



IT WAS A LIFE SAVING EXPERIENCE

On June 1, 2013, eleven-year-old Stefano DelValle took initiative and acted. He saw a situation that demanded someone do something. And while others still didn't recognize someone was in dire need of assistance, Stefano dove into a pool to retrieve the unconscious body of his classmate, saving his life by a matter of seconds.

The occasion was a graduation party for the sixth grade class of School #9 in Linden, NJ. The pool party just kicked off at two o'clock in the afternoon. The host was just putting burgers and hot dogs on the grill as the children started playing around and jumping in the pool. All was normal and noisy on the perfect summer afternoon. Except for a curiosity that caught Stefano DelValle's eye. He saw a body at the bottom of the pool just lying there, still.

The body was of another eleven-year-old boy, Cervin, a sixth grader who had transferred to another Linden school but remained friends with some old classmates from School #9. Stefano thought Cervin's stillness was eerie and that the silence was deafening through the din of the other kids playing along with the loud music being played by a professional DJ.

Stefano was standing on the diving board and began pointing and alerting the others to look at the bottom of the pool where the boy lay. The response from his classmates was that Cervin was holding his breath on purpose and they joked about how long he was down there and how Stefano was duped into thinking he was in trouble. Stefano protested, "You idiots!", he thought to himself "he's down there too long!" Without hesitation Stefano dove in and swam to the bottom of the eight-foot deep inground pool. He turned Cervin over and saw that his eyes were closed and he was not moving. He put Cervin over one shoulder and swam up to the surface of the pool. Cervin began foaming from the mouth and Stefano knew he was in a serious situation. He swam to the edge of the pool where a father of another boy, who happened to be a fireman, lifted the limp body from the water and performed lifesaving CPR.

The hot dogs hadn't even begun to sizzle when the commotion started. That is how fast it took for a crisis to happen. Linden EMS arrived on the scene to transport Cervin to a Hospital. Cervin would tell the EMTs that when he jumped into the pool and found that he couldn't reach the bottom he panicked. He remembers taking in water but then nothing else afterwards.

Cervin was already submerged so there was none of the yelling or waving or splashing that is associated with drowning to get anyone's attention. Laryngospasm is an uncontrolled and involuntary spasm that happens when the trachea senses that water is entering the lungs. The muscle contraction is designed to stop any more water from entering, but unfortunately breathing is also stopped. The brain begins to suffer from lack of oxygen in less than five minutes. EMS workers speculated that another 30 seconds under water would have been crucial to his recovery.

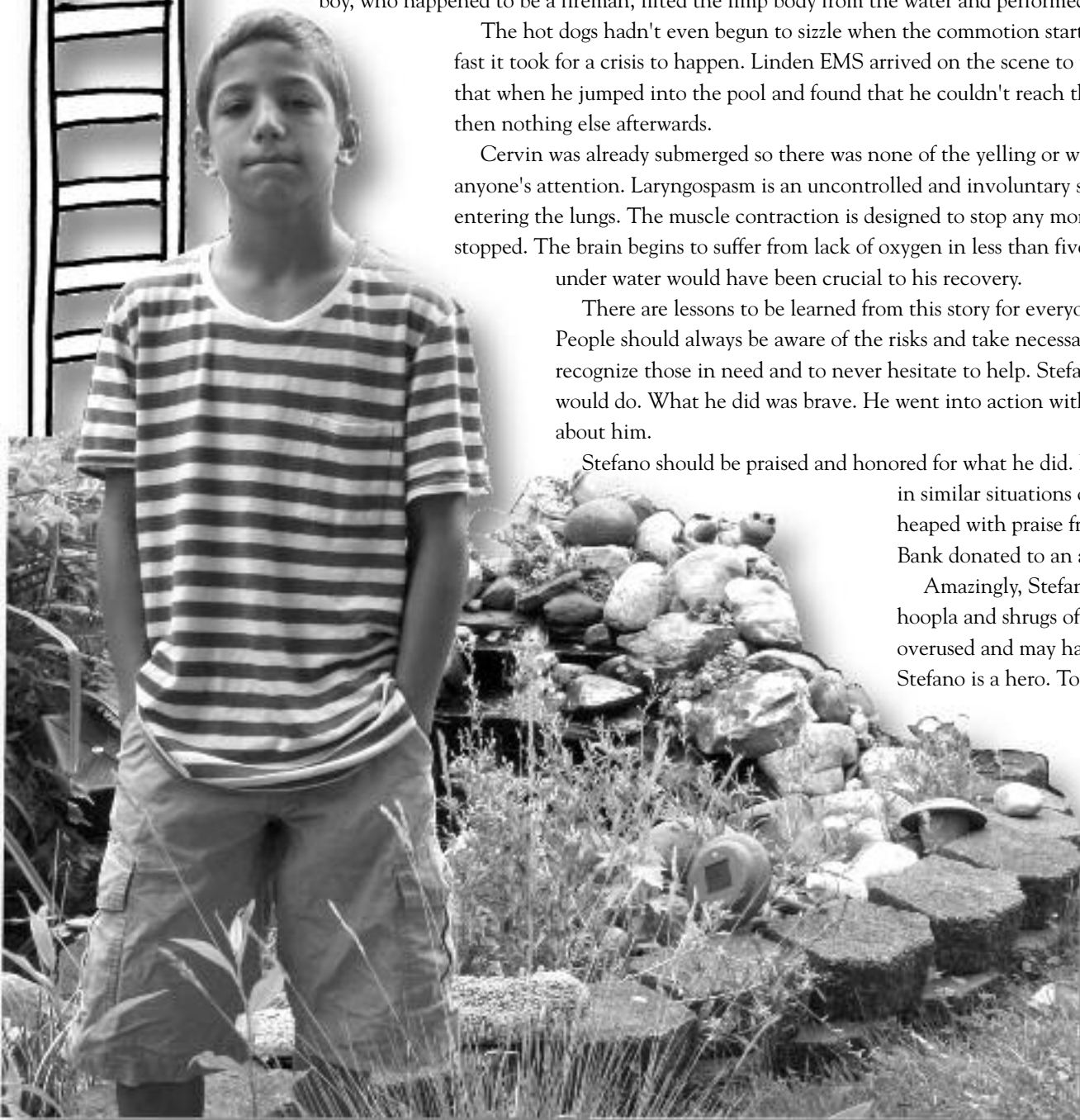
There are lessons to be learned from this story for everyone. First is how easy it is to accidentally succumb to water. People should always be aware of the risks and take necessary precautions. Second is that people should learn to recognize those in need and to never hesitate to help. Stefano went above and beyond what the majority of people would do. What he did was brave. He went into action without hesitation and at his own risk while keeping his wits about him.

Stefano should be praised and honored for what he did. His publicity can be used in a positive way to educate others in similar situations on how to be safe and how to take action. He already is being heaped with praise from local businesses who have given him gift cards. Sovereign Bank donated to an account opened in his name for a scholarship fund.

Amazingly, Stefano is not impressed at all by what he did. He questions all the hoopla and shrugs off the entire affair as no big deal. The term hero has been overused and may have been watered down recently but one can truly say that Stefano is a hero. To Cervin he really, really, really, really is a hero.



(above) Stefano with his proud grandparents Genvano and Guiseppa Nigro, who are originally from the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ.



(left) Stefano DelValle, who saved a classmate from drowning, just did what came naturally.



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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



A lot of scenes from TV Show *The Sopranos* was filmed locally and so there is a connection that people have with the show and this neighborhood. When the star James Gandolfini died, newsmen came to get reactions from some folks from the neighborhood.

Wayne Parry, a writer for the Associated Press, who is from Elizabeth quoted me and Pete Canu in an article that was picked up worldwide.

I'm sensitive to how Italian-Americans are portrayed and told Wayne "The Sopranos spread negative stereotypes about Italian-Americans far and wide." I told him how I went to a dentist in Florida and when I revealed that I was from New Jersey, someone in the office said, "Oh, the place with all the mobsters!" It didn't show us in a real great light. Pete added that "We're just hardworking people who get up every day and do our jobs and provide for our families. It was just a TV show."

According to Joe Renna who knew him personally, Gandolfini was a regular who happened to become a big star. He said he never changed, but people think he is Tony Soprano and not Jim Gandolfini.

God bless,
John Sacco, President
Sons of Peterstown Sports Club

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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.

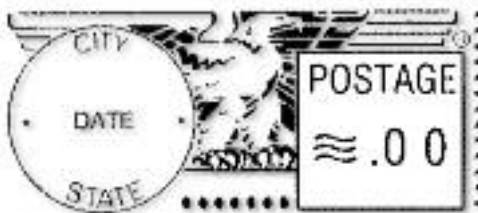
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Letters to the Editor



Dear Joe,

About your April 2013 Issue.

First, I'm happy that Tina won her legal debate with Union County. She has indeed opened many closed eyes of Union County residents.

Secondly, Seeing Johnny and Doreen Sacco as proud grandparents was awesome.

Third, It was great to see my brother Frank's picture with you and Dr. Rotolo dedicating your time for presentations at Career Day at our Alma Mater Roselle Catholic High School.

Fourth, Looking at the pictures of Nicky Netta and Doc Corsentino was amazing, what an eye opener. They are still good men.

Last but not least, I appreciated the article regarding the St. Anthony's class of 1965 reunion. We have been doing this for a number of years now and God bless Debbie Harris, she is like a sister to me, who coordinates this reunion when she knows that I will be making a trip up from Milton, GA.

I cannot thank her enough for the effort she puts forward in the planning and organizing of this event. Unfortunately, we seem to miss more of those who have passed. Sam Naimo, Joe Gambino, and most recently my life-long best friend Frank Navarro. I know they were there in spirit. However, to see everyone so often doesn't seem to make us age too much. I might be stretching that point, lol.

The usuals consisting of Rosemary Bruno, Maria, Rosie Casano, Camille, Debbie, Patty, Loraine, John Marcantonio, myself and newcomers Alfonso, Val, and Neil were great to see after many decades. Seeing Rusty and Pete, who I grew up with and Jimmy Corr, who I have known since high school, was a treat.

We all took different paths after St. A's, some becoming more successful than others yet our friendship means more than materialistic things. We did take different paths but they always lead us back to a great time at our reunions.

God bless all of us and for you, Joe, keeping Peterstown fresh in the minds of those who were fortunate to grow up in the safest neighborhood in Elizabeth.

Warm Regards,
Vinny Malta
Milton, GA

Hi Joe,

My name is Sylvana DiCosmo Truliano. I just want to thank you for such a great job on the *Around About Peterstown* newspaper.

My family came from Vallata Italy and settled in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth in 1957. We lived on Spencer Street, between Third and Second Avenues. I graduated St. Anthony's in 1976 and Elizabeth High School in 1980.

Although we moved from Elizabeth in 1980, I have such fond memories of my childhood. I have only been back to Peterstown a handful of times and during my last visit I stopped at DiCosmo's Ice and saw the newspaper and I asked if I could have one. I did not know that you were keeping this wonderful era alive. Now I receive the newspaper and remember the past and keep up with the present.

Thank you again!!!
Sylvana DiCosmo Truliano
Boynton Beach, FL.

Dear Joe,

I saw the April 2013 issue of the newspaper and your terrific article about my book *Gimme Shelter*. You covered everything in a way that made 'me' want to read the book! I can't imagine it any better. With the story on my niece, it was like a family issue.

Loved the piece on St. Anthony's class of '65; I went to school with most of them and knew the others from the neighborhood.

Thanks again for putting us in the paper.
Lou Spirito
Malibu, CA

Rest in Peace James Gandolfini.
You shot though this world like a comet
leaving a spectacular glow in your trail.
You lit up the our community briefly,
when you were here and will shine forever
in the eyes of your fans.
You were an inspiration to me.
Joe

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 Joe,

My name is Renee Marshott Polaski and I grew up on Palmer Street in Elizabeth. I live in Toms River now, along with many other Peterstown transplants. I love your newspaper and do appreciate the pictures of old friends and relatives that are in it. Thank you for doing what you do, it is wonderful. Also, please congratulate your wife on her recent legal victory for journalists. Cudos to her for being so strong and brave.

My son is a Journalism and Media Studies graduate of Rutgers and he is also an excellent photographer. He was thrilled by Tina's accomplishment.

I realize that your newspaper is about Peterstown and I know there are a lot of people living here in Toms River that are from Peterstown. My son has many pictures of the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy here on the mainland that he took the very next morning after the storm. Many people from Peterstown suffered damage as a result of that hurricane. It is very sad and they still are not back to life as they were before.

If you would like the pictures, my son Charlie will gladly send them to you. If you are wondering why I am contacting you, instead of my son, it is because I am his Italian mother!

Thank you for taking the time to read this and thank you again for your wonderful newspaper.

Very truly yours,
Renee Marshott Polaski
Toms River, NJ

(below) Photos and captions by Charles J. Polaski



(above) Route 37, right before the bridge over to Seaside Heights, at the intersection with Fischer Boulevard. Rescue workers were loading residents trapped on the island into these trucks to be taken back over the bridge where they were then transported onto school buses and taken into shelters.



(above) Aldo Drive in Silverton. The road leads out to the bay where residents homes were completely flooded, so the local volunteer firefighters were using their kayaks and canoes to help people move themselves and their belongings out.



(above) flooding on Fischer Boulevard in Toms River, near Hooper Avenue. Boats from a local marina were washed out onto the road, along with abandoned vehicles.

Editor's Opinion

everybody has one - this is mine - by Joe Renna

My wife Tina attended the city's Spooner event held at the Peterstown Community Center on May 30 that celebrated the wedding anniversaries of Elizabeth couples who are married fifty years or longer. She briefly interviewed the fifteen couples from Peterstown who attended and she felt it was a beautiful experience.

Tina said she regretted that time was short and she had to rush around, she could have spent an entire day with each couple. Their stories of how they met and the number of years they were together were touching and sentimental, but equally filled with humor. We can look at these couples whenever things get complicated and I contemplate the meaning of life.

Life is a challenge at every turn, the more involved you become the more complex things get. It is very easy to let outside influences disturb your inner peace. What happens is your priorities get shuffled and you can loose sight of what is important.

I'm not saying that a person should not be engaged in what is happening in the world, or strive change things for the better, that is our duty to each other. We are all soldiers in the war of good vs. evil. (It is so easy for me to turn things into something heavy.) Party on.

My point is that above everything that can possibly happen in life love must be the priority. Starting from simply loving your neighbor. If we act, in every aspect of our lives, with love we will do no wrong, for our thoughts will be for others first before our own personal gain. Marriage is a prime example of this type of commitment.

To see these couples together for over fifty years is inspiring. June 23, 2013 was Tina and my twenty-fourth anniversary, more than half the distance to the goal. Simultaneously, we both wrote messages on our Facebook pages when we woke that day. Here the are:

Tina:

I married my best friend 24 years ago today. I have so many happy memories like Venice, Italy where this picture was taken a year after we were married.

At pre-cana class – marriage classes the Catholic church makes couples go to – The priest said “Don’t tell me you’re in love today, come back in 25 years and tell me you’re in love”. He was pretty stern when he said it. He went on.... Live a life together, stay together – that’s true love, not this unchallenged passion you feel today.

We’ve been blessed with a lot of fun, love and friendship. Most importantly is that we were always best friends to each other. Today, as always, I am in love with Joe Renna. But we have another year to go before that priest would believe me. Wish me luck!

Joe:

I professed my love to Tina 24 years ago based on knowing her for about a year. What I was able to learn about her in that short time told me that she was perfect for me. But it is a chance for young couples to commit when the love has yet to be tested. After 24-years of marriage my love is stronger than ever. It has grown steadily over time with every opportunity that I had to learn more about her, things that can only be revealed through experiences. I know many couples who find that they are not so enamored with each other after certain situations expose a bit of character in their spouse that they don't like so much. The opposite has happened to me with Tina. My love and admiration for her has grown with each situation, through the great times and especially the challenges. I love her more every day, and that is the way it should be. There is no her and me. That ended long ago. There is only us. Happy Anniversary Tina. 🐾

.....

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is there a line between
sentimental and mushy?

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LINDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HONORS LUCILLE DISANO AS PERSON OF THE YEAR

The linden Chamber of Commerce named Lucille Disano their Person of the Year and honored her at their Annual Awards Dinner held on June 6, 2013 at Ill Amici Ristorante in Linden, NJ. Lucille was recognized for her lifelong commitment to community service in her career and personal life.

Lucile was employed by the city of Elizabeth, in the Health Department. During her career, she served as Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics, performing varied duties, working on programs such as the “Cuban Floatilla”, organizing Flu shots for Elizabeth citizens, and helped initiate and administer grant monies for the Air Pollution Control Division. She also served as a Board Member and President of the Elizabeth City Hall Employees Federal Credit Union; also, the Employees Association.

After 25 years of public service, Lucille took an early retirement. Having an opportunity to work in the private sector, she began her second career with Epicor, Incorporated. Starting as an Administrative Assistant, and retiring after 20 years as Office Manager. Lucille is still very active with Epicor serving as Public Relations

Director, representing the company in the Linden Chamber of Commerce’s diverse functions. She is also on the Chambers Scholarship Awards Committee, as well as assisting the Environmental Commission with Earth Day activities.

Lucille was born and raised in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, was educated in the Elizabeth Public Schools and is a graduate of Battin High School. Her parents Minnie (Travisano) and Al Disano were also born and lived in Peterstown. Minnie from South 7th Street and Al from Third Avenue. Both Minnie and Al’s parents were from the same town of Vallata, Italy.

Lucille’s good nature and generosity has touched many people especially in Elizabeth and Linden. She has a huge circle of friends starting with her cousins. He mother had two brothers and a sister, and her father had six brothers and a sister. The cousins have stayed very close through the years and remain in constant contact.

Lucille has supported countless charitable events and is well deserving of the award. 🇺🇸



(above, r-l) Lucille Disano with her cousin, also named Lucille Disano, and her best friend since junior high school Pauline (Baellero) Samer, also from Peterstown.

Not for Nothing But...

Lucille deserves to receive this award on an annual basis.




(above, l-r) President of the Linden Chamber of Commerce Janet Miller of Cox Printing, Epicor owner Rose Bussiculo, Lucille Disano and Arlene Totka of Epicor at the Chamber’s Awards Dinner which also honored Sovereign Bank as Large Business of the Year and Dragonfly Restaurant as Small Business of the Year. The Chamber also handed out six college scholarships to deserving Linden students.



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J. DeSalvo






(above) Bessie LaBrutto with sons Jack and Joe.



(above) Bessie with her great-grandchildren
(back, l-r) Joseph (9), Brayden (4), Christopher (11)
(front, l-r) Sarah (9), Emily (2), Andrew (11)

BESSIE LABRUTTO CELEBRATES 95TH BIRTHDAY

Bessie LaBrutto was born and raised in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ and for 95 years lived in the same house on Niles Street until January 2013 when she moved to Center for Hope Hospice in Scotch Plains.

It was at the Center that Bessie celebrated her 95th birthday with her family, two sons, four grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Bessie's husband Joseph passed away in 2005 at the age of 87. They were married 65 years at that time.

Bessie's parents, Mary and Joseph Guddeme, and her husband Joseph's parents, were all from the same hometown of Ribera, Sicily. She was a stay at home mom

except during World War II when her husband went off to war. She was a seamstress during the war and her sons stayed with their grandparents on the second floor of the two-family house. In the 1970's, Joe and Bessie owned and operated La Stanza, a restaurant located on Second Avenue between Centre and High Streets.

Peggy Coloney's House is an assisted living facility that provides the professional skilled care that Bessie requires to ease the burden of her physical setbacks. Her family gives her the love that lifts her spirits and feeds her soul. Bessie returns as much to her family and then some.



(above) Bessie LaBrutto and family: sons Jack and Joe with wives Dorothy and Linda; Jack's son Mike with wife Julie and daughter Jennifer and husband Chris Nudo; Joe's daughter Amiee and son Eric with wife Sarah; Mike's son Andrew and daughter Sarah; Jennifer's sons Christopher and Joseph; Eric's daughter Emily and Amiee's son Brayden.

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7
June 13

Mike started his career as a member of Roselle Country Club where he won seven consecutive Club Championships from 1989 thru 1995. He started his professional career in 1997. His first professional job was

In January 1997 LaBrutto began his professional playing career. In that year, he finished 2nd and 6th in Tommy Armour Tour events in Orlando, Florida, as well as finishing 8th on the money list on the North Atlantic Tour, winning the Team Championship in New Hampshire. Mike has finished first in over twenty-five Professional Championships in his career and was named Player of the Year three times, 2000, 2001, 2004. 



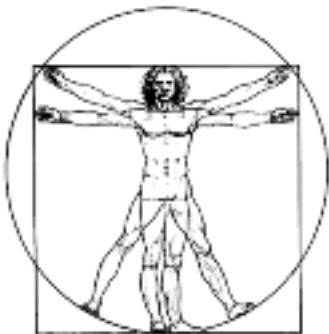
(above) Photo from Metropolitan Golf Association's website mgagolf.org, showing Mike LaBrutto in front of the Summary Score Board after carding a score of 64 which included six birdies and an eagle.

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and if it gets any
hotter I go home.

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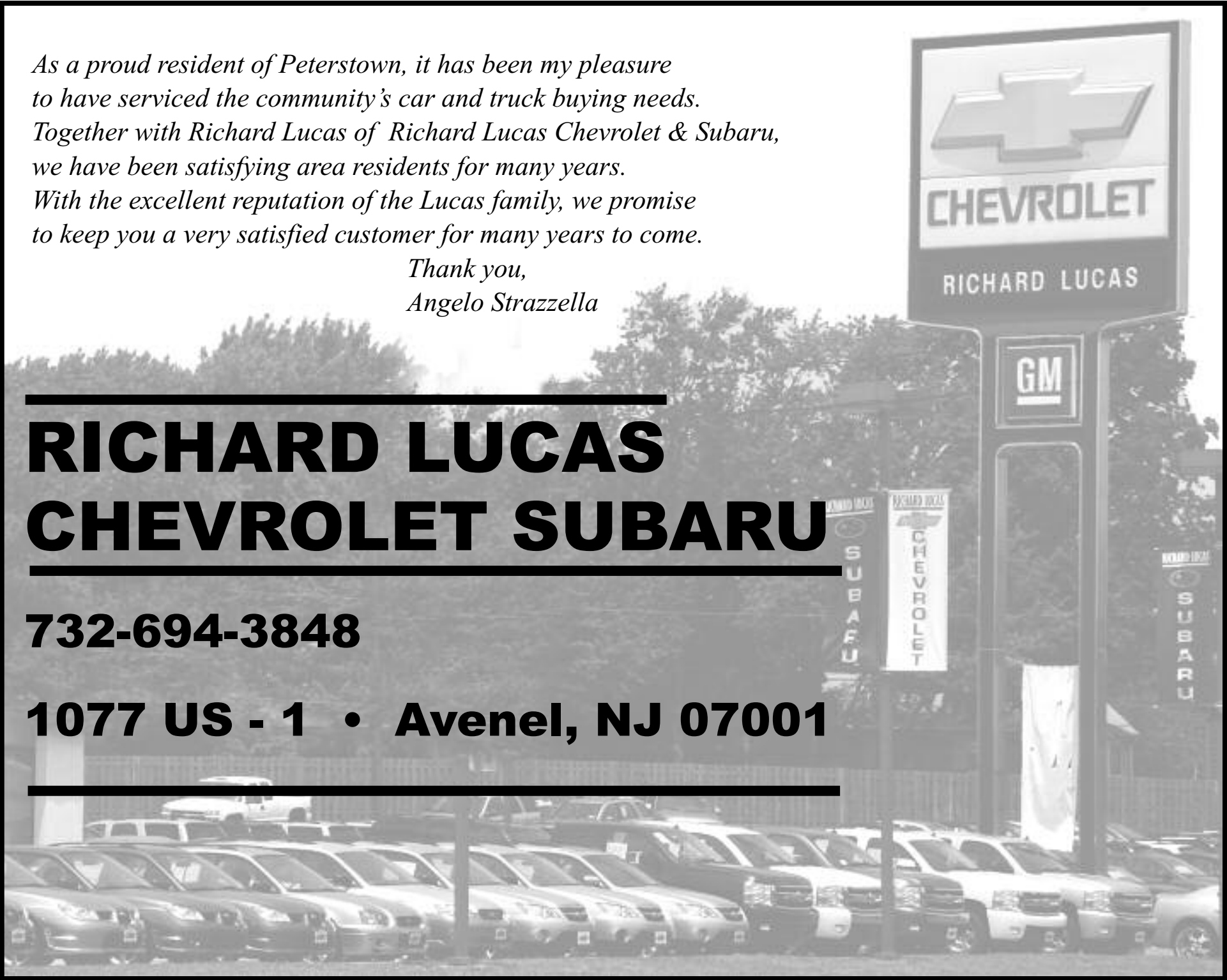
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Angelo Strazzella*

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THE GOLDEN YEARS OF LOVE



(above) Silvio & Miriam Salermo, celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary in December. The couple were married on December 20, 1955 in Cuba. They moved to Peterstown 40 years ago where they still reside. They have 4 children, 15 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren.



(above) Rogelio & Yolanda De La Mar, celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary in March. The couple were married on March 22, 1962. They lived in Newark, NJ before moving to Peterstown 20 years ago. They have 3 children and 4 grandchildren.



(above) Giovanna & Anthony Crincoli, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary. They were married in Vallata, Italy before moving to Peterstown 45 years ago. They met during a St. Vito festival. Giovanna was from an adjoining town and was at the festival with friends when Anthony's sister introduced the couple. Anthony recalled first seeing Giovanna in the festival's procession. They were married about a year later. Antony teased "she was from another town, I had to get to know her." They have 4 sons and 6 grandchildren.

There was love in the air of the Peterstown Community Center on May 30, 2013 when the City of Elizabeth held a celebration for 39 Elizabeth couples who celebrated 50 years of marriage or more. Fifteen of the couples hail from the Peterstown section of Elizabeth.

The event was well attended by dignitaries and the Elizabeth senior community turned out to join in the fun, approximately 300 total guests. Mayor Chis Bollwage officiated a mass renewal of wedding vows. Deacon Joe Caporaso of St. Anthony's Church then blessed the couples. Each couple was presented with flowers when they walked in: a boutonniere for the groom and a corsage for the bride. Couples were presented with proclamations and treated to lunch and music provided by DJ Dino who played some of their wedding songs. 🎵

(missing photo) Antonio & Josephine Sutera, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary. They were married in Ribera, Italy on November 27, 1954 before moving to Peterstown 46 years ago. They have 5 children and 10 grandchildren.



(above) Joseph & Rosalie Weseloski celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary in January. They were married in St. Anthony's Church on January 21, 1961. They lived in Peterstown all of their lives. They met on a blind date set up by Joseph's brother. They have 2 children and 5 grandchildren.



(above) Joseph & Caterina Tramuta celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary. They were married on October 19, 1967 in Ribera, Italy. They moved to Peterstown 46 years ago. They have 1 child and 2 grandchildren.



(above) Sal & Anna Cordoma celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary. They were married on June 5, 1960 in St. Anthony's Church by Anna's cousin, a Monsignor who flew in from Italy. About 900 people attended their wedding. Sal recalled the wedding cost about \$10 or \$20 a head, but couldn't remember for sure. They've lived in the same house on Niles Street in Peterstown ever since. They have 4 children and 6.5 grandchildren (.5 is due in January). They were introduced by a friend, Vikki Londino, who lived next door to the couple on Niles Street.



(above) Joseph & Josephine Auguliario celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married in Sicily on July 20, 1963. They have been hanging out at the Peterstown Community Center for about 15 years.



(above) Jack & Carmella Genova celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary. They were married in St. Anthony's Church on February 26, 1949. The couple met at the church, where they were both very involved with clubs and activities. They never left Peterstown. They have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

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RUSSELL & ANN HARRIS - 70 YEARS



(left) Russell & Ann Harris will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 29, 1943. They met in high school. Russ recalls Ann waving to him from the upper window of Batton High School, when he would walk by to Jefferson High School. They went to many dances together, including their prom. They have 3 children, 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.



(above) Vincent & Phyllis DiCecco celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 26, 1953. Phyllis had recently emigrated from Italy and was staying with Catherine DiCosmo (founder of DiCosmo’s Italian Ice) when the couple met while visiting Vincent’s uncle’s house. Both recall that they fell in love at first sight. Vincent recalls he told his uncle that night that Phyllis was the girl he would marry. They were married 18 months later in St. Anthony’s Church. They have 2 children, 7



(above) Deacon Joe Caporaso of St. Anthony’s Church blessed the couples, he is being assisted by Elizabeth Mayor Chris Bollwage who officiated a mass renewal of wedding vows during the ceremony.



(above) Fred & Rita (nee Monticello) Unnold celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary in May. They were married on May 19, 1956. The Unnolds are originally from Peterstown, but now live in Garwood, NJ. They have 1 daughter. The couple met on Halloween night 1955 at LaPolla’s Tavern and it was love at first sight. Rita recalled, “Fred stopped in for a beer and I picked him up, I stalked him and we married right away.”



(above) Vito & Mary Colletti celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 25, 1954 in St. Anthony’s Church. They met at Vito’s brother’s wedding where they served as Best Man and Maid of Honor. They had lived in Peterstown and then moved to Port Reading, NJ in 1958.



(above) The Elizabeth Senior Choir at performed at the Golden Years of Love event, under the direction of Jessica Martinez, Recreation Leader City of Elizabeth



(above) Rocco & Lucy Mariani (nee Bonavitacola) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on October 21, 1962 and live on Christine Street in Peterstown. They were matched up by Rocco’s cousin, Josephine Cortese, who was Lucy’s godmother.

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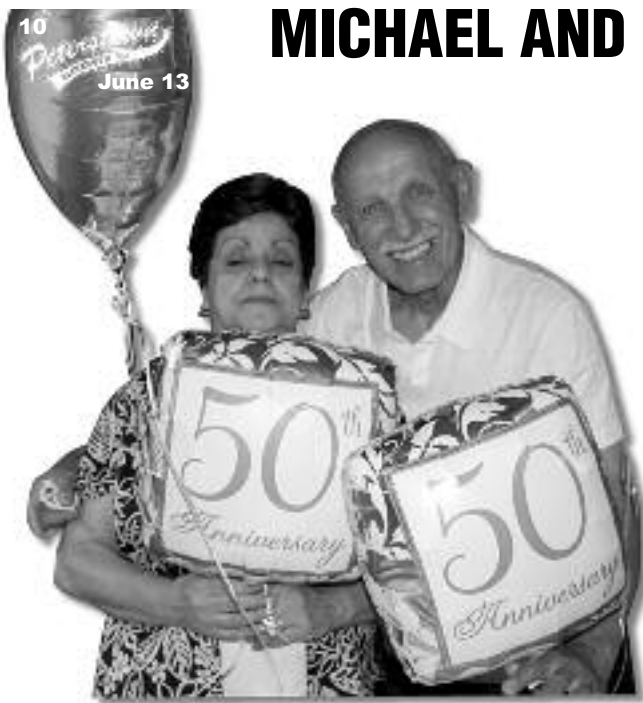
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MICHAEL AND ANNA CAPORASO CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Caporaso of Mt. Olive, NJ are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on June 22, 1963. Michael is the son of the late Michael and Susan Caporaso from South 5th Street in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ. His wife, Anna, is the daughter of the late Francesco and Catherine Barilla of Down Neck Newark.

The event was held on June 8, 2013 at Bella Italia in Orange, NJ.

Mike and Anna have 3 children: Michael, husband of Barbara; Frank, husband of Diane; and Ann Marie, wife of Joe. They also have 6 grandchildren and 1 great-granddaughter: Samantha, Ashley, Alexandria, Gabrielle, Catherine, Joseph and Kianna.



(above) The Caporaso's immediate family from Michael and Anna down to their great-granddaughter.



(left, l-r) Photo from Mike and Anna's wedding day, June 22, 1963, Maid of Honor Margaret Caporaso Truppa, Bride Anna (Barilla) Caporaso, Groom Michael Caporaso, Best Man Frank Caporaso.

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UNICO AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS AND CHARITABLE GIFTS

11
June 13

By Salvatore Coppa

On Wednesday June 5, 2013 the Elizabeth Chapter of UNICO held its end of year celebratory dinner. The event is dedicated to awarding scholarships to deserving high school seniors of Italian decent and to the presentation of charitable gifts.

This year seven scholarships were presented for academic excellence. The recipients included Kelly Addressa, Toni Marie Cuzzola, Sarah Donegan, Jason Haines, Gabrielle LoGiudice, and Savannah Riotte who received the Anthony J. DiGiovanni award and Daniel DiBella who was awarded the Arlene Fatigati

scholarship for individuals pursuing a career in teaching.

In addition, monetary donations were presented to St. Anthony's Church, Occupational Center, The ARC of Union County, Center for Hope Hospice, Cooley's Anemia Foundation, Achilles Foundation, and the Elmora Youth League.

Six new members were inducted into the Elizabeth Chapter. The new members are Gerardo Candelino, Vito Colacitti, Vito Giannetta, Nino Quaglia, Rose Rinaldi, and James Sacca. New Chapter Officers were also installed—Lou Bani, President; Tom Fowler, 1st VP; Joe

Chiari, 2nd VP ; George Marretta, 3rd VP; Pat Arena, Treasurer; Salvatore Coppa, Assistant Treasurer/Acting Secretary; Paul Rinaldi , Sergeant At Arms; and Deacon Joe Caporaso, Chaplain.

This year the Elizabeth Chapter of UNICO will celebrate 50 years of service to the Elizabeth Community. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our Golden Anniversary Dinner celebration to be held on October 19, 2013. For information please call George at 732-713-7302 or Sal at 908-787-4489. 🍷

UNICO'S SERVICE DAY

Each year UNICO picks a project that focuses on beautifying the neighborhood. Members turn out to volunteer to do what is usually physical labor, such as painting, repairing and cleaning. This year UNICO chose to clean up the bank of the Elizabeth River that runs behind the Peterstown Community Center. The volunteers collected twelve bags of debris. The group also spruced up the bocce ball court that sits on the Center's property.

Unicans who participated in the cleanup were invited back to J. Sacco's Meat Market where John Sacco treated them to lunch.

In addition to the clean up, Elizabeth UNICO sponsored the planting of five fig trees and an assortment of flowering plants to beautify the bocce court play area on April 27, 2013, with Anselmo Gabriele and Sal Coppa doing the heavy lifting. 🍷



(above, r-l) Courtney Villani, Tony Zengaro, Willie Andujar, Mayor Bollwage, Sal Coppa, Joe Chiari, Lou Bani, Henry Marcantonio.

Special thanks to Darren Bryden of the City of Elizabeth Public Information office for taking photos to commemorate the event.



(above, l-r) Kelly Addressa, Daniel Di Bella, Toni Marie Cuzzola, Sarah Donegan and Jason Haines. (not pictured) Savannah Riotte and Gabriella LoGiudice.

Photo by Ralph Abbate

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Recipes

Submitted by Tina Renna

Tina has edited all thirteen years worth of recipes that appeared in the Peterstown newspaper and noticed that there was not one for what we call Vallatese Potatoes, a staple for my family and others who hail from Vallata Italy. So she made sure that the recipe made it in this issue so it would be included in the book her and her husband Joe are putting together with the content from all eighty-eight issues of this newspaper.

The other recipe Tina included is one given to her by Joe's Aunt Angie Renna. Aunt Angie noted that the recipe for St. Joseph Macaroni is similar to the way Joe's grandmother, Fanny Renna made it.

VALLATESE POTATOES

INGREDIENTS:

5 lbs. potatoes
1 small jar (32 oz) of HOT Cherry Peppers
Olive Oil (3/4 cup)
Garlic (1/2 bulb)
Garlic Powder, Salt & pepper to taste

PREPARATION:

1. Core peppers and rinse all the seeds out
2. Cut them into small strips, then cut strips in half
3. Saute garlic in olive oil
4. Add peppers and cook until soft
5. Peel and boil potatoes until soft, drain and retain a small amount of potato water on the side.
6. Combine potatoes and peppers and oil
7. Add to taste: Garlic powder, salt & pepper
8. Add the potato water as needed. The consistency should be a cross between a potato salad and mashed potatoes.

ST. JOSEPH MACARONI

INGREDIENTS:

Cloves of Garlic
1 can Hunts Tomato Sauce
1 jar Pinioli Nuts
Lots of Finocchio leaves
(not the stems, just the top leaves chopped small)
A handful of bread crumbs (roasted w/ seasonings)
1 lb Perciatelli or Bucatini Pasta
(it has a small hole through it)

PREPARATION:

1. Brown garlic in olive oil
2. Add Tomato Sauce, Pinioli Nuts and Finocchio
3. Simmer for 1 hour
4. Pour over perciatelli or bucatini pasta
5. Serve with extra bread crumbs on top

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A FEW PHOTOS FROM FESTA DI SAN VITO

The 5th annual Festa Di San Vito was held on June 20 through June 23 on the corner of Fourth Avenue and High Street and extended for one block in three directions. The celebration included a special service at St. Anthony's Church, a street procession and live music

by the Archidiacono Band from Vallata, Avellino Italy playing traditional and contemporary Italian music. Vendors included a variety of food, games and novelties. Kiddie rides were available and hundreds of friends and neighbors gathered to share in a good time.



(above) John with parents Maria and Jerry Cerullo

(left) Nancy DiCosmo and grandchildren James & Amy



(above, l-r) Carmine Senese, Rocco Muscaritola and Jose Moreno



(above) The Vallatese Club front door opens to Festa di San Vito.



(above, l-r) Brigida Muscaritola, Teresa Cianfano and Pasquelina Stanco pin donations to statues of St. Vito and St. Anthony that will go to benefit St. Anthony's Church.

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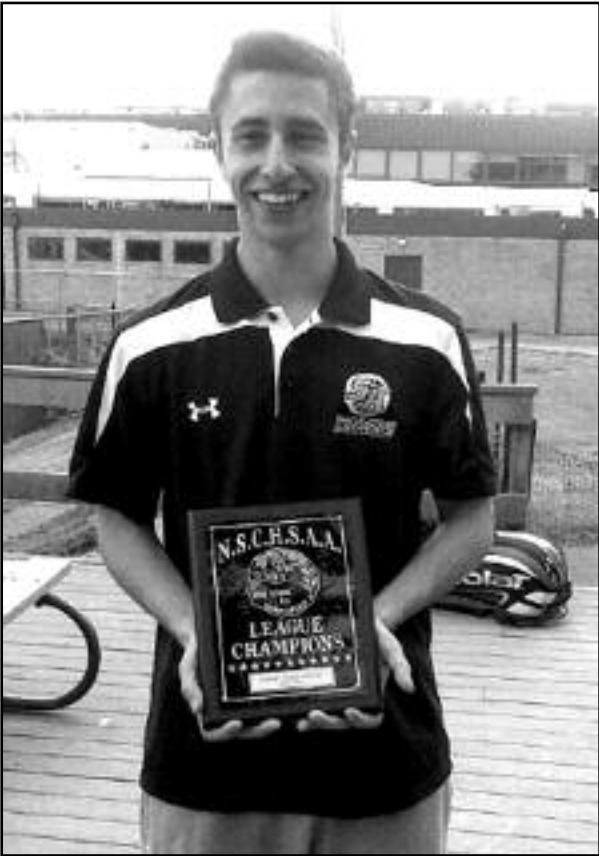
John D'Alessandro is a nationally ranked tennis player playing for St. Anthony's High School in Huntington, NY. The 17-year-old has recently graduated and will be attending Boston University to study business and play tennis.

John was a four-year varsity player and captain of his team. He played in the Catholic High School Singles Championship round all 4 years in high school and won the championship in his junior and senior years and was runner-up in his freshman and sophomore years. His play earned him four team MVP awards and he was named league MVP two times in addition to being picked for the the All Long Island team.

His win in the finals helped undefeated St. Anthony's (10-love) win the CHSAA boys tennis championship, the school's second league title in the last three years and seventh overall.

John D'Alessandro is the grandson of John D'Alessandro and Marie D'Alessandro (nee Calavano), both born and raised in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ. His great aunt is Sylvia Spirito, his grandfather's sister.

John's dad Thomas was also born in Peterstown and moved to Long Island, NY. 🇺🇸



(above) John D'Alessandro



(above) Dianna Avila


ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

The New Jersey Music and Dance Company recently announced the recipients of the 2013 Scholarships to the Summer Theater and Dance Workshop Camp. Dianna Avila of Elizabeth received a full scholarship valued at \$750 to the camp that runs from July 1 through August 2. Children ages 6 – 16 from all over Union County participated in the open auditions that were held in March. Dianna is a fifth grade student at Our Lady of Guadalupe School in Elizabeth. During the full day camp, Dianna will participate in various aspects of the performing arts including acting, dancing, singing, media and broadcasting, experience performances by professionals in the entertainment field and take part in a final performance that will be viewed by managers, talent agents and producers.

NJ Music and Dance Company is a non-profit organization that was founded in 2002 to promote the arts and talent development through performances, events and education. This is the third year that the Company has awarded scholarships to the summer camp. This year they awarded over \$4500.00 in scholarships. New Jersey Music and Dance Company is located at the New Jersey Center for Media Arts, 1203 W. St. Georges Avenue in Linden.

For more information about the scholarships, please visit www.njmdc.org or call 908-587-2787. 🇺🇸

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(above, l-r) Paul and Lucy Cuzzola

PAUL CUZZOLA WILL BE MISSED BY MANY

If there was one word to describe Paul Cuzzola it would be "gentleman." He was always calm and even tempered, never showing any sign of anger or impatience, and for sure some of the characters that he encountered ever day would test him.

Paul spent his days helping anyone who needed it, from giving rides to rebuilding a staircase. Paul was an easy mark but never a victim because he loved to work and loved to help people. He was happy to oblige. He was an expert at many crafts, such as detailed woodworking, gardening and cooking.

The only thing that made Paul happier was spending time with his family, his wife of 52 years, Lucy (nee Angiola); sons, Paul and his wife, Kellie, and Michael and his wife, Tina; daughter, Lucy and her husband, Michael Nicolaro; nine grandchildren, Gabriella, Angelica, Nicholas, Michael, Samantha, Allyson, Lauren, Paul, and Michael. He was constant companion

to his brother Frank and his wife, Connie.

Both Paul and Frank were experts in men's clothing. Paul worked for Hiltons Manufacturing Company in Linden, N.J., for over 40 years before starting his own business, FHM Clothing Manufacturing Inc., Linden, N.J., where he was a clothing designer.

He was proud to have served in the United States Army from 1960 to 1966, as well as in the Army Reserve.

There were too many friends in Frank's life to list. A parade of them would join him every morning at Sacco's Butcher shop for a coffee and floor show. He was in his element in this setting especially when a younger guy needed advice.

Paul Cuzzola passed away on May 17, 2013 at the age of 76. He was a great role model and mentor for a generation who may not have had the opportunity to meet many gentleman. 🕊️

NICHOLAS CERESTE PASSES AT AGE 85

Nicholas Cereste passed away on April 15, 2013 at the age of 85. He was born in Newark, NJ and lived in Union but his Italian roots brought him into the Peterstown community, the neighborhood in Elizabeth that was home to the Vallatese Society.

Nick's parents, Rocco Cereste and Angelina (Gallo) Cereste came to America from Vallata in the early 1900's. Rocco owned and operated a bakery on the west side of Newark and specialized in Italian bread. He spent much of his free time at the clubhouse and with his good friend Joe Addressa.

Nicholas loved visiting the neighborhood. He and his wife would frequent the club and eat at Spiritos, as did his two older brothers, Michael and Tony and two older sisters, Marie and Dora.

Right up until his passing, Nick owned and operated NRC Trucking & Steel Drum, a business he started in 1955. He served in the US Navy and was a longtime member of the Republican Club.

He loved and provided for his family, always putting them first. His work ethic, character and charitable ways were constant and impeccable. One of his biggest passions was caring and providing for homeless cats and dogs. His request to family and friends is to donate to the ASPCA in his memory.



(above, l-r) Ruth and Nicholas Cereste



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