



JUMP START YOUR HEART

Joe Paternostro's sudden demise at age 48 stunned his family and friends. He was a victim of a heart attack that came unexpectedly. Joe didn't ignore the warning signs of heart failure, he never looked for them. Now, Joe's family is on a crusade to educate others in his memory in order to prevent this tragedy from happening again.

Joe Paternostro grew up in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ, a traditional Italian/American neighborhood. Joe immigrated from Vallata, Italy in 1972 when he was twelve years old. He felt at home right away amongst the large Vallatese community and he mixed very well with the existing residents. Joe and his identical twin brother Tony had outgoing personalities and great senses of humor. They loved soccer and played together at Elizabeth High School. When it came time to start a career they opened a pizzeria together and built a great reputation over thirty years. Many people knew him as Joe Pizza.

It was at work one day that Joe told his brother Tony, he wasn't feeling well, and he was a bit tired. Joe wasn't panicking but Tony must have sensed the seriousness in his voice and offered to call an ambulance. Joe declined and instead was going to drive himself to his doctor's office. He never arrived. Along the way he suffered a heart attack and hit a tree.

There are many "what-ifs" that people ask themselves after a tragedy as if a simple gesture or action would have changed things. Maybe an ambulance would have worked or maybe Joe could have gone straight to the doctor's office from his home instead of going to work first. All the different scenarios are just speculative and can never be conclusive.

There is one thing that could have been done differently that would have guaranteed a positive outcome, and that would be if Joe took better care of himself.

Joe's younger sister Marina believed that her brother's heart condition could have been alleviated with proper preventive care. She laments that Joe never went to the doctor for check ups. His soccer playing days were long behind him and he lived a sedentary lifestyle that was coupled with smoking and eating rich foods. She admits that Joe loved life and lived it to its fullest but is upset that it was cut so short. Marina was determined to not let her brother's death be in vain.

Joe was married to Carmel Carravano, a Peterstown native. They had three children, Gerry, Anna Maria and Giuseppe. All three are now attending college but five years ago, in 2008, when they lost their dad they were teenagers. The loss of a husband and father is devastating especially when it comes without warning. Helping the family through the most difficult of times was also a motivating factor for Marina to organize and do something to honor her brother and help others. She first held a dinner to help raise funds to assist with the immediate needs the family had. Being self employed his entire life Joe did not have the financial security programs that are common for employees.

The following year Marina expanded her efforts and organized a walk to raise funds and awareness. She started a foundation and called the American Heart Association to assist. The first event was in Warinanco Park on the anniversary of Joe's death, 10/10/10 at 10:10 am. The message was, and is to this day, to "Jump Start Your Heart", over 100 people attended.

Marina is an avid runner and has added a running component to the event. This year's event is the 2nd Annual 5K Run and 1 Mile Walk and will be held in Oak Ridge park in Clark, NJ. Marina wants everyone to get out and at least walk. To maybe make the event a start of a new lifestyle for folks who do not exercise.

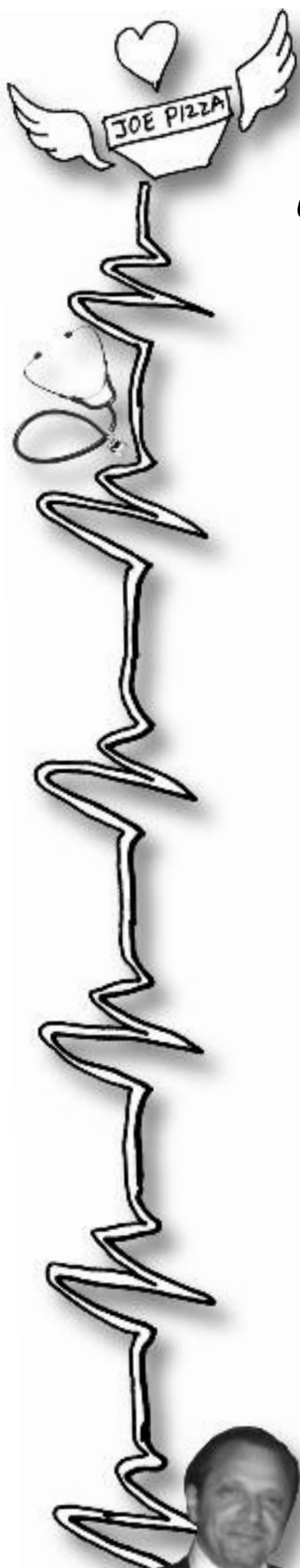
Even though Joe didn't run around on the soccer field he was on the sidelines of every game his children played in. He and his sister both moved from Elizabeth to Springfield and lived close to one another. Marina is married to another Peterstown guy, Al Moriello. They also have three children. Joe's children played soccer in Springfield's Jonathan Dayton High School. The boy's soccer team became Group I State Champions in 2009 and awarded Joe the "Best Fan" award. He was endeared by the students. Busloads arrived to pay their respects at his wake. Marina saw these students, past and present, as the messengers for living in good health. Her efforts are also directed to them. Part of the funds raised by the foundation will be dedicated to giving a scholarship for high school seniors heading to college.

Heart illness comes in many forms and some can be treated while others may be fatal. The type that Marina and Carmel are concerned with is the ones that are preventable. If by no other means than education they are on a mission to save lives. "Awareness, Awareness, Awareness" is their mantra. "Get a check up, check you blood pressure and cholesterol. Get off the couch and take a walk. Jump Start Your Heart!".

(left) Joe Paternostro and family, sons Joe and Gerry, daughter Anna Maria and wife Carmel.



(above) Joe and Tony Paternostro in business together over thirty years at Tommy's Pizza.



Around About
Peterstown
ELIZABETH NJ
Oct 11

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President's Message



The tradition of communities coming together to help those less fortunate has along history in The Burg. There was less of national based organizations that dominate the fundraising landscape. The Jerry Lewis Telethon was one that everyone knew of because of the novelty of the TV show. It was easy for small local organizations to become over shadowed by the big foundations. Locally we had our social clubs, and business organizations that were at the heart of our charity events. The Knights of Columbus, UNICO, and parish based clubs at St. Anthony's were always active. But for me no one stood out more than the individuals who seemed to work endlessly in helping others, usually with out any fanfare or recognition. Guys like Mike DiMartino, Pat Riccio and Eddie Grey. These guys would put their hands in to their own pockets to come up with any extra cash needed to help the cause. The number of charity events does seem overwhelming at times. The number of events did spread the pool of donations out but there are probably more people being helped in little ways than fewer in big ways. Its all good. God bless,
John S. Sacco
John Sacco, President
Sons of Peterstown Sports Club

PRESS RELEASES

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

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Letters to the Editor



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.

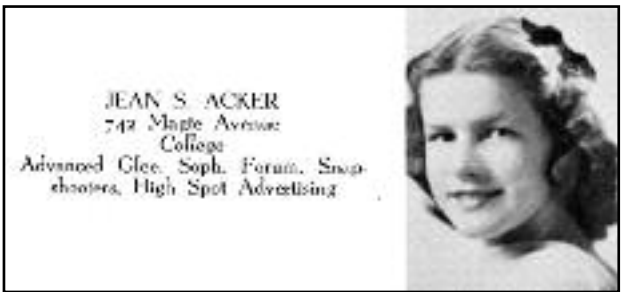
Dear Joe,
My mom's birthday is today (August 24, 2011); Rose would have been 93. God has mysterious surprises and perfect timing. The narrative and pictures of our families appearing in the Peterstown Press the August 2011 issue were a tribute to our familial history and a gift. Everyone has a story of life; everyone was created to be loved and to belong. Our families and we were privileged in this way...blessed. The legacy we received and the one we leave for our children and theirs will hopefully be perpetuated with the same warmth, hospitality, and faith that my husband Don and I experienced through the years. Though the pictorial is rosy, one does not venture through almost five decades of marriage without sickness, and episodes of sadness and celebration that alter one's perspective and urge one to grow in humility and service. These times are accepted as the reality of life. The sustenance has always been a deep sense of family, faith, and tradition. Hopefully it will continue for generations to follow...in a different way perhaps, but still with enduring love, for love unites the past with the present and the future. Thank you, Joe, for your work and passion for history and tradition, so well expressed in the pages of *Around About Peterstown*.

Rosanne Santorelli-Barone
Cranford, NJ

Dear Mr. Renna,
I happened upon your fabulous newsletter searching for information about my mother, Jean Shirley Acker (Ciccantelli), who graduated from Batten High School in 1940. My siblings and I are wondering whether you have any "system" set up to request info from readers about a specific person. At the time, the family lived in Elizabeth and her father, Roger Dowie Acker (my grandad, of course) worked selling Ediphones for Thomas Edison. Jean was the eldest of 4 (Loie, Thelma and Roger Jr.) and went on to attend Bucknell University for a couple of years but did not graduate, and we think the family moved from Elizabeth some time in the early forties. We (my 5 siblings and I) were quite young when we lost her to a little known heart condition - Long QT. It was 50 years ago on October 22, 1961. Lately we have all begun to search around for info about her, so we would love to hear anything from anyone in that Batten HS class who might remember her or any of the Ackers. Do you handle such requests in your very cool little publication? Thank you in advance for publishing this letter for any help you can offer!
Very Best Regards,
Susan Ciccantelli
Philadelphia, PA



Dear Susan,
There have been quit a few occations where people found eachother through the newspaper. I found a photo of your mom in my collection of Battin High Schol Year books. If any one remembers her that can send their contact information to me and I will forward to you. I will also ask some of the seniors at the Peterstown Community Center if they have any information about her or her siblings. Good Luck. Thanks for writing,
Joe Renna



(above) Entry for Jean (Acker) Ciccantelli from the 1940 edition of Red and White, Battin High School's yearbook. Jean's children would like to find out more about their mom who passed away when they were very young. Anyone who would like to share information with them can contact th epublisher of this newspaper at joerenna@joerenna.com to make a connection.

Dear Joe,
Having just received my copy of the Peterstown paper I again was stricken by a touch of nostalgia when I read the story about Don Barone and Roseanne Santirelli. I did not know either one of them, but I do know the area, school and the priest mentioned in the article. I grew up in North Elizabeth as we called it North End. I moved there when I was 4 1/2 years old. My father found employment in New Jersey it was at the tail end of the depression, and moved my mother, sister and I over from New York. He told my Mother he was taking us to the country, and compared to apartment living it was the country. We moved to Adams Avenue, and right next to my house was a big woods where we played cowboys and Indians, built forts, roasted potatoes in the open fire, and after Christmas burned the Christmas trees that the people threw out. It was a great place to live. All my mother had to do was stick her head out the window and call us in. I believe there are five houses where the woods used to be. I, and my sister attended Blessed Sacrament Grammar School, I started in the last kindergarten class they had for many a year, and went all the way through the eighth grade graduating in 1946, my sister graduated three years later in 1949.

The name Fr. Hilary was mentioned in that article. He came to our parish in the fall of 1945, and I served his first mass, at the church, and he was a great priest, and yes he knew all the children by name. Shortly after he came to the parish he got sick, and we didn't see much of him, he made an appearance at our graduation in June to wish us well. Fortunately he made a recovery and went on to spend many a year at that parish. To this day I never found out what sickness he had. The nuns that taught there like the priest were OSB "Order Of St. Benedict" I believe the Nuns also taught at Sacred Heart, St Genevieve's, Bender Memorial Academy and Benedictine Academy, an all girl's high school. The priests assigned to our parish were usually teachers from St. Benedict's Prep in Newark. I believe Fr. Hilary was Dean of Discipline at the Prep. At that time the church was a small wooden structure on North Avenue between the school and the rectory. We moved from the North Elizabeth area shortly after I returned from 5 years of naval service. My sister requested her marriage be performed there in 1959. She had to get permission as we were now parishioners of St. Genevieve's I think it was one of the last marriages performed at the old church.

We who grew up in North End always considered the boundaries to be from Olive Street to the South up to Floral Avenue to the North. Floral Avenue was considered Newark. It was and I believe still is a continuation of Madison Avenue. On the Eastern end it started at Route # 1 at that time called Highway # 25 to the railroad overpass on North Avenue just west of Jefferson Avenue. Some people would say that Pennsylvania Avenue was part of North End but us folks that grew up there didn't go along with that. I was in Elizabeth a few years ago on a visit and it was the week that they closed Blessed Sacrament School. I took my wife on a tour of the school and showed her the different class rooms I was in, the big auditorium where we played basketball, and later had the dances, of course we were not allowed in the dances until we were in high school. Most of the times Fr. Hilary was present to see that nothing got out of hand. If it did you were told very politely to leave and no one I knew of ever argued with him. I believe he was over 6 ft tall.

I really enjoy your paper Joe, and almost every issue has something I can relate to, you do a great job, and I look forward to receiving my copy every other month. Keep up the GOOD WORK. Although I have lived in Florida for almost 15 years I still consider myself a "Jersey Boy" as my old classmate at Jefferson High, Joe Bloomfield said " once a Jersey Boy always a Jersey Boy."

Jack Joyce
Spring Hill, FL

Hello Joe,
We love your paper and had missed it. Please renew for 2 years. You may want to pay a little more attention to your proofreading for spelling.
Thnaks,
Shari & John Zamarra
Fairfax, VA

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

If you like the paper, please thank an advertiser. The businesses that advertise in this paper make it possible to print. You can show your appreciation for their support by patronizing their business's. If they keep advertising, we will keep printing.

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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TJ CLASSMATES REUNITE AFTER 60 YEARS

Four classmates from Thomas Jefferson High School Class of 1951 got together on September 9, 2011 in Punta Gorda, Florida. The reunion was not a class reunion, it was a reunion of four friends who went their separate ways sixty years ago.

The four Minutemen, Rudy Fromm, Steve Mohyla, Jack Reilly and Willie Whelan hung around together in and out of school back in the day. Reilly described the get together as magical as the four freinds picked up their conversations from sixty years ago as if only five had passed. Their time apart just faded away.

The four men were accompanied by their wives who sat at the opposite end of the table, supposedly out of ear-shot, though that was suspect by the men. They reminisced about their times at "Jeff" and we laughed at and with one another.

The four also met the following day, without the wives this time, "au-natural" as they put it, meaning no hats to hide our receding hair lines; no attempt to hide hearing aids; and most of all no egos to assert. Just four

old friends talking about the special times they had together. The laughter erased any current problems that they might have been experiencing.

The reunion was so enjoyable that when they said so-long and went their separate ways. Rudy to West Hartford, Connecticut, Steve to Houston, Texas and to the separate coasts in Florida, Jack to Lake Worth and Willie stayed in Punta Gorda.

They haven't all been together in sixty years, though Rudy was able to touch base with Steve, and Jack and Willie found each other after Willie's daughter Wendy, jack's godchild searched for him on the internet.

Although none of the Elizabeth NJ natives were from the Peterstown section, they know almost all of the guys from the "Burg" in and around their age, who graduated from Jeff, now called Elizabeth High School. Reilly sent photos for publication along with a hearty hello to all the folks back home.

They expressed an intention to do it again. Where? When? Who knows? 🐾



Fromm



Mohyla



Reilly



Whelan



(above) Unknowingly the four classmates sat down for diner in alphabetical order coinciding with their portraits from their high school yearbook above. Rudy Fromm, Steve Mohyla, Jack Rielly and Willie Whelan.

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5TH ANNUAL CLARK UNICO ITALIAN AMERICAN FEAST IS HUGE SUCCESS

The Clark chapter of UNICO held their fifth Annual Italian American Feast on Columbus weekend. Over 12,000 people were in attendance. UNICO was excited and proud to bring this event to the township of Clark again this year.

There was an abundance of food including sausage, pizza, zeppole, eggplant, calzone, pastas, seafood, crepes, ribs, gyros, fried Oreos, potato on a stick, ice cream, jelly apples and much, much more. Beer and wine were also available. There were game trailers for everyone to take a chance to win prizes, plus a money wheel, 50/50, and an LCD Flat Screen TV was raffled off.

Children enjoyed rides, eating cotton candy, popcorn, and ice cream. Brother John Brown band performed live on Friday night and Sounds of the Street doo-wop band performed live on Saturday night. Italian singer Angelo Gentile swooned the crowd on Sunday afternoon. Various crafters and retailers were on hand for people to

stroll along and shop.

"The feast far exceeded our expectations this year," said Ralph Bernardo, Clark Chapter of UNICO President. "The weather was summer-like and people came out in droves. This was the most profitable year so far" said Bernardo. 📷

For those of you not familiar with UNICO, it is the largest Italian American Service Club in the United States, non profit and non sectarian. Their acronym stands for: Unity, Neighborliness, Integrity, Charity, and Opportunity.

The UNICO Clark chapter ran the feast. The proceeds raised from the feast will enable UNICO to donate to academic and sports scholarship awards to Clark high school students, underprivileged and handicap children, charities, community and civic activities just to name a few. 📷



(left, l-r) Clark Chapter of UNICO: Sam Liff, member; Henry Varriano, member; Bob Spinella, Treasurer; George Abruzzo, Secretary; Ralph Bernardo, President; Antonio Demeidici, Vice President; Bill Hearon, District Governor & Mike Tyrone, member.

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You are invited to place an ad in the Journal (and congratulate our honoree, Deacon Joseph Caporaso) for the November 12 Dinner Dance. To do so kindly complete the form and return it with your payment by November 1, 2011.
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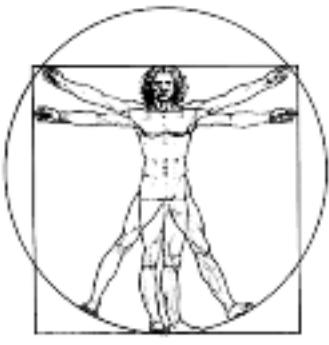
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THE FARM SYSTEM FOR GROWING UP

Submitted by Tom Renna

Elizabeth was the greatest city in the world to grow up in. Basketball and baseball leagues were everywhere. Sandlot stickball, whiffel ball, gutter ball was played on every street corner, playground, park and yard all over town. Everyday we woke up and met at the schoolyard before school started and played before classes started. In the summer we woke up every morning and created a home plate somewhere and played running bases until every one showed up to start a game. One on one games grew to five on five and eventually led to 15 guys waiting to play next.

Competition started within the family with siblings playing against each other. Indoor contests in knock hockey, electric football, shooting pool, playing darts and ping pong, moved outdoors in order to play street hockey, tackle or touch football, hoops, or even kick the can. You name it, we played it!

Cousins would come over and join the mix. Games would grow when neighbors all came out and converged on the field of play. Sides were chosen in various ways, matchups by talent, size and age were made to balance the competition. It was no fun playing in lopsided games. No matter what, we played ball from early morning to when we couldn't see the ball. Games amongst our immediate neighbors were taken up a notch by playing guys from another street. We played best of 7 series, playing two games on our street and the next three games around the block and then would come back to our street for games six and seven.

When you were eight years old you started playing little league with uniforms, umpires, coaches, trophies, white lined fields, parades, fans, and of course, lemon ice after the game. There was St. Anthony's Little League, E-Port, North Elizabeth, the Cuban League, PAL, the Elmora League and Union County Park.

As we entered the fourth grade, except for Anthony Candelino who was so good that he started when he was in second grade, the real fun started when you became

eligible to play for your grammar school in the Elizabeth City Parochial league. Playing baseball or basketball or cheerleading for your school colors was the big time!

Battin and Thomas Jefferson high school would be jammed packed every Saturday to watch all the neighboring sections of the town compete! Scores and game highlights were reported in the Daily Journal Newspaper every Sunday morning right on the next page after the Yankees, Mets & Knicks' scores. How cool was that!!! The Church rivalries were more meaningful than the Knicks vs Celtics or the Yankees vs Dodgers.

These grammar school rivalries would lead to high school rivalries at St. Pat's, St. Mary's, Elizabeth High, Roselle Catholic and Edison Tech. The best of the best would go on to play in college and a few even ended up in the minors and major leagues.

Then there was the real Big Time: The Peterstown Softball League aka "The Carmen Corsentino Circus League". All the boys and even the girls had a league every summer at O'Brian field in school 3 playground, on Third Avenue and S. Seventh St. All winter we would play basketball at Kirk Center and form our softball teams preparing for the start of the season in March, which lasted until the start of the St. Rocco Feast in mid August and playoffs would start after the Ferris Wheel was hauled away two weeks later. The ritual of drafting players was based equally on talent and comradery, it was more important to play with your close friends than it was to field the best talent. It seemed that the chemistry of best friends playing together trumped the abilities of raw talent. The problem was that we had enough best friends to make a half dozen teams.

Team's names reflected what Rock & Roll band the players were into that year and shirts were ordered from Solomons or Ross Sport shops on Elizabeth Avenue. Teams like the Moody Blues, Deep Purple, Quick Silver, Dominos, Blind Faith, Crazy Horse, Rainbow, The James Gang and so many more. Tattoo Rose was named after

the local neighborhood rock group. The Circus League was run by Joe Marino and Carmine Corsentino.

After graduating from the Circus League it was time to play in the Elizabeth City Softball league which fielded 28 teams with all the familiar faces from grammar school, but instead of St Hedwig's it was Emilio's Florist who sponsored, Blessed Sacrament became Nugent's Tavern. Morley and McGovern's tavern that replaced a parish identity. Frank Grossi's organized Smoothies and Ed Kushner's fronted the team for Halecki's.

There were dozens of teams sponsored by Peterstown, Georgie Triola's Quick Masonry, Blaise LaPolla's Pebble Lounge, Johnny Amato's Zio Angelo's, Manny Caravano's Roadrunners, Pat Riccio's Riccio Tavern, Joey Sacco's Wings, Steve Mirando's O.K Tavern, Anthony Rombardo's AMP Pallets, Whitey Cruz's Quick Silver, Paul Addesso's Chioda Lounge, Al Castagna's AL's 316, Joe Aisello's Joey Pals, the Disanto brothers, Joey Spirito's Spiritos Tavern. There were many more.

Of all the teams to grow out of Elizabeth, the most famous was Sticky Fingers. Sticky Fingers was the team that everyone wanted to play with. It was formed in the late 60's by Frank and Vinny Malta, Rusty Harris, Joe Marino, Frankie Iazetta, Benny Candelino, Big Jim Camicia, Lenny Zennario, John Ricadulli, Charlie Stango and Pete Petracco. They led the team to city championships, county championships and a state championship. The team developed by recruiting the best of the best that Peterstown had to offer until it disbanded in the early 90's when participation in the leagues was decimated.

The players basically remained the constant, we lived more like brothers than friends. Leagues are going through a rebirth. A bunch of us die-hards are still reliving our glory days though some are doing it in over 50 leagues. 🍷



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(above, l-r) A common scene from the 70's was softball being played in Warinanco Park. This photo by Joe Renna shows two teams from the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, Sticky Fingers and Riccio's, playing in the Union County Softball league. Pictured are Umpire Ray Ortel, catcher Chuck DeRosa, Gene Vaccaro, Mike Colicchio, batting Nick Renna, Joe Spirito, on bench, Mike Colletti, Lou Labrutto, Steve Mirando, Tommy Roman.

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BURG VS. BAYWAY RETRO SOFTBALL GAME

Submitted by Tom Renna

Coached by John Tropeano, the Union County Jail softball team won the Union County Championship this summer by defeating the Elizabeth Fire Department led by Harry Streep, Jr. 25-11. The UC JAIL team had players, Danny & Ray Del Valle, Chris Calas, Tom Renna and Johnny Miller from The Burg, Peterstown neighborhood of Elizabeth.

After the final out of the championship game, Tropeano, a native of Elizabeth's Bayway neighborhood,

suggested we should have a game with the guys from the Burg vs. the guys from Bayway. Two weeks later, The Burg vs. Bayway Game was played at Bayway's Drotar field with over 60 friends showing up to play and have some laughs. (do I have to mention that Bayway won?)

Joey Janucz dominated on defense for Bayway gunning down Tom Renna trying to stretch a triple into home run to tie the game in the 6th inning. The Tropeano brothers, Vito, Mike and John hit rockets off

the left field wall to drive in most of Bayway's runs. David "Blinky" Higgins pitched for the Burg but lost the lead late in the game. Joe Renna played a great second base for the Burg. Harry Streep, Jr. and Joe Spirito combined for 8 hits but it wasn't enough to beat the Bombers. Carlos Rego was the winning pitcher.

Next year with a little more preparation, the guys are looking to have a game with teams from Elmora, North End, St. Pat's, St. Mary's, Bayway and the Burg. 🏈



(above, standing, l-r) Louie Janucz, Charlie Babella, Mike Tropeano, Steve Conzado, Eugene Golda, David Higgins, John Tropeano, Bobby Marcus, Carl Herman, Anthony Tropeano, Vito Tropeano, Chris Pietrangeli, Tom Renna, Dave Mayer, Harry Streep, Lenny, Brian Streep, Joe Spirito, Chris Calas, Mike Hathaway.
(kneeling, l-r) Carlos Rego, Vito Genneta Jr., Vito Genneta Sr., Angelo Tropeano, Tommy Renna, Joe Renna.

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WHAT BECOMES A LEGEND MOST

Some players from the Bayway vs. Burg softball game wore some retro-wear, digging out their old jerseys of teams gone by.



(above) Joe Spirito squeezed in his dad's old Spirito's jersey from the Elizabeth Recreation League in 1975. Though his dad, Sal, nicknamed Chappie, didn't play he was made an honorary member of the team.



(right) Tom Renna (center) wore his dad's Sticky Fingers Jersey from the 1980's.



(above, l-r) The Tropeano brothers anchored the Bayway team. Mike wore his current Elizabeth Police Department team shirt while his brother Vito wore his old Extremators team jersey from 1991. Their brother John is still deciding what jersey he will wear when inducted into the Hall of Fame. Sitting on either side of John are his sons Angelo and Anthony.



(left) Tom Renna with David Higgins sporting a Tattoo Rose shirt from Circus League, circa 1977.

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(above, l-r) Regulars for lunch at The Gourmet Deli are Peterstown brothers Michael and Mauro Rosa who are chatting with Carlos Beltran. Michael cuts hair at Cranford Barber Shop around the corner from the deli and Carlos is from Carlito’s Barber Shop down the block from the deli. Mauro is just hanging out while the cutters talk shop.



(above) Lynn Kacsmar orders lunch from Dominick LaMantia at The Gourmet Deli.

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MORE THAN A GOURMET DELI

Dominick LaMantia has been working at the Gourmet Deli for twenty two years. He’s owned the place for fifteen years and even though it is a true deli most of his business comes in the form of sit down lunches.

He moved the location of the original shop in Cranford a half of block on Alden Street in 2003. The next year he expanded into the storefront next door to accommodate a sitting lunch crowd. Now his lunch business has over shadowed his deli.

Dominick’s clients come from all over. He has a strong

local customer base but the lunch crowd are people who live miles away and either work in Cranford or do their shopping downtown. It is this crowd that he sees as his most loyal customers, traveling to eat lunch at the Gourmet Deli even if they do not have business in Cranford. They also use him for their catering.

All additional marketing comes form word of mouth. Dominick says he lets his cooking do his talking. Nothing can say it any louder or clearer. The Gourmet Deli is one of the best lunches around. 🍴

CASE IN POINT

Lynn Kacsmar lives in Elizabeth but travels to Cranford when she has a craving for their angel hair pasta salad from the Gourmet Deli. Lynn has been going to the Gourmet Deli for fifteen years. She gets her hair done at a salon next door and started to have lunch at the deli when she was in town. Now she makes the twenty minute drive even is she has no hair appointment.

Lynn is a connect planner for Continental/United Airlines. She is also a member of their Italian Heritage committee, part of We Care, a fund raising arm of the airlines that assists employees in times of need.

Lynn helped plan an event at the airport and naturally called on her favorite Italian Deli owner Dominick LaMantia to cater.

Dom went all out, the menu included Penne Pasta with Vodka sauce, Meatballs, Meat and Cheese Lasagna, Eggplant Parmigiano, Chicken Francaise, Pasta Primavera, Sausage and Peppers and of course his famous Angel Hair Pasta Salad.

Everyone was welcome to attend the party, employees, as well as travelers. Meal tickets were sold along with raffles for many prizes including two tickets to fly anywhere Continental goes.

The highlight was an Italian singer who serenaded passengers boarding a plane to Milan, Italy. 🎵



(above) Two of Dominick LaMantia’s Specialty Sandwiches plated next to a tray of his popular Angel Hair Pasta Salad. Recipes for the sandwiches are below but the pasta salad recipe is not for public viewing.

Recipes

Submitted by Dominic LaMantia
The Gourmet Deli

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UNITED WAY’S 1st ANNUAL “STUFF THE BUS” CAMPAIGN

United Way of Greater Union County’s (UWGUC) inaugural “Stuff the Bus” campaign in partnership with local corporations and volunteers helped to make the start of the school year bright for a number of children in the county. United Way staff and volunteers from Deloitte & Touche stuffed, packed and distributed over 200 backpacks filled with pencils, markers, notebooks, folders and more to the children of Homefirst and Board of Education Family Success Centers in Plainfield, Jefferson Park Ministries Family Success Center in Elizabeth and The Connection for Children and Families in Summit.

Local corporations and individuals including: Actavis in Elizabeth, Costco in Union, G & W Labs in South Plainfield, JOM Pharmaceuticals in Somerset, Macy’s in South Plainfield, Nustar in Linden, Target in Union, Tempil/ITW in South Plainfield, Total Lubricants,

Williams Gas in Linden, Paul and Nancy Dango, Cranford residents and Michelle Marlow of St. Luke & All Saints Episcopal Church in Union all made contributions of both cash and supplies that valued at over \$7,800.

In addition to the support of UWGUC’s corporate partners, Villani Bus Company, located in Linden, donated a school bus and driver to help deliver the backpacks to the four drop-off locations.

“United Way is pleased to see the reception we received for our first annual Stuff the Bus campaign and look forward to doing it again next year,” said James W. Horne Jr., President & CEO of United Way of Greater Union County. “The strong level of support our Union County community shows for our youth and the value of education is tremendous. The contributions made were greatly appreciated by the students and their families.”



(above) Courtney and her dad Dee Villani of Villani Bus Company donated the use of their bus and driver.

(below) Volunteers Raitika Sachan, Melanie Mawn, Bittu Doshi and Amar Shah from Deloitte & Touche, LLP stuff backpacks.



For more information about United Way’s “Stuff the Bus” campaign and how you can get involved next year, call 908-353-7171.





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On Friday, October 28, 2011, St. Mary of the Assumption High School will hold a ceremony to dedicate the school gymnasium as the “Robert Halleck Gymnasium.” The ceremony will be held at St. Mary’s at 7:00 p.m.

Robert Halleck, a member of St. Mary’s Class of 1960, returned to his alma mater in 1983 to serve as JV Basketball Coach, Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach and interim Athletic Director. Bob also served as Head Varsity Basketball Coach from 1989 to 1998. In 1984, he was named Athletic Director, a position he continues to hold.

There will be light fare, as well as beer, wine and soda. Tickets are available at St. Mary of the Assumption High School, 237 South Broad Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202, (908)352-4350. The cost of a ticket is \$30.00.

FRANK IZZO, 87

Frank Izzo born in Elizabeth, NJ and was a lifelong resident. He passed away on Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at the age of 87. He was a U.S. Army technician fifth grade veteran of World War II, serving in both the European and Pacific theatres. He was the chief of security for the Union County Courthouse Complex in Elizabeth from 1975 to 1991. Prior to that, he was a truck driver for Charles Nash Beverage and Deer Park Beverage, from 1946 to 1975.

Frank was the beloved husband of the late Ruth (Stein) Izzo. He is survived by his devoted daughter, Marlene Froehlich and her husband, Ralph, of Union, N.J., and devoted son, Anthony Izzo of Elizabeth, N.J.; loving brother of Niblo Puggy Izzo of Kingswood, N.J., Rosemarie Paterson and her husband, Pete, of Rahway, N.J., and the late Pfc. Anthony Izzo, also dear brother-in-law of Charlotte Israelow; cherished grandfather of Darla Rogers and her husband, Ken, Robert Coon and his wife Pam, Frank Coon, Christopher Coon and his wife, Leida, and great-grandfather of seven. He will be deeply missed by many family, extended family and friends.

TWO PETERSTOWN CENTENARIANS PASS AWAY

ROSE MILITELLO CARR

Mrs. Rose Militello Carr, 100, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 29, 2011, at Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County in Berkeley Heights, N.J. Mrs. Carr was born in Jersey City, N.J., and resided in Elizabeth for 89 years prior to moving to Berkeley Heights nine years ago. She was a seamstress for the former Manheim Shirt Factory, Elizabeth, for 30 years, retiring in 1969. She was a former member of the St. Ann Rosary Society of St. Anthony Church and the St. Joseph Club in Elizabeth. She was predeceased by her husband, John Carr, in 1966. Surviving are a daughter, Ann Corrigan; four sons, Ronald, John, James and Thomas Carr; 17 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild, and two sisters, Lucy Martinucci and Jennie Brozas.



(above) Rose Militello Carr

MICHAEL CAPORASO SR.

Michael A. Caporaso Sr., 100, of Point Pleasant, N.J., passed away on Wednesday, July 13, 2011, at the Claremont Center in Point Pleasant. The funeral is from the Mastapeter Funeral Home, 400 Faitoute Ave., Roselle Park, N.J., on Monday, July 18, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. The Funeral Mass is at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Elizabeth, N.J., at 10:30 a.m. Interment will be in Evergreen Cemetery in Hillside, N.J. Visitation is from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. on Sunday. Born in Elizabeth, Michael lived there for most of his life before moving to Point Pleasant four years ago. He was a laborer for New Jersey Building Laborers Union Local 394 in Elizabeth. Michael was a 50-year gold card member of the Laborers International Union and founder, member and last survivor of the Greater Elizabeth Pigeon Club. He was predeceased by his wife, Susan (Senichka) Caporaso, and a daughter-in-law, Maryann Caporaso. Surviving are three sons, Frank G. and his wife, Vincentina; Michael Jr. and his wife, Anna, and Joseph Caporaso, and two daughters, Margaret Truppa and her husband, Louis, and Susan Drewek and her husband, David. Also surviving are 14 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandson.



(above) Michael Caporaso with Great Great Grandson Nico Gerbino, 6 months old, at his 100th Birthday celebration on December 20, 2010.



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(Between St Anthony's Church & Spirito's Restaurant)

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY HELPS SENIORS

On Saturday, October 1, 2011 the St. Anthony's Seniors Association held their Annual Reunion Party at the Peterstown Center in Elizabeth, NJ. This event was traditionally organized by Ann and Russell Harris for the past 17 years. This year, Ann Harris had to step down and Tessie Pozyc took her place. Tessie recruited family members to help out, daughter Pam Palmieri and grandchildren Kimberly and Michael.

Pam and her daughter Kimberly helped organize the catering while Pam's son Michael provided music courtesy of VJ the DJ company. Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded is Associate Dean for Student Life at St. John's University Staten Island campus and was able to enlist student volunteers as part of University Service Day.

Members of Circolo Garibaldi, the Italian American Student Organization on the Staten Island campus gave of their time to meet with and serve the seniors of St. Anthony's Church. This organization was established on the St. John's campus in February as a way to celebrate the rich Italian culture and traditions found amongst

many of the students attending the college. "It is the mission of the University and our organization (Circolo Garibaldi) to give back to the community. This was a perfect way to share in the spirit of service with a fellow Italian-American organization, the St. Anthony's Seniors Association," stated Alexa Lazzarotti, President of Circolo Garibaldi and a junior at St. John's University studying Speech Pathology.

Along with over 80 people in attendance, Fr. Tom, pastor for St. Anthony's and Elizabeth Mayor Chris Bollwage were there as well. The event which consisted of dinner, dancing, raffles and fun raised over \$1,000 for St. Anthony's Church. During the event, Ann and Russel were recognized for their years of dedicated service. Both hope to be back next year running the event again!

Mary Colletti, who was celebrating her birthday, had Happy Birthday sung to her by the entire group to end the evening. St. Anthony's Seniors Association was very grateful for the students of St. John's University.



(above, l-r) Richie Ciano, President St. Anthony's Seniors Group, presents Russell and Ann Harris with award for their years of service as volunteers running the Reunion Party.



(above, l-r) Kimberly Palmieri's grandmother Tessie Pozyc with Ann Harris.



(above) St. John's student Nick Giordano waits on St. Anthony's Seniors.
(left) Kimberly's mom Pam Palmieri with student Alexa Napolitano.



(above, l-r) Circolo Garibaldi Italian Club of St. John's University members Alexa Lazzarotti, Ariel & Alexa Napolitano, Kimberly Palmieri and Nick Giordano.



(left) Birthday girl Mary Colletti.



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0 ROMEO, ROMEO, WHEREFORE ART THOU ROMEO?

Sal Angelo has traced his ancestry back to 1735. His wife’s origins, Muscaritolo and Mazza, from Vallata, Italy and his family from Ribera Sicily. Over the years Sal has shared the process of his search with the readers of the Peterstown Newspaper. Both families settled in Peterstown, the Italian-American section of Elizabeth, NJ known as Peterstown.

Some of the most interesting passages of Sal’s reporting is how he dealt with “Brickwalls”, contradictions in records that must be analysed and corrected. He also began to research the validity of family legend, oral history that has been passed down

through the generations. The following article is a family tale about his maternal grandmother refusing to marry a Ribera resident and claimed that she would go into the noviate if she was not allowed to marry the man of her choosing, Sal’s grandfather.

As is the case of most family stories, Sal found that this one through his research had some truth and some untruths. It involved a marriage band to the Ribera resident, but the marriage never took place. It also involves numerous trips from Ribera to Elizabeth, NJ and several other Elizabeth family surnames.

Sal’s mother told him the story late in life. The documents he found gave him a more accurate picture of what happened. As Sal puts it “It’s not Romeo and Juliet but it shows me the strength of this little Sicilian woman to do what she thought was right.

Sal’s grandmother lived with Sal from 1932 to 1966, when she passed on. His grandfather died in an accident in 1928 while working for the union local. 🇮🇹

THE LEGEND OF SALVATORE AND CATERINA CIACCIO

As told by grandson Sal Angelo

My mother told me the following story, which was told to her by her mother.

My mother's telling of this story, combined with the documented evidence I found, tell us clearly what happened. The marriage bann signed in 1904 was to a Ribera resident (name with-held due to privacy reasons) who wished to join his family in New Orleans. He had just returned from being in New Orleans in 1903. This marriage bann had a handwritten section which when translated stated:

"The documents submitted were a copy of the birth records of the bride and groom issued by the officials of the town of Ribera. Also a copy of the death act of the groom's mother, Ann P-----, from the officials of the town of Siculiana dated April 7 of the current month and the data from the city of New Orleans consulate dated January 26 of last year. The father of the groom gives his consent to the requested marriage."

It was explained to my great grandmother this was not a wise marriage because of the problems occurring between the New Orleans citizens and the Italian population in the area and my grandmother's reluctance to marry this man.

New Orleans prior to 1906 was corrupt, violent and growing. (Read Chapter 13 of the book La Storia by J. Mangione and B. Morreale). Anti- Italian and foreigner feelings were high. In 1891 eleven Italians were lynched by a mob even after being found innocent of the crime they were charged with. This, plus the fact that several relatives, and the four Triolo brothers Francesco, Leonardo, Bernardo and Domenico were applying a constant low key "soft sell" to my great grandmother to make her agree to my grandparent's marriage. The brothers were emphatic about the virtues of my grandfather and the need to allow my grandmother's

love for him to prevail.

It didn't hurt that Bernardo married my grandmother's sister Vita Coniglio in 1892 and Domenico married my grandfather's sister Maria Audenzia Ciaccio in 1900. Both Domenico and Maria Audenzia settled in Elizabeth, NJ. Also, Francesco had taken several trips to the U.S. with Ciaccio and Coniglio relatives. Leonardo was to be a witness to the 1906 Elizabeth marriage of my grandparents.

The two marriages of my grandparents, 1906 in St. Anthony's Church in Elizabeth, NJ and 1908 in the town hall of Ribera was in accordance with Italian law which required that since Italian unification in 1870, all citizens of Italy had to have their wedding performed jointly in a church and town hall civil ceremony to have any children born of the marriage recognized as legitimate. The 1908 Ribera marriage record has an extensive Italian handwritten note explaining that "they were married in St. Anthony's Church in Elizabeth, NJ USA, and had a legitimate son named Giuseppe and that the bridal couple had submitted all necessary documentation to verify such."

Interestingly the Ribera citizen my grandmother didn't marry was married in 1908 in Ribera. In 1912 he and his family moved to the Chicago area. My grandfather died in 1928 due to an accident while on a union job in Elizabeth. My grandmother lived with my parents and I until her death in 1966. For more than thirty-four years her presence, kindness and care was shown to my siblings and me. This may not be a Romeo and Juliet story, but it did show the mind set and stubbornness of my grandmother when it came to deciding her life's partner. The Atlantic Ocean and the distances between Sicily and Elizabeth NJ would not stop her. 🇮🇹

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SAL'S BRICKWALL ANALYSIS OF GRANDPARENTS

OBJECTIVE:

Determine the facts behind my maternal grandmother, Caterina Coniglio Ciaccio, arranged marriage to a Ribera resident, whom she did not wish to marry. She insisted upon a marriage to my grandfather Salvatore Ciaccio. The proposed marriage was the wish of her mother, Santa Fidanza.

WHAT IS KNOWN FROM RECORDS AND FAMILY STORIES ARE:

1. My grandfather left Sicily sailing from the Port of Naples on the S.S. Sicilia and arrived in New York April 6, 1904, destination was Elizabeth NJ.
2. My great grandmother, Santa Fidnza “persuaded” my grandmother to enter into a marriage bann with a Ribera resident three days later. My grandmother was reluctant to marry this man and insisted on a marriage to my grandfather. The marriage to the Ribera resident never took place.
3. Three times in 1906 my grandmother, great grandmother and several family members registered to sail to America, but did not.
4. My grandparents were married (Church Sanctioned) in St. Anthony’s Church in Elizabeth NJ on Dec. 16, 1906. The witnesses were Leonardo and Domenica Triola.
5. They returned to Ribera after the birth of their first son Giuseppe Jan 12 1908 in Elizabeth NJ. They had a 2nd marriage ceremony (State Sanctioned) in Ribera Dec. 7 1908.

FINDINGS:

Searching the Ellis Island website I was able to locate several occasions, in 1906, where trips to the U.S. was to be made by my grandmother and great grandmother.

Unfortunately each trip they attempted had their names and family members who accompanied them crossed out as “did not sail”, these trips were:

1. S.S. Brasile left Palermo Feb. 9 1906 and arrived in New York Feb 24, 1906. It had 318 passengers, only 2 others from Ribera.
2. S.S. Nord America Left Palermo April 18 1906 and arrived in New York May 3. 1906. It had 734 passengers with 6 from Ribera including my great aunt Vita (Coniglio) Triolo and family.
3. S.S. Citta di Torino left Palermo May 9 1906 and arrived in New York May 28 1906. It had 542 Passengers, with 16 other Ribera residents. Thirteen (13) of the sixteen residents did not sail, including my grandmother. Five (5) of the 13 were the family of my grandmothers sister Vita (Coniglio) Triolo.

The Ribera vital records show that a marriage bann, to a Ribera resident other than my grandfather, was written April 9, 1904, the banns were posted by the church on April 10, 17 and 21 1904. The marriage never took place because of my grandmother's insistence not to marry this man, if forced too; she would enter the St. Josephs Noviate. She and her relatives made three (3) attempts to sail during 1906.

Because of mis-spelled surnames e.g. Eriolo, Crolo and Teriola for Triolo and Corriglio and Cossiglio for Coniglio the searches' were difficult. I searched every 1905 - 1906 trips made by any of her relatives, e.g. brothers, sisters, in-laws, and friends. There were dozens of recorded trips. While searching my great aunt Vita Coniglio and her husband Bernardo Triolo I came across a trip taken in 1906, which had my grandmother and great grandmothers names but incorrectly spelled, this answered my search.

The S.S. Lazio sailed from Palermo May 10, 1906 and arrived in New York May 20, 1906. It had 1,016 passengers. The ships manifest page had 14 passengers listed from Ribera. In addition to my great grandmother and grandmother, my grandmothers sister Vita and her family of five were signed-on to sail, plus seven (7) other

Ribera residents. All destinations were to Elizabeth, NJ. Again the name Triolo was mis-spelled as "Ericolo" and "Teriola". The Coniglio names were mis-spelled as "Cossiglio". My grandmother's name mis-spelled as "Casterina Consiglio". Her sister Vita's family, name of Triolo was crossed out and they did not sail. My grandmother and great grandmother did sail. They were to meet my great uncles Calogero and Giuseppe Coniglio at the often-used address of 320 Gian (John) St. Elizabeth NJ.

Interestingly, even though my great aunt Vita (Coniglio) Triolo and family didn't sail on the S.S. Lazio, several weeks later Bernardo and his daughter Domenica did sail on the S.S. Perugia arriving in New York Harbor July 20, 1906, but without Vita.

CONCLUSION:

The events and their document dates tell an interesting story. Three days after my grandfather left to sail to the U.S in 1904 to find work, my grandmother was made to sign the marriage band with another Ribera resident. Her father Pelligrino had died in 1884 and this placed a hardship on my great grandmother who was left with five (5) children. 🍷



my tale is more like

Beauty and the Beast

than Romeo and Juliet.

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