



PETERSTOWN FAMILY COMES FULL CIRCLE

Joseph and Angelina Alfano raised their family on Niles Street until they moved in 1952. Sixty-two years later their great-grandson, Tom Fowler Jr., purchased his first home on Niles Street just a block away. The move symbolizes a return to the roots of the lifestyle that made old neighborhoods like Peterstown so special.

The Peterstown section of Elizabeth, New Jersey was populated by Italian immigrants in the beginning of the 1900's and the waves of Italians continued to arrive for another sixty years before waning. In the meantime, many of the first and second generations of arrivals were able to move from the neighborhood to more spacious suburbs.

Elizabeth is a big city and by definition it is densely populated and features multi-family housing. The housing stock was small but affordable, most suitable for the new arrivals with limited resources. The fact that the subsequent generations elevated themselves out of aging houses and into newer and larger homes with property is a testament to their ability to prosper. Families did not even have to leave Elizabeth to find desirable neighborhoods. The city offered plenty of new homes in emerging neighborhoods towards the north and west end borders. And so when the Alfano family was ready to move they purchased a two-family house at 597 Monroe Avenue in the North End section of town.

Joseph and Angelina raised their seven children there, Charlie, Benny, Nat, Anna, Libby, Tina and Matty. Eventually two siblings remained in the home. Charlie with his wife Lucy lived on the first floor. Libby and her husband Joe Fowler occupied the second floor. Charlie had two children, Ann Marie and Angela, while Libby raised four, Joanne, Joe Jr., Tom and Donny.

The story turns interesting for the Fowler family. Tom Fowler married Maria Insignalia. They also stayed in Elizabeth, raising their two children, Thomas (TJ) and Allison on Glenwood Avenue.

On August 30, 2012, TJ was welcomed into the Elizabeth Fire Department in a ceremony at City Hall. While he was still in the Academy, TJ would routinely monitor his scanner listening to emergency calls and official communications. One afternoon he heard a broadcasted for a fire at 597 Monroe. The address sounded familiar so he called his dad and asked if he recognized the address. Tom Sr. more than recognized it. It was the home where he grew up. TJ rushed to the scene and even though he was just a cadet he was able to help the Elizabeth Fire Department fight the blaze that affected three houses. The Fowler's old domain was totally destroyed.

TJ would never forget the experience. He was sure there would be some emotional feelings for his father, aunts and uncles. TJ helped roll hose and lug equipment but he saw the work that his future comrades were doing and it reinforced his desire to be a firefighter. A dramatic photo of the fire was featured on the cover of the program at TJ's graduation from the Fire Academy.

When it was time to buy his first home, TJ looked no further than his hometown. He is the fourth generation of his family to call Elizabeth

home and is committed to serving his community as a firefighter. What he did that was unique is he purchased a house in Peterstown, just a block from where his great-grandparents had lived. The big difference is that his home, like many others, is totally renovated and modernized.

TJ purchased the house that was once owned and occupied by the DeMaio family at 532 Fourth Avenue. The neighborhood has gone through a physical redevelopment with many old homes being razed and replaced by new construction. TJ's move to Peterstown may mark a trend of younger folks seeing the value of living in a close knit neighborhood as opposed to the sprawl of the suburbs.

The value of living in Peterstown over the past century is that residents are surrounded by likeminded people. Neighbors who think community first, before self-interest. The community supported each other though the church and charitable organizations. It was the way Joseph and Angelina taught their children and grandchildren. It is how TJ's father taught him.

(left, r-l) The Fowler family Maria, TJ, Allison, and Tom, at a ceremony held at Elizabeth City Hall Council Chambers on August 30, 2012 welcoming 22 new firefighters into the city's department including TJ.



(above) Photo by Mark Perrotto of the April 17, 2012 fire that destroyed the childhood home of Tom Fowler Sr. at 597 Monroe Avenue in the North End section of Elizabeth, NJ.





Feb 14

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

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President's Message



I'm writing this as I prepare the feast we serve at the Super Bowl Party. I hope I'm not sued for calling it a Super Bowl Party. The NFL is being slammed in the press for not being very nice of their hosts. Local towns and businesses have been vocal about getting the shaft after being promised the world. I expect an even bigger turn out at our party this year. We don't rely on anyone's promises to have a great time. The success of our events come from the community. The Sons of Peterstown have been hosting a Super Bowl Party since we formed. It has never disappointing. 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. Please try to attend this event and support our friend and neighbor.

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.

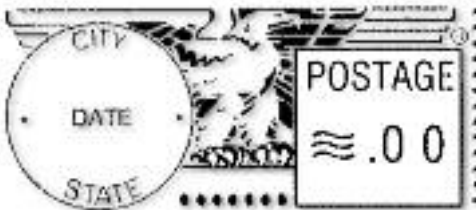
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Letters to the Editor



Hey Joe,

I'm sending you this from California. I'm out west to see my Alma Mater, the Michigan State Spartans play the Stanford Cardinal in the 100th Rose Bowl in Pasadena.

First of all, words cannot express how great it was to reconnect with so many of my former college friends, dorm mates and even an ex-girlfriend (or two, wink-wink), not to mention the thrilling come-from-behind, 24-20 victory by my beloved Spartans! However, the story begins the next day when myself and two college pals decided to take a ride up to Malibu and check out the beautiful cliff-lined beaches up there. After about an hour and half drive, our trusty GPS directed us to Point Dume (pronounced doom) Beach State Park. Exhausted from the last few days of non-stop festivities, which included a Lakers game at the Staple Center, MSU Pep Rally in downtown LA (attended by 27,000 Spartan fans), New Year's Eve and the infamous Tournament of Roses Parade bright and early on New Year's Day followed by a great MSU tailgate party and very exciting football game, we decided to just find a spot to crash on the beach, soak up some of the 78 degree rays and catch up on some much needed rest.

As we approached the beach, I looked up and saw a trail winding up the cliff towards the top of Point Dume. An avid hiker, my adrenaline kicked in and weariness subsided and I was able to convince one of my buddies to partake in the climb with me. Glad we did, because when we reached the top, as exhausting as it was, there was a fellow at the edge of the cliff doing exercises which consisted of sit ups and pushups. As we took photos of the gorgeous Malibu ocean vistas, what looked like a regular California "surfer dude" came over to us and with a very distinct southern drawl congratulated us on our Rose Bowl Victory. "Hey fellas, he said, "Great game yesterday, worth the road trip, huh?" Not knowing who the "surfer dude" was we cordially answered, "Yea, it was a great game at that." (My friend was wearing a Spartan Football shirt and me an MSU hat). Then, to my surprise and my buddy who was slowly mouthing the word, M-A-T-T, with a bewildered look on his face, we realized it was in fact, actor, Matthew McConaughey, all alone on top of a cliff doing pushups. I shook his hand and asked if we could take a picture with him (he obliged of course) and congratulated him for his recent role in "Dallas Buyers Club" in which he recently won a Golden Globe for Best Actor while currently nominated for an Oscar at the upcoming Academy Awards.

He was truly a gentleman as we discussed more about the game before he put on his earphones, stretched a bit and jogged off into the sunset. The next day, I received a text from a friend from Elizabeth that saw a picture of the actor running in Malibu that was published in the New York Post (Jan. 5, 2014 edition).

Needless to say, it was truly a great trip, capped off by our brush with Hollywood royalty. Always remember, when in doubt, hike!

Sincerely
Dave Strochak
Elizabeth, NJ
(via text message from Malibu, CA.)



(above) Dave Strochak with actor Matthew McConaughey in Malibu, CA during a workout session.

(right) New York Post photo of McConaughey from that same work out session but with no mention of Strochak.



Hi Joe,

Just received my copy of *Around About Peterstown* and read with interest the ships your Father served on. I also served on Destroyers during the Korean War, and I am sure your Dad will tell you they were not built for comfort, but for speed, maneuverability and combat.

I also enlisted when I was 17 two days after I graduated from Jefferson High School in 1950, a day after I joined a friend of mine asked "Do you know we are at war?" and I asked "With whom?" He answered "North Korea."

I thought to myself I joined to see the world, and I sure did. Served almost 5 years and never regretted it.

There is a wonderful website called www.navsource.org that lists every ship the Navy had. In the left side of the page is a link to Destroyers, where he can read about the ships he was on, the Stevens and the Wiley. It gives a complete history of the ship from laying of the keel to its final disposition.

He can also link to a section on transport ships and find the other ships he was stationed on, the John Penn and the USS President Adams.

I am sure he will find the sites very interesting. Tells all the battles the ships engaged in, I still go on it about six times a year to read about some of the historic ships that served in WW II.

Keep up the good work with your newspaper.
Jack Joyce
Spring Hill, FL

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ADVERTISER	PAGE
AAA All Car Auto Salvage	14
Alligator Property Management	4
American Plumbing & Heating Supply	14
Bella Gina's Italian Deli & Restaurant.....	11
Blue Streak Motors	13
Bob & Richies Sunoco	14
Cafe Gallo.....	9
Candelino Kitchens	14
City Tavern Restaurant.....	12
Cleveland Auto & Tire	14
Colton's Pharmacy.....	4
Corsentino Home for Funerals	15
Dimensions Hair Salon	6
Don Alex Restaurant	12
Dr. Nicholas Cicchetti, D.M.D.	5
Dr. Nicholas Palmieri, Chiropractic Sports Medicine	5
Dr. Frank Paternostro, D.M.D.	4
Dr. Richard A. Lewis, DMD.....	4
Drew Memorial Company.....	15
Elizabeth Auto Glass.....	14
Elizabeth Chiropractors.....	5
Elizabeth Yellow Cab	15
Galluzzo Construction.....	15
GK Tax Services	4
Goodman's Restaurant & Deli.....	11
Hollywood Carpet.....	14
Il Gabbiano, An Italian Bistro.....	13
Jersey Uniforms.....	15
John's Caffe	12
Larry's Generator	14
Magic Fountain.....	10
Michelino's Pizzeria	10
Parkview Restaurant	9
Petrucelli Funeral Home	15
Pinho's Bakery	8
Primavera's Restaurant	11
Red Cadillac.....	10
Richard Lucas Chevrolet Subaru.....	7
Rocco Auto Service	4
Roselle UPS Store.....	6
Sacco's Meat Market	13
Santillo's Brick Oven Pizza.....	12
Slices Pizzeria	12
Team Law	16
Tequila's Grill.....	13
The Insurance Centers	6
Torna Di Sorento.....	8
Total Hearing Care	5
Tropicana Diner & Bakery.....	10
Villani Bus Company	15
Weichert Realtors	4
White Castle	8
Vinhus Restaurant.....	13

AMADOR NAMED EAP CHAIRMAN

Emerson Amador of Alligator Property Management LLC., has been elected to serve as the 2014 Chairman of the Elizabeth Avenue Partnership (EAP), the downtown management corporation created to administer the Elizabeth Avenue Special Improvement District (SID).

Amador has been on the EAP Board since 2009, serving on the Image & Appearance Committee as well as Secretary to the Board of Directors while most recently serving as the Chairman of the Golf Committee, now in its second year.

"Serving as Chairman of the Board is truly an honor and a role I will take very seriously to help the EAP create an even safer, cleaner and much improved Elizabeth Avenue," said Amador. "I have a lot of new and exciting ideas and look forward to working with the board and staff in executing these new initiatives."


Amador brings a wealth of experience, business knowledge and marketing expertise to the EAP, having worked in Real Estate for 25 years before opening his own business, Alligator Property Management LLC, a full service real estate brokerage firm offering a wide range of services from selling, managing and renting properties.

Relocating his office to 946 Elizabeth Avenue, above the Post Office, a building that the Amador family has owned for more than 50 years, has brought him back to his roots.

"Being back on the Avenue makes me truly feel like I've come home again," said Amador. "Working to improve the area that I feel so connected to is very rewarding," he said. "Attracting new businesses while making sure the current stores are occupied with quality tenants is one of my goals while promoting the existing businesses through promotions and marketing initiatives."

Since 1999, the EAP's mission has been to revitalize

and enhance all aspects of the Elizabeth Avenue business district including the, Image & Appearance, Safety, Security & Parking, Promotions, Events and Quality Business Development.

For more information about the Elizabeth Avenue Partnership (EAP) please call the office at 908-965-0660 or log onto their website at www.elizabethavenue.org and or like them on Facebook @ "Elizabeth Avenue-The Market." To speak with Emerson Amador at Alligator Property Management LLC, please call 908-289-5108 or visit his website at www.home4you2.com. 



(above, l-r) Alligator Property Management mascot and Owner Emerson Amador at the Elizabeth Avenue Partnership 2013 Tree Lighting Ceremony.

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(left) Grand Prize winner for the 350 Anniversary logo contest was submitted by Asher Horowitz, from the Grade 9-12 category and picked from over 160 entries.




GOELIZABETHNJ.COM

October 2014 marks the 350th anniversary of the royal charter that established the colony of New Jersey. The colonists founded Elizabethtown, named in honor of the wife of the first Governor, Philip Carteret, on the grounds of what is now the First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth. The church is adjacent to the Union County Courthouse.

New Jerseyans have a unique opportunity to remember the core values and struggles that have built this state, particularly in our incredible History, Education, Industry, and Infrastructure. The Greater Elizabeth region will demonstrate that New Jersey began in our backyard and most of the American Revolution was fought where we now work, live, and drive every day.

Goelizabethnj.com is a website created by a committee at the forefront of organizing events. We're encouraging our region's cities and counties to do the same. A statewide commission is also underway through the sponsorship of our local representatives.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

Send an email to Bob Higgs, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth, 350@acadennj.org. They are looking for history lovers, New Jersey lovers, business people, as well as leaders in Industry, Education, History, and Infrastructure. 

Colonial History Comes to Where New Jersey Began
Saturday, March 29, 2014 at the First Presbyterian Church
42 Broad Street Elizabeth, NJ



Come join members of Colonel Matthias Ogden's 1st New Jersey Regiment, a living history reenactment organization as they encamp and train on the grounds of the 1st Presbyterian Church.

Encampment opens to the public at 11:00 AM and will end at 4:00 P.M



- Learn about 18th century with demonstrations and discussions about colonial life.
- Honor Colonel Matthias Ogden at a Memorial Service at his final resting place.
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Saturday, February 8, 2014

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(St. Anthony Church)

4:00 p.m. - ?

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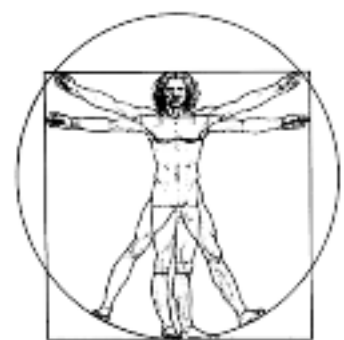
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(above) Rosa Jordao jokes with Carmela Lapore as she puts final touches on her hairdo for her 104th birthday celebration.

FREE JOB TRAINING

Project Ready will be accepting applications for its free six week job preparedness program on Tuesday, February 18 at 9:30. Applicants should be prepared to stay until 12 pm. Students receive training in basic business and computer skills as well as resume writing, interviewing & job searching 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 x 213 or visit www.stjosephelizabeth.org

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LIFE LONG FRIENDS CELEBRATE 104TH BDAY

Carmela Lapore celebrated her 104th birthday with her lifelong friends Dotty Nascondiglio and Sally Vaccaro on a Friday morning while getting their hair done. The friends have been getting their hair done on Friday mornings for as long as they could remember.

Carmela, Dotty and Sally are vibrant and full of life. They bring excitement where ever they go and it seems that they are always on the go. The trio is active in community organizations, devoted to the church and they enjoy the company of family and friends. As rare as it is to have reached the age of 104 it is just as rare to be

so spry, even at half that age. The three woman hail from the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, New Jersey. A traditional Italian American neighborhood anchored by St. Anthony's Church which thrives with social clubs and community service organizations. The traditions and the social culture may hold the answer to the question of the longevity and quality of life; both are rare but are experienced by so many from the neighborhood.

Sally checks in at 94 years of age and Sally, who also celebrated her birthday that Friday morning, is a mere 87. The friends' ability to recall the past is remarkable. Not only are they interesting but they are humorous. They constantly joke and genuinely show interest in whomever they are with.

They displayed some silliness at the salon with certain routines they adhere to. They joked about which chair is theirs and never stray from adhering to them. For instance the center dryer is Dotty's and has been since 1979 when they first started to go to Rosa's Beauty Salon on Elizabeth Avenue, in Elizabeth. Carmella, Dotty and Sally were part of a larger contingent that would faithfully attend Friday morning mass at St. Anthony's and then walk the three blocks to the salon. Most of those friends have either passed away or moved away. The trio started going to Rosa's when Arthur DeMaio closed his hair salon which was located in Peterstown on the corner of Third Avenue and South Seventh Street. A recommendation from another of Arthur's customers directed them to Rosa and they have been going ever since.



(above, l-r) Ageless beauties Carmela Lapore, Dotty Nascondiglio, and Sally Vaccaro.



(above, seated, l-r) On hand for the 104th Birthday celebration at Rosa's Beauty Salon were Alsa Ventura, Owner Rosa Jordao, Carmela's daughter, Kathy Claxton, Gianna Coelho, Juustina Figuerreiro, and Fatima Rocha. (standing, l-r) Rosa Maganinho, Birthday Girl Carmela Lapore, Dotty Nascondiglio, Sally Vaccaro, Medelena Marques, and Tina Coelho.

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BASKETBALL COURT DEDICATED TO COACH COLICCHIO

Submitted by Mike Colicchio

On January 7, 2014, in recognition of sixteen years of outstanding service to the City of Linden and the students that matriculated at Linden High School, the Linden Board of Education dedicated the basketball court at Linden High School to Coach Phil Colicchio.

A native of Elizabeth, the youngest of the three sons of Thomas and Beverly Colicchio has become one of the most successful coaches in Union County and New Jersey hoops history. From his high school playing days at St. Mary's and Elizabeth High School, where he was the point guard on the 1984 EHS Union County Championship team through his days coaching the Linden Tigers squad since 1998, he has dedicated his career to teaching young men how to be successful both on and off the court.

His coaching resume is substantial. His first coaching job was on the staff of his high school coach, the legendary Ben Candelino. As the Elizabeth High JV coach, he won eight Union County Championships. After a successful year as the head man at Barringer High School in Newark, the Linden Board of Education, Principal Joe Martino and Mayor John Gregorio convinced him that Linden was the right place to be. In sixteen years stomping the Linden sidelines he has won the only three Group IV State Championships in Linden history (2000, 2006 and 2007), five Group IV State Sectional Championships, seven Watchung Conference Championships and two Union County Championships both significant upsets over heavily favored St. Patrick's. He has won almost 450 games in his 25 years of coaching including 330 at Linden.

Phil brings much more to the table than meets the eye. As pointed out by MSG announcer Mike Quick at the dedication ceremony, this level of success does not come without personal sacrifice. There were many times when his job and team came before his wife Laila and children Tommy, Alyssa and Gia. Dividing his time between his vocation and family is a balancing act that is not always easy but is easily understood and accepted.

The reigning Union County Coach of the Year attributes his success to many. Coaches such as Jerry Moore and Bob Firestone with whom he worked at Elizabeth High, Linden officials such as the aforementioned and Al Volpe and Antoinette Modrak, players such as Desmond Wade, LJ McGhee, Jamaal Tate, Greg Parker, Danny Del Valle, Mo Wilkerson and Darryl Lampley, assistant coaches such as John Hutchinson, Marty Luc, Monte Brooks and Anthony Drejaj, the amazingly loyal fans of the Linden Tigers, his brothers Mike and Tom whom allowed him to tag along with them as a boy and his loving parents and wife all have been given credit for forging the man and coach that he has become.



(above, l-r) Phil Colicchio with brother Mike and Tom. (left and below) Photos from ceremony and game.



As the only New Jersey coach and one of only three in the tri-state area to have received such an honor while still an active coach Phil has almost reached the pinnacle of his career. The 2013-2014 Linden squad is a very talented group that has set its sights on another Union County title and the ultimate prize, the New Jersey Tournament of Champions trophy. In Phil's words, he doesn't have a job; he has something he loves to do, something he is good at and has people that appreciate what he does. Titles and accolades aside, who could ask for more? 🏆

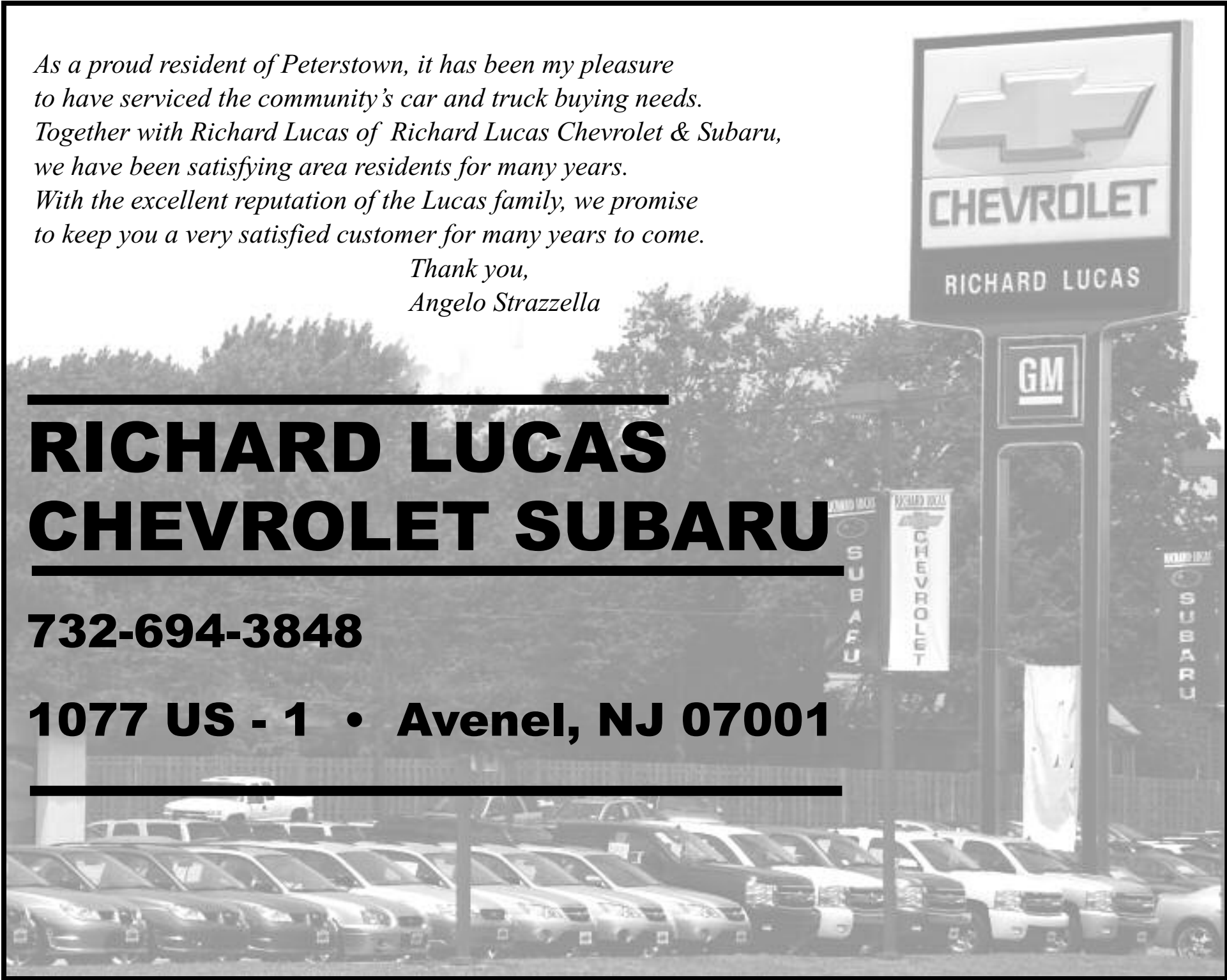
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(above, l-r) Russell Nascondiglio, Anthony Ferraro, Dan Derose, and Frank Grossi.

KINDERGARDEN CLASS OF '57 STAYS UNITED

class mates go through great lengths to reunite every ten years but Russell Nascondiglio, Anthony Ferraro, Dan Derose, and Frank Grossi have kept in touch since thier days in St. Anthony's Kindergarden. They remained close friends and share in their good times and special family occasions.

St. Anthony's Grammar School was part of the St. Anthony Church parrish. It has since been renamed Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy. These four guys graduated eight grade in 1966. They attribute thier close friendship on growing in The Burg, the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, New jersey. 🍷



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A SEABRA OPENS COFFEE BAR IN 5-POINTS SUPERMARKET

A Seabra Foods , a super market located at 1350 Galloping Hill Road at 5-Points in Union has recently opened a Coffee Bar in thier facility.

The Coffee Bar offers a resting place for shoppers to relax and socialize. The shop features espresso, cappuccino, and regular coffee along with other refreshments. A large selection of pastry and deserts are available.

Lunch can also be purchased from a menu of sandwiches to eat on location or for take out.

A Seabra Foods is open Sunday through Saturday from 7 am to 9 pm. It is a full-service market that features fresh produce, flower shop, fish market, butcher shop and deli. A Seabra also sells beer and wines..

A Seabra Foods also has a variety of ethnic products that you may be looking for. They carry products from Portugal, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Mexico, Spain, and much more. 🍷

(right, l-r) Coffee Bar barista Aylin serves espresso to Francesca Guercio, Nora Guercio, Joseph and Maria Manto.



WHITE CASTLE TO HOST SCOUT CHESS EVENT




The Munsee District of the Boy Scouts of America is hosting their first Chess Tournament open to all registered Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers, who know how to play chess. The tournament will be held on Saturday February 22, 2014 at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ. The event will run from 10am to 2pm. The tournament is being generously sponsored by White Castle.

Joe Renna of Renna Media became a certified merit

badge counselor and is assisting scouts in earning their badges. He initiated the plans for the tournament along with Field Director at Patriots' Path Council Art Lobdell and Jim Parlapiano of Boy Scout Troop 80 in Cranford.

Scouts interested in playing can use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link to register on-line at [ppbsa.doubleknot.com/ event/1454371](http://ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/1454371) or Email Jim Parlapiano jim.parlapiano@bankofamerica.com. 🍷

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Munsee District

Boy Scout Chess Tournament

Saturday, February 22, 2014

10:00 am to 2:00 pm
 Sign-in/setup starts at 9:00 am


Cranford Community Center

220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ • 908.709.7283


Open to all registered Boy Scouts/Venturers/Explorers.
 Limited to 40 players who must know how to play chess. Registration is \$6
 Use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link to register on-line
 at ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/1454371
 Email Jim Parlapiano jim.parlapiano@bankofamerica.com for more info.

Trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers.
 Commemorative ribbons and gift bags for all participants.
 Lunch will be provided by White Castle for all players.
 This tournament meets the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

Event Sponsored by




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ALFANO FAMILY TREE IN PHOTOS

The cover story of TJ Fowler relates his move ot his first home ein Peterstown to that of his great grandparents Joseph and Angelina Alfano who had seven children, Charlie, Benny, Nat, Anna, Libby, Tina and Matty. Libby married Joe Fowler and they had four children, Joanne, Joe Jr., Tom and Donny. Tom married Marie Insignalia and they had two children Allison and TJ. The photos have some spouses iand children in them. the match ups are: child Benny is the son of Tina and Nelson, Charlie and Joey are the sons of Nat and Josie, and Angela and AnneMarie ate the daughters of Lucy and Charlie.



(above, l-r) Angelina, Lucy, Anna, Libby and Tina.



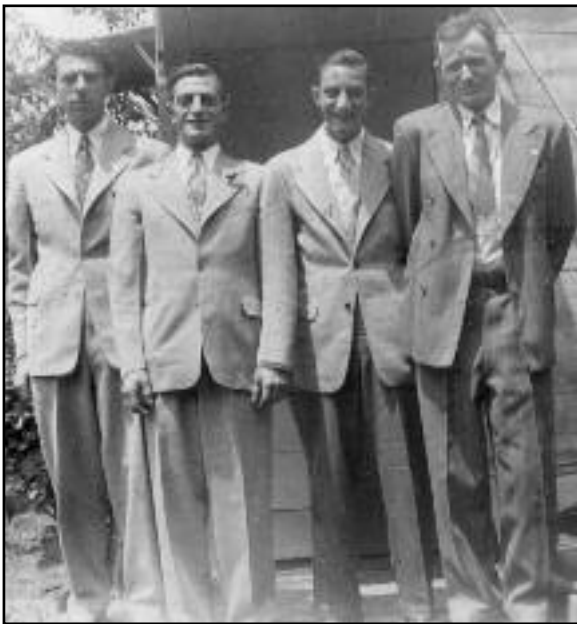
(above, l-r) Joe and Libby Fowler



(above, l-r) Josie and Nat holding Charlie and Joey.



(above, l-r) Matty helping her nephew Benny Ride his trike.



(above, l-r) Nelson, Charlie, Benny and Joseph.

LONG TIME NO SEE

The below photo and caption appeared in The Daily Journal



Mrs. Liboria Pennica, 63, of Italy hugs her sister, Mrs. Angela Alfano, 76, right, during a reunion at latter's home, 597 Monroe Ave., Elizabeth. The sisters had not seen each other in 57 years. Mrs. Penniea arrived in the United States last week with a brother, George Di Giovanni, 70. The two will spend the summer visiting relatives they had not seen since childhood in Italy.



(above, l-r) Lucy and Charlie Alfano behind Angela and Anne Marie.



(above, l-r) this a wedding photo of Tom Fowler, son of Libby and Joe.

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Joseph S. Barraco
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(right) Connie Barraco stands in front of the door to the room at Father Hudson House in Elizabeth dedicated to her husband Joseph.

ELIZABETH RESIDENT REMEMBERED WITH DEDICATION AT CENTER FOR HOPE

It is fitting that Joseph's Suite will be forever in Elizabeth. After living in and serving the City of Elizabeth for almost all of his 75 years, Joseph Barraco had a room dedicated to him at Father Hudson House in Elizabeth on November 1. At a warm gathering of his family, friends, former Chief of the Elizabeth Fire Department, Edward Sisk, Jr., and clergy from Saint Genevieve's RC Church, the Center for Hope held an intimate service and reception. A plaque honoring Barraco's fire service is posted at Room #18 at one of Center for Hope's residential hospice and assisted living facilities, named for the co-founder, Father Charles Hudson.

"We are grateful as a family for this permanent memorial honoring Joe. What a nice coincidence and added memory that we lived here right on this street when we first got married. Two of our children were born just a short distance away from here.", recounted Connie Barraco, his wife of 50 years.

The Barraco family has always been about service to

the City of Elizabeth. Joe Barraco was a fireman in town for 35 years. Sons Santo and Salvatore followed in their father's footsteps and are currently members of the Elizabeth Fire Department.

The immediate Barraco family gathered to honor the family patriarch. Also, on hand for the dedication of Joseph's Suite, were the Center for Hope's President, Frank Brady; Chief Operating Officer, Jeff Lampl; and Jose Polanco, the Administrator at Father Hudson House. Barbara Hunter-Yankevicz, the Center's Chairman of the Board, and her husband Robert, long-time friends of the Barraco family, participated as well.

"This beautiful and special home was built, so many years ago, to be in the service of others. Joe Barraco, our dear friend, was likewise always in the service of others. He was a very special man and we are honored to have Suite 18, Joseph's Suite dedicated in his honor.", said Chairman, Hunter-Yankevicz.

Monsignor Hugh O'Donnell and Father George Gillen, of St. Genevieve's Parish in Elizabeth, spoke about the man and his family and offered words of encouragement and inspiration.

"Our founders, Father Charles Hudson and Margaret J. Coloney, started out here in Elizabeth so we have always had deep roots here," said Brady. "Father Hudson House actually opened as a residential hospice facility in 1996."

Before visiting Joseph's Suite Those who had gathered shared many special memories.

Father Hudson House is located at 111 Dehart Place. The Center for Hope, headquartered in Scotch Plains, is a nonprofit hospice and assisted living facility providing care for patients and their families since 1983. Services are provided in patient's homes or in their assisted living residences. cfhh.org



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BRONCO FEAST ON SANTILLO'S PIZZA AS LAST MEAL BEFORE THEIR SLAUGHTER, Kellogg Park offers solace for Payton Manning

Submitted by David Storchak, Executive Director Elizabeth Avenue Partnership

The Denver Broncos were staying in Jersey City, New Jersey for the Super Bowl but were getting harassed so much by fans at the hotel that they switched their hotel in stealth on Saturday night to stay at the Renaissance Hotel in Elizabeth. Once there, the team asked where the best pizza in town was. Once told, they ordered more than fifty pies from Santillo's Brick Oven Pizza located on South Broad Street. A great place indeed, voted #1 Best Pizza in NJ by many food magazines.

On Sunday morning the Elizabeth Police Department received a call from a New Jersey state trooper on duty with the Broncos at the Renaissance Hotel in Elizabeth, where the Broncos were staying the night before the big game. The trooper said that a Bronco player wanted to find a park close by to walk around and collect his thoughts, a ritual he does before every game. The Elizabeth police officer recommended Kellogg Park on North Avenue, a cute little park on the north side of town near Routes 1 & 9. The officer met the trooper at

the hotel and escorted them to Kellogg Park where a tall fella with a hat pulled down tight over his hoodie got out and proceeded to walk around the park, head down, deep in thought and contemplative. It was approximately 10:30 a.m. around 44 degrees and the park was totally empty. The meditative stroll took around 40 minutes before the player returned to the car. With his hoodie down, he was more recognizable. It was Peyton Manning.

Manning, arguably the best quarterback in the NFL, would face the Seattle Seahawks that evening at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford. The game would become a disaster for Manning and the Broncos. They lost the game 43 to 8.

So the question remains: Was Denver's lackluster performance the result of their last minute hotel move? Was it the carb overload of Santillo's Pizza? Was it something Manning contemplated in the park? Or, were the Seahawks just way too tough, too fast and too hungry? 🐾

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(above) Mark Osorez prepares a serving of Choclo con Queso.

(right) Amanda Barone of Union ladles servings of Picante, a home made Hot Sauce served on the side of all entrees and appetizers at Don Alex Restaurant.



DON ALEX SERVES AUTHENTIC PERUVIAN FARE

Don Alex's newest restaurant opened in Kenilworth in June 2012. It is the third location for the family owned business. The restaurant is managed by Mark Osorez, who grew up in the business learning the ins and outs from his parents. Don Alex offers authentic Peruvian cuisine in a casual setting.

The Kenilworth location offers a sitdown restaurant atmosphere and features live music on certain nights. Couples and family can dine to the sounds of Andean music played on the panflute, an ancient musical instrument.

All three locations have a robust takeout service. Don

Alex's specialty is the authentic rotisserie chicken "Pollo a la Brasa". But the menu is rounded out by a mix of seafood and steak entrees which are uniquely Peruvian in their preparation. Sides like Choclo, a large kernel corn from the Andes, are the types of rare dishes not common to many restaurants. Jars of thier popular home made hot sauce called Picante can be purchased.

Don Alex has been satisfying customers since 1998. They are located on 625 N. Michigan Avenue in Kenilworth (908-349-8060); 356 Rahway Avenue in Elizabeth (908-354-9270) and 1988 Morris Avenue in Union (908-378-5695).



(left) a beautiful painting depicting the mountains of Peru adorns the wall of Don Alex's Kenilworth location.

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FROM PERU TO PETERSTOWN

Jose “Paco” Lino and his brother Ralph immigrated from Peru to Elizabeth, NJ in 1974. They settled in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth and though it was a traditionally Italian neighborhood the Lino brothers fit right in to the already rich culture. They both got jobs in the city’s Public Works Department and were active members in the Sons of Peterstown Sports Club joining their many friends in supporting local charities.

Paco married and raised three children, Jose, Jackie and Carlos. Paco and Ralph were joined by their aunt and uncle Leticia and Hugo, and cousins, Hugo, Bert and Marita Lynn, who arrived from Peru in 1985. Paco’s mother, Grace would also move to Peterstown.

Born in Lima, Peru, Marita Lynn got her start as a gourmet chef early in life. Her family entertained frequently and with gusto, which inspired Marita to try her hand at the culinary arts when she was only 14. She still remembers the flutter of excitement when she presented her first ceviche to her family.

Recipe

Submitted by: Marita Lynn Catering

Aji de Gallina

Aji de Gallina is a spicy stew made of shredded non-laying hen and aji pepper in a spicy creamy sauce. The dish is traced back to the Inca times, where a type of bird called “Hualpa” was cooked and shredded with an aji sauce. Also, after the French Revolution, many chefs lost their jobs and traveled to Peru, where they started working for the wealthy Criollo families and brought their French recipes and techniques that later were fused with Peruvian dishes.

That is why Aji de Gallina can also be called Spicy Peruvian Chicken Fricasse. Traditionally the dish is made with non-laying hen, but in actual times, most people cook it with chicken, there are also other variations, instead of chicken, seafood and shellfish could be used.

Aji de gallina is one of my favorite dishes and so easy to prepare. It has always been a controversy with my family as of the color of the aji de gallina. My mom and my aunts have learned from my grandmother to cook it with Aji Colorado and the finished color is reddish. They say that is the traditional and right way, but I love it with Aji Mirasol and the finished yellow color that is most commonly cooked in Lima.

Either color, this is a delicious dish I would love to share with you. Provecho! 🍴

After she and her family moved to the U.S., Marita decided to professionally pursue her life’s passion and attended the Institute of Culinary Education in New York City, where she graduated with high honors. She then trained and worked at a number of highly acclaimed restaurants, including Jean Georges, Daniel Boulud’s Feast and Fetes Catering, The Ryland Inn, and The Bernards Inn in New Jersey. 🍴



(above) The Lino/Reyes families at a Sons of Peterstown Picnic in 2005.

INGREDIENTS:

4 whole chicken breasts	1tsp cumin
4 cups chicken stock	1/4 cup Aji mirasol paste
1 carrot chopped	½ loaf sliced white bread
1 piece celery leaves	without the crust
1 Bay leaf	1 ½ cup milk
¼ cup Canola oil	¼ cup chopped walnuts
1 med chopped white onion	1/3 cup parmesan cheese
3 cloves garlic, chopped	Salt and pepper to taste

GARNISH:

3 potatoes
3 hard boil eggs, sliced (could be Cornish eggs)
Botija Olives or Black Olives



(above, l-r) Jose Lino and his cousin Marita Lynn at a Red Carpet event promoting her book on about her catering business called Marita Lynn Catering. She can be contacted by calling 917.272.8567 or through her website www.maritalynncatering.com

PREPARATION

- 1) Cook chicken breast with 4 cups of chicken stock, carrots and celery leaves in a pot on medium heat, simmering for about 40 minutes. Once cooked, let the chicken cool. Shred the chicken into bite-size pieces. Reserve two cups of the stock.
- 2) In a bowl, crumble the bread, soak in the milk and put the mixture in the blender to form a panada that will bind the dish.
- 3) In a medium pan, heat canola oil and sauté onion until translucent, then add garlic, cumin and aji mirasol paste, cook well for 5 minutes.
- 4) Add the soaked bread mixture, season with salt and pepper. Cook for another 10 minutes, then add slowly the hot chicken stock, stirring constantly, making sure to get a creamy consistency. Add stock each time the sauce thickens too much.
- 5) Finally add the shredded chicken, parmesan cheese and walnuts. Add a little more stock if necessary, gently mixing so the chicken pieces stay intact. Simmer for 8 minutes. Adjust seasoning.
- 6) Serve hot with a side of white rice and sliced potatoes. Garnish with olives and hard boiled eggs slices.

Serves six.

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(above) Dolly and Mary Joan.
(right) Mary Joan and her Dad, Charlie Koch.

IN MEMORY OF ROSEMARY (DOLLY) MONACO KOCH

APRIL 18, 1923 - JANUARY 14, 2009

Submitted by Mary Joan Renna

Five years have gone since you left for heaven. Daddy is taking good care of you as well as the Lord. But I still cry every day as my heart breaks for both of you and I feel like an orphan. You were the best parents in the world. When I look at the sky it feels like I'm looking for you. Never forget how much I love you as I will never forget how much you loved me.

With endless love, your daughter, Mary Joan. 🐾



SALVATORE TIMPANI PASSES AWAY AT 70



Salvatore Timpani was born in Torregrotta, Sicily, before immigrating to America at the age of 12, settling in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ. He lived in Toms River, N.J., before residing in Venetico, Sicily.

Salvatore was a barber by trade for many years before becoming a member of Laborers Local Union 394 in Elizabeth, NJ. He was a dedicated member of the Ribera Club in Elizabeth.

Everyone knew him as Sal, Sal the Barber, Little Sal, Uncle Sal, or Mr. T. He had a heart of gold and a wonderful sense of humor. He lived his life to the fullest every day with love and laughter. Salvatore was a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Sal unexpectedly passed away on January 9, 2014, at the age of 70 in the Province of Messina, Sicily, Italy. Services and burial were held in Venetico, Sicily, and attended by his many friends.

He was predeceased by his mother, Caterina and father, Dominick; his sister, Dora Rundo and her husband, Guiseppe; brothers, Placido, Dominick, and Anthony; and sister-in-law, Carmen Timpani.

He is survived by his loving wife and best friend of 41 years, Therese Rich Timpani; son, Salvatore and his wife, Nicole; daughter, Danielle D'Aloisio and her husband, Philip; his five grandchildren, Tiffany, Salvatore, Mia, Sophia, and Lorenzo; his brother, Frank Timpani; sisters-in-law, Giovanna and Pia Timpani; and many nieces and nephews. 🐾

RETIRED ELIZABETH DETECTIVE PAUL PARTAZANA PASSES AWAY AT 73



Paul L. Partazana, 73, of Toms River, N.J., passed away on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2014. Paul was born and raised in Elizabeth, N.J., and moved to Toms River in 1999. He was a proud veteran who served in the U.S. Army, and upon his discharge, married his childhood sweetheart, Ruth.

Paul was a police officer with the Elizabeth Police Department for over 32 years, retiring as a detective in 1997. He also served as president of the Elizabeth PBA Local No. 4 for 16 years. He was a parishioner of St.

Justin R.C. Church, Toms River.

Surviving are his loving wife of 51 years, Ruth (nee Fyne), and their four children and spouses, Paul J. and Theresa of North Brunswick, N.J., John and Robyn of Toms River, Janet and Mike Caruso of Toms River, and Debbie and Antonio Spirito of Elizabeth, N.J. Paul is also survived by his cherished grandchildren, Michael, Paul, Stephen, John, William, Angelica, Luciano, Antonio, Anthony, Alex, Michael, Isabella, John, and Miranda. He is also survived by his brother, Louis and his wife, NancyAnn, of Manahawkin, N.J.; his brother-in-law, Robert Fyne and wife, Jo-Ann, of Fords, N.J., and many nieces, nephews, and friends. 🐾

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DORIS (DEMARZO) MARIANO,
RESIDING IN SCOTTSDALE AZ, PASSES AT 87

Before settling in Scottsdale, AZ in 2011, Doris Mariano lived for a short time in Baton Rouge, LA. She was born July 12, 1926 in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ and lived on Second Avenue up to when her daughter was born and then moved to Rankin Street. She lived in Roselle and also Scotch Plains. Doris passed away on Sunday, October 6, 2013 in Phoenix Mountain Nursing Center. The family had her wake and funeral back in New Jersey, a wake at McCracken Funeral Home in Union, a funeral mass at Holy Spirit Church in Union, and entombment at St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia, N.J. Doris was a dedicated member of St. Anthony's Parish in Peterstown, where she sang in the choir and also of St.

Joseph the Carpenter Church in Roselle. She was an active member of the Peterstown Italian Club and enjoyed the weekly Women's Knitting Group. Doris was the daughter of the late Anthony and Genevieve DeMarzo and was the youngest of six children, all of whom have predeceased her. Doris was married to Michael J. Mariano, also deceased. They had two daughters, Franceen Reeher who lives in Scottsdale with husband, Larry, and Dareen Wearstler, who with her husband, John, lives in Columbus, Ohio. Her grandson Anton Naess lives in Chicago, IL. Her sisters-in-law Esther Mariano and Anna Carroll both live in Arizona. Doris is also survived by many nieces and nephews.



(left, l-r) The DeMarzo family from Second Avenue, circa early 1950s, Patrick; Marie, Michael, Genevieve (their mother), Hilda, Philomena and Doris.

(below) Doris DeMarzo married Michael Mariano on April 15, 1951.



(above) Doris Mariano with daughters Franceen Reeher and Dareen Wearstler from the summer of 2012.

(right, l-r) Michael and Doris Mariano at the christening of daughter Franceen in Oct 1953 at St Anthony's Church. [Image of Michael and Doris holding their baby daughter Franceen]

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Doris and her husband Michael were born on exactly the same day, July 12, 1926. Doris's brother Mike and her sister Philomena were also born on July 12.

Not for Nothing But...

I don't believe in Astrology but that is typical of a Taurus.



(above) Doris DeMarzo in a Battin High School portrait from 1945.

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