

HOW DO YOU MEASURE SUCCESS?

The measure of a successful life is relevant to the value system of the individual. The degree of success diminishes when top priorities are compromised for those that are subordinate. Allowing success to be defined by anything other than one's own conscience is to be a miserable failure. So, "To thine own self be true."

No words speak so distinctly to the subject of self-evaluation than these written by Shakespeare, for the ultimate judge of one's own success is himself. Determining degrees of success in functional operations is simple, for there is but a single criterion which is defined by the purpose of the activity. For example, a financial investment can be measured by its rate of return, or the total number of wins one sports team has compared to the rest of the league. Every function in society is judged. Survival is reliant on the success of the fittest, and so, too, life is judged for fitness. The common good thrives through those who are righteous.

A person's value system is developed throughout childhood and is fine tuned in maturity. The cultural, societal and spiritual mores that a person grows up with are embedded in the psyche. Through these customs, a code of ethics is adopted and a moral barometer is devised. These are the tools used in making value decisions. Decisions that define who a person is, the content of their character and their contribution to society. Being true to thine own self means doing what is considered the right thing in one's heart of hearts. How successful a life is can be determined by how well a moral standard has been maintained.

The system for measuring personal success varies from one person to the next. Success specific to one aspect of life is weighed against all others. One may be successful in business but must ask, "At what cost did it come?" What was compromised to achieve that success? It is common to see the value of money rise above other aspects of life that were once held in high esteem. There is a deep list of ideals that must be considered when making choices. What should concern an individual the most is what that list is comprised of and in what order they appear. Family, friends, health, community, society, country, humanity, time, career, possessions, money, power, and the list goes on.

The judge is in the mirror. Each evening a verdict is passed. The judgment is sealed and though the defendant knows what is written inside, the envelope is seldom opened. Misery is the prison sentence for not being true to one's principles. Denial is the key that locks the door.

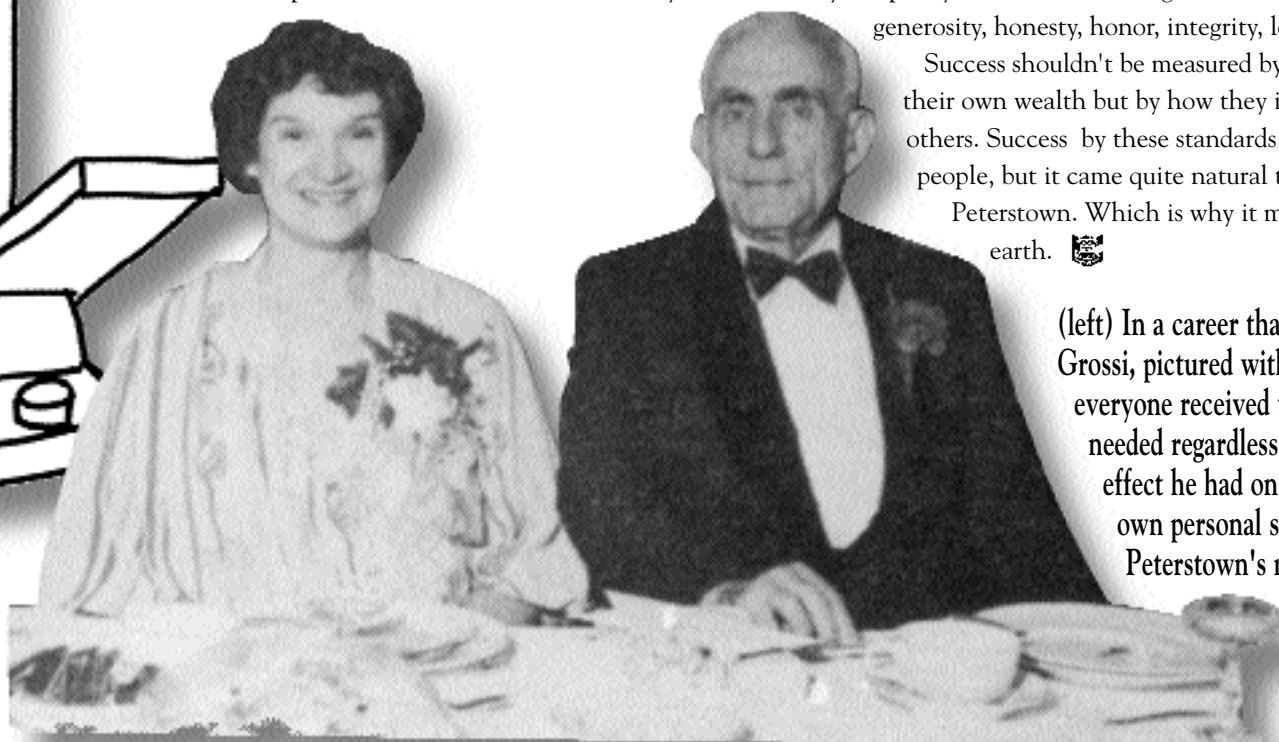
The most successful people are those who are one with God and neighbor. It is the standard taught in the Peterstown community where the golden rule is the preface to making every decision.

Achievements by Peterstown residents in business, politics, arts and sports have been well documented in this publication. But they are all considered superficial. Success in this community is measured by the purity of virtue and intangibles such as compassion, courage, generosity, honesty, honor, integrity, loyalty and respect.

Success shouldn't be measured by how much someone improves their own wealth but by how they improve the quality of life for others. Success by these standards may seem unobtainable to most people, but it came quite natural to the generations growing up in Peterstown. Which is why it may just be the richest place on earth. 🏡



(l-r) Friends from St. Mary's High School class of 1948, Ray French, Charlie Feeney and Dotty McKechnie celebrate the anniversary of their graduation. Despite having been ranked among the 25 richest people in the world, Feeney values his lifelong friendships with his Elizabeth classmates much more.



(left) In a career that spanned 50 years, Dr. Igino Grossi, pictured with wife Irene, ensured that everyone received the medical attention they needed regardless of their financial means. The effect he had on so many lives, through his own personal sacrifice, makes him one of Peterstown's many success stories.

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President's Message

It seems that winter crept into spring and april showers are now in their fourth month. On August 14 the electric for the eastern seaboard was knocked out for two days. Maybe my prediction for locust in the last issue was not that far fetched. I would like to see the summer we missed out on begin in September and last through November. It wouldn't be any stranger than the year we've been having. After reading the June Issue's cover story I began thinking of all the people in the neighborhood who really lived their lives to the fullest. And I'm talking about people who have very little in the way of possessions. The things that matter to them was happiness. Their entire life was making sure everyone's basic needs were cared for. They were able to enjoy the simplest things in life: the company of friends, watching their children grow, and good food. When I think about it life is very simple. It is also very short. Every day is a new opportunity to check out where we are headed and to get back on track if need be..

Thank you and God bless

John Sacco
John Sacco
President

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.

ADVERTISERS: CALL TINA RENNA
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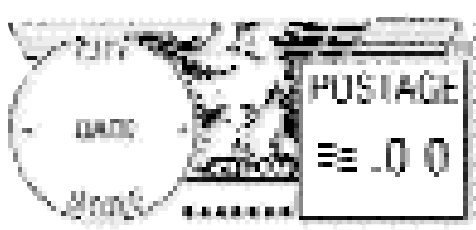
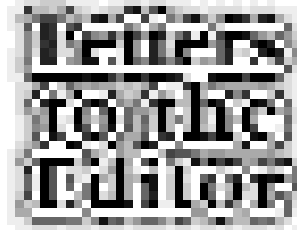
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LETTER POLICY

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.

Hey Joe:

You know I love the paper and wouldn't want to miss an issue.....will you let me know when my subscription is up? I'm so used to magazines telling me to renew my subscription 6 months before it's up!

Good luck with your campaign for freeholder - I haven't been a registered voter in Union County in 15 years, but I don't think that's ever stopped anybody from voting in Elizabeth! lol
Bill Normyle
California

Joe & Family,

Here's hoping your family is healthy and happy. Say hello to your brothers for me.

First of all, applause is in order for the exquisite interpretation of the neighborhood (Burg) that you present to your readers. Reading "Around About Peterstown" reinforces my belief that I grew up in an environment that helped me grasp the importance of family and friends.

Secondly, kudos for running for freeholder. If I lived in Union County you could count on my help. In fact if I can help in any way let me know. I hope that your forum on the expenditures of the county government will wake people up. Also, don't Lenny Bruce it with taxes only. Incorporate additional issues in your campaign Joe.

Thanks again, and by the way your batting clean-up!!
Joe Marino,
Toms River, NJ

Joe,

It's always great to see this certain picture in your paper. My grandfather was in this one.

His name was Al Corrado.

Love to Tina & the Girls
Thanks,
Cindy Bellino
Middletown, NJ

(See photo to right from the June 03 Issue of "AAP")*



Dear Joey and Tina,

Words can not express the feelings I felt in my heart when the package you sent with, not one, but several pictures of my handsome young dad, along with the latest issue of "AAP". How kind of you to respond at all, but especially to provide enlargements and to separate my dads picture from the rest of the team! I burst into happy tears! Neither my husband nor our children, my niece and nephew ever met my dad and now, thanks to you, I will have enough pictures to share with them. How wonderful of you to honor and keep his memory and the memories of all the men, women and children alive, in dad's case, 30 years after his untimely death. Your newspaper is wonderful and I totally enjoy reading it!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity. It means more to us than you could ever know. You and your family are remembered often and warmly. Thank you! God bless you always! *

Sincerely,

Carmela (nee Monoco),
John and Caroline Ismail
Howell, NJ



CONGRATS TO RICH BELLO ON A 4.0 GPA!

Richard C. Bello, son of Rich and Vita Bello of Bloomsbury, NJ, formerly of Elizabeth, grandson of Carmine and Michelina Crincoli of Toms River also formerly of Elizabeth, earned a place on the Dean's List for the Spring 2003

Semester as a Stillman School of Business student at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ. Mr. Bello completed his freshman semester with a 4.0 gpa while taking 18 credits and working 20 hours per week for the Dean of Sports Management. Bello, a 2002 Phillipsburg High School top-ten graduate, is a Sports Management major and is an active member of the Dean's Advisory Committee. This summer he is working with the Somerset Patriots minor league baseball team.

Dear Around About Peterstown,

We moved here over 25 years ago. I'm originally from Indiana, and my husband from Florham Park, NJ. Although we're not originally from Elizabeth, we've had the good fortune of finding several wonderful friends who grew up in Peterstown. The Carranos, who grew up in Peterstown, introduced us to the "folklore" of the area. We are also close friends of the Cilibertos, who still live in Elizabeth.

I had picked up your paper once while in Spiritos and couldn't wait to show it to Tommy and Nalda, who had moved to Edison, and now are in Bayville. Of course they loved it, and inhaled every word.

When considering a gift for their wedding anniversary, I knew that a multi-year subscription to this paper would be a surprise they would enjoy long after the party was over.

So to Tommy and Nalda Carrano, now living in Bayville (but FOREVER from the Burg!), Happy Anniversary...and thanks for all the great stories that make us feel like we're part of the old neighborhood!

Nice job putting it together--it's really the best of its kind that I've ever seen.

Tom and Cindy Lahiff
Elizabeth, NJ

Hi Joe

I just got the latest edition of the paper and as usual you have done a great job. The article about your dad was amazing and a real nice gesture. I think many of us who grew up in the neighborhood can relate to our parents working hard long days for their family.

It's something we appreciate more and more as we grow older. The story from Jimmy DeMaio was also nice to read.

Good luck on your run for freeholder and the same for Rita LaBrutto running for Cranford Council. Also congrats on the circulation of the paper reaching 15,000. I also wanted to tell you that the last edition was forwarded to Komoro City, Japan and is most likely still being translated. Keep up the good work. My best to Tina and your family.

Lenny Merlo,
South Plainfield, NJ

PETERSTOWN - A TREASURED COMMUNITY

by: *Paul Mattingly*

The Historical Society, Elizabeth NJ Inc. explored the Peterstown section of Elizabeth during 2002-2003. The study was supported by a History Grant from the Union County Historical and Cultural Affairs Office and by the able advice of its staffer, Ethel Washington. We conducted a number of interviews and collected many photos via the good graces of Mike Guarino's five-year effort, "Peterstown, My Peterstown" (1984-88) and Joe Renna's wonderful, informative 28-issue newspaper endeavor "Around About Peterstown," (12/98-Present). Virtually all of the Historical Society's citizen-interviewees were Italian-Americans, since the neighborhood has been solidly Italian since the 1920s.

Our key research question addressed the continuity of Italian culture through most of the 20th century. When other neighborhoods achieved an ethnically or racially distinct character, it seemed to the society that the neighborhoods retained that ethnic distinction for little more than a decade or so. The Peterstown section has retained its distinctive place and routines for many decades. How did this continuity happen?

According to those interviewed, the pattern established itself during the Depression: because no one had much, they shared whatever they had and developed a sense of all experiencing the good and bad together.

The Sutura brothers, - Joseph and Vinnie - who just this month (June 2003), retired from their grocery begun by their grandfather, testified to a neighborly network bound together not only by food but by their delivery service. They claimed to have been in every home in Peterstown at one time or another. They not only sold oil and cheese and pasta but provided recipes for young couples starting out and for interested non-Italian customers. In the days before autos, everyone walked, and key local stores benefited so substantively that Peterstown residents rarely had to leave the neighborhood for their basic staples or even for items others found in Broad Avenue department stores.

We were also assured that the binding agent was not simply residential proximity or daily shopping routines but rather the role of St. Anthony's Church, after it split off from St. Michael's (which tended to emphasize its German constituency and mores). The church's Italian-speaking pastors, its many associations and groups, meant that the traffic between home and church was not simply a Sunday affair. The very building of the church, facing the neighborhood it served, made an architectural statement about its place in this community. Peterstown citizens chose St. Anthony's as the locus for its memorial to 39 young men from the neighborhood who gave their lives in World War II, a sacrifice so substantive that the entire community formally remembered. The Church's sponsorship of this remembrance recognized the neighborhood's commitment to the nation and the city.

Peterstown residents pride themselves on their multifaceted commitments rather than seeing them as divisive or competitive. Cumulatively, this neighborhood of

Italians created a religious-based community of mutual support that overcame the Italian pattern of returning to Italy or of overemphasizing their Neapolitan, Calabrian or Sicilian allegiances. Whatever the personal or economic dislocations they experienced, these Italians bound themselves culturally to each other for several generations and in the process created a highly distinctive niche in Elizabeth's geography and history. 🇮🇹

PLACES: PETERSTOWN

"Community Treasures" is an ongoing narrative of the history of Elizabeth in which "Places: Peterstown" is a segment. The project consists of interviews and videotape and addresses interesting aspects of the community. Not just what happened but why it happened and how it was dealt with. For instance, what happened when the Singer Company closed? How did the community adjust? What are the connections between Peterstown and the City of Elizabeth. What factors went into Peterstown becoming such a cohesive community for such a long time.

Upon completion, the new narrative will be available on the internet. It is designed to be an ongoing process that will continue to grow and develop, and branch out into projects of different media. Updates on the project will be reported periodically. 🇮🇹



(above, l-r) Paul Mattingly speaks with Joe Renna in the Peterstown Community Center where Mattingly conducted videotaped interviews with long time residents of the neighborhood.

Paul Mattingly is the Director of Program in Public History at New York University. He can be reached at The Historical Elizabeth, New Jersey Inc. offices by calling 908-353-1511 or by email: historicalsocietyelizabeth@hotmail.com

The Society is located at 1139 East Jersey Street Suite #201 Elizabeth, New Jersey




This 1947 photo is of young men from Peterstown, dressed in their Easter Sunday best, on their way to church.

Pictured are:
(standing, l-r)
Manny Corlino,
John Corsentino,
Joe (Eppy) Corlino,
Dewey Conrad,
Eddie LaRocca,
Joe Sferra,
Joe Genova,
Van Buschio,
(kneeling, l-r))
Joe Smeraglia,
Manny Renna,
Al Ferretto.

The photo was taken by Sal Terracina and will be featured in a book of his photos of Elizabeth being printed by Tachen Publishing of Germany.

On July 10th, Frank Yori, together with his wife Mae, daughter Donna and son-in-law Richard, flew to Costa Mesa, California to see his grandson, Sgt. Richard Wiegers, USMC, arrive at Camp Pendleton. He hadn't seen his grandson for one year. Frank missed him dearly and would think of him every day. Frank knew that his grandson was in constant peril in the front lines of the war in Iraq, but he also knew that his grandson had accepted his situation as a duty to his country. It was a source of tremendous pride for Frank.

The war was confusing and dangerous for the US forces. Every day was different. The speed in which they marched inland made the previous days strategy obsolete.

Fear was felt back home, though, as families watched the war on TV, never knowing the whereabouts of their children, grandchildren, spouses or parents who were overseas. For Frank Yori, the return of his grandson was a reason to celebrate. Frank wasn't only happy to see Rich return safely but was more proud of what Rich had accomplished. Yori, a veteran of World War II and member of the Old Guard, believes that the sacrifices that the people in the armed forces make directly coincide with the freedom and quality of life of all Americans. 

During his trip, aboard the USS Tarawa, he was promoted to Sergeant and awarded a medal for his efforts during the training phase and deployment with 2/1 in support of Iraqi Freedom.

(right, l-r) Sgt. Wiegers and his
Commanding Officer Lieutenant
Kevin Curley, and Sgt. Nick Sommers



Not for Nothing But...

soldiers serve their
country as if every
citizen is family.

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What a big camp it was as we went to the field to wait their arrival, about 15 helicopters were landing and all the officers were coming in. Lieutenant Curly saw our signs saying "Welcome Home Sgt. Wiegers". He then introduced himself as Richards' Commanding Officer and my daughter grabbed him and hugged him and gave him a big kiss thanking him for his leadership. Which my grandson said was terrific. Lt. Curly saw me and said, "I know he's your grandson. I saw your picture in the Home News Tribune". He sent everybody to where Richard would be marching in, but he told me to stay behind. He said, "I'll tell you when Rich comes in". My granddaughter's husband wheeled me in my wheelchair to get the best view.

The USS Tarawa and USS Rushmore were two miles off the coast of Camp Pendleton. Landing crafts were disembarking at the shore and Rich had to drive his Humvee and unload his equipment. When he saw me he dropped everything and came running to me. His first words were, "I love you Grandpa".


His Lieutenant directed me to join the others. Rich had some work to do and when he was finished he would march out to the other end of the field.

Me and my wife, Mae, my daughter and son-in-law were met in California by my niece Marie McQueen and her family. She is the daughter of my sister Marie and her late husband Slim DeBella. They live in New Port Beach and have been Rich's west coast resource for home cooking when he passed through California and during Holidays.

As the marine hymn played, children were greeting their fathers, wives were greeting their husbands, pregnant wives greeting their husbands. My daughter and my son-in-law and all of the late Slim DeBella and

Marie Yori great-grandchildren were hugging my grandson. There wasn't a dry eye in the place.

On Rich's first night back the Wieger's, Yori's and DeBella's celebrated at none other than Spirito's Restaurant in Carlsbad, California the West Coast offspring of the famous Peterstown Restaurant.

Back in New Jersey, about 150 gathered at the Wieger's home in Edison to honor Rich. 



(above) Banners, welcoming Rich were mounted around his home.



(above) Sergeant Richard Wiegers was embraced by family upon return from active duty. They were as happy to see him back as he was to be back. (back l-r) Lisa DeBella, Sgt. Wiegers; His mom Donna; Marie DeBella; sister, Steffie; grandmother, Mae Yori, (front, l-r) Ryan and Tara DeBella; grandfather, Frank Yori; father Rich.



(above) Jim and Marie Sammartino, 1986

(below) Obituary of Jim Sammartino as it appeared in the Star-Ledger.

VINCENT 'JIM' SAMMARTINO, OWNED DELI IN ELIZABETH, 77

He owned Jim's Corner Deli in Elizabeth for 15 years before retiring in 1988. Earlier, he was a sheet metal worker affiliated with Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 22 in Cranford for 28 years.

Mr. Samartino served in the Army during World War II.

He was a member of the Pioneer Gun and Bow Club of Iselin.

Surviving are his wife, Marie; a son, James, and two grandchildren.

JIMMY SAMMARTINO

Submitted by Jim Sammartino

On July 6th, 2003, my father "Jimmy" Sammartino passed away after a two year bout with cancer. My dad was a lifelong resident of Peterstown and for 15 years the proprietor of Jim's Corner Deli (corner of Palmer Street and 3rd Avenue). Moreover, he was a neat guy. Below is a poem written about his life by a family friend, Steven St. James.

A SIMPLE COMPLICATED MAN

Written by Steven St. James

Just short of his 78th birthday, Vincent James Sammartino died
Everyone called him "Jimmy" & that's what he preferred.
These are my impressions of the Jimmy I knew for the past 20 years
I recall a stocky man with a big belly
He was a blue collar guy, with all that went with that--
The black & white morality, a quietly solid family man.
He could have been a fireman or a cop, but instead he was:
A welder, a fisherman, a hunter, a deli man,
and more universally, a husband, a dad, a grandpa, a friend.
I recall the twinkle in his eye and his \$16,000 smile
And though I knew him as a balding white-haired man,
I could see he was a vintage charmer, as evidenced by the
enchancing wedding pictures - Marie, radiant & poised,
and Jim a swarthy, thin, young blade with a dangerous air.
Why must we always compete with our younger selves?
I recall a man who loved the outdoors
hiking through some woods or fields,
cradling a rifle in Maine, Wyoming, & British Columbia.
Or, on a boat in choppy waters, a deck full of writhing silver fish
grinning grizzled old timers, a seasick little boy who was his son.
I recall getting to know a man of the World War II generation,
my parents' generation, over many cocktails over many years -
"Would you like a Scotch, jim?" - "I'd be delighted."
And many fine dinners, at Sara's, our house, or
one of many New Jersey restaurants.
I recall a man who was a mentor in his own way.
With a working knowledge of many things.
Who could gently guide you with those big thick fingers of his.
Somewhat inarticulate, sometimes he didn't have the right words,
but you always knew what he meant.
I recall Jim being very helpful.
Always there if you needed him to move something in his SUV.
or, chauffeuring Julie and Peter.
Or water plants when we were on vacation, and
very thorough, "Grandpa, you just watered a silk plant!"
Kind to his brothers & sisters: his beloved Ann, jovial Mary, and
his brothers Sal and Phil and his many nieces & nephews.
I recall him as a caregiver to his wife Marie.
Helping her through her many illnesses & problems,
innumerable trips to doctors and drug stores,
driving her to the emergency room in the middle of the night.
Staying with her when many men would have left their sick spouse.

I recall a man who was always "cursed with good health".
Who had health problems & complaints 5 years before seeing a doctor.
Then, the last two years his health went downhill.
Cancer of the prostate & bladder - the removal of both.
Having the indignity of having to live with a catheter.
Then the pain as the cancer invaded hi bone marrow.
I recall Jim as a lifetime smoker.
To his credit he tried to quit many times,
but even near the end he was smoking.
I curse anyone in the tobacco industry or
anyone else who ever made or will make a cent
from selling this horrible poison.
I recall him as a dying man.
Laying in a hospital bed at Overlook Hospital for 7 weeks
during which his health & spirit declined.
Through the heinous procedures which didn't help,
where the pain was omnipresent & limited his movement.
He stopped talking & hadn't opened his eyes for the last week.
What dark terrors was he living with?
He hated his helplessness & being dependent
on Marie, Peter, Nancy, and Jim,
whose efforts were nothing short of valiant.
Depressed & hopeless when the doctor told him
he'd never walk again; this killed his will to live.
I recall the last day he was at Overlook on July 4.
I was struck by the tautness & youthfulness of his face,
which wore an expression of tranquility.
This may have been the methadone or cancer wearing him down.
When I said, "Hi Jim!," he automatically extended his right hand.
I took it, but didn't shake it, not wanting to cause him any pain,
or destroy his delicate balance of peace.
Later, Peter tried to feed him spoonfuls of sweet & mashed potatoes,
then some watery vanilla ice cream, interspersed with sips of water.
Only once did he appear to open his eyes when
Marie was standing by his bed and
he tried to whisper something to her-
Was it "I love you," or "goodbye?"
She leaned closer & gently asked him what he was saying
It was an unbearable touching moment and,
for a second I imagined them both young and free.
Goodbye Jim
We'll always love you.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE COME IN MANY WAYS

From day one, Mia Renna would not allow her hair to be cut. Her parents would have to hold her down while the hair stylist went to work. And then it was only to trim off an inch or so. Whatever drove Mia’s desire keep her hair at a Repunselistic length has been embedded in her psyche. She has strong convictions and this just happened to be one.

Mia’s strong embrace of the status quo made her announcement that she wanted to cut her hair short even more shocking to her parents. They knew she didn't go to school with that idea in her head and they were puzzled on why she would want to cut it now. And why with so much clarity. They had to catch their balance thinking about it.

LOCKS OF LOVE HELPS CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL HAIR LOSS ACHIEVE CRUCIAL SELF-ESTEEM AND CONFIDENCE

LAKE WORTH, Fla.—Locks of Love is a not-for-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children under the age of 18 with medical hair loss. These custom-fitted hair prosthetics are provided free of charge or on a sliding scale to children whose families meet the Locks of Love Board of Directors guidelines.

Donors provide the hair, volunteers staff the office, and the manufacturer hand-assembles each piece, which requires approximately four months.

The organization, which began in 1997, has helped over 1000 children since its first year of operation. Thousands of bundles of donated hair arrive from around the country as a result of national publicity Locks of Love received in newspapers, magazines and television programs.

The donations continue to pour in. Most donors mail a note and a photo with their bundle of hair. Children comprise over 80 percent of the donors, making this a charity where children have the opportunity to help other children.

Locks of Love provides its recipients with a custom, vacuum-fitted hairpiece made entirely from donated human hair. The vacuum fit is designed for children who have experienced a total loss of scalp hair and does not require the use of tape or glue. Most of the applicants suffer from an auto-immune condition called alopecia areata, for which there is no known cause or cure. Others have suffered severe burns, or endured radiation

Her explanation was so astonishing that it caused her parents to catch their balance, again. It seems that Mia read an article in a newspaper that told of an organization, called “Locks of Love”, that collected hair that can be made into hairpieces for financially disadvantaged children with medical hair loss. One criteria was that the hair had to be 12” in length. Mia easily had that.

The honors to cut went to Mia’s lifelong wrestling/hair stylist Karen (Iazzetta) Kotas of Dimensions Hair Salon.

In donating her hair, Mia chose to help others over any number of, mostly self centered, reasons not to. Her parents are very proud of her. 🥰

treatment to the brain stem, in addition to many other dermatological conditions that result in permanent hair loss.

Donated hair is evaluated for its usefulness according to the following guidelines:

- The donated hair must be at least 10 inches (preferably 12") in length
- It must be bundled in a pony tail or braid
- It must be free of hair damaged by chemical processing
- The hair must be clean and dry, placed in a plastic bag, and mailed in a padded envelope to:
Locks of Love
2925 10th Avenue N., Suite 102
Lake Worth, FL 33461

Monetary donations to Locks of Love are tax deductible. Donated hair that is not suitable for use in children's hairpieces may be sold at fair market value to offset the cost of manufacturing.

For more information about Locks of Love, write to: 2925 10th Avenue N., Suite 102 Lake Worth, FL 33461, call (561) 963-1677 or Fax:(561) 963-9914.

Visit our website at locksoflove.com.



(above, l-r) Mia Renna cradles her golden brown hair that was masterfully cut by Karen (Iazzetta) Kostas of Dimensions Hair Salon in Avenel, NJ.



(left) Mia Renna let her hair grow down to her hips for ten years before getting it cut so she could donate it.



HILLTOPPER ON TOP THE WORLD

Up the hill, westbound from Peterstown, sits St. Mary's Church along with its grammar and high schools. The high school drew students, known as "Hilltoppers" from all directions and always had a fine reputation as a source for parents who wanted to give their children a catholic education. It was a natural transition from the many catholic grammar schools in the area. Since attendance in private schools is a choice, the likelihood of the school being made up of like-minded students is high. Each were raised in families with similar values that in turn brought them together at St. Mary's. Adherence to those values kept them friends ever since.

True friendship transcends every boundary. Stories of friendships that endure great geographic distance, long periods of time and prevail through turmoil are common. The alum of St. Mary's has its share of interesting stories that define the essence of friendship. The most interesting, though, must be the bond between one of the richest men in the world and his old school chums.

Charlie Feeney was part of the class of '48. He arrived at St. Mary's High School by way of St. Genevieve's Grammar School located in the Elmora section of Elizabeth. A good portion of Feeney's classmates went the same route. The bonds of friendship between the classmates were tied with common experiences in the playgrounds, with the church, through school and as neighbors.

As it was in the earlier part of this century, neighborhoods were defined by parish and ethnicity. The culture that defined the Elmora community was Irish-American. Feeney came from a home that relied on both parents working hard to make ends meet and then working a second shift to afford a parochial school.

THE HILLTOPPERS CLUB

Alum of St. Mary's High School are a tight knit bunch. They have formed a club as a means of keeping in touch. It is an effort independent from the school but very much a part of the fabric. The club is organic. Adding the most recent class to reach their 50th anniversary of graduation to their roster. Mary (Doherty) Barbieri and Mary Applegate from the class of 1934, St. Mary's High School's first graduating class, are still honorary members.

Bob Cogan of Medford, NJ is president and organizes a get together two to three times a year. The next will be on October 2, 2003 at the Kennilworth Inn in Kennilworth, NJ.

The members are more than just classmates, they are all friends and in some cases family including siblings, cousins and spouses. 🍷

In those days everyone knew what it was to struggle. Those in high school in the 40's were born during the Depression. They lived their earlier teen years during World War II, where everyone not in the service were asked to do their part by rationing, volunteering and working in jobs left vacant by those who went over seas. The turmoil jolted neighborhoods and loosened traditional ideas of community and family. A catholic education concentrated on the moral aspects of life along with the academic. The result of these great lessons was a value system that put life in perspective. High on the list was friendship.

Over 50 years has past and the friends who were rooted in Elizabeth have since dispersed. Remarkably, their bond of friendship is still strong despite separation by space, time or social status. Charlie Feeney and the class of 1948 made the idea of spending time with old friends a reality.

Some casual banter between Feeney and his school day friends brought about a turn of events that ended with over 150 people flying to Ireland and staying at the Castletroy Hotel in Limerick, which is owned by Feeney. The trip consisted of almost all of the surviving members of the class of '48 along with members of the classes of '47 and '49 and other friends who were also invited. Feeney made sure everyone could afford to go.

A five year follow-up to that event occurred again this year. The attendees are now in their seventies and though their lives sent them in different directions, the roads they traveled led them back to their roots, to a small high school in Elizabeth and to the company of friends. Without friends, life's journey is on a long road to nowhere. 🍷

CHARLIE FEENEY IN PERSPECTIVE.

Charlie Feeney never sought to strike it rich but it happened. Starting out as an owner of duty-free shops he expanded his holdings into hotels and clothing stores. He was so successful, that his worth is estimated in the billions. Forbes Magazine ranked him in the top 25 richest people in the world. And this is the least of his accomplishments.

Staying true to the values that his parents instilled in him, Feeney never lost sight of what was important. He is considered one of the most generous philanthropist's in the world. He knocked himself off the Forbes list by donating most of his personal fortune, over \$4 billion, to charitable foundations.

Feeney has used his assets to a greater good. His contributions will assist development in education and medicine. He is also dedicated to promoting peace, especially in Northern Ireland. Charlie Feeney is remarkable not for his wealth but for what he has done with it. He was recognized by Time Magazine in 1997 along with others and was considered for their man of the year honors.

Feeney's financial accomplishments are larger than life, impossible for almost anyone to comprehend. Yet, the things that Feeney values most, he received way before his wealth. What he holds nearest to his heart is what his parents taught him. And so, he is dedicated to his children, loyal to his friends and generous toward his neighbors. Money only effects these traits by degree. Feeney stands on the world stage and so he can and does make a difference for those in need on a global level. It is everyone's duty to do the same according to their means. 🍷

Not for Nothing But...

I know people who,
once they make
a few bucks and
move away, deny they
are from Elizabeth.



(above, l-r) The information for this article was submitted by Ray French pictured with family and friends who are also Hilltoppers: Dr. Bob McCutcheon, Nephew; Sister-in-law Alice French; Sister-in-law Loretta (Leonard) French; Brother, Justin; Niece, Lois (McCutcheon) Triola; and Ray.



(above, l-r) Hilltoppers from the Class of 1948 at their 50th reunion in Limerick Ireland, Ray French, Charlie Feeney, Dolores and Bernard Mulhearn.

(above) Group shot from 1998 Reunion of St. Mary's High School Class of 1948 taken in front of the Castletroy Hotel in Limerick Ireland. In attendance were: Mary Elizabeth Ard, Jim & Ethel Brady, John Francis & Patricia Anne Brewer, Catherine Brewer, Robert & Mary Burkhardt, Frederick & Zita Caesar, Robert & Kathleen Cogan, Daniel & Marianne Cullinan, Joseph Devlin, Rosemary Di Spirito, Francis & Joan Downey, Mary Jane Dugan, Gerard & Marianne Ennis, Margaret Mary Fanning, Claire Ann Farra, Chuck & Helga Feeney, Nancy Fernades, Jim & Arlene Fitzpatrick, Raymond French, Marguerite Haggerty, Ann Hahn, Ed & Ursula Healy, Claire Hendrickson, Mary Alice Kaiser, Edwin & Jean Keitz, Anthony & Irene Kelly, Rosemary Kissane, Mary Klymciw, Elizabeth Knodel, John & Dorothy Leonard, Thomas Mannion, Bernice Mayer, Joseph McCann, Thomas & Joan McCarthy, Anthony & Marianne McDonald, John & Joan McGuire, Dorthy McKechnie, Frederick & Elizabeth McMahan, Patricia McSweeney, Joan Moran, Elaine Mottola, Bernard & Dolores Mulhearn, Nora O'Brien, Margaret & Leo O'Brien, Herbert & Barbara Oesterle, Margaret O'Grady, Joseph & Mary O'Leary, Mary Pontriand, Mary-Theresa Purvis, Anne Marie Rahnenfurher, Irene Reppert, Jean Rose, Ruth Ryan, Bob & Lillian Schneller, Eddie & Mary Seery, Hugh & Mary Sharkey, Marie Lucy Sullivan, Tony & Elaine Suso, Bill & Phyllis Talian, James & Joan Tighe, Henry Tocci, Jean Vella, Olga Venskus, Anthony & Joan Ward, and Robert & Colleen Anne Zingler



(above) One of the historic documents that hang on the walls of the Rio Café is this 1887 Liqueur license.

(right) Hostess Tania Ferreira presents the Menu from the Rio Café along with a selection from their extensive wine list.



RIO CAFÉ, WHERE OLD IS NEW AGAIN

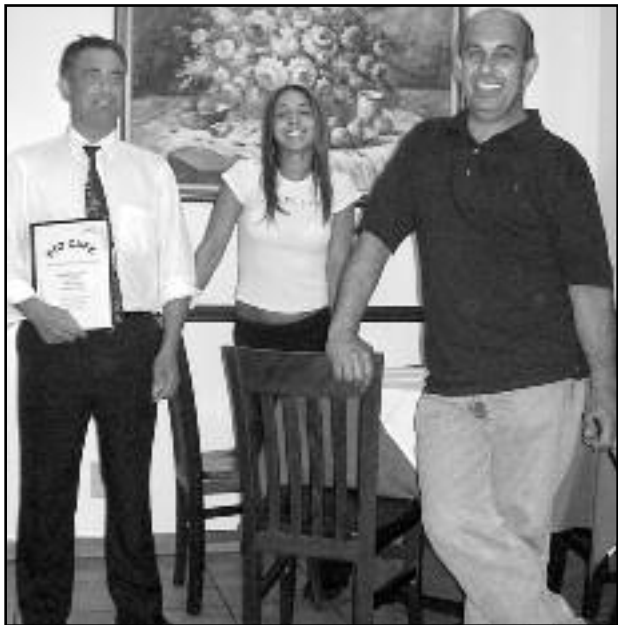
Sitting in the beautifully renovated Rio Café in Rahway gives a sense of awe for its history. The decor is not contemporary so the spirit of its history is in the atmosphere not in artifacts. The significance of the building lies in things that patrons can't see.

The tradition of being a food and spirits establishment is evident by the business papers that hang on the wall. Utility bills and liqueur licenses from over a century ago are a novel glimpse of the old times. The tunnels under the building are a more sobering reminder of life back when.

The tunnels were part of the Underground Railroad used as passage for slaves in route to freedom. The tunnels started from the river front at the Rahway Yacht Club and connected a series of locations sympathetic to the cause where food and shelter could be gotten under cover. This location was one.

For the past three years the Rio Café rebuilt the building and established a business that breathed new life into this corner of Rahway. Patrons can dine in the front room where a barbeque sizzles along side a bar or in a sperate dinning room featuring relaxing music and excellent service. The cuisine is classic Portuguese, Spanish and Brazilian. The chef, Angelo Maldonado, has

had a following from patrons who know him from other Union County restaurants. The Rio Café is a romantic place for dinner, a relaxing place to have an espresso and an exciting place to watch a game on TV. 📺



(above, l-r) Patrons receive a warm welcome from Hostess Tania Ferreira; Matra D. Joe Ferreira and owner Elliot Carvalho.

Recipes

Dining out offers a variety and complexity of dishes that are either impractical or impossible to make at home. For instance, The Rio Café 's roasted red pepper sauce takes almost 5 hours to make. They did submit these two recipes for appetizers that are manageable. They are designed for single servings and made to order.

Camarori a Grillo (Shrimp and Garlic)

Angelo Maldonado - Rio Café

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 Pound of Shrimp
- 1/2 Spoon of Garlic
- Olive Oil
- Spanish Paprika
- Red Devil Hot Sauce
- Touch of Lemon
- Salt & Pepper to taste

PREPARATION:

Mix all ingredients in sauce pan and cook over flame for three minutes. Serve hot.
(serves one)

Piquillos Rellenos (Stuffed Peppers w/ Crab Meat)

Angelo Maldonado - Rio Café

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 serving of Piquillos (Spanish Peppers)
- Enough Crabmeat to fill the pepper(s)
- Some Clam Juice
- 1 spoon of Butter
- 1 spoon of Flour
- 2 chopped Shallots
- 8 ounces of Cherry Wine
- Salt & Pepper to taste

PREPARATION:

Combine butter, flour, shallots, cherry wine, salt and pepper. Mix well. Set aside. Stuff Piquillos with crab meat put in metal dish with enough clam juice to cover bottom of pan and place in oven heated at 350° for 15 minutes.

Remove and pour sauce over dish and serve. (serves one)

THE YANKEES WIN! THEEEEE YANKEES WIN!

There are some records in sports that are mind boggling. Mike Tyson has earned \$300 million, Anna Kournikova reaching the fourth round of the 1996 U.S. Open and the Yankees winning 26 World Championships. It's August, 2003, Tyson has filed for bankruptcy, Kournikova poses for a spread in Maxim Magazine, the Yankees are leading the AL East and all is right in the sports world.

On July 20th, the Sons of Peterstown held a bus trip to be part of the happening; not Anna's photo shoot but a Yankee home game. A bus load of forty, 20 adults and 20 youngsters, joined 51,851 other fans to see the Yankees beat the Cleveland Indians by a score of 7 to 4.

The day was perfect. It was sunny and warm. It was a fun filled memorable day at Yankee Stadium. Especially for the kids. For some it was their first time to a major league game. They saw Jorge Posada hit a dinger and Mike Mussina worked his curves every bit as well as Kournikova did in Maxim.

(below) The Yankees are celebrating their 100th year of dominance. Everyone in attendance received a pin commemorating their 1947 World Championship win. The pin is the ninth in a series of 26, representing every championship the team won.



(below) Ticket stub from game.



(right) The best seat is the one next to a friend

YANKEES 7, Indians 4												
Cleveland	ab	r	h	lf	bb	so	avg.					
Crisp lf	4	0	2	0	0	1	.268					
Blake 3b	4	1	1	0	0	0	.271					
Garut rf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.279					
Bradley cf	3	1	0	0	1	1	.318					
Broussard 1b	2	1	1	0	2	1	.263					
Thalmer dh	4	1	1	1	0	0	.223					
VMartinez c	4	0	1	2	0	0	.214					
Peralta ss	4	0	1	1	0	1	.222					
Sorenson 2b	2	0	0	0	0	1	.179					
a-Judnick pr	1	0	0	0	0	0	.129					
McDonald 2b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.258					
Totals	32	4	7	4	3	6						
YANKEES	ab	r	h	lf	bb	so	avg.					
Asoriano 2b	5	1	1	2	0	1	.290					
Jeter ss	5	1	3	1	0	1	.319					
DeGambi 1b	4	0	0	0	1	1	.254					
Williams cf	4	0	0	0	1	0	.258					
Metsul lf	3	2	1	1	2	0	.301					
Posada c	3	1	2	2	1	1	.255					
Sierra dh	4	1	2	0	0	0	.292					
Ventura 3b	2	1	1	0	2	0	.241					
Mondesi rf	3	0	0	0	1	1	.264					
Totals	33	7	10	6	8	5						

Cleveland 000 000 301-4 7 3
YANKEES 000 105 60x-7 10 0

a-fled out for Sorenson in the 7th.

B-Sorenson (2). LOB-Cleveland 4, YANKEES 10. 2B-Asoriano (17). Jeter 2 (15). Pteade (14). MI-Posada (18), off Hermers. RBI-Thalmer (15). VMartinez 2 (5). Peralta (4). Asoriano 2 (59). Jeter (20). Metsul (68). Posada 2 (54). SB-Mondesi (17). CS-Crisp (5). GPP-VMartinez, Metsul, Ventura.

Runners left in scoring position-Cleveland 3 (Bradley, Peralta, Ludwick); YANKEES 5 (Jeter, Williams 2, Posada, Mondesi). Runners moved up-Blake, Garut, Thalmer, VMartinez, Sierra, Mondesi. DP-Cleveland 2 (Peralta, Sorenson and Broussard), (McDonald, Peralta and Broussard); YANKEES 1 (Asoriano and DeGambi).

Cleveland	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	np	era
Westbrook 1, 4-5	5.5	5	1	0	4	3	104	4.04
Herrera	0.2	4	4	2	0	17	9.00	
Boyd	1.3	2	2	1	1	25	4.80	
Belencourt	1.2	0	0	0	1	17	2.70	
Muholland	1.0	0	0	1	0	13	4.36	
YANKEES	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	np	era
Mussina W, 11-6	6.0	7	3	3	1	55	3.20	
Charmont H, 1.3	1.3	0	0	0	0	14	3.02	
Hitchcock	0.0	1	1	2	0	15	5.06	
Milivera S, 8th	1.0	0	0	0	0	9	1.60	

Herrera pitched to 4 batters in the 6th. Hitchcock pitched to 2 batters in the 6th. Inherited runners scored-Boyd 3-2, Charmont 2-0, Milivera 2-1. RBI-off Boyd (DeGambi). 1. Sorenson-Herrera 1m.



BASEBALL

AL Standings										
EAST										
	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str.	Home	Away	Inter.	
YANKEES	61	36	.629	—	7-3	W-5	29-19	32-17	13-5	
Boston	57	40	.588	4	7-3	W-2	30-14	27-26	10-7	
Toronto	51	46	.515	11	3-7	L-2	23-24	28-24	10-8	
Baltimore	45	50	.474	15	6-4	W-4	25-24	20-16	5-13	
Tampa Bay	34	62	.354	26 1/2	4-6	W-1	21-30	13-32	3-15	
CENTRAL										
	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str.	Home	Away	Inter.	
Kansas City	54	42	.563	—	7-3	W-2	29-21	25-23	9-8	
Minnesota	48	49	.495	6 1/2	4-6	W-4	26-23	22-26	10-8	
Chicago	40	50	.449	7	5-5	W-3	29-19	18-31	10-8	
Cleveland	41	57	.418	14	3-7	L-5	22-25	19-32	6-12	
Detroit	26	70	.271	26	5-5	L-3	12-35	14-35	6-14	
WEST										
	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str.	Home	Away	Inter.	
Seattle	54	38	.590	—	4-6	L-3	27-20	32-18	10-8	
Oakland	54	43	.557	5	5-5	L-4	36-16	18-27	9-9	
Anaheim	49	47	.510	9 1/2	5-5	L-4	29-20	20-27	11-7	
Texas	40	57	.412	19	5-5	L-1	23-27	17-30	4-14	

(left) Box scores and the American League standings from the sports pages of the Star Ledger.



(above) Villani Bus Company driver, Jose Villatoro, knew the best route to the stadium and made the trip in 30 minutes from door to door.

QUALITY TIME WITH FRIENDS MEANS MORE EACH DAY



(above) On May 3, a group of the guys that grew up around John Street, between 1st and 2nd Avenues, had a reunion at City Tavern in Elizabeth. They continued conversations they started forty years ago without missing a beat. As time passes the opportunity for them to hook up decreases but their commitment to stay in touch increases. (Standing, l-r) Danny Sullivan, George Kauffman, Joe Sullivan, Dr. Joe Pappetti, Ronnie Esposito, Dr. Brian Lech, Sal Signorelli, Al Castagna, Bill DePaola, Dino Annucci (Seated, l-r) Ernie Agresto, Angelo Gattozzi, Jim Sammartino, Frank DePaola, Joe Mallozzi and Victor Fernandez(with crutches) Photo by Mrs. Linda Pappetti.

REAL ESTATE CORNER

TINO & HOWARD'S

It's unbelievable that summer is almost over. This summer feels like April showers. It seems that every time we step out of our homes it rains. Last year, for those who recall, we were in a drought. Some weather!

Rainy days are actually one of the best times to inspect a home. If your looking to buy a home it's a great opportunity for you to carefully examine if there are any leaks in the roof or if water is penetrating the basement. It is also a good time to check sewer lines to see if they back up with the rain. The driveway and backyard can be inspected for flooding during heavy rainfall. If the house is located in a flood zone you may check the flooding pattern of the neighborhood.

This summer we have seen that the federal government reduced interest rates; simultaneously you have also heard that rates are going up and that the bond market is getting hammered. This is heard on all the talk shows regarding business. Most people do not realize that the prime rate that has been cut by the federal government has nothing to do with a 30-year mortgage. The prime rate only affects short term loans, which may or may not be a mortgage. An example would be an interest only loan that is based only on a fund rate. With this type of loan you would have seen a reduction on your mortgage. However, a consumer must realize that

it's up to him to pay the amount of principal he would like every month because it is not done automatically. A 15 year and a 30 year amortized mortgage is based on the 10 year bond so in effect if no one is buying these bonds to encourage the purchase, the rates go up and when many people buy these bonds then the rates go down. Many investors have switched their money into stocks, which has caused the bond market to get hit automatically resulting in mortgage rates going up.

Interest rates are still very low. No one can guarantee if they will go up or down. The world economy is so intertwined, that what ever happens around the world affects your investments in the United States. For this reason it is still a wonderful opportunity to purchase real estate. The interest rates presently make homes more affordable then two years ago. In fact today interest rates are similar to what they were in January. Our readers must realize that TV commentators need something to talk about and interest rates are always a hot topic. If you listen to them you would think that mortgage rates are at an all time high, when in fact they are cheaper than any time back in the 80s and 90s.

I hope that this school year coming in a few weeks will be a golden opportunity for new families to purchase the home of their dreams. So that their children know that they have a home and an education.

Submitted by Justino Rosa




(above) Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour and Bing Crosby in “On the Road to Morocco”. The Paramount On the Road Movies was the most popular series ever made. The plot was basic in each film, Hope and Crosby were the perfect pals, loyal to the end, until a beautiful woman crossed their path.



(above) Just before his death on July 27, 2003, Bob Hope teamed with Ray French in a film called {On the Road to Ireland”. French, who used to double for Hope, did all his own stunts like pitching whew with Dorothy Lamour. St. Mary’s High School Class of 1948 where flown to Ireland to be extras in the film - clause in French's contract.

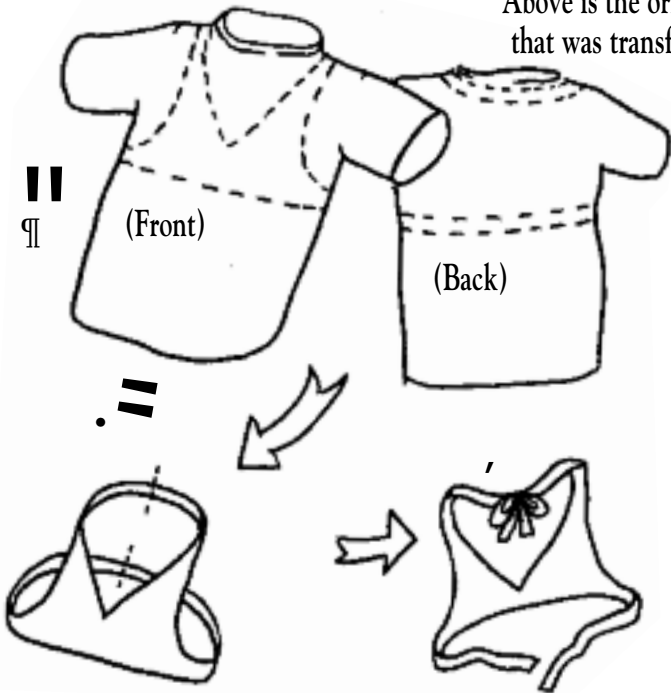
Besides Ray French replacing Bing Crosby, find nine other changes to the scene and get a chance to win dinner for two at Tavern in the Park. (See form below for details.)

THIS OLD T-SHIRT

Patrons who belly-up to the Campus Inn bar can’t help but notice their barmaid’s T-Shirt. They succumb to staring at her ever move in a what to be a fixation on how the shirt was manipulated into such a unique design. Around About Peterstown, in its journalistic pursuit of all that is true and/or perplexing, worked diligently to uncover the answers to how the T-shirt got its shape. The barmaid, Danielle, refused to reveal her sources but she did explain how she ripped the T-shirt up. 



Above is the original Campus Inn T-Shirt that was transformed in to what Danielle is sporting to the right.



DIRECTIONS

- ¶ Cut away, on dotted line, the parts of the shirt that aren't sexy.
- Cut the straps that were left down the middle.
- , . Tie straps around the body in order for shirt to fit snugly.
- „ . Do 200 sit-ups a day.



(above) View of bow tied in back of shirt.

Re-Visions Answer Form

- 1) Bing out - French in
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____
- 7) _____
- 8) _____
- 9) _____
- 10) _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

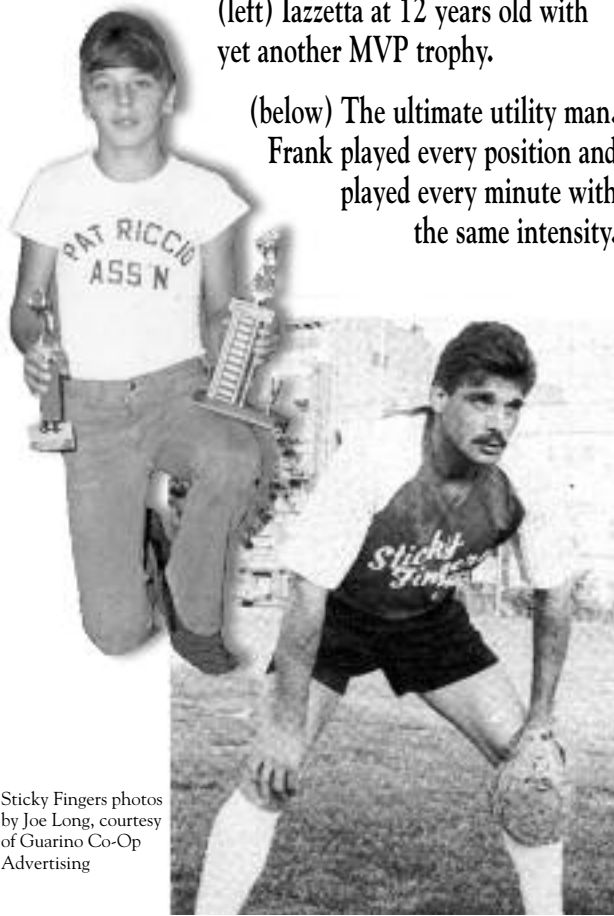
Write down as many changes as you can find. One winner will be drawn from the submissions with the most right answers and awarded a dinner for two from our Ala-Carte Menu. Mail or drop your answers off at the address below. Deadline is October 15, 2003. Cannot be combined with any other offer. One entry per person.

Tavern in the Pa
147 W. Westfield Ave. • Roselle Park, NJ • 07204
908-241-7400 or 908-245-SANGRIA
For menu and banquet prices log onto:

THERE WERE GREAT PLAYERS AND THEN THERE WAS FRANKIE

(left) Iazzetta at 12 years old with yet another MVP trophy.

(below) The ultimate utility man. Frank played every position and played every minute with the same intensity.



Sticky Fingers photos by Joe Long, courtesy of Guarino Co-Op Advertising

When choosing sides for baseball the first pick was always Frank Iazzetta, then the other team got the next three picks. Frank was that good. He played way beyond his years. He started to play with Sticky Fingers, Peterstown's local elite softball team, when he was 15 years old, competing with players twice his age. He kept pace due to his exceptional athletic ability and his maturity on the field.

Iazzetta made sparks early, in St. Anthony's Little League, the city and county leagues, and then throughout the softball circuits, which were at the height of their popularity in the 70's and 80's. He was so advanced amongst his peers that it seemed the trophy shops preprinted MVP plaques with his name on them. He threw harder, hit farther and ran faster than the rest of the league. Most of all he loved playing more than anything.

He studied situations like a natural science, intent on learning every nuance of the game. His teachers were formable players in their own rite, Marino, Harris, Malta and even his own older brother, Carmen, who played pro ball. Iazzetta would watch them from the bleachers in O'Brian field and soak up how they played. Then one day, an injury on the field, a nod from Jo-Jo, and Frankie dashed out to his position in the outfield. No one could be happier.

Frank seemed like he was born to play. Not just baseball, he could also dominate on a football field as well as on a basketball court. Iazzetta was at home between the lines. People strive to find a meaning in life. What can be more rewarding than doing what you love most. We are taught to pursue goals that are not necessarily our own. What good is the cushy job, fancy car or big house if you trade your loves for them.

Frankie worked as a laborer out of Local 394. He provided for a wife, who he loved dearly, and his son who he adored. Above all he was able to play ball. He eventually coached his son and taught the science of the game to a new crop of prospects. His main point was "keep your eye on the ball" and "give it all you got".

Frank's death at just 42 years of age leaves a void in the future of many kids who could have learned from him. His life was fleeting but no less meaningful. Frankie lived his life to the fullest. He did what was right by his family and friends and he made time for the things he valued most. 🏆



(above) Iazzetta's namesake, Frankie III, can't wait to fill his father's spikes.



(left) Union County Park Boys League 1972 Champs sponsored by Pat Riccio's Association. MVP honors usually went to Iazzetta, kneeling third from right, because the teams he played for usually ended up champions.



(left) In 1985 Sticky Fingers were both Elizabeth City Champs and Union County Champs. At 25 years old, Iazzetta, top row third from right, was already a ten year veteran of the team.

Frank's idol was Mickey Mantal and always wore #9 in his honor.