ISSUE NO. 35

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EVERY SOLDIER IS SOMEONE SPECIAL

War is not personal. Military leaders must discuss war in statistical terms. It is difficult enough to mobilize an army knowing that there will be casualties without putting names on the X's and O's. All soldiers understand this.

War is dehumanizing. It is designed that way or it would be difficult for any rational mind to comprehend it. Those in the military who accept their roles as soldiers and are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice do so for the safety and well being of every person in the country. They are willing to give their own life if it would save just one other. To do this they must transcend their personal instinct for self survival and be a soldier first.

IJZABETH N

Around About

Soldiers must disengage from reality but their loved ones back home don't have to and shouldn't. Civilians must play a role in supporting the troops emotionally. A connection back home offers a perspective to the surreal environment they are living in. While the media reports on the statistics of the war it is the duty of the public to ensure that those who are fighting and dying are remembered not as soldiers but as friends, neighbors and family.

This is a story of one exceptional human being and soldier, Air Force Colonel Joseph Brennan, M.D. Brennan is a surgeon in the Air Force and reached the rank of full Colonel in 2003 at the age of 43. He is the Chairman of Otolaryngology at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio. In September of 2004 he will be flying to Iraq to work in a Combat Surgical Hospital, a fancy name for a tent. He will be somewhere north of Baghdad. That's as specific as he can get. The only thing he knows for sure is that it is a long way from his ranch house in Texas and from his wife, Pam, and their four sons.



(above, 1-r) Colonel Joseph Brennan, M.D. recently spent some quality time with his childhood pals Paul LaFace, Vito Bellino, Pete Brennan, Joe Renna and Kevin MacNamara at a farewell get together before being deployed to Iraq.

Brennan doesn't have to go to the front. He doesn't even have to stay in the military. He could have retired or at least found it necessary to stay in Texas. The Colonel could have found a dozen creative reasons to stay put, but he didn't. His skills as a surgeon are much needed and he felt it his duty to go. He is going to war to save the lives of young men and women who are not much older than his oldest son, Daniel. These soldiers are fighting so we can enjoy our safety and freedom. He reads the news of the war and the danger he will face. But he is going anyway.

Colonel Brennan Joe is not just a soldier he is a loving family man, a caring friend and a dutiful citizen. Joe's one of the guys. A graduate of Elizabeth High School class of '78, he played PAL Football and went to the diner to hang out. His father, Joe Sr., was Director

of Police under Mayor Dunn. His mom and dad are very proud of their son. In Iraq Colonel Brennan will be one of the X's. It is up to us back home to make sure he stays one of the guys.

> This issue of Around About Peterstown will try to humanize a statistic that is long overdue. There were 364 Elizabethans that were killed in WWII. The number is almost inconceivable. 364, from just one city, our city. What a cold hard number. That number represents 364 of our loved ones and friends. On Pages 12 to 15 there is a list of every name along with their address. Each one had a typical childhood like the rest of their friends

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except that's all they had.

We should honor the memory of those who passed and embrace those who are with us by supporting our troops. $\hfill {\hfill {\hill {\hfill \hill {\hill {\hill {\hill {\hill {\hill {\hill {\h$

(left) This photo was taken in 1940 before the youngsters in the picture went off to fight in WWII. The future soldiers, still in their teens and without a worry in the world, are Sam Renna, Santo Renda and Joe Sacarella who are standing in the back and Marsh DiMarco seated in the front.

In no time they would be back in the neighborhood celebrating their victory. Except for Santo, who was killed in the war.



Around About Peterstown is published by Joe Renna. Fifteen thousand newspapers are printed and distributed bi-monthly, free throughout the County of Union and parts unknown and by subscription across the country.

Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Around About Peterstown assumes no liability for errors or omissions. Around About Peterstown welcomes the comments and concerns of its readers put into writing and sent to:

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Message

As you read this I'll be in Hawaii celebrating my 25th anniversary with my wife Doreen. Our first vacation without our kids in tow. They tried to make us feel guilty for leaving

them behind by staging tragic attempts at caring for themselves. That may have worked on the Brady Bunch but

it doesn't fly at 806 Third Avenue. We may very well come home to piles of laundry, dirty dishes, and empty cupboards but we are willing to deal with that when we return. In the meantime I will be broadening

my horizons and soaking up some of the local culture. Right now I'm drinking something blue with a straw in it our of a coconut shell while watching some guy spin a flaming stick next to a row of girls in grass skirts shaking their hips to music being played by guys on bongo drums. I wonder if they know any Clapton songs.





Greetings All,

"Into the Arroyo" will be distributed by National Film Network, out of Maryland, beginning in two weeks. Its target audience will be Universities and High Schools, Libraries and Book Stores, Academic Panels and Lectures. Obviously, we are excited about getting the film some exposure and more importantly, exposure in places that the film can make a difference.

We plan to have our current project, Los Caminantes, (The Walkers), our second documentary feature about the undocumented migration issue, completed by the first of the year. The website, www.asfilms.com has a first run treatment of the film available along with some photos and we will continue to update it as the project progresses. Chris and I will be heading to Michoacan, in Southern Mexico, early in September to live with some of the village farmers and document the direct results that NAFTA has played in uprooting families and sending most of the men North, to the States. We will have a trailer of the first half of the film by the end of August.

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and I will resend another email when Arroyo is available for purchase; just wanted to share some good news with those that have been involved with the project.

Hasta Luego,

Anthony Spirito

(Spirito's film, "Into the Arroyo" was reviewed in the February 2004 issue of Around About Peterstown.)

Hi Joe,

I don't know if you remember me. I was a year or two behind your sister Lorraine in St. Anthony's, and she and I kept in touch intermittently through the years, as we were both friendly with John Marcantonio.

My aunt, Angie Imbriacco Dallesandro saved me a copy of your paper that contained the story of my uncle Frank Imbriacco and John Mazza (June 04). Thanks for running that. It was nice to see my aunt and uncle's wedding picture in print!

One of the letters to the editor in that issue was from Fran Mariano Reeher, a good friend of mine from St. Anthony's. I couldn't believe it when I saw her name. We were part of the "Big Six" (Donna Ortuso, Kathy Spirito, Maureen Sullivan, Debbie Rinaldi, Frannie and me), six goofy little Catholic school girls who thought they were the be-all end-all!!

Because fran moved 'away' to Roselle when we were freshman, we all lost touch with her. I would love to get in touch with her again, maybe even plan a big six reunion.

Thank you in advance for any help you can give me. keep up the good work with the paper.

You ran a story and photo of my daughter, Cara Digiovine, three years ago, and I was thrilled to pieces. Sincerely,

Jill Palumbo

Roselle Park, NJ

p.s. I cracked up when I found out it was your campaign button James Gandolfini was wearing at last year's Emmy Awards. What a hoot!!

Friends of the Sons of Peterstown,

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

Hi Joe,

Hope everything's well. I'm from the St. Anthony's graduating class of "69". I know throughout the years, some of the girls from our class have attempted to organize a reunion, but were not successful, for one reason or another.

Our 10th, 20th, 30th and 35th anniversaries are now history and I thought it would be great to get something going before our 40th.

Wow! There were allot of us. I know I can reach a few of our class members, but I'm sure some probably live far from Jersey and unfortunately, some are no longer with us. But, still, I'd like to reach out to anyone from the class of "69" that reads this, or if anyone knows where some of those classmates are to contact me, via E-Mail, to see if we can get as many people as possible together for an evening and have some fun. (no garments on the flagpole please!)

If you were a member of that class, I hope you feel the same. E-Mail me (LFelipe422@aol.com <mailto:LFelipe422@aol.com>).

Time is going by REALLY fast, but this is a start. Need help, any volunteers ?????? Let's organize it! Let's do it!

Hoping to hear from you ! Love to you all,

Lou Felipe

Dear Joe,

I m an avid reader of your outstanding paper"Around About Peterstown". I was born and raised on John Street, my parents and I and families were active parishioners of St. Anthony's Church. My father, Vito LaRocca had a shoemaker and repair business on Third Avenue, where for many years I had the shoeshine concession in addition to helping repair shoes.

In checking around I know of no other periodical such as yours that caters to the news and history surrounding a unique neighborhood such as Peterstown. This is a commendable credit to you, your family and staff for their insight and ability to create such a publication.

Sincerely,

Edward La Rocca Eatontown, NJ

Greetings All,

We should never take our freedom lightly or for granted. The price paid by Elizabethans for freedom and the way of life we enjoy has been costly. They have been paid for with great sacrifice of many people from Elizabeth.

I am submitting newspaper clippings that my father saved. Few people today have ever seen them. The pages list the names of soldiers killed in WWII that were from Elizabeth, NJ, 364 in all!

Readers will recognize family names and familiar street addresses. Most of these young men went to Thomas Jefferson High School or Edison Tech. Some may not have completed high school because they accepted their duty in the military. They made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve the world from the totalitarian rule of the Nazis and imperial Japan.

We as Elizabethans owe a great deal to these men and women, as well as all veterans. This generation is special in that they are in their eighties and their ranks are rapidly diminishing. The residents of Elizabeth should do more to honor them. Their deeds should be documented as a lesson to our youth who walk the same streets and go to the same schools. Remembering them is our obligation. They gave their tomorrow's for our today's. Sincerely, Gerald Imbriacco Elizabeth, NJ (The material submitted by Mr. Imbriacco appears on pages 12 to 15 of this newspaper.)



Somewhere, Out There





Happy Anniversary Doreen Your loving husband, John

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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The following businesses and individuals generously donated food, supplies and money to the Sons of Peterstown Neighborhood Picnic. Their generosity was shared by hundreds of friends and neighbors and is greatly appreciated. Together with the support from others, too many to list, and the volunteers, they make our community events possible.

Thank you, on behalf of our members, John Sacco, President

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St. Anthony's Class of 1974,

Our 30 year grammar school class reunion is all set. The response has been great. We could still use a few more addresses. Invitations will be in the mail soon. But save this date: Saturday October 23, 2004. The party will be at LaCatina Restaurant on Westfield Avenue in Roselle, NJ.

Reach out to your classmates between now and then and make sure everyone gets their address to us. Email the information to joerenna@joerenna.com.

Thank you, Joe Renna, Smart class president

Editor's Opinion everybody has one - this is mine - by Joe Renna

Saying that you are against the war but you support the troops is ridiculous to the point that it is harmful to the troops. This statement is usually made by politicians or celebrities that want to pander to both sides. I would have more respect if the critics of the war were honest and consistent in their stance.

War is hell. Nobody argues that and nobody wants it. The fact of the matter is that we are in a war, as heinous and costly as it is and it can only end in terms of warfare. That means fighting out of it. The most effective way to do so is for the country to be united behind its military.

Armies are not designed to do things in moderation. They have one intent and it isn't pretty. Government needs the support of its people to move forward swiftly, efficiently and effectively.

This year's presidential election has played ping pong with issues surrounding the war but not the war itself. Both camps don't argue what needs to be done but they bicker over who is going to do it.

Our young soldiers are dying. This is a horrible, horrible, horrible thing. It is the ultimate price to pay so the rest of their countrymen can live in peace and freedom. To suggest for one second that these soldiers are dying for any cause other than the safety and well being of all Americans is outrageous. The flippant way critics suggest that the motives are financial profit or personal vendetta is insulting. It is insulting to those fighting and it is insulting to the memories of those who were killed.

I appreciate how our country debates the issues. I listen to every opinion and try to understand every viewpoint, both for and against. Though excellent arguments are being made against the concept of the war in Iraq, they are based on hindsight and they fail to address the reality of the situation and what should be done.

I wish we weren't at war. Doesn't everyone? I wish every last soldier can come home today. I wish 9/11

Dear John Sacco,"

The greatest thing that ever happened to me was when Ann Nigro and I were married, and she introduced me to the parish of St. Anthony's and the Peterstown community.

Her mother and father were a great example of the Italian immigrants who taught their children the meaning of service to community, dedication and respect to the church and love of country. (A monument outside of St. Anthony's honors 43 young men from Peterstown who

Ann and I were raised by our parents in what is known as the "Greatest Generation" - But paid the supreme sacrifice in WWII.) many forget we were also know as the "Civic Minded" generation. You name the church, fraternal, civic organization, we were members and kept it going. Unfortunately, we seem to be a dying breed - But "Thanks be to God" the tradition carries on, the "Torch Has Been

Passed" to a new generation in the Sons of Peterstown! Ann and I have watched with joy and pride as our own children, and all the "Sons of

never happened. We could wish all we want but it won't make a difference. We must act not against our government, but with it.

Debate is healthiest when it results in solutions. A one sided debate will only prop up half an argument resulting in an unstable solution doomed to fail.

There has been a frenzy of reporting and analysis during the war, some of which has been irresponsible. Freedom without responsibility is self destructive. It becomes a weapon in the hands of the enemy. The open society we enjoyed so much gave passage to the terrorists looking to close it.

It is our duty to sort through all the reports and commentary on the war and throw away the political propaganda and sensationalism and get to the heart of the issues. Find the analysis of the most qualified experts on both sides of the issue and then let your voice be heard. At the very least, we should not trivialize the sacrifice that our soldiers are making by making rash comments about their service.

I found that our military action came with a tremendous cost but has had greater immeasurable benefits.

If you support the troops you must support the war. It's the only way we could end it.



YOUR CHANCE TO VOTE IN NEW FREEHOLDERS IS NOVEMBER 2nd



Few people know what a Freeholder is let alone why they should vote for one. There are 9 Freeholders and they are elected to run our county government. Alas, few people know what the county government does.

County government is often called the invisible level of government. It sits between the state and municipal levels. There are essential programs that are best run by the county but for the most part it is self serving and uses its anonymity to run slipshod with tax dollars, \$366 million of our tax dollars this year, to be exact.

What people don't realize is that the county is funded by our property taxes, a huge concern for homeowners and tenants. The new team of Freeholders looking to get elected in November, Joe Renna, Pat Quattrocchi, Frank Arena and Bruce Paterson, are proposing to reverse the current trend that caused county taxes to increase 40% over the past four years and actually lower taxes.

They would like to implement a system of open government, where people know what is going on and are welcome to participate. For starters the four candidates are using their campaign time to reach out to the public and get them more informed.

They are answering questions concerning the county and the issues. They are available to speak to organizations or informal neighborhood gatherings. They are easily assessable by logging on to their website: www.unioncountygop.org or by calling their headquarters







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| Santillo's Brick Oven Pizza19 |
| SGP Printing 4 |
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| Spirito's Restaurant19 |
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| Terminal One Sports Bar & Grill18 |
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CHARLES CUSUMANO - WORLD WAR II MEDAL WINNER - FATHER OF TEN

Soldier, family man, and civil servant for more than thirty years Charles Anthony Cusumano, born February 1, 1920 in Elizabeth, New Jersey, died after a long illness.

The son of Sicilian immigrants, Charles graduated Thomas Jefferson High School in Elizabeth, N.J. in 1937. He enlisted in the Army in July of 1938 joining the 1st Combat Engineers, 1st Infantry Division at Fort DuPont, Delaware.

In July, 1939 he transferred to the Army Air Corps in Langley Field, Virginia, and was assigned to the 36th Fighter Squadron, 8th Fighter Group.

Charles served valiantly in the Pacific Theater of World War II as a Tech Sergeant. He was based in Port Morseby and Milne Bay, New Guinea. He and his team kept fighter planes in the air and combat-ready under very threatening combat conditions. Daily, daylight bombings were the norm. Charles was wounded during a surprise, night bombing and strafing attack by Japanese fighters. His heroics, special efforts and combat wounds were officially recognized by the USA Government on May 25th, 1999 when he was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroics in battle. The medal was bestowed on him during ceremonies at Ft. Meade.

He was also recognized by the State of New Jersey Senate and General Assembly on July 27, 2001. He received the Distinguished Service Medal, the State of New Jersey's highest military award in recognition of his service as a member of the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. At the award ceremonies, Charles was recognized for "...serving his country with honor and valor, demonstrating his love for America and his steadfast commitment to protecting the security of the United States. He was recognized for his selfless acts in the performance of his duties, exemplified true patriotism and concern for others..." He was praised by the Senate and Assembly for his military career.

Charles married Carmela Madeline Catalano, daughter of Sicilian immigrants, on July 6th, 1941. Carmela gave birth to their first child while Charles was fighting in the war. It was almost two years later before he would first hold and kiss his son.

After the war, Charles took a position in the United States Postal Service in New Jersey rising to the rank of a senior supervisor before retiring in 1970 due to a disability incurred from his wounds suffered during the

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Submitted by Donna Cusumano

war.

He was an active veteran's advocate and a member of several organizations including the Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Knights of Columbus.

Charles was a devout Roman Catholic, and committed to his country and family.

Charles and his wife, Carmela had ten children. He was most proud of the fact that all ten of his children completed college and became successful in their own right. Six of his children have advance degrees including two PhD Scientists.

Those who knew Charles well, knew how he loved to talk about his family with friends, relatives and even perfect strangers. He made friends where ever he went. In his younger years his buddies would often affectionately call him Windy, and with good cause.

After he retired from the Post Office he and Carmela lived in several USA locations before settling next to one of their daughters and her family in Stevensville, Maryland.

He leaves behind Carmela, his wife of 63 years, two sisters: Mary Nufrio and Agnes Imbriaco of Linden, N.J. He also leaves his ten children and their families: James Anthony, PhD and retired entrepreneur now living in Prague, The Republic of Czechoslovakia. Maria Theresa Hennessy, psychotherapist and school social worker living in Belmar, N.J. Charles Anthony, II Chief Financial Officer, Meritage Inc. living in Hermosa Beach, CA. Salvatore Joseph, PhD and USA Air Force engineer living in Albuquerque, N.M. Camille, senior editor at Via Magazine, author of several cook books and the novel, The Last Cannoli living in San Francisco, CA.

Grace Becker, Union City, N.J., registered nurse for Newark, N.J. School District and feng shui consultant. Thomas Edward, Danville, CA. Major Account Manager for Cisco Systems. Lisa Dubiansky, Annapolis, MD. homemaker and mother of two. Tina Garin, Owner-Proprietor of T and D Headquarters Beauty Salon in Bethlehem, PA. Donna, NYC, N.Y. film consultant for the United Nations currently living in Pristina, Kosovo.

In addition, he leaves behind 23 grand children and ten great grand kids.

Charlie, Dad, Grand Pa, you will be missed.

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(right) Charles and Carmela Cusumano. (below) Celebrating their 60th

Anniversary with the children in 2001.



Once in a while the chore of publishing this paper is overwhelming and it causes me to pause when I'm faced with a mountain of work ahead of me. Every so often I must figure if it's worth the effort. The thought lasts only a nanosecond because the reward of publishing the paper comes from the people that I get to meet. Charles Cusumano is a perfect example of this value.

I met Charles a few years ago when he called just to talk and say how much he loved the paper. He had plenty of memories of Elizabeth. The conversation lasted three years. He submitted several articles and introduced me to his family. He invited me and Tina to a family dinner in New York. It was a most heartfelt experience.

I consider my self blessed having met Charles and his family. They have been a positive addition to the list of people who I 'm glad to know. The Cusumano's confirmed in me that there is plenty of good out there.

I will miss Charles but I do have reminders of him in his lengthy letters that he sent and the collection of his poetry that he wrote during the war to send home to his beloved bride.

I will also remember Charles through his children, who have kept in touch with me. There is no value that I could put on the new relationships that this paper has inspired. It makes planning the next issue a no brainer. 🎇





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JOE CAPARASO - UNICO'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

In June of 2001, Joe Caparoso retired after 30 years in education, twenty-three as a Principal. He was dedicated to the youth of Elizabeth, spending his entire career locally. He was equally dedicated to serving the parishioners of St. Anthony's church. He is presently an ordained Deacon assigned to St. Anthony's. His life long dedication is being recognized by the Elizabeth chapter of UNICO.

Joe was born and raised in Peterstown. He attended St. Anthony's Grammar School, St. Mary's High School and Kean University. He attributes his fulfillment in his vocations to the education he received from the Salesian priests and nuns of St. Anthony's and the Sisters of Charity of St. Mary's. They also emphasized good moral behavior. Among the various responsibilities which he enjoys, is serving as the Chaplain to the Elizabeth Chapter of UNICO.

Joe expresses that his faith was really tested last

November when he received news that he had Non-Hodgkins lymphoma. His extraordinary penchant for doing the work of God has allowed him to selflessly continue his vocation. His strength has come from his faith

In his words "I find that each day is a gift from God that must be fulfilled by doing, in the words of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, "something beautiful for God".

God has continually indeed blessed me with many graces especially this past year.

I would like to quote the Psalmist who for me expresses the way I am feeling at this moment in my life:"I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart. I keep the Lord ever in my sight, since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm."

May I truly bless the Lord with gladness as I continue to serve Him each and everyday of my life.



(standing, l-r) **UNICO** officers with Citizen of the Year: Vincent LaTorre, Recording Secretary; Joseph Caporaso, Chaplin; Luigi Marciante, President; Joseph Marratta, Committee Chairman; George Marretta, Vice President



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UNICO IS NOW 40 PLUS

UNICO is the largest Italian-American service organization. The Elizabeth Chapter of UNICO National has been in existence since 1963. The organization supports the Italian Studies Chair at Seton Hall University, participates in underprivileged and handicapped children's work, charities, community and civic activities.

Over the past four decades, the Elizabeth Chapter has sponsored the Elizabeth UNICO Scholarship Foundation where we give annual scholarships to college and post graduate students. We have contributed to St. Anthony's Church, the Kohler Development Center and the Occupational Center. We have raised money for these charities through dinner dances and raffles.

UNICO is not only a charitable organization. As members we are committed to preserving the positive contributions of Italian Americans, past and present. We strive to inspire all generations of Italian Americans to carry on our heritage and afford everyone the opportunities that are available in this great country of ours.

(right) The Elizabeth Chapter of UNICO National celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2003. The club recognized Tony and Mario DiBella for their 40 years of dedication. The brothers were original charter members when the club formed in 1963. They still remain very active in the club. Pictured (l-r) are Vice President George Maretta, Tony and Mario Dibella and President Luigi Marciante







(above, 1-r) UNICO President Luigi Marciante presents a gift to Dr. Joseph Coccia, Founder & Chairman of the Coccia Institute. The Institute is the newest addition to a long list of organizations that UNICO supports.

THE COCCIA INSTITUTE located in Montclair State University

The Coccia Institute is dedicated to focusing on the historical and contemporary interplay of Italian people, culture, and society with American culture and society. They work collaboratively and in support of other regional and national organizations to promote an understanding of the important links between the people and cultures of Italy and America.

The Coccia Institute represents the first such educational and cultural force in New Jersey, and are pleased and proud to have it at Montclair State University.

The Institute was established by Joseph and Elda Coccia and was dedicated in October 2003.





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(above) Fr. Pat Diver, (right) presided over his first wedding as pastor of St. Anthony's Church on July 9, 2004. The bride and groom were Colleen DiCosmo and Steve Puhala. Colleen is the youngest of six children belonging to John and Nancy DiCosmo of Italian ice fame on Fourth Avenue. The couple met at Villanova and now live in Pittsburgh, PA. Steve is now in Duguesne Law School and Colleen is in the Carlow Nursing Program. Standing to their right is Deacon Joe Caporaso who was the co-celebrant of the service.

ST. ANTHONY'S WELCOMES **FR. PAT AS NEW PASTOR**

On July 1, 2004, St. Anthony's parish welcomed Fr. Pat Diver as their new pastor. He is the 20th pastor since the church's inception in 1893. There are a great many wonderful traditions that are inherent in the job. Fr. Pat is most eager and willing to continue them. Though he has Irish roots he is no stranger to the Italian culture that permeates the community having spent a good deal of time teaching high school in East Boston.

Fr. Pat is a native of Boston and has worked in Florida, New York, New Jersey and was in the Philippines for three years.

Fr. Pat has dedicated over 40 years to church service. He was ordained 30 years ago. He has degrees in philosophy, counseling and theology. He most enjoys the youth ministry and family aspects of the church's service. Fr. Pat believes in an open door policy and encourages parishioners to call and stop by the church.

Parishioners will find Fr. Pat assessable not only for matters of faith but also to talk box scores. He loves sports and though he grew up a Patriots fan, locally, he roots for the Jets.

The Peterstown community wishes Fr. Pat the best and welcomes him into the family. 🎇



Not for Nothing But...

I'd like to ask Father Pat if there is any divine reason why the Red Sox losers. such are



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- Elizabeth Gas Customers
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- Fraternal Organizations
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- Merck Employees
- Exxon Employees
- Schering Employees
- General Motors Employees
- Union County Residents
- Middlesex County Residents
- Essex County Residents
- All Hospital Employees

THE OLD GUARD OF ELIZABETH, NJ

The Old Guard of Elizabeth was organized as a social club in 1936. For almost 70 years it has maintained its traditions and membership. Most of the 100 members are in their eighties. Though the organization was started in Elizabeth, its members come from all over.

The core of the membership were made up of retiree's of Standard Oil, a.k.a. Esso, Exxon, Tosco and now Conoco Phillips Bayway Refinery. Over the years membership has grown to include family and friends of the original members and continues to change. A sad reality is that many members have passed away, and more so recently. This is recognized by the Old Guard at their annual memorial service honoring those members who have passed away the previous year.

There is a very strong sense of patriotism present at each meeting. Many of its members are war veterans.

Their love for their country echoes through their speeches, songs and prayers. The club is also bound to each other. There is a genuine expression of caring for one another. The members are at a time in their lives where community is most meaningful.

Though they are all senior citizens there is still an added respect for their elders. Once a member reaches 85 years of age they become an honorary member and no longer has to pay the annual membership fee of \$4.

The club meets twice a month on the first and third Fridays at the Peterstown Community Center. Besides their annual memorial event they also have a Christmas party each year.

The Old Guard welcomes new members and invites those interested to stop by the center during one of the meeting dates.

2004 MEMORIAL OBSERVANCE

An annual memorial service was conducted by Chaplain Joe Navickas for the following members who passed away between April 1, 2003 and March 31, 2004. Committee chairman was Rich Mushko.

- Andrew Burns Frank Cerniglia Peter Fotia Reed Fullerton Frank Koziol Thomas Morris George Morschauser
- John Norwig John O'Connor, Joseph Owens Joseph Sinscera Joseph Sullivan Arthur Sutter





(above) Members of the Old Guard of Elizabeth, NJ.

(left) Officers of the Old Guard, (standing, l-r) Vice president Joseph Navickas, President Michael Pileggi and committee Chair Rich Mushko. (Seated, l-r) Treasurer Tadeus Matlosz and Assistant Treasurer William Rush. (not pictured) Vice President John Koziol and Secretary Raymond Grunwald.



(left) The club's insignia. Historically, the term "The Old Guard" refers to the senior members of Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte's Imperial Guard. The prestigious group formed by Napoleon in 1804 were highly disciplined, experienced, elite professional soldiers. The men were also held to high moral standards. Napoleon's Imperial Guard were undefeated until their final battle at Waterloo where they were tremendously out numbered.

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(above) Patrick and Michael Caporaso were active members of the Greater Elizabeth Pigeon Club from its inception. This photo was taken in 2001 at Mike's 91st birthday. Pat passed away in february 2004.

GREATER ELIZABETH PIGEON CLUB STILL ALOFT

Michael Caporaso was one of the charter members of the Greater Elizabeth Pigeon Club when it was formed in 1932. He is 94 years old and remembers the hey days of racing like they were yesterday.

The club is still going strong in the clubhouse at 425 South 5th Street but the loft is gone. In fact it is hard to find a coop around anymore. It wasn't that long ago when there were about two dozen lofts in Peterstown alone. Most members today are from out of town. Each member maintains their own loft and teams.

Caporaso preserved the history of his involvement. He kept a strong box of all the records from the club going back 70 years. Old photos are shuffled in with racing results, winning diploma's and newspaper box scores.

Pigeon racing was more than just a pass time for the members, it was a lifestyle. It takes allot of care and attention to breed, raise and train the birds but the



(above) Members of the Greater Elizabeth Pigeon Club located in Peterstown at 423 South 5th Street. (sitting, l-r) Joe LaBrutto, Mike Caporaso, Gasper LaBrutto, Tony Bisco, Matty Gervase. (standing, l-r) James Pulombo, James Sergio, Tony Salucci, Walter Pigeon, Juan Cateo, John Natale, Jim Barry, Pete Ruciano, Rich Barry, T. Bird, Joe Patrice

(right) Mike built his loft in his back yard on South 5th Street over 50 years ago. It is maintained by Nunzio Gallichie who houses his team of birds there.







rewards were well worth it. Homing pigeons are fascinating and it takes fanciers time to developed their teams.

It was always a treat for the kids in the neighborhood to watch the birds train and be put through their routines. The subtle communication within the flock and between the trainer is so interesting to watch. Each bird had its own personality. The owner would make a mental assessment of each bird's progress and capabilities.

Michael recalls there being almost 40 clubs from all over that would compete. He made friends with members of those clubs, from different towns in and around Union County as well as Essex, Hudson and Middlesex counties. Race day gave all the clubs an opportunity to meet and socialize. Back home there was a fair share of spectators waiting on the return of the birds. Some had substantially more interest in seeing which bird arrived before the others.

WINNING WAYS

Pigeons have been used as message carriers for centuries. In America they have been used effectively in every war. Homing pigeons are a specifically bred variety not to be confused with the flying rats that plaque the city. The market for homing pigeons is wide open from friends trading prospects freely to some birds costing hundreds of dollars. The interest is strictly driven by personal enjoyment.

The question of how the pigeons are able to find their way home from hundreds of miles away is still a mystery. Research can only offer theories. But pigeon fanciers don't care as much about how the birds find their way as they do about how fast they can do it.

The interest can easily stir a persons competitive juices. Get a few of these people together and you have yourself a league. It was necessary to organize the hundreds of lofts that existed and standardize racing rules. The New Jersey Homing Pigeon Concourse Association standardized and supervised the local activities.

On the day of the race, pigeons are tagged with bands and are sealed in a cage to be transported to the release location. The owner also brings a clock that is synchronized with all the others and sealed. The owner is called and given the time of release and weather conditions. When the bird arrives in the coop the band is removed and inserted into the clock which records the time. All participants then get together to open their clocks and compare times.

This method of recording makes it possible for clubs located in different cities to compete. The specific distance from the liberation point to the particular loft is precisely measured, the flight time is recorded and a yards

YOU'RE INVITED TO A DAY (OR NIGHT) AT THE RACES



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(above) This is the almost current roster of the Greater Elizabeth Pigeon Club. The president is Ray Delgado with Billy Daniele as his Vice President and Secretary.

The Greater Elizabeth Pigeon Club is a member of the Central Jersey Homing Pigeon Combine. Members from 28 member clubs will participate in races organized by the combine.

The ten week racing season starts August 15 with a race every weekend. The first race is a 100 mile race for baby birds. The distances get progressively longer going as far as 600 miles.

Clubs meet Saturday night to register their birds and a truck is loaded that takes the birds to their liberation point. Anyone interested in seeing this process first hand can go to the club house at 425 South 5th Street in Elizabeth any saturday during racing season.











(above) Jerry Imbriacco and his German Shepherd, Santino, sort through some of his collection of war memorabilia including German, Japanese, British, Yugoslavian, Russian and American riffles from WWI and WWII.

(below) Photos of Jerry's dad, center, and his cousins who were also in the military share a place of honor. To the far left is Corporal Thomas Yannotta who was killed in Iwo Jima on February 27, 1945, and to the far right is Sergeant John Mazza, killed in Italy on May 12, 1944.



*Victory over Terrorism Day

A PAPER MONUMENT FOR ELIZABETH'S FALLEN OF WWI

In the June 04 issue of Around About Peterstown, retired Linden High School History Teacher and WWII buff, Jetty Imbriacco, shared reflections of two veterans of the war, his father Frank and his father's cousin, John Mazza, who was killed in Italy during the war. Jerry would like to share another piece of history with the readers, a list of every Elizabethan who lost their life in WWII.

The list is reproduced from the pages of the Tuesday Evening, May 8, 1945 edition of the Elizabeth Daily Journal. That day is known as VE-Day. (Victory in Europe Day), the day Germany surrendered unconditionally after 3 1/2 years of war with the U.S. Jerry found the newspaper in his father's service duffel bag. The memorabilia that his father saved was the start of Jerry's collection of war time artifacts. Jerry not only has the authentic articles but also the stories and history that goes along with them. Jerry has German medals, a Nazi flag, bayonets including a Hitler Youth Knife. Jerry used these items when he lectured his students.

Imbriacco misses teaching but is planning on making himself available as a guest lecturer for schools, youth groups and other organizations. He would mobilize his collection to make personal appearances. There is no time limit to his ability to engage an audience. Anyone interested in booking Jerry for a demonstration can call him at 908-289-1229.

Missing in Action in War on Nazis CARBONE, Pvt. Frank 90% E. Grand Street Dec. 24, 1944 - Belgium ERHARDT, Pfc. Robert J. 580 Walnut Street June 28, 1944 — France FILKO, T/Sgt. John J. 416 Franklin Street Feb. 21, 1945 - Cermany April 4, 1945 --- Germany FUCHS, Pfc. Edward R. 152 Magnolia Avenue 648 Wyoming Avenue May . 9, 1944 - Yupselay. HURLEY, 2nd Lt. William J., 3rd 25, 1944 - Germany KATZ, S/Sgt. Harvey M. 1436 Lexington Place Aug. KELLY, S/Sgt. Bernard M. 137 Catherine Street May. 12, 1944 - Germany KHUN, Sgt. Kenneth M. 516 Morris Avenue March 9, 1945 - Yugoslav. 1110 Fairmount Avenue March 27, 1945 - Germany McCORMACK, T/5 James F. McOUILLAN, Pvt. Clarence Dec. 22, 1944 - Belgium 748 Ogden Street Sept. 9, 1944 - Gerniany MILLER, 1st Lt. Charles F. 518 Jackson Avenue June 30, 1944 --- France PESKUS, Pvt. Albert P. 249 Pine Street PICKETT, 2nd Lt. Paul J. **3** Dayton Street Juine 20, 1944 — Dunkirk March 11, 1945 — Germany SCOTT, Sgt. Robert E. 541 Maple Avenue 104 Marshall Street Oct. 4, 1943 - Europe SENK, S/Sgt. John J. SKARL, Sgt. Anthony R. 713 Mack Street Sept. 12, 1944 - N. Indy June 6, 1944 - France TUOHY, Sgt. James D. 965 Lafavette Street 941 Pennington Street March 15, 1945 - Germany VAN PELT, Pfe. Harry WEISS, F/Officer Jonas E. 380 Elmora Avenue Oct. 7, 1944 - Germany ZADORNZA, Pfc. John 1 Osborne Place March 12, 1945 - France NAVY 39 Delawaré Street FORTUNA, S 1/e Edward March, 1943 — At Sea 457 E. Jersey Street PAWLYK, AR 3/e Walter 1944 ----i Europe MERCHANT MARINE 1010 Kilsyth Road **HOLMES**, 3rd Ast. Eng. Nicholas 1943 - Jeeland March. MILLER, Messman John L. 26 Prospect Street Aug., 1943 - At See NORUP, Chief Baker Oluf Peter F. 861 Cross Avenue 1943 - At Sea Jan., Mraylag Manor **PIERCE**, John Vincent 1942 - At Sea Sept..

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BEST, Pfc. Stanley J. CATERNICCHIO, Philip CRITCHLOW, Pfc. William George FUCHS, Pfe. Martin F. KAISER, Pfc. Joseph W. KALINOWSKI, Pfe. Matthew S. KALKUS, Pvt. Joseph M., Jr. LAGGREN, Lt. James W. McCAY, Cpl. Thomas F. MENENDEZ, Pfc. Manuel NORTON, Cpl. Thomas W. PIEGDON, Sgt. Leopold T. ROBL, Pfe. Alfred P. SEIP, Pfc. George F. MERCHANT MARINE LaPOLLA, Seamon Gus Joseph

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Wrangles Ahead In Many Nations

(#) Newsfesturge,

The war's end won't necessarily bring actual peace is Europe. The contiment is faced with bitter political anhagenisms which may burst into sporadic guerrilla fighting.

Bread and jobs may calm the backwash of billerness, But he one is certain how soon the people of Surope will be eating regularly again or how soon they'll have the tools for work Quite certainly the accomment at the helm when the breal and tools arrive will be alreagthened and may have a half chance to stay in the society must a half chance to stay in the society, even through the "free and second ballor siscilons" which have been promited to all liberated areas.

Potand, Yugoslavis and Greece are being eyed most anxiously by Allisti denters who would like an end to the shopting.

Poland's future is tangled by her two sciencements": (1) The calls metric winners) which has fired in Louder need its beginning of the war, and herough which the United States and Great Britain has dealt despite "thumba down" from Moscow; (3) the Mosnow Poles, now known as the Labin committee, which is acting with Moscow's blessing as the provisional government in the Russian "liberated"

great. The scales scenn lipped in favor a the Lubin Poles, since they returned nome with the Russian armies. But it's generally conceded that Stanising Miltolaceyk, until recently head of the London Poles, probably has the strongest following in the Polish underground.

That point could be unimportant as long as Russian armies cosupy Poland. but Poland is an ally and presumably Bud troops will be withdrawn not use long after Germany's collapse. Then it remains to be seen which, London or Lublin Poles, the underground leaders will accept.

Everywhere, the underground is the unpredictable element. They lived through the borrors of exception. They'll likely demand a voice in reconstruction.

Complications In Yugaslavia. That fact also complicates guessing

网络银行网 put aside from the two small gean-60. dinavian countries, diplomats feel "anything can happen." It's pring to Yus 100 take the wisdom and patience of a Ser.

Ecolomica to launch Kutope's 300,000,000 lunck into going governments accept-able to a majority of the people.

(above) A pertinent article in light of today's situation in Iraq.

TAKE A PAGE FROM HISTORY

Many times, history holds the answers to present and future problems. Indeed, it will take the wisdom and patients of Solomon to put Iraq's government right. The sooner this is done, the sooner our soldiers can come home. Being united in one cause is the best way to achieve this.





Elizabethans Who Made S

The following gave their l

ARMY ALESSIO, S/Sgt. Dominic Joseph ALLEN, Pyt. Edward E. ANTON, Casimer ARMSTRONG, Pfc. John J., Jr. BACOCIUS, T/5 Vincent D. BALANDIS, Pyt. John B. BARAN, Pfc. Chester J. BARR, Pfc. Chester J. BARR, Pfc. Clarence E. BASILE, Pfc. Vincent BAYNE, Pfc. Rissell A. BECK, Pfc. Harold P. BERMAN, Pfc. Stuart BESSELMAN, 2nd Lt. Robert C.

BIELSNI, Pvt. Stanley K. BIAZOVSKI, T/Sgt. Stephen BOELZLE, M/Sgt. Frederick G. BRADY, Pfc. Joseph Jerome BRACC, Pvt. Thomas S. BRAZINSKI, Pvt. John BRENDEL, Sgt. Roy G. BRENNAN, Pvt. James M. BRONSTEIN, Pvt. James M. BRONSTEIN, Pvt. James G. BROWN, Pvt. James C. BRUSCO, Pvt. James C. BRUSCO, Pvt. James C. BRUSCO, Pvt. Joseph D. BURKE, Pfc. Edward BURKE, S/Sgt. Patrick Leo BUZINSKI, Pvt. William C.

CACKO, Pvt. Henry CARROLL, Sgt. John F. CATALANO, Sgt. Achille P. COAKLEY, 1st Lt. Francis X. COHEN, Pvt. Charles COLAIANNL, Pvt. William C. COUEBOURNE, 2nd Lt. Robert T. COOK, A/C Richard G. CORCORAN, Pfc. James Robert CRANE, Capt. Schwyler CUNNINCHAM, Pvt. Robert D. CZAP, Joseph S.

DAVENPORT, L4. Stephen F. DAVIS, Lt. Stanley B. DAWIDOWICZ, Pfc. Thomas J. DAWSON, Cpl. Resecti T. **DEBESIS**, Pvt. Michael DEGNER, Pfc. Andrew C. DELASEY, Pic. Bariholomew R. DELASEY, Sgt. Frank W. DEMCOVITZ, Pfe., Bernard A. DERING, Pvt. Ceorge DE ROSÉ, Sgt. Ralph J. DESIDERIO, Pvt. O'Neil DE WITT, S/Sgt. Charles A. DIERMANN, 2nd Li. Joka M. DI GIORGIO, Pyr. Charles A. DISBROW, Lt. Clifford Henry DOBBINS, Plc. George B. DOHONEY, Pvt. John Gerald DORAN, Pfg. Harold J. DRAKE, T/Sgt. Edgar F. DRYKA, Pfc. Edward S. DUFF, Pvt. Robert T. EBB, Pvt. Peter ESCOBAR, Pfc. Manuel FABER, Pfc. Stephen FAHEY, Pfc. John James FAIRCHILD, T/5 Nelson G. FARARO, Sgt. Joseph R. FEHRENBACHER, Pvt. Francis J. FIGLIOLINO, Pfc. Loui FINCH, S/Sgt. Everett T. FINDLAY, Lt. J. Donald FLAHERTY, Lt. Edward C. FORMAN, Col. David FORTUNA, Pfc. William B. FREER, Sgt. Joseph L. GALUPPO, Pfc. Henry S. GARNETT, 1st Lt. Joseph K. GAZEVITZ, Lt. Benjamin GELBER, Cpl. Lawrence M. GERMANSKI, Pfc. Theodore GOLD, Li. Joseph GOMICH, Pfe. Nickolas GRAICHEN, Pfc. Herman W. GRINNELL, Lt. Wm. E., 3rd GUIDA, 1st Lt. Ralph J. **GURSKI**, Pvt. Casimer A. HALTER, Pfe. Joseph J., Jr. HANSTEIN, Cpl. Francis Xavier HAYES, Pvt. John F. HELFRICH, A/C Edward W. HERSH, Pfc. Austin J.

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551 Sec HIMMELSBACH, Pvt. Frank HIRSCH, 1st Lt. Norman F. 415 Oc 577 Jac HOOD, Pvt. Ernest W. 625 Fu S (Set. Fred H. HUELSENBECK, Pvt. Leroy W., Jr. 51 Jac HUNTER, Pfc. John Edward 202 Ra $7 \, \mathrm{Sp}$ HUZAR, Pvi. Joseph A. ITALIANO, Pvt. Anthony N. 814 Sou JARDOT, Cpl. Alfred 727 Ga JAROSZ, Pvt. Anthony 111 Ba JORDAN, 1st Lt. David E. 119 Pri JOSTENSKI, Pvt. Raymond 411 Fu 840 Ga KAZANECKI, Pic. Theodore W. KENDIG, S/Sgt. George O. 613 Pc KINSEY, Capt. George L. 246 Sti KJELDSEN, Pvt. Barold 260 W. $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{k}}$ KNAPP, 2nd Lt. Edgar A., Jr. KNARZYNSK1, Pfe. Casper- $709 S_{04}$ KOELLHOFFER, George T. (RCAF) 340 Ra KOEPKE, Pfc. Harold W. 51-C Mr **KOSCIOTEK**, Pvt. Alexander 313 Fra KOSVIC, Pfe. Rudolph S. 800 W. **KREVSKY**, Pvt. Herman J. 223 Th KRUPA, Pic. Joseph F. 255 E. KUNFZ, Pvt. James $14\frac{1}{2}$ Th LaBRECQUE, Pvt. William 449 Fu LATIMER, Cpl. Eugene R. 543 Gr. LAVITOLA, Pfc. Nicholas 462 Fa LEWCZAK, Pvt. John 24 Ad LODYSS, Pvt. James W. 666 Ch LOSYK, Pvt. Michael 411 Ma LOWERY, Pvt. Thomas F. 173 Lie LUERICH, Lt. Boland L., Jr. 250 Sti 250 Sti LUERICH, A/C Wallace Hall LYSY, Pvt. Nicholas 125 Fit MacQUEEN, Sgt. John, Jr. 560 Wa MAHER, Pfc. James P., Jr. 710 Ma MAHONEY, Pfc. James P. 88 W. 1036 Fle MAHONEY, T/Sgt. Patrick F. MALCOLM, Cpl. William V. 135 W. 421 Pe MALLETT, Cpl. John P., Jr. 1179 Ch MALONEY, Lt. Eugene V. MANFREDI, Pvt. Joseph W. 116 Wa MARANCZAK, Pvt. John 307 Co MARTOWLIS, Sgt. Charles P. 655 Mc 149 Rij MATLOSZ, Pvt. Edward MATLOSZ, Pfc. Stanley 149 Rij MATTIS, T/Sgt. Daniel A. 127 Ch MAZZA, Sgt. John 306 E., McCORD, S/Sgt. Edson H. McCORMACK, 2nd Lt. Edward J. 512 E. 645 Ma McLELLAND, Pfc. John 255 Ma McGOWAN, 2nd Lt. George A. 47 Pai MENDEZ, S/Sgt. Jesse M. 246 Ma MESSINA, Pfc. John. 300 WsMIANNAY, Cpl. Edward E. 656 Ad 220 For MRO, Pvt. Joseph M. MISHKINIS, Pfc. Vincent D. 187 Fir M&BILE, Pvi. Joseph 402 Th M.LOY, 1st Lt. Edward D. 850, Gil ORE, S/Sgt. Louis J. 440 Ma Me MUSS, Pfc. Aleide V. 1137 Eb MOVELLE, Lt. Paul Thomas 314 W. MULLEN, T/Sgt. Thomas K. 1064 Lat MULLEN, F/Officer Walter J. 918 Sou MUSIAL, Pfe. Ludwick J. 551 Gri 1026 Ali MYERS, Sgt. Edward A. NEBORA, Pfc. John 616 Cb NEGY, Pvt. Albert A. 123 Ins NORTON, 2nd Lt. William James 14 Eb NOVELLO, Pvt. (hoelee l 624 E_{CC} NUGENT, Cpl. Francis J. 1049 Jul **QGONOWSKI**, Cpl. Michael J. 70 Cor 363 Eli O'KANE, Pvt. George H. **OLSEN, Sgt. Howard G.** 51 Del ORMOND, Cpl. John V. 617 Gri O'SULLIVAN, S/Sgt. John D. 701 Jef PANTALEO, Pvt. John T. 230 Loi PECKAITIS, Cpl. John A. 131 Cb 110 Th PERRY, Pvt. Joseph J. PETTIT, Pfc. Franklin R. 118 Jef POLHEMUS, Rev. Eugene Ble PROTO, Pfc. Onielo J 541 Th PURCELL, 1st Lt. Randall J. 1007 Lai PYLE, Pvt. Thomas S. 506 Ne 236 Cla QUAGLIARIELLO, Cpl. Andrew V. RAMOS, Pvt. Philip R. 728 W. **RAPAPORT**, Pvt. Irving 34 De RIPOS, Sgt. Charles C. 358 E.-REH. Sgt. Austin A. 911 Ba **RIGBY**, Pvt. Herbert H. 150 Eh **RODRIGUEZ**, Sgt. Herminio, Jr. 519 Jef

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| WOLSKI, S 2/c Michael Francis | 632 Green Street |
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| COAST GUARD | |
| PIASCZYK, Victor | 651 McKinley Stree |
| MERCHANT MARINE | |
| AUSTIN, 2nd Off. Frederick | 435 Westminster Av |
| COLE, AB George | 721 Bonnett Street |
| GERRY, Wilburt Clark | 119 Madison Avenu |
| HOBAN, Jack | 126 Burnett Street |
| MALLING, BM Peter | 915 Westfield Avon |
| MARTINUSEN, Capt. Ingvald Mortin MIROWSKI, Fred | 1319 Alina Street 416 Washington Av |
| SHIPKA, Messman George W. | 154 Inslee Place |
| WEBER, Ch.Eng. Harold J. | 926 Spofford Avenu |
| WAVES | |
| COHEN, SK 3/c Bella | 637 S. Park Street |
| ARMY NURSE CORPS | |
| STRAVINSKY, I.t. Margaret | 170 Third Street |

| 538 S. Broad Street | June 19, 1944 Virginia | |
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| 532 Green Street | Aug. 2, 1942 Atlantic | |
| 651 McKinley Street | Aug., 1942 At Sea | |
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| 70 Third Street | Nov., 1942 - At Sea | mu |
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esday Evening, May 8, 1945 edition of the Elizabeth Daily Journal.

600



(left) Jay Abbasi punches out a Pick-It ticket on a machine adorned with his prose. (below) He is surrounded by more of his writings.



Optima is a convenience store on the corner of Westfield Avenue and Berwyn Street in Elizabeth. Customers may go to the local corner store for daily consumables but at Optima they leave with pearls of wisdom, free of charge.

Jay Abbasi who works at the store surrounds his counter with original poetry, prose and proverbs. Jay is from Pakistan and has been in the U.S. for eight years. He has assimilated to his surroundings but has kept the calm demeanor of his eastern roots. Jay expresses himself by writing and he offers his thoughts for all to see.

Most of his verses are short and to the point - words to live by or encouragement to get through daily pressures. Some customers may leave the store feeling a bit enlightened and not know why. They may have glanced at a piece of advice sitting between the lottery machine and Slim Jims and not registered it consciously.

(left) Jay posted these very touching tributes to American soldiers and veterans during Memorial Day and July 4th holidays.

(below) Typical of the hand written posters that Jay posts, often with updates.

Forente Propie Forente Places Forente Memories of the past These one the Tigs of a life time These are The Time 12 That Post . No wender Looks ForEvers me spong te turn Memory is often less about the trut about what we want it to be Do not sudge people by a messy Con Some Things Just have THE RED PARROT CAFFÉ







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AGANG WE SALATE YOU,

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BELLO MILESTONES



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY Vita and Rich Bello celebrated their 25th Wedding

Anniversary on April 3, 2004. The former Vita Crincoli and Richard Bello were married on January 6, 1979 at St. Anthony of Padua

Church in Elizabeth, NJ by Rev. John P. Murphy. Rose (Gallichio) Cooper was their Maid of Honor and the late Raymond Zambrana served as Best Man. The couple recently renewed their wedding vows at The Church of the Annunciation in Bloomsbury, NJ officiated by Rev. Roberto D. Coruna.

The couple has three children, Tina Bello, Richard Bello, and Elizabeth Bello and currently resides in Bloomsbury, New Jersey.

A 4.0 SEMESTER

Richard C. Bello, son of Rich and Vita Bello achieved the Dean's List for the spring 2004 semester as a Stillman School of Business student at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ where he majors in Sport Management. Mr. Bello completed his sophomore semester with a 4.0 gpa while taking 18 credits and working 12 hours per week for the Director of Sport Management.

He received the John Deehan 2003-2004 Scholarship, the Monopoly[™] 2004 Scholarship. This summer, Rich is employed by Turnstyles Ticketing, a leading sports and entertainment ticket fulfillment company.

TOPIC OF CONVERSATION: OLIVE OIL



(above, l-r) Gaspare Sarullo, owner of Sarullo Olive Oil talks shop with

Jerry Bruscinelli a

retired distributor from

Elizabeth, Joe Tallo a

Sarullo Rep. and Pete

Club in Peterstown.

Agliata from the Ribera



One of the participants at the latest International Fancy Food Show at the Javits Center in New York was Gaspare Sarullo, owner of Olio Sarullo of Ribera Italy. He took the opportunity the trip offered him to visit some old friends and colleagues. When Mayor Bollwage and a contingent from Elizabeth visited Ribera in 2002 they took a tour of Sarullo's vineyards and processing plant.

Sarullo Oil has won many International Gold Medals and is one of the most elite products restaurants can use. It has received rave reviews from trade magazines and the New York Times.

Anyone who knows their way around a kitchen knows the difference quality olive oil can make to a meal. In soups sauces or just on a piece of bread. You can actually see the difference in the oils unfiltered golden green hue with clouds of sediment in the bottle. Not every Italian deli carries the brand so you must ask around for it. Sarullo Oil is used by City Tavern in Elizabeth. Dinners can taste the difference for themselves.



Not for Nothing But...

statistics show that there is more olive oil sold in America that claims to be imported from Italy than the amount Italy actually produces.







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(above) This is an attractive display at the entrance of Imbriacco's wine cellar. The original boxes that the wines came in are as collectable as the bottles themselves.





WINE CELLAR THAT GETS BETTER WITH AGE

Many wine collectors create a collection by purchasing different wines from the past for display in their cellars. Frank Imbriacco had a more authentic approach. He purchased his wines at the time of their inception. Frank has been a wine collector for 35 years and his wine cellar boasts over 200 bottles of some of the best wines from around the world.

Frank first got interested in wine when tasting the homemade wines of his Italian and Portuguese neighbors

(left) Jerry Imbriacco holds two of his more outstanding wines in his collection. His personal favorite, a 1975 Ornellaia, a super Tuscan table wine (Vina Da'Tavola) made by Lodovico A. Marchese, and a 1996 Sassicaia made by Tenuta San Guida.

> (left) A portion of Franks 2000 bottles of wine which include double magnum size bottles.

(above) One interesting item in Franks
(above) One interesting item in Franks
collection was a bottle of 100 proof Marc
Brandy, imported from Spain but
distributed by Boller Wine and Liquor
Inc. of Elizabeth, NJ. In most people's
memory, Boller, located on the 400 block
of East Jersey Street, was strictly a soda
distributor but this is evidence that they
were running hooch with a bit more kick.



in Elizabeth. He then started to read the trade magazines and attend shows. Though he has bottles that are considered collectables this was not the criteria he used to purchase them. Frank purchased his wine based on personal taste, basically buying what he enjoys drinking.

Frank built the wine cellar himself. The wine sits orderly in his custom shelving and cabinets according to county of origin. The hand written tags posted around read, Italy, France, Portugal, Spain, Chile, Argentina, Australia, and California. The specifications for a good wine cellar are cool, dark and damp.

The wine cellar also contains wine barrels Frank received from friends. He also has a collection of mirrors which once hung in old taverns around Elizabeth. Some are over 50 years old. There are a few choice pieces of antique fire equipment, buckets and hose heads. Frank is a retired fireman from the Elizabeth Fire Department.

Franks basement is his oasis. He finished an area across the room for his other love, cooking. Frank stays busy cooking and preserving vegetables from his gardens sipping a nice glass of wine and listening to his favorite music. For Frank, life couldn't get any better than this.



do people who buy wine in a cardboard carton care what it tastes like?

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(above, 1-r) Mason jars of pickled tomatoes and cucumbers from Frank' Imbriacco's stash.

GETTING PICKLED

Frank Imbriaccos's impressive wine cellar is only rivaled by his impressive stock of pickled vegetables. Frank mainly pickles tomatoes, cucumbers and eggplant. All of which are grown in his backyard garden. There is an endless combination of a variety of spices that can be used to flavor the vegetables and so there is always a new challenge to create a different taste.

Frank shared the process he uses but instructs that the types of spices and their quantities depends on the personal taste. Once pickled and sealed the jars will last a long time without going bad.

The vegetables are great to be used as sides on sandwiches, in salads or straight from the jar.

PREPARATION TIPS: Fill mason jar with small tomatoes picked green off the vine. Add chunks of garlic, salt and oregano then top off jar with white vinegar. Let the jars sit in a refrigerator for at least six to eight weeks.

When preparing the cucumbers they may be sliced or whole. These are sliced length wise into quarters. Then spices are added. There is a prepackaged pickling spice mixture that one can buy in a super market or the individual spices can be added separately. The pickled spice mixture usually consists of mustard seed, coriander, bay leaves, dill seed, red pepper, cloves and all spice.

The fun is in experimenting. If you like the flavor of a spice you can't go wrong. The key is to enjoy.



CAFFÉ ITALIA OPENS BIGGER KITCHEN WITH BIGGER MENU

In the center of Peterstown on the corner of Third Avenue and John Street is a little cafe with grand accommodations. For many years Caffé Italia has been a premier meeting place for the neighborhood. A place to meet up with someone any time of the day or night seven days a week. Its appeal was in its consistency. It is a place to relax with a cappuccino or a cocktail. The cafe, though still the catch all locals has grown as a destination point for distant dinners.

Owner Sammy Falduto has transformed the cafe into a restaurant in its own right. Sammy added an indoor dinning room to complement his very popular patio area. More importantly he extended his kitchen to include ovens capable of cooking a wide variety of dishes. Prior to the renovation the cafe's menu only included items cooked in a brick oven or bar-b-cue pit. The new kitchen enables him to offer everything from home-made pasta dishes to Parrillada. The cafe has a liquor license so dinners can enjoy a wine with their dinner, cocktail prior and a cordial with their desert. Dinners are also available to take-out and of course, his pizza is second to none.



SAY IT AIN'T SO!

After 37 years as a waitress st Spirito's Restaurant, Santa Demarco has retired! Everyone wisher the very best. Santa was one reason why Spirito's is considered an authentic family restaurant. She treated the customers as if they were her own children. She will surely be missed.







PERSONAL TOUCHES MAKE PARTIES MEMORABLE

There is an ingredient in home-made baking that is not available in stores. There is a special material found in homes that is added to wedding dresses that boutiques do not have. These special items are used whenever a loved one or friend helps in planning a special event.

(left, l-r) Victor Fernandez gives his new bride, the former Phyllis DeMarco, a taste of her own. The first wedding cake that, Phyllis, Peterstown's famed cake maker, made was her own, 35 years ago. The gown that she wore was made by her sister Marie.

(below) Wedding photo of Rosemary Cappola, and Michael Levine from May 29, 2004 in which Victor

was the photogrpher. He has been shooting wedding for 30 years.

MARRIED IN THE DRESS **MY MOTHER MADE**



The first dress Guiseppina "Pina" Gallicchio made was her daughter, Frances' christening gown in 1972. In 2003 her daughter, Paula, walked down the

isle in a wedding dress created by her mother. It added sentiment to the already special occasion.

Pina's family is originally from Vallata, Italy. She owned a boutique with her sister, Sisina, in Grottaminada. They sold one-ofa-kind items and made custom sweaters to order. Pina learned to sew in America after arriving in Elizabeth in 1971. She also learned cake decorating by attending adult education classes in School #1.

Pina works full time as a security guard at Peterstown school #3 but she still finds time for her interests and family. Her and her husband, Vito, are very proud of their daughters. Frances is a School teacher in Linden and Paula, and her new husband Ivan Kaltman, are Occupational Therapists.

(left) On October 19, 2003, Paula Gallicchio married Ivan Kaltman in a wedding gown created by her mother, Pina.

CRANFORD DOLLAR COURT SPECIALIZES IN PARTY

Dollar stores are a throw back to the old "Five and Dimes". They have everything and anything at prices way below retail, including hard to find, one of a kind items. Customers are encouraged to bring their imaginations with them because some things are down right inspiring.

They are the perfect place to start when planning a party. Whatever theme the planner comes up with there are probably a dozen items that fit. In no time the combination of these items come together in a spectacular way. Some things found are retrofitted to other uses. That is where the imagination part comes in. Most everything is close to \$1 with quality items running a bit more but still a bargain at twice the price.

The Cranford Dollar Court has amazingly elegant and elaborate gifts and decorations mixed in with school supplies and house hold gadgets. Though it is enjoyable just browsing through the isles, owner Eileen Atwood will make sure you don't get lost in the canyons of fun stuff.



(above) Erica Netta and Jack Tromp are planning a June 2005 wedding in Aruba. Eileen from the Cranford Dollar Court furnished their engagement party with custom centerpieces, decorations and favors.

The preparation of a special event is as much as much a part of the celebration as the ceremony. It may be as monumental as a wedding or as subtle as a birthday. What makes a celebration all the more special is how each element relates to the honoree. There is nothing more significant than a labor of love.

The stories of what individuals contributed to making an event special lives on in the memory of the event. A wedding dress becomes more meaningful when it was made special by a relative or friend. Food at a reception tastes better when it is prepared by family and friends. In a culture where people pride themselves on their crafts it is not a burden but rather an honor to be part of a celebration.

In a close community it is not far fetched that every aspect of a party is covered by a friend or neighbor. Even though it may be a business relationship there is an added value to that strangers can not offer. Every service tends to be delivered with extra care. There is a pleasure for the vendor in making things just right. This goes for florists, photographers, musicians and caterers.

Many people in businesses that cater to special events started out hobbiests doing their craft for the love of it. One could tell those who developed their love into a profession., they give their service a personal touch.

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Sands Decks is the place to be for any and all of your party needs. They supply everything! Specializing in children's birthday parties, this privately-owned company has been providing loving families with amazing party experiences of the finest quality for nearly two decades! Step inside one of Sandy Decks' spacious and convenient party places to discover everything you need to turn an ordinary party into an occasion to remember. And because they understand the need to cater to each child's individual interests, a trained Sandy Deck's staff member will work one-on-one with you to plan out the customized celebration of your dreams. Choose from a wide variety of fun-filled party themes including Arts & Crafts; Hair, Nail, Make-Up; Plastercraft; Jewelry Beading; Sand Art; Cheerleading; Stuff-A-Pet; Karaoke; Carnival; Tea Party and many more! Kosher parties are available too! And if there is something special that you are looking for just ask and Sandy Deck's will always do their best to accommodate. They can even come right to your hall or party place! Find out more about the ultimate party place and all of its locations by visiting the Sandy Deck's Parties website at www.sandydeckparties.com.

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IMAGINATION IS THE ICING ON THE CAKE

Phyllis DeMarco started baking and decorating cakes in 1975 after her parents gave her a gift certificate to attend classes at Johnson Regional High School in Clark, NJ. Her mom and dad were both very good at baking and their influence can be seen in the talents of their children, nieces and nephews, grandchildren and now great grand children. Phyllis always made use of her mom's recipes which were never overly sweet.

After several years of mastering her craft, Phyllis was offered the opportunity to teach. She taught cake decorating in Elizabeth's School #1 for 11 years.

Phyllis keeps a photo archive of every cake she decorated over the past thirty years. Albums of the



(above & right) Some of Phyllis' 3-D creations include vehicles that actually role, like this school bus and fire engine.









photos are available to look though at their family owned and operated luncheonette, Joanne's, located on the corner of Third Avenue and Redcliff Street. The luncheonette is also where she does all her baking.

The albums are reminiscent of a sculptors art book except the sculptures never find their way into a gallery or museum. They are usually eaten before the coffee is served.

Some cakes are spectacular while others are humorous. Some are outright amazing. The one thing they all have in common is their creativity. There is no challenge that Phyllis does not accept. If the customer can imagine it she will find a way to create it.

(right) 2-D designs are a piece of cake for Phyllis (pun intended).



(below) What ever the customers hobby or interest, like playing the piano shooting pool, or drinking beer, Phyllis' found a way to capture it.



(above) This leprechaun cake was made for a benefit at the Grand Centurion in Clark, NJ. It won "Cake of the Month" honors and graced the cover of "Mail Box News", a world wide cake and catering magazine.

Recipes

Submitted by Phyllis Fernandez

Grace was my cake decorating teacher in Johnson Regional High School in Clark, NJ. This pound cake was the best with her french cream.

Grace Poscis Pound Cake

INGREDIENTS: (fresh from refrigerator)

- 1 1/4 cups crisco
- 3/4 cup milk
- 5 whole eggs
- 1 3/4 cups sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 1/2cups sifted Presto self Rising flour

PREPARATION:

- 1) Preheat oven at 350 f. Grease a large tube pan.
- 2) Take Crisco, milk, and eggs out of fridge.
- 3) Cream Crisco and sugar until very fluffy.
- 4) Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition.
- 5) Add 1/2 of the flour and all of the milk. Blend well.
- 6) Add remaining flour and vanilla. Blend at least 15 minutes at medium speed.
- 7) Bake 1 hour and 10 minutes but, check after 1 hour as some ovens cook faster.

French Cream

INGREDIENTS: 3/4 cup Presto flour

- 1 cup milk
- 1/4 cup margarine
- 1/4 cup sweet butter
- 1/2 cup Crisco
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar

1 tsp vanilla

PREPARATION:

- 1) Place Presto flour and milk in a double broiler or cook over low flame. Cook until consistency of thick mashed potatoes, stirring all the time.
- 2) Place in a small bowl and spread top smooth. Cool at room temp.
- 3) When ready to use remove the film or skin that formed on top.
- 4) In a mixing bowl place margarine, sweet butter, crisco and blend well.

5) Add milk and flour mixture and blend well.

6) Add granulated sugar and vanilla and blend well. Beat 10-12 min on medium speed.

I remember that Grace would say to cool it on a rack in the pan then invert it. She would wrap it in a heavy new towel to store it. Grace took many cake orders so she had to store some cakes a day or so. This cake is so good that I doubt you would be storing it.



Cover and pages from the July/August 2004 issue of American Photo magazine, featuring The Amazing Terracina.







Anyone interested in reading more about Sal Terracina and seeing more of his work can go to his website: www.salsimages.com



Keith Terracina has been promoting the works of his

in particular.

photographer/artist/performer uncle Sal since he inherited his vast collection

and 50's. Many document the people and places of Elizabeth, NJ, Peterstown

Interest in the photos has been growing. Art book publisher, Taschen, is

of work. Keith has literally thousands of photographs from the 1930's, 40's



(above) The Village Voice used one of Sal's images for their cover.



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(above, l-r) Paul Picone, Tony Decesare, Al Cameci, Mike Richelle, Don Annonelli





(above, l-r) Coming from church: Ozzi Signorelli, Gabby Accardi, Jimmy Vacczro, Charlie Stanziola, Gus Navarro, Vinny Gazzo, Gasper "Red" Cascio and Willie Fusco.



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PETERSTOWN WWII MEMORIAL

Thsi monumnet was erected in 1946 on the Third Avenue side of St. Anthony's Church. It holds the names of the young men form thesnall neighborhood in Elizabeth, NJ, who gave thier lives for our country.





IN MEMORY OF THE YOUNG MEN OF PETERSTOWN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR OUR COUNTRY IN WORLD WAR II VINCENT BASILE JOSEPH BRUSCO SALVATORE CAMBRIA ARTHUR CATALANO PHILLP CATERNICCHIO ANTHONY CIANCIA WILLITAM COLLANNI LESTER DAI TILO RALPH DEROSE CHARLES DI GIORGIO LOUIS FIGLIOLINE HENRY GALLIPPO VICTOR GENZ RALPH J. GUIDA LE ROY HULSENBECK MARIO TANMARILLI CHARLES IODAROLA NICHOLAS LAVITOLA VINCENI LOMBARDO JOHN MAZZA STEPHEN MELE THOMAS MIGLIORE JOSEPH MORLIA CHARLES NOVELLO JOHN PANIALEO ONIELLO PROTO HARRY RASKIN SANTO RENDA JOSEPH SIANA

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MIKE CAPORASO AT HOME IN ELIZABETH

Mike Caporaso was born on John Street in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth in 1910. He retired after working 50 years with Labor Union #394 in Elizabeth. His friends, family and pigeon club were all in walking distance. Now his family is spread out, as far away as Arizona for some, but he recently moved back to Elizabeth.

Mike moved into Carteret Senior Living, an assisted living facility on Jersey Street, five months ago. The landmark building is the old Carteret Hotel, a place where Mike would have attended wedding receptions



(above, 1-r) Joe Caporaso and his grandfather Mike at Carteret Senior Living. (right) Mike's, on the far right and is pictured with his son Frank, Frank's sons, Joe and Mike and their sons Joseph, Vincent Dominic and Frank. All carry the Caporaso surname.

and dances.

The hotel is beautifully renovated with 99 studio and one bedroom apartments. The atmosphere is friendly as if the building is its own neighborhood. The rooftop garden and patios have a magnificent view.

What makes Mike's stay at Carteret most enjoyable is his ability to see his grandson every day. Mike's grandson, Joe Caporaso, works as Director of Marketing for the facility. It is really a feeling of home.

Mike enjoys the company of his friends at Carteret but really likes visits from his family. He has two daughters, three sons, 14 grandchildren and 24 greatgrandchildren.

Mike Caporaso and his grandson Joe invites anyone to drop in any time. They are located right across the street from the Ritz Theater. If someone would like to arrange a tour they can call Joe at 908-352-9200.





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REAL ESTATE CORNER

Football season is right around the corner. Eli Manning is now a Giant and so is Curt Warner. If we look back at last season we could never imagine these changes. But, just like in real life things do change. Last year at this time interest rates were low and we were celebrating our victory in Iraq. This year interest rates are headed up and our celebration in Iraq has turned into gloom. What a difference a year makes!

The same is true with real estate. Experts have stated that certain real estate values may be inflated as high as 30%, even though not all experts agree.

Recently the news concerning housing has been confusing. One-week housing starts are up and the next housing starts are down. The same is true for resale homes. Depending were you live it will determine how strong the market place is.

It is my professional opinion after my thirty (30) years of experience in this business that prices have gotten ahead of themselves. The economical data that is available to us, which

is the total household income vs. sales price does not justify each other. The average home has increased in the last three years in our general vicinity by 65% in some cases new construction that we see going up in our neighborhoods have gone up 100%. Land value has increased 200%. Lots that were selling for \$50,000 are now selling for \$150,000 or more. This has driven the cost of new homes by at least that amount. Lots have become very scarce in our community, which has resulted in demolition of older homes. The land in which these older homes sit in is worth more than the actual house. At some point this will cease.

The city of Elizabeth is no longer encouraging sub division of 50 feet lots. In some sections of the city this still can be done but in the vas majority of the sections it cannot be done. There is talk that the city may change the minimal lot size. As of this date this has not been done.

The new development that you will see coming to the city in the foreseeable future will be condos and town houses geared for owner occupants and smaller families. This is in part

to their affordability. Many of our residents can no longer afford to pay over \$500,000 for a brand new two family home. However, they may be able to afford a condo in the \$200,000 range.

This month the farmers market reopens in Elizabeth. This is a good thing for our city and specifically for our Peterstown neighborhood. One more reason for residents to stay. The city administrators, the Mayor, the Council, and all the departments in Elizabeth have done a fantastic job. It's my personal opinion that this is one of the best run cities in the state of NJ. Our city hall is friendly and accommodating. Elizabeth is a large city with a small town mentality; this is not an insult but a compliment. The residents of Elizabeth are able to talk to a director or worker and most times it is a pleasant experience. People say good morning and good bye. Most residents leave with a thank you, just one more reason to stay. 12

Submitted by Justino Rosa







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41 Kent Place, Clark Twp.

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