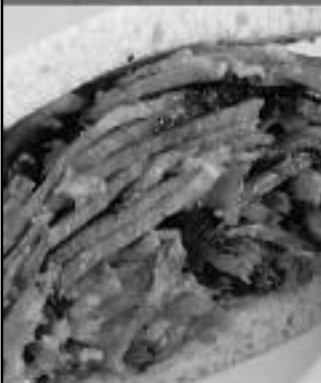
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NUTSY COLLETTI'S SCRAP BOOK CONTAINS 70 YEARS OF LOCAL SPORTS NEWS CLIPPINGS

Sebastian Colletti was better known by his nick name Nutsy when he was with his friends in Peterstown where he grew up, but he was also known as Sibby by those who knew him in bowling circles. Both names appear in numerous articles about his bowling and softball playing ability. He has kept those clippings along with many other family photos and memorabilia in perfect condition for over 70 years.

Nutsy was a fast-pitch softball pitcher for several club and company teams. He worked for Simmons Mattress for fourteen years and played with their team, he also worked for Universal Valve, owned by Angie and Joe Milo, for 5 years. The neighborhood club team from Peterstown that he pitched for in the late 1940's was The Invaders, playing in the city's Single "A" league and

tournaments. Nutsy liked all sports, basketball, boxing, wrestling but Sibby was especially fond of bowling. He has a collection of box scores from when newspapers had beat reporters covering bowling on a daily basis.

His series average of 755 was newsworthy at the time. It is difficult to compare eras but a 800 series in the 1940's was rare. Because of technology, modern bowling scores are about 100 pins higher than the past. A good indication of this can be seen in a clipping of when Sibby set the alley record in 1959 at Elizabeth Lanes playing for the St. Anthony's squad in the Union County Holy Name League. His series of 736 held the record for five years. His personal best series was a 755. He never turned pro but has played in Pro-Am tournaments. Nutsy can still play ay the age of 85.



Elizabeth baseball team: front, Zigmund Zadowski, Henry Chieffo, Sam Santillo, Edward Schau, Sebastian Coletti; middle, John Starosciak, Charles Sicklo, Anthony O'Brien, John Chabak, John Mikula; back, John Dvorsky, Matthew Pitera, John Parliapiano, Chester Popietek, Michael Semenchek, Joseph Gola.



(above) Playing basketball for Edison High School in 1948 on a team that made it to the state finals.

(left) Nutsy Colletti at bat.

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Tempo, c...	0	1	1		Buffa, c...	0	0	0	
Bollero, p...	0	0	1		Paterna, 1b...	0	0	0	
Curren, p...	0	0	0		Cistaro, lf...	2	1	0	
					Batone, rf...	2	2	0	
					N.Colletti, p...	3	3	0	
Totals	5	12	4		Totals	15	15	0	
Commanders	4	0	1			0	0	5	
Invaders	2	1	6			6	0	x-15	

(above) Box score from a benefit game played on July 7, 1949 in O'Brian's Field in Peterstown. The game was the first to be played under lights. Funds raised went to the Italian Welfare Association Recreation Building.

(left, l-r) Clipping from the Elizabeth Daily Journal of Union County Holy Name Society League 1959 leaders, St. Anthony's "B" bowling team Joe Madrigano, John Lang, Sebastian "Sibby" Colletti (Captain), Vincent Leo and Anthony Coppa.

Sibby played in a Pro-Am tournament and out scored the three pros he played with bowling 195, 269 and 236 for a 700 series versus a 622 total from his opponents scores of Peter Hakim 187, Pete Weber 238, and Bill Oakes 197.

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(above) Rose Pacelli pointed out that she is the flower girl sitting to the left of the bride and groom in the cover photo of The Peterstown Book (below).

(right) Francesca, nee Merendino, the bride in the other cover photo, attended with her husband, Gino Merendino and their daughter, Lucia, a honeymoon baby.



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(above, l-r) Nancy Gersick and Vincenzina Candelino.

(left, l-r) Kimberly Pigna, Rose Pacelli, Dan Pacelli, Vic Alcano, Kimberly Pacelli, and Rose Giacotore.



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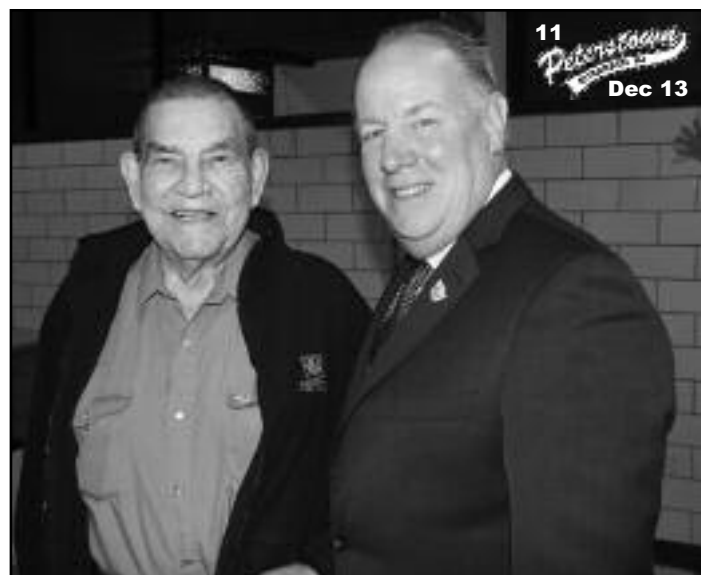
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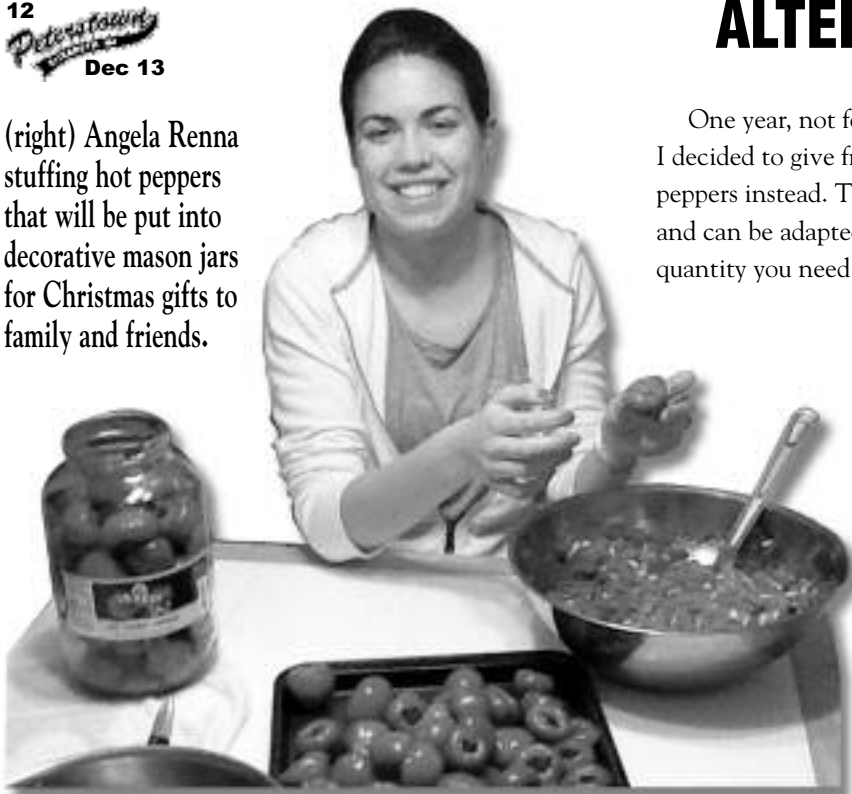
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(right) Angela Renna stuffing hot peppers that will be put into decorative mason jars for Christmas gifts to family and friends.



ALTERNATIVE TO CHRISTMAS COOKIE GIVING

Submitted by: Tina Renna

One year, not feeling up to baking Christmas cookies, I decided to give friends and family jars of stuffed hot peppers instead. The following recipe is simple to follow, and can be adapted easily to accommodate whatever quantity you need.



Unlike baking cookies, you can fudge with the ingredient quantities in this recipe and they will still turn out beautifully. Another plus is that the baked peppers freeze well, and can be made ahead of time and thawed before gift giving or serving. 🍴

Recipe

Kathi Fiamingo, Mayor Borough of Kenilworth, NJ

Stuffed Hot Peppers

INGREDIENTS:

For stuffing a 1 gallon jar of Hot Cherry Peppers (large or small)
1/2 Cup honey
1 Tsp. garlic powder
1/2 Cup vegetable oil
1 1/2 Cups seasoned bread crumbs
1/2 Cup tomato sauce
1/2 Tsp. oregano
Handfuls of raisins and pignoli (pine nuts) as much as you'd like.

PREPARATION

- 1) Clean and seed peppers.
- 2) Mix stuffing ingredients.
- 3) Stuff peppers and bake at 350 for 30 minutes.

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(below, l-r) Simone and Grace Pace celebrate the 60th wedding anniversary of Alice and Joe Amato . Simone is Alice’s cousin and best man her wedding when he was eighteen years old.



(above) Joe and Alice Amato with daughter Mamie and husband Jeff Weiss (left) and son John and wife Kim.

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to a happy marriage
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(right) Alice and Joe Amato dance during their 60th anniversary party on October 5, 2013.
(right) Alice and Joe Amato, October 5, 1953.



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(above, l-r) Jaclyn Marangella, Mark Heineman, Joe Marangella, Cathy Marangella Heineman and Joe Marangella, Jr.

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DEALING WITH CATS IN OUR OWN BACK YARDS

Submitted by Peter Busichio

Any kid growing up in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth could count on one thing: you can find just about anything on, in or around “the Crick.” And then some. From old coins, “dirty” books, and articles of food, shelter and clothing, it was not only a haven for scavengers, but also a time capsule for both distant and recent ages past.

One of the more lively finds would be the animals traveling through the marsh or mud, and many a house pet began its life by getting rescued in time to save it from a harsh winter or arid summer only to become another member of one of the families in the ‘Burg.

Today, while the artifacts might change, one thing remains constant, and even more prevalent. As youths, we considered it playful to find a stray kitten and bring it home to give it a saucer of warm milk and “adopt” it for however long it decided to stick around the backyard. But today, it has become a real problem – both for the health of the animals and the health of the community.

“The new term for a ‘stray’ is now ‘community cat’,” said Cathy Marangella Heineman, whose father, Joe Mags, is a Peterstown resident. “As kids, we didn’t realize the enormity of the problem – it was just fun to find a little kitten and bring it home. But as adults we now view it as an epidemic.”

Cathy first became interested in caring for felines as a kid when her Aunt Jean Bellino, an avid animal lover, would feed stray cats in her backyard in the 1960s. Now 54, Cathy and her husband, Mark, own four domestic cats of their own, all rescued from either the street or a shelter.

“I want to raise awareness of this problem because it simply is not good for the community or the cats,” said Cathy, who is a registered nurse. “Whenever I visit my dad, I see colonies of feral cats in his backyard, and if you walk just a little ways down the street, you’ll find more numbers down by the river.”

Feral cats do have a home, but that home is the outdoors. And while they do appreciate a plateful of food, they are not the kind of cat that will cuddle up with you on your couch.

Cathy has joined with volunteers Linda and Andrea from Elaine’s Foundation for Homeless Felines and local Peterstown resident and volunteer, Barbara Petrillo Grecco, to spearhead an effort to trap and neuter colonies of feral cats throughout the city and the state.

The rescue group traps many abandoned cats and kittens in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth. Many of the female cats are pregnant repeatedly (every 63 days) and sometimes while their kittens are still only 8-10 weeks old. Elaine’s Foundation takes them in; spays and neuters them (except for the pregnant moms, they will not abort the kittens); treats them for internal and external parasites (fleas and worms); vaccinates and feeds them; and works with the feral cats to socialize them and find them forever homes. This is not a Trap/Neuter/Release (TNR) group — they do not turn the animals back out into the cold — and they have a no-kill policy.

Many of the cats are tame, but scared, which indicates that they were previously socialized and probably dumped down at the river near Williams Field. All that have been trapped this past fall were not spayed and neutered.

Even though the volunteers have rescued more than 30 cats and kittens, there is work to be done. There are large colonies at City Hall, the Social Services Department on Westminster Ave., and more groups in the north section of Kenilworth. The volunteers are trying to rescue all of them, but need the funds to help. In addition, the rescuers at Elaine’s have a lofty goal: to build an adoption center where the cats can roam free and prospective owners can bond with their new pets before taking them home.

The cost for veterinary care and shelter for each rescued cat and kitten is about \$150, so any contribution to offset that cost is welcome. Online donations may be made to: www.elainesfelines.org/donation.html, with a note that reads: GIFT FOR ELIZABETH, NJ CATS. Checks may be mailed to Elaine’s Felines at 139 Fern Ave, Lyndhurst, New Jersey 07071. Elaine’s is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and all donations are tax deductible.

Cathy is the first to acknowledge that there are many worthy places to direct our charitable donations these days, but she is trying to address a local problem as well. Her family has contributed to Elaine’s for each of the Elizabeth cats they’ve “surrendered” through the trapping program.

“I am sleeping better at night, knowing that I’ve helped in some small way to help put these helpless animals into good hands,” she said.

“I hope to do my Aunt Jean proud by having her know that a simple act of kindness extended to our backyard cats 45 years ago, has turned into a community initiative that addresses a very real, growing societal issue.”

If anyone desires more information about how you can join Cathy, Barbara, Linda and Andrea’s efforts, please contact Cathy at: cmheineman@aol.com.

Other resources:
People for Animals – Low Cost Spay/Neuter Services 973-282-0890 or www.pfaonline.org
Ally Cat Allies – for more information on protecting community cats www.alleycat.org

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