



THERE'S A NEW 'NEW WORLD' OUT THERE

There's a wild and wonderful world out there and its call the internet. Social media is coming of age and creating groups and networks reminiscent of the neighborhoods formed of the great immigration at the turn of the twentieth century.

The World Wide Web is transforming in a way that is similar to the physical transformation that civilizations on earth experienced. The latest phenomenon being played out on the internet is social networking and like the formation of societies in America, groups are being defined by personal experiences and interests.

The Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ was settled by Italian immigrants in the early 1900s. Peterstown was once farmland owned by German immigrants. The land belonging to the Peters family was cut into parcels and sold to the new Americans. The area roughly, fifty square blocks, was populated by people predominately from two areas of Italy. More often than not family members and neighbors from the home country chose to live and work along side each other. It makes sense logically. The familiarity and similar customs would make the shared experience of coping in the new home easier.

And so it is on the internet. The novelty stage of the internet has passed. Now it has become an essential tool for work and education. As it evolved it has become the central mode for entertainment and socializing. The social networks are becoming more sophisticated to a point where it is easy for like minded folks to find each other and communicate.

The result of this ability has produced rich rewards that could not have been imagined a decade ago. In relation to Peterstown, the internet has not only reunited distant friends and family members but it has also cultivated relationships that would never have been made.

An example of this is the story of Michela Musolino who found a connection to her past through a random connection in a group called Italian American Professionals hosted on the website LinkedIn.com. Joe Renna, publisher of the Peterstown Newspaper, is a member of the group and the mention of the town

piqued Michela's interest and she reached out to Joe via email.

Michela is singer of Italian Folk Music and performs around the world. Through social networking on sites like LinkedIn and Facebook, Michela is able to reach hundreds of new followers. She performs world wide which fits the use of the internet perfectly.

Where the global use of the internet was once thought to be the only practical use the application to local interests has become the premier reason for the growing number of users. Peterstown exists more as a virtual neighborhood than a physical one. The sheer numbers of decedents that sprung from those who arrived a hundred years ago can not physically fit in the borders of the ex-farm. But they do exist and now populate the new world of the internet. And in their new world they are forming neighborhoods once again.

A refreshing aspect of the social network is the presence of Fr. Tom Provenzano the pastor of St. Anthony's Church. Peterstown is part of the St. Anthony Parish and to see our pastor on line and to be able to communicate freely and easily with him is a welcomed improvement.

Fr. Tom actually maintains a few blogs. His main one is called "The Ax" (theaxattheroot.blogspot.com.) It is mostly pop culture observations and some commentary on current events. The other two, The Catholic Readings (thecatholicreadings.blogspot.com) contains his weekly bulletin letter and doctrinal / spiritual topics, the third blog is of original poetry (ftsthoughtdreams.blogspot.com).



(above) Michela Musolino a singer of Sicilian Roots Music. She just learned how to use a javascript to invite hundreds of people at once to an event via facebook! and linkedin each day to help advance her exposure.



(left, l-r) Bishop Manuel Cruz and Father Tom Provenzano Celebrated Catholic Schools Week at Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy in Peterstown, where Fr. Tom is the pastor of St. Anthony's Church. Fr. Tom, an author of three blogs brings a new world understanding to his ministry.

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President's Message



I don't know what I was thinking but after this last snow fall I climbed on my porch roof to shovel the snow off and, of course, I slipped and fell off! All I can say is that I must be in good favor with The Almighty because he sent an angel to break my fall. I got banged up enough to learn that even though my brain thinks like I'm 18 years old my body is still three times older.

At the time of this writing, 24.4 inches on average has fallen on New Jersey. The month of January has been reported to be the snowiest in 62 years, about 25 inches over the past two weeks, 19 in just 2 days. Two more storms are due the first week of February. I don't know what they predict after that but does it matter? It looks like the piles of snow will be with us through Easter.

One of the perks of live/work space is that I have a six feet commute to the Butcher Shop.

God bless,

John 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

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Dear Joe,

I cannot thank you enough for that wonderful article in the December 2010 *About Peterstown* publication regarding my parents. I am emotionally drained, numb, shocked, and miss them very much. Your article was a Reader's Digest version of their lives and speaking for my siblings we are eternally grateful for the October & December editions.

Thank you again for keeping the neighborhood alive. It is great to see the notes from people of so many generations. Too bad so many will never have the opportunity to experience what we did, living and growing up in the greatest neighborhood ever created. God bless you Joe and your family.

Respectfully yours with love,
Vinny Malta
Milton, GA

Joe,

I must once again write and thank you for the beautiful article you wrote about my mom, Sarah Malta, in the December 2011 issue of the paper. I have gotten so many wonderful comments about your article, which helps during this very difficult time for our family.

My mom was so proud of the article you wrote about my dad in October, and I know she would have loved the article you wrote about her.

I cannot thank you enough for putting both my parents in the spotlight. As much as I wish the circumstances were different, it means so much to have these articles to keep and look back on.

Nancy Malta
Roselle Park, NJ

Dear Tina, Joe and family,

No words can ever thank you enough for keeping the memories, traditions, values and spirit alive.

God bless,
The other Johnny Sacko
From the corner of Third and Palmer
1961 to 1980 - The best times ever!
Pt. Pleasant, NJ

Dear Joe,

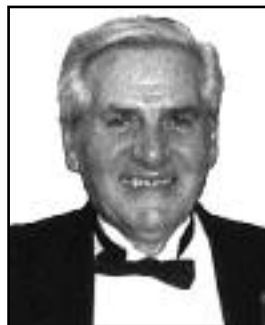
I am enjoying reading through the issues of *Around About Peterstown* on your website and am impressed by the work of you and your family.

I am a singer and I sing Sicilian Roots Music. I often wonder what my grandparents would think about my work and I marvel at the irony of their immigrating here, forced to leave Italy due to harsh circumstances, yet I return to Italy via airplane to sing the very music they knew.

Since May of 2010, I've been publishing a blog (once a week...) It is about my life with Sicilian Music so I often mention my family . . . and every now and then, I mention Peterstown!

Michela Musolino
www.michelamusolino.com
Clifton, NJ

NICHOLAS JEROME BONGIOVANNI



Nicholas Bongiovanni of New Canaan, CT, 87, passed away on December 27, 2010 in the Waveny Care Center in New Canaan, CT. Born in Elizabeth, NJ on November 23, 1923 he was the son of the late Vincenzo and Rosa Lieto Bongiovanni.

Before entering college, he was a proud veteran of WWII serving in the Army 104th Infantry in the European theater. Mr. Bongiovanni graduated St. Bonaventure University in 1952 with a business degree and embarked upon a remarkable business career, which consisted of a number of executive positions with Fortune 500 companies. He retired from Peabody International in 1985 as Chief Administrative Officer and a member of the Board of Directors.

Nicholas was a very loving and kind person. He was also very generous with his entire extended family and with many charitable organizations around the world. His family always came first.

In his retirement years, he enjoyed spending time with his family, playing golf and watching sports and old movies with his grandchildren.

Besides his parents he was predeceased by his wife, Alice Neesan Bongiovanni. Nicholas is survived by his son, Vincent Bongiovanni and his wife Deborah of Killingworth, CT and his daughter, Mara Bongiovanni of Nashville, TN., as well as grandchildren Christopher and Alexandra Kim of Nashville, TN. He is also survived by two sisters, Mrs. Lucy Leo of Brick, NJ and Mrs. Rosalie Marsico of Long Branch, NJ as well as many nieces and nephews. He was also predeceased by four sisters and five brothers.

Submitted by
The Nicholas F. Cognetta Funeral Home
Stamford, CT

LinkedIn

Michela Musolino has indicated you are a fellow group member of Italian American Professionals:
Ciao Joe, saw your reference to Peterstown...or the 'Burg! My family has roots there too!
Best Regards,
- Michela Musolino

(above) LinkedIn.com message sent from Michela Musolino that started correspondence with Peterstown newspaper publisher Joe Renna, including the letter to the left and memoirs on pages 10 and 11 of this issue.



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Editor's Opinion

everybody has one - this is mine - by Joe Renna

There are so many great things that have developed since the dawn of the internet. The technology's capabilities are limitless. The medium is ever changing driven by the imagination of the users, regular folks who are not trained in the sciences or computer programming can apply the technology to solve problems like never before.

There is power inherent in this tool and the world saw it unfold in Egypt where through the use of social networking websites millions of protesters were able to organize and rally against their leadership.

The first thing that the Egyptian government did was pull the plug on the internet. In China any search for news of what's happening in Egypt is being blocked by the government. My guess is for fear that the Chinese people may get inspired by the uprising.

Even though legislation is being discussed for the United States to have a similar "Kill Switch" I don't think it will ever happen.

It goes against the basic freedoms that our country was built on. We must be very careful in this country of compromising our liberty in exchange for overreaching government control.

The reason that we do not have the kind of chaos we see happening around the world is that we are free. Violence is the only viable option of the oppressed. As long as we have options and freedom to exercise them in this country we will persevere.

This is not saying that our government does not present its own form of challenges and the ebb and flow of the frustration of the American people is peaking. The question is what to do about it.

The constitution is an amazing document and, as it has done in the past, can guide us through turmoil. I do think that life is a basic battle of good and evil and the evil in politics, which there is plenty of, would like to see

a change to our constitution to benefit an ideology that runs counter to the ideals of a free society.

The motivating factor for politicians is power and wealth. It is a different breed of greed than say that of a monopolist. Where the monopolist would love to control all wealth and property a political dictator wants to control people.

My fear is that the political parties in this country have trumped the government. I thought at first that I am just recognizing this because I am older and more knowledgeable but I have been going back in time (thanks to the internet) and reading accounts of some very serious, troubling times in America and how they were handled by our elected officials. The contrast is amazing.

The biggest difference in the reports is the amount of weight that was assigned the political parties. There has been plenty written about political parties and their sometime epic battles for power but when it came to American's well being party politics magically disappeared.

Today every issue, every policy decision, every vote is discussed in relation to the interest of the political parties and not the interest of the people or the country.

A lot has to do with the state of journalism. Integrity in journalism is dead. The ethics, morals and rules that once guided this great noble profession are history. Today there is very little objective reporting going on. News is now run by advocacy groups with a political agenda and its own brand of greed.

This was the fourth estate, as Edmund Burke, claimed "the most important one of all." The freedom of the press, our first amendment right is the premier tool for a free society. When that tool is broken the machine falls apart.

The main stream media, whose job it was to hold our government accountable has been eroding for decades. The internet is like a colt breaking free of the coral. It is still finding its legs but will soon be in full gallop.


Not for Nothing But...

anonymous authors
who post opinions on
the internet are cowards
and should be shunned.

I have tremendous faith in our system and believe we will correct our course. The internet and other new technologies will help us do that.

Of course there will be the same battles being waged on this new platform as there was in print and in broadcast but there is unprecedented access for the common folks. In 2006 Time Magazine named as person of the year - The Blogger. Their cover proclaimed: Time Person of the Year - You. Yes, you. You control the Information Age. Welcome to your world. The effects have been evident already. Technology has pried open the closed doors of back room dealing.

The public has gotten a glimpse at how some elected officials operate and it has confirmed their suspicions. Open government activists have just begun scratching the surface of a new emerging industry of journalism. Not one of observation and reporting but one of exposing and presenting information.

I trust the American people (as a whole) to be wise enough to make their own conclusions about what they are seeing. 

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A TRIBUTE TO SARAH AND JIMMY MALTA

Submitted by Debbie (Steele) Harris

I read the article you recently published on the first page of the December edition of the Peterstown paper about Sarah and Jimmy Malta. It was a very touching article and a wonderful tribute to this beautiful couple. I am sure that their children and grandchildren were so proud as they read about their mother and father and grandmother and grandfather.

Those people who knew Sarah and Jimmy well also know that our family lived on the second floor of the house at 807 Third Avenue for over thirty years. I was about three years old when we moved to that house. One of my earliest memories is visiting the house and watching a young Frankie Malta playing with a truck on the floor of their living room.

We moved into the apartment sometime in January of 1954. Our family consisted of my mother, Santa, father, David, my sister, Donna, and me. The Malta family consisted of Jimmy, Sarah, Frankie, Vinny and Mrs. Malta. As time went on, I would also call her “Grandma Malta” or “Nunzia” just like her own flesh and blood grandchildren. It was that type of house. Our family was welcomed into that home and the bond between our families was sealed.

Vinny and I were the same age and became fast friends. We spent many a day exploring the areas immediately around our house and on rainy days, spent time playing in the hallway at 807. We both vividly recall playing “Ramar of the Jungle” which was a popular television series at that time.

Time went on and saw the birth of my youngest sister, Denise. Sarah and Jimmy were asked by our parents to be Denise’s godparents.

The youngest Malta, Nancy Ann, was born within a year or two. I can remember so well the day that Nancy was brought home from the hospital. Vinny and I anxiously ran home from St. Anthony’s during lunch to find this beautiful little baby spread out on a blanket on the bedroom right off the kitchen in the Malta’s apartment. We were both in awe.

I could go on and on and tell stories about our days of growing up on Third Avenue, going to St. Anthony’s Grammar School together, playing with the Manettas, the Zampellas, the Navarros, the Giulianos, the Saccos, the Oriscellos, the Marcantonios, and Alfonso Ciliberto. I could tell you how as a little girl I would sit in Sarah and Jimmy’s bedroom and pretend that I was this glamorous movie star. I loved their bedroom furniture so much that I made Sarah promise that if she

ever wanted to get rid of it, she would sell it to me. There are so many stories, I could literally write a book. It would be a wonderful book, too, glowing with great stories about growing up in the most wonderful neighborhood and time. While I sat at Jimmy and Sarah’s wakes and funeral services, I listened, along with everyone else, about the wonderful relationship they had and how devoted they were to one another. Everyone in the neighborhood already knows what devoted and wonderful parents they were. They know how Sarah and Jimmy lived with their growing kids and Jimmy’s mother, too. They know how they took care of Nunzia until she passed away. What most people don’t know is they both had a genuinely generous nature.

There came a time when my father decided on greener pastures elsewhere and left our family. With that decision also came the disregard for our family’s welfare and from the day my parents separated, he never paid a dime of child support. Our emotional and physical support was left to my mother. Mom struggled to keep our family afloat and put food on the table. There were many months when there wasn’t enough money for her to pay the rent in full or to pay her share of the oil bill in the winter months. I am sure that it wasn’t that easy for the Maltas to do, but they continued to accept whatever my mother could afford to pay and let her pay in installments, never once ever really complaining or asking us to move out of the apartment. In all the years that we lived in that apartment, I don’t ever remember them raising the rent once my parents were no longer together. That is probably the most important thing about Sarah and Jimmy that I remember. During a time that they could have easily rented the apartment out to a new tenant for a lot more money, they never did. They allowed us to remain in our home.

I said once before after Jimmy died that there are people in your life that are really family without being related by blood. I meant that for him and I mean it for Sarah, too. Both Sarah and Jimmy will always remain in my heart and the hearts of my mother and sisters, too. They always treated us like family and will always be considered family to us. Frankie, Vinny and Nancy are our brothers and sister and always will be. I don’t love them any less than if they were related to me by blood. They should always remember that there are people who were touched so greatly by their parents’ lives and who will always be grateful and never forget them. 📞

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SIDE NOTE: TO DEBBIE’S ARTICLE

Debbie Harris writes about her bond with the Malta clan, that it was so close that she felt like family. That feeling materialized in a way through marriage. Debbie, who lived on the second floor above the Maltas, married

Rusty Harris whose mother was Ann, maiden name Nigro. Frankie Malta married Linda Nigro, daughter of Angelo Nigro, Ann’s brother. So in a way Debbie and Frankie are cousins-in-law in the Nigro family. 🐶



(above, l-r) Debbie and Frankie’s parents-in-law, Russ and Ann Harris, Kay and Angelo Nigro, respectively.

ANGELO NIGRO PASSES AT AGE 84

Mr. Angelo Nigro, 84, passed away on Tuesday, January 4, 2011. He was a lifelong resident of the Peterstown section of the City of Elizabeth. Angelo worked for Simmons Manufacturing Co., in Elizabeth, from 1946 until 1960. Then was employed as a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service from 1960 until his retirement in 1997. For most of his 37-1/2 years, he delivered mail in Hillside, where he made many valuable friends. Songwriting was one of his hobbies. He wrote approximately 75 songs and parodies, some of which he composed while on his mail route, thus earning the title of "The Singing Mailman." He performed several of his songs for senior citizens groups and social organizations.

Two songs dear to him were Our Proud Lady, a tribute to the Statue of Liberty, and New Jersey Our Proud Lady (The State for You and Me). Angelo also loved gardening and was especially proud of his abundant fig trees, one of which was originally planted by his father, Frank. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Navy. He was a member of the Old Guard of Elizabeth, the Knights of Columbus Council 3197 of Hillside, the N.A.L.C. John Enz branch and the Elizabeth Postal Employees Quarter Century Club. However, Angelo was the most proud of his family and will be deeply missed by them. Angelo was predeceased by his parents, Frank and Anna Nigro; three brothers,

Michael, Americo and Frank, and two sisters, Mary DePalma and Edith D'Antico. Surviving are his wife of 63 years, Katherine (nee Brannigan) Nigro; two daughters, Linda Malta and her husband, Frank, and Ann Schultes and her husband, Robert; a brother, Joseph Nigro; two sisters, Angelina Gallaso, and Ann Harris and her husband, Russell; five grandchildren, Frank Malta and his wife, Joanne; Anthony Malta and his wife, Jessica; Michael Malta; Robert and Lauren Schultes; three great-grandchildren, and Marisa, Anthony and Mia Malta. Donations in his memory may be made to the Eye Tumor Research Foundation, P.O. Box 832, Philadelphia, Pa. 19105-0832. 🐶

Not for Nothing But...

if my cousin-in-law
could be my wife’s
cousin or my cousin’s
wife what do I call my
wife’s cousin’s wife?



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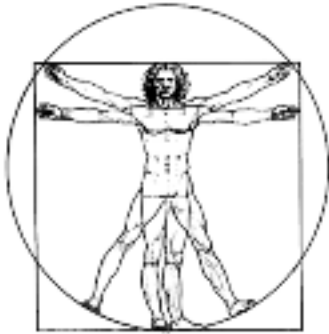
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SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Bayway Complex Community Advisory Panel (CAP) will be awarding four \$1,000 scholarships to eligible students living in Linden, Rahway, Elizabeth, and Staten Island. High school seniors who are planning on attending college and studying for a career in the engineering, industrial, or process technology fields can apply for the scholarship.

Applications can be obtained from guidance counselors at the high schools. The deadline for application submission is March 31, 2011.

Scholarships are sponsored by Infineum USA L.P., Cogen Technologies Linden Venture L.P., ConocoPhillips Bayway Refinery, and DuPont, member companies of the Bayway CAP.

FREE JOB TRAINING

Project Ready will be accepting applications for its free six week job preparedness program on Tuesday, February 15th at 9:30 sharp. Applicants should be prepared to stay until 1:30PM. Basic computer skills will be taught including Microsoft Word, Excel and navigating the internet as well as resume writing and interview techniques.

*Project Ready is located within
St. Joseph Social Service Center
118 Division St. in Elizabeth.*

*For information please call
(908) 353-1045
or visit www.stjosephelizabeth.org*

SPECIAL DELIVERY PODCAST WITH MANNYTHEMAILMAN

Manny Fortunato has always been interested in communications and the media. He studied it in college and did internships at CNN while in college. As a child he was given a portable cassette recorder for Christmas one year and used it to make his own shows, mostly sports and music plus his favorite project of secretly taping his family. He put his quest for a recording career on hold when he took a position with the Elizabeth Post Office in 1985. Now through the power of the internet he is rekindling the embers of his childhood fancy.

About 6 years ago Manny started listening to podcasts on his ipod. One of his favorite shows was produced by a man named Frank Nora from Nutley, NJ. It was called the Overnightscape and Frank did shows almost every day. Commenting on pop culture, food and product reviews and his commutes to his job in NYC were among the show's topics. Manny eventually met Frank and some of his worldwide fan base when he joined an on-line Meetup group and did some group shows.

About 2 years ago Frank started the Overnightscape Underground network onsug.com and some of his fans began recording their own shows and publishing them on the onsug network. The onsug network is an Internet

talk radio channel focusing on a freeform monologue style. After slight prodding from his fiends manny started his own show and called it Special Delivery Podcast with Mannythemailman.

He talks about all types of subjects, like delivering mail, practice driving with his permit holding son Mike, Sunday brunch at The Red Cadillac and old stories of growing up in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ, particularly growing up on Palmer Street, between Second and Third Avenues. St. Anthony's grammar School supplied plenty of fodder to chew on, as well as his family, his "two lovely sisters" Sandi Fortunato Freeman and Diane Fortunato Donlin, and parents Joe and Billie Fortunato. Manny is married to Carol Rasmus and has 2 boys, Joe and Mike and 2 girls Katy and Kim. He has been delivering mail in Roselle Park for the past 10 years and 26 years overall.

Manny puts out about one show a week and he just released his 50th episode a few weeks ago and is now working his way towards 100 episodes.

Shows can be found at

*<http://onsug.com/archives/category/manny>
or on facebook*

TALIA CAMPANELLA NAMED TO DEANS' LIST



Talia Campanella, a freshman Nursing major at Widener University in Chester, P.A. has made the Dean's List for her first semester. The news was delivered by her proud father Alfonso Campanella, known as "Fo" east of the Elizabeth River and as "Al" to the west.

Fo grew up in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ on the corner of Fourth Avenue and Spencer Street where his parents, Vincent and Carmela still live. He lives in Colonia with his wife Maria, daughter of Elena and the late Antonio Tropeano. Besides Talia, Fo and Maria have a daughter Erica, a Junior at Montclair State studying Criminal Justice, and Vincent who works for the Federal Government in Homeland Security.

Talia, a graduate of Colonia High School compliments her studies by volunteering at nursing homes and Hospitals.



COMEDY NIGHT FUNDRAISER

**HOSTED BY ELIZABETH CHAPTER OF UNICO NATIONAL
TO BENEFIT UNICO SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Friday, February 25, 2011

6:00pm-11:00pm

*The Linden Knights of Columbus,
118 North Park Ave., Linden, NJ*

\$50 per person

*"Cash for Gold" will also conduct be a
fundraising program.*

BATTIN/JEFF CLASS OF '71 REUNION DINNER & CRUISE

The dinner is March 19, 2011

6:00pm - 11:00pm

*at the Crowne Plaza in Somerset
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Buffet Dinner (\$85 per person) with open bar (two hours) cocktail hour preceeding, one hour passed hors d'oeuvres.

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Overnight rooms at group rate of \$99 which includes 2 breakfast buffets. Use of all hotel facilities: indoor pool, sauna/whirlpool, exercise room.

The cruise prices range from \$889 to whatever depending on the accomodations you choose.

Diamond Travel is handling the cruise details.

*Information is available on Facebook web
page: Battin/Jeff reunion*

Cheryl Davis Ficarro and Ina Klasko are coordinating.

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FERDINANDO WILL CONTINUE AT BELLA GENTE SALON

Ferdinando Hair Fashion located at 508 Boulevard has made a seamless transition under new ownership. Grace Figueredo and Erica Tromp are the new owners and have renamed the salon Bella Gente. Ferdinando Ambrosio, who had owned the salon since 1987 will continue servicing clients.

Grace is the Peterstown born daughter of Adele and Lou LaBrutto from Niles Street. Erica is her niece, daughter of her sister Joanne and husband Rocky Netta.

Bella Gente is a full-service unisex salon including waxing, nails, hair extensions, Brazilian blowouts and eyelash extentions. The salon specializes in color correction. Erica is a colorist for L'Oréal and is on call to

give color advice to stylists for L'Oréal's color hot-line. The salon features Brocato brand hair products and the shop makeover will include a jewelry and accessories boutique. Bella Gente means beautiful people in Italian and Grace says, "We are people persons and consider all our customers beautiful." 



(above, l-r) Past and present owners Ferdinando, Grace and Erica.



(above) Award winning stylist Ferdinando styles the hair of 1963 American Junior Miss Dianne Sawyer.



(left) Grace holds a statue of St. Joseph, patron of all working people, given to her and Erica by sister Emmy from St. Theresa's Church as an inspiration for their success.

The public is invited to a Grand Opening Ceramoy and reception Saturday, February 12 at 7:00 pm.

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All "Cravers" are invited to submit a story.

The story can be any length

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Include the location and time of the event in the story
if possible. You are also welcomed to submit any photos
taken at any White Castle location.

Original photos will be returned.

So if you are a "White Castle Lover,"

share your most memorable moment with us.

All stories and photos will be displayed on
the contest website and the winners will be published in
Rahway Chamber of Commerce Newspaper "Our Town".



Submissions may be made on-line at:
OurTownRahway.com/WhiteCastleContest

Mail to, or drop off in person at:
White Castle NJ Regional Office
245 East Inman Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065
1-732-381-4343 9am-4pm M-F

In order to be mailed your prize,
all entries must include:*

Name _____


Address _____

White Castle reserves the right to reproduce submitted
stories and photos as they wish. *Your name and
address will not be used for marketing.
Deadline for entries is February 28, 2011.

WHITE CASTLE "SELLING'EM BY THE SACK"

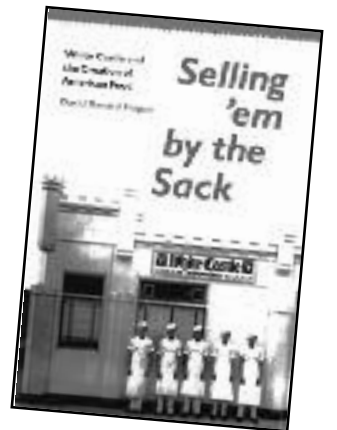
White Castle Systems opened up its first New Jersey location 1935. The "slider" was served by operators at the counter or to your vehicle by young woman "carhops" who speedily delivered their orders while on roller skates. The company was by that time all ready 14 years old, having begun with its first store in Wichita, Kansas in March of 1921 under the direction of founding partner Billy Ingram. White Castle Systems grew quickly starting up new store locations across the Midwest and then opening locations rapidly in the northeast. Through brilliant marketing, fairness and good common sense Ingram and White Castle Systems nearly single handedly elevated the once-scorned hamburger to a U.S. institution and in doing so created the "fast food" business.

Today White Castle Systems employs nearly 11,000 people at its 420 locations and continues Billy Ingram's original business principles from 1921: offering customers cleanliness, quality and service. The days of the 5 cent burger are now long gone but today's expanded menu still offers tasty food and good value. White Castle has kept up with the times and even during these economically troubled years; White Castle is doing well, expanding and seeking new

locations. The company continues to be family owned and many of the top executives bear the founder's last name, Ingram. There are no franchises in White Castle Systems and with few exceptions, anyone in management began their career behind the counter as White Castle promotes from within. As early as 1924 White Castle was leading the way in American business by offering to its employees both health care and profit-sharing and it continues that same tradition today by providing excellent employee benefit programs. We still find today in White Castle Systems that same caring spirit for its employees as well as its customers and that perhaps explains in part why White Castle enjoys such deep customer and employee loyalty. 

A BOOK FOR ALL YOU CRAVERS

(right) Selling 'em by the Sack is a book that chronicles the history of the White Castle business and how it defined an industry.



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E-TOWN FINEST IS HALL OF FAME* CANDIDATE

Police officers working the over night shift in Elizabeth, NJ have healthy debates on what to eat during their evening break. Though there are dozens of great restaurants available it seems that cravings for White Castle hamburgers frequently wins the debate.

The cravings are also contagious. One mention of ordering sliders immediately causes others to switch their dinner plans. One night in 2009, the decision to make a White Castle run sparked quite a few men to want in on the order. In step with the competitive nature of the squad, the discussion quickly turned into accounts of burger-eating exploits. Officer Joe Pevonis saw that the one upmanship was not going to end so he suggest a contest to decide the critical question "Who can eat 10 White Castle sliders the fastest?".

Ten of Elizabeth's finest signed up for the challenge. The event was to be held between shifts at 3:45 a.m. This would allow those officers coming off of the night shift and those on their way in to the morning shift to participate. Thirty of the contestants' comrades sat in the Roll Call Room to cheer on their favorites.

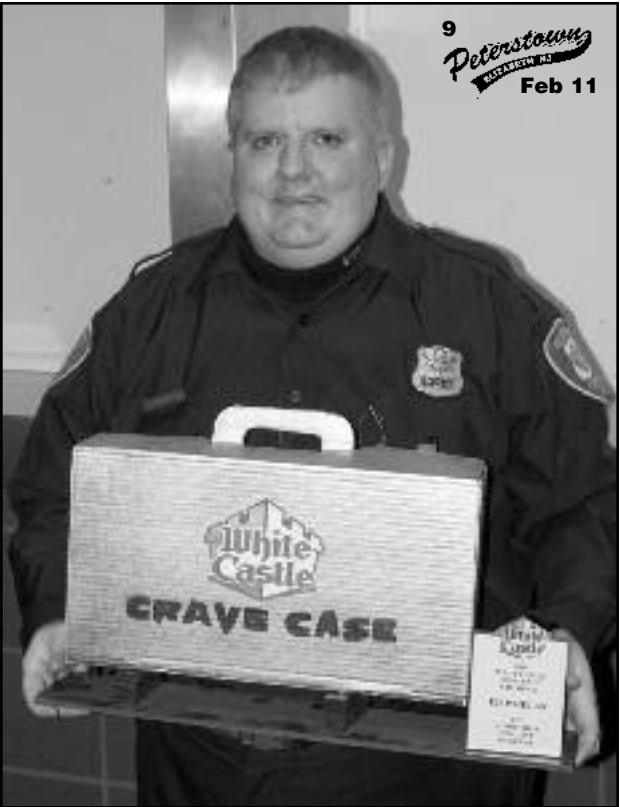
There was more than just bragging rights at stake. The winner would also have his name engraved, or at least photo copied, onto the coveted "Crave Case" Trophy. The award was finely hand crafted by Officer

Pevonis using one of the leftover White Castle boxes covered in gold spray paint and mounted on scrapes of mahogany stained plywood. A Lucite frame sat on the right side of the base poised to hold the name of the winner with pride.

The stage was set. The ten contestants sat at a dais in the front of the room. Each had ten boxes neatly piled in front of them. When the whistle blew the feeding frenzy began. It ended two minutes and thirty seven seconds later. Officer Ed Whelan stood triumphant. The others, mere mortals in the presence of greatness, hung their head in shame.

The crowd erupted in celebration. It was a Cinderella story. Critics said he was too small for the big leagues but Officer Whelan proved them wrong. The result caused two Las Vegas casinos to go bankrupt.

Now the trophy proclaiming Ed Whelan the "2009 White Castle Challenge Champion" along with his time of 2:37 "that will live in infamy" sits on display in the holding area where Officer Whelan is assigned. The trophy is perched high up on the lintel of the door to the Elizabeth Municipal Jail. It serves as a reminder of just one more thing that would be lost if incarcerated. The trophy is inspiration for detainees to straighten up and fly right. 🍔



(above) Elizabeth Police Officer Ed Whelan the “2009 White Castle Challenge Champion” holds coveted Crave Case Trophy created by Officer Joe Pevonis and on display in the precinct.

Recipes

From the archives of White Castle Annual Cook-Off - whitecastle.com

White Castle Lasagna

Submitted by Lance Bottari of Union, NJ

INGREDIENTS:

- 10 White Castles
- 8 oz. Shredded Mozzarella Cheese
- 8 oz. Ricotta cCheese
- 1 Egg
- 1/2 tsp. Basil
- 1/2 tsp. Oregano
- 1/2 tsp. Garlic Powder
- 1/2 tsp. Onion Flakes
- 1 - 26 oz. jar tTomato Sauce

PREPARATION:

- 1) Mix 1/2 tsp. each of basil, oregano and garlic with ricotta cheese and egg, blend well and set aside.
- 2) Heat the sauce over low heat and add 1/2 tsp. of garlic, oregano and basil to the sauce, along with 1/2 tsp. of chopped onion flakes. Bring to mid boil for a few minutes to aid in the mixture of the sauce. Set aside.
- 3) Take 10 Castles apart and line bottom of greased 9" X 9" pan with bottom buns; lightly layer tomato sauce on buns; lightly sprinkle shredded mozzarella cheese on sauce, break up Castles and put half on the cheese and sauce layer; spread the ricotta cheese paste on top of layer. Sprinkle more mozzarella on the sauce layer, place more buns on top and finish with another layer of sauce, ricotta cheese and mozzarella.
- 4) Bake in oven at 375 degrees until cheese is melted and slightly bubbling.



Royal Crave Castle Bread

Submitted by Kenny Schrader of Edison, NJ

INGREDIENTS:

- 10 White Castle® Hamburgers (no pickles or ketchup)
- 2 1-lb. pizza doughs
- 3 large eggs
- 1 lb. grated mozzarella cheese
- 3/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 t basil
- 2 t oregano
- 1/2 t rosemary
- 1/2 t sage
- 1/2 t salt
- 1/4 t ground cloves
- 1/4 t allspice
- 1/4 t black pepper

Some all purpose flour for working the dough

PREPARATION:

- 1) Preheat oven to 375°.
- 2) Roll the dough out on a lightly floured surface into 1/4"-thick rectangles.
- 3) Break up the hamburgers into very small pieces and mix with the remaining ingredients.
- 4) Spoon mix onto each dough and “jelly roll” into loaves, pinching at seams. Place on lightly greased baking pan, seam side down,
- 5) bake for 40-45 minutes until crusty and brown.
- 6) Cool on wire racks and cut into slices with a sharp serrated knife.



*WHITE CASTLE HALL OF FAME

The Peterstown Newspaper will be submitting Officers Joe Pevonis and Ed Whelan’s story of White castle Craving to White Castle for consideration of entry into their Hall of Fame.

Since 2001, 6,629 people have applied for the hall but only 67 have been inducted. 🍔

The Rahway Chamber of Commerce is conducting a local White Castle Memorable Moment Contest. Submit the form on page 8 to participate or enter on line at OurTownRahway.com. Everyone who enters will receive a coupon for 5 sliders.



the Italian slang for
crave is “uolisce” as in “I
have a uolisce for a
White Castle hamburger



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(above, l-r) Michela’s dad Ferdinando Vincenzo, her uncle Carmine Antonio, grandfather Domenico Musolino and grandmother Rosa Piazza. The 1924 photo is embossed with a photographer’s name: L. Margaglione, 562 Third Avenue Elizabeth, NJ.



(left) Michela’s dad Ferdinando in Boot Camp, 1942. (The back of the photo says, "Booth Camp".)

(below) Michela’s mom Dorothea Anthony.



MEMORIES CLOSE GAP ON TIME AND DISTANCE

Michela Musolino’s paternal grandparents both settled in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ when they emigrated from Italy. Her dad’s mother, Posa Piazza, like so many other residents of the Burg, was from Ribera, prov. Agrigento, Sicily and his father, Domenico was from Calanna, prov. Reggio Calabria, Italy. Her last name, Musolino, is the same as the famous brigand from Calabria.

They met in Elizabeth and had to elope to be married because Rosa’s family only wanted her to marry a Sicilian.

Domenico was smitten when he saw Rosa but he didn’t have her family’s approval to court her and they wanted to end the relationship, forbidding marriage. Physical threats may have played a roll, but Domenico stopped seeing Rosa for a while.

He heard news that she was very sad about the break up, so he enlisted the help of his cousins. He was able to get word to Rosa to “get ready”. Domenico went to her house, placed a ladder to her window, helped her climb out and spirited her away.

After their city-hall-wedding, Rosa lived with some of her new in-laws in Pennsylvania. They took care of her until Domenico came to get her and a proper church-wedding could be held. The change of heart in Rosa’s father was encouraged by one of her Uncles who really admired Domenico. He lobbied his brother on the

couple’s behalf and smoothed things over. The newlyweds returned and were fully accepted by the family as a married couple!

Michela’s father Ferdinando and his siblings, brother Carmine, sisters, Mickey (Domenica), Mary (Maria Ignazia) and Rosanna, were all born in Elizabeth.

Michela’s mother, Dorothea Anthony’s family was from Newark, NJ. Ferdinando and Dorothea married in 1948 after he returned from WWII and left the Burg to start their new family.

When Michela was a little girl, the family would all return to the Burg in August for the Feast of San Rocco. Her aunts and uncles would return also. Ferdinando would see everybody from the 'old neighborhood. She used to marvel at the closeness and friendships. It seemed to her as if time never passed for them! She reflects that she lived in the suburbs and didn't have neighborhoods . . . or that sense of community.

It was exciting for her to walk to the feast; her dad would point out all the places he remembered from his youth. His godfather was Vincenzo Foti, who owned the butcher shop-supermarket and would point out where the shop was. He still addressed his aunt, Mrs. Foti, Josephine, as Cummari Giusi when he visited her.

Michela grew up in Clifton in a house her father built when she was born.. Her daughter has already informed her that she shall live here forever! 🏡



(above, l-r) Michela Musolino with her cousin Stephen Modica. Stephen's dad was her mother’s brother.

(right) “The Walk Home” a September 1968 photo taken by Michela’s brother Michael. Their mother Dorais in the middle and their sister, Francesca is on the right on the Clifton Street where they lived.



The photos above and to the right were taken by Michela’s brother Michael who is now a professional photographer. He has a fan page on facebook called Earthography and a website named circlemstudios.com

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LA SERATA DI MARIA IGNAZIA

Michela Musolino submitted this story she loved to hear her father tell about the night her Aunt Mary was born.

In the afternoon, Grandma sent my dad off to fetch Grandpa from work and to fetch the midwife. There was a lot of hustle and bustle in their apartment: Great-Grandma was there and so were other ladies and relatives, all females. They were going in and out of Grandma and Grandpa's bedroom. Grandpa stayed outside the apartment, down on the corner below the apartment on Niles & 4th Avenue, passing time with the other men from the neighborhood. As the day wore on to nighttime, people came out in the street to celebrate the Feast of St. Anthony . The actual feast day was the next day, June 13th, but the celebration was already underway. That night, there was a marching band playing on one street and a fireworks display was being shot off on the other. The apartment was right on the corner, so from the windows on one side of the living

room, Dad, Uncle Carmen and Aunt Mickey could look down and see the marching band then they would run to the other window, look out and see the fireworks. All the while, Grandpa stayed on the corner with the other men as he waited for a sign that he should return to the apartment. Dad used to smile as he told about the three of them, him, little Mickey and Carmen, running back and forth across the living room. They were excited about the band, the fireworks, the feast ...and all the goings on in the apartment. Finally, someone went to fetch Grandpa. When he returned, he went into the bedroom for a bit to see Grandma then came out and took my Dad in with him. When Dad walked into the bedroom, there he saw Grandma sitting up in bed, smiling and holding a little bundle in her arms. It was a new baby!...her name: Maria Ignazia.

SINGING SICILIAN ROOTS MUSIC


Michela Musolino is a singer who makes traditional Sicilian folk songs seem cotemporary and turns modern fusion music into timeless pieces. Whether performing solo or with the Palermo Art Ensemble, as she has done at the Selinute Festival in Sicily, Michela infuses her music with the reality of life.

In addition to performing throughout the United States, Michela returns to Sicily each year to perform with a wide range of artists and, most importantly, to keep her music true to its roots. Michela will be performing in Naples Florida, in August, San Francisco and then back to Sicily.

Michela was a contributing artist to "Di Questa Terra Facciamone un Giardino" which was an homage to Sicilian folk musician Pino Veneziano. Among the other contributing artists were Peppe Barra, Pippo Pollina, Roy Paci , Moni Ovadia and Clara Salvo.

Michela invites hundreds of people at once to an

event via facebook and linkedin each day helping to advance her singing work. She is putting together another Sicilian Roots Music CD.

Samples of Michela's talent can be found on her website michelamusolino.com 

Peter Covino, PEN America prizewinning poet, and U of Rhode Island Assistant Professor of English summed up Musolino's appeal on both sides of the Atlantic: "Can you imagine the wild soulfulness of Tina Turner and the earthy yet ethereal voice of Neapolitan songstress Teresa De Sio combined? Well imagine that; then think even more vibrancy, more urbanity, in songs that somehow also feel impossibly intimate.... No wonder Michela Musolino has such a devoted underground following; full divahood seems scarily within reach."



(above) Michela Musolino

Photo by Mark Polyakov




(above, l-r) Umberto Leone and Michela Musolino.

Photo by Nino DiMaio, Cave di Cusa, June 2008

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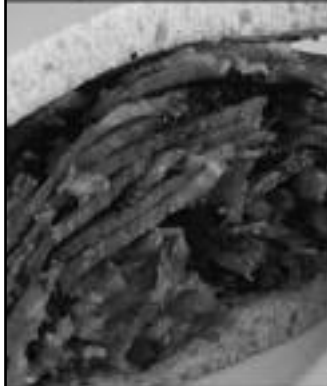
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(above, l-r) Great Great Grandfather Michael Caporaso at his 100th Birthday partywith his first great-great grandchild Nico Gerbino, 6 months old.



(above, l-r) Nico’s mom, MaryAnn Gerbino, her great grandfather Mike Caporaso.

CAPORASSO CELEBRATES 100th BIRTHDAY WITH GREAT GREAT GRANDSON

Mike Caporaso was born on December 20, 1910 to Frank Caporaso and Margaret Mirando. He was the sixth child of seven children born to the couple living on Loomis Street in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ. Six generations of his family got together to celebrate his 100th birthday.

Mike married his wife Susan (Senichka) on June 16, 1935. They had five children: Frank Caporaso of Cave Creek, AZ; Margaret Truppa of Port St. Lucie, FL; Susan Dreweck of Sterling Heights, MI; Michael Caporaso Jr. of Mount Olive, NJ; and Joseph Caporaso of Florence, SC.

Mike, an 8th grade graduate from School #3, had jobs as a truck driver, mason and boiler man but worked most of his life as a laborer out of Elizabeth Union Local 394. He was a life member of the Union and retired in 1976. He received a gold watch and dinner for his 50th year in the union in June 2000.

One of his loves is racing pigeons and he was one of the founders of the Greater Elizabeth Pigeon Club located on South 5th Street. He's the last surviving charter member. Another love is playing cards. Mike is

an avid pinochle player and still plays a keen game at age 100. He loved the game of baseball and is a die hard Mets fan.

The year he retired is also the year that his wife passed away. He also ended up moving out of Elizabeth in 1976 but he still kept a property on South 5th Street, off the corner of Fifth Avenue and across the street from the Pigeon Club. It is a mother/daughter style home and it came in handy over the next thirty years in helping his descendents get a leg up on life.

Over the next thirty years Mike was able to enjoy generations of his offspring. Just about every one of his children and grandchildren got their start living in one of the two apartments in the 5th Avenue home.

He has shared the homes of his daughter Margie Truppa, son Frank Caporaso, grandsons Michael and Joe Caporaso. He is now living in a care facility in Point Pleasant, NJ.

Mike Caporaso was always energetic and youthful. It may be attributed to being around so many people and being loved so much by his family. He was driving up to the age of 88. 🇺🇸

BABY NICO'S LINEAGE

- Parents Mary Ann & Nicola Gerbino
- Grandparents Michael & Theresa Caporaso
- Great Grandparents Frank & Vincentina Caporaso
- Great Great Grandparents Michael & Susan Caporaso

HERE IS A BREAKDOWN OF MIKE’S BRANCH OF THE CAPAROSO FAMILY TREE

5 children14 grandchildren

27 great grandchildren

1 great great grandson

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CAPORASO FAMILY ALBUM

(below) Mike Caporaso Sr. parents
Frank and Margaret Caporaso.



(above) 1915 photo of the Caporoso family. (standing, l-r) Mike's sister Madeline, sister Mary, parents Margarita and Francisco, brother Felix, Cousin Frank Alfano, (seated) Mike, brother Pat, brother Dominic, brother Andrew.



(right, l-r) Newlyweds Michael and Susan Caporaso Sr.,
Maid-of Honor and Best Man, Mike's brother Pat.



(above, l-r) Standing behind their father are Joe,
Margie, Sue and Mike Jr. (Frank is missing from photo)

(left) The Caporaso Family in 1950 at the wedding of
Mike's younger brother Pat to his wife Veronica. An
arrow points to Mike.

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(above, L-R) Five generation of the Carr family in 1984: Joseph Corrigan Jr. holding his daughter Jennifer Corrigan, Ann Corrigan, Mary Militello and Rose Carr.



(above, l-r) Celebrating Rose's 90th birthday, John Carr (step son), Ann Corrigan (daughter), Rose Carr, Ronald Carr (son) and James Carr (step son). (Thomas Carr (step son) is missing from photo.)

FOR 100 YEAR ROSE CARR (MILITELLO) LONGEVITY RUNS IN THE FAMILY

Rose Carr was born on December 27, 1910 in Jersey City, NJ to Vito and Mary Militello (Grillo). She may have known that she was destined to live to be 100 because her mother lived to be 102. She is one of six children. She has a sister Lucy Martinucci who is a mere 92 years old, and sisters Jennie Brozas, Vita Chirichello, Josephine Cassano, and a deceased brother Salvatore Militello.

Rose moved to the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ at age 3 and resided at various addresses on 1st Ave, High Street, John Street and Amity Street. During WWII Rose and her sisters worked for the Manheim Shirt Factory in Elizabeth.

She married John Carr in 1947. John was a widower who had three step-sons from his first marriage, John Jr.,

James and Thomas Carr.

Rose also had two biological children, daughter Ann Corrigan (Chaves) from a previous marriage and a son with John, Ronald Carr. John passed away in 1966.

Rose was blessed with 17 Grandchildren, 27 Great Grandchildren and 1 Great Great Grandchild.

The Church played an important roll in Rose's life. She went to St. Anthony's Church every Saturday night and to Spirito's after church with her friends for dinner. She was a member of both the St Ann's and St Joseph's clubs. She had many friends in Peterstown whom she shared her time with.

In 2002 she moved to Runnells Hospital in Berkeley Heights where she celebrated her 100th Birthday surrounded by friends and Family. 🎂



(above, l-r) Rose Carr's 100th Birthday party was shared by Janet Corrigan (Todd's wife) holding Melissa Bloom (great granddaughter), Todd Corrigan (grandson), Catherine Corrigan (great granddaughter), Todd Corrigan Jr. (great grandson), Brianna Corrigan (great granddaughter) holding Logan Bloom (great grandson), Danielle Corrigan (great grand daughter), Mark Corrigan (grandson), Joseph Corrigan (grandson), Eileen Bloom (granddaughter), Gary Bloom (Eileen's husband) holding Jessica Bloom (great granddaughter) in front Ann Corrigan next to her mother Rose Carr

This picture was taken on Sunday, December 26, 2010 at Runnells Hospital. Originally we were going to have the party on her birthday Monday, December 27th but date was changed due to the snow storm due to hit between Sunday and Monday. Roses grandson Joseph Corrigan was originally due to arrive Sunday night but changed his flight plans and took the red eye from Arizona to NJ in order to be here for the party and miss the snow storm. Roses other son and steps sons and families had also planned to attend but were delayed.

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BUSIENSSES GATHER TO CELEBRATE OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

On February 1, 2011 the local merchants of our community gathered together despite the weather for Breakfast sponsored by Investors Savings Bank to celebrate Catholic Schools week at Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy.

Festivities began at 8:30am with a con-celebrated mass offered by Bishop Manuel Cruz who spoke to the children about how fortunate they are to receive a catholic education.

Speakers at the breakfast included Lorraine Cunningham, Chairperson of the Advisory Board of Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy, Michael Messner of Seminole Capitol Partners and Michael Lapolla of Global Via Infrastructure a former student of St. Anthony School as well as Mr. John Papetti, director of Plant Property and Maintenance for the City of Elizabeth.

Honored guests included Brother Ralph Darmento,FSC, Deputy Superintendent of Schools; Sister Patricia Butler, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Sister Loretta Hogan, Director of Finance as well as various members of the Advisory Board and

benefactors of the Academy.
The purpose of the breakfast was not only to generate interest in the value of catholic education but also to make those who were in attendance aware of the tremendous opportunities afforded to children who attend a catholic school. Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy was recently merged from three remaining catholic schools in the city of Elizabeth which were St. Mary's of the Assumption, Blessed Sacrament and St. Anthony were the academy is now housed.

Another reason for this breakfast was to give the local community and those interested in catholic education, an opportunity for them to keep catholic education alive by supporting it financially. A wish list was generated and distributed to all who were in attendance which highlighted the need of the academy.

Is is also the wish that those who were not in attendance and are interested in keeping the catholic traditions alive can call the academy at (908) 352-7419 and speak with Deacon Joe Caporaso to make a contribution.

(below & left) Our Lady Of Guadalupe Academy Choir under the direction of Miss Diana De la Vina-Sierra.



15
Peterstown
FEBRUARY 11
Feb 11

(left, l-r)
OLGA
principal
Deacon Joe
Caporaso
and Michael
Messner.



(above) Mayor Christian Bollwage, Janet
and Joe Pappetti and John Pappetti



(above) Michael LaPolla
and Rocco DiPoala.



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